

SEEN AROUND TOWN

by Lynda Millner

One Hundred Committee Luncheon



Girls Inc. Executive Director Monica Spear with keynote speaker Kate Somerville, author of *Complexion Perfection!*

In 1986, a few friends got together with an idea to ask one hundred women to donate \$100 dollars to form the One Hundred Committee. In turn they would raise funds for scholarships for Girls Inc. by giving a luncheon and having an inspirational female speaker to go along with the Girls Inc. theme of "Strong, Smart and Bold."

Among those founders were **Carol Scott Wathen** and **Perri Harcourt**. The first luncheon chairs were **Joanne Holderman** and **Jeris Rovsek** and it was held at Harcourt's home. Speakers have come from all walks of life and included luminaries such as **Barbara Bush**, **Arianna Stassinopoulos**, **Dionne Warwick**, **Judith Krantz**, **Betty White**, **Oprah Winfrey**, **Maria Shriver**, **Florence Henderson** and **Mariel Hemingway**.

This year's event was hosted by the ever-generous **Leslie Ridley-Tree**, who also co-chaired it with **Sandy Stahl**. There never has been a more beautiful luncheon, served with food from the Biltmore and a speaker -



Ms Millner is the author of "The Magic Make Over, Tricks for Looking Thinner, Younger, and More Confident - Instantly!" If you have an event that belongs in this column, you are invited to call Lynda at 969-6164.

— who brought a few tears to our eyes as we listened to her life struggle for success.

Lunch was served outside in a pavilion draped with sheer fabric surrounding a fountain, pond and rose garden. Above that, hanging from the ceiling, were five gigantic moss baskets filled with hydrangeas, begonias and ivy. The tables were covered with bejeweled lavender cloths and centered with lavender and soft green floral arrangements done by **Jerry** from **Scott Hogue, Inc.**

Leslie spoke to the group of 200 saying, "Welcome to my home." Her thanks went to co-chair Sandy, Committee president **Melody Taft**, Girls Inc. Executive Director **Monica**



Hostess Leslie Ridley-Tree is all smiles with co-chair Sandy Stahl



Eileen Mielko from the One Hundred Committee with board members Donna Yates and Doreen Ladin at the Girls Inc. luncheon

Spear, Lisa Aviani and more. Leslie remarked on how organized these working moms were to get all the jobs done. She introduced Kate who has written a book with the clever title, *Complexion Perfection!* She is regarded as a leader in her field with a well-to-do client list flocking through the doors of her clinic on Melrose Place in West Hollywood. She also is a QVC star because of her skin care product line.

"My mom was born and raised in Carpinteria. I spent many summers and Christmases here," Kate told the audience. She also told of hard times after her parents divorced and her mom moved back here when Kate was nine. On State Street she would wait outside bars for her mother to finish drinking and then drive her

home (at age nine!). Her dad remarried but the stepmom didn't work out for Kate. After leaving home at age 15, she attended college in Fresno, but partied too much. Along the way, various women (like the Girls Inc. women) mentored Kate. In short, because of them she went to esthetician school, worked for a doctor, developed her own line of skin care products, married, became a mom and opened her clinic.

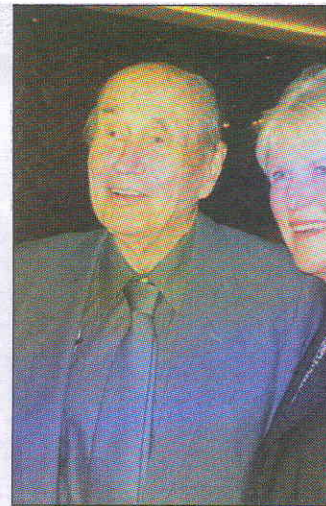
Kate told us that this morning she had been at the beach with her speech notes and some flowers to sprinkle in the ocean to honor her mother. A rogue wave came in and ruined the notes so "now I'll throw them away and just speak from the heart." And

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she did.

The afternoon ended with a raffle drawing including Pearls for Girls - **Carole Ridding** from Silverhorn donated black South Sea Tahitian pearls. Another was an escape to Antigua for seven nights or Recline, Wine and Dine at Hotel Cheval in Paso Robles. **Tom Mielko** offered to paint a personal portrait in his American-romantic style. All to help with more scholarships for Girls Inc.



Man and Woman of the Year Cliff and Gerd Jordano

Man and Woman of the Year

It's always exciting to attend the annual Man & Woman of the Year awards presented by the Santa Barbara Foundation (SBF) and KEYT. This was the 69th year and hundreds gathered at the Coral Casino to applaud the winners.

When the press checked in, they gave us a folder with PR information including the names of the winners, which is a highly guarded secret. We had to keep the secret until it was time to take their photos. I was literally sitting on the names during dinner with no one at the table knowing but me.

Masters of Ceremonies were **Paula Lopez** from KEYT and President & CEO of the SBF **Ron Gallo**. Ron told the crowd, "Volunteerism is crucial



Last year's Woman of the Year Jane with her husband, Norm

CLOSING SALE

60-75%

IN PREPARATION TO MOVE W

Dearest Friends,
First and foremost I would like to thank you for all the wonderful memories you've shared. My time has come and

