

WINTER 2006

Heart To Heart

AIDS EMERGENCY FUND • BREAST CANCER EMERGENCY FUND
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

The 2006 Fortune Tellers Ball is April 23

Last April, hundreds of AEF loyalists gathered for an evening of fortune telling, tarot card reading, palmistry and astrology at The **Fortune Tellers Ball**. The annual Awards Gala at IMG Home honored AEF's finest volunteers and donors, and kicked off AEF's fundraising year by netting almost \$75,000!

Save the date of Sunday, April 23 for a reprise of that magical night. The **2006 Fortune Tellers**

Ball will include your favorite fortune tellers, palm readers, astrologists and belly dancers from last year along with many new faces and additional entertainment. The gathering will again be an opportunity to honor those special people who have given of their time and talent to AEF over the past. Look for details about the venue and time at www.aef-sf.org soon.

Dinner for 1,100 of Our Closest Friends!

For the 18th consecutive year, a group of dedicated volunteers at AEF provided a lavish sit-down dinner this past Christmas Eve for more than 1,100 people with HIV/AIDS, their families and friends. AEF'S Holiday Dinner is a monumental undertaking, coordinated each year by a dedicated group of volunteers who begin planning in September. Led each year by **Neil Figurelli**, the core team consists of **Cindy Roberts, Terry Irvin, Randy Schiller, Gavin Middleton, Glenn Sutter** and **Stanley Wong**. An additional 200 volunteers worked as serving assistants.

For the seventeenth year in a row, **Liz Baldwin** of **Bon Appetit Management Company** donated 80 cooked turkeys. In addition, the volunteer team prepared 300 pounds of mashed potatoes, 30 gallons of gravy, 48 gallons of cranberry sauce, 300 lbs of stuffing, and 20 hotel trays

of assorted vegetables – not to mention fresh bread and butter, assorted cookies and cakes, fresh fruit and Peet's coffees and teas!

The Holiday Dinner is underwritten by corporate and foundation gifts, including **Steve Silver's Beach Blanket Babylon, The Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund, Academy of Friends, Golden Brands, Safeway, and The Eli and Mae Rosen Foundation**. This year's AEF received a surprise \$5,000 anonymous gift to help cover the ever-rising cost of the feast!

RIGHT. Dorothy Orrizzi has been flying in from Boston to help her son Bob work the Dessert Buffet at the AEF Xmas Eve Dinner since 1988. Both Dorothy and Bob have never missed a year.

LEFT. Anna Louisa Tetlow met her first Santa Claus at this year's Xmas Eve Dinner. Photo credit: Nanette Duffy.



From the President Who's that Fresh Face at BCEF??

Susannah Dunlap,
Breast Cancer Emergency Fund
Program Manager.



AEF is pleased to welcome Susannah Dunlap in the new position of Breast Cancer Emergency Fund Program Manager. Susannah joins BCEF at a critical time. Requests for assistance from BCEF have more than tripled in the last few months and are expected to continue to rise. Susannah will help find resources to grow the program as well as work directly with more than 200 clients seeking financial assistance while ill with breast cancer. Her first task will be improving outreach and strengthening BCEF's linkages to existing women's clinics, social workers, and case managers throughout the city.

Susannah happily returns to her home in San Francisco after following her partner, Bo Walker, to Maine, where Bo studied and taught boatbuilding for two years. While in Maine, Susannah served

as Program Manager for the Cities of Portland and Lewiston's Refugee Services Program, a program funded by the Federal Office of Refugee Resettlement.

Prior to moving to Maine, Susannah worked in San Francisco on issues of social/economic justice and community development programs. Susannah's career has included improving economic opportunities, supporting affordable housing and eliminating the barriers to health care faced by people of color and low-income San Franciscans. Her work has always held a particular focus on targeted services for women and young girls. She has served as advisor to women-led mutual aid associations and researched health disparities between men and women in emerging economies. She has extensive experience conducting outreach and forging part-



Dan Bernal
Board President

nerships here in the US, including low-income and limited/non-English-speaking communities.

Susannah studied at Bard College in Annandale-on-Hudson, New York, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison Center for Southeast Asian Studies. She spent her teenage years in Thailand and speaks Thai! She has served on local and national boards including private foundations, GLBT organizations and community-based art projects.

In her spare time (what's that?) she looks forward to rejoining her Golden Gate Women's Soccer league team (Go, Deelites!) and mastering toes-to-the-nose longboarding. (Look for pictures of that in our next Heart to Heart!)

