

# OF THE STARS



It was party time last week in Beverly Hills and the Beverly Hills Hotel was the scene of two of the best. The Photoplay Gold Medal Party was, as usual, one of the grooviest of the year. I always have a terrific time each year when the Photoplay Magazine biggies come out West to see the stars that they write about all year round. It's a very informal party so everyone stays loose, mills around and talks, talks, talks. Among the talkers were KAREN VALENTINE & JON HAGER, JIM HAGER with his wife BETTY, GAIL FISHER, JACK & VICKIE OAKIE, WESLEY EURE ("Days of our Lives") CONNY VAN DYKE (being congratulated on her fine job in "W.W. and the Dixie Dancekings"), MICHAEL & DODIE LANGDON, SCOTT BRADY, JACK ALBERTSON, VIRGINIA MAYO & PETER POTTER (remember "Juke Box Jury?"), GLORIA DE HAVEN, DAVE GARROWAY, ELLEN CORBY, WILL GEER, DEANNE (LUND) & DON MATHIESON, TIM & ILSE BARKER, FLORENCE MARLY, FRED WILLIAMSON, JOANNE PFLUG and nearly every press agent and columnist in town.

Talked to JON PETERSON there and he told me that JUNE ALLYSON has said yes and that they will be married very soon. June was home with the flu. Get well, Junie and congratulations.

Next night, same hotel, same room I attended a party for the newest star in Hollywood, "Cutty 12." That's right, folks, Cutty Sark has come out with a new 12 year old Scotch and launched it in true Hollywood fashion. REX HARRISON is the spokesman for "Cutty 12" and since he's in New York doing a play with JULIE HARRIS, we had to settle for a tape of his voice welcoming us to the soiree. JACK & VICKIE OAKIE, GAIL FISHER AND I all felt like we had spent the night there but still managed to have a good time joining

Italian-born singing sensation Sergio Franchi and femme comedy queen Joan Rivers return to the Celebrity Room of the MGM Grand

## SERGIO FRANCHI, JOAN RIVERS AT MGM GRAND

Hotel May 21. The dynamic song and comedy duo will co-headline the 2100 room Grand for three weeks only, through June 10.

Franchi, an opera-trained tenor with tremendous vocal range, has long been a favorite with Las Vegas audiences. His shows are an artful blend of Broadway tunes, pop chart hits, operatic arias and novelty songs.

He has developed into a witty and charming stage personality and is frequently seen on major television variety shows.

Ms. Rivers, likewise, is a performer in a

class by herself. Her hilarious anecdotes and sometimes-ribald sketches have earned her the reputation of being "the funniest lady in show-business."

On stage, Joan zaps everybody and everything, usually saving her big blows -- and getting the biggest laughs -- for those who keep women in the "silly" life-roles to which they have been committed and conditioned.

Easy - on - the - ears superstar Dean Martin takes over the Grand's Celebrity Room for one week on June 11.



THIS IS THE SORT OF ACTION THAT WILL BE SEEN AT THE CONVENTION CENTER DURING THE 41ST ANNUAL ELKS HELLDORADO RODEO, MAY 22 - 25.

FLORENCE HENDERSON, ZSA ZSA & JACK RYAN (still the newlyweds and they said it couldn't last), ANN SIDNEY, ROBERT DEMAN, MICHEL YHUELO (the owner of the posh Le Restaurant) MONICA & PETER BORSARI, JACK CARTER with his about to-be ex-wife ROXANNE (or does this mean they've reconciled?) and JOSETTE BANZET COWAN (wife of praiser WARREN COWAN) who was very excited about starting a new movie of the week.

Afterwards, I dined with the Oakies in the elegant Lanai Room in the hotel. Food and service were wonderful. They decided on an early night so at Michel's invitation I dashed over to the Le Restaurant for a night cap with PETER & MONICA BORSARI & ROBERT DEMAN. Le Restaurant is all that I've heard and more. It's a real trip! Across from us sat a group of rock music people drinking wine from the most enormous bottle that I've ever seen. To top it off it was Chateau La-Fitte-Rothschild 1961. The bottle was about the equivalent of 8 regular bottles. The cost? \$2,000.00. You read right. I was mesmerized. Michel told me that he only had three of them and the other two were reserved for GORDON MILLS (TOM JONES' & ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK'S manager). So if Gordon calls you up to go out for a glass of wine, for heavens sake, go with him.

For your own sake, go out and relax.

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