

WINTER 2005

Heart To Heart



AIDS EMERGENCY FUND • BREAST CANCER EMERGENCY FUND
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

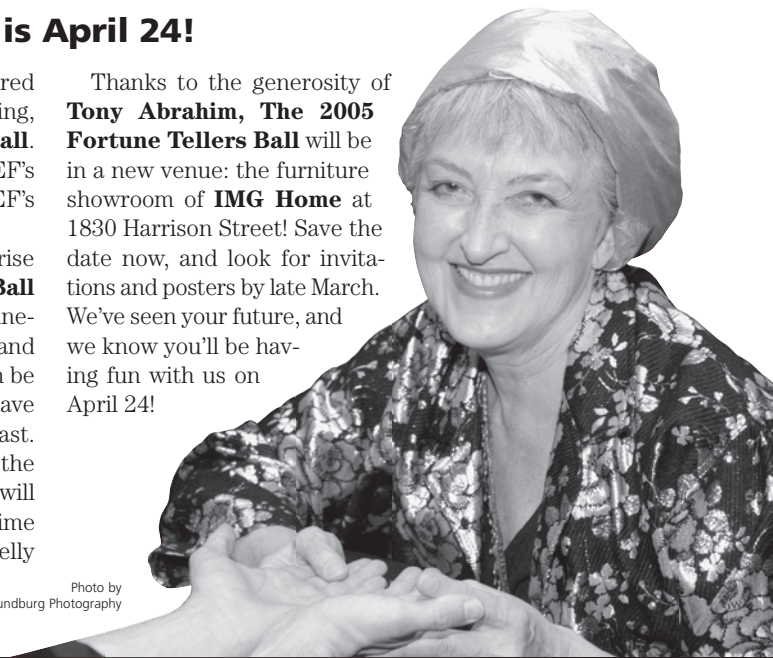
The 2005 Fortune Tellers Ball is April 24!

Last Spring, hundreds of AEF loyalists gathered for an evening of fortune telling, tarot card reading, palmistry and astrology at **The Fortune Tellers Ball**. The Awards Night event at Club Mighty honored AEF's finest volunteers and donors and kicked off AEF's fundraising year by netting almost \$90,000!

Save the date of Sunday, April 24, 2005 for a reprise of that magical night. **The 2005 Fortune Tellers Ball** will include your favorite palm readers and fortune-tellers 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. We will continue our long tradition of showcasing the Bay Area's finest restaurants and wineries, and will also continue with our later-afternoon Sunday time slot so guest can enjoy at a leisurely pace the belly dancers, swamis, silent auction and more.

Thanks to the generosity of **Tony Abraham**, **The 2005 Fortune Tellers Ball** will be in a new venue: the furniture showroom of **IMG Home** at 1830 Harrison Street! Save the date now, and look for invitations and posters by late March. We've seen your future, and we know you'll be having fun with us on April 24!

Photo by
Jan Lundburg Photography



Palm reader Brenda Joyce entertained guests at the 2004 Fortune Tellers Ball.

Tenth Annual Penny Drive: Tons of Fun!



Rafael Scroggins presents AEF staffers Mike Smith and Jes Muse with Wells Fargo's sponsorship check for this year's Every Penny Counts program.

The **10th Annual Every Penny Counts Day** coin collection festival took place on December 1st, World AIDS Day, at Justin Herman Plaza. With the help of over 40 schools and businesses, AEF raised over \$50,000 from Penny Jars during the month of November.

Our top business was (and has been for several years) the **Skywalkers** team at **Industrial Light and Magic/LucasFilm**. With **Paul Hill** and **Eddie Pasquarello** as their brilliant leaders, the team hosted a company-wide spelling bee for the second year in a row, raising more than they did in their first year! The raucous event included several head shavings and musical performances as well. **The Skywalkers** came in with a total this year of \$22,766.92!

This year the top performing high school was, once again, **Head Royce High School** in Oakland with

\$4,087.52. **Santa Rosa High School** more than tripled their effort from past years and finished a close second with \$2,451.92! Our top performing area middle schools were **Ralston Middle School** in Belmont, with \$2,666.73, **Presidio Middle School**, with \$1,719.96, and **Santa Rosa Middle School**, with \$1,492.34.

