



### Annual Fundraiser a Success

by Anne Donofrio-Holter

Over 200 supporters attended this year's Montebello Historical Society's An Evening in Italy fundraiser in support of ongoing efforts to preserve Montebello's Juan Matias Sanchez adobe and museum. The over \$9,000 raised has been designated for capital projects to refurbish the adobe, including a fresh coat of paint and the establishment of a 20th century Montebello history collection to capture even more of Montebello's memories.

Following an authentic Italian dinner, Montebello Historical Society President Rosie Vasquez welcomed the sold out crowd and thanked them for their support of and interest in preserving Montebello's history.

"Through your attendance here tonight, you are helping us achieve the goals of the Montebello Historical Society and the preservation of a piece of Montebello's history, the Juan Matias Sanchez Adobe," she said. "We continue to research, record, promote and encourage the study of history in and around Montebello through the maintenance of the adobe museum."



Present at the event, Montebello Mayor Pro Tem Jack Hadjinian pledged his commitment to the organization's goals of preserving the adobe and its plans for the establishment of a 20th century

Montebello history collection.

Highlights of the evening included the unveiling of a land grant map which will be on display at the museum, along with a special presentation to Montebello

Historical Society past president Gary Brougner for his many years of service. The City of Montebello was recognized for its longtime commitment to the preservation of the adobe as was the



Montebello Rotary Club. In celebration of 100 years of Rotary International, Montebello Rotarians adopted the adobe in 2005 as their centennial project. The club's goal is to continue to enhance Montebello's

oldest standing structure by improving the grounds, courtyard and interior of the historical landmark which was built in 1845.

The evening concluded with a lively raffle of a wide range of prizes and gifts, many generously donated by local businesses and sponsors.

"Please continue to support us through membership in the Montebello Historical Society, docent service at the museum or donations to the Adobe Museum Fund," said Vasquez. "We truly appreciate all the gracious support given to the organization as we move towards our next century."

The Montebello Historical Society is grateful to Evening in Italy Platinum Sponsors Commerce Casino and Tequila Jack's Restaurant, Gold Sponsors Northwoods Imaging, Athens Services, Cook Hill Properties, Rafael's Mexican Restaurant, Pacifica Services Inc., Montebello Teachers Association, George and Gia Pacheco, Silver Sponsors San Gabriel Valley Water Company, Montebello Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Hadjinian, First Auto Insurance and Bronze Sponsors Chavarria Farmers Insurance, Central Basin Water District, Tommy Camacho and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Vazquez for their support.

Also in attendance were representatives from the Montebello Rotary, Soroptimist and Kiwanis clubs, the Montebello Sister City Association, the Beverly Hospital Guild, Montebello Fire Chief Dominic Hebert, Director of Public Works Danilo Batson, Councilman Art Barajas, former Montebello Mayor Ed Vazquez, Rosemary Guolla and Lisa Casteneda along with representatives from other local organizations..

Special thanks to the Evening in Italy event committee, Master of Ceremonies Gil Espino, student volunteer food servers and additional sponsors.

For additional information, contact the Montebello Historical Society at 946 Adobe Avenue or call 323-887-4592.

### \*\* Meeting Alert \*\*

The next general meeting of the Montebello Historical Society will be Thursday, November 13 at 6:30 pm at the Montebello Senior Citizen Center (downstairs), 115 South Taylor Ave.

Refreshments will be served.