Dine Around a success for AEF and BCEF

On Wednesday, November 16, 2005, thousands of friends and neighbors in San Francisco poured into local restaurants to help support our clients with AIDS and breast cancer by participating in Dine Around. Twenty-eight participating restaurants donated 25 percent

of their total daily food and beverage revenue to AIDS Emergency Fund and Breast Cancer Emergency Fund. A total of \$22,000 was raised from the event, including \$5,500 from patrons who chose to make an additional donation to AEF/BCEF that night.

With volunteer support from the **Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence** and the **Castro Lions Club**, and promotional assistance from Merchants of **Upper Market & Castro, Eureka Valley Pro-**

motion Association, Noe Valley Merchants & Professionals Association and **South of Market Merchants Association**, AEF/BCEF's Dine Around was one of the largest neighborhood-based fundraisers of the year. "Once again, the event proved to be a huge success," said Chris Morris, AEF/BCEF Fundraising Manager and Volunteer Coordinator. "We filled nearly every restaurant and patrons had a good time while raising funds for our clients."

OUR COMMUNITY NEVER STOPS GIVING

09.26.05 ABBY ZIMBERG'S BCEF HOUSE PARTY

Thank you to **Abby Zimberg** and her partner, **Helene Wenzel, Esq.**, who opened their Twin Peaks home to introduce their friends and neighbors to BCEF on a hot September afternoon. If you'd like to host a house party or turn a private event into a fundraiser, call **Chris Morris** at 415-558-6999 ext 3



10.20.05 FERRY PLAZA WINE MERCHANT BOOK SIGNING AND WINE TASTING

Kudos and thanks to BCEF volunteer **Petie Alznauer**, author **Jennie Schacht**, and **Debbie Zachareas** managing partner of Ferry Plaza Wine Merchant for creating a fun and lucrative cookbook signing and wine tasting event for BCEF!

10.23.05 HOEDOWN

Held at the Galleria Design Center, this annual country-western dance gala raised \$8,000 for AEF/BCEF. Special thanks to **Ingu Yun** and his cadre of volunteers for organizing such a successful event. As shown below, this year's event featured the Bare Chest Calendar Men dressed for the occasion.



credit: Bill Weaver Photography

10.26.05 HALLOWEEN PARTY AT CLIFT

Thank you to **CLIFT** hotel and their general manager, **Alexandra Walterspiel** for designating us as the beneficiary of their annual Halloween party. The event raised nearly \$1700 for BCEF and introduced BCEF to a new audience of potential donors.

11.16.05 DINE AROUND

25 Restaurants in the Castro, Noe Valley, SOMA & Mission donated 25 percent of all their diners' food and beverage bills to AEF/BCEF from the entire day of November 16th. Special thanks to the **Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence** and the **Castro Lions Club** who provided volunteers to be restaurant ambassadors that evening. The event raised nearly \$22,000 for AEF/BCEF.



“Ev’ry Time it Rains, it Rains Pennies From Heaven”



The 11th Annual Every Penny Counts Day represented a first this year – it took place indoors! In a radical departure from previous years’ events, we decided to bring the event inside, out of the inevitable rainy days of early December. EPC Day was held December 1st, World AIDS Day, at the Wells Fargo History Museum in San Francisco’s Financial District.

Jars were distributed to Bay Area schools earlier in October and November, and were collected for an early count in order to announce a total at the event itself.

This year, the school kids raised over **\$38,000!** Although schools reported donation fatigue in the wake of so many natural disasters in the last year, the kids put forth a tremendous effort. **Presidio Middle School** collected over 45 jars filled to bursting with pennies – that’s over \$2425.00, and 1,467 pounds of change!

Wells Fargo, a presenting sponsor of the EPC Day event, also placed pennies jars in each of its San Francisco banking branches for individuals and businesses to deliver their own spare change. While it’s still too early to count, it looks as if this new effort will pay off handsomely!

This year **Paul Hill** and the **Skywalkers** team at **Industrial Light & Magic** celebrated their new Presidio corporate campus with a new, larger format to their annual fundraising drive – with a trivia contest! 45 teams composed of employees and **ILM’s** top brass competed for prizes and boasting rights in a duel to the death! The raucous event in the Letterman Digital Arts Dining Commons auditorium brought down the house and raised an astounding \$53,000!

And this year, **Steven Sams** of the new **AT&T** and **The Castro Lions** cheered, cajoled, urged, and motivated his coworkers and friends in offices all over California to raise more than \$6,000!

Great big thank you’s to all who participated and supported this year’s Every Penny Counts drive: **Jeff Schlabach, Jeannie Engelhart, Tom Regan, Wells Fargo, The Castro Lions, Industrial Light and Magic, Robert J. Frascino Foundation, and Steven Sams.**



Long-time AEF volunteer Jeannie Engelhart helps students from the John Yehall Chin Elementary School add their pennies to the bucket.

