

2000-2004 *Debutantes*





## NEWS

### Debutantes to be presented

The debutante committee will present the 2000-01 debutantes Dec. 15 at the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium. The Debutante Program benefits the youth orchestras of the Florida West Coast Symphony. Mrs. Rodell L. Urban of Bradenton is committee president.



Cristin Marie Laura Lavelle is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Stewart Lavelle. She attends Out-of-Door Academy, where she has been editor of the newspaper, The Bolt, for three years. She is a member of the yearbook and discipline committees. She plays varsity tennis and is boys soccer and basketball team manager. Her community activities include Teen Court, Congressional Classroom, Prudential Youth Leadership Institute and the American Cancer Society board. She has taught religious education at St. Michael's Church and is a writer for the East County Observer.



Vaughn Nicole Bielen is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward John Bielen of Sarasota. She attends the Out-of-Door Academy, where she is a member of the student council, the varsity tennis team and chorus. Her community activities include performances with the Sarasota Youth Opera and Venice Little Theatre and membership in the Sarasota Cotillion Club. She has been a Florida State Music Teachers Association Concerto winner, National Federation of Music Clubs Camp Scholarship Audition winner and a recipient of the Eastman School of Music Summer Horizons Scholarship.



Harrington Skylar Zwick is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William S. Zwick of Sarasota. She is a student at Pine View School, where she has participated in the French Club and Z-Club and earned the principal's award as Outstanding Freshman of the Year for excellence in academics and charitable work. She is ranked 11th nationally among qualifiers in speech and debate. Her community activities include Teen Court, Cotillion, Pals Youth Leadership Society, modeling for Versace and serving as president of Scholars for Scholars.



Meagan Maria Marks is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon H. Marks of Sarasota. She attends Riverview High School, where she has served as freshman and sophomore class president and Spanish Club president and is an API Scholar with Honors. Her memberships include the Student Council, the National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society and the Speech and Debate Club. She is also part of the Ram Vision broadcast team. The winner of the Harvard Book Award, she is a National Merit semi-finalist. Her community activities include volunteering for the Community Youth Development "Kids for Kids" and Habitat for Humanity.



Lia Marisa Cinquegrano is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Cinquegrano of Sarasota. She attends Pine View School, where she has participated in peer mentoring, the Z-Club, Interact and the Marine Biology Club. A member of the Art Honor Society, she has won the Pine View Association Creativity Award. She was also a winner of the Sarasota County High School "Evening of Excellence" Visual Art Competition and has won the National League of American Pen Women Merit Award and Judges Award.



Kathryn Naomi Baga is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Victor B. Baga of Osprey. She attends Pine View School, where she has been a member of the Spanish Club and a reporter/photographer for The Torch. Her activities have included the junior varsity volleyball team (Venice High School) and traveling with the White Sands Volleyball Club Elite Team. A member of the Sarasota Cotillion Club, she is an intern with Herb Booth Studio of Photography and a teen volunteer at Bon Secours Venice Hospital.



Jessica Elizabeth Hart is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Jeffrey Hart of Sarasota. She attends Sarasota High School, where she participates in the math and science technology program. She is a member of Mu Alpha Theta, La Sertoa and the National Honor Society. President of the student body, she has been named to Who's Who Among High School Students. Her community activities include volunteering at Sarasota Memorial Hospital and acolyte coordinator for St. Armands Key Lutheran Church.



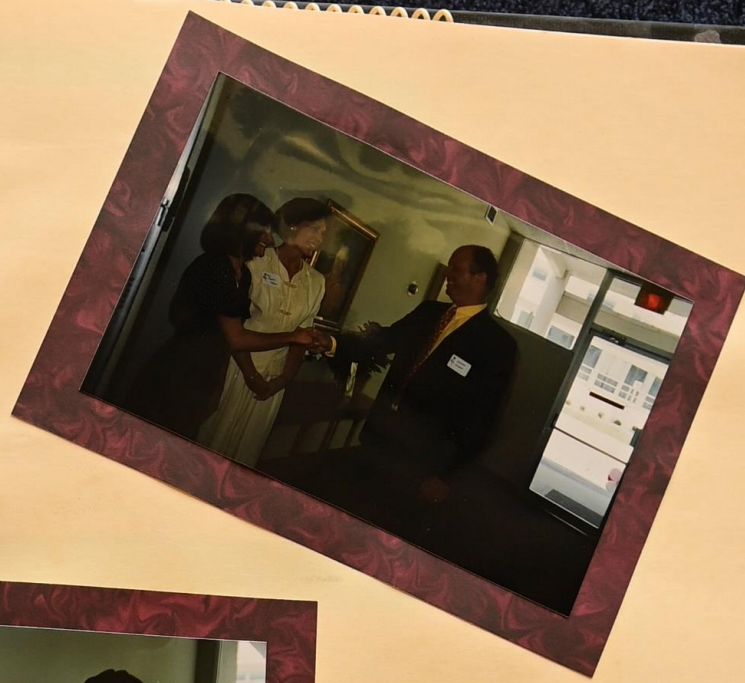
Lea Teresa Mei is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roberto Armando Mei of Sarasota. She attends Cardinal Mooney High School, where she is a member of the Key Club, Spanish Club and student government. She has played on the basketball and volleyball teams and is on the soccer team. Her community activities include volunteering at nursing homes and shelters for unwell and abused mothers. A volunteer for the Leukemia Foundation, she has also been a counselor at the Out-of-Door summer camp.



Carling Ann Cookerly is the daughter of Kelly Kruger Cookerly. She attends Pine View School, where she is a member of Mu Alpha Theta, the National Honor Society and the Spanish Honor Society. Her athletic activities include the varsity cross country and varsity track and field teams, of which she is captain. She is a member of the Cotillion Club and the Covenant Life Presbyterian Youth Group and has been a volunteer for YMCA and Special Olympics.







## Debutantes make their formal bows

The Debutante Committee will present the 2000-2001 debutantes Friday at the Sarasota Memorial Auditorium. The debutante program, begun in 1981, benefits youth orchestras of the Florida West Coast Symphony.

Nine young women from Sarasota and Manatee counties were selected on the basis of their academic performance and community involvement for participation in the program.

This year's debutantes are: Kathryn Naomi Baga, Vaughn Nicole Bielen, Lia Marisa Cinquegrano, Carling Ann Cookerly, Jessica Elizabeth Hart, Cristin Marie Laura Lavelle, Megan Maria Marks, Lea Teresa Mei, and Harrington Skylar Zwick.

