

"Theatregoing is a communal act; moviegoing a solitary one."
—Robert Brustein

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Jackie Taylor (c) is flanked by Cheryl Lynn Bruce and Luther Goins.

LeNoire Award Presented to Chicago's Jackie Taylor

By Luther Goins
National EEO Coordinator

Jackie Taylor, the Founder and Executive Director of Chicago's Black Ensemble Theater, has received Equity's 2010 Rosetta LeNoire Award. The award was presented on May 3, 2010 by Central Region Equal Employment Opportunity Committee Co-Chair Cheryl Lynn Bruce at a reception at the Equity office attended by staff, Central Regional Board members, the EEO Committee, Black Ensemble staff and board, and friends and family.

Ms. Taylor's cultural contributions to the city of Chicago, and to the country, are vast, numerous and diverse. There is a street on the North Side of Chicago that has been named in her honor by the City in recognition of her contributions to the arts. The Black Ensemble Theater, which is celebrating 30 years, has grown into a million-dollar organization with national

recognition. Ms. Taylor, who knew and worked with Ms. LeNoire, is also a playwright and an Equity Actor. She has penned (and produced) more than 100 plays.

The Black Ensemble's mission remains to cross cultural barriers and help eradicate ignorance and racism. It does this through productions and programs that perpetuate the history of the African American people while reaching out to a diverse audience and serving disenfranchised communities.

The Rosetta LeNoire Award, established in 1988, recognizes outstanding artistic contributions to the universality of the human experience in American Theatre. The Award is given to an individual, theatre or producing organization with an exemplary record in the hiring or promotion of ethnic minorities, female actors and actors with disabilities through multi-racial and/or non-traditional casting.

Nick Wyman Elected President

18 Council Seats Filled

Nick Wyman has been elected President of Equity for a two-year term. Other candidates for the office were: Christine Toy Johnson, incumbent Principal Councillor and Brian Myers Cooper, incumbent Chorus Councillor plus a write-in. The new President as well as elected Councillors begin to serve immediately.

There were 6,522 total valid ballots cast, of which 1,868 were cast electronically. Results, tabulated by election.com on May 21, 2010 are as follows:

EASTERN REGION

Principal – Five-year term

Dana Ivey 5,181
Maureen Moore 4,217
Judy Rice 3,759
Wally Dunn 3,602
Scott Evans 3,522
Kristine Nevins 3,324
Craig A. Meyer 3,163
Joe Zaloom 3,141

Not elected: Tom Helmer, Ronald L. Brown, Bernard J. Marsh, Jim Fouratt

Principal – Four-year term

Nicole Flender 5,339

Principal – Three-year term

Jonathan Brody 5,403

Chorus – Five-year term

Bill Bateman 5,326

Stage Manager – Five-year term

Ruth E. Kramer 3,913
Greg Hirsch 2,745

Not elected: Jason A. Quinn, Timothy R. Semon

CENTRAL REGION

Chorus – Five-year term

Ariane Dolan 5,001

Stage Manager – Five-year term

Malcolm D. Ewen 4,990

WESTERN REGION

Principal – Five-year term

Cynthia Marty 4,039

Tom Moriarty 3,656

John Herzog 3,630

Not elected: Bostin Christopher

Wyman Outlines Goals

Nick Wyman stepped into his new post saying, "I am honored, delighted and humbled to be elected President of Actors' Equity Association." Mr. Wyman fills the position vacated by Mark Zimmerman in December, 2009 and held on an interim basis by First Vice President Paige Price. His term of office will be through the conclusion of elections in 2012.

In outlining his goals, Mr. Wyman said, "An ancient curse says, 'May you live in interesting times,' and these are indeed interesting times. My priority will be to improve communication, both by clarifying and focusing the message and mission of Actors' Equity and by soliciting and listening to the concerns and ideas of members in all

areas of the country." He continued, "I will dedicate myself to improving the lives and working conditions of our members, and to that service, I offer my experience, reputation and leadership."

Mr. Wyman brings to the post of President more than 20 years' experience as a National Councillor and eight years as a



Nick Wyman. Photo: newhartphoto.com

Trustee for the Pension and Health Trust Funds. In addition, he has worked on nearly all of the contracts negotiated by the Union, and has served as the Deputy for all of the productions in which he appeared. His dedicated service to Equity includes serving on four Production Contract negotiation committees, as well as the National Public Policy, House Affairs, Strategic Alliance and Merger and the 2010 Executive Director Search committees.

An Equity member since 1974, Nick has worked under a variety of contracts, including Production (Broadway, National Tour and bus and truck), Special Production, LORT, Off Broadway, ANTC, WCLO, and Staged Reading. He created the role of "Monsieur Firmin" in the original Broadway company of

(continued on page 7)

Equity Members Respond to Community Projects

An all-star cast gathered for a one-night only performance of a play by Ariel Dorfman, *Speak Truth to Power: Voices Beyond the Dark*,

based on the book by Kerry Kennedy to help raise funds for the relief efforts of **Habitat for Humanity** in Chile, where an 8.8 earthquake caused devastation in

February 2010. The cast included Marcia Gay Harden, Elias Koteas, Alfred Molina, Julianne Moore, Viggo Mortensen, Aidan Quinn, Gloria Reuben, Paul

Sorvino, Meryl Streep, Stanley Tucci and Debra Winger. Held in May, the event was presented by Mr. Dorfman, Ms. Kennedy, the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights and The Public Theater.

The casts of *Billy Elliot* were quick to

respond when news of an explosion in an underground West Virginia mine made headlines in April 2010. Both the Broadway and touring company of the musical, set in a mining town, raised money to support the **American Red Cross** relief efforts to help the families of the victims and the community.

For the third year in a row, an

(continued on page 4)



The cast of *Speak Truth to Power: Voices Beyond the Dark*. (Photo: Anita/Steve Shevett)

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ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Dear Editor:

The Peninsula Players Theatre in Fish Creek, Wisconsin will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary this year. Over the decades Peninsula Players has provided actors and technicians the opportunity to hone their skills and pass along their craft to company interns and apprentices.

Artistic Director Greg Vinkler, currently performing on Broadway as Doc in *West Side Story* is one of many alumni scattered throughout the entertainment industry as actors, designers, stage managers, educators and technicians.

In the late 1940s and early 1950s, I had the opportunity to serve as company stage manager and enjoyed many wonderful summers along the shores of Green Bay working with professionals, including Harvey Korman, Jean Sincere, Charlie Cinnamon, René Auberjonois and producer James B. McKenzie. I cherish the memories and camaraderie of producing a show a week under a canvas awning.

