

NOB HILL NOTABLES

PETER MINTUN DELIGHTS

NHA 80TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



What better way to celebrate the 80th birthday of San Francisco's oldest neighborhood association that with the "living incarnation of the fabulous keyboard wizards of the jazz age," Peter Mintun. (Citing Will Friedwald of the New York Sun). Perched high above Nob Hill on a warm, balmy evening at San Francisco's University Club, Nob Hill Association members and guests feasted and fêted this important milestone and at

the same time honored one of its own, Bella Farrow, for her tireless efforts on behalf of the Association as well as for her recent investiture as Dame in the Sovereign Order of the Knights of St. John.

A few of the old-timers couldn't believe their eyes (nor ears) when they walked off the elevator and heard the sounds emanating from the tinkling ivories under the mastery of America's favorite society pianist himself, Peter Mintun. Many in the group remember Peter when he headlined San Francisco's favorite watering hole, l'Étoile, in the Huntington Hotel or later at Mason's at the Fairmont. Unfortunately for us, his stardom took him to New York where he headlined such famous venues as the Madison Room at the New York Palace Hotel or the Bemelmans Bar at the Carlyle. But everyone was happy for this brief reunion.



Dame Bella Farrow with Claudine Cheng after Bella received a Proclamation from the City of San Francisco for her philanthropic work

Beautifully organized by Chair Lee Meyer, and her committee: Simi Barjesteh, Cathy Candelaria, Fran Hildebrand, and Virginia Presti, the evening was a feast for the eyes, ears and palates. Guests dined on beef tenderloin on potato pancake corn blinis, iced jumbo prawns, roasted three onion tartlet and mini crab cakes.

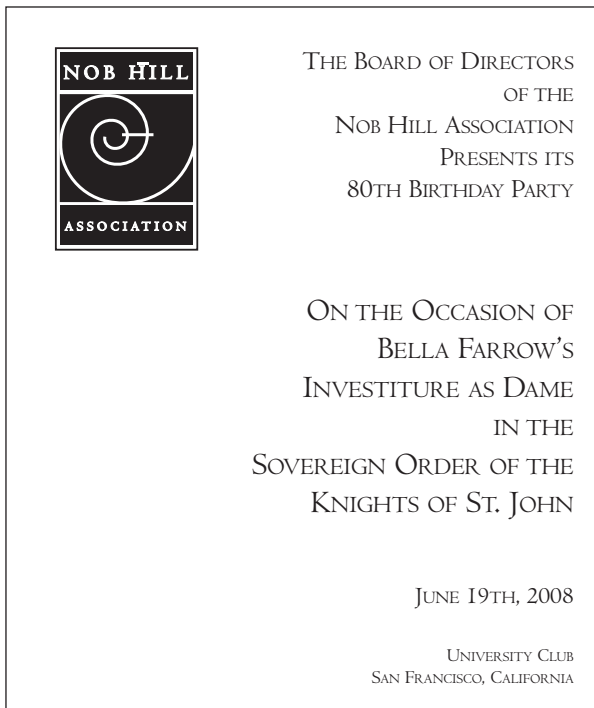


For the first time at a NHA event, a live auction was held under the direction of master

auctioneer and Association Vice President, David Lefkowitz. Auction items included a Historic Tour of Nob Hill, a Get In Shape for the Summer at the Nob Hill Club in the Fairmont, professional photo ops by three separate professional photographers, Joshua Ets-Hokin, Eric Schumacher and Peter Olivetti. And the piece de resistance was a last minute item offered by the new General and Regional Manager of the Fairmont San Francisco, Tom Klein, two nights in a suite with daily treatments, at the Sonoma Mission Inn. All funds raised benefited the Association and its ongoing efforts to assure the beauty of Huntington Park.