Kathryn Naomi Baga is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Victor B. Baga of Osprey.

She attends Pine View School, where she has been a member of the Spanish Club and a reporter/photographer for "The Torch." Her activities have included the Junior Varsity Volleyball team (Venice High School) and traveling with the White Sands Volleyball Club Elite Team. A member of the Sarasota Cotillion Club, she currently is an intern with Herb Booth Studio of Photography and a teen volunteer with Bon Secours Venice Hospital.

Vaughn Nicole Bielen is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward John Bielen of Sarasota. She attends Out-of-Door Academy where she is a member of the Student Council, the Varsity Tennis Team, and chorus. Her community activities include performances with the Sarasota Youth Opera and Venice Little Theatre, and membership in the Sarasota Cotillion Club.

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Carling Ann Cookerly is the daughter of Mrs. Kelly Kruger Cookerly. She attends Pine View School where she is a member of Mu Alpha Theta, the National Honor Society, and the Spanish Honor Society. Her athletic activities include the Varsity Cross Country and the Varsity Track and Field teams, of which she also serves as captain. She is a member of the Cotillion Club, the Covenant Life Presbyterian Youth Group, and has been a volunteer for YMCA and Special Olympics.

Jessica Elizabeth Hart is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Jeffrey Hart of Sarasota. She attends Sarasota High School where she participates in the Math and Science Technology program. She is a member of Mu Alpha Theta, La Sertosa, and the National Honor

Society. President of the student body, she has been named to Who's Who Among High School Students. Her community activities include volunteering at Sarasota Memorial Hospital, and Acolyte Coordinator for St. Armand's Key Lutheran Church.

Cristin Marie Laura Lavelle is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Steward Lavelle. She attends Out-of-Door Academy where she has been editor of the newspaper, The Bolt, for three years. She is a member of the Yearbook and Discipline Committees.

Megan Maria Marks is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon H. Marks of Sarasota. She attends Riverview High School where she has served as Freshman and Sophomore class president, Spanish Club president, and is an AP Scholar with Honor. Her memberships include the Student Council, the National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, and the Speech and Debate Club. She is also part of the RamVision broadcast team. The winner of the Harvard Book Award, she is a National

Merit Semi-Finalist. Her community activities include volunteering for the Community Youth Development "Kids for Kids" and Habitat for Humanity.

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Harrington Skylar Zwick is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William S. Zwick of Sarasota. She is a student at Pine View School where she has participated in the French Club and Z-Club, and earned the Principal's Award as "Outstanding Freshman of the Year" for excellence in academics and charitable work. She is ranked 11th nationally of qualifiers in Speech and Debate. Her community activities include Teen Court, Cotillion, Pals Youth Leadership Society, modeling for Versace and serving as president of Scholars for Scholars.

The debutantes will be presented at 8 p.m. Friday, following a cocktail reception at 6:30. A catered dinner by Michael's on East will follow.

For more information, call Mrs. Jefferson F. Riddell at 366-1300 or Mrs. Rodell L. Urban at 794-8963.







## *The Debutante Committee*

*The pleasure of your company  
is requested at an*

*Orientation Tea*

*on  
Sunday, May 21st  
from  
Three to Five P.M.*

*Beatrice Friedman Symphony Center*

*R.S.V.P.*

*Mrs. Esther Droba 922-8449*

*Mrs. Rebecca Pope 792-6926 or 792-5488*





# 2000-2001 Debutantes



Miss Harrington Skylar Zanick



Miss Kathryn Naomi Baga



Miss Vaughn Nicole Bieden



Miss Lea Teresa Mei



Miss Lisa Maria Cingurano



Miss Moegen Maria Marks



Miss Carling Ann Cooherty



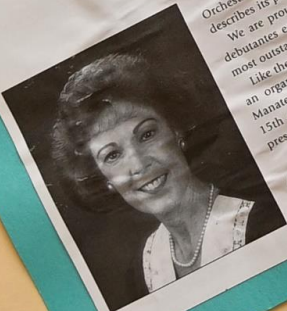
Miss Christin Marie Laura Laville



Miss Jessica Elizabeth Hart

The Debutante Committee  
proudly presents  
The Debutantes  
of the 2000-2001 Season  
and  
cordially invites you  
to attend  
The Debutante Ball  
Friday, the 15th of December  
at  
6:30 o'clock pm  
The Sarasota  
Municipal Auditorium

## Debutante Committee



Sandra B. Urban  
President

The Debutante Committee was founded in 1982 to benefit the Youth Orchestras of the Florida West Coast Symphony. "Youth Serving Youth" describes its philosophy. We are proud of the outstanding young ladies who are chosen as debutantes each season and are privileged to work in support of the most outstanding youth orchestra program in the country. Like the Florida West Coast Symphony, the Debutante Committee is an organization that spans county lines and joins Sarasotians and Manatees. We invite you to attend the Debutante Ball on December 15th at the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium when the debutantes are presented.

## DEBUTANTE COMMITTEE 2000-2001 Founded 1982

President  
First Vice President  
Second Vice President/Historian  
Recording Secretary  
Social Secretary  
Treasurer  
Committee Advisors  
Debutante Ball Reservation Chairman  
Escort Advisor  
Publicity

Mrs. Rodell L. Urban  
Mrs. Stephen E. Pawley  
Mrs. Robert A. Fasoli  
Mrs. Carole Raymond  
Mrs. William E. Partridge  
Mrs. Martin W. Faust  
Mrs. Ronald Susanat, Immed. Past President  
Mrs. Maxwell E. Cooke, Past President  
Mrs. Issam Soussou  
Mr. Martin W. Faust  
Mrs. Jefferson F. Riddell

Committee  
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth J. Boedecker III  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Buskirk  
Mrs. Maxwell B. Cooke  
Mr. and Mrs. John L. Crouse  
Dr. and Mrs. Arthur R. Droba  
Dr. and Mrs. Robert A. Fasoli  
Mr. and Mrs. Martin W. Faust  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Moran  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Mowley  
Mr. and Mrs. William Eddins Partridge  
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Ellsworth Pawley  
Dr. and Mrs. Daniel Ball Pope  
Mrs. Carole Raymond  
Mr. and Mrs. Jefferson F. Riddell  
Dr. and Mrs. Issam D. Soussou  
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Susanat  
Mr. and Mrs. Rodell L. Urban  
Mr. and Mrs. Jack F. Whiteside

