

SPRING 2006

Heart To Heart

AIDS EMERGENCY FUND • BREAST CANCER EMERGENCY FUND
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Good Fortune For All

AEF's 24th Anniversary Awards Gala, The Fortune Tellers Ball, was held Sunday, April 23rd at **Khyber Pass**, a chic furniture showplace on Potrero Hill. AEF's event team, led by **Chris Morris**, **Neil Figurelli** and **Phil Siegel**, reprised the popular evening featuring entertainment by psychics, astrologers, and tarot and palm readers, as well as a return engagement by the amazing **FatChanceBellyDance** troupe. Over 200 guests enjoyed the incredible buffet by Out of Thyme Catering, and beverages by **Absolut Vodka**, **Miller Brewing Company**, and **Foster's Wine Estates**, shopped the silent and live auctions and helped honor AEF's long history of hard working volunteers!

With underwriting by the **Bob Ross Foundation** and free use of the space at **Khyber Pass** donated by **Tony Abraham**, all the costs of the event were covered before a single ticket was sold. Additional sponsorship from **The Edge**, **Wells Fargo**, **PO Plus**, **Union Bank of California** and **Zephyr Real Estate** — and a huge Patron and Host Committee — helped guarantee the financial success of the evening.

This year's award honorees included the **Edge**

Basket Contest, San Francisco's longest running monthly AIDS fundraising event, the current and former employees of **Winslow & Associates**, **Academy of Friends** and **Wells Fargo**.

This year also saw the kickoff of the **David Slocombe Pennies Award**, in posthumous honor of AEF's tireless supporter, volunteer and co-founder of the Every Penny Counts program. Awards were presented by the fabulous **Donna Sacht**, **SF Treasurer Jose Cisneros**, **Supervisor Bevan Dufty**, and **AEF Executive Director Mike Smith**, and as always, the live auction was emceed by the inimitable **Lenny Broberg**. Seeing and being seen were **Empress XXV Marlena**, and new **Empress Galilea** and **Emperor Jason Ladd** and **BAR publisher Tom Horn**, among others.

After the last palm was read, the final card turned, and silent auction items collected, the final tally for the evening reached \$70,000, for AEF's clients in need!



Six Years of Komen Support

2006 marks a special milestone for BCEF and The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Beginning with a \$5000 enabling grant in 2001, The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation's support of BCEF has been unwavering. Each subsequent year's major grant award has enabled BCEF to continue our work helping low-income women and men in their journey with breast cancer. In particular, The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation's Bay Area Affiliate's recent grant of \$35,000 will be specifically used to assist low-income women to pay outstanding uninsured medical costs.

This year, BCEF was honored with a request to attend and provide a poster presentation in The Susan G. Komen



Foundation 2006 Mission Conference "Many Faces, One Voice" to be held in Washington DC in June. "BCEF probably would not exist as it does today without the many years of support from The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation," said **Susannah Dunlap**, BCEF Program Manager. "To be selected as a presenter at the national conference is an honor not only because of the highly competitive selection process, but more importantly because it provides BCEF a national stage to present our model. It's our hope that our presentation will encourage other communities to replicate the AEF/BCEF model of emergency financial assistance for people battling life-threatening illness."

AIDS WALK 2006

Join AEF's team at AIDS WALK on July 16. Once again this year, AEF has been selected as a Community Partner for AIDS Walk. By signing up with our team, **100% of the pledge money you raise actually comes back to AIDS Emergency Fund**. Go to www.AIDSWALK.ORG to register for AEF's team!

From the President New Faces on the Board

This Spring sees changes in the face of the AEF/BCEF Board of Directors: the arrival of **Rafael Scroggins** and **Veronica LaBeau**.

Rafael Scroggins joined the Board in January, and is already an active member of the Events and Fundraising Committee. He has a background in finance, and currently works as a private banker for Wells Fargo Private Client services. Over the last two years,

he has assisted in organizing the annual Every Penny Counts Project, of which Wells Fargo is a major corporate sponsor.

