

Written by Hazel Ramsey
Thursday, 13 October 2011 00:00



I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Larry Green, for tirelessly inviting me to his various events, I finally got to one. Even though Saturday night's gala fell on the exact night as my 15 year old's homecoming dance, I managed to swing it. The ballroom at the Hilton Americas Hotel was the backdrop for the HoustonWorks USA Biennial Black Tie Gala, "Putting Houstonians Back to Work." The room was beautifully decorated with white organza flowers, tables topped with floating candles, glittered branches and textured fabrics.

Movie stars, beauty queens and celebrities made up the list of emcees: Brett Cullen, (Apollo 13, Something to Talk About), Jill Marie Jones, (Toni Childs from UPN's comedy Girlfriends), Houston's own Jackson Hurst (Grayson from Lifetime/Sony series, Drop Dead Diva), and Brittany Booker, reigning Miss Texas USA 2012. Entertainment was provided by world renowned saxophonist, Kirk Whalum. There were also many politicians, political candidates, and business execs amongst the gathering.

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But baby let me tell you about the eye candy, the men. Let me start with Mr. Personality himself, Cary Yates. Cary wore an exquisite black tuxedo with a bow tie featuring a rhinestone centerpiece. His black patent leather shoes were so shiny, I think I could have actually seen my reflection in them. Now that's a man of style. Next I ran into Jew Don Boney in the lobby, looking real good? He is like wine, getting better with time. I chatted with TSU classmate Dwight Boykins, talk about tall and as youthful looking as he was in our college days. Carroll Robinson dedicated his tuxedo ensemble to Breast Cancer Awareness Month, sporting a fabulous pink tie and coordinating handkerchief, handsome and friendly, a rare combination. Real men do wear pink! Real estate mogul Gerald Womack wore a tuxedo that looked as if it was poured on him, it fit perfect. Always super friendly and working the ballroom, Gerald kindly took my hand and introduced me to a few of the attendees. Larry Green, CEO HoustonWorks USA, what can I

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say; tall, dark, and handsome is all that comes up and out.

Our very own Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee received the Public Servant Award, and represented us well in a fabulously custom designed gown, multicolored with princess cap sleeves and a fitted bodice. Elwyn Lee and his beautiful wife Sheila Jackson Lee absolutely added style and grace to the nights' atmosphere.

Speaking of fabulous gowns, City Councilwoman Jolanda Jones got my vote for most stunning gown of the night. This gown featured beautiful purple hues, and a backless drop that only Jo's tall and sleek figure could pull off. She then accented it with a purple rock-like choker necklace, talk about a good look. CEO/Publisher Karen Carter Richards hit them with an off the shoulder, ruffled, St. John seafoam green gown, clinging to her every curve, go on BossLady, with yo bad self!

The event was fabulous and the meal was great. If you were unable to attend and would still like to contribute to a great organization, send your contributions to HoustonWorks USA, 2118 Smith Street, Houston, Texas 77002.

WHISPERS IN THE WIND - (A LITTLE DIRT FOR THE DAY)

Friends, how many of us have them? Friends, the ones you can really depend on? And no, I'm not singing no song. Boy, they smile in yo face, all the time wanting to take your place, the backstabbers, backstabbers. Oh no, still not singing. But take this one out and hang it on the refrigerator, "Keep your friends close, and your enemies closer"

Until Next Time,

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