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## MONTECITO MISCELLANY

by Richard Mineards



Richard covered the Royal Family for Britain's Daily Mirror and Daily Mail before moving to New York to write for Rupert Murdoch's newly launched Star magazine in 1978; Richard later wrote for New York magazine's "Intelligencer". He continues to make regular appearances on CBS, ABC, and CNN, and moved to Montecito six years ago.

### Deal With The Devil

Local writer **Peter Lance** has hit the publicity jackpot!

Peter, who has just published his fourth book *Deal With The Devil*, about the government's relationship with gangster-murderer Gregory Scarpa Sr., spoke at the one-year-old Mob Museum in Las Vegas at the weekend, which was filmed for Book TV on C-SPAN 2, the cable satellite public affairs network.

"They have covered my three previous books," says Peter, a five-time Emmy Award-winning investigative reporter. "The piece should start airing in the next week or two. They will run it multiple times, as well as archiving it. It is great promotion."

The gripping read, subtitled "The FBI's Secret Thirty-Year Relationship with a Mafia Killer," discloses the shocking true story of Colombo fam-



Peter Lance writes a gripping new Mafia tome about the infamous Mafia boss John Gotti. Scarpa, who spent more than 30 years as a paid top echelon FBI informant while committing or ordering more than 50 murders and wreak-

**MISCELLANY** Page 10 ►

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## MISCELLANY (Continued from page 6)

ing havoc as a drug dealer, loan shark, bank robber, hijacker, and high-end securities thief.

Drawing on 1,153 pages of newly uncovered secret memos – which went to every FBI director from J. Edgar Hoover and **Louis Freeh** – Peter documents how more than half of Scarpa's homicides were committed from 1980 to 1992, when his handler was former FBI supervisory special agent **R. Lindley DeVecchio**, the celebrated case agent on the 1985-86 Mafia Commission prosecution, who ran two organized crime squads in the FBI's New York office.

"After four murder charges against

DeVecchio were dismissed in 2007, a New York state Supreme Court judge described the FBI's association with Scarpa as a 'deal with the devil,'" says Peter, a seasoned ABC Network correspondent, who worked on *20/20*, *Nightline* and *World News Tonight*.

In the interest of full disclosure, I was a commentator on ABC's *World News Now* for many years.

During his lengthy time as an informant, the FBI facilitated insurance rewards and paid Scarpa fees that equal more than \$1 million, adds Peter, who is also a research scholar at the Orfalea Center for Global and International Studies...

### Horsing Around

There were a lot of neigh-sayers present when veteran actor **Tab Hunter** celebrated his 82nd birthday.

Tab, who co-starred with **Sophia Loren**, **Debbie Reynolds** and Natalie Wood in his Hollywood heyday, as well as having a Number One with the song "Young Love" in 1957, is about to hit the big screen again in a documentary based on his 2006 *New York Times* best selling autobiography, *Tab Hunter Confidential: The Making of a Movie Star*, which is being produced by his longtime companion, **Allan Glaser**, **Neil Koenigsberg** and **Jeffrey Schwarz**.



Tab Hunter celebrates his 82nd birthday with Jane Burkemper, host Mary Jo England, and Hilary and Bill Neiman

"The party was a strictly horsey affair," Allan, a film historian and collector, tells me.

"It was a small group with just Tab's equine oriented friends, given his big day coincided with the Santa Barbara National Horse Show at Earl Warren. **Hilary Burkemper** rode Tab's horse, Harlow, and won a ribbon that day.

"In the evening a small dinner party was thrown at the home of **Mary Jo England**, with guests including **Jane Burkemper** and **Billy Neiman**."

### Book Bash



Author Peter Rand and Daphne Moore at Tecolote

Prolific author **Peter Rand**, a former longtime resident of Montecito and Carpinteria, celebrated the publication of his sixth book *Conspiracy of One* with old friends and acquaintances at Tecolote, the lively literary lair in the Upper Village.

"It was so nice to get back and see everybody," says Peter, a former editor of *Washington Monthly* and a regular reviewer for *The New York Times Book Review*, who now teaches journalism at Boston College.

His research for the book, which involves a secret plot against FDR and Winston Churchill, began when he uncovered a small amount of material in the late 1990s, which involved further research in Moscow and London,

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## MISCELLANY (Continued from page 10)

as well as poring through extensive archives in the JFK and FDR libraries.

"It took about five years to get it together," says Peter, who utilized his summer vacations to complete the tome. "I wasn't in any rush!"

He is now working on the seventh novel, tentatively titled *Apassionata*, about the marriage of an American journalist to a Polish prince, who becomes a top liaison man for U.S. Intelligence during World War II.