WHO’S WHO AT AEF/BCEF

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12.18. & 12.19 DONNA SACHET’S SONGS OF THE SEASON

Donna’s 13th annual event was a huge success, raising nearly \$22,000 for AEF. The shows at the Plush Room featured songs from San Francisco’s best cabaret performers: **Sharon McNight, Kim Kuzma, T.J. & Sheba!, S.D.K., Kathleen Antonia,** and vocal ensembles from the **SF Gay Men’s Chorus** and the **Lesbian/Gay Chorus of SF.** Not to mention the always fabulous **Donna Sachet!** Special thanks to **Richard Sablatura** for his tireless production management efforts.



02.01.06 TRIVIA NIGHT AT LUCASFILMS

Paul Hill and **Eddie Pasquarello** at their huge volunteer team at **Industrial Light and Magic** and **Lucas Film** have outdone themselves again this year. Their employee trivia game night silent auction raised a not-so-trivial \$53,000. Thank you to everyone at **Lucasfilms** for your extraordinary effort and generosity.



02.14.06 LOVERS LANE

Join us on Valentine’s Day from 8–11pm for **Lovers Lane** at **Café Flore**, 2298 Market Street. Hosted by **Donna Sachet**, the party will include a chocolate fountain, DJ, raffle, entertainment and drink specials (\$3 champagne & Cape Cods). Wear something RED!

MAMA’S 6TH ANNUAL BCEF DINNER

Sandy “Mama” Reinhardt is hosting her 6th Annual BCEF Dinner in late March or early April. Tickets are \$60 and can be purchased by calling 1-866-372-6849 or visiting www.frantix.net. The date and venue have not been set yet, so check out www.mamasfamily.org or www.bcef-sf.org for details.

04.20 & 04.27.06 FINALS CONTESTS FOR THE 2007 BARE CHEST CALENDAR MEN

Don’t miss the final selection of the 12 men for the 2007 Calendar. Be at the **Powerhouse Bar** at Folsom & Dore the last two Thursdays in April to see the culmination of the ten semi-final contests being held January to April. Do you have what it takes to be a Calendar Man? There is still time to enter. Go to www.barechest.org for entry details.



credit: Chris Wong

Heart To Heart

AIDS EMERGENCY FUND • BREAST CANCER EMERGENCY FUND
Providing emergency financial assistance to people fighting AIDS and breast cancer

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Save these
Dates!

MAMMA'S 6TH
ANNUAL BCEF
DINNER

4/23/06

THE FORTUNE
TELLERS BALL

4/20 & 4/27/06

FINALS OF
THE BARE
CHEST
CALENDAR
CONTEST

Perspective

David Slocombe Entrepreneur Extraordinaire 1933 – 2005

For the third time in three years, I find myself devoting my column to the passing of an AEF hero. Like Bob Ross and Daddy Alan Selby who passed before him, David Slocombe loved AEF and gave more than 20 years of service to his favorite charity. David passed away on Saturday, October 29 at the age of 72. Despite advancing age and a long illness, David volunteered at AIDS Emergency Fund every Thursday, counting coins collected from the Penny Jars. He was also the founder of the Pine Street Volunteers, whose annual Pine Street Yard Sale raised more than \$60,000 for AEF.

David was constantly planning and organizing fundraising events. Even

this past summer, when his health was poor, he collected porn tapes from the various shops that were converting to DVDs and sold the tapes at a street fair. He came in the Monday after the fair, pulling his oxygen tank along behind him, with \$1000 in proceeds and an idea for his next fundraiser.

David was born in Bristol, England and immigrated to America at age 21. Before retiring in 1995, he worked for 30 years as a waiter at the World Trade Club. In 1987, he joined Pennies Project founder Fred Skau as an AEF volunteer. In 1989, he launched the first of the Pine Street Fairs after collecting and storing used household items in his basement for more than a year. For the next six-

teen years, his basement was an ever-expanding and contracting treasure trove of sale items for AEF. After his retirement in 1995, he devoted nearly all his time to AEF fundraising efforts.

In recognition of David's contributions to AEF and in celebration of his 70th birthday, Mayor Gavin Newsom proclaimed March 14, 2003 as David Slocombe Day in San Francisco. His most recent honor was being selected for Academy of Friends' Kile Ozier Award in 2005.

David was predeceased by his partner of many years, Billy Macedo, who succumbed to AIDS in 1994. David is survived by his sister Pat Vincent and other relatives, as well as by his other family: the Pine Street Volunteers and AEF staffers who loved him dearly.



Mike Smith,
Executive Director