

The Amethyst Ball

VIBRANT JEWEL AND JEWEL-TONED CLAD BENEFACTORS and supporters turned out for the 22nd Amethyst Ball last weekend, when The Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse hosted its annual fundraiser at the Four Seasons Biltmore.

Over 200 guests filed into the sold-out venue for dinner, dancing, photos, and a radio play type production starring local actor Dennis Franz as Guy Black and special guest Sue Grafton as Kinsey Millhone in *B is for Bling*.

"It was one of our nicest Balls ever," shared Executive Director Penny Jenkins. "The room was absolutely gorgeous, the crowd was happy, and the Biltmore an elegant place to be.... The evening was a great success netting more than \$350,000."

Even the most sophisticated palette were satisfied as Wild Mushroom Soup, Organic Greens with Asian Pear, Pecans, and Gorgonzola, and Foie Gras Filet Mignon or Chilean Sea Bass made way for Dark Chocolate Coffee Mousse with Coffee Anglaise and Candied Walnut Ice Cream as the evening progressed.

After a glittering live auction, lead by John Palminteri, and a successful silent auction, guests danced to the music of The Swing Shift and were ready for entertainment.

When the radio play (written and directed by Susan Keller) began, the audience sat back while the cast of their friends and local celebs took to the stage to shine.

Anne Towbes was a true star for the evening. In addition to chairing the event and the Women's Committee, she performed in *B is for Bling* as a CADA Cutie. Bob Bryant and Dr. Richard Kahmann rounded out the leadership as Co-Chairs of the Men's Committee. Vice Chairs of the Women's Committee included Maureen Anderson, Debby Davison Phelps, Pamela Geremia, and Susan Keller.

A highlight of the evening took place when Lady Leslie Ridley-Tree and Holly Palance asked the crowd for funds to

support the Council's mentorship program. A seven minute video about the program, paid for by the Harold and Diana Frank Foundation explained how the mentorship program works to support young people in the community. The crowd in an overwhelming response offered up \$125,000, enough to cover all of the 200 children on the waiting list, expanding the program from 140 to 340 students.

The "A for Amethyst Evening" ended mysteriously. Not only were spirits high, the guests went home with a secret gift tucked into their cars by attentive valets - the latest mystery by special guest Susan Grafton.

For information on CADA visit www.cadasb.org or call 963-1433.



Carolyn Amory-Peck, Founder, Amethyst Ball



Back: Marie Ann Strait, VP CADA; Diane Gately, Danielle Anjou, Pamela Geremia; Frt: Dr. Myron Shapiro, Pam Iselin, Michael Woodard



Fred Benko, Lady Leslie Ridley-Tree, and Hiroko Benko



Dee Dee Barrett with Kim, Kaela, and Simona Farris



A.C. Moore and Gun Dukes with Diana and Ralph MacFarlane



Standing: Joanie Franz; Sue Grafton; Dennis Franz, Dennis Phelps. Front: Steve Humphrey; Dolly Granatelli; Andy Granatelli; Debby Davison Phelps



Olivia Segosa, Santa Barbara Bank & Trust with Alex Baker, Kate Schwass and Eduardo Cue of CADA



Jenn and Noelle Burkey



Erin Gruffy and James Garcia



Bob Bryant Men's Committee Co-Chairman with Bill and Barbara Cirone



Barry and Jelinda DeVorzon with Patty and Jimmy Connors



John Palminteri and Julia Di Sieno



Pam and Tom Sneddon



David Alvarez and Andria Kahmann



Standing: Penny Jenkins, Exec Director; Patty Bryant; Peter Hill; Alyce Faye Cleese; John Palminteri; Tony "Sparx" Palermo, Susan Keller, Bob Bryant, Debby Davison Phelps, Dennis Franz; Seated: Sue Grafton, Special Guest; and Anne Smith Towbes, Event Chair

A Benefit for The Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

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