- ◆ **October 18 ~ Picnic in the Park**
- ◆ **November 24 ~ NHA Annual Meeting**
- ◆ **December 1 ~ Annual Dorothy Fritz Cope Tree Lighting Ceremony in Huntington Park**

**NOB HILL ASSOCIATION
CELEBRATES 80TH
BIRTHDAY
AND
DAME BELLA'S NEW TITLE**



Even though it was a sweltering night with temperatures in the upper 90's, everyone was having a great time at the beautiful University Club. Clubhouse Manager John Nicolai prepared a beautiful buffet accompanied by fine wines. We were very lucky to have the one and only Peter Mintun at the piano. I thank Torey Presti NHA President, chair Lee Meyer, and committee members Simi Barjesteh, Lori Lefkowitz, Fran Hildebrand, Virginia Presti, and Cathy Candelaria and especially photographer Caesar Alexzander for donating his time and talent to provide memorable photos for all to share.

We are wonderful!!!

Bella



We Thank...

OUR UNDERWRITERS

CITISCAPE CORPORATION
AND

NATIONAL SHIPPING OF AMERICA

Our In Kind Supporters

CAESAR ALEXZANDER

CLOS DU BOIS

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Our Auction Donors

CHARLES FRACCHIA

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THE HUNTINGTON HOTEL & NOB HILL SPA

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RENAISSANCE STANFORD COURT HOTEL

THE RITZ-CARLTON HOTEL, SAN FRANCISCO

RECHARGE SPA

ERIC SCHUMACHER



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



By Torey Presti

The first half of the year has been a busy one for the Association. Spring was a very successful season starting with the Mille held on a beautiful sunny day in April. Thanks to Dame Bella Farrow for outdoing herself and making the event a huge success raising almost \$15,000 for the foundation. Fun was had by all and the Fairmont was a terrific host for the event. A big thank you to Martin Swig for rallying the vintage autos for the show.

For our 80th Birthday, we enjoyed a terrific evening at the University Club on June 19th. With over 100 attendees on a warm, atypical San Francisco evening. Pianist Peter Mintun brought back fond memories of the good old days at L' Etoile. We also celebrated and recognized Dame Bella Farrow for all her philanthropic work in San Francisco as well as her investiture as Dame in the Sovereign Order of the Knights of St. John. We enjoyed not only a nice dinner and music but an auction led by our able Vice President, David Lefkowitz. The event was chaired by Lee Meyer and a strong committee consisting of Fran Hildebrand, Simi Barjesteh, Cathy Candelaria, Lori Lefkowitz, and Virginia Presti. The donors to the dinner and auction were extensive and would not fit on this page. I am proud to advise that we raised over \$10,000 earmarked for the continuing effort to restore Huntington Park.

Looking forward to the fall and continuing our 80th Birthday Celebrations; we are planning a picnic in Huntington Park. Good old fashioned hot dogs will highlight the theme and I hope as many members as possible will attend.

Lastly, I would like to invite our membership to be active in our Association and encourage your friends to join. We always need new blood and members that want to be involved. Drop me a note if you would like to participate on an event. We need volunteers!

Enjoy your summer and best wishes!

GEORGE C. FLEHARTY

NOB HILL ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBER GEORGE C. FLEHARTY, 83, PASSED AWAY APRIL 22 AT HIS HOME AT THE GRAMERCY TOWERS.

FLEHARTY BROUGHT TO THE ASSOCIATION HIS ECLECTIC BACKGROUND AS A BUSINESSMAN WHO WORKED IN THE MEDIA, THE HOTEL BUSINESS AND THE ICE FOLLIES.

HE HAD RUN THE SAN FRANCISCO SEALS ICE HOCKEY TEAM AND HOTELS IN YOSEMITE. HE HAD BEEN CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY AND PRESIDENT OF THE SAN FRANCISCO NATIONAL MARITIME PARK ASSOCIATION.

MR. FLEHARTY IS SURVIVED BY HIS WIFE NANCY AND THEIR SIX CHILDREN.

THE FAMILY PREFERS CONTRIBUTIONS IN MR. FLEHARTY'S NAME TO THE DENALI EDUCATION CENTER, P.O. BOX 212, DENALI NATIONAL PARK, AK 99755, OR THE FAMILY HOUSE INC., 50 IRVING ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94122.

