

# EL MOROCCO THEME

Preservationists treated to luxe, Moorish style at 32nd annual bash

**W**hat's black-and-white-and-green all over? A dinner dance with an El Morocco theme that raises more than a million bucks.

So it was at the Preservation Foundation's 32nd annual bash, which took place Saturday night at The Breakers.

**Diana Ecclestone** once again served as chairwoman for the sold-out evening, which began with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres in the Mediterranean Room, which, thankfully, was furnished with plenty of high-top tables and chairs where one could perch while quaffing a drink or two.

Not that we would know.

After cocktails, guests moved to the Venetian Ballroom, which **Scott Snyder** turned into a replica of the famous El Morocco nightclub, with its signature banquettes, zebra prints, black-and-white color scheme and Moorish bandstand. There, foundation president **John Mashek** gave a shout-out to **Rose Sachs**, who was celebrating her 102nd birthday, and led the entire room in a chorus of *Happy Birthday*. Believe us when we tell you that the reason why so many folks in that crowd are richy-rich is because they spent not a single *dirham* on singing lessons.

The night continued with dinner and dancing to the music of Bob Hardwick that went on

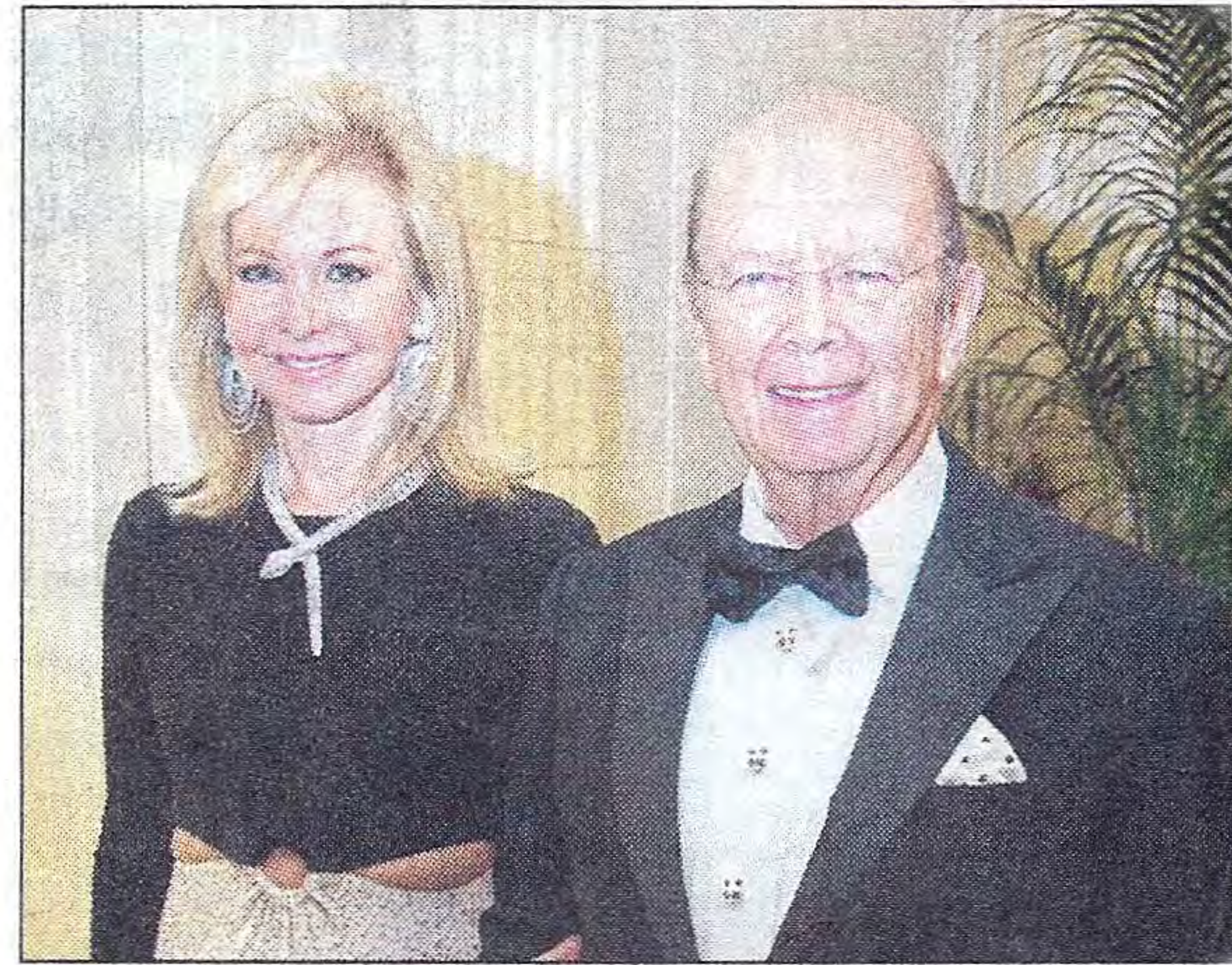
until the camels came home and everybody left, clutching all kinds of goody bags including one that included a zebra-head wine stopper. We were astonished to learn that such a device exists, and its sole purpose is to keep wine *in* the bottle. Apparently, there is an entire population out there that engages in that odd practice on a regular basis.

