

1999-2000 debutantes make formal bows in December

The Debutante Committee will present the 1999-2000 debutantes Dec. 17 at Sarasota Municipal Auditorium. The debutante program benefits the youth orchestras of the Florida West Coast Symphony. Started in 1981, the Debutante Program of the Florida West Coast Symphony has raised about \$300,000 for the youth symphony.

This year, eight young women from Sarasota and Manatee counties were selected on the basis of their academic performance and their community involvement. They are:

■ **Lindsay Bedford Alvarez** is the daughter of Drs. Charles and Patricia Alvarez of Nokomis. She attends Out-of-Door Academy and has been a student council class representative for three years. The National Federation of Music Teachers awarded her two gold cups which signify six years of superior ratings in piano performance. At the 1999 National Figure Skating Competition in Coral Springs, she earned two gold medals. The Florida Suncoast Figure Skating Club awarded her its Sportsmanship Award in 1994 and 1996. She is a member of the Special Skaters Society and was a finalist in the competition for the 1998 J.C. Penney Golden Rule Award.

■ **Vincenza Dyan Battaglia** is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Frank Battaglia of Sarasota. She attends Out-of-Door Academy and is a member of the National Honor Society and the International Club. A semi-finalist in the National Merit Scholarship program, she was selected for the Dan Miller Congressional Classroom 1999. She is active in volleyball, cheerleading and Spanish competitions and is manager of a boys' baseball team. Her community activities include volunteering for the American Cancer Society and Habitat for Humanity.

■ **Eva Louise Ebbeson** is the daughter of Sven Anders Axel Ebbeson and the Honorable Katherine Harris, Florida secretary of state, and Eva Margita Ebbeson Johansson and Arne Johansson of Longboat Key. She attends Out-of-Door Academy. Her community activities include volunteering at Sarasota Memorial

Academy and is active with the Student Council and the Spirit Club. Her activities include varsity basketball and junior varsity volleyball. She is president of her church youth group and is also an Hebraic dancer.

■ **Sharon Feli Petrik** is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerd Petrik of Osprey. She attends the Out-of-Door Academy and is a member of the International Club, Environmental Club and Students Against Drunken Driving. She also participates in varsity volleyball, varsity golf and varsity tennis teams, as well as varsity cheerleading. Her community activities include Whitesands Volleyball, USTA Club tennis, volunteering at the YMCA and tutoring at McIntosh Middle School.

■ **Anne Marie Whiteside** is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Fowler Whiteside Jr. of Anna Maria. She attends Manatee High School and is a member of the National Honor Society, Z Club, Spanish Club and Mu Alpha Theta Math Society. She is a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the track team and plays the cello. Her community activities include volunteering with the youth at her church and participating with the Anna Maria Island Youth Group.

■ **Diane Charity Moseley** is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Andrew Moseley of Bradenton. She attends Manatee High School and is a member of the National Honor Society, Z Club, Spanish Club and Mu Alpha Theta Math Society. She is active in Student Council, the swim and track teams and Renaissance. Her community activities include Junior Leadership Manatee, Younglife, her church youth group and Mam'selles Service Club.

■ **Thea Isabella Nicolaidis** is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stratton John Nicolaidis of Sarasota. She attends Out-of-Door Academy and is active with the Stu-



Alvarez Battaglia Ebbeson C. Moseley
D. Moseley Nicolaidis Petrik Whiteside

Hospital. Mote Marine Laboratory and G.W.I.Z. hands-on science museum.

■ **Christine Elizabeth Moseley** is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Andrew Moseley of Bradenton. She attends Manatee High School and is a member of the National Honor Society, Z Club, Spanish Club and Mu Alpha Theta Math Society. She is the recipient of the Smith College Book Award, and is active in Student Council, the swim and track teams, Mam'selles Service Club and Renaissance. Her community activities include Junior Leadership Manatee, Younglife community service projects and her church youth group.

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The Debutante Committee

The pleasure of your company is requested at a
Mother/Daughter
Get-Acquainted Dinner
on Tuesday, the fifteenth of June
from Seven until Nine O'clock
to be held at the home of
Dr. and Mrs. Arthur Richard Droba
4976 Hubner Circle
(Foxfire West)

R.S.V.P. Dressy Casual
Mrs. Esther Droba Attire
922-8449
by June 12th

Please call to let me know if you would like to bring a salad, hot entrée, or dessert.

Debs make their bows to society

For Out-of-Door Academy headmaster Jerry Novello and his wife, Janice, it was a special evening when five of his students made their bows to society during the annual Debutante Ball at Municipal Auditorium recently. Jerry and Janice were also seen doing a "mean" salsa when the Anthony DeLeon Band worked its way up from music of the '40s to the beat of today.

