

Top wineries to participate in 13th annual CasaVino

For the Desert Valley Times

Mesquite has become renowned for being the top getaway spot in Nevada — and that is an impressive title earned in part thanks to the fact that the city presents endless opportunities that attract visitors throughout the year. The city consistently opens its arms to countless special events.

However, perhaps even more important is that nearly every event also includes revenue-generating avenues to help charities. Among the more popular events that raises badly-needed money for charities is Saturday's 13th annual CasaVino in the main showroom of the CasaBlanca.

This year's beneficiaries include Mesquite schools along with the Salvation Army food bank.

Last year's Southern Wine and Spirits CasaVino produced \$11,725 for various Mesquite charities including Virgin Valley High School; the Salvation Army; and Charles A. Hughes Middle School.

Considered one of the favorite of all special events, the Southern Wine and Spirits' CasaVino Wine Tasting Fundraiser conceived by Southern Wine and Spirits' Senior Managing Director Larry Ruvo has raised more than \$225,000 since its beginning in 1999.

Slated from 2 - 5 p.m., this year's CasaVino will undoubtedly



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Last year's CasaVino raised nearly \$12,000 for Mesquite charities.

again draw hundreds of fans with more than 50 world-class wineries creating an unmatched atmosphere with great wines and a long line of foods.

For a \$25 donation, fans will be introduced to the finest wineries in the world; while also receiving an etched CasaVino wine glass. Among the wineries that will be participating this year are W.J. Deutsch and Sons; Francis Coppola Winery; Bronco Wine Co.; Vino del Sol; Delicato Family Vineyards, to name a few of the many that will attend.

Shaina Graham, the events manager for Southern Wine & Spirits, lauded the event.

"CasaVino gives a lot of brand awareness to the products that are brought to the event each year," she said. "There are people who come down from Utah, Las Vegas and also from California. It's a great event especially considering that all the proceeds go to charities."

The long list of other special events with ties to charities include the Smokin' in Mesquite BBQ Championship each Labor Day Weekend; Smokin' Big Chili competition with a yet-to-be-named charity; The Queen of Hearts Bunco event helps Goodie Two Shoes which provides shoes for needy youth; the Dutch Oven cook off benefitting the Mesquite Lion's Club; the Smokin' in Mesquite BBQ Championship helps the Mesquite Elk's Club along with the Mesquite Boxing Club; and the Bunco or Bust tournament aids the Breast Cancer Research Foundation

In addition, CasaBrewsake raises funds for local charities each June.

Further information regarding tickets and other information for Saturday's CasaVino can be found by calling 702-346-7091. Those purchasing tickets must be 21.