

Fall
2007

THE **fashion** **GI** GROUP INTERNATIONAL[®] OF SAN DIEGO, INC.



Judy Welty's Winning Horse

A Day at the Races

It was a picture perfect day on Monday August 13, 2007 at the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club's Terrace Restaurant. Members turned out for this annual event in fashionable attire including stylish hats. Prizes were given to all who wore a hat. Attendance included Club-house admission, a program, and a reserved seat in the Restaurant.



Roberta Garrison &
Grace Decker



Judy Welty & Kitty Chen

Judy Welty brought a picture of her horse to share with everyone. She is part owner of the racehorse, Carrie's A Jewel. The picture was of her horse crossing the finish line and all of the owners in the winner's circle. Judy's horse won the first race at Del Mar on August 3, 2007. Judy said it was a great thrill and lots of fun!



George Bates & Darlene Davies



Bernie Sharpe & Connie Foote-Sharpe

During the afternoon losing tickets were placed in a drawing for great prizes. Rick Tiland won a fishing trip with H&M Landing, Kitty Chen won tickets for 2 to the House of Blues, Grace Decker won 2 tickets to the Turf Club at the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, and Connie



Karen Rowley & Diana Cavagnaro

Con't. pg. 3



Message From the Regional Co-Directors

After being invigorated at the Regional Director Conference in NYC in May, we were re-charged at the District Regional Conference in LA in July.

Sherry and Grace battled the traffic to and from LA to participate in the Regional Conference that combined Districts 4 & 5 – Arizona, Seattle, SF, Dallas, Denver, Houston, Palm Springs, San Antonio, and San Diego with national FGI management.

Each of the Regional Directors shared their current successes and challenges – with a focus on Membership and Events. The successes came in Regions where the membership was passionate about FGI and were willing to really pull together to ensure FGI stayed alive in their market. The San Diego market may be struggling, but we believe we have staying power. So we challenge every member to pay their dues, get involved, and support FGI here in San Diego!

A Nominations form for 2008 Board positions, as well as other open positions, was recently sent to all members. Please be sure to carefully consider and encourage FGI members to share their talents. Student talent is also needed– step up and learn leadership skills by being mentored; you are our future!

We have a vision for FGI in SD – and we need your help to make it happen!

Best,

Sherry Brown & Grace Decker



NEW MEMBER PROFILE

Marisa Baratelli

Fashion Group International member Marisa Baratelli is the international leader in Thai Silk Design and includes evening separates, blouses, gowns, and suiting. Currently this label can be found in 350 specialty boutiques nationwide and has showrooms in New York, Dallas, with the corporate office located here in Solana Beach, California. Each season they produce 100 styles in 30 colors.

Marisa became creative director seven years ago from a business started by her mother Madeleine Cranfill. The silk is privately manufactured in Thailand and is set on a loom and woven by hand. Marisa has made an effort to preserve this

cultural tradition, which has been dwindling due to advanced technology and machines.

Marisa has a never-ending passion for designing with Thai silk that is influenced by both the West and East. She works closely with Thai people in their own language and focuses on construction and fit of the garments. As spokeswoman and cover model Marisa is involved in every aspect of the business.

Currently Marisa Baratelli has been nominated for the prestigious Dallas Fashion Awards. The division is “After 5” and she is in good company with Nicole Miller and Badgley Mischka. On June 28th three striking silk designs from Marisa Baratelli appeared in WWD showing the Dallas Fashion Awards nominees. The winners will be announced “Academy Awards Style” during a Gala on October 21, 2007 concurrent with the apparel market. This 32nd Annual Awards is the oldest retailer-chosen awards program in the nation. Kudos to Marisa for this incredible nomination!

For more information visit:

www.marisabaratelli.com or call (858) 481-0465.

Diana's 60th Birthday Party!

Where the 60's Lived Again!



Birthday Girl Diana with Husband George!

More on Page 8...

Margo Schwab—Photographer



RACES...



Connie in her Armani's!