Eight young women — all in white gowns and escorted by their dads — made an impressive entrance among the silver chandeliers and miniature white lights that transformed the hall into a grand ballroom for the night.

The annual event benefits the symphony's Youth Orchestra, roped by symphony president Ken Oden and exec director Gretchen Serric.

The debs included Lindsay Alvarez, daughter of Drs. Charles and Patricia Alvarez of Nokomis, who was happy that her grandparents, Ed and Jane Jasonowski of New Brunswick, N.J., came especial-

MARJORIE NORTH



by for the occasion.

Vincenza Battaglia also had visiting family — her cousin, Dr. Frank Battaglia and his wife, Mariel, of Buenos Aires, Argentina. Among Louise Ebbeson's well-wishers (besides her dad, Anders Ebbeson, and stepmom, Secretary of State Katherine Harris) were Katherine's parents, George and Harriet. It was a double delight for the Thomas Moseley family of Bradenton as their daughters, Christine and Diane, were introduced. While Diane waltzed with her dad, Christine danced with her uncle, Dr. Roland Shepard.

Sharon Petrik, daughter of Gerd and Feli Petrik of Casey Key, was pleased to introduce her godmother, Gisela Ziemis (and hubby, Achim), of Berlin, Germany. Her dad was equally pleased to host the president of Helopharm, Monika Schmitt, also in from Berlin. And it was truly a family affair for Anne Marie Whiteside of Anna Maria. Guests included her aunt and uncle, Dr.



Leona Hughes, left, with USF College of Nursing Dean Patricia Burns

Charles and Carol Fort, and Anne's sister and brother-in-law, Jerry and Stacy Whitfield, as well as her brother, Jack III.

Table hopping

At the Alvarez table were Jerry Woolfel — appointed by Gov. Jeb Bush as operational manager for the public guardian, as of last Friday, with hubby, Dr. Robert Woolfel. ... Peggy Wood was back in town from Chicago with twin daughters, Abby and Daisy, and sitting with former ODA pals. ... Robert and Denise Mel were seen scooping out the event with daughter, Lea — a possible future deb. ... One of Lindsay Alvarez's escorts was John Crouse VII, son of Jay and Laura, owners of the oldest house on Siesta Key and table guests. She was also escorted by Jordan Leichert, son of Trudson and Mary. ... Also seen were a beaming Sandy Urban, president of the Deb committee, and a spread-thin Michael's staff (but then spread-thin Michael's pros were catering Phil Mancini's pros were catering



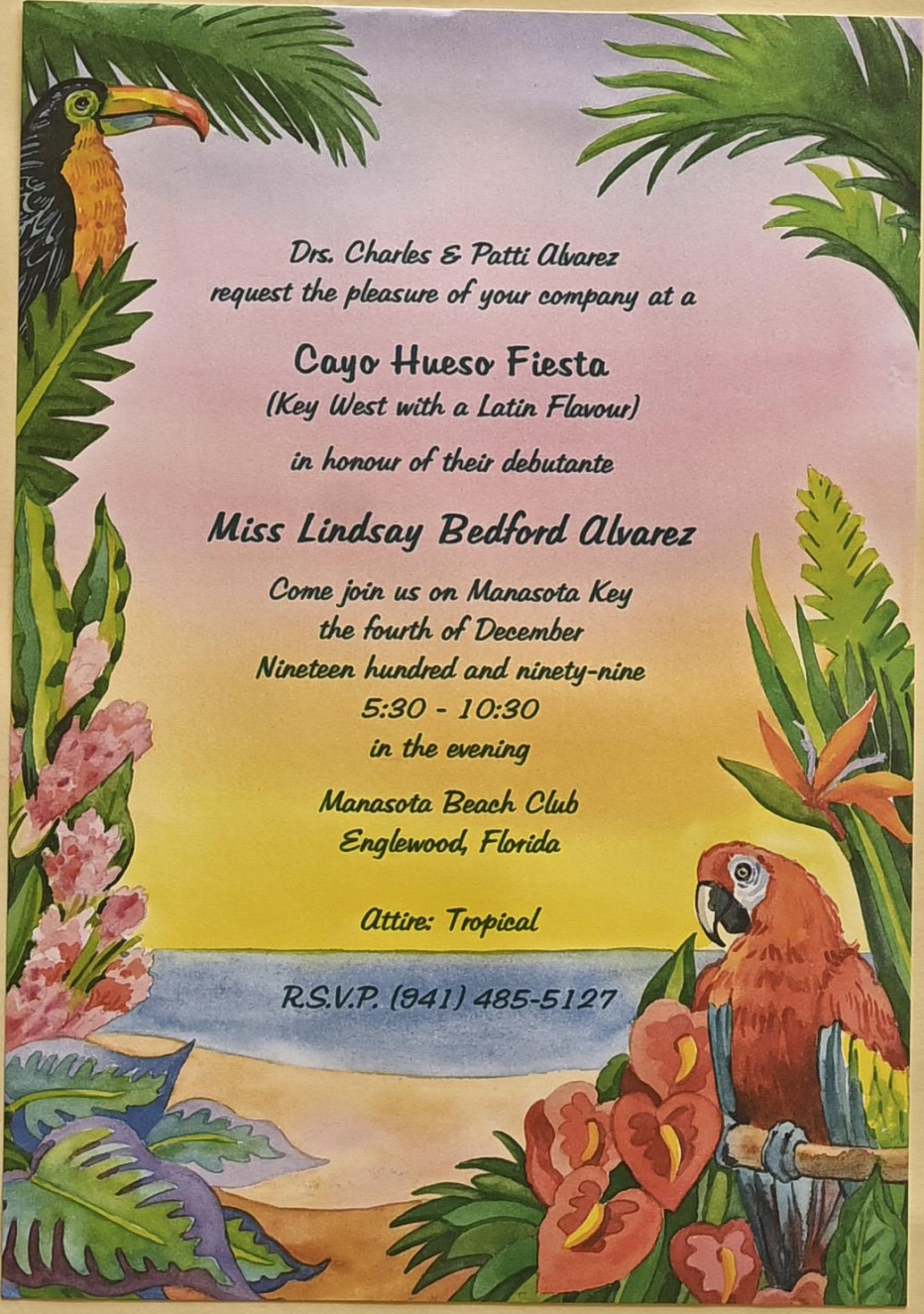
Todd and Patty Pitt opened their home to benefit the United Way Foundation.