The stage house itself has changed since then, but the sense of family among the company and audience remains. Children who had their first taste of theatre under the stars or canvas tent are now bringing their grandkids to see a show in the all-weather pavilion.

On Saturday, July 24, a 75th Anniversary celebration is

Letters to The Editor

Letters received from paid up members on subjects of concern to Equity members will be considered and published as soon as possible. The Editor reserves the right to limit letters to 150 words and to select one or two representative letters when many similar letters are received. Letters must be signed, but names will be withheld on request for those letters which may affect members' employment. Signatures will not be withheld on letters antagonistic or accusatory, either implied or expressed, against other members. Opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor are not necessarily those of Actors' Equity Association.

planned, and I would encourage any past company members or audience members to join us. It will be a night to rekindle acquaintances and share memories of shows and fellow company members.

Ticket information is available at the theatre's website, www.peninsulaplayers.com. Former Players may also email memories to news@peninsulaplayers.com or visit Peninsula Players on Face Book.

I hope to meet many alumni on this special night and to join you in the beer garden to toast this lovely grand old lady of summer theatres.
Ted Bird

WRONG "MIRACLE"

Dear Editor:

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus, but not in *Oliver*. While I was honored to find a photo of the cast of the John W. Engeman Theatre's production of *Miracle on 34th Street* presenting their fundraising check to Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS in the April issue, I was disappointed by the accompanying story. While it's true that the cast of *Oliver* did collect for the organization in 2008, we carried on the tradition in 2009, raising \$31,721. The producers at the Engeman are committed to the cause, and the audiences in Northport, Long Island were extremely generous even in the midst of a recession. The spirit of the show encouraged people to believe in miracles—that the sim-

ple contribution of \$1 when matched by their fellow audience members would add up to thousands.

Our Santa Claus, actor Ken Cavett, made an irresistible curtain speech, and we sold copies of *Carols for a Cure*, which featured the John Engeman cast of *Little Shop of Horrors*.

We had 11 children in the cast, all of whom participated enthusiastically. It was wonderful to see them learn that the Broadway community gives back.

Mary Jo McConnell
Fundraising Coordinator

A GOOD IDEA

Dear Editor:

At the last Equity meeting under New Business, I suggested that a banner, flag or rectangular sign be placed on the West side of the Equity Building, facing Seventh Avenue and Broadway, saying: "Home of Actors' Equity – 100th Anniversary!"

Millions of people walk by the building on Seventh Avenue and Broadway. It would be great publicity at very little cost.

I was Radio/TV Director for Howard Rubenstein Associates and helped to get Weight Watchers started in 1966. Also, I got the field of dental implants started in 1979 with Dr. Leonard Linkow, the implant pioneer.

I feel I am qualified to come up with a good idea.

James Yoham, New York

New York State

COBRA Payments Delayed; Participants Must Pay in Full

Effective June 2010, New York State COBRA premiums that are expected to be covered by the State subsidy program will need to be paid in full by Equity Health Plan participants no later than the end of each month (e.g., June 30 for June premiums). As soon as the Fund receives payment of the June premium subsidy from New York State, it will credit that payment to the participant's account as he or she prefers, either as a payment, or a credit to future payments. In subsequent months, the Fund will continue to collect the premiums that would have been covered by the New York subsidy up front, giving credit for those payments as soon as it receives them.

In recent weeks, the N. Y. State Insurance Department notified the Equity-League Health Fund that due to the substantial operating deficit within the State's Budget Division, the NYS Legislature has yet to enact an approved Fiscal Year 2010-11 budget. Due to this delay, the State of New York does not have funding established to pay its obligations, including the COBRA subsidy, from April 1, 2010 forward. To date, the Insurance Department has been unsuccessful in securing funds for the NYS Continuation Assistance Program as an emergency appropriation (in order to pay subsidy payments for April 2010, and thereafter). At this time, Equity-League has been informed that until the Department receives emergency funding relief, subsidy payments related to the COBRA premiums from April 2010 forward will be delayed.

Due to the uncertainty of the State's current financial situation, the Equity-League Health Fund Trustees recently conferred to determine the future policies of the Fund with regard to the NY subsidy program. In view of the substantial monies already due from the program, and to protect the Fund from putting further funds at risk (which could affect all Plan participants), the Trustees have determined that

the Fund can no longer provide coverage and then wait for NY State to pay the COBRA subsidy.

The Fund deeply regrets the difficulties this change in policy will impose on many participants, and if you do not have the resources to pay for the additional premium, you are urged to contact The Actors Fund for assistance, www.actorsfund.org. You can contact the Fund Office for an accounting of what will be due for the month of June 2010 in the event you are not certain of the amount you will be responsible to pay.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Fund Office at (212) 869-9380 or outside NYC toll free at (800) 344-5220 and a Health customer service representative will assist you.

AEA Launches National Area Liaison Hotline System

Call 877-AEA-1913

Equity has established a new National toll-free hotline system for members who live in Area Liaison and office cities. The new number is 877-AEA-1913 (honoring the year of Equity's founding). Each Area Liaison city has its own extension, where members can access news and information in their region.

(1) Dial 877-AEA-1913

(2) Dial your city extension:

- 811 Atlanta
- 812 Austin/San Antonio
- 813 Boston
- 814 Buffalo/Rochester
- 815 Chicago**
- 816 Cincinnati/Louisville
- 817 Cleveland
- 818 Dallas/Fort Worth
- 819 Denver
- 820 Detroit
- 821 Florida – Central
- 822 Florida – South
- 823 Houston
- 824 Kansas City
- 825 Las Vegas
- 826 Los Angeles**
- 827 Milwaukee/Madison
- 828 Minneapolis/St Paul
- 829 Nashville
- 830 New Orleans
- 831 New York**
- 832 Philadelphia
- 833 Phoenix/Tucson
- 834 Pittsburgh
- 835 San Diego
- 836 San Francisco
- 837 Seattle
- 838 St. Louis
- 839 Washington DC/Baltimore

Corrections

In Council's recorded vote on a resolution from the Central Region Membership Meeting regarding the printing of rulebooks following the conclusion of contract negotiations, Councillor Ruth E. Kramer was listed as *Mr.* Kramer. Obviously, it should have been *Ms.* Kramer.

Illinois Theatre Center should have been included in the list of theatres recognized for their policies on diversity at Chicago's Black History Month celebration and reported in the May issue of Equity News.