Connie Foote-Sharpe won a pair of Armani glasses. This is always a great event for networking and included two prospective members; Kitty Chen and Roberta Garrison. Donna Steinback has transferred to the San Diego FGI group from Palm Springs and everyone had a chance to meet her. Look for the opening of her new store, Donna Marsh, coming to La Jolla in December.



Rick Tiland & Donna Steinback



Diana Cavagnaro & George Bates



Karen Rowley & Peggy Matthews



New Member Profile: *Sheena Gao*

Sheena Gao is a highly innovative and dynamic business professional recognized for her creative vision, innovative thinking, artistic talents, project management skills and global communication, with fifteen years of experience in the fashion industry and product development field. After obtaining her Master's Degree in Apparel and Textile at the North Dakota State University, Sheena worked for some of the leading companies in the United States, such as the Target Corporation, Marshall Fields (then Department Division of Target), and Sears and Roebuck Company. Sheena held the position as Sr. Color Specialist, Director of Sales, Product Development Color Manager, Associate Technical Designer, and Quality Assurance Softlines Coordinator.

During Sheena's fashion industry career, she has traveled extensively and worked directly with international buying offices throughout Asia, Europe, Middle East, and Africa. Sheena's global experience has enriched her industry knowledge and expanded her experiences as a fashion industry professional.

After her departure with Sears in 2004, Sheena begins her teaching career at the Illinois Institute of Art – Chicago where she shared her industry experience and passion with the inspiring young fashion professionals of the future. In the summer of 2006 Sheena took on the challenging role as the Academic Director of Fashion Design, Fashion Marketing and Management for which she relocated from Chicago to San Diego. As the Director, Sheena has established two solid bachelors' programs to reflect the Art Institute's fashion curriculum as the leader for creative education in the industry. She is determined to bring the Art Institute's high standard of education and training in the fashion world. The bachelor's degree will take the San Diego fashion to a new height.

In addition to Sheena's successful fashion industry background, Sheena is a successful concert violinist who has performed internationally with many chamber music groups. Currently, Sheena also performs for weddings and special events as a part of the La Libradolce music group.



Peggy Matthews, Phyllis Parrish & Mary Johnson

The event began with a silent auction and social time in El Prado's courtyard. The guests moved inside to the luncheon and Priscilla Webb received the Gold Digger of the Year Award. Eleven non-profit organizations of San Diego decorated hats in the "Hearts of Gold" theme. Models paraded these colorful hats and guests voted for their favorite charity.

"Peggy Matthews & Phyllis Parrish Honored"

The Gold Diggers honored FGI member Peggy Matthews and Friends of Fashion member Phyllis Parrish on Wednesday May 30th, 2007 at the Prado in Balboa Park. "The Gold Diggers" (Gifts of Loving Donors) presented their 14th Annual Hats Off to San Diego. The theme for this year's luncheon was "Hearts of Gold". Other honorees for the afternoon included Dede Alpert, Mary Johnson, Jean Neisewander, and Mary Brito.



Mary G. Walker & Carol Karlovich



Kristi Peiper & Mom



Bonnie, Connie, & Gretchen

Kimberly King (NBC 7/39) was emcee for the event and presented awards to the Hat Parade Winners. The prizes were: first prize, Friends of East County Arts, Inc. (\$2,000), second prize, Friends of Braille (\$1,000), and third prize, Angels of Aseltine Auxiliary (\$750). Wild Card winner was Star of India (\$500) and Best Hat Theme was Friends of Braille Institute (\$500).

For more information on the Gold Diggers call (760) 942-0985.



FGI Members, Darlene & Olga

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Memoirs of a Regional Director: Greetings from Marilyn Dworkin

When I became Director of the FGI San Diego, we were approaching the millennium, the years 1999 and 2000. I was excited, encouraged and supported by many of the previous Directors. I continued running my modeling agency, Promotional Services Inc. and the cosmetic business that I had recently established The Make-up Studio. Since moving to Arizona, I am still involved in both businesses but on a somewhat smaller scale.

