

## Harvest Gala 2010



What a wonderful evening. The food was delicious, the dancers were fabulous, the auction items were of the highest quality and our celebrity emcee was TV personality, Mary Richardson. We continued our successful theme of "Dancing with the Champions" for our major fundraiser of the year. Not only was money raised for a good cause but the sold out crowd at the Shaw's Center was thoroughly entertained by nine talented couples swing dancing or doing the merengue. The nine couples, comprised of community leaders from Brockton and surrounding communities, accrued points from two previous weeks of preliminary dance competitions. Those attending the Gala the night of September 30<sup>th</sup> cast their ballots after seeing all nine couples dance. Professional dancers Tom and Marie Osterland provided free instruction to the contestants during the summer. The nine superb couples participating this year were Carlyn Villani and Kyle Peters, Yolanda and Rick

DiFalco, Lees Yunits and Dr. Don Jaffe, Paula Peterson and John Dednah, Velma and Glenn Teves, Patty Wilson and Anthony O'Brien, April Stevens and David Philips, Wendy and Vinnie Lanoue, and Linda and Dr. Gerald Cohen. The couple crowned "champion" this year was Lees Yunits of Brockton and Dr. Don Jaffe of Marshfield.

We were pleased to be able to share a short interview with one of our appreciative clients at the start of the Gala. Cecelia Hatch told the crowd that she began as a volunteer at The Charity Guild food pantry but after her husband was unexpectedly laid off from his job as a truck mechanic her family became clients. "I never thought I would ever need to use the food pantry," she said. "But the staff at The Charity Guild is wonderful. They made me feel very comfortable." The Hatches are no longer in need of the services of the food pantry but return as volunteers. Cecelia drops off donated bread from Stop & Shop each week because she knows all too well it goes to people who need it.

## Recent Events

- ★ Turkeys and all the fixings were distributed by volunteers to more than 200 families the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. A steady stream of grateful people came through the food pantry doors from 10:00AM to 3:00PM. We were able to provide a variety of canned goods as well as fresh produce and baked goods through generous donations from area schools, businesses, and neighbors as well as our membership.
- ★ Kilroy Brothers Moving Company has become an important partner to The Charity Guild. Each week they drive to Taunton to get our delivery of food from the Boston Food Bank and bring it to our food pantry at no cost to us. They save us from having to rent a truck each week.
- ★ The second annual Holiday Concert was enjoyed by another sold out crowd at Thorny Lea Golf Club December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Guests were entertained by the beautiful voices of singers Nancy Gustafson, Lisa Villani, Lia Macrina and 2005 POPSearch winner Fran Botelho-Hoeg. Alice Carey accompanied them on the piano. The crowd was sent back in time to the 1950s and 60s during the first part of the performance with many in the audience singing along to old favorites. The second half of the performance was filled with delightful Holiday classics such as "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas" and "Silent Night". Look for your invitation to next year's "Holiday Magic" concert at the beginning of next December.

Look for information concerning our "Race Against Hunger" this spring.

## Helping Catholic Charities

The Charity Guild food pantry welcomed Catholic Charities South to use our location on Mondays in order to distribute food to their clients. Catholic Charities recently moved their food pantry and due to unforeseen issues with permits were unable to open as scheduled. Staff and volunteers from Catholic Charities assembled bags of food and transported them to The Charity Guild to distribute to their clients. “We were very concerned about the number of clients who rely on us for food on a daily basis.” Jesse Graham, Basic Needs Coordinator, stated. “Being able to bring our food to another location and direct our clients to that address has been very helpful to us and of course the families we serve. We are so grateful to The Charity Guild for collaborating with us and making this a simple process for the people we serve.”

## Our Business and Foundation Supporters

July 2009 — June 2011

The Charity Guild is grateful to these organizations, who supported us at a minimum of \$500.

<b>Alfred Campanelli Charitable Foundation</b>	<b>The Clipper Ship Foundation</b>	<b>The Howard Home Foundation</b>
<b>The Pilgrim Foundation</b>	<b>The Yawkey Foundation</b>	

		
		
		
		
		
		