



H T G ‡ P O Box 6777 ‡ San Jose CA 95150

H I G H T E C H G A Y S
N E W S L E T T E R

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H.T.G. CALENDAR

AUGUST 13,14 **CAMPING WEEKEND** at Big Sur State Park. Come camping for the weekend or just join us for a picnic on Sunday! (See details inside.)

SEPTEMBER 5 **RENAISSANCE FAIRE OUTING** on "Gay Day" at the Renaissance Pleasure Faire in Novato (Marin County). Come in costume (Queen Elizabeth if you like!) and enjoy the arts, food, and fun of Merrie Olde England. (More to follow in the next newsletter.)

SEPTEMBER 10 **REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING** Sunday evening at 6:30 pm will be held at Brad's house in Sunnyvale. This will be a pot luck supper and business meeting. Map in next newsletter.

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MEMBERSHIP NOTES

* Please note the five character code on your mailing label. It tells us when your membership expires ("04Y84" means expiration in April ("04") 1984) and what class of member you are ("Y" = paid member, "N" = not paid up, "S" = paid up student member). If you disagree with our records, please call our Secretary, Denny Carroll, at (408) 292-6475 to have corrections made.

* Again we remind you that your dues help publish this newsletter and support our activities. Please fill out the membership form and send in your dues! THANKS!

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H.T.G. BIG SUR CAMPING/PICNIC - AUGUST 13,14

CAMPING

HTG has reserved three campsites in Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park for Saturday Aug. 13. Each campsite can hold up to eight people. So far ten people are planning to attend; we have room for lots more! Several members will be arriving early (on Friday) to prepare the way. For reservations (DON'T just drop in!) call Denny at (408) 292-6475 or Richard at (415) 961-8764. Remember, you will need tent, sleeping bag, cooking gear, food, etc. BUT IT WILL BE GREAT FUN !!!!

PICNIC ON SUNDAY

For those of you who can't take the whole weekend, we will be having a picnic on Sunday, Aug. 14 from noon to 4 pm. Spend just one day for a beautiful drive, some hiking or sight seeing and a fun social picnic! We have Picnic Area #1 reserved, so pack your cooler with food for yourself and to share, plus beverage. HTG will supply paper plates, plastic cups, charcoal, and utensils. See the enclosed map and literature on Big Sur.

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H.T.G. SOCIAL COMMITTEE MEETING

On Wednesday, July 13, Raven, Eric and Denny met at Richard's apartment to discuss and plan social events for HTG.

The first event discussed was the Foothill College production of "Sly Fox", featuring our own Rick Rudy as the greedy Abner Truckle. Richard Doitteau purchased tickets for 15 members who met at The Peppermill for cocktails beforehand, attended the show (a great success for audience and cast!) and moved on to Kevan's bar in Cupertino for libations afterwards.

In lieu of a regular 'business' meeting in August, there will be a social camping/picnic outing at Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park. We had tried to get reservations at Big Basin State Park, but all sites were already taken. Sorry about that!

Other ideas discussed were a visit to the Academy of Science Museum (in S.F.), camping at the Russian River, and a theatre party to see "Torch Song Trilogy" the gay play which won this year's Tony Awards for Best Play and Best Actor. Raven will look into group rates for the play.

More details will be forthcoming, but all should consider attending the Gay Day on Labor Day at the Renaissance Pleasure Faire in Novato.

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GAY LIFE IN THE SILICON VALLEY BUSINESS WORLD

How IS life in Silicon Valley's business world? In this month's newsletter (on the next page, in fact) we initiate a series that looks into this area's corporations to see their approach to gays in the workplace. Your own shared experiences of your working environment will be part of this inquiry. Inputs are welcome.

Next month's article is "The Rolman Way", on the gay abience at Rolm Corp. and is written by Ben Sbarbaro.

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MINUTES OF JULY 10 MEETING

The last meeting was held at Rick and Steve's house in Cupertino. After feasting on the pot-luck dinner, about twenty members gathered around the backyard jacuzzi for a business discussion.

Rick asked for ideas that the group could work on in addition to our social events. He suggested that we consider methods to inform the community of our presence. How could we come out on the job, or should we? How much of a problem are security clearances?

A discussion was opened on how we could help our brothers and sisters in the job market. Perhaps we should get our organization listed in "Our Paper" as a clearing house for technical job inquiries. Max Mueller volunteered as chair-person for this job. If any member has any information on this topic such as names of "head hunters" that we could contact, any jobs that may be available or needed, contact Max at (408) 267-7085.

Brad, Bill and Jim volunteered to help with the newsletter. A call was made for articles from members for the newsletter. For input, call Denny at (408) 292-6475.

The August meeting will be a camping/picnic outing at Big Sur State Park on August 13 and 14. The next business/social meeting will be held on Sunday, September 10, at Brad's house on 1486 Ormsby in Sunnyvale. Brad's phone number is (408) 730-5030.

HIKING & CONIT

interest. Access to Los Padres National Forest is from Highway 1 at the U.S.F.S. Ranger Station approximately one mile south of the park entrance.

PFEIFFER BIG SUR STATE PARK

About thirty miles south of Monterey, State Highway 1 leaves the spectacular views of the ocean's edge for a brief stretch and enters a rugged, wooded canyon. This canyon, cut over long ages by the Big Sur River, contains a coast redwood forest in Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park.