Beginning my tenure as Director I started off with a beautiful luncheon where many of the members were encouraged to join the board of directors.

Since most of the time it was the board members that did all of the work and headed all of the committees, I felt it important to have a large board. Fortunately I was able to choose exemplary people. Perhaps we would have the largest board of directors in FGI history. As it turned out it may not have been the largest but it was the best board any director could want.

Through their efforts they were responsible for putting together all of the events and through the support of the membership they were all very successful!

As director of Fashion Group I thought we could incorporate a beauty makeover day for the recent female patients at Scripps Cancer Center. We did this and it was so well received that as a result they would become 'our' charity benefactor. Our largest fund raiser was our annual Style event, founded by Gretchen Burns Bergman and to have Scripps involved would help considerably.

The two years that I was Director I feel were some of the best and memorable years of my life. Aside from the regular board meetings, we would get together and before long became close friends, sharing problems as well as good things in our lives.

Going to New York for the annual conferences was educational and fun! But going to London for the winter conference one year and the next to Paris was just wonderful. It doesn't get any better than that!

Meeting the people from all of the chapters around the world sharing sights, places and experiences that any ordinary tourist or vacationer would never have, was so enriching. These are the memories I shall always cherish.

It was a privilege to be Director of Fashion Group and I thank you San Diego for putting up with me for those wonderful years!

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MEMBERS ON THE GO....

*Carolina
Herrera
Event*



Members On the Go...



Karen (r) with Cousin

Project Runway's "Nick" Event At the "W"



Denise & Felena



Cindy & Friend



Anthony, Chrissy & Gretchen



Tanya & Karen

More 60's...



"Mix It Up"



Sherry and Liz at Lupi's

Our "Mix It Up" Tuesday event, the third Tuesday of every month, was launched in Spring 2007. The concept was to create a monthly networking event where FGI members, friends and guests could meet. To keep it interesting, each month we would host the event in a different venue and location in San Diego, challenging each of us to move outside our typical back yard and inviting the local potential members to come meet FGI. The third Tuesday of every month...mark your calendars and come explore the varied neighborhoods of San Diego!



The first "Mix It Up" event was in North Park at Hawthorne's in May. If you haven't been there yet, you should go check it out! Hawthorne's was featured on the cover of San Diego magazine, June 2007. FGI was there!



Subsequent events were held at Lupi's in Birdrock, La Jolla where



owner Raffa provided a buffet of pastas and appetizers. From La Jolla we went to Carlsbad in the North County, and this month we were at Habana in the East County. We have met some wonderful people, have referrals for new members, and have learned about fashion related entrepreneurial activity here in SD. We look forward to our monthly mixer... if you haven't been yet, come and experience the energy, door prizes, great connections!

If you have ideas/suggestions, or a location, please direct them to Liz Sanford, who coordinates the "Mix It Up" program. She is doing a great job!



Guests with FGI Members at North County Mix It Up!

2007 Board Members

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Newsletter Editor.....Judy Thacker

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Kristi Pieper	Mary Walker
Bonnie Wright	Yolanda Walther
Charlotte Jacobs	Meade
	Sally Thorton

Upcoming Fashion Events

"Pretty in Pink" Gala & Fashion Show,
Featuring Isabell Kristensen
Saturday, September 15, Call La Jolla Spa MD
858-459-6868

"Mix It Up" Tuesday September 18, TBA
For info: fgi-sd@pacbell.net

Country Friends "The Art of Fashion Runway Show"
September 20, The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe
Call 858-756-1192

Golden Hangers Fashion Show "The Music of Fashion"
Saturday September 22, Call 619-275-4700.

"Mix It Up" Tuesday, October 16, TBA

Zandra Rhodes Fashion Show, Tuesday, October 23,
The Westgate Hotel Call (619) 238-1818

2008 Spring/Summer Trend in November TBA

"The Cutting Edge" FGI International Conference
Sydney, Australia
November 15-18, 2007



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