

PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Fanfare: Come Fly With Us Gala floated into Pittsburgh Saturday

By Kate Guerriero
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COME FLY WITH US

If you were wondering where all the fabulous people were this weekend, you should have followed the line of cocktail couture that was floating into the Westin on Saturday evening, where 300 beauties and their beaus took off with the Ladies Hospital Aid Society for the Come Fly With Us Gala.

Ah, 'tis the season for gorgeous gowns and black ties 'n tails (not to mention a kilt or two), and from where we were perched, the scenery never looked better.

Butterfly fairies escorted us into the ballroom that was transformed into a luxurious cocoon with walls draped in delicate white satin and lilac chiffon panels softly lit with lavender and fuscia accents. Illuminated centerpieces of delphiniums and orchids in vision vases sprinkled with crystal pebbles added to an amazing ambiance a la Bonnie Walker Events.

Amongst the winged beauties we spotted co-chairs Lisa Gaydos (with Joe), Sally Weigler Golden (with Tom), Carole Miner Schuman (with Dr. Joel) and prexy Laura Penrod Kronk (with Claude) striking a pose with honorary chair Jai Pausch, who later in the evening gave a moving tribute to her late husband Dr. Randy Pausch that was lauded with an immediate standing "O."

But leave it to Gary Racan and the studio-e Band to keep our heels glued to the dance floor for the entire evening; the only time we stopped twisting and shouting was when they turned off their mic's in order to force us to return to our chairs and slice into a mouthwatering hazelnut-crustéd filet mignon and black cod. See you next summer, Willpower!

Waving our forks in sweet surrender, for once we left our desserts sitting abandoned at the table in favor of feeling Hot! Hot! Hot! with a Conga line of dancing queens (and kings) that snaked its way through the ballroom at least three times.

Shame on you if you missed this one, because we didn't just fly ... we soared!

Having the time of their lives and raising an impressive \$800K to benefit research at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine Digestive Disorder Center were John and Charlene Innocenti; Craig and Lori Skovranko; Dr. David and Chris Whitcomb; Drs. Randy and Rhonda Brand; Dr. Kevin and Linda McGrath; Dr. Adam and Carrie Slivka; Dr.

Herb and Kelly Zeh; Drs. A. James Moser and Susanne Hartmann; Drs. Miguel and Carol Regueiro; Dr. Robert Schoen and Nancy Bernstein; Dr. Michael Dunn; Dr. Micky and Lynn Collins; Dr. Mark and Eileen Lovell; Dr. Burton and Marolee Pollock; Drs. Loren and Ellen Roth; Dr. P. David and Barbara Adelson; Judge Robert and Violet Gallo; Frank and Athena Sarris (they generously donated our boxes of chocolate); Mary Beth and Tom Hacke; Dr. Terry and Jody Starz; Jackie Dixon; Jack and Dolly Warwick; Cindy and Dennis Mitrik; Cate Linn; and Dr. Jeffrey and Susan Varga.

Also, Erin and Jason Caffrey; Julie and Lou Ferraro; Lisa and Scott Solano (in from the Windy City); Florence Allen; Connie and Patrick Ionadi; Lisa Kapinski; Adele Towers and Mark Wolynn; Drs. Elizabeth and Stephen O'Keefe; June Yonas; Nancy Sansom; Midge Stanoszek; Gayle and Carl Zacharia; Dr. Randy and Karen Werrin; Lu Lu and Raymond McKinney; Diane and Rick Stanoszek; Christopher and Peggy Mihailoff; and emcee Sally Wiggin.

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