The name of Stage Manager Brian Rardin was inadvertently omitted from the Off Broadway negotiating team listed in the January/February issue of Equity News.

In the May issue, Diane Dorsey was listed as Chair of the Central Region Membership Education Committee. Ariana Dolan is the Chair. Ms. Dorsey chaired the Solo Performance Workshop/Seminar. The member not included in the photo that accompanied the report on the Solo Performance Workshop was Committee member Mark David Kaplan, not David Kaplan as reported.

Council Approves TYA Contract Extension

The current TYA (Theatre for Young Audiences) contract is scheduled to expire on June 27, 2010. In April, the three regional TYA committees met nationally and recommended that Council approve a one-year extension of the contract.

Late last year, the long-time President of PLOTYA

(Producers' League of Theatre for Young Audiences), the producers' collective bargaining organization, resigned and the organization is still in the process of reorganizing.

The TYA committees and ultimately Council acknowledged the transition occurring within PLOTYA as well as the current state of the economy and

therefore felt that a one-year extension would be of benefit to all. The new expiration date of the TYA contract is June 26, 2011 and PLOTYA has agreed to an increase in the weekly health contribution under the weekly contract and a small increase in the performance salary under the per performance contract option effective June 28, 2010.



ACTORS'
EQUITY
ASSOCIATION 1913

EQUITYNEWS

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POSTCARDS from the Regions

New York

Women Over 40 Celebrated



Performing "Good Girls Only" are (l to r) Rise Clemmer, Diane Findlay, Terry Baughan, Melinda Tanner and Kathy Conry. (Photo: Sue Coffin)

On March 1, 2010, Women's History Month was launched into action with an event sponsored by the New York Coalition of Professional Women in the Arts and Media (NYCWAM) along with AFTRA and SAG. It boasted many Equity members both on stage and behind-the-scenes, all showing they've come a long way, baby, and refuse to be sidelined by age.

VintAGE: Celebrating Women Artists Over 40 was co-produced by Equity's Denise Pence, working closely with Avis Boone and others on the Coalition Board, including Leslie Shreve, who served as MC, Gale Shaw Patron, Shellen Lubin and Holli Harms. A networking after-party was organized by Marlene Hodgdon, one of Equity's representatives to the Coalition.

The show featured Mercedes Ellington choreographing a rousing opening number to Shania Twain's *Man! I Feel Like A Woman!*, after which Anita Gillette, Betsy von Furstenberg and other Equity members took part in

readings from the collaborative works of Edna Ferber and George S. Kaufman, including *Stage Door*. In addition, there was the vocal quartet, Women of a Certain Age, and a sneak peak at the new musical by Gretchen Cryer and Nancy Ford, *I'm Still Getting My Act Together And Taking It On The Road*.

Anne Kaufman shared anecdotes from her father, George S. Kaufman, about the casting of the original *Stage Door*, which was based on the women's residence and NYCWAM's new affiliate member, The Rehearsal Club. Equity members and Club alumnae performed both a scene from *Stage Door* and the original song written for the women of the Club, *Good Girls Only*, which has lyrics by Charlie Leipart and music by John Kroner, and was directed and choreographed by Equity member Kathy Conry.

The evening was an exciting start to a national month-long celebration of the achievements of women. Said Denise Pence, "It's great to know we *can* still do it—when given the chance."

Phoenix/Tucson

Spring Meeting Set

The Spring General Meeting of the Phoenix/Tucson membership will be held on Monday, June 21, 2010 at the Little Theatre at Phoenix Theatre, 101 E. McDowell (NE corner of Central & McDowell) in Phoenix. There will be a reception at 6:30 p.m.,

presentation of the 2010 Theatre Service Award to Judy Rollings at 7 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. All members are invited for wine and cheese, to hear the latest Equity news, to share in the presentation of the Award and to network with fellow members.

Austin/San Antonio

Theatres Set Seasons

By Bill McMillin
Area Liaison

The Austin/San Antonio area is settling into the standard hot and humid weather with some theatres making early 2010-2011 season announcements.

Zachary Scott Theatre Center, an SPT Category 4 theatre with three stages and plans to build a fourth, announced its 2010/2011 season. They will produce *Rent*, *The Break-Up Notebook*, *Fiction*, *Hairspray*, *The Book of Grace*, *August: Osage County*, *The Santaland Diaries* and *Rockin' Christmas Party*.

Mary Moody Northen Theatre at St. Edward's University, an URTA Level 1 theatre, will present *The Imaginary Invalid*, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*, *Eurydice*, *On the Verge* (all student production) and *Carousel*. They will be holding general Equity auditions this summer.

Austin Playhouse, Austin Shakespeare and TEX-ARTS, three SPT theatres, have not yet made season announcements, but are expected to do so soon. However, Austin Playhouse will kick off its season with *The 39 Steps* on September 10. Check the Equity website, Austin/San Antonio Liaison section, and these theatres' links for season announcements.

On May 13, 2010, The Austin Critics Table Awards announced nominations for the 2009-2010 season in Austin. The Awards cover both Equity and non-Equity theatres. Of the 14 categories and 109 nominations, the SPTs received 20 nominations, 19 for the URTA theatres and eight nominations for two Member Project Code productions, for a total of 47 nominations (43%) for Equity productions. Among the acting nominations, three Equity Membership Candidates received nominations—one for a Member Project Code production, one for an URTA production and one in an SPT show. For a list of all nominees, visit www.austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/issue/story?oik%3A1028144.



Michele Lee (center row, second from l) with Equity members and staff.

Los Angeles

Michele Lee Addresses New Members

Michele Lee was the special guest at the Los Angeles New Member Orientation meeting on April 7, 2010, sharing her story of how she joined the Union. Ms. Lee spoke about her first audition, in 1960, at the Ivar Theatre, located five blocks away from the current location of the Los Angeles Equity office (and four blocks away from her star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame). She was 17 and went to the audition after being warned by her father that she needed to prepare herself for rejection if she intended to pursue an acting career. With nerves of steel, Michele took to the Ivar Theatre stage, belted out the Frank Sinatra standard, "You Make Me Feel So Young," and was hired on the spot under an

Equity contract. And what she learned from the experience is that she had a special gift. She told the new members that they must all have learned that they, too, have a special gift because for whatever reason and by whatever means, each one had earned their Equity card and will forever be part of the theatre community.

The meeting was attended by members, Councillors, staff and representatives from The Actors Fund and Actors Federal Credit Union.

Business Representative Ivan Rivas provided the new members with information about the privileges and responsibilities of Equity membership and a Q & A session followed.



