

Palm Springs Life

California's Prestige Magazine

Palm Springs Life | John Lautner | Leland Lee | Chanel Trunk Show | Top Denists | EL PASO CATALOGUE | DESERT GUIDE | February 2010



THE MODERNISM

ISSUE

JOHN LAUTNER:
FROM THE ELROD HOUSE
TO PALM SPRINGS ART MUSEUM

LELAND LEE:
AN OVERDUE APPRECIATION

MODERNISM WEEK PREVIEW:
EVENTS AND TOUR IN THE **DESERT GUIDE**

FEBRUARY 2010 | \$4.95



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PSSST!

THE BEST OF THE COACHELLA VALLEY AND BEYOND

SWIZZLE SIZZLE

IN KEEPING with the "hip" theme of the master-planned Escena Golf Club in Palm Springs, architect Douglas Fredrikson of Phoenix, Ariz., updated midcentury modernism at the community's clubhouse.

The design pays homage to the prevalent design styles of the 1950s: "a little piece of history not to be forgotten, but cherished," Fredrikson says. "I decided to respectively embrace the steel, stone, and glass structures of the midcentury design motif, opening up views, decks, and covered patios to the mountain views and golf course." A spun-metal "swizzle stick" supports the patio

canopy and pierces the deck into the water below. The design echoes in the entry canopy.

The clubhouse includes a pro shop, deck and patio, and a restaurant with a presentation kitchen and many gathering spots: on sofas around the fireplace or in the corner, at café and dining room tables, around a large circular bar, or at bar-height tables seating four or six. Escena has a separate meeting/dining room for private events.

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The Escena Golf Club clubhouse draws inspiration from Palm Springs' iconic midcentury modern architecture, but adds elegance with building and design materials such as beautiful woods and rich upholstery fabric. *California Golf News & Travel* magazine featured the clubhouse in a fashion spread in this month's edition.



PSST!



CHRIS MILLER/IMAGINE IMAGERY



JANICE KLEIN-SCHMIDT

SWIZZLE SIZZLE

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Ann Motokane of Emiko Design in Denver, Colo., designed the interior with a combination of sleek woods, steel, concrete, and cushioned seating. Playing up curves in the flooring, furnishings, bar, and ceiling, Motokane adds sophisticated fluid-

ity to midcentury modern surroundings. Douglas Fredrickson Architects and Emiko Design also worked together on the IW Club at Indian Wells Golf Resort.

Fredrickson did not draw from one iconic architect for inspiration. "It was more of a professional

respect to recognize one of the most beautiful styles of architecture that was developed in years gone by and prevalent in the Palm Springs area in particular," he says. "This simple, minimalist approach is still timeless today."

— Janice Kleinschmidt

A LOOK BACK



Raymond Loewy



"The pool viewed from the living room produces a striking picture of contrasts between smooth water and irregular landscape."

PALM SPRINGS LIFE ARCHIVES

"A beautiful home is a beautiful home, and ordinarily the construction of an attractive residence doesn't create much excitement in this community, where architectural beauty surrounds us on all sides. This is not the case with the home of Raymond Loewy, well-known industrial designer. As construction progressed this season on the Loewy home, people began to hear of the spectacular and exciting design embodied in the dwelling; and the house soon became the talk of the town. *The Villager* is presenting the first picture story to be released on the Raymond Loewy home, which will be publicized widely throughout the nation in the near future. An architectural masterpiece, the Loewy home will stand as a monument to the combined genius of Mr. Loewy, the designer, and Clark and Frey, the architects."

— from *The Villager*, April 1947

THE ONE AND ONLY HUMBOLDT FOG

There are many bries, goudas, and cheddars. But there's only one Humboldt Fog. Among the cognoscenti, this elegant goat's milk cheese commands attention. And there's but one maker: Cypress Grove Chevre of Arcata, which has won numerous awards for its artisanal cheeses (Humboldt Fog has won the World Cheese Awards four times, including the past three years in a row).

Humboldt Fog can be recognized through its creamy texture and a stripe of organic vegetable ash that brings layer cake to mind. A pound will run you \$20, or you can try it at Café Chocolat in Palm Springs just as Cypress Grove recommends: paired with honeycomb and fresh pear.

— J.K.

