



Santa Barbara Polo Club is not only pony-centric, but, during the season, it's party central.

The club, which celebrated its centennial two years ago with a celebrity-packed charity lunch with Prince William and his wife, Kate, raising a staggering \$5 million – a million dollars an hour – in the process, certainly puts on the Ritz.

One of last year's highlights was a lavish, no-expense-spared boffo bash thrown by Houston energy tycoon Scott Wood, who owns a home just a tiara's toss from the lush and plush Carpinteria facility and captains the top ERG team.

Montecito event planner Merry! Brown, who designed the super soirée, describes the club as "one of the loveliest event venues in southern California."

"The large, pristine expanses of flat lawn allow for so many possibilities to create just about anything one can imagine!"

Dallas, Texas denizen and promotion supremo, Charles Ward, who brings in top sponsors like Tiffany, Veuve Clicquot and Bombardier, one of the world's top jet manufacturers, says the locale on the American Riviera makes the club ideal.

Polo Party Central

by Richard Mineards photos by Erin Feinblatt



"It is rightly known as one of the most beautiful clubs in the world and its proximity to Hollywood attracts the stars, including Tommy Lee Jones, Bo Derek, Alan Thicke and Billy Baldwin, on a regular basis. It is certainly a wonderful mix."

Charles, who has been connected with the SBPC for 11 years, is predicting a bumper 2013 season, packed with polo, ponies and parties.

"There will be a lot going on, make no mistake."

There is even a rumor swirling that Prince Harry, a good friend of Ralph

Lauren Polo model and top player, Nacho Figueras, might be heading to the West Coast after playing a number of times on the East Coast over the years, including, most recently, in Greenwich, Connecticut.

It is to be hoped that his older brother, William, who said his family would be "as green as grass" at him playing polo in Santa Barbara, has put in a good word.

Let the polo and partying commence!