Among those remembering Michael Bennett are (l to r) Bob Avian, Larry Fuller, Kelly Bishop, Margo Sappington, Joy Serio Dunbar, Baayork Lee, Karin Baker, Alice Playten, Rita O'Connor, Dorothy Frank Danner, Steve Boockvor, Carolyn Kirsch and Harvey Evans. (Not pictured: Nancy Dalton.)

New York

Dancers Remember Michael Bennett

Dancers Over 40 sponsored two panels on the life and times of director/choreographer Michael Bennett on May 17, 2010 at St. Luke's Theatre. Panelists included Bob Avian, Kelly Bishop, Larry Fuller, Baayork Lee, Alice Playten and Margo Sappington along with moderator, Harvey Evans. DO40 members and friends also in attendance included: Karin Baker, Steve Boockvor, Nancy Dalton, Dottie Frank Danner,

Joy Serio Dunbar, Carolyn Kirsch and Rita O'Connor. People flew in from London, Los Angeles and Las Vegas (and probably a few other places) to join in the reunion/get-together/lovefest.

As always, a tape of the event will be donated to the Jerome Robbins Dance Collection at Lincoln Center Library for the Performing Arts.

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COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Continued from page 1

Equity team participated in the **AIDS Walk New York** event in May 2010. The team, organized by staffer Chris Williams, raised \$2,000. The event marked the 25th anniversary of AIDS Walk New York, which has raised more than \$110 million for HIV programs and services in the tri-state area. The Equity Team included Mr. Williams, members Joshua Phillip Huff, Nicholas Cacciola, Ben Engle, Javier Ignacio and his mom Ana Gomez-Reggett, Hope Feifer, Sarah Wilson, EMC Jermaine Miles and friends Gerald Schroeder, Matt Martin, Dylan Baker and staffer



(L to r) Dylan Bauer, Ana Gomez-Reggeti, Javier Ignacio, Hope Fieffer, Joshua Phillip Huff, Gerold Schroeder, Jermaine Miles, Matt Martin, John Fasulo; (front) Sarah Wilson, Nicholas J. Cacciola.

John Fasulo.

Team GO Equity (The Guys Of Equity) participated in the 5K Entertainment Industry Foundation **Revlon Walk/Run** at the Los Angeles Coliseum on May 8, 2010. The Guys raised over \$3,000 to help eradicate cancers

in women.

The drive into Nashville for the touring company of *A Chorus Line* was an extraordinary study in contrasts. To the left, rescue efforts were in full swing because of the devastating floods a portion of the city



Team GO-Equity: (l to r) Ned Schmidtke, Greg North, Doug Dixon, Joshua M. Bott and Richard Ostlund.

endured, while the higher ground to the right remained untouched. The cast didn't hesitate to say yes to a request from the management of the Tennessee Performing Arts Center to help raise money at their first performance for those families

Merchandising donated posters and as actors came off the stage they joined an assembly line to sign more posters. In seven performances, the cast of *A Chorus Line* raised \$47,892 from the generous audiences in Nashville!

and individuals who were affected by the flood. The cast, in fact, volunteered to raise money for the **flood relief efforts** after each performance. Running out of posters to sign after the first performance, Max

Annual Easter Bonnet Competition Raises Over \$3.2 Million for BC/EFA



Fifty-nine Broadway, Off Broadway and National Touring companies came together at Broadway's Minskoff Theatre on April 26 and 27, 2010 to raise \$3,265,700 for Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS at the 24th Annual *Easter Bonnet Competition*.

Shows Go Gaga for BC/EFA

The opening number, "Gaga For Broadway!" included 50 performers, choreography by Shea Sullivan and associate Pamela Remler, direction by Nick Demos, music and lyrics by Ben Cohn and Bill Russell and a special appearance by BC/EFA's most cherished veteran, the late Doris Eaton Travis.

Among the presentations: "the notorious and dangerous Cagelles" from the revival of *La Cage Aux Folles* stood tall in glamorous drag; bonnets from the large casts of *The Phantom of the Opera* and *Memphis* were joined by solo performers Leslie Jordan (*My Trip Down the Pink Carpet*) and Jim Brochu (*Zero Hour*). Highlights also included a "spicy" bonnet from *Mamma Mia!*, and (1) Corbin Bleu, star of *In The Heights* in two presentations, *Heights Cool Musical* and a special presentation by R. Evolution Latina. The company of *Wicked* paid tribute to the Broadway Green Alliance and BC/EFA's affiliate, Dancers Responding to AIDS, brought down the house with tap. A special Moment of Silence was introduced by the cast of *Million Dollar Quartet*.

The company of *Billy Elliot* remembered the victims of the April 5 mining disaster in West Virginia, while the cast of *Next Fall* honored the show's producer, Sir Elton John. Broadway kids (2) were represented in presentations from *The Lion King* and

South Pacific.

The National Tour Bonnet presentation, "Broadway Cares Love Affair," created by Melissa Mahon and Sean McKnight, saluted the fundraising done on the road this season.

Catherine Zeta-Jones (*A Little*



Photos: Peter James Zielinski

Night Music) joined Bebe Neuwirth and Nathan Lane (*The Addams Family*) to present the awards for top fundraising companies and outstanding bonnet presentations: *The Lion King*/fourth runner-up with \$114,684; *In The Heights*/third runner-up, \$117,660; *Billy Elliot*/second runner-up, \$134,682; *The Phantom of the Opera*/first runner-up, \$153,444. The top Broadway Fundraising Award went to *Wicked* for raising \$208,880.

Of the 59 shows participating, 19 touring companies accounted for \$1,386,374 of the day's total. Awards were presented to the National Tours of *Mary Poppins*/third runner-up, \$128,553; *Wicked* – *San Francisco*/second runner-up, \$131,815; *Jersey Boys*/first runner-up, \$142,434. The top Tour Fundraising Award went to *Wicked* – *Emerald City* for its \$239,815.

The Grand Prize for Fundraising went to the *Wicked* – *Munchkinland Tour* which raised \$251,332. All told, the four companies of *Wicked*—Broadway, San Francisco and two National Tours—broke every previous record over the last 24 years by raising \$831,906.

A special award was given to the top fundraising Broadway play, *Next Fall*, for raising \$49,946 and to the top Off Broadway production, *Avenue Q*, with \$22,328.

The award for Outstanding Bonnet (3) went to the cast of *Fela!*, while the award for Best Bonnet Presentation went to the company of *Memphis*, whose leading lady, (4) Montego Glover, delivered a stirring rendition of the *Easter Bonnet* anthem, "Help is on the Way."

