



GEORGE CHRISTY



Thomas Neerken

Share's 59th Boomtown show at the Beverly Hilton Ballroom raised \$700,000, reports president Debra Crouch.

"God played golf here!" **John George O'Hurley** pointed to the photograph of the Pebble Beach Golf Club on the big screen during the 59th annual Boomtown Share show at The Beverly Hilton. Himself a golfer par excellence, John auctioned off the golf package for \$7,000 to **Stephen Taylor**, the entrepreneur based in Los Angeles and in the Chicago area where he and his family manage major investments.

If ever in need for an emcee, John O'Hurley is as good as it gets. This time around, he rocked the crowd of 800. His quick Irish wit, informative repertoire and man-up personality had our Share ladies remembering that John's followed in the hallowed Boomtown footsteps of emcees Johnny Carson, Bob Hope, Frank Sinatra. A favorite on *Dancing With The Stars*, *Family Feud* and *Seinfeld*, John's appeared in other shows too numerous to mention, including hosting the National Dog Show on Thanksgiving Day since 2002.

To his credit, John's pacing of the evening had folks out the door of The Beverly Hilton by 10 p.m. In previous years, our overly generous Share ladies programmed a wealth of acts, but thanks to show v-p **Ellen Felder** and producer **Gary Smith**, we were spared those longeurs. Ellen is **Maxine** (Mrs. Gary) **Smith's** sibling. And hats off to dinner party v-p **Lynn Brody Slome** for a grand evening with good food. Lynn's the beautiful rabbi and our favorite dance partner at **Corinna Fields'** midsummer white parties.

Michael Jackson's music themed the show, with Share's long-legged hoferettes high-stepping those tricky turns to Michael's *Wanna Be Starting Something*.



Corinna Fields



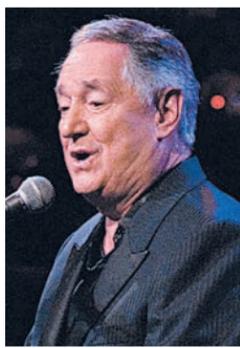
Emcee John O'Hurley with wife Lisa

Following the Share singers and dancers, **Lainie Kazan** crooned sultry ballads like *Come Rain Or Come Shine*, and **Norm Crosby** was never funnier, with one hilarious punch line after another (**Joel Briskin** was on the floor). Share's piece de resistance was the much-loved **Neil Sedaka** playing at the concert grand piano while belting out his infamous tunes that prompted singalongs. *Calendar Girl*, *Breaking Up Is Hard To Do*, *Laughter In The Rain* (co-written with **Elton John**). Neil's written more than 1,000 songs.

Over its 59 years, Share's amassed \$49 million (!) to help developmentally disabled, abused and neglected children. This week's Boomtown netted \$700,000. "Yes, we've done a great deal to improve children's lives," says **Mandie Rush**, Share's Chairman of the Board, "but more must be done."

A cadre of industry wives launched Share in 1953 with the desire to give back to the community. These founding visionaries of Share Happily and Reap Endlessly included **Paula Blythe**, **Marge Chandler**, **Gloria Franks**, **Sheila MacRae**, **Jeanne Martin**, **Miriam Nelson Meyers**, **Joy Orr**.

As in previous years, we were invited by Share's **Joanna Carson**, and joined by construction tycoon **Herman Chanen**, who flew in from Arizona on his newly acquired private plane that he's understandably excited about (Herman never misses supporting a Share event). In May, Herman was among the 100 Ellis Island Medal of Honor honorees that included **Brooke Shields**; **Carol**



Neil Sedaka



Florence Henderson



Joanna Carson



Bob Mackie and Share's Show V-P Ellen Felder



Dolores Nemiro



Lainie Kazan



Susan Blakely



Norm Crosby, Mitzi Gaynor and Joni Berry

Baldwin, mother of Baldwin brothers **Alec**, **Stephen** and **William**; boxing legend **Ray "Boom Boom" Mancini**. Other recipients have included six presidents, Nobelists, leaders of industry, artists and athletes. In the shadow of the Statue of Liberty, millions of immigrants passed through Ellis Island with dreams of a new world.

Also at Joanna's table were philanthropist **Louise Danelian**; Joel Briskin who knows more inside stuff about our town (some of it unpublishable); **Nanette Francini Urie** and **James Urie**; **Carl Hall**; the youthful **Ellis Kitsemble** and **Bodie Gilmore**, staffers with Stephen Taylor's financial empire who were blown away by the entertainment. As is her custom, **Joni Berry** hosted six tables, and picked up the tab for the sparkle-plenty costumes and who knows what else from this dynamo contributor, grateful to her family's foundation for providing the where-withal.

The Beach Boys sold out the Universal Amphitheatre harmonizing on their immortal tunes about surfing and California girls. On that same day our BHC publisher **Clif Smith** and wife **Candace** celebrated their California Girl, **Dorothy Kathryn Smith**, whose commencement from Pasadena's college preparatory Maranatha High School took place that morning. (Maranatha's considered "the best private school in the San Gabriel Valley.") Dorothy Kathryn chose an ivory silk Badgley Mischka fairytale dress for her graduation ceremony -- she'll be majoring in English at Azusa Pacific University and minor in theater. (Go Cougars!)

The Smiths hosted their intimate après-graduation luncheon on the Belvedere Patio at the Peninsula Hotel for family and friends. Included were daughter **Mary Evelyn**, preparing for a career as a physician's assistant at USC, and son **Clifton Smith**, who's in finance. Also, Clif's brother **Harold**, an insurance executive living in Malibu, and wife **Jill**, who recommend the cozy Giovanni's on Pacific Coast Highway for its delicious and down-to-earth Italian menu (they're also longtime fans of Malibu's Taverna Tony).

Luncheon offered Scottish Loch Duart Salmon (superb!) or grilled free range chicken breast with chicken oysters, and the chef's addictive zucchini bread that you want to take home to Mother. Conversation appeared irresistible among our Beverly Hills power players: philanthropist **Paula Kent Meehan**, whose Rose

Bowl Float will be a tribute to our canine kingdom (think **Rin Tin Tin** and **Uggie**); BHC's **Marcia Hobbs** and **John Seitz**; **Lili** and **Jon Bosse**; **Lonnie** and **Jimmy Delshad**; **Lisa** and **Iggy Korbatov**; the Peninsula's general manager **Offer Nissenbaum** and wife **Bonnie**; **Nancy Krasne** with husband **Jim** whose handsome necktie from Australia was admired.

"We drove to the Arclight to see *Snow White And The Huntsman* last night," sighed Nancy Krasne. "Okay, we enjoyed it, but what depresses me about these violent films is that you want the lovers to make a little love before they're knocked off."

Meanwhile, **Wolfgang Puck's** announced the closing of Spago on July 9, the day after his birthday, for a total redesign by **Waldo Fernandez** with a sliding patio roof and fireplaces. "Life is change," reflects the indefatigable culinary emperor Wolfgang, who pioneered the open kitchen with his designer pizzas and California Cuisine when he launched Spago in 1982. "Time for a more casually comfortable ambiance and menu." He anticipates an opening in autumn.

Online at www.bhcourier.com/georgechristy.cfm



California Girl, Dorothy Kathryn Smith, daughter of BHC publisher Clif and Candace Smith, celebrated her graduation from Maranatha High School with a luncheon at the Peninsula Hotel.