## PAST DEBUTANTE COMMITTEE PRESIDENTS

Suzanne Webb William P. Michel Vivien Cooke Catherine Susanat

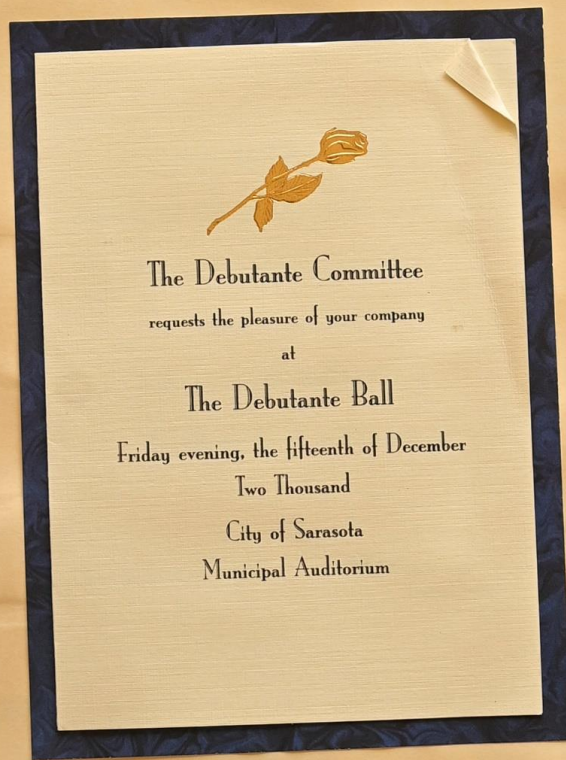
















# The Debutante Ball



Friday evening, the fifteenth of December  
Two Thousand





# BLACK TIE

The Social Observer

## Inside Section C

Arts & Entertainment 7C  
In the kitchen 19C  
Dining out 20C

DECEMBER 21, 2000



The debutantes for 2000-2001 and their escorts line up for a picture before the 19th Annual Debutante Ball.

Photos by Elizabeth Vassar

## BELLES OF THE BALL

### *Debutantes dazzle at presentation*

By ELIZABETH VASSAR  
Staff Writer

Nine young ladies, 18 young men, a few family members and a professional photographer crowded into a section of the Florida West Coast Symphony building in preparation for the main event Friday, Dec. 15. The young debs and their escorts remained there from 6 to 7:30 p.m. for photographs and last-minute instructions, while other guests arrived and filed into the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium.

The auditorium was blanketed in white cloth and gold ribbons like a giant present. Tables were topped

with topiaries of various white flowers and green foliage. The evening program began with an introduction of the past debutantes followed by the debutante presentation.

The Grand Waltz was next and the debutantes and their fathers were able to show the fruits of their dance training. Finally, the escorts joined in for the debutante promenade.

The evening concluded with dinner catered by Michael's On East and dancing to the music of the Anthony DeLeon Orchestra.

More photos on page 2C.



Cristin Lavelle waltzes with dad John Lavelle.



Lia Cinquegrano, Lea Mei, Jessica Hart, Meagan Marks and Kathryn Baga gather before their presentation.



# cameraREADY

## Debutante Ball continued from 1C

1. Jessica Baga, Jonathan Bajohr, Peggy Baga, Kathryn Baga, Victor Baga, Victoria Baga and Omar Hernandez

2. Post-deb Sarah Pope and her father, Daniel Pope

3. Escorts Bradley Wilson, Justin Klatsky and Justin Rees concentrate on a game of chess.

4. Justin Klatsky and Matthew Bjerre escort Skylar Zwick

5. Lia Cinquegrano models her gown, which she made herself.

6. The debutantes and escorts listen to last-minute instructions.

7. Chad Rusthoven and Mike Larkin

8. Vaugh Nicole Bielen high-fives her father, Edward Bielen

Photos by Elizabeth Vassar





# This was not your grandma's deb ball

**D**ebutante Ball—the words convey an old-fashioned tone of exclusivity and wealth, of high-society pretensions and maybe even a little match-making.

But this is not your grandmother's Debutante Ball. In the new millennium, the Debutante Ball is more about service than society, more about social skills than social position.

At this year's Deb Ball, held Dec. 15 at Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, nine young ladies, all high school seniors, were presented as "shining examples of all you continue to do" by **Jack Jost**, president of the Florida West Coast Symphony.

## Youth orchestra benefits

The Symphony, especially the Youth Orchestra, is the beneficiary of the proceeds raised by the ball. Since its inception in 1982, the Debutante Ball organization has raised almost \$300,000 to support Symphony programs.

**Kim Cool**, attending the ball as a friend of the family of deb **Kathryn Baga** of Osprey, said, "All of these girls are really special. It's not like the old days when you were a deb because you were a Vanderbilt."

These girls have done more than exist for 18 years.

Indeed, the Deb Ball was created as an affiliate of Florida West Coast Symphony to foster the cultural and social commitment of young women from Manatee and Sarasota counties, to encourage each young woman to discover her own cultural and social identity and to develop a sense of responsibility for the growth of artistic and cultural awareness.

Acknowledging the de-emphasis of social status in selecting the deb candidates, the organization

says it will not deny any young woman the opportunity to participate based on social, religious or economic background.

## Experience is a family affair

Plus the deb experience, which includes a variety of parties and events staged from fall until May, is a family affair, said Esther.

"It's like a wedding. The whole family is involved. It really brings families together. And," she adds, gesturing to the dance floor, "How often do father and daughter dance together, tell me?"

As she spoke the girls, dressed in floor-length white gowns, and their fathers, in white tie and tails, were circling in a graceful waltz to "Edelweiss."

Then the escorts, male friends of the girls, did the honors by inviting the girls' mothers to waltz as the orchestra segued into "Some Enchanted Evening."

## An enchanted evening

The Municipal Auditorium never looked so enchanting, with the entire ceiling draped in white tulle accented with twinkling lights.

Tables in starched white linen held centerpiece arrangements of delicate white flowers on three-foot-tall pedestals, and every chair was covered in white linen and tied with gold lame bows.

The four-course dinner, including hors d'oeuvres, was catered by Michael's on East.

Debs this year are **Kathryn Baga**; **Vaughn Nicole Bielen**; **Lia Cinquegrano**; **Carling Cook**; **erly**; **Jessica Hart**; **Cristin Lavelle**; **Megan Marks**; **Lea Mel**; and **Harrington Zwick**.