Among the literati and glitterati turning out for Peter's bijou bash were Sander and Ginny Vanocur, Mary Conrad, Beverley Jackson, Wendy Foster, Dorothy Clarey, Sean McNeil, Lelia Rand, Tamara and Sey Kinsell, and Ricardo and Dinah Calderon...

### Polo Americana

The Braille Auxiliary of Santa Barbara celebrated the 30th anniversary of its annual fundraiser with a Polo Americana lunch at the Santa Barbara Polo Club, which attracted 180 red, white and blue garbed guests and raised around \$85,000 for the cause.

The bash, chaired by Charlene Nagel and Meg DiNapoli, featured a bagpipe serenade performed by Randolph Siple, an honorary member of the Calcutta Light Horse – an 18th century regiment turned society featuring former officers of the U.S. Navy –, patriotically attired Dana Newquist's vintage fire truck, Deborah Bertling singing the National Anthem and polo patriarch Glen Holden, a former U.S. ambassador to Jamaica, reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Susan Bock, a board member of

CAMA and Casa Dorinda, won the chance to be a character in Los Angeles writer Robert Crais' next novel. "I just hope I'm not a villain!" she joked.

A four chukker polo game accompanied the event, which also included Oscar winner Tommy Lee Jones among the players.

Equestrian fans and fund raisers included Pat Andersons, Peter Mindnich, Marilyn McMahon, Mary Collier, Gloria Holden, Elaine Toledo, Bridget Colleary, Jean von Wittenburg, Willard and Jo Thompson, Paige Beard and Harland Williams...

### Wild Fiesta Fete



Junior Spirit of Fiesta Kailani Cordero with 2013 Spirit of Fiesta Corrie Jimenez (photo by Priscilla)

## What do these two have in common?

**Maryan** is an engaged philanthropist, passionate about education. She and her husband Dick make charitable grants through their donor advised fund at the Santa Barbara Foundation. **Matthew** is an outstanding scholar athlete and a recent recipient of the Santa Barbara Foundation's Fleischmann Scholarship Award. What Maryan and Matthew have in common is they are both connected to the Santa Barbara Foundation.



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Friar Larry Gosselin, Lynn Kirst, and Lane and Jeanette Curtis at Celebracion de los Dignatarios (photo by Priscilla)

## Santa Barbara Life Beach Ball Contest

Find the beach ball and tell us what page it's on

in this edition of the Montecito Journal - Visit **SBLIFE.COM** with the correct beach ball page number and enter to win **Dinner for 2 and a romantic cruise on the Double Dolphin!**

**Congratulations to our July winner - Falko Hoernicke**

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The party animals were out in force when one of Fiesta's most popular events, Celebracion de los Dignatarios, was held at the Santa Barbara Zoo.

More than 2,200 turned out for the hilltop hoopla – co-chaired by **Greg Wilson** and **Joanne Funari** – featuring 33 eateries and vineyards, which was expected to raise \$80,000, split equally between Old Spanish Days and the magnificent menagerie.

As usual, local ABC affiliate KEYT-TV was well represented with meteorologist **Alan Rose** broadcasting the weather reports from the bustling site for the nightly newscasts and interviewing the festively festooned foodies.

"This is always great fun to be part of!" says Alan, who is a regular at the boffo bash.

Among the throng checking out the colorful scene were mayor **Helene Schneider**, **Paul Orfalea**, **Tom Reed**, **Craig Case**, **Colin** and **Sharon Friem-Wallace**, **Chris Lancashire**, **Catherine Gee**, **Bilo Zarif**, **Clas Lensander**, **Salud Carbajal**, **Mindy Denson** and **Frank Hotchkiss**...

#### *Magnificent MAW*

Music Academy of the West staged a wonderful version of Mozart's popular opera *The Magic Flute* at the sold-out Granada.

The production, with **Warren Jones** as conductor and **David Paul** as stage director, was a thoroughly entertaining two and a half hour show, with baritone **John Brancy** as a delightfully mischievous Papageno, the impish bird catcher, and soprano **Julie Adams** as the alluring Pamina, backed by 23 academy fellows chosen from 600 applicants in the voice program.

Tenor **Andrew Haji** as the princely love interest fit the bill perfectly, along with **Matthew Anchel** as Sarastro and **John Kapusta** as Monostatos, while sopranos **Claire de Seigne** as Queen of the Night and **Emily Siar** as Papagena added admirably to the cast.

**Charles Corcoran's** ambitious set designs were impressive, as was surreal **Ben Pilat's** lighting, but much kudos has to go to **Stephanie Cluggish** for her innovative costume designs.

It is no wonder *The Magic Flute* is one of the most produced operas in the world!