Mark Your Calendar!

October 18, 2008

NHA Picnic in the Park

FOR CURRENT EVENTS ON THE HILL GO TO
[HTTP://WWW.NOBHILLASSOCIATION.ORG](http://www.nobhillassociation.org)

The Nob Hill Association

Founded in 1928, the mission of the Nob Hill Association is to preserve the beauty and history of Nob Hill and Huntington Park

Officers

President - Torey Presti
Vice President - David L. Lefkowitz
Treasurer - Bob Baxter
Secretary - James Fotenos
Assistant Treasurer - Lori Lefkowitz
Director of Communications - Fran Hildebrand
Publication Contributors - Tom Horn, Bella Farrow
Photographer - Caesar Alexzander



Dr. J. Ferretti, Dame Bella and Lenore Karp



Sheila Balson, Cynthia Smith, John Balson



Christine Selle and Paul Ybarbo



Torey and Virginia Presti with John Doremus and Pamela Toon



Marilyn and Michael Cabak



Carol Fotenos with San Francisco historian Ron Henggeler at the photo archive he created

and our celebration continues...



Chair Lee Meyer, and Committee members Simi Barjesteh and Cathy Candelaria



Cynthia Smith and artist, Nadine Sasha Lieberman



NHA President Presti



Michael Denunzio, Claudine Cheng



David Lefkowitz, Tom Horn, Tom Klein, General Mgr. & Regional Mgr., The Fairmont Hotel



Bonnie Manning, Theodore Brown, Betty Kimble



Damon and Jennifer Raike



Torey Presti, Jeanette and Tom Hsieh



Aaron Dence and Fran Hildebrand



David and Amy Harmer

Irene Bechtel
and Maureen
Birdzell



Ron Hummel and Fortunata Oliva



Bonnie Manning and Catherine MacMillan



Auctioneer
David Lefkowitz

B.J. Merck
and Dame
Bella Farrow
— wearing
her medal



Auction donors: Andrew Bills, Recharge
Salon; Aaron Dence, Club One; Philippe
Nguyen, Recharge Spa



Leslie Lefkowitz



Irene Bechtel and Veronica LeBeau



Ray Brown, Ellie Brown and Ann Brown



Sylvia Blumenfeld, Joan Moon
Lawrence, Judith Rudé

CALIFORNIA MILLE

The Fairmont Hotel ~ Sunday, April 27, 2008

–“THE BEST YET”

Over 500 Nob Hill Association members and friends contributed to the annual California Mille benefiting the Nob Hill Association and its effort to preserve the beauty and history of Nob Hill and Huntington Park. Many hundreds more dropped by to spend a beautiful Sunday afternoon admiring the dozens of rare cars assembled in front of the Fairmont Hotel and in Huntington Park. The California Mille has become one of the Nob Hill Association's most popular events.

The California Mille unites an international group of rare sports racing and production cars dating from 1927 through 1957 for a 1000 mile journey throughout Northern California. The tour is patterned after the world-famous Italian “Mille Miglia,” a 1000 mile open road race which ran from 1927 through 1957 from Brescia in the North of Italy to Rome and back. It was revived in 1982 as an annual event and, today, the California Mille is the only American event recognized by the Mille Miglia Storica (Historical Society) of Brescia, Italy.

Held in front of the Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, manager Thomas Klein and his staff provided a sumptuous Italian buffet with Champagne, wine and cocktails. In addition to the Fairmont Hotel, California Mille 2008 was sponsored by Blancpain Watches, British Motors Jaguar, KSFO radio, Lodi Wine Growers, the Nob Hill Gazette and Symbolic Motor Car Company. Special thanks go to Chairman Bella Farrow and Co-Chairs Thomas Klein, Lois Lehrman and Martin Swig and Assistant Chair Fran Hildebrand.



