



# Zoofari Ball XXIII: LIGHTS, CAMERA, ... AFRICA!

By JEANETTE CASILLAS / CASA

**LIONS, TIGERS, AND BEARS! OH MY!** Last month the Santa Barbara Zoo celebrated Hollywood in Africa at their popular fundraiser, the 23rd annual Zoofari Ball: *Lights, Camera, Africa!*

“The zoo creates an atmosphere that’s fun and guest’s can enjoy by transforming the hilltop setting into a magical world,” shared Rich Block, SB Zoo Director.

The evening started as 550 guests socialized and enjoyed cocktails in the Zoo Courtyard and had the opportunity to bid on silent and live auction items, including African-style masks carved out of wood and decorated by celebrities and artists like local sculptor Bud Bottoms; Skateboarder Tony Hawk; Singer- Songwriter Kenny Loggins; Olympic Athlete Mark Spitz, and many others.

Guests then proceeded to the Zoo’s

hilltop to enjoy an exotic dinner provided by Rincon Catering beneath elegant rustic huts. For only \$25, guests had a chance to win a private encounter with the Zoo’s lemurs and a luncheon with John Cleese and zookeepers by participating in the *Heads and Tails* game played during the dinner hour. Tami Semler of Malibu Family Wines was the last standing, becoming the winner of the *Heads and Tails* game.

“Zoofari is an entry point to get people engaged and introduce them to the zoo,” noted Block.

At the end of the night guests danced to the tunes of Jimmie Lykes and the Club Swingers.

The Zoofari Ball directly benefits Zoo animals and visitors. Santa Barbara Zoo is a private, non-profit corporation with no tax-based support. For more information call 962-5339 or visit [www.sbzoo.org](http://www.sbzoo.org).



George and Alice Krebs



Honorary Chair Lady **Leslie Ridley-Tree**; **Tami Semler** of Malibu Family Wines and winner of *Heads and Tails*; and SB Zoo Director **Rich Block**



**Peter and Gerd Jordano**; SB Zoo Lemur; **Paula Lopez**, KEYT News Anchor; and **Frank Ochoa** Superior Court Judge



**Ginni and Chad Dreier** owners of Dreier Museum with **Jill Rode**, Director of Development



**John Sener, Linda Sener, Mary Lou and Ed Edick** of Village Properties



**Austin Lampson** of Countrywide with **Gail** and **Mike Pearl** of Sotheby’s International Realty



**Chuck Slosser** of The Santa Barbara Foundation; **Stephanie Slosser**; **Mary Ellen Tiffany** of Montecito Bank & Trust with her son **MacLean Tiffany**



**Jim Garcia, Erin Graffey de Garcia, Geonine Moriarty, and Leslie Storr**



**Mindy Bidder-Denson**, Saks Fifth Avenue General Manager



Auctioneer **Bill Pessa** and **Bibi Moezzi**



**Ralph and Diana MacFarlane** of Countrywide



**Maria Long** of C.A.S.A.; **Ted Baer**; and **Allison Brainard**



**Chris Marks, Kristi Marks, and Nina Terizon**



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