For a full story and additional photographs, go to www.broadwaycares.org.

Doris Eaton Travis Dies at 106 Years Young

Last Ziegfeld Girl, BC/EFA Favorite

In the spring of 1998, fans and friends of Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS' Annual *Easter Bonnet Competition* were delighted with the appearance of five of the original *Ziegfeld Follies* girls on the stage of the New Amsterdam Theatre—where they had appeared 70 years earlier. But,

what no one anticipated was the love affair that would blossom between BC/EFA and *Follies* legend Doris Eaton Travis, who became a special friend and *Easter Bonnet* favorite. Doris died on May 4, 2010 at the age of 106, just two weeks after her 12th *Easter Bonnet* appearance.

For more on the life and times of Doris Eaton Travis, go to www.broadwaycares.org—"A Celebration of Doris Eaton Travis."

SPT Agreement Extended

Council has voted to extend Equity's Small Professional Theatre Contract (SPTC) through September 26, 2010 with a 3% increase in minimum salaries and an increase in the health rate. Council's action followed a recommendation from the three Regional Developing Theatre Committees and was taken in order to accommodate the necessary process of finalizing changes to be brought to the

Council and to facilitate the anticipated September completion of the "rewrite" process.

The SPTC is a promulgated Agreement. The three Regional Committees have been meeting together to examine the rulebook and propose changes. To date there have been three meetings and, according to Central Regional Director Kathryn V. Lamkey, "the process is proving to be time consuming though fruitful."

Brief Notes

• Two New York City police precincts received **Tony Awards** for their work in the city's Theatre District following the potential car bomb in Times Square.

• **Keith Halpern** is the new Director of Labor Relations for The Broadway League.

• **Chanhassen Dinner Theatres** has officially been sold. The new managing partners of the 41-year old theatre include Michael Brindisi, Chanhassen Resident Artistic Director; Tamara Kangas Erickson, Choreographer and Steven L. Peters, Owner and President of VenuWorks. Said Brindisi, an Equity member: "We're looking forward to our future. Our goals are the same as our predecessors, to be profitable, to maintain the quality experience, to improve upon it, and to have fun. The best days of Chanhassen Dinner Theatres are before us."

• Broadway's Henry Miller's Theatre, which recently reopened

with a whole new interior after major renovations, has been renamed the **Stephen Sondheim Theatre**, honoring the legendary composer and lyricist.

• James J. Claffey, Jr. has been re-elected for a third term as president of **Local One**, International Association of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE). Local One represents stagehands.

• **Broadway's economic impact** on New York City was close to \$10 billion in the 2008-09 season according to a report released by The Broadway League. In addition, theatre supported 84,400 jobs and generated \$477.7 million in New York City taxes.

• St. Clement's Episcopal Church, 423 West 46th Street in Manhattan, holds its 13th annual **A Celebration of Their Lives** service at 7 p.m. on Sunday, June 20, 2010. This is a brief ecumenical service of song and meditation remembering and celebrating the lives of those in the theatre community who have died during the past year. Admission is free.

Annual Easter Bonnet Competition

(continued from page 1)

Photos: Walter McBride/Retna



Doris Eaton Travis.

Postcards Continued from page 3

South Florida

Equity Talent Shines at Carbonell Awards

By Marjorie O'Neill-Butler
South Florida Equity Liaison Committee Member

From the new Executive Producer/Director Amy London, to the recipient of the Best Lighting Award, Equity members lit up the Amatur Theatre on April 12, 2010 for the presentation of the 34th Annual Carbonell Awards.

For the second year in a row, Equity sponsored an award category—this year, Best Actress in a Play.

Presenting the Equity award were Councillor Emeritus Arne

Gundersen and Councillor Valerie Toth-Grant. Also present at the event were Councillor Marjorie Horne and members of the South Florida Area Liaison Committee.

AEA and Liaison Committee member Amy London was recently appointed to head the Carbonell Awards organization as Executive Producer/Director. A long time member of AEA, Amy is a Renaissance woman who acts, directs, stage manages and served a long term on the Liaison Committee, all while raising three children, including one rather new one. She gave the production a hometown feel, all the while keeping it professional. Also adding to the show with songs from last year's productions were AEA members, including Everett Bradley, from *Vices* at The Caldwell Theatre, David Michael Felty, *Les Miserables* at Actors' Playhouse, Robert Creighton, *Cagney* at Florida Stage and Nathaniel Braga, *Barnum* at the Maltz Jupiter Theatre.

John Manzelli, an AEA actor, director and fight choreographer received the award for Best Lighting Design. John is the Co-Founder of The Naked Stage

New York

New Members to Meet June 21

Save the date: There will be an Eastern Region New Members Reception on Monday, June 21, 2010 at 4 p.m. in the Council Room on the 14th Floor of the Equity Building, 165 West 46th Street. For more information, visit the Equity website: www.actorsequity.org.

where he won the lighting award for the production, *Macon City*.

After receiving numerous nominations over the years, Barbara Bradshaw received the Best Actress Award for her performance in *Why Torture is Wrong and the People Who Love Them* at the Mosaic Theatre.

Another multiple nomination actress, Elena Maria Garcia, also broke her Susan Lucci luck by receiving the Best Supporting Actress award for City Theatre's *Summer Shorts*.

Gregg Weiner continued his winning streak this year with the Best Supporting

Actor award for *Farragut North* at GableStage.

In the Musical categories, Best Actress went to Holly Shunkey for *Vices: A Love Story*; Best Supporting Actress was Gwen Hollander for *Les Miserables*; Best Actor went to Brad Oscar for *Barnum* and Best Supporting Actor to Gary Marachek, *Les Miserables*. Best Production of a Musical was *Les Miserables* at Actors' Playhouse.

Best New Work went to the creators of *Cagney* at Florida Stage, and Best Ensemble Production was *Farragut North*. GableStage's production of *Speed the Plow* won Best Production of a Play and Best Director for Joseph Adler. GableStage was also the recipient of the Bill von Maurer Award for Theatrical Excellence.

The evening culminated with an after party sponsored by the Theatre League of South Florida.

New York

Broadway Show League Opens Credit Union Donates \$10,000 to BC/EFA Kicking Off 2010 Season

Actors Federal Credit Union, the official sponsor of the Broadway Show League, presented a check for \$10,000 to Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS at the opening ceremony of the League's 56th season on May 13, 2010.