Originally from Sacramento, Mr. Scroggins has been a

San Francisco resident for the past three years and looks to make San Francisco home for years to come.

In April, **Veronica LaBeau** joined the Board, after spearheading the successful launch of This Old Bag, the Power of the Purse with BCEF last Fall.

Ms. LaBeau has worked with the Saint Francis Foundation since 2001. In addition to wrangling AEF/BCEF events, her work responsibilities include all aspects of fundraising events and galas including the 100th Anniversary Centennial, Celebration of the Arts Theater Series and the Annual Holiday Hob Nob on the Hill. She also develops donor recognition activities and directs the fundraising, membership and recruitment activities of the Associates of Saint Francis



Dan Bernal
Board President

Memorial Hospital and works closely with the Foundation and

Hospital Boards.

Ms. LaBeau is an East Coast transplant of 30 years, who has become a seasoned San Francisco native. She has developed a network of partnerships and relationships that enable her to generously donate her time and efforts to many community organizations. They include: AEF/BCEF, Curry Senior Services, the American Heart Association and various other charities supporting the San Francisco Fire Department.

The Board and Staff of AEF/BCEF warmly welcome Mr. Scroggins and Ms. LaBeau to our family.

Veronica LaBeau



Rafael Scroggins



Faith Fancher Award recipient Celeste De Vaneaux and Mama
PHOTO: RICH STADTMILLER

Leather Love

Mama Sandy Reinhardt and her generous Family have done it again! Mama (aka BCEF's most generous fund raiser ever) hosted her sold-out 6th Annual

Breast Cancer Emergency Fund Awards Dinner and Silent Auction at the Swedish American Hall on April 8th. Attendees were entertained throughout the evening by **Kathleen Antonia, SDK, Berlin**, pianist **Don McConnell** and flutist **Richie Chameroy**. Awards included the Unsung Hero Award to **Carlos Medal** and the From the Heart Award to **Carlos Larranaga**. In addition, **Mark Paladini** and **Dan Alexander** were each awarded the Labor of Love Award. Finally, in the night's most moving presentation, the

Faith Fancher Breast Cancer Survivor Award was presented to **Celeste De Vaneaux** whose speech embodied the foundation of BCEF — a lesbian who has long supported gay men during the AIDS pandemic, only to find herself struggling with a different life threatening illness. Celeste's honesty and humor about battling breast cancer but looking "damned good doing it" brought the house to its feet. Thank you, Mama, for an inspiring (and profitable) evening for BCEF!

OUR COMMUNITY NEVER STOPS GIVING

02.12.06

BJ STILES AND STEVE MCCOLLOM'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

Thank you and a very happy birthday to **BJ Stiles** and **Steve McCollom**, who organized a party on their behalf and asked their celebrants to make a donation to AEF. The event raised \$1800 for AEF. If you'd like to host a party for AEF/BCEF, please call our fundraising and events manager, **Chris Morris**, at 415-558-6999x3.



2.24.06, 3.24.06
AND 4.28.06

POZ-ITIVELY DRIVEN

Thank you to **Joey DeSilva** for organizing three nights of fundraisers at The Powerhouse to raise money for AEF and AIDS LifeCycle. The events were co-sponsored by Raging Stallion Studios, Wet and Midori and raised \$1,850 for AEF.

02.25.06

IMPERIAL CORONATION

Thank you to outgoing **Empress Tiger Lily** and **Emperor John Richard** from the Imperial Council of San Francisco for raising \$3,800 for AEF, presented to us at the 2006 Coronation. Congratulations to the new reigning **Empress Galilea** and **Emperor Jason Ladd**, both longtime AEF/BCEF supporters.

Bob Herman, birthday boy Steve McCollom, Dan Joraanstad, and birthday boy BJ Stiles.

02.28.06

SAFeway CHECK PRESENTATION

Safeway presented BCEF with a check for \$40,000 — our largest foundation grant ever!

