

Does this OTOW couple look familiar?

Getting to Know You
 A monthly feature about the people in your
 On Top of the World community
 by John Koning

Did you ever pass someone on the street and wonder, "Where have I seen you before?"

Ann and Al Adams are two On Top of the World residents who have faces that beg that question.

It is a question that might baffle you until you understand that Al and Ann are senior models and their faces are quite literally everywhere!

A few years ago, on an otherwise forgettable day, Ann received a telephone call from a photographer friend, who asked Ann and Al to pose for a photo shoot. What none of them knew was that this seemingly benign exercise would change their lives forever.

Al and Ann brought a few changes of clothing to the photo studio where their photographer friend shot 1,500 photos over a six hour stretch with not so much as a lunch break.

Just as the models were ready to collapse from exhaustion, the session was declared complete and their friend got busy as a marketer. She put together a portfolio of photos and began selling them on the internet through a major photography Website. Within months, one of the shots of Al and Ann sold 1,000 times and their innocuous first photo session led to 10 more.

Ann met Al when he was a dapper haberdasher in the Belk Lindsey department store in Tampa. Ann was the belle of the cosmetics department. They were in their early 50s when they

tied the knot and have been married now for almost 33 years.

Between them, they boast eight children. Ann has five from a previous marriage and Al has three.

Al and Ann have lived at On Top of the World, on and off, since 1981. Ann is active with the OTOW Chorus and line dances on both sides of Belcher Road.

Al proclaims himself to be Ann's chauffeur, shuttling her from activity to activity. Ann disagrees on that point, but Al simply shrugs his shoulders and quotes his license tag, "whatever."

Ann and Al are active in their church and also in local theater. They are actors with the Gilbert and Sullivan Players and have performed at the Tarpon Springs Performing Arts Center, St. Petersburg College and other local venues.

Name any Gilbert and Sullivan musical production, and chances are that Al and Ann have been in it. Of all the productions they've appeared in, Ann's favorite is "The Mikado."

Al is partial to his role in H.M.S. Pinafore.

At home here at OTOW, Al and Ann are collecting quite an array of self portraits. Many have been mailed to them by friends and acquaintances who have recognized them in a magazine, in a picture frame or on a promotional poster. Ann and Al never know where or when they will see their faces and find them in a wide variety of places.



Ann and Al Adams appeared on the cover of Senior Lifestyle Digest in December 2009. (Reprinted with permission from Senior Lifestyle)

Recently, Ann revisited Barberville, Ky., for the first time in 40 years. When she walked into a tiny curio store in town, she found four pictures of herself and her husband.

When you look at the sample mag-

azine cover on this page, it's easy to see Ann's remarkable resemblance to television actress, Betty White.

Now you can rest easy knowing what it is that makes their beautiful faces seem so familiar.

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