



Left to right: Sheryl and Henry Wood celebrate at Peake Wood Pharm / Dr. Paul Diehl at the opening of the new Piedmont Equine Practice / Caroline Fout rides Candy at the Orange County Hunt event

The colored lights from the two giant tents could be spotted as guests arrived at Peake Wood Pharm. Once inside, the first tent was designed to look like a lounge with leather chairs and a mahogany bar decorated with winning horse show photos of Ashley and Jim – who rides in the steeplechase races and is a fox-hunting enthusiast. There was a martini bar, an ice sculpture in the shape of a horse with entwined A/J, and champagne chilling in the historic sterling silver punch bowl known as the John Barton Payne Trophy, on loan from the Warrenton Horse Show. The glass tabletops held wood shavings with horseshoes.

The adjacent tent had a clear top so the 300-plus guests had an unobstructed view of fireworks bursting forth on cue. Music from the **Voltage Brothers**, who played a combination of disco, beach and Motown, was followed by a surprise appearance from **Morris Day and the Time**. The dance floor was surrounded with photos of Ashley and Jim, illuminated club

chairs and massive banquets topped off with large floral arrangements.

No detail was overlooked. Just ask event planner and hometown girl **Virginia Fout**. She came east to orchestrate the party, which was also attended by her mother, **Eve Fout**, who was able to experience one her daughter's creations for the first time.

Virginia's Los Angeles-based business, V Productions, was formed two years ago. She puts together a number of events throughout the year including movie premieres and private functions for corporate clients. But her big annual event is **Elton John's** Oscar Party, which benefits the Elton John AIDS Foundation.

And one final touch as guests departed: party favors and scented candles...eternal love.

Sunday morning, horse lovers and proud parents were up early for the Orange County Hunt Team Event at Whitewood. **Caroline Fout** and her mother **Beth Fout** won the Best Turned Out award in the Hilltoppers division. **Jim Drunagel** rode Jimmy Slide to win the Alfred Hunt

Memorial Prize presented by **Karin Ohrst** for the Genuine Hunters Championship. A all ... it's all about the horses. **WL**

HUNT COUNTRY CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2

Christmas in Middleburg featuring the annual parade down Washington Street, arts and crafts, music and shopping.

DECEMBER 8-10

Notre Dame Academy production of *The Fantasticks* presented at The Hill School; **for more information call (540) 687-5897.**

DECEMBER 9

Holiday Party to benefit The Middleburg Community Center, **by invitation only.**

DECEMBER 16

Chrysalis Vineyards, "Tis' The Season"; mulled wine and local carolers; **for more information visit www.chrysaliswine.com or call (800) 235-8804.**