**Pauline Pitt, Hilary Geary Ross and Lesly S. Smith** were co-chairwomen for the night, which raised \$1.1 million.

More than 325 people attended, including **Joyce and Bob Sterling, Mary and Marvin Davidson, Michele and Howard Kessler, Darlene and Jerry Jordan, Liz and John Schuler, Grace and Chris Meigher, Kate Ford and Frank Chopin, Virginia Burke, Susan and Dom Telesco, Kit and Bill Pannill, Patricia Cook and Bob Ned-erlander, Don Burns, Annette Friedland, Mary and Mark Freitas, Hillie Mahoney, Julie and Jack Connors, James Berwind and Kevin Clark, Ann and Charlie Johnson, Patrick Park, Sallie Phelps, Hilary and Wilbur Ross** and a whole bunch more of those respectable types who would actually put a wine bottle stopper to prudent use.

Not that we're judging.

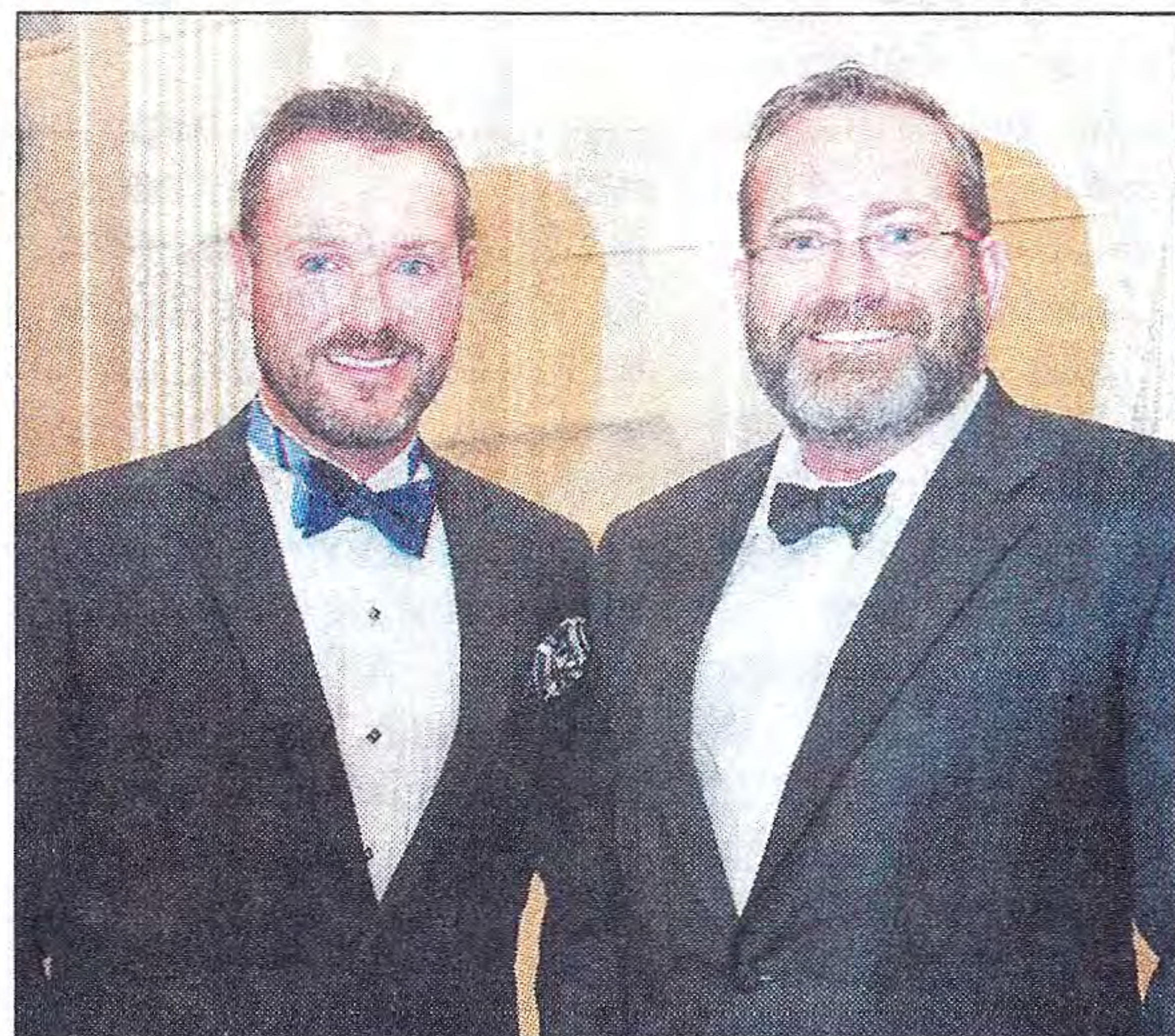
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Hilary and Wilbur Ross



Talbott Maxey and John Mashek



Kevin Clark and James Berwind