

6<sup>th</sup> Annual  
TOAST TO THE CASA  
"A Roaring Good Time"

September 27, 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.



**SAN CLEMENTE** – On September 27, 2008, *the* So. Orange County gala event of the year, *Toast to the Casa*, will be held in the magnificent Casa Romantica.

This year's theme, "A Roaring Good Time", will celebrate the colorful era of Casa Romantica's birth...the roaring twenties. Three bands on three stages, delicious food from 15 San Clemente restaurants, spirits and wine from over 40 wineries, special "guest appearances" by notable people of the time period, a new live auction, silent auction and a 1920s atmosphere, including a Casa Romantica "speakeasy" will set the stage for a fabulous night at the Casa. Guests are invited to dress to the period and flapper costumes are encouraged!



The event will be hosted by celebrity Ed Arnold and is chaired by local businessman and community supporter, Michael Kaupp of Stanford Court Antiques.

Inaugurated 6 years ago by Casa Romantica Founding President Guy Varriano and local restaurateurs Bob Novello of the Fisherman's Restaurant and Tony Carbonara of Carbonara's Trattoria Italiana, Toast to the Casa is a spectacular gala fundraiser that benefits one of So. Orange County's most treasured historic homes and important non-profit cultural organizations, Casa Romantica Cultural Center and Gardens. Once the original family home of San Clemente founder Ole Hanson, Casa Romantica is today a beautifully restored Nationally Registered historic site and a thriving cultural center that provides a broad spectrum of outstanding performing, visual and literary arts for all ages. The Toast to the Casa is the organization's primary annual fundraiser.

This year's gala, with its inimitably beautiful setting, and a dazzling 20's theme, is set to "wow" all those who attend the star-studded event, promising guests a spectacular evening of fine food, wine, live music and dancing.

For the first time in the Toast's history, a live auction will take place in the Redmond Family Amphitheater. Up for bid are such fabulous items a street legal golf cart, courtesy of Mike Wilmoth of San Clemente Golf Carts, four seats in Tennis Magazine's VIP Skybox at the Pacific Life Open, a tennis master's series event at Indian Wells, courtesy of Bob Miller and Tennis Magazine, combined with a stay in a luxurious La Quinta PGA condo, and a stay in a gorgeous Maui condo.

The silent auction includes such high-end items as a Flow Snowboard, a Custom Decorative Finish by SRS Interior Artistry, a Box for six plus dinner at Santa Anita Racetrack and a string of 18" silver-blue freshwater Biwa pearls from Paradise Jewelers.

This year's participating restaurants: Antoine's Café, Avila's El Ranchito, BeachFire Grill, Café 207, Café Mimosa, Carbonara's Trattoria Italiana, The Fisherman's Restaurant, Gordon James Grill, Iva Lee's, Schmid's Fine Chocolate, Selma's Chicago Pizzeria, Sonny's Pizza & Pasta, The Melting Pot, Trader Joe's and Vine.

At the time of writing, the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Toast to the Casa is generously sponsored by the following individuals and organizations: Keith and Judy Swane, DeNault's Hardware, Regent Properties, Union Bank of California, Cox Business Systems, DBN Development LLC, Farmers and Merchants Bank, Pacific Coast National Bank, Redmond Schwartz Mark Design, Universal Press, Bank of the West, Blake Custom Audio Video, Kristi Kindred, Lab Holdings, Dr. Jon Marashi, Pacific Mercantile Bank, Mission Hospital, RBF Consulting, Jim and Barb Smoot, and Dan Yielding of Century 21.

The Gala will take place in the main house and gardens with live music performances throughout the magnificent Casa Romantica site. Guests will have the opportunity to dance the night away under the stars to *2000 lbs of Blues* who will perform on the Ocean Terrace. *Jazz Attack* will be creating just the right mood in the "cigar lounge", ragtime piano tunes will fill the stunning Casa Romantica Main Salon, Club DJango will play in the central courtyard and a surprise awaits those who discover the Casa Romantica "speakeasy".

On show in the CR & R Gallery and Gallery 2, will be the fascinating Exhibition “Gold Fever! Untold Stories of the California Gold Rush” which spotlights the remarkable stories of individual Californios, women, Native Americans, adventurers and gold seekers who emigrated from all parts of the world during the tumultuous and colorful Gold Rush Era.

Also available for purchase will be the beautiful new Casa Romantica souvenir book “Casa Romantica, A Spanish Home by the Sea” written by published author and long-time Casa Romantica volunteer, Lisa Merryman. Ms. Merryman will be in attendance at the Toast, to launch the sale of this wonderful new publication and to sign books. All proceeds from book sales benefit Casa Romantica.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Toast to the Casa is a magnificent, not-to-be-missed event, the best-of-the-best in Orange County. Tickets to the benefit will sell out, so get your glad rags on, come celebrate in style with friends and support south Orange County’s most treasured historic home and fabulous Cultural Center, Casa Romantica, at this dazzling annual gala!

- WHAT:** 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Toast to the Casa – A Roaring Good Time
- WHEN:** Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup>; 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm
- WHERE:** Casa Romantica Cultural Center & Gardens  
415 Avenida Granada, San Clemente  
Valet Service Provided
- ATTIRE:** Oxford bags, flapper dresses, pearls preferred. Black tie optional.
- COST:** \$175 per person (tax deductible)
- RESERVATIONS:** 949.498.2139 ext. 10

***Casa Romantica Cultural Center and Gardens*** is a non-profit organization based in San Clemente, CA. Built in 1928 by San Clemente city founder Ole Hanson, Casa Romantica was purchased by the city in 1989 and listed on the Registry of Historic Places in 1991. The Casa is dedicated to preserving California's rich history and traditions while serving as a cultural and educational resource for the broader community and for visitors to Orange County. The facility is open year-round.