JoAnne Klement

JoAnne Klement may be contacted at [klement@bkip.tnfi.net](mailto:klement@bkip.tnfi.net).



PHOTO: JOANNE KLEMENT

A deb and her family: From left, Tom and Marilyn Cinquegrano, debutante Lia Cinquegrano, and Tommy Cinquegrano.



At left, Paul Wolfe and his wife, Doris. Below, Lenora and Jack Jost.



At left, the Debutante Ball is a family affair for the Urbans: Son Matthew Urban from left; daughter Meredith Urban Kuebler, a deb from the '94-95 season with husband Fritz; Cynthia Riddell, a deb from 1998-99; and Hani Rihan. Above, debutante Cristin Lavelle.

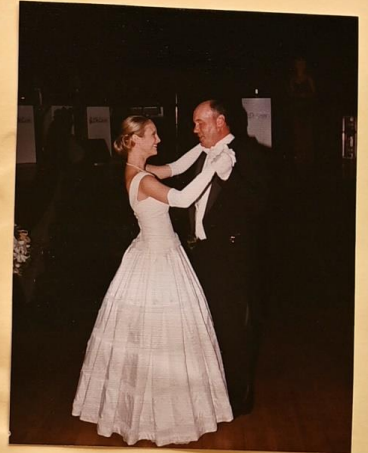


## GIRLS IN WHITE DRESSES

The Debutante Ball for the Florida West Coast Symphony aims to "foster social and cultural commitment" in outstanding young ladies in Sarasota and Manatee. Undoubtedly, it achieves those noble aims, but just as important, it's always the tearjerker of the year. Lovely young girls in white gloves and gowns; adorable young Adonises escorting them; and proud parents bawling at the sight—no wonder the tradition continues. This year's nine debs were models of beauty and accomplishment—**Lia Cinquegrano** even designed and made her own dress—and the place was packed with friends and relatives who applauded wildly as the **Anthony DeLeon Orchestra** struck up "The Debutante Promenade" and the girls and their dads paraded to the stage under the pearty white lights of the Municipal Auditorium. The grand waltz and a grand dinner from Michael's followed.



















*Please Come*





To a *Gilligan's Island Party*

Date *Sat. 26 Aug. 2000*

Time *5<sup>30</sup> pm - 10<sup>00</sup> pm*

Place *8418 Sanderling Rd.*

*Siesta Key*

Hosted by *The Zwick Family*

R.S.V.P. *349-7676 Joe*  
*Attire and Directors*



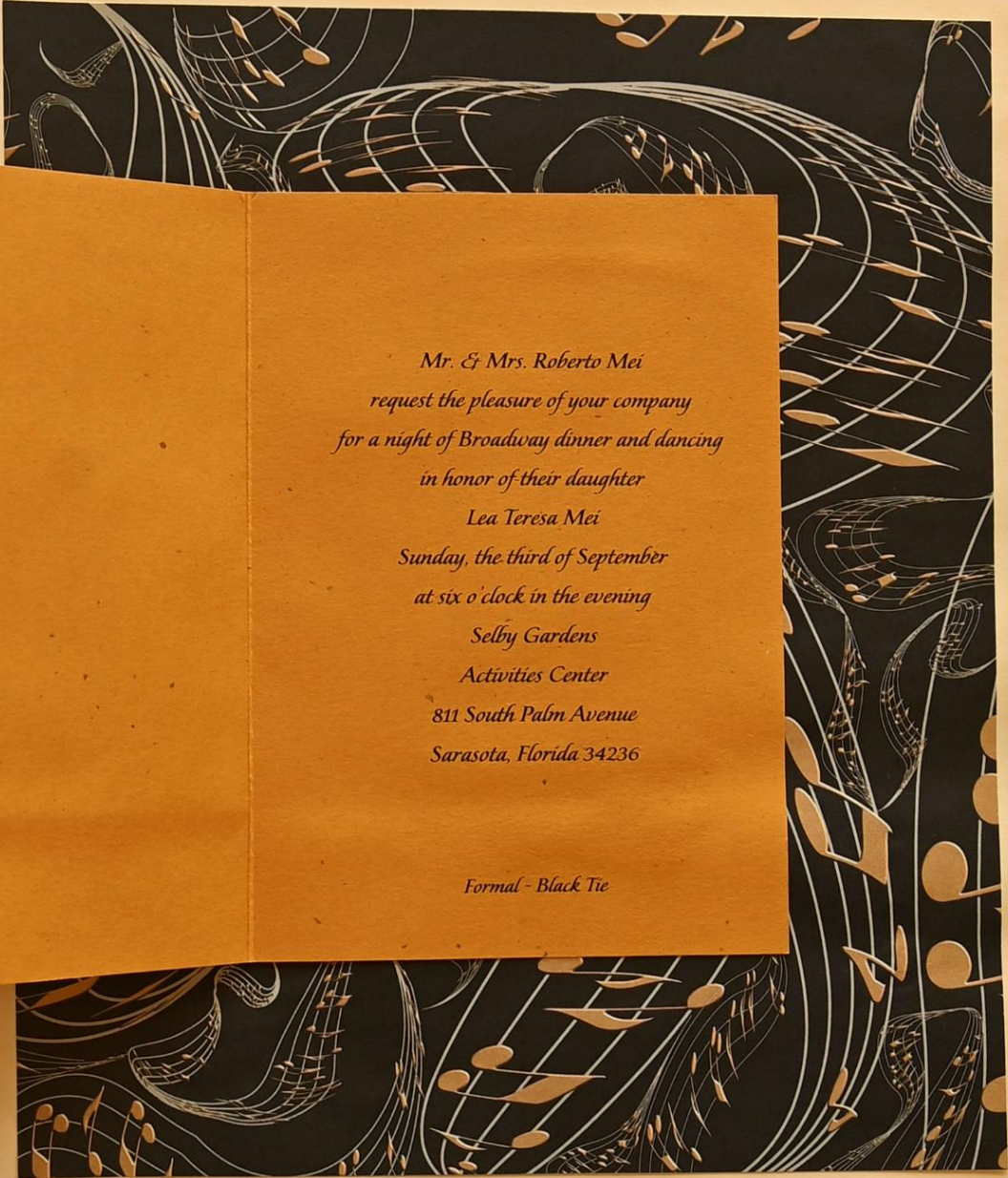


A Night  
of



Broadway



A decorative background featuring a black field with intricate white and gold musical notation. Swirling lines, resembling musical staves, are adorned with various notes, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and larger circular motifs. The pattern is dense and artistic, typical of a formal invitation design.

