## Spotlight on All Charities Preferred Partners – John and Mary Lee Fine Wine Society

By Richard Weinstein President & COO, Ocean Reef Community Foundation

When you think of Dom Perignon you often think how it marked a special occasion in your life. And when you think of Dom Perignon at Ocean Reef you immediately think of John and Mary Lee's Fine Wine Society. That is because they are among the longest tenured Preferred Partners with All Charities and have been orchestrating unforgettable events and dinners featuring that storied fine Champagne and so much more. These have included the Vintage Golf Classic at Ocean Reef, Don Perignon's first ever philanthropic sporting event, Decoding Dom Pérignon with Chef de Cave Richard Geoffroy and the world-famous chef, Ferran Andrià. With Master Chef Rich Rosendale they created the Napa Cult Wine Dinner and many Members of Ocean Reef can credit that event as their first opportunity to enjoy a glass of Screaming Eagle wine.

The Lees combine their love of fine wine and fine dining with two other passions, their love of Ocean Reef and their desire to make a difference through philanthropy. Each of these special events have been for the sole benefit of raising money for the Ocean Reef Community Foundation's All Charities Gala. The numbers are impressive. Starting with their first event, The Legends Invitational Golf Tournament in Pebble Beach (which includes dinner at the French Laundry), they have raised over three million dollars for All Charities. These funds are so important to the non-profits here at Ocean Reef with approximately two million of that total being distributed to the Medical Center, Cultural Center, Art League, Academy (where their children went to school) and ORCAT, that they help Ocean Reef thrive. Beyond the gates their funds helped to support the Ocean Reef Conservation Association and the Ocean Reef Community Foundation through Community Grants.

The Preferred Partner program has helped All Charities grow and provided Members with access to services and experiences that they might not consider otherwise. Both John and Mary always welcome the opportunity to make introductions in the world of wine and are happy to help friends with reservations for The French Laundry and The Napa Reserve (at Ocean Reef, almost everyone is their friend!). John notes "We have enjoyed inspiring wine travel adventures to Paris, Champagne, Burgundy, and Bordeaux. The Fine Wine Society provides the perfect opportunity to continue this great tradition and curate new, world-class culinary and fine wine experiences."

If you would like to learn more about the Fine Wine Society events like their White Truffle Dinner at the French Laundry please contact John Lee, or call (305) 395-8500.