

BLACK TIE

INTERNATIONAL

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ON THE EAST END - PARTIES FOR A PURPOSE

by Edward Callaghan - Photo's: Alchimia

In high season in The Hamptons there are 4 or 5 parties every weekend-most of them for worthy causes: art groups, environmental protection, child care, anti-hate crime. Sometimes these events become even more personal crusades for their founding sponsors. Such is the case with two of the East End's better known social engines-fashion expert and correspondent for "The View" *Katlean de Monchy* and activist & philanthropist, *Dr. Julie Ratner*.

DeMonchy, a popular fixture at the "Hamptons Bible" *Dan's Papers*, lost her beloved sister *Patricia Valk* to ovarian cancer 2 years ago. Ratner's sister, *Ellen Hermans*, succumbed to breast cancer 7 years ago after a long battle with the disease. Devastated by their losses, the two were determined to take action and do something tangible that would both raise badly needed funds for research and support services for women facing the unthinkable.

For Katlean de Monchy, it was the creation of "Kat's Eye Round Robin" tennis tournament for men and women. Held this year at the Southampton Racquet Club owned by *Ellen and Ron Gronemayer*, every court was filled and folks like famed lawyer, *Gerald Lefcourt* had to wait patiently but not without a tasty Gecko Tequila Margarita. On and off the courts were such regular Hamptonites as TV honcho *Steve Paley* with his wife *Nancy*, publisher *Dan Rattiner*, spa queen *Gina Michael*, writer *Lee Fryd*, costume designer *Mary Ellen Winston*, "Inside The Actor's Studio" creator and host *James Lipton* and his beautiful wife *Kedakai*, *Dr. Robert Atkins*, producer *Marty Richards*, noted dermatologist *Dr. Stephan Victor*, jeweler *John Wegorzewski*, and NBC TV's *Jane Hanson*.

Play started under sunny skies and continued until twilight finally settled on the courts and forced the tennis fans to retreat to the candle-lit tables strewn across the lawn for a light summer supper and chilled Argent Vodka Martinis. *Zygmunt Zieba* and *Barbara Clarkin* received crystal trophies for their tennis prowess. Between ticket sales and silent auction, "Kat" is delighted her tennis afternoon raised thousands of dollars for ovarian cancer research and honored her sister's memory so well.



Katlean de Monchy with Men's Tournament winner "Ziggy" Zieba and Women's Top Performer Barbara Clarkin



Channel 12's lovely Gina Glickman, Host of the weekly series "What's Hot in the Hamptons"



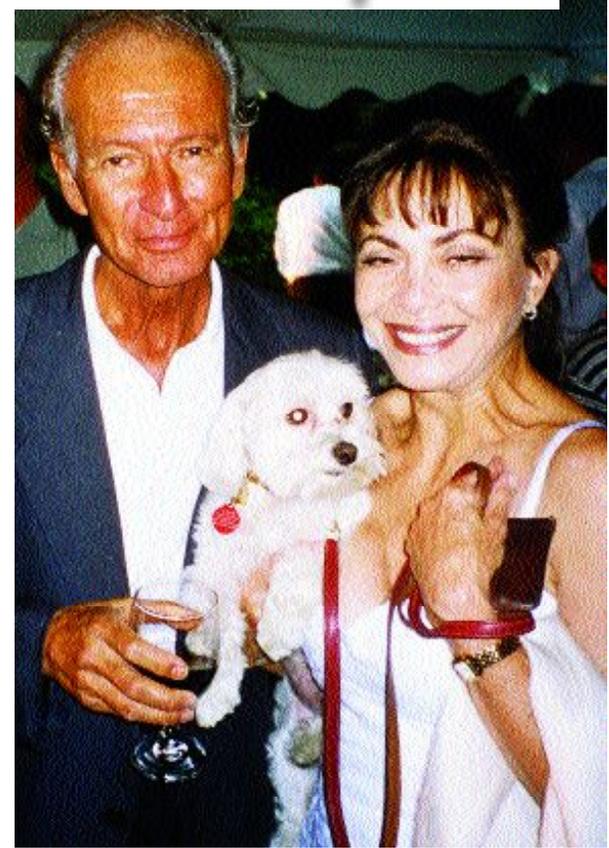
Powerhouse agent Steven Pincus presents Dr. Julie Ratner with Sarah Faberge's jeweled "Zodiac Egg" from the St. Petersburg Collection



Inside The Actors Studio host James Lipton, with his wife Kedakai



Jeweler John Wegorzewski, Katlean de Monchy and Television journalist Kristi Witker



Hosts Ron & Ellin Delsener (with Teddy) hosted over 300 guests under an enormous tent on their East Hampton Estate

A highlight of the live auction was the frenzied bidding on *Sarah Faberge's "Zodiac Egg"* from the St. Petersburg Collection in London where the heirs to the legendary imperial jeweler Carl Peter Fabergé still create opulent objets d'art including the eggs which have become synonymous with their family name.

An unidentified bidder bought it and immediately presented it to Dr. Ratner in recognition of her tireless work for *Ellen's Run* over the last 5 years. The run draws in over 200 participants running "in honor of" or "in memory of"-many of them are persons who have or have had breast cancer.

The Honorary host was the ever ebullient designer *Betsey Johnson* who celebrated her 60th birthday... and is also a breast cancer survivor. The energetic sexagenarian proved just how good 60 can be and proceeded to do her infamous cartwheels to the delight of the crowd.

Dashing around the tent placing their bids were *Faith Popcorn*, the *Itzhak Perlman*s, State Assemblyman *Daniel O'Donnell*, *Msgr. Tom Hartman*, *Steven Pincus* and over 300 East Enders looking to spend for a great cause.