"As a Credit Union volunteer for more than 25 years, a Board member, and a working New York Actor, I couldn't be more proud of our ability to give back to our community," said Chairwoman

San Francisco/Bay Area

Record Crowd Attends Membership Meeting



The crowd at the San Francisco/Bay Area Membership Meeting.

By Kelly Ground,
BAAC Chair

A record turnout of 68 AEA members was in attendance at the Spring 2010 San Francisco/Bay Area Membership Meeting at the Aurora Theatre in Berkeley on April 26, 2010. Members were joined by Western Regional Director Mary Lou Westerfield and Bay Area Business Rep Bethany Umbach. This continued the trend in the Bay Area of stronger participation and increased attendance and doubled the number from three years ago when the Bay Area Advisory Committee (BAAC) began to focus on increasing member participation.

The meeting and pre-meeting reception were hosted by the BAAC, with a buffet donated by member volunteers of the Event and Hospitality subcommittee: Susan Reamy, Wanda McCaddon, Deborah Black, Jessica Powell, Phoebe Moyer and chairs Michael Patrick Gaffney and Katja Rivera.

The entire day's events, including BAAC's meeting earlier in the day, were made possible through the generosity of the Aurora Theatre, which donated the use of its lobby, theatre and new conference room.

The Education and Outreach subcommittee also hosted a food drive benefiting the Marin Community Food Bank, with members bringing canned food and pantry items. Over three boxes of items were collected.

At the top of the meeting, present and outgoing members of the BAAC were introduced: Bert van Aalsburg, 1st Vice Chair; Steven Pawley, 2nd Vice Chair; Heath Belden, Secretary; Brian Herndon, Michael Patrick Gaffney, Aaron Wilton, Jessica Powell, Phoebe Moyer, Katja Rivera, Anna Bullard, Rod Gnapp, Joan Mankin (Alternate) and AEA and BAAC Member Emeritus Milt Commons.

The annual BAAC elections topped the agenda. Four three-year seats plus two one-year

alternate seats were open. Phoebe Moyer, Stephen Pawley, Danielle Levin and Deborah Del Mastro were elected to serve from 2010-2013 and Ray Renati and Ric Prindle were elected as alternates.

The Chair reported on deceased members, upcoming events, subcommittee recruitment and the date for the Fall General Membership Meeting—October 25, and thanked outgoing BAAC members Anna Bullard and Katja Rivera for their service. Both will continue to serve on BAAC subcommittees.

Bethany Umbach provided members with a list of current contract theatres in the Bay Area plus Bay Area Project Policy productions which members can attend without cost, pending seat availability. Ms. Westerfield reported on the National elections and how regional members can participate in the Union.

Members were reminded of the annual Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Award on May 3 which AEA has sponsored for the second year.

There was extended discussion on the lack of work and how members can be proactive about educating producers and city officials about supporting more AEA theatre, thus creating new workweeks.

Enthusiasm ran high for the many projects supported by Equity through the BAAC and special praise was extended for the work of the BAAC, which has kept Equity members who reside in the San Francisco/Bay Area connected with each other and the theatre community at large.

New York

Memorial Set for Shirley Rich

A celebration of the life of casting director Shirley Rich who died on December 28, 2009, will be held on Thursday, June 24, 2010 in Theatre A at 59 East 59th Theatres.

Beginning at 12 Noon, there will be time for people who have not seen one another in years to re-connect and share a hug and glass of wine. From 12:30 to 1:30, all are invited to

the "joyful celebration Shirley would want," and afterwards the celebration will continue. If you would like to share your experience with the audience, contact Shirley's daughter, Lisa Krohn directly via email at lisakrohnllc@gmail.com.



BSL supporters and friends.

(*Billy Elliot*), Laura Osnes (*South Pacific*), Mandy Gonzalez and Katie Rose Clarke (*Wicked*), Brian D'Arcy James (*Time Stands Still*), Diana DeGarmo (*Hair*) and special

guest, World Series Champion and former New York Yankee, Jeff Nelson.

For information on ActorsFCU visit actorsfcu.com.

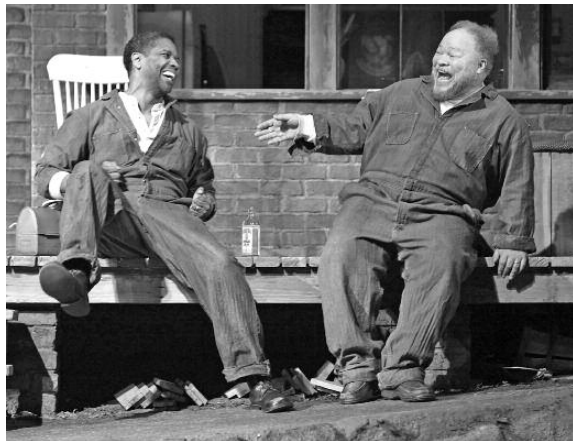
New York

Derwent, Seff Awards Presented

Recipients of both Equity's Clarence Derwent Award and its Richard Seff Award were selected on May 6, 2010.

The Derwent Award for most promising female and male performers on the New York metropolitan scene, went to Nina Arianda for her performance in the two-hander, *Venus in Fur*, presented by the Classic Stage Company, and Bill Heck for his multiple roles in Horton Foote's *The Orphan's Home Cycle*, presented by the Signature Theatre Company and Hartford Stage.

The Richard Seff Award honoring a veteran female and male character actor for the best performance in a supporting role in a Broadway or Off Broadway production, has gone to Helen Stenberg for her performance in the two-hander, *Vigil*, presented at Off Broadway's DR2 Theatre, and to Stephen McKinley



Denzel Washington with Seff Award recipient Stephen McKinley Henderson in *Fences*.
(Photo: Joan Marcus)



Derwent Award recipient Nina Arianda with Wes Bentley in *Venus in Fur*.



Malcolm Gets and Seff Award recipient Helen Stenberg in *Vigil*.



Derwent Award recipient Bill Heck with Maggie Lacey in *The Orphan's Home Cycle, Part 3*.
(Photo: Gregory Costanzo)

Henderson for his performance in the Broadway revival of August Wilson's *Fences*.
The Judges' Panel for both

awards included: Joe Dziemianowicz, Daily News; Adam Feldman, Time Out NY; Susan Haskins, Theater Talk;

Harry Haun, Playbill; Michael Kuchwara, Associated Press; and David Rosenberg, Back Stage.

