

RANCH & COAST

San Diego's Luxury Lifestyle Magazine

March 2009



Readers' Choice
Best of 2008

Plus Editors' Picks & Celebrity Guest Favorites

\$3.95US



Letter From The Editor

Trying to expedite your breakfast by mixing a jelly donut and your coffee in the blender because, hey, it all ends up in the same place anyway — not the best morning pick-me-up. Ignoring the oil light on your dashboard until belts and pistons explode all over the I-5 because you don't trust mechanics and will take a look at it yourself when you get a chance (even though you know as much about cars as a bachelor does about *The Wiggles*) — not the best money-saving strategy. Believing that the cat will not figure out how to get on top of the refrigerator and knock over that new ceramic beer stein as he has no reason to be up there in the first place — definitely not the best cat owner.

Thankfully, everything in this issue of *Ranch & Coast* is only the best. The best food, the best organizations, the best destinations, the best people, the best hotels, the best places to buy a new stein (honestly, why did he need to be up there!). And it's all chosen by you: the readers. In this third year of offering our Readers' Poll, we are pleased to see a wealth of new names and organizations, as well as some old favorites. For an even more in-depth view of some of the winners, check out our new video content on our Web site at www.ranchandcoast.com.

Like last year, we asked a handful of local notables to give us their top picks for our Guest Favorites section. This year Dave Rickards, Chrissy Russo, Maria Hunt, Tony Hawk, Maggie Bobileff, and Brian Malarkey share their opinions of what's hot in the city. Some of their answers may make you laugh, and some may surprise you.

Of course, we couldn't keep our mouths shut during such a fun issue. You can find all of our personal favorites in the Editors' Picks section (which, just to clarify, had no bearing on the outcome of the Readers' Poll...ok, maybe I was a little swayed by the "best-mechanic-who-won't-call-you-an-idiot-when-you-tell-him-you-saw-the-engine-light-was-on-but-didn't-think-it-mattered" category).

So dig in and discover the best of what San Diego has to offer. Who knows, maybe you've been craving sushi but didn't know where to go; maybe your last massage left you in knots and you're looking for a relaxing change; maybe your dog needs a new sweater. Like that coffee/donut shake, it all ended up in the same place — the pages of our Readers' Choice Best Of 2008 issue.

Ryan Thomas
executive editor



