

HARVEST East End Raises \$31,000 for Charities

[Comment](#) | September 20, 2011 | By [Eileen M. Duffy](#)



The white tents on the edge of Mecox Bay in Bridgehampton cast an amber glow as nearly 400 people dined, drank Long Island wine and danced at the second annual Gala Dinner fundraiser hosted by the Long Merlot Alliance.

The dinner was preceded by the Festival Tasting, when nearly 500 people tasted 2010 wines from the barrel along with current bottlings while trying hors d'oeuvres from East End restaurants.

It was a lovely and relaxed affair that not only brought together the wine community, but also introduced many new people to what's going on, food and wine wise, on Long Island.

During dinner, a live auction, called by Charles Antin of Christie's, raised \$31,000, all of which will go to three charities: The Group for the East End, East End Hospice and Peconic Land Trust. The lot that went for the most, \$5,000, was three days and four nights in Bermuda, complete with three bottles of Long Island wine. More auction details [here](#).

Edible East End was a media sponsor of the event and worked with Donnell Brown, executive director of LIMA, who put the whole thing together, was at all the wine salons, organized chefs, sponsors, wineries and was able to change out a generator at the last minute when the lights started blinking just before dinner.

On behalf of Edible, we thank her, the Long Island wineries and all the restaurants for their efforts.