*Mr. & Mrs. Roberto Mei  
request the pleasure of your company  
for a night of Broadway dinner and dancing  
in honor of their daughter*

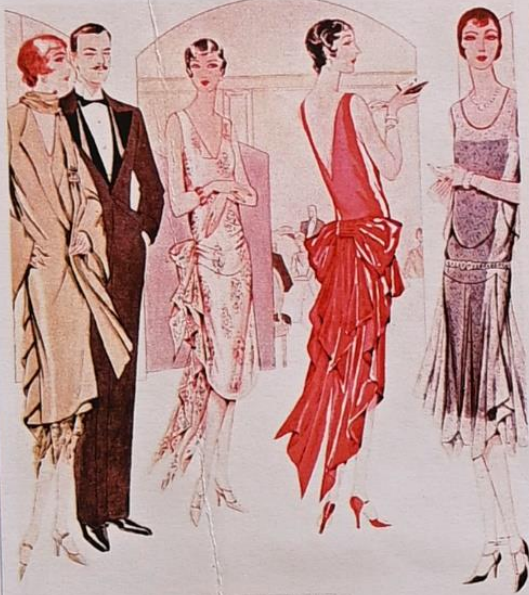
*Lea Teresa Mei  
Sunday, the third of September  
at six o'clock in the evening*

*Selby Gardens  
Activities Center  
811 South Palm Avenue  
Sarasota, Florida 34236*

*Formal - Black Tie*



DINNER, DANCING  
AND  
LAUGHTER



LECHÉ - PARIS



**Please Join Joyce and Jeff Hart  
High Above the City Lights  
at the University Club:**

**Friday The 24th  
of November, 2000**

**A Debutante  
Celebration for  
Jessica Hart**

**Reception at 7 pm  
Dinner at 8 pm  
Dancing until 11 pm**

**1605 Main Street  
Sarasota, Florida**

**Elegant Attire of the 20's & 30's  
or Black Tie**



# Come Celebrate!

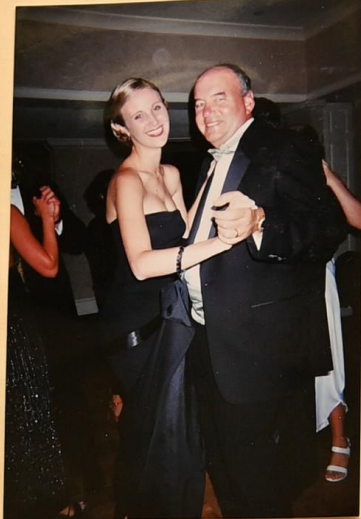
Dr. and Mrs. Victor B. Baga  
invite you to join them for  
an evening of Disco and Dinner  
in honor of their daughter  
Kathryn Naomi Baga  
Saturday, January 27th, 2001  
from 7 until 11 p.m.  
The Oaks Club  
Osprey, Florida

R.S.V.P. by January 17th  
(941)-918-9322

“Saturday  
Night  
Fever”

Dress in your favorite  
style of the 70's





A Night At The Oscars

A Debutante Celebration

Nicole Bielen and Cristin Lavelle

will greet you at the red carpet

Join us at the Field Club  
Saturday, September 23, 2000

Take I: Pre-Oscar Show, seven o'clock

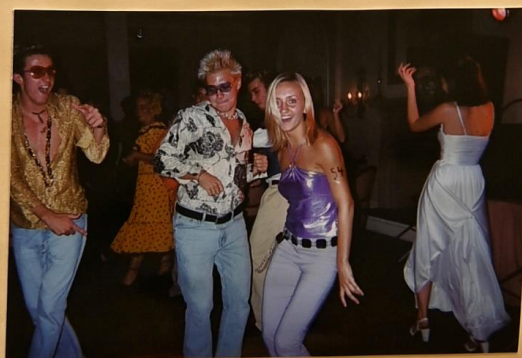
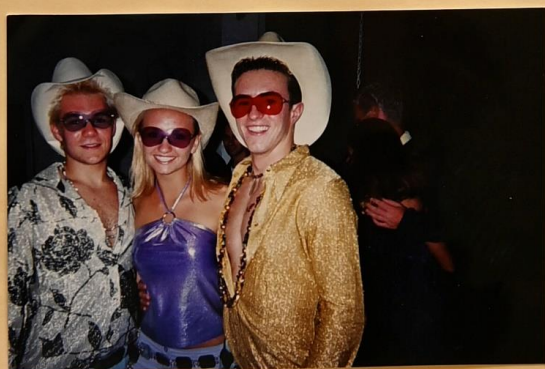
Take II: Dinner and Awards, eight o'clock

Take III: Music and Dancing

Dress is Hollywood elegant  
or appear as your favorite star.












  
**Mr. & Mrs. Thomas P. Cinquegrano**  
request the pleasure of  
your company  
at an "Italian Festival"  
Circa 1940  
In honor of their daughter  
**Lia Marisa Cinquegrano**  
Dinner and Dance  
Saturday evening, November eleventh  
7:00pm to 11:00pm  
RSVP by November 4<sup>th</sup>  
922-1553  
Classic Car Museum  
5500 North Tamiami Trail  
Sarasota, Florida  
1940's attire or  
casual elegant







### Sing Along to Handel

Every performance of Handel's "Messiah" is assured of getting a standing ovation, but there's a special sense of enthusiasm surrounding the annual "Messiah" sing-in at the Florida West Coast Symphony Center.

Sponsored by the symphony, the free program will be held this year at 11 a.m. Saturday. Professional singers, amateur singers and shower singers will gather in an informal atmosphere to sing the best-loved choruses from the Handel masterpiece. In keeping with tradition, the singers will rise to perform the final chorus, the "Hallelujah."

Singers are encouraged to bring their own music for the event, which many Sarasotans consider the unofficial beginning of the Christmas season. Members of the symphony's Youth Orchestra I will accompany the singers. Symphony conductor Paul Wolfe and several guests from area churches and choral groups will share the conducting duties.

After the performance of the "Messiah," a barbershop quartet will lead the audience in a round of Christmas carols. A brass choir and a bassoon trio also will perform.

For additional information, call 953-4252.