Bill and Emily Terrill with Anna and Maya



Sylvia Blumenfeld

Celeste Woo



Bob Varni & Ray Sciotto



Paul May, Michael & Annette Dununzio, Frank Stein



Our NHA
Photographer
Caesar Alexzander
and Tim Adamich





Veronica LeBeau and Torey Presti



John Rosin, Bella, Mark Calvano



Ann and Ray Brown



Bella & Tom Klein, Fairmont General Manager and Regional Manager

THE NOB HILL ASSOCIATION'S OWN DAME BELLA FARROW WHO CHAIRED THE 2008 MILLE AS SHE HAS ALL THE PREVIOUS ONES WRITES...

It was a sunny, warm Sunday afternoon and the atmosphere was happy because the people were happy and the entire event was a great success. The Fairmont Chef set up a gourmet buffet that was enjoyed by everyone.

We made more than ever—almost \$15,000. A great big "Thank You" to Kurt Nehrer of City Building, Inc., for bringing over 30 guests to the party and for buying all those raffle tickets. My sincere thanks to all my volunteers and particularly to the Fairmont and their staff!!! A special "Thank you" to Caesar Alexzander who took the photographs and graciously donated his talent. Big special thanks to Doug Tewnton, Convention, Services Manager, the Fairmont, and his staff.

See you again next year!!!

*Love,
Bella*



Caryl Ritter and Roland Petersen



Elizabeth Woodall & Herb Kritz

R. J. Merck, Leah McCann and Betty Kimble



Enjoying the Party!



SUMMER ON THE HILL

GRACE CATHEDRAL'S FORUM

Friday August 15 ~ 7pm - 8pm

GUSTAV NIEBUHR, one of the nation's leading journalists covering religion, will speak at a special Friday night Forum discussing his new book, *Beyond Tolerance: Searching for Interfaith Understanding in America*, moderated by Michael Pappas, executive director of the San Francisco Interfaith Council.

Niebuhr has written for the *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post* and *New York Times*, and today is associate professor of Religion and the Media at Syracuse University. He holds a dual professorship with Syracuse's Department of Religion and its Newspaper Journalism program in the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications.

Cost: Free of charge; donations appreciated. Additional information: Call 415-749-6308 or go to: www.gracecathedral.org/forum

The Forum is held in Gresham Hall on the lower level of Grace Cathedral.

TWO Nob Hill Association Members Celebrate First Anniversary on the Hill

Recharge Spa, Association member and auction donor, is a full service health oriented spa on Nob Hill. To celebrate their one year anniversary, Recharge had a festive party on Friday, July 11th that included wine, champagne, incredible Vietnamese hors d'oeuvres and invitations to as many Association members as they could locate. Recharge Spa, is at 1456 California Street between Hyde and Larkin (415-409-3456).

The Californian Bar and Restaurant at 1177 California Street, hosts of a delightful 2007 social for Association members, celebrated their one year anniversary with a 3 course prix fixe menu July 18th - July 20th. The Californian also announced a four course menu for neighborhood residents that features an appetizer, soup or salad, entree and dessert for \$25 between 5:00-7:00pm each night.

THE RITZ-CARLTON, SAN FRANCISCO

~ Giveback Getaway to help preserve Alcatraz Island

Volunteers from The Ritz-Carlton, San Francisco and the Nob Hill Association will team up with interested hotel guests to help preserve Alcatraz Island's historic parklands on September 30th this year. Preserving a San Francisco National Treasure -- Alcatraz Island is part of The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company's recently-announced Give Back Getaway volunteer tourism initiative.

Partnering with the National Park Service, The Ritz-Carlton, San Francisco, is offering the half-day giving experience on Tuesday, September 30, 2008, enabling participants to travel to the island by motor coach and early-morning boat, receive an educational briefing on "The Rock," and then collaborate on environmental restoration projects such as preserving historic structures, planting gardens, cleaning up plant and weed overgrowth, collecting wildlife data and assisting with natural history projects. Lunch and return transportation to the hotel are included.