And last, but certainly not least, our youngest Pennies Day participants together raised over \$3,400! Our fourteen participating elementary schools raised an average of \$250 each with **Clarendon Elementary School** topping the list with a total of \$653.77. The **Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy**, **Miraloma Elementary** and **Gordon Lau Elementary** all closely followed with totals of \$494.32, \$467.21 and \$409.16 respectively.

Thank you to all who participated in this year's Every Penny Counts Drive, and especially to our sponsors and underwriters: **Wells Fargo**, **Castro Lions Club**, **Robert J. Frascino AIDS Foundation**, **Steven Sams**, **Starbucks**, **U-Haul International**, **Office Depot**, **California Academy of Sciences**, **Aquarium by the Bay**, and the **Blue & Gold Fleet**. We look forward to seeing you again in 2005!



Transitions

One of the most satisfying things I've done in my life is serve as the Board President of AIDS Emergency Fund/Breast Cancer Emergency Fund. As Board President, dealing with clients, staff, volunteers, donors, and even government officials about matters that are critical to the well-being of thousands of people with HIV or breast cancer has been privilege for the past two years.

But one of the wonderful things about community-based organizations is their ability to continuously refresh themselves with new ideas and new people in positions of leadership. This certainly applies to the AEF/BCEF Board as well. Two terms as

President has been enough for me. I'll still be on the Board, but it's my honor to welcome and introduce to you a new executive group, as voted in by the Board.

Effective in January 2005, after serving as Vice President for two years, **Dan Bernal** is our new President, **Cynthia Hester** is our new Vice-President, **Neil Figurelli** is our new Secretary, and **Sharon Tetlow** is again our Treasurer. These are onerous jobs with much responsibility, and I know that these four capable, experienced, and dedicated people, along with the rest of the Board, staff, and volunteers, have all of our support in a time



Jeffrey Braff, DrPH
Board President

of increased need and decreased funding. As well, in 2004, **Glenn Sutter** left the Board after many years of dedicated service, and **Joe Pessa** joined.

I wanted to take the opportunity to thank all of you for your support – both moral and financial – for AEF/BCEF over the years, and ask that this support continue. Things are going to get a great deal rougher in the next few years, given the realities of the epidemics of HIV/AIDS and breast cancer, and the priorities of various funders.

It has been my joy to serve as President, and I also want to thank you for the support that you have shown me. It made my job that much more gratifying.

Neighbors Dine Out for AEF and BCEF

On Wednesday, November 10, 2004, thousands of neighbors and friends in the Castro and Noe Valley poured into local restaurants to help support our clients with AIDS and breast cancer by participating in **Dine Around: Castro & Noe Valley**. The following week on Wednesday, November 17, the event was repeated and expanded to include other neighborhoods in **Dine Around: SoMa & Mission**. Thirty-six 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 \$25,000 was raised from the events, including \$5,200 from patrons who chose to make an additional donation to AEF/BCEF those nights.

With volunteer support from the **Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence** and the **Castro Lions Club** and promotional assistance from the Merchants of **Upper Market and Castro**, **Eureka Valley Promotion Association**, **Noe Valley Merchants and Professional 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, Events and Fundraising Manager** of AEF/BCEF. "We filled nearly every restaurant, and patrons had a good time while raising funds for our clients. Next year we hope to expand the event further to include more restaurants and neighborhoods."

The neighborhood-based **Dine Around** event started last year with much success in the Castro and Noe Valley. With its continuing success with Dine Around, AEF/BCEF is exploring the idea of expanding Dine Around to other neighborhoods in 2005.



OUR COMMUNITY NEVER STOPS GIVING

10.11.04 PARKER HOUSE

Even though they took a year off from having their annual **Parker House Fall Luncheon** benefit, **Bill Boeddiker** and **Bob O'Halloran** still managed to raise an amazing \$22,000 for AEF by sending out a direct mail appeal to past guests of the event. Kudos, gentlemen! We are now looking forward to another terrific event in October '05.