Tommy Cinquegrano and Eileen Turalba will take part in the Florida West Coast Symphony's "Messiah Sing-In."

A SEASON FOR ALL...

Nov. 25 "An Evening in Old Vienna" with small orchestra, Boston Papa-style

Dec. 9 Florida West Coast Symphony with Robert Levin, piano

Dec. 16 "Messiah" Sing-in

Jan. 13 Florida West Coast Symphony with John Falletta, guest conductor

Jan. 20 "Vikings on the Thames" with small orchestra, Boston Papa-style

FLORIDA WEST COAST SYMPHONY Sarasota's Foremost Music Presenter

For additional information, please call or visit our box office at 709 N. Tamiami Trail, 953-4252.

PHOTO: DICK DICKINSON









**A**  
**♣**

*Meagan's  
Mississippi  
Belle*

An Evening of  
Dixieland Jazz, Casino Games,  
Mardi Gras Fun, and Southern Food  
Steamship Captain: Gordon H. Marks  
Cub-Pilot: Linda L. Marks  
Delta Queen: Meagan Maria Marks

Docking Port: Phillippi Estate  
5500 South Tamiami Trail  
Sarasota, FL  
Date of Embarkation: Friday, February 16  
Time: 7-11 pm.

Gentlemen's Dress: Maverick-style gamblers,  
dark suits, vests, and cowboy hats.  
(No jeans or casual attire.)  
Ladies' Dress: Long red, black,  
and/or white gowns.  
Formal, Victorian, or Dance Hall  
(Feathers, gloves, full skirts).  
Feel free to carry  
an ace up your sleeve.

RSVP by Sunday, February 4th  
Regrets only: 924-1217

**♣**  
**A**







Carling Cookerly of the Riverview High cross country team is the Female Runner of the Year.

#### GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

## Cookerly wins top honors

By Dennis Maffezzoli  
STAFF WRITER

Carling Cookerly ran with her younger sisters for the first time on the Riverview High girls cross country team this past season.

Carling, a senior, Shea, a sophomore, and Charlie, a junior, now are members of another team — the *Herald-Tribune* All-Area Girls Cross Country Team.

"The fact my two sisters made it is great for my senior year," said Carling, who captured the Female Runner of the Year honors.

Shea joined Carling on the first team, while Charlie was a second-team selection.

"Three is not enough," Riverview coach Jason Means said of the Cookerlys.

For Carling, it's the second time she's been named as the H-T Runner of the Year. She captured the same honor after her sophomore season.

Rounding out the first team are two other runners from Riverview, April Snow and Katie Shaffer.

Bayshore's Adriana Demacek, Lakewood Ranch's Judith Ospina, Port Charlotte's Nicole Deese and Sarasota Christian's Sarah DeHaven.

Making the second team along with Charlie Cookerly are Danielle Pitts of Sarasota, Kelly Hunter of Port Charlotte, Hannah Ospina of Lakewood Ranch, Madelynn Sherk of Sarasota Christian, Nicole Courtis of Sara-



Earnest Jones of Lakewood Ranch was named Coach of the Year for the H-T All-Area girls cross country team. **Inside:** List of the H-T All-Area cross country team. **5C.**

PLEASE SEE ALL AREA ON 5C

### H-T All-Area girls' cross country team

■ **COACH OF THE YEAR** — Earnest Jones, Lakewood Ranch  
■ **RUNNER OF THE YEAR** — Carling Cookerly, Riverview, senior

#### FIRST TEAM

Name	School	Grade
Shea Cookerly	Riverview	sophomore
Nicole Deese	Port Charlotte	junior
Sarah DeHaven	Sarasota Christian	7th grade
Adriana Demacek	Bayshore	senior
Judith Ospina	Lakewood Ranch	freshman
Katie Shaffer	Riverview	sophomore
April Snow	Riverview	senior

#### SECOND TEAM

Stephanie Barber	Southeast	sophomore
Charlie Cookerly	Riverview	junior
Nicole Courtis	Sarasota	junior
Kelly Hunter	Port Charlotte	junior
Hannah Ospina	Lakewood Ranch	freshman
Danielle Pitts	Sarasota	senior
Madelynn Sherk	Sarasota Christian	7th grade

#### HONORABLE MENTION

■ Kaylyn Dillard (Booker), Leslie Brewer (DeSoto County), Stacy Gorski, Kelly McCormick, Carly Summers (Lakewood Ranch), Lisa McNaboe, Crystal O'Rourke, Jodi Ruberg (Lemon Bay), Danica Wuelling (Out-of-Door Academy), Caitlin Corbert, Julia Corbert (Riverview), Chelsey Graber, Katin Hayle (Sarasota Christian), Ashley Grimes (Southeast)

## Cookerly top runner for H-T All-Area cross country team

ALL AREA FROM 1C

sota and Stephanie Barber of Southeast.

Lakewood Ranch's Earnest Jones earned Coach of the Year honors. Thomas guided the Lady Mustangs to a district title in Class 2A-District 6, a runner-up finish in Region 3 and 14th place in the state in 2A.

The team was selected by the H-T sports department with assistance from the coaches.

Carling originally began her high school career as a swimmer. During the spring, she went out for the track and field team. After one day of practice, she made an impression on Means.

"I went home and told my wife, Carling Cookerly, remember that name," Means said. "I told her she had to run. She realized it too."

"I love running," Carling said. "I didn't know what I was getting into. I totally enjoyed it."

In her first year of running as a sophomore, Carling placed 12th in the state, helping the Lady Rams to a top-10 finish in the state.

Carling was on the same pace last year, but became ill near the time of the district tournament.

"She ran well at district, and OK at regionals," Means said. "The state race was the worst of her life."

"I had double bronchitis and didn't realize it," Carling said. "I kept running though. It wasn't a season I expected. That's why I didn't come into this season with any expectations."

She opened the season with a first-place finish in the Manasota Track Club Invitational and also won the Bishop Invite and Sarasota County championships. She recorded her best time of the season (17 minutes, 35 seconds) over the 3-mile course at Lakewood Elementary School.

"We got out there and prayed before the race, and all the girls ran that race like a team," Carling said. "I was so shocked of running that time."

What made the race even better was her younger sisters, Shea and Charlie, finished second and third, respectively. It marked the second time this season the Cookerly sisters finished 1-2-3 in a race, matching the Manasota Track Club Invitational.

In the postseason, Carling was Class 4A-District 4 runner-up in 18:32, Region 2 champion in 18:46 and ninth in the state in 18:48.

