

# WWD WEDNESDAY

Tom and Nicole Still Shut In ● Society Goes to the Dogs ●

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By Aileen Mehle



All the beautiful animal lovers filled the Pierre ballroom for the 1997 "Top Dog Gala" to benefit the Animal Medical Center. Familiarly known as The Dog Ball, the party this year honored such hot shots who show incredible kindness to our furry friends as **William C. Steere Jr.**, the big man at Pfizer; **Gerald M. Levin**, the big man at Time Warner, and his wife, **Barbara Riley Levin**, and, in absentia, **Valentino**, a big man in fashion. They all seemed pleased as Punch to be named "Top Dogs" and said so in their grateful little speeches.

**Charles Dolan** of Cablevision Systems and **Frank Olson** of Hertz were the dinner chairmen, and the benefit chairs of the evening were those two lovely creatures **Mrs. D. Dixon** (Pauline) **Boardman** and **Mrs. Pepe** (Emilia) **Fanjul**, who not only love dogs, but do something about it through their \$950,000 fund-raiser for the Animal Medical Center. The evening was a sellout, and everywhere you looked you saw such beauties as **Princess Pavlos** (Marie-Chantal) of **Greece** with her handsome husband, **Prince Pavlos**, **Hilary Geary**, **Leslie Smith**, **Helena Hackley**, **Nina Griscom Baker** in bare black, **Serena Boardman**, **Carroll Petrie**, **Blaine Trump**, etc., etc., etc. In the crowd: **Phyllis** and **Philip Farley**, **Nan Kempner**, **Paul Wilmot**, **Thorunn Wathne** and **Harry Platt**, **Ginny** and **Ned Burke**, **Barbara** and **Bobby Liberman**, **Elizabeth** and **Alton Peters**, **Kathy** and **Billy Rayner**, **Liz** and **Damon Mezzacappa**, **Lauren** and **John Veronis**, **Wendy Vanderbilt**, **Mai Hallingby** with **Sam Michaels**, etc., etc., etc. They all danced to the music of **Bob Hardwick** and had a barking good time. The only one complaining was **Robert Trump**, who said his cat, Squeaky, sensing he had gone to a party for dogs, would never meow to him again. Not to worry. Cats, like people, can be had. Just wave a sardine in front of Squeaky's nose and see what happens.