

UCIRVINE | THE PAUL MERAGE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

DEAN'S LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

Cruising into the Holidays with the Dean's Leadership Circle

The Annual Year End Holiday Celebration has become the most popular event of the year for members of the Dean's Leadership Circle. And this year the tradition continued as more than 185 members and spouses gathered at Tom's Carriage House Museum in Coto de Caza on December 10, 2009.

This unique venue is actually the private home of Dean's Advisory Board Member Thomas Gephart, Managing Partner of Ventana Capital. Guests enjoyed viewing Tom's exclusive classic car collection in his 8,000-square-foot, four-bathroom carriage house!

The Carriage House not only houses his private car collection that includes a 1929 Packard Opera Coupe and 1961 Rolls Royce Silver Cloud just to name a few but also comes with a wine-tasting room, travertine floors, motorized skylights, audio system, temperature controlled system to keep the cars at the perfect temperature plus a home theater and restaurant-quality kitchen and butler's pantry. The kitchen came in especially handy for the head chef of Roy's Hawaiian Fusion Cuisine of Newport Beach who came and served a gourmet, 4-course buffet dinner.

The grand finale for all members of the Dean's Leadership Circle was the presentation of a \$1 million check to Dean Policano towards the successful goal achievement of the Dean's Leadership Circle Endowed Professorship Campaign. Each and every member of the Dean's Leadership Circle over the past 2 ½ years contributed toward this campaign and their funding will help in the recruitment or retention of a distinguished faculty member of the Merage School. It is now up to Dean Policano and members of the Faculty Recruiting Committee to select a most deserving faculty to award this professorship.

Before the night ended, there were prizes raffled for hot ticket items such as a Nintendo Wii; a Las Vegas weekend getaway; dinner for two at Marche Moderne in South Coast Plaza; 3-month guest pass to Equinox Fitness Club; and more.

In the spirit of giving back, members brought food donations that were collected and donated to the local charity organization, Families First. A trio of UCI student musicians provided live jazz music and holiday carols were performed by the Fountain Valley High School Troubadour Singers. As the

evening concluded each couple received a decadent gift wrapped chocolate commemorating the event.

All giveaways were generously donated by members of the Dean's Leadership Circle. We could not have presented such a fabulous event with the support and leadership from the following individuals that deserve our thanks and recognition:

Darren Whissen '02 & Dave Jones '93; Select Portfolio Management (Wine Sponsors)

William Rowland '06 (Gourmet Chocolates)

Mike Massari '07, Harrah's Las Vegas (Harrah's Las Vegas Weekend)

Kathe van Hoften, First Team Real Estate (Nintendo Wii)

Kyle van Hoften '97, StratEvo Consulting (Equinox Guest Pass)

Dean's Leadership Circle Executive Committee (StubHub)

Thomas Antunez '05, Percentix (Marche Modern)

Jason Maloney '01 (Roy's Signed Book & Certificate)

Carla & Ken Neeld '07 (Fountain Valley Troubadours)

Special thanks and appreciation to Tom Gephart for hosting us in Tom's Carriage House!

Thank you to the following vendors:

Tim Lowenberg, Managing Partner, Roy's Hawaiian Fusion Cuisine - Newport Beach

453 Newport Center Drive

Newport Beach, CA. 92660

P: (949) 640-7697

F: (949) 640-4710

Johnny Mosham of Lett-Uce Cater to You/Frank's of Philadelphia

2244 Fairview Rd

Costa Mesa, CA 92627

P: (714) 658-1769

F: (714) 964-4742

Steven Liu Entertainment

P: (949) 735-5248

stliu@gmail.com

Brent Varela

InstantImage!

P: (949) 218-5800

www.instantimagephoto.com.