

Orangewood Children's Foundation



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Country Guys & Gals Have Fun at the Fair for Orangewood 2011 Ducks Casino Night "Center Ice Country Fair"

Anaheim – It was a sea of plaid shirts, denim, cowboy hats (a few had actually seen use prior to the evening) and the occasional checkered dress at Honda Center last Thursday night in support of local foster kids. A crowd of 650 guests joined the Anaheim Ducks on the floor of Honda Center for their "Center Ice Country Fair" casino night to benefit Orangewood Children's Foundation (www.orangewoodfoundation.org). Ducks players, dressed in orange plaid shirts, blue jeans and cowboy hats, mingled with the crowd and rotated as dealers at the gaming tables. (Veteran Ducks players Teemu Selanne and George Parros wore their own Western attire.) Thanks to an event committee led by Orangewood's 44 Women for Children auxiliary member Stacey Kinney and the support of title sponsor The Klein Family, the event is expected to raise over \$80,000 for Orangewood programs for current and former foster children.

Honda Center was decked-out for the fair, with a huge backdrop of a corn field, a fully-functioning mini Ferris wheel, and fair games including balloon darts, milk bottle baseball toss, and gold fish bowl toss. Country western dancers led the crowd in dancing to the music of "Merchants of Moonshine." Vegas-style games of Blackjack, Craps and Roulette were presented by San Manuel Indian Bingo & Casino with Anaheim Ducks players rotating as dealers.

Guests were treated to the usual fair food, in some cases with a twist, including: mini lobster corndogs with jalapeno mustard, fried green tomatoes, open-faced pulled pork sandwiches with creamy coleslaw and crispy onions (very flavorful and tasty!), roasted beet and fresh goat cheese salad, ribs, mini pies, funnel cake bites and mini caramel apples. Themed drinks included Summer Breeze Lemonade and Cowboy Kool-Aid.

An extensive variety of silent auction items were available for bidding. Guests could also purchase tickets for six opportunity prizes: 1) Luxury Suite for Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus at Honda Center; 2) Ryan Getzlaf – autographed Giclee on Canvas; 3) Jonas Hiller-autographed stand-up; 4) Four Glass Seats for the Anaheim Ducks vs. Vancouver Canucks game on Sunday, Mar. 6 (Parking included); 5) Judith Ripka jewelry piece; and 6) Toshiba 46” Television. *(Unfortunately, since the winners were determined by pulling tickets that had a numbers and not names, I do not have most of the winners. Sorry about that! Item #4 (the four glass seats) was won by 44 Women member Lupe Erwin.)*

In attendance were Duck’s owners Susan and Henry Samuelli (Susan is founding chair of the Orangewood’s 44 Women for Children auxiliary and also an Orangewood board member); Ducks players including Team Captain Ryan Getzlaf, Rookie Cam Fowler, veteran players Teemu Selanne and George Parros, and recently announced NHL All-Star picks Goalie Jonas Hiller and Forward Corey Perry; Ducks Head Coach Randy Carlyle; Orangewood board members Tim Ryan (also the Ducks Chief Operating Officer), Joel Goldhirsh, Elizabeth Amendt, and Richard Dutch; many 44 Women auxiliary members including board chair Kelly Bozza; and title sponsors Jenny and Bill Klein.