



#### IN THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT

This is the 18th year that the irrepressible **Pandy Duke Biddle** (and who would want to repress her infectious joie de vivre?) and her croquet-mallet-wielding husband, **Yves Hentic**, have given their Memorial Day party, which is always a highlight of the season. Biddle inherited her estate from her grandmother Mary Duke, and, after spending many happy years in the main house, decided to build on the property a new manse that included all of the latest conveniences but kept the "spirit" of the original house, like the imposing bar. (Her grandmother's ghost is also rumored to be present—who else would tell you these things?) Everyone dug into the home-cooked buffet dished out by faithful housekeeper **Editha**, who also designs the notoriously eccentric flower arrangements. Guests included the hostess's daughter **Yvie Biddle Hentic** (who told me I'd missed the pink-and-green streaks she'd had in her hair, but did show off her electric blue manicure and impeccable manners by introducing me to her handsome escort). Also present were Biddle's uncle, the ever-dapper **Tony Duke**, **Anne Hearst McInerney**, **Joanne** and **Roberto de Guardiola**, **Pat Becker**, **Molly Flair**, **Sharon Hoge**, **Mimi James** and **Carey Holoy**, **Billy** and **Debbie Bancroft**, **Henry** and **Audrey Koehler**, the **Shaheens**, **Jennifer Miller**, **Dickie Mortimer** and his wife, **Barbara**, **Cornelia** and **Marty Bregman**,

**Minor** and **Victoria Amery**, and most of the *Blue Book*. Total score: 86.

#### BIRTHDAY PLATT-ER

**Campion Platt**, the noted architect and interior designer, gave a birthday party for his chic wife, **Tatiana**, at *Alison* in Bridgehampton. This cozy hot spot is quite possibly the purveyor of the best food in the Hamptons, not to mention that it's the place people like **Scarlett Johansson**, **Ed Burns** and wife **Christy Turlington**, and the rest of the glitterati gather when they want to be surrounded by friends. A truckful of white orchids decorated *Alison's* side room and, with *Alison's* star chef **Robert Gurvich**—who has cooked at *Daniel*, *Spago*, and alongside **Emeril Lagasse**—back in the kitchen after a three-year absence, the food was to die for. Among the guests not yet mentioned in this column were **Harry Becker Hurt**, **Tiffany Dubin**, **Keith** and **Ann Barish**, **Blair** and **Alistair Clarke**, **Count** and **Countess Alex** and **LuAnn De Lesseps**, **Patricia Duff**, **Kimberly DuRoss**, **Melissa Berkelhammer**, **Kim Heirston**, **Richard Evans**, **Sara Herbert Galloway**, **Robin** and **Robert Leacock**, **Dolly Lenz**, **Frances** and **Anthony Schultz**, **Bill Smith**, **Jon Stern**, **Robert Stillin**, and **Alison Mazzola**. Clever **Tatiana** wrote and read aloud "An Ode from the Birthday Girl," in which she recalled fun moments with her guests. This star turn invoked laughter, tears, and gasps. Total score: 88. **H**



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Kelly Killoren Bensimon, Tatiana and Campion Platt, Patricia Duff, and Alison Becker Hurt; Kim Heirston and LuAnn De Lesseps; Geoffrey Thomas and Anne Hearst McInerney; and Sessa von Richthofen and Richard Johnson at Tatiana Platt's birthday party at *Alison's*.