"Give Back Getaways is a cherished opportunity for us, as citizens of the community, to support San Francisco causes," said Edward A. Mady, Vice President and Area General Manager, The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company, L.L.C. "Alcatraz Island provides a treasured sense of place, and we look forward to rolling up our sleeves and lending assistance. Since most of our hotel guests and Nob Hill Association members are also active in the world of giving, the program allows them an equally meaningful way to provide volunteer efforts within a region that they love to visit."

The Alcatraz Give Back Getaway program cost is \$125 per adult, with cash proceeds donated by the hotel going directly to the park. Reservations for the September 30 experiences may be booked at ritzcarlton.com.

THE UNIVERSITY CLUB is located at 800 Powell Street. Members interested in these events or the University Club should contact 415/781-0900.

SAN FRANCISCO HISTORIAN CHARLES FRACCHIA

Mr. Fracchia continues his monthly Tuesday talks on San Francisco history. He will be offering his witty and informative insights about our city to Club and Nob Hill Association members on the following dates: September 16, October 21, and November 18.

All talks begin with complementary appetizers which are included in the \$20 price per attendee. No host cocktails, wine and beer and non-alcoholic beverages are available.

THE FAIRMONT HOTEL

The Tonga Room & Hurricane Bar

The Tonga Room has been bringing the tropics to Nob Hill since 1945. Having reigned as a swanky outpost of South Seas high style for much of its history, The Tonga Room more recently gained a following as an icon of tiki's pop culture heyday of the 1940s and 1950s. Following a \$1 million restoration, The Tonga Room has returned to its unique and time-honored décor as one of the nation's first tiki palaces.

Chef de Cuisine Brett Yasukawa, formerly of Wolfgang Puck's Chinois and Nobu Matsuhisa's Nobu restaurants in Las Vegas, has introduced a new Pacific Rim menu. The Tonga Room features a top-40 band performing from a thatch-covered barge on the lagoon; a dance floor built from the remains of the S.S. Forester, a lumber schooner that once traveled regularly between San Francisco and the South Sea Islands; and periodic light tropical rainstorms, complete with thunder and lightning.

Caffe Centro

The Fairmont San Francisco is pleased to announce the grand opening of Caffe Centro where the epicurean can enjoy homemade pastries, Tuscan-style sandwiches and a tantalizing array of salads in true San Francisco style - with a view of the city's iconic cable cars as they pass by the landmark hotel. Caffe Centro is located in the hotel's historic Main Building on the corner of California and Powell streets. It is open daily from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

THE HUNTINGTON HOTEL AND NOB HILL SPA

Due to necessary repair and replacement of kitchen equipment, the **Big 4 Restaurant** will be closed from Sunday, August 24 until Tuesday, September 16, 2008. The **Big 4** bar will be open every night with live piano music, serving drinks only.

Celebrate Summer in the City at Nob Hill Spa

Indulge this June through August with the Nob Hill Spa's cool summer offers and treat yourself to a mid-week 'vacation'. Introduce a friend to the Nob Hill Spa on a Tuesday or Wednesday and you'll both receive a guest day pass for a future visit (\$70 value total). Book a package or two 50-minute services on Tuesday or Wednesday and receive a gift certificate for a complimentary manicure (\$37 value). Or, book a treatment on Tuesday or Wednesday between 8 -10am and receive a 25% discount!

Celebrate Summer Solstice with an invigorating exfoliation made with scented organic Jasmine, white ginger, and hibiscus. This scrub is made with mineral rich Pacific Sea Salt and oils to moisturize and leave your skin sweetly scented and silky-smooth in time for this lively seasonal change. Following the Salt Scrub, a rich and creamy Jasmine Neroli Body Butter is applied to the skin to allow for a deeply moisturizing experience. Available June 1 through August 31. 50-minute treatment \$135.

THE STANFORD COURT –RENEWAL

Stanford Court, a Renaissance Hotel, has announced the undertaking of a comprehensive, \$32-million renewal.

