

## High Tech Gays to Aid in Passage of Sexual Orientation Legislation

by Don Nelson

As of this writing, the bill to amend the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) to include sexual orientation, or referred to officially as AB 101, has passed the committee of origination. AB 101 would prohibit discrimination against gays and lesbians in California in both employment and housing.

Despite protests by a large contingent of the religious right, AB 101 was passed by the Labor and Employment Committee by a 6-2 vote and will move on to the Ways and Means Committee for analysis of the fiscal impact should it pass. The bill will then return to the Assembly for debate and voting and then to the Senate for the same. If passed by both Houses, AB 101 will head for the governor's desk for his signature. Wilson has indicated that he will sign the bill, something his predecessor refused to do on several

occasions when similar legislation crossed his desk.

This is a very positive beginning but there is much work to be done before it becomes law and likely even more afterward. The "Bible Nazi's" are already preparing a public referendum to have AB 101 repealed should it pass. To help ensure the passage of the bill through the California Legislature and gear up for a campaign if an initiative is proposed, various coalitions are being formed to work on this project.

As president of High Tech Gays, I intend to involve this organization in the efforts to achieve passage of AB 101 and to fend off a ballot initiative. I will ensure that up to date information is printed in the newsletter and made available at the meetings, I will appeal for assistance when needs arise and I will enlist the talents of the Political and Business Action Committee (PABAC) of HTG. We have tremen-

dous resources that must be used to achieve this goal.

The steering committee, of which I am a member, formed by the Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee (BAYMEC) to coordinate community activities surrounding AB 101 has scheduled a meeting for April 11th. The committee will discuss the organization of community wide meetings and building a broad based coalition. Please contact me if you would like to attend.

There is a great deal of work to be done but the most important thing to do right now is contact your state and local legislator and encourage s/he to support AB 101. And tell your friends and family to do the same. Strong support by both houses of the legislature may make it more difficult for the

See AB-101, page 6

## DESSERT ORGY

by Pete Conroy

How sad and bad and mad it was--  
But then, how it was sweet!

(Browning, *Confessions*)

"How sweet it is!"

(Jackie Gleason)

How many decadently-, sinfully-rich calories can you stuff into one kitchen? Thirty-some HTGers and friends set themselves to the task of finding out on the evening of Saturday, February 16. One after another the goodies arrived, gradually filling the table and then spilling over onto the available countertops. By the time everyone had arrived there was enough sugar and chocolate around to devastate half the diets in Silicon Valley.

Finally, as the onlookers began to show signs of severe chocomania, Steve, Donna, and Phil, in a brave show of determination, began the terrible task of tasting each and every one

of the delectable dainties. Twenty minutes later, looking decidedly green around the gills, they awarded prize certificates in categories such as "Chocolatiest," "Most Decadent," "Best Use of Fruits and Nuts," "Most Like Mom's," and a category invented on the spot, "Most Like a Creature from Star Trek" to Dave, Debbie, Gil, Lisa, and Pete.

With all of the serious business of the evening taken care of, the ravening hoards made short work of the task of turning the many masterpieces into platters of crumbs. Everyone agreed that we should do it again sometime, but many felt that the five year interval is probably just about right.



# HTG

HIGH TECH GAYS

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## Sign Up For HTG Activities

When signing up for an activity, please do *NOT* send the payment to the HTG PO box. Mail it directly to the person running the activity, or if their address is unknown, send it to:

HTG Activities c/o Steve Weirauch  
3294 Mt. Logan Dr. San Jose, CA 95127

## Gay Community Representatives Meet With San Jose Mercury News

by Don Nelson

Representatives of the gay and lesbian community in the South Bay recently met with three members of the staff of the San Jose Mercury News to discuss the paper's coverage of the community. The meeting, organized by Greg Hullender of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) and a member of HTG, was arranged as an effort to bolster the understanding between the gay community and the major newspaper in the Silicon Valley.

