

Marymount of Santa Barbara's Prom Night

By JEANETTE CASILLAS / CASA

THE MARYMOUNT FAMILY REUNITED once again at their annual benefit auction at Fess Parker's DoubleTree Resort last weekend. A Prom Night theme brought out "vintage" gowns and ruffled shirts to raise funds for the school and its programs.

"Marymount prides itself on maintaining a close-knit family atmosphere, embracing familiar faces and newcomers alike in the supportive bonds of community and friendship," noted Head of School Deborah David. "Marymount draws its strength from traditions dating back to the school's founding in 1938."

To start the evening, attendees made up of parents, teachers, and alumni had the opportunity to socialize and enjoy cocktails and hors d'oeuvres while perusing the silent auction items, class projects, and wish lists. Others put on their best smiles and posed for prom pictures while donning "Prom King and Queen" sashes, crowns, and tiaras.

"Our goal is to raise money! The school only brings in 80% of it's operating funds through tuition, so the other 20 percent has to be made up through the auction and the Annual Fund," shared Jennifer Housh, event chair. "About 20 percent of the families at Marymount are on Financial Aid so it's



Tom Pickett, Board of Trustees President; Catherine Pickett, Deborah David, Head of School; and Jennifer Housh, event chair



Tom and Laurel Barrack with Rob and Sheryl Lowe

important to keep that program going so more families can get the same quality education."

This was the first year Housh, a Marymount alumnus and parent, chaired the event. "I have worked on other events at school, but nothing this big," she noted.

David and President of the Board of Trustees Tom Pickett served as masters of ceremonies. A video yearbook created by iChick, Rusty Lavelle, Sandy Shields, and Santa Barbara Production's Jeff Martin was screened prior to the auction. Leading the auction was Bernadette Castro who helped raise over \$275,000 with auction items ranging from a Cabo San Lucas Getaway to an exclusive tour of the Nerverland Ranch. A portion of the money raised will go towards purchasing SMART boards and laptops for the technology program.

"This was one of the most remarkable evenings of my life at Marymount," shared David. "Being surrounded by friends and family fills us with joy and we are thankful for their contributions that help make a fabulous technology program possible."

For more information call 569-1811 or visit www.marymountsb.org.



Bernadette Castro, Auctioneer and Bill Harrison of Harrison Design Associates



Ralph and Melissa Iannelli with Robert and Chris Emmons



Back: Dauri Kennedy, Christina Hemperly, Melanie McQueen, Karen Robertson, Mary Beth McLain, Andy Siegel, Kari Figgins, Middle: Kate Flanagan, Sarah Maguire, and Yasemin Norris. Front: Laezer Schlomkowitz, Jannine Tuttle, and Katie Frawley

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Contact her at priscilla@santabarbaraseen.com • (805) 969-3301