



MOM IS THE WORD



Moms in *Motherhood the Musical*

JENNIFER BOXLEY

AFTER PURSUING a show-biz career in the Big Apple, New Jersey-born Sue Fabisch moved to Nashville to try her hand at songwriting.

The Costco member, who jokes that she has “four kids if you count my husband—they’re 8, 12, 15 and 49,” remembers the advice she heard about songwriting: Write what you know. “At that time I had two kids and a lot of laundry, and so what I knew was motherhood,” says Fabisch. She went on to pen more than 40 songs about the subject, which she eventually turned into a one-woman show, with performances around town.

In 2008, she paired up with GFour Productions, the team behind *Menopause The Musical*, and created a four-woman show, aptly titled *Motherhood the Musical* (www.motherhoodthemusical.com). Based on the perspective of four different women, each at different stages of motherhood, the show tells stories every mother can relate to. “It’s all fair game,” says Fabisch. “You can’t make this up. It has to happen to make it good.”

The musical, which opened with a sold-out premiere in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, in fall 2010, includes 18 original tunes, including “Not Gonna Take It Anymore,” a song about mothers on strike; “I’m Danny’s Mom,” a heartwarming ballad; and the hilarious “Costco Queen,” which Fabisch co-wrote with Ilene Angel, a fellow Nashville songwriter. (View it on YouTube; search “Costco Queen.”)

“The song came about while we were talking about everything we buy from Costco,” says Fabisch, who admits, “If I were really rich, it’d be scary if I walked into Costco



Motherhood writer (and Costco queen) Sue Fabisch

VICKIE PEWITT PHOTOGRAPHY



After the wedding bells

SOON AFTER HER marriage in 2005, Potomac, Maryland, Costco member Danielle Tate went to the Department of Motor Vehicles with a form she had found on its website, all filled out and ready to go to change her name.

“I waited in line, got up to the desk, and the clerk said, ‘This is an outdated form. I need you to go to the back of the line and fill out this updated version.’ I waited another two hours and they said, ‘You brought your marriage certificate but not your certified marriage certificate.’ ”

After three trips, “I came home and said to my new husband, ‘Why isn’t there a website that does as much of this for you as possible?’” says Tate. “He just looked at me and smiled and

BLAKE NEWMAN



(Mrs.) Danielle Tate and husband, Culin

said, ‘Well, you should do that.’ ”

The result is *MissNowMrs.com*. For a fee, brides, and anyone else who needs a name change, can fill in personal information and the site will prepare name-change forms for Social Security, the Internal Revenue Service, passports, voter registration and much more. Tate estimates the service saves users an average of 13 hours of work.

And, if things don’t work out, there’s a sister website, *GetYourNameBack.com*. “Enough ladies emailed, saying, ‘I don’t need to go from Miss to Mrs.; I need to go from Mrs. to Miss.’ ”

“My husband walked in and saw I had divorce forms all over the place. The poor man asks, ‘Do we need to talk?’ ”

—Steve Fisher

... I would just buy everything.” Fabisch even made her husband take her to Costco to celebrate her 40th birthday. “I was just jonesing for that pizza,” she says. “And it was, like, \$7 to feed everyone and then we walked around and got the samples too. It was comical.”

—Kate Parham

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