The history of The Stanford Court dates back to 1876 when California Governor Leland Stanford built his mansion atop Nob Hill for the then-princely sum of \$2 million -- reputed to be one of the most luxurious homes in the entire country at the time. The mansion was destroyed in the devastating fire that followed the 1906 earthquake, but the ten-foot high wall of basalt and granite that surrounded the two-acre property survived, and a sizeable portion of it remains today as part of The Stanford Court. In 1912, the luxury Stanford Court Apartments were constructed and later converted into The Stanford Court Hotel.

Scheduled for completion in October 2008, the comprehensive, \$32 million renewal will encompass all 393 guest rooms and suites, as well as the lobby, restaurant, porte-cochere and meeting room facilities.

A major element in the transformation includes converting much of the first-floor into Aurea, a restaurant and lounge concept that offers seating for up to 140 guests, Aurea will feature an illuminated wine-centric bar that operates as a classic coffee-bar café by day and in the evening into a lively restaurant lounge where guests can enjoy Aurea's menu of small plates. Cutting-edge technology has been seamlessly integrated throughout the space, including a recessed wine Cruvinet with digital wine dispensing, a SmartStone bar with built-in induction elements to heat and chill foods on the bar top, touch-screen ordering systems at all communal tables, and the fully-connected "cocktail cubbies."

The hotel will institute a series of galvanizing rituals, including a morning ringing of the Noah bells and riddling of Champagne bottles to encourage wellness, and a nightly "swording" of a Champagne bottle in the hotel's courtyard to signal the transformation from day to evening service in Aurea. In addition, the hotel will offer a nightly "eno-versity" wine and cheese tasting, comparing old world and new world, wines and cheeses in the bar, and a weekly "kitchen insider" series of cooking demonstrations, tastings and how-to discussions.

The Nob Hill Association invites any individual or business that shares our mission to preserve and improve the Nob Hill neighborhood and Huntington Park to join.

Please fill out the information, and mail to:

The Nob Hill Association, P. O. Box 475698, San Francisco, CA 94147

For more information visit our website: www.nobhillassociation.org

I am paying by Check (Please make your check payable to the Nob Hill Association)

Annual Dues \$60

Name _____

Business \$80

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Life Membership \$500

City, State and Zip Code _____

Donation \$_____

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The Nob Hill Association
P. O. Box 475698
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94147

Save the Date
NHA Picnic in the Park
October 18

NOB HILL NOTABLE MEMBERS

BUSINESS MEMBERS

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Asseman Sky Travel Agency
Brugger & McCormick, Int.
Californian Bar & Restaurant
Cathedral Apartments
City Park
Club One at the Fairmont
Ron Crosetti Design Studio
Norman Eichelmann, Attorney at Law
Ellis-Brooks
Falcon Associates, Inc.
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Nob Hill Gazette
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Sproule Lane Property Group
Swan Oyster Depot
The Comstock Apartments
The Sterling of San Francisco
Twins Hill
1200 California Corp.
University Club
Vendetta Men's Apparel &
Vintage Cuban Cigars
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SPECIAL MEMBERS

Pacific Union Club
Saint Francis Memorial Hospital

HOTELS

The Fairmont
The Huntington
Inter-Continental Mark Hopkins
Renaissance Stanford Court
The Ritz-Carlton

2008 NEW MEMBERS

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Ms. Edith Evers
M/M Marc Gallo
M/M Dean Harris
Mr. Samuel B. McCullagh
Mrs. Helene Ettelson
Mr. John Kelley
Mr. Bruce Lubarsky
Mr. Steven Minchen
Mr. Wallace Myers

M/M John Nivens
Mrs. J. P. Rothschild
M/M William Russell
Ms. Wilhelmina Schnitzer
Ms. Daphne Sheldon
Ms. Lois Shoolman
Mr. Henry Thurlow
M/M Homer Wallin
Dr. Robert Zedelis

*We appreciate the support of the mentioned business members
and are delighted to list our new individual members.
For membership information about the Nob Hill Association please call
(415) 346-8720 or visit our website at www.nobhillassociation.org.*