Mr. and Mrs. Thomas New Marsley
 and
 Mr. and Mrs. Jack Marsley
 cordially invite
A Night Beneath the Caribbean Sun
 Honoring
 Christine Elizabeth Marsley
 Diane Charity Marsley
 Anne Marie Whiteside
 Saturday, the eighth of January
 Two thousand
 from seven until eleven o'clock
 South Florida Museum
 Spanish Courtyard
 201 10th Street West
 Bradenton, Florida
 Dressy Casual Attire
 Women - Dress or Pantsuit
 Men - Sport jacket, no tie
 R.S.V.P. by December 28th
 (842) 745-8006



A tropical-themed invitation card. The background features a sunset over a beach with palm trees and various tropical plants. On the left, a toucan with a large yellow and red beak is perched on a branch. On the right, a red macaw is perched on a branch. The text is centered in the upper half of the card.

*Drs. Charles & Patti Alvarez
request the pleasure of your company at a*

Cayo Hueso Fiesta
(Key West with a Latin Flavour)

in honour of their debutante

Miss Lindsay Bedford Alvarez

*Come join us on Manasota Key
the fourth of December
Nineteen hundred and ninety-nine
5:30 - 10:30
in the evening*

*Manasota Beach Club
Englewood, Florida*

Attire: Tropical

R.S.V.P. (941) 485-5127



Visions of cats, dogs and debutantes dancing in my head



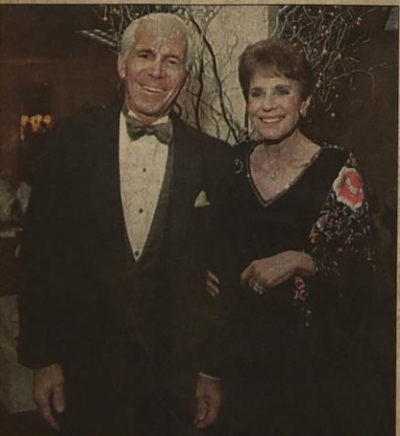
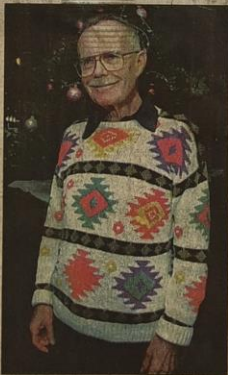
TOM O'NEILL/The Herald

Humane Society: Manatee County Humane Society president Thelma Forrest, left, and Amy Smith at the Humane Society's annual holiday luncheon at the Seafood Shack.



Photos by TOM O'NEILL/The Herald

Humane Society: Above, Bradenton residents Celly and Darrell Roli, left, and Becky and Lewis Wylie at the Manatee County Humane Society's annual holiday luncheon at the Seafood Shack. At right, Jim Webster at the Humane Society's luncheon.



TOM O'NEILL/The Herald

NARSAD: Gene and Helene Noble at the annual black-tie gala for the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression at the Sarasota Opera House.