10.18.04 STRIKE OUT BREAST CANCER

Universal Care's **Strike Out Breast Cancer 7th** had a country western bowling theme this year, complete with mechanical bull. BCEF was a beneficiary again this year, and received \$15,000 of the proceeds. Kudos to **Gail Defferari**, **Susan Sachs**, **Peter Poulos** and their talented team.

10.23.04 HOE DOWN

Held at the **Galleria Design Center**, this annual country-western dance gala raised nearly \$6,500 for AEF/BCEF – despite loss of electrical power in the neighborhood that cut the evening short. Special thanks to **Ingu Yun** and his cadre of volunteers for many years of organizing this annual event.

11.12.04 AND 11.17.04 DINE AROUND

36 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 days of November 10th and November 17th. 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 \$25,000 for AEF/BCEF.



11.18.04 REAL BAD XVI

GRGR West volunteers presented checks to **Marriage Equality and AIDS Emergency Fund** totaling \$80,000, representing the proceeds from their **Folsom Street Fair** weekend dance party. **Real Bad's** \$40,000 share to AEF was AEF's single largest donation from a community group in 2005!

12.3.04 EDGE BASKET CONTEST

The **Edge Bar** closed out another year of monthly basket contests on December 3. Thanks to **MC Danny William**, **Edge Bar staff Gary Virginia** and **Dave Wheeler**, and event regulars **Gary Rahlf**, **Mike Ostfeld**, **Steve Logan**, **Ray McKenzie** and others, the 12 events in 2005 grossed \$13,022. Join us at the **Edge** every first Thursday.



12.5.04 AND 12.6.04 DONNA SACHET'S SONGS OF THE SEASON

Donna's 12th annual event was a huge success, raising over \$16,000 for AEF. The shows at the **Plush Room** featured songs from San Francisco's best cabaret performers: **Kathleen Antonia**, **Kim Kuzma**, **Sharon McNight**, **T.J. & Sheba**, **Blair Shepard**, **Six in the City**, **Irene Soderberg** and the always fabulous **Donna Sachet!** Special thanks to **Richard Sablatura** who again did a knock-out job producing this event.



12.10.04 ALUMINUM FOREST

Chuck Stegman and **Russ Bono's** annual holiday party got so large this year that they moved the event from their home and had it at **Marlena's** in **Hayes Valley**. The event raised over \$5,000 for AEF! Thank you, **Chuck**, **Russ** and **Marlena!**

Be a Star on Oscar Night: AEF needs volunteers for the Academy of Friends 25th Annual Gala on February 27

PeoplePower

AEF is delighted to have been chosen as one of several benefiting agencies for this year's **25th Anniversary Academy of Friends Gala.** (www.academyoffriends.org)

For 25 years, this terrific group has hosted a lavish San Francisco bash on Academy Awards Night and has raised millions of dollars for AIDS charities. As a beneficiary of this fabulous event we must provide a team of volunteers to help prepare and breakdown the event as well as work during the event itself.

We need help with gift box assembly on Wednesday, February 23rd, as well as pre-production help all during the week leading up to the February 27th event. Academy of Friends needs office help for 20-30 hours of work during normal business hours January through mid-March. Volunteers are also needed the day of the event for set-up and to work at the event itself. (If you want to work the day of the event, there is also a mandatory orientation meeting to attend.)

Academy of Friends has gen-

erously provided several ways to reward volunteers who go above and beyond the call of duty. Volunteers can earn a free ticket to the Gala by doing any one of the following: sell 30 books of regular raffle tickets or 10 of the Mercedes raffle tickets; work 30 hours total during the week of pre-production; or volunteer in the AOF office for a total of 40 hours in the two weeks prior to the event.

In order to be chosen as beneficiary, AEF committed to providing volunteer support for this massive undertaking. By signing up as an AEF volunteer for the Academy of Friends Gala, you are directly benefiting AEF and helping us to honor our commitment to help make this the most successful Gala ever.

