

THE PALM BEACHER

Grabbing Drinks With Actor John O'Hurley



WHO: World-renowned stage, film and television actor, host and “Dancing with The Stars” champion John O’Hurley.

WHAT: Signature Mandarin Oriental cocktails the Red Lotus and the Dragon’s Tail, paired with the Signature Mandarin Oriental lunch plate of bultarra saltbush free range chicken salad on house-baked sunflower bread with farm-fresh greens, heirloom tomatoes, a select blend of hand-chopped tomatoes, peppers, onions, autumn salad and hand-selected fresh seasonal berries.

WHERE: Mandarin Oriental Residences Sales Gallery, 10 E. Boca Raton Road, Boca Raton / 561.750.7055 / moresidencesbocaraton.com (<http://moresidencesbocaraton.com>)

The moment I first knew I wanted to become an entertainer was: when I was 3 years old. People would ask me over and over what I wanted to be when I grew up, and with a sense of disgust that only a 3 year old can muster, I'd put my hands on my hips, point at the black-and-white television in the corner of the living room and say, "Well, I am an actor, so that's what I'm going to be." It's not that I wanted to be one, it's that I was one.

I first realized I could actually have a successful career in show business when: I started on soap operas and I realized the decimal point moved over one place. And then I realized that if I moved over to the west coast, I could move the decimal point over one more spot. For me, it's always been about "business show," not "show business."

Playing the role of J. Peterman on "Seinfeld" was: the greatest experience I've had as an actor. It gave me the opportunity to create a role that was totally undefined, to make a character larger than life, but still supported by writing that made the character really interesting.

Something that most people don't realize about competing on "Dancing With The Stars" is: how physically taxing it is. It's nine-parts Marine boot camp and only one-part cocktail party. Proceeding to the next week only means that you get to go to a rehearsal studio the next day and start all over again with a style of dance you have never heard of. I danced a paso doble once in my life, and I will never do it again, nor have a reason to.

It might sound strange, but people would mistake me for: David Copperfield. Back in the mid-80s, he and I were indistinguishable. He looked like me, and I looked like him. I finally asked him, "Do you ever get that you... look like me?" and he said, "All the time."
to hosting the Miss America pageant and

During his remarkable four-decade career in show business, John O'Hurley has seemingly done it all. From soap opera classics "Loving" and "All My Children," to the Broadway stage, starring in "Chicago," to presiding over the legendary TV game show "Family Feud," to hosting the Miss America pageant and the annual Thanksgiving Day National Dog Show, and even winning the inaugural season of ABC's "Dancing with The Stars," O'Hurley perhaps remains best known and most beloved for his role as J. Peterman on the global TV phenomenon "Seinfeld." An all-encompassing entertainer virtually since birth, O'Hurley somehow finds time to serve numerous charitable causes annually and work on his more than respectable golf game. He is a regular visitor to South Florida with residences on the East Coast.

Red Lotus Cocktail:

1.5 ounces Belvedere Pure vodka

1.5 ounces Briottet Liqueur de Lychee

1 ounce Lakewood 100-percent Cranberry Nectar

Pour ingredients into a cocktail shaker with ice, shake well, strain into a tall flute glass and garnish with lychee fruit and fresh mint.

Dragon's Tail Cocktail

1.5 ounces Hendricks Gin

.5 ounce fresh lemon juice

.5 ounce simple syrup

8 fresh basil leaves

4 slices European cucumber

In a cocktail shaker muddle one slice of cucumber and basil leaves, add ice, and pour in gin, lemon juice and simple syrup. Shake well, strain into iced rocks glass and garnish with cucumber and basil.