Deputy managing editor Tom Kunkel, columnist Joanne Jacobs and news editor Charlie McCallum spent over an hour with the contingent made of members of BAYMEC, GLAAD/South Bay and Santa Cruz, the Billy DeFrank Center, ACT-UP/South Bay, the ARIS Project and HTG. The group praised the Merc for improved coverage of gay and lesbian issues but felt there was still room for change. Criticism was directed at the lack of the coverage of gay and lesbian events, the 'straightening out' of letters to the editor which have a gay bent and the lack of representation during holiday periods such as Valentine's Day. More important criticisms addressed the lack of coverage portraying a gay and lesbian lifestyle in a positive way and failing to offer an opposing view when a spokesperson is quoted expressing a negative opinion of gays and lesbians.

Reinforcing the invisibility of the community by failing to mention a person's sexual orientation in an article when that information has relevance was cited as another complaint. The group pointed out that often times a straight person's familial status is mentioned in an article when that information has little bearing on the subject of the article. They questioned the Merc's selective editing when an article is written about a gay person.

As advice to the community, Kunkel and Jacobs pointed out that writing letters to editor is the best way to get an opinion expressed in print, noting that the letters and the editorials are the most read items in the newspaper. In the area of communication between the community and the Merc, McCallum promised a liaison from the paper would make contacts.

The general feeling of both parties was that a lot had been accomplished and the time was well spent. All agreed to keep lines of communication open and to work together for the benefit of all.

## HTG Activity Refund/Cancellation Policy

All HTG activities are self-supporting with no funds budgeted from the treasury. Many of the costs involved in organizing an activity are non-refundable to HTG, therefore, unless specified otherwise, refunds cannot be given for cancellations. The only exception is if someone is found to fill the vacant slot.

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## HTG Activities Calendar

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### April Fools Stairway Hike Sunday, March 31

Donna continues two venerable HTG traditions: the April Fools Day stairway hike that isn't on April Fools Day, and the Tacky Tour of -- Fisherman's Wharf. We meet at the Ghirardelli Square cable car turnaround (Hyde & Beach Streets) at 10:30 a.m.

### Activities Committee Meeting Tuesday, April 9

This month's meeting will be at Bill's in Fremont. Leave a message on Voicemail if you need directions.

### HTG Monthly Meeting Sunday, April 14

Don't miss this one! celebrates its eighth anniversary, elects officers, and presents the 1991 Richard P. Rudy Community Service Award.

The meeting will start at 6:30 pm at the Billy DeFrank Community Center (map on back page). Please bring a food dish to share for the potluck. The business meeting will start at 8:00 pm.

### Bike Ride and Picnic Saturday, April 20

We'll spend the day picnicking and bike riding at Coyote Hills Regional Park, on the bay in Fremont. Get off highway 84 (Dumbarton Bridge) at Paseo Padre Blvd. heading north, turn left onto Patterson Ranch Road (definitely not a major road) into the park and then watch for HTG signs. We're going to try to set up at the Dairy Glen area, but if that is occupied by weekend campers, we'll be at the Nature Center. Bring something to put on the grill, whatever you want to drink, and something to share. We'll have a charcoal fire going by noon. After lunch, Dave will lead us on a bike ride around the nature preserve. The bike paths are paved and level. There may be a small admission charge to enter the park.

### PABAC Committee Wednesday, April 24

HTG's Political and Business Action Committee meets monthly to prepare sample letters for members to send to politicians and others on subject of current concern to the gay community. Come to Dave's in Mountain View to help choose subjects and prepare letters. For directions, leave a message on out Voicemail number (408/993-3830).

### Brunch Cruise Sunday, May 19

It appears that the cost will be \$30.00 for a three-hour bay cruise with brunch and champagne. More details at upcoming meetings.

### Pacific Overtures Civic Light Opera 4 Wednesday, May 22

Just a reminder for those who bought season tickets.

### Rancho Cicada Camping May 24 - 27

Our reservations for Memorial Day have been confirmed and Bill is readying an absolutely super three-day weekend. The \$95.00 price includes three days of camping and eight meals. You bring your bedding, clothes, and beverages (with ice); our host Dave provides tents with cots or mattresses, cooking facilities, wood for barbecues and campfires, croquet and badminton equipment, a great swimming hole in the Cosumnes River (totally private), noisy peacocks in case you had any silly ideas about sleeping late, hot showers; HTG provides the food and congenial company. Everyone signs up for cooking or cleanup for one meal during the weekend. Signups at the April and May meetings.