Scene & Heard
JEREMY MURPHY

When the holiday season comes to a close, and the party circuit crashes to a halt, I think I'm going to unplug my phone, turn out the lights and veggie in front of the TV for a week watching really bad movies on the USA Network. That'll be just one of my punishments for this year's holiday mishaps.

I also thought of subjecting myself to an afternoon of Fla. Zadora (courtesy of my neighbor's cherished album collection), but I haven't been *that* bad.

Come to think of it, the only sins stuffing this year's stocking include the usual — spending too much money, eating too much food and laughing too loudly at those foolish tourists standing outside the "Today Show" studio, especially when it's snowing or raining. Do they honestly think Matt and Katie are going to leave their comfy, heated anchor desk for snow, sleet and hail? Sha! right.

Anyway, the Catholic guilt is killing me, so you'll understand the need to show a little penance, which I plan to do by writing about something cute, cuddly and harmless.

HUMANE SOCIETY HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Members of the Humane Society of Manatee County gathered Dec. 12 to celebrate the holiday season at the Seafood Shack off Cortez Road. The event, dedicated to the society's workers, volunteers and supporters, included a retrospective of this year's achievements as well as the induction of this year's new Humane Society officers.



ALEX DIAZ/The Herald

Debutante Ball: The 1999-2000 Florida West Coast Symphony debutantes from Sarasota are Lindsay Alvarez, left, Sharon Petrik, Vincenza Battaglia, Louise Ebbeson and Thea Nicolaides at the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium.

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Long-time Humane Society "mover and shaker" Paul Witte also used the occasion to announce that the Manatee unit had achieved a 40 percent increase in the number of dogs and cats spayed and neutered, as well as a dramatic increase in the number of adoptions.

Member Thelma Forrest was installed as the group's new president. Carol Liaros was named first vice president. Pat Newhall was named second vice president. Marrie Mora was inducted as the new corresponding secretary. Sue Brandana was named trea-

PEOPLE TO PAGE 2



ALEX DIAZ/The Herald

Debutante Ball: At the 1999-2000 Florida West Coast Symphony Debutante Ball is debutante Christine Moseley of Manatee County with her escorts, Adam Fasoli, left, and Jae Sammy.



ALEX DIAZ/The Herald

Debutante Ball: At the 1999-2000 Florida West Coast Symphony Debutante Ball is debutante Diane Moseley of Manatee County with her escorts, Drew Fasoli, left, and Judson Holt.



ALEX DIAZ/The Herald

Mistletoe Ball: Peter and Nancy Reinheimer, left, and Julie and Jeff Riddell at the New College Library Association's Mistletoe Ball.



ALEX DIAZ/The Herald

Mistletoe Ball: Jack and Paulette Schindler, left, and Alan and Pam Morris at the New College Library Association's Mistletoe Ball.



ALEX DIAZ/The Herald

Mistletoe Ball: Dr. Sidney and Anita Holec, left, and Dr. Alan and Claudia Porter at the New College Library Association's Mistletoe Ball.



ALEX DIAZ/The Herald

Debutante Ball: At the 1999-2000 Florida West Coast Symphony Debutante Ball is debutante Anne Marie Whiteside of Manatee County with her escorts, Craig T. Ajmo Jr., left, and Jonathan DeGroat.

From Gershwin to Manilow, Valentine's Pops concerts keep Manatee hopping

Wearable Art Fashion Show



SARAH TABER-COKER/Special to the Herald

Alice Lundstrom, left, Karen Shupe and Terrie Langford at the Art League of Manatee County's Wearable Art Fashion Show.



SARAH TABER-COKER/Special to the Herald

Bernice Berger, left, Bobbi Weissman and Bernice Kipnes at the Art League of Manatee County's Wearable Art Fashion Show.

Sweetheart's Dance



ALEX DIAZ/The Herald

Jan Binder, left, George Algozzine, John Casazza and Agnes Sherba at College Park's Sweetheart's Dance Valentine's celebration.

Dinner With the Stars



DAN VAN DER KOOP/Special to the Herald

Brandy Debrosse, left, JAG Records president Iris Kerner, actress Rebecca Herbst, Leanna Schaffran, actor Michael Saucedo and Jennifer Crum at Mote Marine Laboratory's Valentine's Dinner With the Stars.



I wasn't like I expected to hear Smashing Pumpkins or Hole, but the closest the Florida West Coast Symphony's 15th annual Valentine Pops concert came to celebrating (or eulogizing) my generation was with Barry Manilow's "Copa Cabana," a delightful song, no doubt, but one not likely to incite a moosh pit.

Still, even a snot-nosed cynic like myself couldn't resist the urge to tap my toes to the tunes of the "rollicking, romantic musical venue" that was the symphony's "Blast from the Past" Valentine Pops concert on Saturday, Feb. 12 at the Manatee Convention and Civic Center.