The coast redwood, *Sequoia sempervirens*, grows naturally only in a narrow strip along California's coast from the southern tip of Oregon to San Luis Obispo County; the park's forty inches of rain per year is almost too dry for the trees, and they grow only along stream beds or in canyons and similar sheltered spots.

In the 810-acre park's river flats and canyons, the redwood makes its home side by side with sycamores, black cottonwoods, big-leaf maples, alders, and willows. Contrasting with this is the dry chaparral country, where the south-facing slopes are covered with coast live oaks, tanoaks, California laurel, and shrubs such as chamise, ceanothus, buckeye, toyon, coffee berry, cascara, manzanita, and yucca. Some redwood lumbering occurred in the area in the early part of the century, but its main lumber product was bark from the tanoak, used for tanning leather at the then-new tannery in Santa Cruz.

In summer, warm days contrast with the cool, foggy evenings; winters are usually mild, though the temperature can drop below freezing and snow on the ground has even been seen briefly. Generally delightful weather makes fall and spring perhaps the best times to visit, despite an occasional rain.

History

Though their traces have been found throughout the area its early inhabitants, believed to have been the migratory Esselen Indians, seem to have left the area before the first white settler — a man named Davis — arrived, in the late 1850s or early '60s. Davis built a cabin along the river called by the inhabitants of Monterey, then one of California's major population centers, *Rio Grande del Sur* — Big River of the South — and subsisted by hunting and trapping. Eventually he sold his cabin, the Homestead Cabin still standing near the park's picnic area, to Emanuel Innocenti (for whom Mount Manuel is named) and his family, Indians from Ventura raised and educated by the padres at the Santa Barbara Mission. The family started a small farm, raising melons and vegetables, and planted some fruit trees; Francisca Innocenti and the children cared for the farm while Innocenti worked as vaquero for Captain John Cooper at the Rancho El Sur. None of the Innocenti children reached maturity, though Innocenti lived to be about eighty and his wife almost a hundred years of age. She and six of the children are buried in the park, near the cabin.

In October 1869 Michael Pfeiffer and his family settled at the mouth of Sycamore Canyon, near the beach. His son John homesteaded a 160-acre parcel on the mountain between Sycamore Canyon and the river as soon as he came of age, and in 1884 moved into the Homestead Cabin. At that time, supplies had to be packed in over a rough trail from Monterey, a four-day trip.

Just a few miles north of Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park on Highway 1, newly opened and thus far undeveloped Andrew Molera State Park also offers hiking opportunities as well as fishing, beachcombing, and picnicking. To the south, Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park is open for hiking and picnicking.

Visitors to the Pfeiffer Big Sur enjoy wading in the river — it's too shallow for real swimming in most places, and there are no lifeguards, so keep an eye on children. Fishing is a popular activity during the summer months, and there is a small steelhead run in the winter (a California sport fishing license is required). Though the park has no ocean frontage, the ocean is easily reached via a road to the south of the park.

During the summer, regular campfire programs with slides and talks are held, and rangers conduct nature walks and hikes. Groups also gather at nearby Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park for walks to an ocean overlook. Exhibits at the Lodge are designed to further acquaint visitors with the area's plant and animal life.

Camping

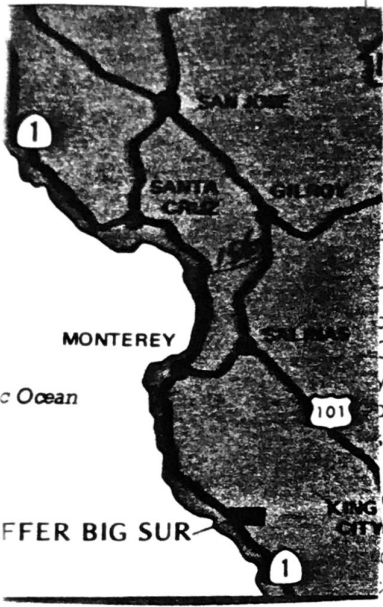
The campgrounds are open year round. You can reserve a campsite at this popular park, and reservations are advised for the busy summer season, June through September, when there's a seven-day limit on stays. Reservations can be made at Ticketron outlets located in various stores throughout the state; any campsites not reserved are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Each campsite has a table and stove; water faucets and restrooms with hot showers and laundry facilities are close by. Some campsites can accommodate trailers up to 24 feet in length, though there are no hookups, and the park has a trailer sanitation station (see map). Camping is limited to designated campsites with a maximum of eight people and two vehicles (including trailers, all of which should be parked only on paved parking spurs) per campsite. Checkout time is 2 p.m.

There are also concessionaire-operated motel-type accommodations, including a dining room; for information and reservations, contact the Big Sur Lodge, Big Sur, California 93920, phone (408) 667-2171. There are also two grocery stores and a laundromat that are open from the Easter holidays through Labor Day.

In addition to family picnicking and a group picnic area that can handle up to 200 people the park has two group campgrounds, each of which can accommodate 50 campers, open from June 1 to September 15. To make reservations for the group areas, contact the park supervisor.

Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park
P.O. Box A
Big Sur, California 93920
Phone: (408) 667-2315



SEE YOU ALL ON SUNDAY AUGUST 14