"She is blessed with a lot of talent, something we discount a lot of times," Means said. "She has a lot of gifts and natural ability. She comes

from a family of athletes."

One is her mom, Kelly, a swimmer in her day. Now a teacher at Pine View School for the Gifted, she attends all of Riverview's races and serves as a chaperone when the Lady Rams are on the road.

"We got her into running," Carling said.

Carling hopes to continue running in college. She's been accepted at Harvard University and also has interest in Duke, Wake Forest, William and Mary and Florida. She plans to take her visits this month.

Shea recorded her best time (19:20) in the Don Bishop Invitational, where she finished fifth. Her best finishes were in the Manatee Track Club Invitational and the Sarasota County Meet, where she placed second to Carling.

Demacek, a senior, ran by herself most of the season, since Bayshore didn't field a girls cross country team. The senior finished second in three races — the Manatee County Meet (20:25), the Lakewood Ranch Invitational (20:55) and the Palmetto Invitational (21:54) and placed sixth in Class 3A-District 5 in 19:55, 12th in Region 3 in 19:26, the fastest time by any Manatee County female runner this season, and 89th in the state in 20:49. It was her second straight trip to the state meet.

Snow, a senior, notched her best time of 19:45 in the regional meet at Cypress Grove Park in Orlando. She had a second-place finish in the Manatee Invitational. Snow placed 17th in the district and regional and 60th in the state.

Shaffer, a sophomore, also recorded her best time at the regional, finishing in 19:59. She had a couple of fourth-place finishes in the Manatee Invitational and the Sarasota County Invitational.

Ospina, a freshman, captured the Manatee County championship in 20:24. She also won the next week at the Mustang Invitational. Her best time of 20:06 came in the Lemon Bay Invitational. Ospina placed second in the Class 2A-District 6 race (20:51), seventh in Region 3 (20:31) and 42nd in the state (20:22).

Deese, a junior, captured the Charlotte County Championship in 20:34. She qualified for the regionals with a 15th finish in Class 3A-District 6, but failed to reach the state meet by taking 21st in the regionals in 20:03.

Sarah DeHaven, a seventh-grader, ran a personal best of 20:14. She took 12th in the Sarasota County Meet, sixth in Class 1A-District 6 in 21:19, 11th in Region 3 in 20:15 and 61st in the state in 21:25.



The  
MANATEE SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION  
and the  
FLORIDA WEST COAST SYMPHONY  
Leif Bjaland, Artistic Director & Conductor  
PROUDLY PRESENT

# THE WAY WE WERE

## A MUSICAL JOURNEY DOWN MEMORY LANE

THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL  
VALENTINE POPS  
Ari Peltó, Conductor  
Manatee Civic Center  
February 17, 2001

### SYMPHONIC SENTIMENTS

*"Memories  
Light the corners of my mind  
Misty water-colored memories  
Of the way we were..."*

Most of the 800 guests filling the Manatee Convention and Civic Center on Saturday for the Florida West Coast Symphony's 16th annual Valentine Pops took a romantic journey through memories with their loved ones by their sides. Although this year's theme took on the timeless love story "The Way We Were," the show included a variety of tunes and excerpts from various Broadway shows and classic films, including a comical rendition of "Adelais Lament" from the musical "Guys and Dolls."

As conductor Ari Peltó prepared for each romantic tune, he read aloud dedications by couples in the audience. Dedicating the song "Someone Like You" to his wife, Hugh Miller wrote, "To Karen, My beautiful wife and now fantastic new mother. I am truly blessed to have someone like you in my life. Love always, Hugh."

Coffee aficionado Ron Butler, 83, vice president of the Manatee Symphony Association joined other volunteers greeting guests. As guests arrived, they took their seats at tables decorated with fresh, long-stem roses—complete with wine and fruit and cheese platters.

During the intermission, this season's white-gowned debutantes made their appearance with escorts in arm. Although the deb's are usually from both Sarasota

and Manatee counties, this year's princesses all came from Sarasota.



SARAH TABER-COKER/Special to the Herald-Examiner  
Carling Cookerly, left, Lea Mei, Lia Cinguegrano, Skylar Zwick, Meagan Marks, Katie Bager, Cristin Lauelle, Nicole Blelen and Jessica Hart, all of Sarasota, were the debutantes at the Florida West Coast Symphony's 16th annual Valentine Pops at the Manatee Convention and Civic Center.



## A home to roam

By I. Victor ♦ Photography by Maria A.H. Lyle

**J**oyce Hart, ASID Designer Showhouse Chairman, and Robert Henry had every reason to look proud and relieved as they welcomed guests to a nighttime tour of the Powel Crosley Mansion before a formal dinner at the Hyatt to honor the multitude of design professionals who annually dress a home for charity. This year's beneficiaries include the Boys & Girls Clubs of Sarasota and Manatee County, USF and Ringling School of Art and Design scholarship programs, and the Crosley Foundation.

Manatee County Commissioner Pat Glass, one of the first through the doors, was looking design-perfect herself in a unique Oriental silk scarf that she picked up at the textile museum in Washington, and paired with a black velvet dress. She strolled through the rooms, stopping to chat with designers about their installations and the history of the grand estate. Among the designers were Lynn Jenkins (gorgeous



Stephen and Maria Mishkind.



Husband-and-wife interior designers Jeff and Joyce Hart of Robb & Stucky. Joyce is chair of the ASID Designer Showhouse at the Crosley Mansion, on view until Feb. 18.

in a metallic gold cocktail suit) and Jeff Hart, both Showhouse Captains, Bill Tidmore, Kurt Lucas, Gary Ficht, Ron and Margaret Cook, and the extraordinary faux-finish painter Michelle Held.

During the fun night at the Hyatt (what a successful and overdue renovation that's been!), designer Dick Whittington gave a surprise dance demonstration. You sly rogue, you. Some of the others visiting the silent auction tables, dancing and catching up on local gossip were Lester and Chip Rice, Susan Scott, Lynn and Mack Reid, Betty and Dave Plaskett (just back from Egypt), Carol Field, Linda Stevenson (the architect who helped save the Crosley), Wes Snyder and about 250 more design pros and the people who adore them.