Performing a medley of popular tunes from throughout the last century, the symphony had everyone in a lively mood, including me, who joined the crowd in humming all the wonderful music, although for appearances' sake, I did so in dark sunglasses and a trench coat from a corner in the back.

More than 1,000 Manatee residents came out to the concert, organized by the Manatee Symphony Association, our county's support organization for the Florida West Coast Symphony. Featuring a dinner, silent auction and a two-hour concert, the Valentine Pops concert is always one of the area's best attended events.

"All the revenue goes to the Florida West Coast Symphony," said Rosalind Ellerbee, president of the Manatee Symphony Association. Ellerbee said the concert typically raises more than \$20,000 each year, with the proceeds earmarked for the symphony's Youth Orchestra.

"To me, what the event does is it takes different people with different tastes in music and brings them together at one annual event," said Manatee Memorial Hospital's Vernon DeSear, the undisputed Sultan of the Soundbite.

"A lot of people won't go to a classical concert, but they will go to this," DeSear said.

Conducting the Valentine Pops concert was Christopher Confessore, associate conductor with the Florida West Coast Symphony.

"The concert will offer a really good time, I hope," Confessore said minutes before the concert began. "We really tried to put a program together that offers something for everyone. We're going all the way back to the '20s, with Gershwin."

And as recent as the '80s, with the score of Steven Spielberg's "E.T."

But if you were expecting any Ricky Martin, DMX or Britney Spears, well, you're out of luck. "It offers popular music from all sorts of eras," Confessore said, "but nothing for Hanson fans."

Quelle tragedie! An even bigger tragedy would have occurred had I not successfully fought off the urge to leap on stage and join the orchestra in singing Sinatra's "Fly Me to the Moon." For now, I guess that experience will remain between me and the shower curtain.

Attending the concert were Florida West Coast Symphony's new development director Ashley Canesse; Manatee Symphony Association's Rosalind Ellerbee and Ron Butler; Manatee Chamber of Commerce's membership guru Marie Deitrich (a.k.a. "My New Best Friend"); Manatee Memorial Hospital's newly hired gem Betty Chambliss; Mr. and Mrs. Brian Murphy



Scene & Heard
JEREMY MURPHY

from the Eye Associates; Linda Gault, owner of Bradenton's two TCBY yogurt stores (the best in Manatee County, hands down); Gault's friend Ginger Moore; my surrogate grandmother, Rita Bullock, who managed to snag a seat at the Bradenton Herald table while I, an employee of the paper, wasn't so fortunate; Valentine Pops co-hosts Karen and Hugh Miller; Roy and Gloria Larson; and Valentine Pops committee members Michael Boase, Sarah Hodges, Linda Lester, Anne MacDonald, Virginia Page, Doris Phillips, Sandy Urban and Dr. Susan Weinkle.

Also appearing at the concert were this year's Valentine Pops debutantes, including Lindsay Bedford Alvarez (daughter of Drs. Charles and Patricia

SCENE TO PAGE 2

Valentine Pops concert



TIFFANY CRAFT/The Herald
Gloria Larson, left, and Roy Larson at the Blast from the Past Valentine Pops concert.



TIFFANY CRAFT/The Herald
Ron Butler, left, and guest conductor Christopher Confessore at the Blast from the Past Valentine Pops concert.



TIFFANY CRAFT/The Herald

Debutantes Lindsay Alvarez, left, Louise Ebbeson, Thea Nicolaidis, Diane Moseley, Christine Moseley, Sharon Petrik, Vincenza Battaglia and Anne Whiteside at the Valentine Pops concert.



TIFFANY CRAFT/The Herald

Paul Chambliss, left, Betty Chambliss, Karen Miller, Hugh Miller, Peggy DeSear and Vernon DeSear at the Blast from the Past Valentine Pops concert.



TIFFANY CRAFT/The Herald

Standing from left, Barbara Harding, George Harding, Rosalind Ellerbee, Bernice Scott, Willie Mae Jackson and Elaine Brown; Sitting, from left, John Ellerbee, Janice Ellerbee Swan, Barbara Chester and Charles Chester at the Blast from the Past Valentine Pops concert.

Sarasota

Community Central

CONNECT WITH US

Send news or information for Community Central to:
MAIL: Community Central c/o Sarasota Herald-Tribune,
 P.O. Box 1719, Sarasota, FL 34230
PHONE: 957-5371 **FAX:** 957-5276

Please include your name and phone number. All submissions become the property of the Sarasota Herald-Tribune and may be republished in any medium.

