

BRAVA BETTE!

by Edward Callaghan & John Wegorzewski



John McEnroe, Katherine T. McEnroe, Bette Midler, John McEnroe and Patty Smyth McEnroe

The Divine Miss M, Bette Midler proved once again she can wow a room whether at the Continental Baths or Philharmonic Hall. In the suitably rose - bedecked ballroom of the Waldorf Astoria, Midler displayed her characteristic deadpan humor calling herself "The Queen of Compost" and "the lady who took the trash off the streets and put it on the stage where it belongs". The occasion was the Lenox Hill Hospital Autumn Gala, "Bravo".

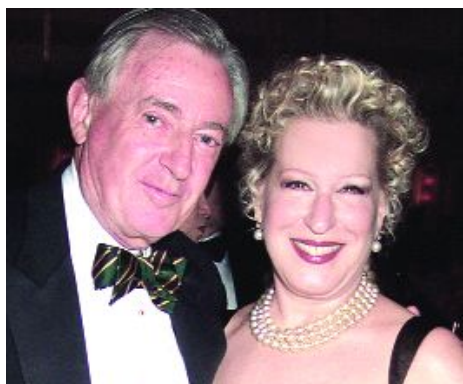


Matt & Annette Lauer



James Marcus, Bette Midler and Gladys George

For over a century, the gala has long been regarded as one of the season's most glamorous events, and this year was no exception. With the help of a dynamic committee chaired by: Ellen and James S Marcus, Erika and Peter Aron, Gladys and Stuart Orsher, MD, Dianne and Paul Guenther, Marlene Hess and James D. Zirin, the glittering affair drew the largest crowd in the events history.



The Divine Miss M. and friend



Deborah Norville with husband Karl Wellner

In recognition of her work for Adopt a Highway and the New York Restoration Project, the Lenox Hill Hospital Board of Trustees awarded Bette the hospital's prestigious "Medal of Distinction" for her tireless work in cleaning up New York's highways and restoring thousands of acres of parkland, Matt Lauer - attending with wife Annette Roque - presented the specially designed Tiffany medallion to Bette in front of an enthusiastic audience of over 1,400. Past Lenox Hill Hospital Guests of Honor and Awardees have included the late Jacqueline Onassis, Beverly Sills, Lena Horne, Neil Simon, Alan Alda, Carol Burnett, Harry Belafonte, Joe Namath, Katie Couric, Whoopi Goldberg, John McEnroe, Tom Brokaw and Julie Andrews.



Co-Chair Erika Aron, Co-Chair and Trustee Peter Aron, Ellen Marcus, Co-Chair and Chairman of the Board of Trustees James S. Marcus, Bette Midler, Co-Chair and Trustee Marlene Hess and James D. Zirin.

Dancing the night away to the Deanna Jones Orchestra were Deborah Norville with husband Dr. Karl Wellner, the McEnroe clan - tennis ace John, his wife Patty and parents Kay and John - Robert and Charlene Nederlander, William and Karen Lauder and the Rev. Calvin Butts. Hospital President Gladys George was thrilled to tell the black tie assemblage that over \$2.5 million had been raised at the event for the hospital's community programs.

Congratulations on being awarded the "Medal of Distinction"

Photo's by *Rob Rich*