

Santa Barbara Maritime Museum

Harbor Lights... An Evening by the Sea

By Jeannette Casillas / CASA

WITH THE SUN SETTING ON THE HORIZON, the wine began to flow at the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum's 8th annual fundraising gala, *Harbor Lights...An Evening by the Sea*, on Saturday, March 12th.

"It was fun to see everyone that came out to enjoy and support the museum," shared Greg Gorga, Maritime Museum Executive Director.

Instead of a sit down buffet dinner, the evening offered tastings from many of Santa Barbara's leading restaurants and caterers including Pascucci's, Chuck's Waterfront Grill, Endless Summer, Marmalade Café, Spices N Rice, Chocolate Gallery, Ethnic Breads, Lazy Acres, and Santa Barbara Commercial Fishermen. To go along with the delectable treats, wine samples were provided by Alma Rosa Winery, Andrew Murray Vineyards, Oreana Winery, Sweeney Canyon Wines, and Whitcraft Winery. Double Cross Vodka, RND Vodka, and Stockholm Vodka also provided cocktail samples.

"We wanted this year to be a little different and more fun," explained Gorga. "Guests mingled while they sampled the different foods."

At the end of the night celebrity judges Cat Cora and Michael Hutchings presented top awards for the best food, desert, wine, and cocktail. The winners included: Captain of Cuisine – Savory Award to Rincon Catering; Captain of Cuisine – Sweet Award to Spoon; World of Wines Award to Alma Rosa Winery; and Commodore of Cocktails Award to Double Cross Vodka.

A live and silent auction raised \$60,000 (gross) for the Maritime Museum's programs and exhibits.

"The money raised supports the museum in many ways," shared Gorga. "It will provide educational opportunities for students, both old and young, and will allow us to open new temporary and permanent exhibits. In the next three months we are opening or upgrading seven exhibits."

On Saturday, May 14th the Maritime Museum will be hosting the Tall Ship, *Bill of Rights*, as part of their Sea Festival. In the days prior to the Sea Festival, the museum will be piloting a science and math based educational program with two local schools who will participate in hands on activities at the museum and spend three hours aboard the tall ship.

For more information call 962-8404 or visit www.sbmm.org.



Barry Berkus, Board Member; Cindy Makela, Committee Chair and Board Member; Trevor Large, President of Maritime Museum; Mary Ellen Tiffany, Board Member; and Greg Gorga, Maritime Museum Executive Director



Celebrity judges Michael Hutchings and Cat Cora



World of Wines Award: Victoria De Maio of Alma Rosa Winery



Captain of Cuisine – Savory Award: Mark Borowitz of Rincon Catering



Commodore of Cocktails: Dr. Malcolm Lloyd, owner of Double Cross Vodka and his wife Solange Lloyd



Captain of Cuisine – Sweet Award: Erin Casey, Spoon Owner and Kacey Lynd



A winning bidder Karen Kerns with her parents Bebe Leik and Ted Leik from Casper, Wyoming



Tom Parker, Melissa Iannelli, Ralph Iannelli, and Chris Marks of Sweeney Canyon Vineyard pours wine for the patrons

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