

## MAD HATTER'S—A GARDEN BY THE SEA

The 30th Annual Mad Hatter's Tea was held on April 12 this year! It was a beautiful day for the themed "A Garden by the Sea" - even having sea (lake) breezes, bright sun, and blue skies. A special thanks to Lynn Townsend Dealy who created the theme with only a few emails and thoughts from me. She captured everything I dreamed of and more. Paper Affair took the creation of Lynn's and made the entire theme work for the year.

As guests arrived, they were greeted with trays of champagne and fabulous appetizers at the Ginsburg Family Plaza. All types of beautiful and creative hats were observed by our super six judges: Ali Nugent, Empress Gilbert, Alanna Sarabia, Lee Fuqua, Patti Flowers and Joe Viboonviriyawong. Jan Strimple of Strimple Productions worked with TOOTSIES to provide a fascinating show of elegance, grace, and sophistication.



Venise also thanked Honorary Chair, Dr. Linda Burk and her husband, Dr. John Gilmore, for their donation and contribution to A Woman's Garden new water feature. The family is excited to become a larger and significant part of the garden. As Linda has mentioned, she is a water gal and this is a perfect way for her to be honored. We look forward to seeing this water feature developed in the coming years. Our lovely emcee, Jocelyn White, welcomed us. Then our past Chairs walked the runway, The Fashion Show began. This fashion show is a huge production, and we are fortunate to have the partnership of Jan Strimple and TOOTSIES. After an exciting Live Auction, Winners of the Hat Judging were announced.

**All That Jazz** - Debbie McKeever's Group

**To the Nines** - Kunthea Mam-Douglas

**Elegance of Earlier Days** - Julie Kanaan

**Gilded Age** - Kathy Cothrum

**Grace&Folly** - Carmen Hancock

**Peacocks on Parade**—Carmaleta Whiteley Felton





Beautifully decorated tables topped with sea blue and light pink linens held Rusty Glenn centerpieces of hydrangeas, roses, and lilies with seashells surrounding. The luncheon menu consisted of the Titanic's Lettuce Veloute, Quail Crepes a la Newport, and Charlotte Russe with Fruit Gelees.



A spot on Good Morning, Texas! And the Announcement Party for our Hat Judges at TOOTSIES with Milliner Christine A. Moore straight from New York City.



The Patron Party was held on April 10 at a stunning Bella Custom Home on Deloache Avenue. Penny Reid and Angela Fontana, Co-Chairs for the event, had food catered by Wendy Crispin Catering and beverages supplied by Republic National Distributors. The big highlight of the evening was Tricia Conover sabering two champagne bottles. Joe Viboonviriyawong brought some of his precious jewelry pieces for everyone to peruse and purchase (which we did). Joe graciously gave us a percentage of his sales for jewelry purchased that night.



This year's Mad Hatter's and Luncheon truly resembled the era of the Gilded Age. I am thankful you came along on this journey with me and enjoyed the grace, elegance, sophistication, and style. Another successful year, and now it's time to stroll our Garden.....

Venise Stuart  
Mad Hatter's Chair 2018