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SEEN (Continued from page 14)

"This is our 92nd year and Fiesta begins August 3. Over 100,000 people will attend."

Live music and a large dance floor were there for the fiesteros to end the evening dancing under the stars. This once-in-a-lifetime, not-to-be-forgotten, event was masterminded by **David Bolton**, who is a director on the Old Spanish Days board and is executive director of the California Missions Foundation. His stalwart committee was **Sue Schwefel**, **Will Powers**, **Angela Miller-Bevan**, **Erin Graffy de Garcia**, **Maria Cabrera**, **Debbie Oquist**, **Linda Rosso**, **Gonzalo Sarmiento**, **Martha McGettigan Vallejo**, and division chief for celebrations **Michelle Bischoff**.

"Such a nice party. I can't believe it.

Such a nice party. I hate to leave it." – T. S. Eliot.

The next event to look for is Fiesta Ranchera, Thursday, June 16, at Rancho La Patera in Goleta. To know more, check out oldspanishdays-fiesta.org/events/events-calendar.

Afternoon Tea

Gracing the cover of the invitation was a charming drawing of a teapot inspired by **Sheila McGinity's** collection and done by artist **Patti Poundstone**. What better way for the Santa Barbara Museum of Art (SBMA) Women's Board to request your company than with art?

The Women's Board gathered at Sheila's home to celebrate 65 years of service to the museum with an after-



SBMAWB tea chair Carol Olson, Sheila McGinity, and president Helene Segal

Tea ladies: Carolyn Williams, Starr Siegele, and Sandy Schoolfield



SBMAWB publicity chair Kristin St. John with Maggie Gallant at their tea



Jaycees past presidents Art Henzell and Paul Cashman on either side of reunion chair Brian Robertson at the zoo

Another Jaycees past president Ed Chelini (center) in front of the zoo train with wife Jan Chelini, and conductor Chris Craven



noon tea – hats and flats suggested. There was tea, prosecco, and finger sandwiches. The only thing missing were gloves. I wonder if anyone owns a pair anymore.

As we sat in the garden board president **Helene Segal** reminded the audience, "This is our 65th anniversary and the 75th for the museum." The tea was a small fundraiser for their "Imagine More Campaign" to help the SBMA. They gave Sheila the original drawing of the teapot, proclaiming her "the queen of the Women's Board."

The Robert and Mercedes Eichholz director and CEO **Larry Feinberg** addressed the group, saying, "There's no place I'd rather be. I remember the wonderful reception given for **Starr** and me when we first arrived in Santa Barbara." Since we were on historic property, he remembered that Katherine McCormick was one of the founders of the museum. She was the second female graduate from MIT and in 1952 the first woman curator. "The museum continues to thrive as more people are interested. I don't know what we'd do without you."

Besides event chair **Carol Olson**, some of the members attending were **Jeanne Fulkerson, Melanie Brewer, Lynn Brown, Sunni Thomas, Barbara Wallace, Joy Bean, Julie Blair, and Marjorie Robertson.**

Jaycees Reunion

The Santa Barbara Zoo was the venue for a gala Santa Barbara Jaycee

reunion after many years. And why not? This group of guys was responsible for obtaining and laying the railroad ties that are there today when we ride the zoo train. It was called the Child's Estate. That was because Mrs. Lillian Child had her estate on the property until she died. Eventually, the property went to the City. During the transition period, the mansion fell into disrepair and had to be torched in 1959.

Chair of the reunion **Brian Robertson** told me, "We took two flat-bed trucks and drove to Pasadena. When we finally arrived at the spot, it was 110 degrees. I've never worked so hard in my life putting the ties on the trucks."

The committee who helped Brian put the event together comprised **Joe Dobbs, Roger Knox, Mike Simmons, and Howard Hudson** – and much appreciation to the development events officer **Kelly Whitaker** and the zoo staff.

The evening began with a train ride, of course. The bearded conductor told us about all the animals as we chugged around the zoo including the special male giraffe. He's prized throughout the United States because he's so genetically pure. There are 160 species and 600 different creatures living at the zoo today. A long way from the little petting zoo that opened August 4, 1963, with a llama, two sheep, a monkey, and a goat. Soon came a black bear and an orangutan. Today, the zoo encompasses



Jaycee reunion committee Roger Knox, Mike Simmons, and Joe Dobbs Whitaker

more than 80 acres.

Then it was on to the Discovery Pavilion where we had wine, bites, and camaraderie. There was also an armadillo to entertain us with his antics.

After a delicious zoo catered dinner by Rincon, executive director **Nancy McToldridge**, who has been at the zoo for 34 years, gave us a fascinating history of the place. As she said, "No one could envision what it has become. We now have two trains. Kate is the blue train, and Emmet is the red train. We'll soon be getting an amur leopard from England and there will be another baby giraffe this summer." When I was a docent at the zoo, we learned that this zoo is particularly good at breeding ant-eaters. No one knows why, but that is still the case. Our zoo is second only to Hearst Castle for visitors on the Central Coast. It is also a top wedding sight. Kudos go to CEO Rich

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