### Noises Off Palo Alto Players Saturday, June 1

"A farce about farce!" A backstage comedy about a "third-rate acting troupe" performing a "tenth-

rate sex comedy." Newsweek called it "The most complicated farce ever devised by the mind of man -- and one of the funniest!" The cost is \$16.00; Gene will take signups at the April and May meetings.

### Wine Tour and Camping June 22 - 23

Gene is repeating the immensely successful tour he ran last year. This features stops for tasting at three wineries on Saturday, camping Saturday night in Mendocino, and three more wineries on Sunday. More details at the April and May meetings.

### Mt. Lassen Camping July 4 - 7

Lassen Volcanic is one of the most fascinating, yet least-visited, of national parks. The entire area is a center of relatively recent volcanic activity (Mt. Lassen itself last erupted in 1915) and lots of current geothermal activity. You can see boiling mud pots and thermal pools, climb a cinder cone, and explore a lava tube. We have two group campsites reserved from noon, Wednesday July 3 until noon, Sunday July 7. The cost is \$20.00 for members; \$25.00 for non-members. This covers campground fees, wood, charcoal, propane, ice, and paper goods. You bring your food, beverages, tents, etc. Bring some warm clothes -- the campground elevation is about 6000 feet.

### Cache Creek Rafting Saturday July 27

Does anybody remember our Cache Creek trip in May, 1985? This is a fun little river, nothing extreme. It's done in two-person rafts. The cost is \$45.00 per person for a one-day raft trip, including lunch. If there is enough interest, we'll probably organize camping at a nearby campground for Friday or Saturday night.

### Rancho Cicada Camping II August 16 - 18



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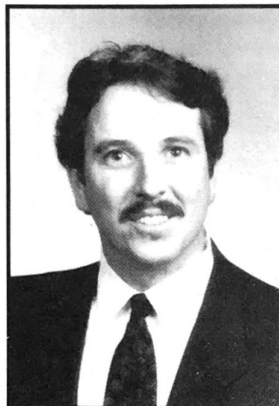
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### Room for Rent

One or 2 bedrooms available in Redwood City home. Pool, hot tub, fireplace, 10 minutes to Stanford, close to 280. No smokers. Pets considered. \$450/month/room. Call Frank or Mark at (415) 369-7510.

### HOLISTIC FAIR

Saturday, May 18th 10:00 am. to 6:00 pm. Fantastic fundraiser for the DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Center, 175 Stockton Street, San Jose. With professional Bay Area Lecturers, Readers, Body Workers, Jewelers and Entertainers. Information and food booths. \$5.00 donation. Readers still needed. Doti (408) 244-9114.



*... More dessert orgy fun, including the award winners*

## Order HTG T's, Tanks and Sweats by Mail

Can't make a meeting but want to show the world that you belong to one of the largest gay and lesbian professional organizations in the country?

Now you can!. Order your very own ever so tasteful 100% cotton HTG T-shirt or tank top or poly-cotton blend long-sleeve sweatshirt. All three feature the HTG logo (just the initials) with San Jose, California appearing below it. The T-shirt comes in watermelon, the tank in neon green and the sweatshirt in light blue. Fill out and send the form below.

	S, M, L, XL	Size	Quantity			
Name: _____	T-shirt	_____	_____	x	\$10	= _____
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Send your check made payable to: HTG, PO Box 6777, San Jose, CA, 95150

## Gay and Lesbian Group at Lockheed Makes it Official!

by Pat Miller

On Monday, April 1, 1991, a letter was sent to the president of Lockheed Missiles and Space Co. (LMSC) and the Director of Human Resources notifying them of the formation and existence of GLOBAL, Gay, Lesbian or Bisexual At Lockheed. The letter outlined the organizations goals and stressed a willingness to work with management on specific issues.

The primary purpose of the organization, however, is to provide a social outlet for employees; some activities are in the works. All employees and friends are welcome. (Editors note: If you would like more information about GLOBAL, just leave a message on the HTG Voicemail and we will put you in touch with the organizers.)

## Election of Officers

by Bob Correa

If you are a paid member of High Tech Gays, you will have received a ballot with your newsletter for the election of officers. The election will be held at the April meeting. If you can not attend, please return your ballot by mail prior to the April meeting. Our current officers are running unopposed for their respective positions: Lynn Yeager, Treasurer; Chris Clarke, Secretary; and Don Nelson, President.

