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Ladies' Fashion

by

Tom Holbrook

Well, son number three and wife just left after a week's visit and everyone had a great time enjoying the great weather, two days at Disney World attractions, several days of great to not so great golf and shopping trips for the ladies. Marc and Lauren live in Greensboro, NC and operate two of their own Coldstone Creamery Ice Cream Parlors and don't get to take as much time off as they would like so we're glad they could spend a week with us.

Speaking of Disney World... we were not disappointed on this our fifth trip in the last 3 months but having entertained all three of my sons and their families we're glad we won't have to make the drive to Disney again for at least another 4 or 5 months when we plan on going down by ourselves and spend a couple of days meandering through all the parks at our leisure.

Ladies one thing caught my eye as we sat and watched people at Disney. I'm hoping that what we saw was an anomaly rather than the norm in ladies' fashion, but I kinda doubt it. Let me digress for a moment as I ask those of my gender who were in their teenage years back in the 50's a question concerning what ladies wore in your day... Guys, did you kind of do a double take the first time you ever saw a see through blouse when they first came out back then? I mean, gosh, all most of us could ever do was to dream about what type of lingerie the female types of our day wore... and believe me we did wonder... then all of a sudden the fashion world introduces these blouses that allowed anyone and everyone to look through them and see... very clearly... that thing-of-a-jig that girls wore to hold things together at the top. Sitting there in class behind a girl with one of them on...there was no more wondering. Cruel and inhumane punishment for a young impressionable fellow like myself in my formative years.

"How could their mothers let them wear such things out in public," I thought in my naïve, sophomoric way? Why wear a blouse at all if you can see everything underneath? Anyway, as we say today, it was down hill after that in the years to come. Nothing would ever be the same again, and one's imagination was given a permanent vacation forever more. Alas and alack... woe be unto us all.

Meanwhile... back to the present... while at Disney it was pointed out to me several women who were wearing see through skirts and shorts and again, my obvious illogical mind pondered, "Why does she have anything on at all?" I know I don't know fashion but I'm thinking that if you're going to wear white see through bottoms, chartreuse would not be the color of choice for the undies. Call me old fashioned... and many people do... it's like one is trying to get people to notice the nether

regions revealed with such an outfit. Tell me it ain't true Joe! I promise folks, I didn't stare. I try to be a gentleman in such situations... but boy, they sure do make it difficult to do so.

Enough fashion updates. Several months ago I wrote a column about accessorizing one's golf cart and I inadvertently insulted a few people from the state of WV with some of my remarks. Even though it's my home state and I love it very dearly, there are a great many particulars about the state that generate a chuckle now and then that most West Virginians should find endearing and harmless. Anyhow, for those who find it difficult to laugh at yourself please accept my apology in advance as I share with my readers some pertinent data about our state that a reader and fellow West Virginian sent to me for my enjoyment. I hope you enjoy these insights to West Virginians as I did... they are true and right on.

You are a true West Virginian if:

- You know what a real tomato tastes like and have at least one recipe for fried green or stewed, with chunks of biscuit bread, butter and sugar.
- Your grocery stores didn't have bags... they had pokes and they don't have shopping carts, they have buggies.
- Your parents, at some time in your life, threatened to send you to Prunytown.
- You can spell and pronounce words like Allegheny, Canaan, Gilmer, Monongalia, Monongahela, Kanawha, Keyster and Hawks Nest.
- You know West Virginia is a separate state and not a part of Virginia.
- Your idea of a traffic jam is ten cars waiting to pass a coal or logging truck on a two lane highway.
- You know several people who have hit a deer.
- Your school classes were canceled because of snow, cold weather or hunting season.
- You've seen people wear bib overalls at funerals.
- You cook green beans for a really long time.
- When you fry bologna you know to cut the edges.
- You know at least one couple who went to Virginia or Kentucky to get married.
- You design your kids Halloween costume to fit over a snow suit.
- Driving in winter is better because the pot holes are filled with ice and snow.
- You know which leaves make good toilet paper. (Hopefully, no one is offended to also admit corn cobs and Sears Roebuck catalog pages were often used as acceptable substitutes as well. I speak from experience.)

Well, with most of the snowbirds leaving all us frogs left behind should be able to get a little later dining reservation and a little earlier tee time so I hope you take advantage of both. Have a great week and go out and hug a West Virginian today... Lord knows we love huggin'.