Young women make debut at annual Christmas ball

By Jo Anne Klement
 CORRESPONDENT

Eight young women from Sarasota and Manatee counties waltzed on the arms of their fathers to the strains of "Edelweiss" after their formal introduction to the community at the Debutante Ball held Dec. 17 at the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium. Dressed in the traditional white debutante gowns, they are participating in a program that has raised more than \$300,000 for the Florida West Coast Symphony's Youth Orchestras.

"We became involved because it supports the youth programs," said Susan Moseley, mother of two Manatee High School seniors participating this year. A former symphony board member, Susan's twin daughters, Christine and Diane, have a strong interest in music, having played the piano for 11 years.

"And it's an opportunity for them to be out in the public learning some important social skills," added the girls' father, Tom Moseley.

Rod Urban, the master of ceremonies and father of Meredith Urban, a deb during the 1994-95 season, and Matt Urban, a frequent deb escort, told the crowd of about 300 guests, "We know what a special evening this is."

Rod's wife, Sandy, president of the Debutante Committee, also welcomed the crowd and said of the Deb Program, "Youth serving youth best describes our philosophy."

Proceeds from the ball and other debutante events held throughout the year benefit youth orchestra programs.

This year's debts included three students from Manatee High School: Christine and Diane Moseley, escorted by their father Tom Moseley; and Anne Marie Whiteside, escorted by her dad, Jack Whiteside. Five debts from the Out-of-Door Academy included: Lindsay Alvarez, escorted by her father Charles Alvarez; Vincenza Battaglia and escort Frank Battaglia; Eva Ebbeson escorted by Sven Ebbeson; Thea Nicolaides escorted by Stratton Nicolaides; and Sharon Petrik escorted by Gerd Petrik.

Every season, each deb selects two young men to serve as her escorts to the Christmas ball as well as to numerous other deb events. Escorts for this year are John Crouse VII, Jordan Letschert, Martin Kurzner, Orlan Romm, William McComb, Jonathan Pawley, Adam Fasoli, Jae Sammy, Andrew Fasoli, Judson Holt, Alexander Nicolaides, Nicholas Mitsis, Mark Hess, Mark Riddell, Craig Ajmo Jr. and Jonathan DeGroat.

Part of the debutante and escort training includes waltz lessons and sessions on proper etiquette. In addition to attending two formal balls and a presentation at the Valentine Pops, each girl throws an elaborate party. Many of the parties follow themes and include live music. Local high school girls are selected for the program on the basis of academic and extracurricular achievements.

"I think it's great," said deb Anne Marie Whiteside. "It's been so much fun getting to know the other girls and doing this with my family."



Photographer Manny Cruz guides all the debutantes and their escorts into place for a group photo at the Florida West Coast Music Center before the ball.



Above: Escort Jonathan DeGroat and Anne Marie Whiteside watch escort Craig T. Ajmo Jr. model a funny hat as they take a break for sandwiches and soft drinks before the ball. At right: Sharon Petrik adjusts the gown of Thea Nicolaides, and Lindsay Alvarez practices sitting in a very full gown, before the ball.



Above: Vincenza Battaglia takes a last minute spin with her father, Dr. Frank Battaglia. Below: Louise Ebbeson gets help with her gloves from Thea Nicolaides before a photo session with her father, Anders Ebbeson, left.



Sharon Petrik, with escorts Mark Hess, left, and Mark Riddell, is handed her bouquet just outside the auditorium door.



December 9, 1999

Black·Tie

THE SOCIAL OBSERVER

Holiday Social Primer

The Last Great Gatsby Party of the Century

6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10

Longboat Key Moorings

Benefiting Easter Seals/MARC

Guests will feel like they're stepping onto the movie set of "The Great Gatsby" when they arrive for this poolside dinner dance at the Longboat Key Moorings. A champagne reception starts off the evening followed by dinner, created and sponsored by Cafe on the Bay. Starlight dancing follows with the sounds of the 42nd Street Band and a performance by the SPATS Vintage Dance Club. Tickets are \$100 per person. Details: 383-8383.



NARSAD Gala Dinner and Dance "Sunshine from Darkness"

6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10

Peterson Great Room, Sarasota Opera Pavilion

Benefiting the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression (NARSAD)

The third annual black-tie event begins with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres with dinner following. Then dance to the music of Anthony DeLeon. Lee Peterson and Joyce Tate chair the gala. Tickets are \$150 per person; patrons are \$300 per person. A symposium will be presented at Sarasota Memorial Hospital on Saturday, Dec. 11 at no charge. Details: 371-6798.

"Just My Style" Sarasota Opera Mini-Event

6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11

Joan Wood's home, Sarabande

Benefiting the Sarasota Opera

Joan Wood hosts the first of these opera mini-events at her home in Sarabande. Enjoy cocktails and hors d'oeuvres and a breathtaking view of the Christmas boat parade from her 11th floor balcony overlooking the judges' stand. Tickets are \$75 per person. Details: 366-8450, Ext. 254.

