Pat Montandon Rocks the House By Cathy Tyson

espite gray, drizzly skies, celebrity author Pat Montandon packed the house at Orinda Books, with a reading of her new book, "Oh the Hell of It All: A Memoir," a response to her son, Sean Wilsey's book, "Oh the Glory of It All." She captivated the audience, many of whom remembered her from "Prize Movie" on Channel 7 in the 1960's.

Funny, charming, a natural performer and looking wonderful at 78, she wowed the audience with amazing stories about getting married on a radio program at 18, the incredible timing of divorce news 5 days after a lavish 50th birthday party and founding the philanthropic Children as Peacemakers organization.

"I'm really through with all that negativity," Ms. Montandon said reflecting on mean-spirited sniping that swirled around Dede Wilsey and the family. When asked to comment on life in the social stratosphere of San Francisco, she says, "Its so empty. You see the same people at all these events. Shell people, nothing there."

She hopes that her book will be a blessing and an inspiration to people who need it.

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