Earlier in the week it was time for Japanese violinist **Midori** to shine brilliantly at Hahn Hall playing three works by Bach.

Celebrating her 30th anniversary as a performer this season, having made her debut at the age of 11 as a surprise guest soloist with the New York

**MISCELLANY** Page 22 ▶



John Franklin, Norma Hernandez, Dana Petersen, Laurie Leighty, and Becky Johnson

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## MISCELLANY (Continued from page 19)



John Brancy as Papageno and Julie Adams as Pamina in *The Magic Flute* (photo credit: David Bazemore)

Philharmonic under Zubin Mehta in 1982, she was elected to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences last year and received an honorary doctorate in music from Yale University.

Her deft use of the strings was quite astonishing as she performed Sonata No. 2 in A Minor, Partita No. 1 in B Minor and Partita No. 3 in E Major.

It was definitely an evening to savor...

### Lotusland Love

Always one of our rarefied enclave's most popular events, Lotusland lived up to its 19 year reputation with its annual fundraiser "Romancing the Garden," recounting Polish opera singer Ganna Walska's journey to the botanical paradise.

A sold-out crowd of 500 helped raise around \$300,000 for the 37-acre property, which abounds with unique flora and fauna and has been open to the public for two decades.

"A great deal of the event is underwritten, including the wine, programs and even the Porta Potties," says executive director Gwen Stauffer. "That ensures most of the money raised goes

directly to the gardens and upkeep."

Violinists serenaded guests, with signs along the paths proclaiming romantically, "The irresistible desire to be irresistibly desired" and "Love is a caress furnished by nature, embroidered by imagination," while a gondolier on the lake, suitably oar-struck, burst into "La donna e mobile" from Verdi's popular 1851 opera *Rigoletto*.

Further down the path to the main lawn, where guests had to find Walska's six suitably costumed husbands in a treasure hunting exercise – in this case, a free raffle ticket –, poets, including doppelgangers of John Keats, E.E. Cummings and Serge Gainsbourg, recited romantic works.

Adding to the mix were four members of the State Street Ballet – Ryan Camou, John Piel, Leila Drake and Alyson Mattoon – draped in white dancing to their own choreography, after which Sotheby's auctioneer Eliza Osborne brought her gavel skills to attracting bids for a five-day trip to London, a diamond and white gold ring from Silverhorn and a contemporary art work by Laura Scandrett, which raised \$113,000 alone.

Among the garden gurus and green fingered guests were Leslie Ridley-Tree, Brian King, Robert and Margo Feinberg, Robert and Gretchen Lieff, Adam and Penny Bianchi, Jamie and Julie Kellner, Lynda Weinman and Bruce Heavin, Robert and Christine Emmons, Mike and Anne Towbes, Bill and Sandi Nicholson, Harold and Annette Simmons, Carolyn Amory, John and Betsy Waggoner, Henry and Rita Hortenstine, Pat Hinds, Paul Orfalea, Susan McCaw, Tipper Gore and Bill Allen, Steve and Caroline Thompson, Chris Toomey, Morrie and Irma Jurkowitz, Palmer and Joan Jackson, Frank Goss, and Chuck and Stephanie Slosser...

### Masked Merry-Makers

It was definitely the "Z" list when nearly 120 guests turned up for a sold-out Zorro themed bash for the Santa Barbara Youth Polo Association at the new 40-acre ranch of Justin Klentner and his interior designer wife, Amanda Masters.

The boffo bash raised around \$65,000 towards scholarships for 13 to 25 year old students at John Westley's popular polo school, which has attracted more than 300 students from Westmont, City College, UCSB, Laguna Blanca, Cate, Crane Country Day School and the Thacher School in Ojai, since its formation.

Earlier this year a team from Westmont won the USPA National Championship in Texas, beating out players from SMU, Colorado State and Cornell along the way.

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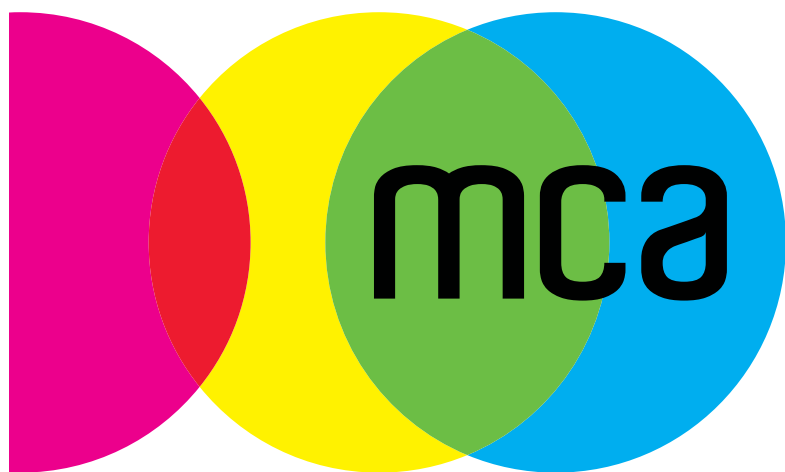


