

Holiday Express 2009 Benefit Clambake

By Amy Broza



All everyone could say was "WOW!" People strolling along the boardwalk and walking on the sand stopped in their tracks to wonder what glamorous event had come to Long Branch on this late summer eve. The size and shape of the exotic tent was straight out of Aladdin, and set against a picture-perfect sunset – the view was breathtaking. The 2nd Annual Holiday Express Clambake was literally the talk of the town!

Indeed, the evening was the perfect combination of countless volunteer hours, and more than a little touch of Mother Nature. In a word – spectacular.

If you thought "clambake" meant roasting a few on some hot coals while enjoying a beer or two, think again. We do things a little differently in Holiday Express. This is the fundraising event you can't wait to attend. It's top of the line from the tantalizing food, to the impeccable service by the Pier House staff, to the casually elegant atmosphere. Add the Holiday Express band – with some of the Jersey Shore's finest musicians – and you can't help but have a blast. Nothing like black tie quality in Jersey seashore comfort! Oh yeah...did I mention that you get to wear your shorts and Hawaiian shirts? Now...that's a party!

That evening, our guests had the chance to wine and dine in style and comfort. Truthfully, it's not unlike the experience Holiday Express brings to every event during our "50 shows in 30 days" Christmas season. We offer something special – and often indescribable – to our favorite people. It's the kind of good time, camaraderie and joy of sharing that happens when people of good hearts come together.

So if you marveled at our Clambake extraordinaire from outside the exotic tent last year, please come join this year's party on September 19, 2010.

Mingle...dine...dance...and enjoy a little oasis at the Jersey Shore. Share a Holiday Express moment.

(1) Couple descending down the "runway" to the mysterious tent on the sand; (2) Jim Mizell, Bob Boyd, Russ Pangborn; (3) Crystal Star Award Winner Paul Diomedea; (4) Lobsters galore, thanks to the generosity of donor Brooks Seafood; (5) Tim McLoone; (6) Adjutant General Glenn Rieth, Jill Weiss, Brigadier General James Grant; (7) Santa Russ Pangborn in his summer suit! (8) Raffle table; (9) Kim and Bob Honecker, Maggie Dorato and Doug Raynor; (10) Donald Pignataro with Auction Co-Chairs: Laurie Vilardi, Jana Beal and Diane Baldwin; (11) Leslie Smith, Mary Rose Van Wouldenbergh and Bob Smith.

