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**Sotheby's**  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

# MONTECITO MISCELLANY

by Richard Mineards



Richard covered the Royal Family for Britain's Daily Mirror and Daily Mail, and was an editor on New York Magazine. He was also a national anchor on CBS, a commentator on ABC Network News, gossip on The Joan Rivers Show and Geraldo Rivera, host on E! TV, a correspondent on the syndicated show Extra, a commentator on the KTLA Morning News and Entertainment Tonight. He moved to Montecito 11 years ago.

## Roaring Twenties Revisited

**B**ellosguardo, the 23-acre estate of the \$100 million estate of the late reclusive copper heiress Huguette Clark overlooking East Beach, opened its imposing doors to the public for the first time in six decades when the 22,000-sq.-ft. mansion's newly formed foundation threw a memorable *Great Gatsby* gala, which attracted more than 500 guests and is expected to have raised more than \$500,000 for the cause.

The fab fete, co-chaired by **Sandi Nicholson** and **Josh Conviser**, was a throwback to the 1920s with many of the women in ornately embroidered flapper outfits and men elegantly dressed in black tie, tails and top hats, or white dinner jackets.

After being valeted by Blue Star Parking and viewing a 1933 Chrysler Roadster and 1933 Cadillac limou-

sine that was in the family garage, guests were welcomed in the elegant hallway and directed on grey carpet to the house's main rooms, including the reception, library, and music rooms, with intricately carved Grinling Gibbons-style wooden paneling, which had been imported from Europe, as well as being used at the family home on New York's Fifth Avenue.

Visitors were also admonished not to touch the walls, or anything else on display, including beautiful oil paintings of Huguette's parents, which loom large over the impressive entrance overlooking 1000 feet of Pacific Ocean frontage.

The impeccably trimmed gardens behind the mansion, decorated by

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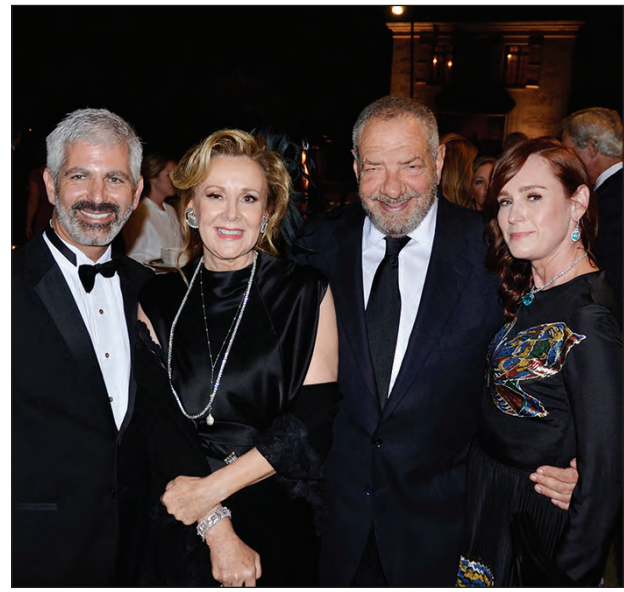
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Montecito event whiz **Merryl Brown** and Revelry Event Designers, were the main venue for the bounteous bash, catered by the Biltmore, who provided buffet tables around the grounds serving an eclectic array of fish, meat, and vegetarian dishes.

Fan dancers entertained while the band Gen8 performed music that would have been familiar to Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, later replaced by a sextet of energized singers warbling disco hits from the '80s, which ensured a packed dance floor under the beautiful moonlit sky.

Among the hoard of histori-



Nesbitt, Peter and Mireille Noone, Henry and Rita Hortenstine, Michael and Nati Smith, Doug and Marni Margerum, Robert and Marlene Veloz, Joan Rutkowski, Mara Abboud, Diana Starr Langley, Kristi Newton, Wayne and Sharol Siemens, Dennis and Carolyn Miller, Wendy McCaw, Tom and Eileen Mielko, Robert Lieff and Susan Leeds, Chris Toomey, Hiroko Benko, Ray Winn, Barry and Jelinda DeVorzon, Andy and Kim Busch, Tom and Heather Sturgess, Peter Kavoian, Anne Towbes, Nina Terzian, Luke Swetland, Eva Guerrand-Hermes, Arthur von Wiesenberger, Eric and Nina Phillips, Jennifer Smith Hale, Robert and Val Montgomery, Kimberly Hayes, Bill Nicholson, Bill Dedman, Paul Orfalea, Tom Parker, Sharon Bradford, Perri Harcourt, Randy and Roxi Solakian, John Daly, Janet Garufis, Kerry Murray, Dana and Andrea Newquist.

A most swellegant soirée!  
(ALL PHOTOS BY PRISCILLA)

*Cottage Cheese*

After 13 years and at a cost of \$820 million, more than \$110 million



Cottage Health Board chair Steve Ainsley with former Cottage Health Board member Marshall "Chip" Turner (photo by Baron Spafford)

of which came from our community, Cottage Hospital is finally ready for its close-up.

The 713,000-sq.-ft. property, which boasts 337 beds, has just opened its final two pavilions – the Compton and the Arlington – with a launch bash with more than 200 guests.

Hospital president and CEO **Ron Werft** described it as "a milestone."

The two new 134,000-sq.-ft. pavilions, which officially start admitting patients on Sunday, November 4, took three years to build, with engineer **Richard Compton** and wife, **Mary**,



Cottage Health president and CEO Ron Werft with Mary and Dick Compton (photo by Baron Spafford)

Former Cottage Health Board members Katina Etsell, Cathy Carter Duncan, and Judy Hopkinson (photo by Baron Spafford)



Rob and Heather Hambleton with Brett Wilson, medical director of Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital Emergency Services (photo by Baron Spafford)

cal denizens were executive director **Jeremy Lindman**, actor **George Hamilton**, **Michael Hammer**, former mayor **Helene Schneider**, sheriff **Bill**

**Brown, Allen** and **Anne Sides**, **Lynda Weinman** and **Bruce Heavin**, **Leslie Ridley-Tree**, **Jeff and Hollye Jacobs**, **Dick and Noelle Wolf**, **Pat and Ursula**