

Santa Barbara Courthouse Legacy Foundation

Puttin' on the Glitz

By **Jeanette Casillas** / CASA

TRANSPORTED TO THE GILDED AGE OF THE ROARING 20'S, over 290 guests celebrated the re-creation of *The Spirit of the Ocean Fountain* at the Santa Barbara Courthouse Sunken Garden last month.

The event, hosted by the Santa Barbara Courthouse Legacy Foundation acknowledged the donors who made the project possible and the fountain's completion.

"The carvers 'hit it out of the park,'" shared Robert Ooley, Gala Chair. "They have given the community back their beloved *Spirit of the Ocean Fountain*. We are most grateful."

Five carvers including Nick Blantern, Nathan Hunt, Stephen Bouska, Adrian Melka, and Blake Rankin spent seven months completing the \$731,000 project under a tent on the front lawn of the Santa Barbara Courthouse. The original sandstone fountain that was carved by Ettore Cadorin in 1927 was disintegrating and needed to be replaced.

"It was great to see the faces of the carvers in celebration," shared Ooley. "They told me afterwards, that no client had ever celebrated their work as we did that evening."

Adding to the evening's ambiance was dancing by Glory Lamb and Les Girls and music by jazz vocalist Barbara Morrison. A live auction led by Joyce Dudley and Debby Davison included pieces of the original sandstone fountain among many other items and opportunities.

"Everyone had a great time," shared Ooley. "We are still reconciling the numbers, but we are sure we cleared \$30,000. All event proceeds benefit the Courthouse Legacy Foundation."

For more information call 568-3070 or visit www.courthouselegacyfoundation.org.



Robert Ooley, emcee; **Belle Hahn Cohen**, gala event planner; and **Rodney Baker**, emcee



Sue Adams, event coordinator; and **Keith J. Mautino**, CLF Trustee



Nick Blantern, fountain carver and **Julie Banhidny**



Joni Papay, event coordinator and **Joyce Dudley**, auctioneer



Andrea Newquist and **Dana Newquist**



Leslie Storr and **Lynda Fairly**



Dr. Roland Jacks; **Helene Schneider**, Santa Barbara Mayor; and Pianist **Bryan Andrew Tari**



Don Schafer; **Mark J. Melchiori**, Melchiori Construction Company; and **Marilyn Rickard**



Debby Davison, auctioneer; **Gerd Jordano**; **Anne Smith Towbes**; **Michael Towbes**; **Peter Jordano**; and **Dennis Phelps**