

ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

EYE ON THE SCENE  By Anne Valdespino

GENTS RALLY FOR CANCER CURE

GUEST LIST

SEVEN MEN CHOSEN TO BE PINK TIE GUYS ARE ANNOUNCED AT FUNDRAISER GALA.

On Mother's Day eve, **Joey Hinojosa** of Irvine was dressed in a black tux and a pink tie with his mother, **Rosa Schulz**, at his side. Both were attending the Pink Tie Ball for the first time (Hinojosa's gift to Schulz), where rose-tinged cocktails and mini crab cakes were being served.

Hinojosa was one of seven men chosen this year to be Pink Tie Guys.

Held on May 10 at the Kia Motors America U.S. Headquarters in Irvine, the gala raised funds for Susan G. Komen Orange County with the theme "Journey to a Cure," highlighting the experience of those affected by breast cancer.

Selected from among community members, the Pink Tie Guys work to raise awareness of breast cancer.

Along with Hinojosa, owner of Smart Levels Media, the other Pink Tie Guys were **Regino Diaz**, a senior vice president for Bank of America; **Dr. Monish Laxpati**, CEO of Alinea Medical Imaging; **Dr. John Link**, founder of Breastlink Medical Group; **Eric Spitz**, co-owner and president of Freedom Communications; **Khanh Tran**, president of Pacific Life Insurance Co.; and the late **Brian Hirsty**, formerly executive chef of Bluewater Grill who died in March.

"I feel very honored," said Tran, who attended with his wife, **Debi**, a one-year breast cancer survivor. "I feel that an organization like this is wonderful in not only finding a cure but also lending support



Dr. Monish Laxpati of Alinea Imaging, center, talks with guests at the Pink Tie Ball on May 10 in Irvine.

to those who are going through the process."

With pink tulips and coral-colored curtains in the background, hundreds - including Susan G. Komen Orange County Executive Director **Lisa Wolter** and event co-chairs **Scott and Karin Wheeler** - enjoyed the festivities.

"I'm just excited that so many different people from different walks of life are here, supporting people who had cancer or whose mothers had cancer or their friends who had cancer," Karin Wheeler said. "They just rally, everyone just rallies, for each other."

- CONNIE K. HO,
CONTRIBUTING WRITER



Pat Delligatta, Brandon Moody and Joey Hinojosa, from left.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY WILL SHINE LIGHT ON BREAST CANCER.



Karin and Scott Wheeler are event co-chairs.



Pink Tie Guy Regino Diaz smiles with wife Gladys.



Pink Tie Guy Dr. John Link attends with wife Nancy.



Debi Tran supports her Pink Tie Guy, Khanh.