WORD ASSOCIATION

No Place for a Puritan: The Literature of California's Deserts (Heyday Institute) demonstrates the danger, refuse, and lure of the desert in a collection of poems, stories, and essays by more than 80 writers. The anthology was edited by **Ruth Nolan**, a former Bureau of Land Management firefighter, an associate professor of English at College of the Desert, and a Palm Desert citizen.





JANICE KLEINSCHMIDT

TIME TO PLAY

Midcentury modernism thrives at **Escena Golf Club** not only in the clubhouse that opened in late 2009, but also on the course, where Nicklaus Design incorporated rounded stone walls, classic-looking bridges, and species of plants used in 1960s Palm Springs. The 18-hole, par 72 championship course includes a warm-up range and short-game area with chipping and putting greens. Located in the Escena residential development, the course and clubhouse are open to the public. The clubhouse includes a pro shop, restaurant, full bar, and private dining room. 1100 Clubhouse View Dr., Palm Springs. 1-760-778-2737.

BASEBALL

Big League Dreams Sports Park, 33700 Date Palm Dr., CC/324-5600. Every amateur athlete's dream. Replicas of Wrigley Field, Yankee Stadium, and Fenway Park. Soccer, sand volleyball, batting cages, horseshoe pits, restaurant, and bar. (F/12)

Sluggers Training Center, 73605 Dinah Shore Dr., PD/770-5053. 10,000-square-foot indoor baseball and softball training center. Hitting tunnels and portable pitching mounds and pro shop. (E/16)

BIKING / OFF-ROAD RENTALS

Big Wheel Bike Tours, 779-1837, 802-2236. Take a tour into the mountains or through the San Andreas fault. Custom tours available. Easy glides or off-road rides. Bikes for rent, delivery included. TCP #21325.

Eagle Rider at Desert Springs, A JW Marriott Resort & Spa, Desert Springs JW Marriott Resort & Spa, 74855 Country Club Dr., PD/779-5001. Rent late-model Harley-Davidson motorcycles, Vespa scooters, and electric bicycles at the best price available. (G/17)

Funseekers!, 73865 Hwy. 111, PD/340-3861. After hours: 674-6042.

Rentals and sales of mopeds, Segways, bikes, Rollerblades, and Aqua Scooters. (H/20)

OffRoad Rentals, 59511 Hwy. 111, PS/325-0376. Rentals and tours: quads, ATVs, dune buggies, Jeeps, Jet Skis. Fun for all ages, 6 to 96. Beginners/experienced. Open daily. (G/5)

BOWLING

Fantasy Lanes Family Bowling Center, Fantasy Springs Resort Casino, 84245 Indio Springs Pkwy. (I-10 and Golf Center Pkwy.), IN/342-5000. 24 lanes, neon pins, glowing balls, lasers. Arcade, snack bar, lounge. (D/24)

GOLF COURSES / DRIVING RANGES

★ CLASSIC CLUB

75200 Classic Club Blvd., PD/601-3600. Five sets of tees for all levels of players. GPS golf carts included with every round. \$\$\$\$ (E/17)

Desert Dunes Golf Club, 19300 Palm Dr., DHS/251-5366. Designed by world-renowned golf course architect Robert Trent Jones Jr. \$\$\$ (D/9)

Desert Falls Country Club, 1111 Desert Falls Pkwy., PD/340-5646. Celebrating 23 years as one of the top 10 courses and friendliest clubs anywhere. \$\$\$\$/\$\$\$\$ (E/19)

A PREMIER GOLF EXPERIENCE

Voted "Top Ten New Public Course" by *GolfWeek*
 Voted "Best Places to Play" by *Golf Travel Annual*
 Voted "Top 10 Best Desert Courses" by *Desert Golf*
 Voted "America's Top Golf Courses" by *Zagat Survey*
 Voted "Number Seven Best Places You Can Play in the State of California" by *GolfWeek*
 Awarded "Best Playing Conditions for ALL of Southern California Year Ending 2007" by *Greenskeeper.org*
 Voted "One of the Top Five New Public Courses in the America's in 2006" by *Golf Digest*

The 564-yard, Eighteenth Hole at Classic Club, Palm Desert, California
 Voted in 2008 as One of the Three "Most Beautifully Brutal Par 5 Golf Holes in the Southwest United States" by *John Deere Credit*

PHOTO BY: [unreadable]



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