Please show your support to HTG and to the officers who devote much time and energy into making things happen by returning your ballot or bringing it to the April meeting.

## South Bay Gay and Lesbian Sierrans

There's good news for those of you interested in outdoor activities in the South Bay. The Gay and Lesbian Sierrans of the Sierra Club are starting a South Bay section beginning in April. We plan on having some sort of outdoor activity every month. Starting with our inaugural event on Sunday, April 28th, which will consist of an easy hike of approximately 5 miles at Uvas County Park. All HTG members are

invited to participate. You need not be a member of the Sierra Club or GLS to Participate.

Plan on arriving at the Billy DeFrank Center at 9 am. to form car-pools. The hike will begin at about 10 am. and we will return to the DeFrank Center at about 3 pm. For more information, contact Mike Sampiceni at (408) 734-1565 or Paul Schoemaker at (415) 857-8553.

**Next HTG Meeting  
Sunday, April 14**

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## Some Dates to Remember

The following dates are for some HTG meetings and activities that help keep the organization going. Give us a call if you are interested in details about any of the meetings listed here. The general meeting is our monthly potluck at the DeFrank Center.

**Executive Committee**  
**Wednesday 04/10/91**

**General Meeting**  
**Sunday 04/14/91**

**Newsletter Deadline**  
**Thursday 04/18/91**

**Mailing Party**  
**Thursday 04/25/91**

## AB-101 continued from page 1

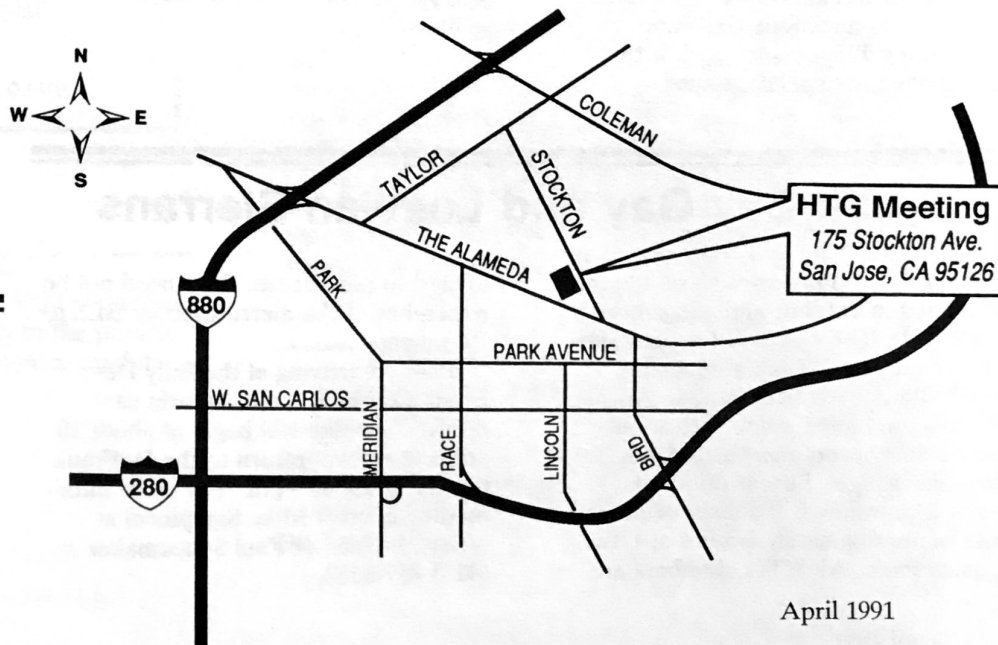
Sheldon/Dannemeyer's to get a recall initiative on the ballot.

Thank you all in advance for your cooperation.

To obtain the name and address of your state legislator, call Registrar of Voters at (408)298-7400 if you live in the Santa Clara County. (Check County Government section of the white pages in the phone directory for other counties.)

## HTG Monthly Meeting

Map to the next HTG meeting at the Billy DeFrank Community Center, 175 Stockton St. San Jose.



## ARIS Food Basket

Last month's collection: **ZERO!**  
Way to go, guys.