Weekend Holiday Highlights

Ringling Fan Club Holiday Party

7 - 10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10

The John and Mable Ringling Museum

Share the spirit of the season with holiday goodies, the Madrigal Singers, docent tours and discount shopping at the museum gift shop. Tickets are \$6 per person. Details: 359-5748.

Bradenton Opera Guild Holiday Luncheon

11:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 11

The Holiday Inn, Longboat Key

The luncheon features a program entitled "The Magic of Ireland" following lunch. The luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn, Longboat Key. Tickets are \$22 per person. Details: 776-1283.

Children's Holly Day

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11

Selby Gardens

Children under 12 are admitted free with an adult paying regular admission of \$8. Kids and parents alike will enjoy lots of hands-on activities, arts and crafts, nature and educational exhibits and a special visit from Santa Claus. Details: 366-5731, Ext. 10.

Holiday Ice Show

4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12

J.P. Igloo Ice & Incline Sports Complex

Benefiting the Special Skaters Society

Enjoy a heart-warming ice show featuring Nicole Bobek, Olympic and world skating champion. The highlight will be a performance by the Special Skaters Society featuring handicapped skaters and their volunteers. Tickets are \$15 per person; VIP tickets are \$50. Details: 723-3663.



Photo by Barbara Banks

Debutantes and their fathers line up for the presentation at the 1998 Debutante Ball at Sarasota's Municipal Auditorium. Eight debutantes, and fathers, are now making final preparations for the Eighteenth Annual Debutante Ball on Nov. 17.

A Holiday Tradition Thrives

By Lisa Walsh
Black Tie Editor

Debutante Balls and the holiday season. Long white satin dresses and gloves and pearl necklaces. Exciting and extravagant parties. Dancing with young men and fathers in white tie or black. It's a social ritual that started almost a century ago, and thankfully, one tradition that still exists today — just with a few modern twists.

Though Sarasota/Manatee's Debutante Ball hasn't been around quite as long as, let's say, New York's, next week eight debutantes and their fathers, escorts and families will participate in the Eighteenth Annual Debutante Ball at the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium. And just after their presentation to society, when the young debutantes dance that first waltz with their fathers, it will be the culmination of an unforgettable season.

All the debutantes were nominated by someone sitting on the 30-member Debutante Ball Committee. Their selection, according to Sandy Urban, president of the Debutante Ball Committee for the past three years, is based upon such things as character, grace, good academic standing, community service and a recommendation.

Once selected, each debutante asks two young men to be

her escorts to the various parties and, of course, the ball. "We encourage them to ask friends, not boyfriends. Boyfriends come and go," Urban chuckled.

In an unusual twist this year, debutante twins Christine and Diane Moseley of Bradenton, have asked twin brothers Adam and Andrew Fasoli, also of Bradenton, to be escorts. The Moseley sisters are not the first set of twin debutantes — twins were presented at the 1984

Presenting....

Debutante Ball.

Ethel Pawley, first vice president of the committee, thinks the debutante year is worthwhile, not only because the proceeds of the ball benefit the youth orchestras of the Florida West Coast Symphony, but because it's a special time for fathers and daughters.

"It's an opportunity for a special year for father and daughter to focus on their special relationship before that daughter goes away to college," Pawley says.

"It's also a time for your daughter to put to use all that etiquette you've taught her," Pawley says. "In fact, it was very beneficial for my daughter Kimberly." Kimberly, 21, is a student at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala. "My daughter was able to acclimate to the more rigid social standards f

See Tradition, page 2

Eight debutantes to be presented



Lindsay Bedford Alvarez is the daughter of Drs. Charles and Patricia Alvarez of Nokomis. She attends Out of Door Academy and has been a Student Council class representative for three years. The National Federation of Music Teachers awarded her two gold cups for six years of superior ratings in piano performance. At the 1999 National Figure Skating Competition, she earned two gold medals. The Florida Suncoast Figure Skating Club awarded her their Sportsmanship Award in 1994 and 1996. She is a member of the Special Skaters Society and was a finalist in the competition for the 1998 J.C. Penney-Golden Rule Award.



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Decorations for the ball will be designed by Affairs in the Air and Mr. Florist. Hors d'oeuvres and dinner will be catered by Michael's on East. The guests will be entertained by the Anthony DeLeon Orchestra.

Debutantes and their fathers will participate in waltz lessons provided by Fred Astaire Dance Studio in preparation for the ball.



