

A Magical Night – Third Annual Festival of Trees

By Lori Ciccarelli, Community Relations Director

Let It Snow, Peace on Earth, Merry Fishmas, and a Heartland Christmas were just a few of the themed trees auctioned off at the third annual Festival of Trees showcased at the Mammoth Lakes Ski Museum sponsored by the Healthcare Trust of Mammoth Lakes. Ten trees were fully designed around themes; many were accompanied with gifts for the live auction in addition to travel packages. A silent auction hosted wreaths, gingerbread houses, in addition to exciting wine, spa and travel packages. Proceeds netted \$55,000 with only \$21,000 more to raise for the hospital's full field digital mammography initiative.

Gary Myers, Mammoth Hospital CEO, recognized the Mammoth Hospital Auxiliary for their \$100,000 donation over the past few months supporting this initiative and the naming of the imaging department. Yuri Parisky, MD, Mammoth Hospital Imaging Director, addressed the importance of annual mammograms and local breast cancer statistics.

It was truly a magical evening as the spirit of giving continued. A couple of trees were donated by top bidders to local community efforts that included a single mom who lost her 19-year-old in a tragic snow storm last January, and to a local cancer patient, in addition to the hospital's lobbies for patients and the community to enjoy.

A big thank you to all who volunteered, to the tree designers, to all who sponsored this event, and to those who attended. Special thanks to auctioneer Eric Stovesand, Adrienne and Mike Regan of Kriss Kringles, Bonnie Colgan, Cleland Hoff, Vernita Messenger, Maryann Leyen and the Bishop Union High School floral design classes, the Mammoth Lakes Ski Museum, and to Cerro Coso Community College.

If you would like to contribute to the Mammoth Hospital Mammography Initiative or would like more information about the Festival of Trees, please contact Lori Ciccarelli, Community Relations Director, at 924-4015.