

THE OBSERVER MEDIA GROUP'S POWER 100

June 18, the Core Club

New York's commercial real estate elite showed up at Manhattan's Core Club at 66 East 55th Street to celebrate the 2012 Power 100, which came out in this publication May 8. Guests enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and presumably either reveled in or bemoaned the slot they received on this year's list. Making an appearance between engagements, City Council speaker and mayoral hopeful Christine Quinn thanked those in attendance for their contributions to New York's economy and their diligence in navigating the city's land-use review process. Winners and losers alike enjoyed drinks on the Core Club's patio and took advantage of the opportunity to schmooze and wheel and deal—2013's list being only 11 or so months away.



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT:
ANDREW MATHIAS AND MARC HOLLIDAY TOP THIS YEAR'S POWER 100 LIST; ROBERT KNAKAL, CYNTHIA KNAKAL AND GARY BARNETT; CRAIG SOLOMON AND ROB IVANHOE; GARY JACOB, IVANKA TRUMP, JUSTIN RIMEL, JARED KUSHNER, BRUCE MOSLER AND GARY BARNETT; SPEAKER CHRISTINE QUINN ADDRESSES THE CROWD.





Christine Quinn, Jon Mechanic, Robert Knakal, Cynthia Knakal and Gary Barnett

Party Lines

Can The Commercial Observer party at its own party? You bet! The CO got down at its annual Power 100 celebration, which honors its picks for the top 100 most powerful, influential and successful real estate figures in the city. Held at the Core Club in Midtown on Monday night, the gathering featured a collection of the most distinguished owners, brokers, executives and politicians. Below, The Commercial Observer's very own Daniel Geiger and his minute-by-minute color commentary on the city's most powerful human beings.

6:40 — The Commercial Observer steps into the Core Club and bumps into a coterie of high-powered public affairs executives in the elevator, **Michelle Adams** of Tishman Speyer and the Committee to Save New York, **Stephen Sigmund**, formerly of the Port Authority, now with Global Strategy Group, and **John Gallagher**, who just stepped down as a communications executive at Tishman Construction. The CO trusts its nose: top real estate executives must be near.

6:45 — **Bruce Mosler**, Cushman & Wakefield's chairman of global brokerage, bumps into his

former brokerage partner **Arthur Mirante**, who recently left C&W to head Avison Young's New York branch. Mr. Mirante pats Mr. Mosler on the cheek and the two give each other a hug.

6:50 — The room is full of Power 100 executives, a who's who of New York City real estate. **Marc Holliday**, the chief executive of SL Green, who along with colleague **Andrew Mathias** was ranked number one in the Power 100, makes his way through the crowded room. **Jon Mechanic**, chief of the law firm Fried Frank's real estate practice, gives him a hug.

6:55 — **Jared Kushner**, owner of *The New York Observer* and *The Commercial Observer*, takes the microphone. "For anyone who had a problem with their ranking in the Power 100, Jotham, please raise your hand so that they can talk to you," he half-jokes, referring to *The CO's* editor-in-chief, **Jotham Sederstrom**.

7:00 — **Christine Quinn**, speaker of the City Council and the city's leading contender to become the next mayor, takes the mic and addresses the room. She explains she's on a tight schedule. "From here I'm going to Central Park to kick off summer theater and then down to the West Side pier for an LGBT event," Ms. Quinn explains. "What could symbolize a great night in New York better than these three events?" She goes on to thank the city's real estate industry, which she recognizes as the city's biggest taxpayer and a huge sector of employment even in difficult economic times, for participating in the city's rigorous land-use review process. "I want to congrat-

ulate Marc and Andrew," she adds, referring to the SL Green chiefs.

7:09 — The CO bumps into **Jeff Sutton** and asks him how he managed to woo the retail tenant Express away from a deal it was in talks to do at 4 Times Square and instead sign them at a building he owns in partnership with SL Green, 1552 Broadway. "That's an incredible story, actually," Mr. Sutton tells us. "Give me a call." **Jon Mechanic** chimes in: "Call him and tell him it's new business!"

7:15 — **Howard Lutnick**, chief executive of Cantor Fitzgerald and its public sister company, BGC Partners, chats with **Bruce Mosler**, who was just elected co-chair of the Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum, on which Mr. Lutnick is also a board member. "We bought Newmark only last October, so it's been an exciting few months," Mr. Lutnick says, referring to his meteoric rise on the Power 100 list, entering the list this year for the first time at a lofty number 13. "We will make more acquisitions," he adds.

7:19 — Speaking of Newmark Grubb Knight Frank's big moves in recent months, **Jimmy Kuhn**, one of the company's top executives, strolls by just as *The CO* parts ways with Mr. Lutnick. "We're going to add to our capital markets and investment sales teams nationally," Mr. Kuhn says, adding that the national Grubb platform has helped him branch out to other markets. "I'm doing a deal in L.A. right now."

7:24 — **Gary Barnett**, the enigmatic and ultra-prolific developer and investor who sat at number two on the Power 100, mingles in his typical low-key style. So what is it like to be in a room with all the top real estate players in NYC? "No comment," Mr. Barnett jokes with *The CO*. Mr. Barnett is cautious, but we're starting to get the feeling he likes us. "No, I find it amusing," Mr. Barnett says. He mentions the summer will not be quiet for him. "I have eight deals I'm working on right now, so I won't be taking a break," Mr. Barnett says.