04.8.06

MAMA'S BCEF DINNER

Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt hosted her Sixth Annual Dinner benefiting BCEF. Held at The Swedish American Hall, the event featured great entertainment and a fabulous silent auction. Special thanks to **Mark Paladini** for organizing this successful event, which raised nearly \$10,000.

04.11.06

TO CELEBRATE LIFE FOUNDATION CHECK PRESENTATION

To Celebrate Life Foundation (formerly Marin Breast Cancer Foundation) presented BCEF with a check for \$25,000.

04.23.06

THE FORTUNE TELLERS BALL

Our 24th Anniversary Awards Gala, The Fortune Tellers Ball, featured an evening of entertainment by psychics, astrologers, tarot card & palm readers, and a special belly dancer performance. The event raised nearly \$70,000 for AEF/BCEF while honoring individuals and organizations who have made outstanding contributions to AEF/BCEF: **Wells Fargo Bank, Winslow & Associates, Academy of Friends, David Slocombe** and **The Edge Basket Contest**.

Front Door Watch

We give all of our clients a satisfaction survey to complete so we can get direct feedback about the job we're doing. One of the questions is: "Are you aware that your client intake is performed by a volunteer?" I'm surprised that most new clients don't know how volunteer-driven the AEF and BCEF are. We here at the office are so grateful for our strong and diverse volunteer base that we forget that people new to The City or to the system don't know our history.

Almost three years ago, one of our volunteers, **Tim McElroy**, attended a Basket Contest at The Edge Bar. He and his partner had only been in San Francisco a couple of months, and he wasn't all that familiar with AEF. However, the volunteers and Board members who were there facilitating the contest made it clear that AEF is not about bureaucracy — it's about action. It's about fundraising out in the community. And it's about having fun doing it. He started volunteering shortly after that, and is still here.

Tim has led quite an interesting life, bouncing back and forth between corporate life, non-profit organizations, and his own small business ventures. A native Californian, Tim grew up in Ventura, north of Los Angeles. At the age of 17 he started working, and hasn't stopped since. His career path took him to Los Angeles, Seattle, and then back to Ventura, where he met his current (registered domestic) partner. They got married in a church in Ventura and stayed there for seven years, before his health took a dramatic turn and he suffered two strokes. No longer able to drive a car, Southern California became a less convenient place to live. So he and his partner, who had lived in San Francisco in the past, moved up here together because you don't need a car, the doctors are better, they could get married again, and — hey, it's San Francisco, frevinsake, and we end up where we started — at a Basket Contest.

This remarkable and varied life is typical of our wonderful volunteer staff, but what is more typical, even, is his attitude. "I truly enjoy meeting and working with the clients. AEF has done so much for me and my fellow brothers and sisters with AIDS. I am proud and honored to volunteer here. The staff is wonderful to work with — truly a work family. I look forward to being here and will be here as long as I'm able."



Lee Harrington

MEET & GREET: THE SOUTH OF MARKET BEAR CHEST CALENDAR MEN

The Eagle - Sat, June 10

Saturday, June 10 marks the debut of the 2007 SoMa Bare Chest Calendar Men! This year's crop of hardworking and hunky guys was selected at the **Powerhouse Bar** on April 27. The **Calendar Men Meet & Greet Media Circus Spectacular**, at the Eagle Tavern on June 10 will include the announcement of the coveted **Front Coverman** and **Back Coverman** for the 2007 Calendar, which will hit the street in June. Congratulations to the 2007 Calendar Men: **Brandon Clark, Dan Weber, Don Nelson, Greg Hill, Jeff Cotta, Matt Johnson, Pete Berman, Ross Caperton, Scott Payne, Steve Heyl, Thom Grant, and Victor Gonzales!**



PHOTO: DENNIS TYLER

WHO'S WHO AT AEF/BCEF

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05.21.06 ING BAY TO BREAKERS 12K

AEF and BCEF are will enjoy their first year ever as Community Organization Beneficiaries of San Francisco's famous Bay to Breakers foot race on Sunday, May 21. Come out and support the runners, create your own themed team, or run — and raise funds for AEF/BCEF!



