

May. 08, 2008
Copyright © Las Vegas Review-Journal

THE R-J GOES TO A PARTY: Chefs showcase their best dishes at Epicurean Affair

The 2008 Epicurean Affair, sponsored by the Nevada Hotel & Lodging Association, the Nevada Restaurant Association and the Flamingo Las Vegas, was May 1 at the Flamingo.

The setting was 15 acres of tropical oasis, where guests sampled cuisine from chefs and nightlife from area lounges and clubs.

More than 70 well-known chefs represented their award-winning restaurants, cooking-to-order their specialty dish for the 3,000 participants.

Attending the 18th annual affair was Nevada Hotel and Lodging Association President Van Heffner and his wife, Joan; Barbara Orcutt, Beverly and Mike Mykisen, Mike Severino, Phyllis and Richard Tomasso and Barbara Barron. Guests indulged in Guy Savoy's artichoke and black truffle soup and blue fin tartar. Caesars Palace's Nero's served braised short ribs, Payard Patisserie made their signature tiramisu and Bradley Ogden prepared a delicious fresh pea soup. Tao served vichyssoise, grits and drunken shrimp and Le Cordon Bleu featured salmon and pork dishes. Stratosphere's Top of the World restaurant distributed watermelon gazpacho, and Fiamma at MGM Grand prepared fried orange Kobe beef. Planet Hollywood served Asian duck tacos and Colorado lamb chops. Maggiano's gave out meatballs and pasta, Margaritaville did mini cheeseburgers and ahi tuna with won ton cones, McCormick & Schmick shucked oysters served on the half-shell with dipping sauces, and Bally's Steakhouse offered steak and potatoes.

The Imperial Palace featured Hawaiian desserts of pineapple macadamia nut cake, banana bread, a fruit bar, Hanpia's Coconut Kahlua Cake and ahi tuna in ponzu sauce and kalua pork. Bill's Steakhouse in Bill's Gamblin' Hall and Saloon served prosciutto-wrapped prawns and steak au poivre.

More guests experiencing the lights, music, cocktails and culinary delights were Bill Dosch, Theresa Woo, Christopher Sarret, Josette LeBlond, Randy Becker, David Nolan, Chris Walker and Joan Pendergast.



Jennifer Linsky, from left, Heinz Lauer, Lee Falk and Steve Falk at the 2008 Epicurean Affair. Photos by Marian Umhoefer/Review-Journal.



Mark Green, from left, Brandy Neugebauer and Mark Richards at the 2008 Epicurean Affair.



Beatrice Cayer, from left, Helen Gandini and Graziano Gandini at the 2008 Epicurean Affair.



Phyllis and Richard Tomasso at the 2008 Epicurean Affair.