WEDNESDAY, October 22

CLASS WITH GRUSS: Phew! For a minute there we were worried this economic disaster was going to fix itself! But the fun is just beginning... Today, at the Plaza, the upper class indulges in some group therapy: a seminar and luncheon hosted by socialite Audrey Gruss benefiting the Hope for Depression Research Foundation. High-society folk showing up in the hopes of a stiff cocktail (well, hel-lo, sir!) include Coralie Charriol Paul, Muffie Potter Aston, Samantha Boardman, Christina Greeven Cuomo, Zani Gugelmann, Somers Farkas, Fabiola Beracasa, Seinfeld-ex and designer-of-busty-bathing-suits Shoshanna Gruss, frighteningly ageless model Stephanie Seymour, Dayssi Olarte de Canavos, Tinsley Mortimer, Gossip Girl bit player Jay Mcinerney, writer Salman Rushdie and friendly TV anchor Chuck Scarborough. Bring your own Wellbutrin. Later, Mr. Rushdie hops on his moped and zooms over to the IAC Building, where Swiss watchmaker Vacheron Constantin has wrangled R&B singer Ne-Yo to perform in his honor. Architect Richard Meier will also be feted (say, are rents plunging yet in his transparent towers on the West Side Highway?) along with, for some reason, Afghanistan. In attendance: designer-socialite Diane von Furstenberg; culinary socialite Katie Lee Joel, tall socialite Byrdie Bell and annoying writer-socialite Derek Blasberg.

[A Mission of Hope luncheon, Plaza Hotel, 10 a.m.; 212-446-4298; Vacheron party, IAC Building, 555 West 18th Street, 7 p.m., 877-714-2600]