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Wendy Westley with Chris and Mindy Denson at the Santa Barbara Youth Polo Association bash (photo by Priscilla)



Evan Barron, John Westley, Andy Smith and Wesley Ru at the Zorro themed soirée (photo by Priscilla)



Hosts Justin Klentner and Amanda Masters, Judy Smith and Matt Yonally at the SBYP party (photo by Priscilla)

The party, chaired by **Julia Dawson** along with board members **Wendy Westley**, **Jessica Keneally** and **Melanja Jones**, also featured saber fencing with **Robby Granatelli**, grandson of motor racing legend **Andy Granatelli**, and **Travis Tibbitts**, and an exhibition of sabrage, an impressive technique for opening a champagne bottle with a saber, dating back to Napoleonic times.

For the occasion a solid silver Christofle saber, provided by the Coast 2 Coast Collection in La Arcada, was used for the job, and wielded with particular aplomb by banker and polo player **Henry Walker**.

Those checking out the sparkling soi-

rée included **Dan and Linda Walker**, **Andy Smith**, **Paige Beard**, **Chris and Mindy Denson**, **Wes Ru**, **Brian Fagan**, **Chuck and Margarita Lande**, **Charles Ward** and **Ben Sulimani**...

#### *Introducing Falkor*

Montecito's **Eric Schmidt** has taken the wraps off his latest venture – an ocean research vessel.

Named the *Falkor*, the ship was bought by the Schmidt Ocean Research Institute and underwent a three-year, \$94 million retrofit before being unveiled last week in San Francisco.

It was built under the guise that researchers will be able to use it free of charge, with the only caveat being



that any findings are shared with the public within two months of the research trip, according to *Forbes*.

Eric, who bought comedienne and Oscar host **Ellen Degeneres'** estate, says they have received 120 applicants for the seven slots available.

Named after a character from *The Neverending Story*, the *Falkor* last year used sonar to help find the *S.S. Terra Nova*, a polar exploration ship that sank off the coast of Greenland in 1943.

The ship was originally built in 1981 as a fishery protection vessel and underwent an extensive rebuild from 2009 to 2012 and can go on voyages as long as 28 days.

"The most important element about the character is that he was really lucky," says Eric's wife, **Wendy Schmidt**.

"The oceans are in trouble. They have absorbed so much carbon dioxide that they are destroying coral reefs and the bottom link of the food chain.

"When we spill in the ocean, we're disrupting a generation of living species."

Having just finished a high-resolution mapping of reefs off the coast of Honduras, the *Falkor* is now heading to Hawaii, where it will study a newly forming island...

#### Details on Diana

British heiress **Jemima Khan** claims the late Princess Diana was so besotted with heart surgeon **Hasnat Khan** that she actually considered ditching the U.K. and moving to his homeland of Pakistan.

Jemima, daughter of the late tycoon Sir Jimmy Goldsmith, says the ex-wife of **Prince Charles** sought her advice during fundraising visits to Lahore.

"She wanted to know how hard it had been for me to adapt to life

in Pakistan," Jemima, who was married to Pakistani politician and former cricketing ace **Imran Khan**, tells the September issue of *Vanity Fair*.

Indeed, Diana was apparently desperately keen to impress Hasnat's immediate family, especially his mother.

But in spite of her best efforts, it would appear that this second love would see the princess yet again falling on the wrong side of an influential family.

Even though Diana had an aristocratic lineage and was mother to the heir to the British throne, **Naheed Khan** was unlikely to approve of her son contemplating marriage with an English woman.

"For a son to marry an English girl is every conservative Pashtun mother's worst nightmare," says Jemima.

"You send your son to be educated in England and he comes back with an English bride. It's something they dread."

Though the couple discussed marriage and children, the relationship fell apart around the time she met Dodi Fayed.

And, as they say, the rest is history...

Sightings: Former Secretary of State **Condoleezza Rice** chowing down at Lucky's with friends... **Katy Perry's** ex, comedian **Russell Brand**, spotted on Coast Village Road near Jeannine's... **Ellen Degeneres** hiking on the Romero Canyon Trail

Pip! Pip! for now

Readers with tips, sightings and amusing items for Richard's column should e-mail him at richardmin@verizon.net or send invitations or other correspondence to the Journal

My



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