Western Region

New Equity Theatre Opens in Orange County

3-D Theatricals is a new Equity theatre that has taken up residency at the Orange County Performing Arts Pavilion in Santa Ana. Established in October, 2009, it is the brainchild of T.J. Dawson and his two siblings, Gretchen and Daniel (the 3 Ds). Looking for a way to provide quality theatre, outreach programs and jobs for actors, directors, choreographers, musicians and crew, they teamed up with close friend, AEA member Kami Seymour, and got started. It took a year to find a venue, but once that happened, things moved quickly. In just eight weeks, the company signed contracts to be producers, took over the building, started building sets, designing costumes, reconstructing the floor to meet AEA standards, built an on-site rehearsal room, auditioned and cast their first show—*Peter Pan*, which

garnered glowing reviews. All this was done with only two full time employees, one part timer, and one volunteer (who has now joined the group). *Peter Pan* featured AEA Councillors Greg North as Captain Hook and Kim Arnett as the Dance Captain. The set was designed by John Iacovelli who designed the Broadway set. For this first show 3DT used six Equity contracts: three Principal, a Production Stage Manager, Assistant Stage Manager and one Chorus. The second show was *All Shook Up*. For this, they used the National Tour sets and costumes and once again had six AEA contracts. *All Shook Up* was a huge success, leaving audiences standing on their feet and cheering for more—so much so that people came back to see the show as many as five times. *Altar Boyz*, the young company's third effort, was no different. Taking the show to new levels in their state-of-the-art space, 3DT incorporated music video and splash screens just like a real concert, leaving screaming fans in their wake. The 2010 season includes *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Hello, Dolly!*, and the Pulitzer Prize-winning play, *Doubt*—all using Equity contracts. An ambitious start for a small group.

"In a time when many theatre companies are shutting down or doing small scale shows, 3-D Theatricals is taking a chance, a *big* chance, considering this is a for-profit company using our own money," said T.J. Dawson. "Our commitment is to diverse, professional theatre with something for everyone." 3-D Theatricals operates under a COST contract.

Boston

Elliot Norton Awards Shine at New Paramount Theatre



At the Norton Awards are (l to r) AEA staffers Russell Lehrer and Melissa Ann Colgan with Boston Area Liaison Committee members Bill Mootos, Donna Sorbello, Emily McMullen, Ellen Colton and Kippy Goldfarb.

The 28th annual Elliot Norton Awards, presented by the Boston Theater Critics Association, took place in Boston on May 17, 2010, shining a spotlight on the artistic achievements of Equity actors and theatres from the 2009-2010 New England theatrical season. Equity co-sponsored the awards and was represented by James Bodge and members of the Boston Area Liaison Committee, including Bill Mootos, Ellen Colton, Kippy Goldfarb, Emily McMullen, Annette Miller, Dawn Schall, and Donna Sorbello.

AEA members Tony Shalhoub and Brooke Adams (both in Broadway's *Lend Me A Tenor*) were guests of honor at the gala. "We are so delighted to be here," said Mr. Shalhoub, who performed for four seasons

at the fledgling American Repertory Theatre in Cambridge and returned in 1997 to perform with Ms. Adams in Mamet's *The Old Neighborhood*.

The awards were emceed by Emmy Award-winning journalist Joyce Kulhawik, who just concluded a 27-year stint as Arts & Entertainment critic for CBS and was recognized for her ongoing dedication to the professional theatre and arts community. Other presenters included Boston Globe theatre critic Louise Kennedy, Boston Phoenix critic Carolyn Clay, journalists Terry Byrne, Iris Fanger and Sandy MacDonald, and WGBH-TV reporter Jared Bowen.

Outstanding actor awards went to Sandra Shipley (*Entertaining Mr. Sloane*, Publick Theatre); Nigel Gore

(*Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, Publick Theatre), and Crystal Fox (*Fences*, Huntington Theatre Company).

The Outstanding Ensemble Award went to *The Savannah Disputation* at the Speakeasy Stage, which also nabbed Outstanding Musical Production (*Adding Machine*), Outstanding Director (AEA member Paul Melone) and Outstanding Design. *Adding Machine* cast members Bob De Vivo, Leigh Barrett, Brendan McNab, Liz Hayes, David Krinitz and Cheryl McMahon brought the house down with a scene from the production.

A special citation ("the theatrical jewel of our region") was presented by BTCA President Caldwell Titcomb to Tony Estrella, Artistic Director of the Gamm Theatre, who described the hard work necessary to sustain a theatre

for 25 years.

The Stage Source Theatre "Hero" Award was presented to the Huntington Theatre's Managing Director, Michael Maso, who acknowledged the financial sacrifice that artists make in pursuit of their craft.

The evening's finale was the presentation of the Elliot Norton Prize for Sustained Excellence to Karen MacDonald. A founding member of the American Repertory Theatre, Ms. MacDonald described her life in the theatre as a "kind of accident, a happy accident" and recalled some of her greatest mentors: her teacher Rose Schulman; Proposition, an early Boston theatrical company, and the great Robert Brustein. "So why do we continue to do this?" she asked the audience. "We do it because we have to, because it's in our blood and it's our passion."

Bravo to all of the nominees and recipients.

Office Closing

All Equity offices will be closed on Monday, July 5, 2010 in observation of Independence Day.

WYMAN GOALS

Continued from page 1

The Phantom of the Opera and has more than a dozen other Broadway credits including, *Les Miserables*, *Sly Fox*, *On the Twentieth Century*, *My Fair Lady* and *A Tale of Two Cities*. He has appeared in numerous Off Broadway productions as well as at such regional theatres as The Guthrie Theatre, Arena Stage, the Goodman Theatre,

Hartford Stage, Asolo Repertory Theatre, Pittsburgh Public Theater and the Barter Theater.

Often tempering his dedicated stance on serious topics with a dose of humor, Wyman said in a nod to his predecessors, "Previous Equity Presidents have left me some very large shoes (and in the case of my immediate predecessor a fetching pair of slingback pumps) to fill. Fortunately I have big feet."



New York

New Members Attend "Italian Wedding"

There are 13 new Equity members in the company of *My Big Gay Italian Wedding*, a Periodic Per Performance Contract referenced to Off Broadway. Shown here are: (l to r) Joe Scanio, Carla-Marie Mercun (a current Equity member), Kevin McIntyre, Bryan Anthony, Erik

Ransom, Randi Kaplan, Chad Kessler, Meagan Robar, Reichen Lehmkuhl, Leah Gerstel, Liz Gerecitano and Anthony Wilkinson (also the playwright). (Not pictured is new member Fabio Taliercio and current members Tricia Burns, Brett Douglas and Adam Zelasko.)

