Center City Proprietors Association Elects Board for New Year

By Nadina Praino
Special to the Weekly Press

Center City Proprietors Association (CCPA) of Philadelphia held its annual event "Prime Time at the Prime Rib" and Board election last month in Philadelphia.

CCPA's 2010 re-elected officers are Linda Karp, President of Karp Marketing, President; David P. Carter, President/owner of Scaramanga Strategies, Vice President; Joe Wolf, Retail Director of the Market and Shop at Comcast Center, Liberty Property Trust, Secretary; and Paul Sienkne, General Manager of Reading Terminal Market, Treasurer. Elected to the Board are Kristie Beegey, owner of The KI, a new Board was elected. As the last of the piano melodies concluded, there was a final farewell and thanks to the past years' Board members.

Prime Time's dream team included the sponsors: Rosemont College, Dr. Bruno Brothers, Reading Terminal Market, and Southwest Airlines. Photographer Peter Gallo and CCPA staff Ben Frank, Nadina Praino and Megan Snavely. The charitable contributions and continuing support of CCPA's sponsors and members funded the vision of Prime Time at The Prime Rib.

Center City Proprietors Association is a nonprofit, member-supported organization founded in 1978 to foster communication, cooperation, education and services among the small businesses of Center City Philadelphia, and to maintain, promote and improve the commercial vitality of Center City Philadelphia. CCPA conducts a wide range of educational programs, professional development seminars and networking events.

Experience, Ellen Davis, owner of FruitFlowers, and Neil Herzog, owner of S&N A RAMA Center City.

The celebratory kick-off began with attendees ready to cast their Board votes, bid on generous silent auction packages, and indulge in delectable hors d'oeuvres, dessert and wine. Executive Director Ben Frank stated, "member attendance was at a record high because of CCPA's response to the current economic climate." CCPA asked members to "Pay What You Can" rather than charging a fixed registration fee, Frank added, "At the end of the day, 'Pay What You Can' made it possible for our guests to bid higher on auction items, which helped us raise money for our educational programs."

As the piano player played a melody, guests networked and increased their bids on delectable packages, including those creatively branded "Ask Jesus," "Confessions of a Shopaholic," and "Reward and Relaxation."

The evening was a success for all participants; business connections were established, gift packages were purchased, and a new Board was elected. As the last of the piano melodies concluded, there was a final farewell and thanks to the past years' Board members.

Picture Caption: CCPA annual event and board election at The Prime Rib. Left to right: Board Secretary Jerry Wolf; Theresa Prave: Past President; Administrative Coordinator Megan Snavely; Marketing and Events Coordinator Nadina Praino; Board President Linda Karp and Executive Director Ben Frank.