Visit the house and see the glamour for yourself through Feb. 18. A mere \$15 at the door will allow you to wander through a world of practical and luxurious solutions to design dilemmas. You'll want to go straight home and tear out your kitchen, bath, whatever. ♦

## CAMPUS NEWS

### NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARS

Mike Belcher, the Upper School Head of the Out-of-Door Academy, announced that four seniors were honored by the National Merit Scholarship Corp. Zach Aster and Michael Cannon were two of 16,000 semifinalists in the 46th annual National Merit Scholarship Program.

More than 1.2 million students in more than 24,000 U.S. high schools entered the 2001 Merit Program when they were juniors by taking the 1999 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, which served as an initial screen of program entrants. Less than 1 percent of the nation's high school seniors were named semifinalists.

Cristin Lavelle and Jonathan Quinn have been named Commended Students in the 2001 National Merit Scholarship Program. The Upper School Head presented a letter of commendation from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), which conducts the program.

## IN A CLASS OF HER OWN /Megan Marks

### Speaking her way to the top



Megan Marks, a senior at Riverview High School, recently won the American Revolution's Joseph S. Rumbaugh Oration Contest.

**M**egan Marks, articulate and highly motivated daughter of Linda and architect Gordon Marks of Sarasota, is a young lady who not only aims for the top but also knows exactly how to get there.

One of her latest strides in that direction was addressing the Sons of the American Revolution (Saramanna Chapter) on December 8, and winning the annual Joseph S. Rumbaugh Oration contest. The competition is open to all students in 10th, 11th and 12th grades, in all public and private schools throughout the nation.

17-year-old Megan Marks, a senior at Riverview High School, was honored at the local level and awarded a \$250 cash award for "The American Revolution Through a Surveyor's Eye," a well-prepared and insightful

oration featuring President George Washington.

"I wanted to focus on a less traditional aspect of Washington's life," explained Marks, whose superb diction must have been a decided plus in her recent victory. "I think it was his career as a surveyor that enabled him to envision a new and vast nation that would set a precedent for other countries in the future. I stressed his rural background and frontier experiences. He was definitely not your typical urban leader."

As a member of the Speech and Debate Club at Riverview High School and an active competitor in extemporaneous speaking, Marks has racked up an impressive number of credits. One of the most significant was being selected one of five stu-

dents to take part in the State Congressional Tournament at Tallahassee and walking away with the Best Speaker Award.

"My coach, Mr. Carr, has always encouraged me," Marks says. "He has won many national contests with his debate teams. My favorite competition was the Blue Key Tournament, hosted by the University of Florida. I've taken first place in many contests, but because there was stiff competition from kids from all over, this one was especially exciting and challenging. What was special about it was that everyone was interacting, helping each other on a given topic. We had only 30 minutes to prepare our speeches."

Other outstanding achievements include runner-up on the state level

for a speech about optimism, which Marks presented at the Optimist's Club. She is looking forward to reprising her speech about George Washington on February 17, at a meeting of the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution. She will speak at Michael's On East before an audience of approximately 300.

Marks has been accepted at Harvard, and plans to major in economics/government, then attend graduate school.

"I'd like to work for the International Monetary Fund someday, travel all over Europe, maybe become an ambassador," Marks says.

There's no doubt that Megan Marks can become anything she wants to be.

-Brooksie Bergen



# The 46<sup>th</sup> International Debutante Ball

Oh, the weather outside was frightful, but the ballroom was so delightful!

The Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria, that is, where 64 delectable debutantes from as far away as England, France, Japan, Scotland, Wales and Iceland and as near as New York City bowed to society at the 46th International Debutante Ball. This was a bumper crop of buds, because last year's ball, due to the hurly-burly of the millennium, was canceled. Some of the girls had waited a year to come out, but who's to say it wasn't worth it? Judging from the miles of dazzling smiles, no one.

The 64 floated down the length of the room like so many swans, elegant in long white dresses and long white gloves, carrying bouquets of pink roses and escorted by white-gloved bachelors of their choice. The debutantes came from eight

countries, 21 states and the District of Columbia, and the guests of honor sitting high in a box over the ballroom were members of the Eisenhower family. Eisenhowers have been associated with this ball for years, as several generations of Eisenhower women have been presented here.

An Eisenhower deb is always the lead deb, representing the United States, and this year at the head of the procession it was the beautiful **Amelia Eisenhower Mahon**, the daughter of **Susan Eisenhower** and the late John F. Mahon, and the great-granddaughter of President and Mrs. Dwight D. Eisenhower. The box of honor was filled with family—the deb's mother and stepfather, **Roald Sagdeev**; **Anne Eisenhower Flottl** and **Wolfgang Flottl**; and **Julie Nixon Eisenhower** and her husband, **David Eisenhower**. Also in the family box was **Mrs. James H. (Candy) Van Alen** of the New York and Newport social swim, a longtime, zealous supporter of the ball.

The adorable deb from Scotland, the

**Honorable Virginia Audrey Hart Fraser**, the daughter of **Lord and Lady Strathamond of Edinburgh**, wore a tartan sash over her shoulder and, of course, the photographers flocked. She was escorted by **Richard Lloyd George**, the great-great-grandson of the famous Prime Minister **Lloyd George**. Virginia's cousin, **Diana Bourne**, who is reading law at the University of Exeter, represented Wales. England sent two buds, **Caroline Emese Rowley** and **Caroline Alexandra Haubold**, who is studying piano at the Royal School of Music. From France came **Mlle. Camille Raymonde Spear**, whose parents are **M. and Mme. Nathaniel Spear III** of Paris and New York. **Kristina Teal Stefansdottir Sigurdsson**, a tall and willowy Yale student, represented Iceland. Where else with that name, you may well ask. **Mai Nozoe**, the daughter of **Yumi and Masayuki Nozoe** (he is the co-president of Sony Pictures Entertainment) represented Japan. Where else with that name, you may well ask.

Lovely **Melissa Ward Metzger**, the daughter of **Susan Ward Metzger** and **William Metzger** and one of the sevenfold New York contingent, has a family tree with a branch directly to Martha Washington—or is it George? Deb **Christine Trott** is the third sister from Bermuda to bow at the International Debutante Ball, and the three **Stanley** sisters from California, **Malissa**, **Marisel** and **Marisa**, all glided down

the ballroom together, holding hands. The two stunning girls from Pennsylvania—**Katherine Ann Maher**, the daughter of **Dr. Thomas Maher** and **Dr. Yvonne Maher** from Pittsburgh, and **Meade Jennings Morrison** from Villanova—were stunning enough to turn heads.



Melissa Ward Metzger



Meade Jennings Morrison and Katherine Ann Maher