South Florida

Equity Featured on Webcast

By Irene Adjan
South Florida Equity Liaison

I was invited by Jason Fisher, host of *Curtain Call* on WRPB-TV, to appear on his webcast to speak about Actors' Equity. His show generally features what is going on in our regional theatre scene, reviews of regional productions, as well as information and trivia about the theatre world in general. I thought it was great that he was taking an interest in our Union and wanted to feature that on his show.

During the interview, we spoke about what it meant for a theatre to be an Equity theatre and what it meant for an Actor to be an Equity Actor. He was interested in what the process was for an Actor

to become Equity, and the benefits and protections the Union provided. He was also interested in what was required of a theatre to go from being non-union to Union. He asked if a theatre could simply start out union (yes) or did it have to "work its way up" to that status (sometimes). As well as getting to talk about the ins-and-outs of the Union, I also had the opportunity to speak about the philanthropic aspect of our Union—how it has always been on the front lines of fighting discrimination and other civil rights issues.

It's terrific when anyone outside our Union wants to learn more about us, so I was pleased and proud to represent us in this forum.



Christine Toy Johnson (c) with Telly Leun and Yuka Takara in *Once On This Island*. (Photo: Bruce Alan Johnson)

New York

Asian Heritage Month Celebrated with "Once On This Island"

By Brian Jose

A sold-out, all Asian American concert performance of Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty's musical, *Once On This Island*, presented by Councillor Christine Toy Johnson and Jose Llana in partnership with the Eastern Region Equal Employment Opportunity Committee, was presented on May 16, 2010 in celebration of Asian Heritage Month. The EEOC is co-chaired by Ms. Johnson and Julia Breanetta Simpson and supported by AEA staff rep Pearl Brady.

The concert was directed by

original Broadway company member Gerry McIntyre and was made possible by a grant that Ms. Johnson received from the Manhattan Community Arts Fund. Under the musical direction of Randy Redd, the cast included Broadway veterans Mr. Llana, Ms. Johnson, Alan Ariano Kylie, Liya Goldstein, Ann Harada, Telly Leung, Deborah Lew, Jason Ma, Paolo Montalban, Hazel Anne Raymundo and Yuka Takara.

Regarding the genesis of the project, Ms. Johnson said: "Jose and I are always looking to create opportunities for our

fellow Asian American performers. He told me that *Once On This Island* has always resonated with him because of his Filipino roots. I think I fell in love with the show because it speaks to my search for a community and reminds me of the love I've found in Asian American casts.

Ms. Johnson also shared her thoughts on how to ensure the future of Asian American artists working on and off stage: "We have to keep telling our stories. This is the only way we can ensure that our voices will continue to be heard. Collectively, our cast for *Once On This Island* has been in nearly 40 Broadway shows. With statistics showing that less than one percent of performers on Broadway last season were of Asian Pacific Islander descent we feel like we are beating impossible odds. Now it's less unusual for theatre productions to see a diverse array of actors for auditions. Whether they get cast or not is what needs improving on."

Wayman Wong (New York Daily News) was in the audience and reported: "After the show, Ahrens and Flaherty, who were both in the enthusiastic audience, raved." Ms. Ahrens said "It's fantastic. I've never seen it with an all Asian American cast, but it works beautifully. I hope they do it again."

Mr. Flaherty said: "The cast was so fresh. Gerry [McIntyre] knows this show like the back of his hand, and he brought out such lovely surprises. I really loved hearing my buddy Ann Harada sing "Mama Will Provide." Every one of them was just wonderful. It had moments of real delicate poetry, as well as passion. It was such a treat!"

Brian Jose has been a member of AEA since 2003. He has appeared Off Broadway in *Imelda* and *Honor* and in regional theatres across the country.

New Dinner Theatre Agreements Negotiated in Central Region

New four-year agreements have been reached with each of the following Central Region Dinner Theatres: Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre (Indianapolis, IN), Chanhassen Dinner Theatres (Chanhassen, MN), Fireside Theatre (Ft. Atkinson, WI), The New Theatre Restaurant (Overland Park, KS). Four year terms were also reached with the following Special Agreement Theatres: American Heartland Theatre (Kansas City, MO), Drury Lane Theatre (Oakbrook Terrace, IL),) and Marriott Theatre (Lincolnshire, IL). Each of these theatres has a separate agreement with varying terms and conditions, so it is important to consult the correct rulebook before and during your

employment at these theatres.

With the exception of Fireside, the negotiations were held at each theatre's location. The appropriate Chicago staff members traveled to each of the seven theatres during March, April and May 2010. In each city, the staff was joined by members who have worked with the theatres. The local input was invaluable in determining the outcome of each agreement. Members were at the negotiating table and participated in the caucuses, providing vital information regarding "how things work" in each location and helping to shape decisions. The staff point person was Ashley Dawe who did an outstanding job of coordinating all of the necessary information

and materials for the contract committee, the negotiations and the Central Regional Board.

Minimum salary increases, increases in the health contribution, percentages for increments and several improvements involving working conditions were negotiated. A summary of the new terms for each theatre will be available soon on the website and it is anticipated that the new rulebook for each theatre will be available in early June.

If you will be working at any of these theatres and have a question regarding your contract, please do not hesitate to contact the Business Rep who handles the area in which the theatre is located: Missouri and Kansas – Ann Gordon; Indiana – Tim Bruns; Minnesota and Illinois – Ashley Dawe; Wisconsin – Luther Goins.

"No, No, Nanette" Reunion

The 40th anniversary of the first rehearsal of the Broadway company of *No, No, Nanette* will be celebrated at an afternoon tea dance from 1-5 p.m. on Sunday, September 19, 2010 at Swing 46, Jazz & Supper Club, 349 West 46th Street in New York. Members of all the companies that grew from that first rehearsal are

invited to attend and share music, dancing, hors d'oeuvres, reminiscing, gossip, and more. The cost is \$40 per person and checks or money orders should be made out to LaBuca Restaurant and mailed to Kathy Conry, 484 West 43rd Street, 7G, New York, NY 10036. For information: kathleenconry@cavtel.net

TO WORK OR NOT TO WORK... without an Equity Contract...

Its always okay Sometimes Never

It's THE question for many actors. To learn the facts, go to Equity's website at www.actorsequity.org. Look in the News Index under National for the story

To Work Or Not To Work. The direct link:

<http://www.actorsequity.org/NewsMedia/misc/ToWorkOrNotToWork.asp>