Eva Louise Ebbeson is the daughter of Sven Anders Axel Ebbeson and Katherine Harris, Florida Secretary of State, and Eva Margita Ebbeson Johansson and Arne Johansson of Longboat Key. She attends Out of Door Academy. Her community activities include volunteering at Sarasota Memorial Hospital, Mote Marine and the G.WIZ Science Museum.



Christine Elizabeth Moseley is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Andrew Moseley of Bradenton. She attends Manatee High School and is a member of the National Honor Society, Z-Club, Spanish Club and Mu Alpha Theta Math Society. A recipient of the Smith College Book Award, she is active in the student council, the swim and track teams, Mam'selles Service Club and Renaissance. Her community activities include Junior Leadership Manatee, Younglife community service projects and her church youth group.



Diane Charity Moseley is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Andrew Moseley of Bradenton. She attends Manatee High School and is a member of the National Honor Society, Z-Club, Spanish Club and Mu Alpha Theta Math Society. She is active in student council, the swim and track teams and Renaissance. Her community activities include Junior Leadership Manatee, Younglife, her church youth group and Mam'selles Service Club.



Thea Isabella Nicolaides is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stratton John Nicolaides of Sarasota. She attends Out of Door Academy and is active with the Student Council and Spirit Club. Her activities include varsity basketball and junior varsity volleyball. She is president of her church youth group and is a Hellenic dancer.



Sharon Feli Petrik is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerd Petrik of Osprey. She attends Out of Door Academy and is a member of the International Club, Environmental Club and Students Against Drunken Drivers. She also participates in varsity volleyball, varsity golf, varsity tennis and varsity cheerleading. Her community activities include Whitesands Volleyball, USTA Club tennis, volunteering at the YMCA and tutoring at McIntosh Middle School.



Anne Marie Whiteside is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Fowler Whiteside Jr. of Anna Maria. She attends Manatee High School and is a member of the Music Honor Society, secretary of the orchestra and on the senior class board. Her activities have included the Nike Service Club and the French Club. She is a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the track team and plays the cello. Her community activities include volunteering with the youth at her church and the Anna Maria Island Youthgroup.







The Debutante Committee

requests the pleasure of your company

at

The Debutante Ball

Friday evening, the seventeenth of December

Nineteen hundred and ninety-nine

City of Sarasota

Municipal Auditorium

In Honour of the
1999-2000 Debutantes

Miss Lindsay Bedford Alvarez

Miss Vincenza Dyann Battaglia

Miss Eva Louise Ebbeson

Miss Christine Elizabeth Moseley

Miss Diane Charity Moseley

Miss Thea Isabella Nicolaides

Miss Sharon Feli Petrik

Miss Anne Marie Whiteside

The Debutante Ball



Friday evening, the seventeenth of December
Nineteen hundred and ninety-nine

MR. & MRS. STRATTON J. NICOLAIDES
INVITE YOU TO ENJOY AN EVENING
ON MT. OLYMPUS THE MYSTICAL
LAND OF THE GODS IN HONOR OF
THEIR DEBUTANTE DAUGHTER

MISS THEA ISABELLA NICOLAIDES

PLEASE JOIN US AT:

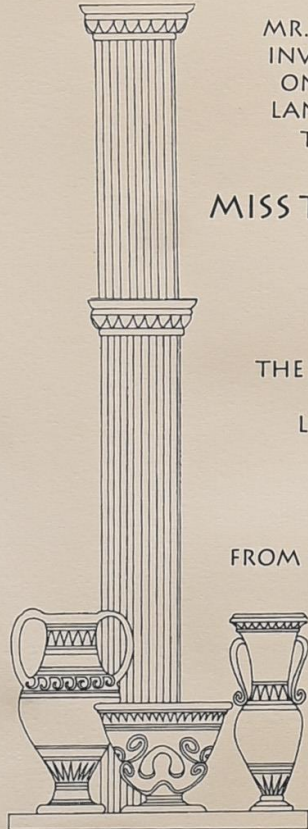
LONGBOAT KEY CLUB
THE DINING ROOM AT HARBOURSIDE
3000 HARBOURSIDE DRIVE
LONGBOAT KEY, FLORIDA 34228

FOR:

MUSIC AND DANCING
FROM THE ANCIENT TO THE MODERN

SATURDAY
THE 29TH OF JANUARY
YEAR 2000
8:00PM - 11:00PM

DRESS:
TOGA OR COCKTAIL ATTIRE



Formal card with 15th inch

invite you to

"Catch A Falling Star"

in honor of

Pharon Feli Petrik

Saturday, November 20, 1999

from 8:00 - 11:00 p.m.

1538 North Casey Key Road

Osprey, Florida

Required Dress

Ladies: Party Dress (semi-formal)

Gentlemen: Sportcoat or Blazer, and Tie