Volunteers can sign up by contacting AEF's Volunteer Coordinator, Jes Muse, at:

volunteer@aef-sf.org or **415-558-6999 ext. 4**

or by filling out the volunteer form on the official AOF website: **www.academyoffriends.org**

Jes Muse
Volunteer Coordinator

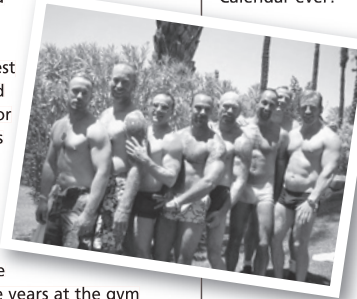


We're Looking for a Few Good Men... Again

On the night of January 20th at the Powerhouse Bar, the South of Market Bare Chest Calendar launched its 22nd year. Contests on Thursdays over the next four months will culminate on April 28th with the selection of the 12 Calendar Men of 2006 – hot men willing to show off and work hard to raise money for AEF and Positive Resource Center. Once selected, Calendar Men spend the year representing AEF at street fairs, bar events, and in the SF Pride Parade. Last year's Bare Chest Calendar raised over \$50,000 for AEF's and PRC's clients.

Do you have what it takes? If you want to show off the results of those years at the gym and want to help raise funds for AEF, then we want to see you. Check out the Bare Chest Calendar web site at www.somabarechestcalendar.org and plan to enter a contest at the Powerhouse on February 17, 24, March 3, 17, 24, 31 or April 7.

Congratulations to the 2005 Bare Chest Calendar men on the most successful Calendar ever!



12.31.04 SANDRA BERNHARD AT THE ALCAZAR

Thank you to local artist Tim Gaskin for donating two portraits of Sandra Bernhard. The art pieces were auctioned off for \$950 at her two sold-out shows on New Year's Eve and all proceeds were donated to BCEF. Mayor Gavin Newsom honored her by declaring December 31 as Sandra Bernhard Breast Cancer Emergency Fund Day in San Francisco.



12.31.04 FRICTION NEW YEAR'S EVE

Thanks to Dean Prager and Silvio Baretta of Friction Events for organizing their third annual New Year's Eve dance party benefiting AEF and the SF Symphony.

2.27.05 TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL ACADEMY OF FRIENDS GALA

Strut down the most fabulous red carpet outside of Hollywood at the Academy of Friends Gala. This year, the event which is to be held at Fort Mason Center's Festival Pavilion, lists AEF as a primary beneficiary of the event's proceeds. Always a sell-out, this black-tie event is the largest HIV/AIDS Oscar party in the country. Tickets are \$150. If you would like to attend the event, go to www.academyoffriends.org be sure to designate AEF as your beneficiary!

3.12.05 MAMA'S 5TH ANNUAL BCEF DINNER

Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt is hosting her 5th Annual BCEF Dinner at The ARC, 1500 Howard Street. Tickets are \$60 and can be purchased by calling 1-866-372-6849 or visiting www.frantix.net. Mama and her family continue to amaze us with their fun events and creative fund-raising. Save the date for a great dinner and an out-of-this world silent auction.



Who's who at AEF/BCEF

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Save the Dates!

February 27
ACADEMY OF FRIENDS GALA

March 12
MAMA'S FIFTH ANNUAL BCEF DINNER

April 24
FORTUNE TELLERS BALL

Once a year our volunteers set aside their paperwork, roll up their sleeves, and cook up a storm.

Perspective

A feast of love

The client services volunteers at AEF and BCEF spend nearly all their work-days processing payments to landlords, utility companies and medical providers on behalf of clients who are too sick to work and are at risk of eviction or utility shut-offs. But once a year our volunteers set aside their paperwork, roll up their sleeves, and cook up a storm.

For the seventeenth consecutive year, a group of dedicated volunteers at AEF provided a lavish sit-down dinner this past Christmas Eve to more than 1,000 people with HIV/AIDS, their families and friends. In addition to a served meal of turkey and the trimmings, guests had an opportunity to meet Santa and be entertained by some of San Francisco's most popular performers.

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**, **Glen-**

non Sutter, **Richard McNally**, and **Stanley Wong**. An additional 200 volunteers work as serving assistants.

For the sixteenth 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 **Peeet'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**.

On behalf of the board and staff of AIDS Emergency Fund, I applaud these donors and volunteers who keep this holiday tradition alive each year through their selfless dedication to brightening the holiday season for so many in need. Thank you all!



Mike Smith,
Executive Director