

San Francisco Chronicle

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA'S LARGEST NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 2013

Datebook, Section F-7

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Fire up the candles... and many more



Florio restaurateur Doug Biederbeck (left), Martin Muller and pal Peter Allen celebrate gallerist Muller's birthday.

As America fires up the works for her 237th Thursday, we salute the natal soirees of some swell San Franciscans. Turning 60 wasn't top of the list for gallerist **Martin Muller**. So pals **Peter Allen** and restaurateur **Doug Biederbeck** produced his festive Florio fete.

Among revelers: artist **Mel Ramos**, newlyweds **Marian** and **Peter Thieriot**, **Fred Dal Broi**, **Lee Hudson** and **Cristina Salas-Porras**, **Barnaby Conrad III**, **Edith** and **Joe Tobin**, **Lili Monell**, **Meridee** and **Kevin King**, **Margaret Allen**, **Ann** and **Tim Brennan**, **Jennifer Biederbeck**, **Jamie Widows**, **Carol** and **Mac MacCorkle** and artist **Mark Stock**.

Aside from Muller's sartorial style and encyclopedic knowledge (of, well, everything), this sexagenarian is also a supreme host whose generosity is always wrapped in red paper.

"It's really something to put together a party for Martin," joked Allen. "It's like trying to help **Martha Stewart** put together her kitchen."

Musician **David Jackson** delighted with ditties on Martin's mysterious heritage (French? Swiss? Lithuanian?). Toasts, and roasts, were delivered with gusto. And **Hans Morris** crafted a heartfelt haiku: "Martin is 60/Such tepid lives we lived/ Before we met him."