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**“GETTING ALONG FAMOUSLY... “
Exclusive Book Signing Party at Wicker Park Boutique**

CHICAGO, IL-- Join Wicker Park boutique **Porte Rouge table & home** on Thursday evening October 30th for a celebration of local Chicagoan Melissa Hellstern’s newest book release, **“GETTING ALONG FAMOUSLY: *A Celebration of Friendship*”**. The new release is a guide to the friendships of some of Hollywood’s classic female icons (Dutton Publishing, \$19.95).

Visit Porte Rouge between 6 and 9:00 p.m. and pick up your exclusive signed copy of this gorgeous and heartwarming new book. Enjoy wine and fare from local Division street restaurants, and take advantage of in-store specials on Porte Rouge merchandise.

Melissa Hellstern also penned a 2005 *Los Angeles Times* bestseller, *How To Be Lovely: The Audrey Hepburn Way of Life*. Hellstern’s thoughts of Hepburn have been featured in many print interviews and on the television show *The Greatest Fashion Icons on Film*, which aired on TLC. She lives in Chicago.

In **“Getting Along Famously”** Hellstern gives the inside scoop on various Hollywood friendships with such tidbits as:

- How Vivian Vance (Ethel from I Love Lucy) once saved Lucy from drowning—in front of a live studio audience.
- Why the “Rat Pack” is rumored to have been named by Lauren Bacall and her friend Judy Garland.
- How Julie Andrews told her best friend Carol Burnett she was pregnant (hint: it involved a top secret code and loudspeakers).

Porte Rouge table & home is an award winning retailer offering beautiful table wares, furnishings and special gifts for the home and host. The boutique is possibly best known for its variety of hard to find gourmet blends of Mariage Frères tea from Paris, France. Located on the burgeoning Division Street in Chicago’s Wicker Park neighborhood, Porte Rouge’s country French ambiance with a hip twist of Paris creates a warmth that is as fun to shop, as are the treasures you’ll find here. www.porterouge.biz.

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GETTING ALONG FAMOUSLY: A Celebration of Friendship By Melissa Hellstern

If we are truly fortunate, each of us has a special friend in our lives—the person who is there for every success and failure, someone who can lift our spirits even in the darkest hour, someone who knows our every secret and will never tell.

Not surprisingly, celebrities have close friends too, and in **GETTING ALONG FAMOUSLY: A Celebration of Friendship** (Dutton, October 23, 2008, \$19.95), Melissa Hellstern, author of the bestselling *How To Be Lovely: The Audrey Hepburn Way of Life*, dishes on the friendships of some of the most iconic and glamorous starlets of our time, sharing the stirring tales of heartbreak, joy and laughter, and the friendships that lasted through it all.

Filled with beautiful, glossy photos, and heartwarming quotes on friendship, **GETTING ALONG FAMOUSLY** sheds light on the friendships of such famous Hollywood duos as:

Sophia Loren and Audrey Hepburn: These unlikely friends (Loren was the sexy starlet, Hepburn the gamine good girl) bonded over the desire to be mothers, and found comfort in each other when both suffered miscarriages.

Debbie Reynolds and Carrie Fisher: When Debbie's husband Eddie Fisher left her for a high profile affair with Elizabeth Taylor (think Brad and Angelina), she was left to raise her daughter Carrie on her own—and ended up raising her closest friend.

Lucille Ball and Vivian Vance: The on-screen neighbors (Vivian played neighbor Ethel in *I Love Lucy*) loved—and fought—like sisters, building a bond that lasted long after cameras stopped rolling.

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Carol Burnett and Julie Andrews: After a random meeting at a Chinese food restaurant, the two stars built a lifelong friendship based on their love of performing.

Katherine Hepburn and Lauren Bacall: Despite a seventeen year age difference, these friends survived fifty years of career ups-and-downs, love and loss, and life as two of Hollywood's most independent women.

Coco Chanel and Misia Sert: Once rivals, these fashion icons relied on each other for honesty and inspiration as they revolutionized the world of high fashion.

Hellstern writes: "Friendship makes us better women, better lovers, and better mothers. When we play together, laugh together, or cry together, we bring more meaning into our lives. Men may fix things, but women fix each other."

A perfect gift for women of all ages, **GETTING ALONG FAMOUSLY** is a celebration of the strongest and most enduring bonds in a woman's life—her best friends.

GETTING ALONG FAMOUSLY

A Celebration of Friendship

By Melissa Hellstern

Dutton

October 23, 2008

\$19.95; 978-0-525-95090-5

www.melissahellstern.com



About the Author:

MELISSA HELLSTERN is the author of the *Los Angeles Times* bestseller *How To Be Lovely: The Audrey Hepburn Way of Life*, which continues to inspire women the world over. Hellstern's thoughts of Hepburn have been featured in many print interviews and on the television show *The Greatest Fashion Icons on Film*, which aired on TLC. She lives in Chicago.

Dutton is the U.S. member of the internationally renowned Penguin Group. Dutton is home to many bestselling authors such as Harlan Coben, Ken Follett, Al Franken, Eckhart Tolle, John Lescroart, Eric Jerome Dickey, Jenny McCarthy, and Raymond Khoury. Penguin Group (USA) is one of the leading U.S. adult and children's trade book publishers, owning a wide range of imprints and trademarks, including Penguin Press, Berkley Books, Penguin, Gotham Books, G.P. Putnam's Sons, Plume, New American Library, Viking, Philomel, and Riverhead Books, among others. The Penguin Group is part of Pearson plc, the international media company.