PHOTO: ING BAY TO BREAKERS

06.25.06 SF LGBT PRIDE PARADE

Join us for the 2006 San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Parade on Sunday, June 25. The parade kicks off at 10:30am and AEF/BCEF staff, board and volunteers are invited to march in our parade contingent. For more information, please call our volunteer coordinator, **Chris Morris**, at 415-558-6999x3.

07.09.06 AVON WALK FOR BREAST CANCER

Each year, the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer raises millions of dollars for organizations that support medically underserved men and women living with Breast Cancer in the Bay Area. BCEF will be applying for funds from AVON this year. To be considered, we need to help support AVON events. BCEF is building a Cheer Team to turn out in sweats, drag, or wigs to cheer on the walkers. ALL are WELCOME. Please consider joining us to both cheer the participants and help establish us establish a strong funding relationship with AVON. To sign up please call our volunteer coordinator, **Chris Morris**, at 415-558-6999x3.

07.30.06 UP YOUR ALLEY STREET FAIR

We need your help staffing our booth and selling raffle tickets. To sign up please call our volunteer coordinator, **Chris Morris**, at 415-558-6999x3.

8.02.06 – 8.07.06 LAZY BEAR WEEKEND

Calling all bears! Join us for the 12th Annual Lazy Bear Weekend in Guerneville. The event is organized by **Harry Lit** and **Allen Eggman** of **The Lazy Bear Fund**, **Castrobear Presents** and **The Sacramento Bears**. AEF and BCEF are major beneficiaries of Lazy Bear Weekend, Russian River's "biggest" event. For more information, go to www.lazybearweekend.com.

Heart To Heart

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

965 MISSION STREET, SUITE 630 • SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94103

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FLIER



Perspective

Postcards From the Edge



Mike Smith,
Executive Director

In April 1991, **Gary Rahlf**, **Don McMartin** and then-Edge Bar manager **Eric Weinmann** got together to cook up a fundraiser for AEF. Together they launched the "Edge Basket Contest," a once-a-month event at the Edge Bar offering a cash reward to the winning patron who was willing to get up on stage, answer a few questions and then drop his pants for charity. The first contest featured 18 contestants. Little did Gary, Don, and Eric know that they were launching what would become the single longest running monthly AIDS fundraiser in San Francisco.

After Eric passed away in 2002, Gary continued the Basket Contest tradition, enlisting AEF board members **Steve Logan**, **Phil Seigel**, **Dave Jensen**, **Glenon Sutter**, **Jeff Braff** and others to help run the event. For at least the last decade, comic **Danny Williams** has

MC'ed most of the contests. Even after moving to Palm Springs, he continued to commute back to SF monthly for the shows. Recent guest MCs have included **TJ Istvan** and **Daddy Mike Ostfeld**.

Miraculously, all these men have kept this tradition alive and profitable for 178 consecutive months, just two contests short of 15 years. But, like a great athlete whose number is retired after a long and outstanding career, all good things must end. The last Edge Basket Contest was held in January. At AEF's recent gala, the Basket Contest was ceremoniously retired when **Gary Rahlf** pulled the boxer shorts off a symbolic last contestant mannequin to reveal the total amount raised by this unique bar event over 15 years: \$93,142!

In a letter to AEF in March, **Don McMartin**, owner of the Edge Bar, vowed to continue to make a \$500 contribution to AEF each month in memory of Eric Weinmann and the Edge Basket Contest until, in his words, "the Edge or AIDS no longer exists." Thank you to Don, Gary, the hundreds of volunteers and contestants who made the Edge Basket Contest so fun and profitable all these years!



Mike Smith & Gary Rahlf
expose the 15-year tally of
the Edge Basket Contest.

PHOTO: JOSEPH DRISTE

Save
These
Dates!

06.10.06

BARE CHEST
CALENDAR
MEET & GREET

06.25.06

SAN
FRANCISCO
PRIDE PARADE

07.09.06

AVON WALK
FOR BREAST
CANCER

07.30.06

UP YOUR
ALLEY
STREET FAIR