

Native Daughters of the Golden West Reina del Mar Parlor #126

Pre-Fiesta Tea

By **JEANETTE CASILLAS** / CASA

DRESSED IN A RED ROBE, and carrying the customary golden palm and chalice, Rebecca Dominguez was introduced as Saint Barbara 2008 at the Native Daughters of the Golden West Reina del Mar Parlor #126 Pre-Fiesta Tea on July 13th at Casa De La Guerra.

“It’s amazing!” shared Dominguez who will carry on the mantle in this year’s celebration of Fiesta. “My family has been hoping for this day for years; I am proud to carry the honor as my mother and grandmother did.”

The Reina del Mar sisters and dignitaries also paid tribute to Marian Arroqui Roeser, celebrating her 100th birthday. Arroqui is the oldest living Saint Barbara and has been honored with a commemorative coin with her name, image, and reign as Saint Barbara in 1933. Arroqui was unable to attend the event. However, Jan Harrer, a friend of Arroqui accepted the coin and certificates that would have been presented to her.

Born and raised in Santa Barbara,

Dominguez is a ninth generation Santa Barbaran and a third generation Saint Barbara. Her mother Gloria Dominguez served in 2000, and her grandmother Betty Dominguez served in 2002. Her first participation in Fiesta festivities was at ten months old in the Fiesta parade. Later she became a flower girl.

As Saint Barbara, Dominguez will appear at La Fiesta Pequeña, Las Noches De Ronda, and in the parade on a float that will be a representation of the original float used by Saint Barbara in 1933.

“I enjoy seeing the community come together during Fiesta,” shared Kristina Foss, Tea Committee Chair and Reina Del Mar Parlor #126 Past President. “It’s always interesting to see next generations getting involved.”

The afternoon, led by Foss, included traditional Spanish dance performances by Jessica Marquez, Spirit of Fiesta 2008; Ashley Almada, Junior Spirit of Fiesta 2008; and Native Daughters, Michaela McLaughlin and Marisol Cabrera. Guest speaker, Dr. John Johnson gave a presentation titled *The Lost*



Saint Barbara
Rebecca Dominguez



Native Daughter,
Michaela McLaughlin
performing Volare



Family of St Barbara 2008. L to R: **Anna Shinkwin**, Aunt; **Francis Romero**, great grandmother; **Betty Dominguez**, grandmother (2002 St Barbara); **Rebecca Dominguez**, 2008 St Barbara; **Robert Dominguez**, grandfather; and Gloria Dominguez, mother (2000 St Barbara).



Kristina Foss, NDGW Tea Committee Chair and Past President; Dr. **John Johnson**, guest speaker; and **Mary Louise Days**, Event Chair



Dennis Rickard, VP of Pageantry; **Perrin Taylor**; **Tim Taylor**, El Presidente; and **Alice Forbes**, OSD Board of Directors member



Vi Obern with SB City Councilmember **Grant House** and **Peggy Jo House**

Boscana Manuscript: The De La Guerra Connection.

The Native Daughters of the Golden West Reina del Mar Parlor #126 is an organization of California-born women dedicated to the preservation of local Santa Barbara history and the social, cultural, and educational development of California. For more information visit www.ndgw.org.

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