



HIGH TECH GAYS

P.O.Box 6777 San Jose, California 95150

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H.T.G. CALENDAR

- SEPTEMBER 9** S.F. GAY MEN'S CHORUS at the Paul Masson Mountain Winery, 3:30pm. Tickets by mail from Golden Gate Performing Arts, 890 Hayes St., S.F., 94117. All seats unreserved and are \$12.50. This is part of the Summer Series and will be great fun and good to support the SF Chorus here in the South Bay.
- SEPTEMBER 16** SPECIAL EVENT MONTHLY MEETING !!! and potluck supper at Ken's house, 7704 Orogrande Place, Cupertino, 95014, (408) 446-3329 (see map attached.) GINNY APUZZO (Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force) will be our guest for supper and the business meeting to follow. It is an exciting opportunity to meet the most well respected Gay activist in the country today. DON'T MISS THIS MEETING !!!
- SEPTEMBER 29** SILVER FOX'S GALA FIRST ANNIVERSARY PARTY. Come join us for food, prizes, and entertainment!!
- SEPTEMBER 30** SAN JOSE TAVERN GUILD FALL FESTIVAL '84. This is a huge party held at the San Jose County Fairgrounds with a bar-b-que dinner (steak or chicken), SYLVESTER for entertainment, and dancing. Tickets at \$10 for the whole sheebang (\$15 after Sept 25) are a real bargain, and any profits over costs will go into a fund for Gay activities. HTG will have a booth, so wear your HTG T-Shirts and come join the fun !!!

JOBS....JOBS....JOBS....JOBS....

Greg Weeks is looking for a change in profession. His background is in theoretical physics (PhD), but wishes to change to computer science. Please give him a call at (415) 323-6079 if you have any leads.

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

1. Well, at the last meeting we agreed to set up a piggy back membership arrangement with the National Gay Task Force. If you renew or become a first time member of HTG you can join NGTF for half price (\$15) simply by adding the \$15 to your check to HTG and checking the box on the new membership form. NGTF will take care of the rest.
2. Those of you who are new to our mailing list please note that

unless you become a paying member, we can not continue to send these newsletters for more than three months. So if your code on the mailing label has R, N, or M you are NOT on our books as having joined and we urge you to join and attend our growing family. Dues are modest (\$25 per year) and our activities are fun!

MINUTES OF AUGUST 12 MEETING

Thanks to John and Vince for the fine food (turkey and ham) and to the 78 people who attended the meeting. With so much interest, how come only 30 of you are PAYING members? If you enjoy the meetings and activities, come join the group officially!

Raven gave a dramatic review of the HTG trip to the Reno Gay Rodeo.

The group assembled agreed to join the NGTF piggy back membership option (see membership notes).

Our guest speaker Dick Gayer, a an electrical engineer who is also a lawyer, is representing our member Tim Dooling (of Lockheed) in a complaint against the Dept of Defense investigations agency which looks into Security Clearances for civilian employees of Govt contractors. Tim's clearance took over one year to be granted, while his co-workers' clearances took only six weeks. This inequality is the basis of the suit. Dick and Tim asked for HTG's support by joining in the suit as co-plaintiff, and after heated debate, HTG took a courageous stand and voted to join the suit.

The meeting was adjourned very late (10 pm) due to the long discussion.

- Denny Carroll, Secretary

CAMPING IN YOSEMITE

The camping trip to Yosemite National Park was an unqualified success if the number of abrasions and sore muscles are any indicator.

Arriving Friday evening, we gathered around three campsites in the Lower River Campgrounds (Not Lower Pines, as previously promised!) and cooked a gourmet dinner sprinkled generously with cinders. (Well, whose electric range fights back?)

After a restful night (no bears!) we woke to find Max long gone on his hike up Half Dome. The rest of us (minus a few lazy bones) spent the day hiking up to the top of Vernal and Nevada Falls via the strenuous Mist Trail and returned to well deserved rests before dinner.

Max, it turned out, despite his Swiss upbringing, lost his way back down from Half Dome and wandered for hours in the high country before spotting other tourists and rediscovering the trail. Not smart, Max!

Denny and Bob roughed it with a leasurely drive through the Park and breakfast the next morning at the elegant Ahwahnee Hotel. So much for arrangeing a vigorous weekend of hiking! But, of course, great thanks go to Denny for all the hard work in planning the outing! Let have many more!

SPECIAL CALL FOR WOMEN

HTG has lots of women on its mailing list but few come regularly to our meetings. I don't know why this is, but we want to

make an effort to change this.

The upcoming meeting on September 16 would be an excellent time for all our women members to turn out in force, especially to show our community support for the NGTF and particularly to support Ginny Apuzzo.

We want you as active members, so come on out !!!

GINNY APUZZO TO ATTEND HTG MEETING

Ginny Apuzzo will be in San Francisco for three days over the weekend of September 14-16, but her only appearance outside of The City will be with us in Cupertino on Sunday evening, Sept 16.

Ginny is receiving the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club Award for Outstanding National Leadership at the Club's annual dinner on Friday the 14th. She will also meet with The Bay Area Nonpartisan Alliance and the Bay Area Career Women (Sept 13), the Federal Lesbian and Gays (Sept 15), a champagne brunch (Sept 16), and an old fashioned Town Meeting and Ice Cream Social (Sept 16).

She will be tired out by the time she arrives at 6:30 pm at our HTG potluck supper, but not too tired to speak to us and answer our questions.

SUIT AGAINST DISCO AND DOD HITS THE MEDIA

On Wednesday, August 29, Dick Gayer filed the formal Complaint against DoD and the Defense Industrial Security Clearance Office (DISCO), followed by a formal news conference in the press room of the San Francisco Federal Building.

We (Tim Dooling, HTG and Dick Gayer) got coverage on Channel 4 news at 6 and 11 pm as well as news stories in the Examiner, Chronicle, S.J. Mercury, Peninsula Times Tribune, and B.A.R.

With any luck the ball may roll into our court this time!



Silicon Valley gays see security clearance bias

By Mary Duenwald
Times Tribune staff

High Tech Gays, a group of electronics industry employees who are homosexuals, Wednesday sued an office of the U.S. Defense Department for allegedly discriminating against homosexuals in granting security clearances.

The suit charges that although homosexuals often are granted security clearances, it often takes a year or more, rather than the six

weeks usually taken for other applicants.

"You don't get them at all unless you write letters and make telephone calls to the agency," said part-time lawyer Richard Gayer, who filed the lawsuit in U.S. District Court in San Francisco. Gayer, a homosexual, also works for GTE Sylvania in Sunnyvale.

The suit was brought on behalf of Timothy Dooling, a homosexual employee at Lockheed Missiles and Space Co. Inc. of Sunnyvale,

against the Defense Industrial Security Clearance Office (DISCO) in Columbus, Ohio, and the director of the Defense Investigation Service.

DISCO grants all needed security clearances to employees of companies that work on Defense Department contracts. The Defense Investigation Service is the agency that investigates questionable applications for clearance. Officials of the agency could not be reached to comment on the suit.

It took Dooling one year to receive his special security clearance, Gayer said.

Gayer said the year-and-a-half-old High Tech Gays group, which he described as "basically a social organization" of about 100 Silicon Valley employees, decided to sue this time because DISCO named the group in its written decision delay and investigate Dooling's application.

Security clearance application forms do not ask applicants wheth-

er they are homosexual. They do ask applicants to list the organizations they belong to.

Gayer said DISCO could have known Dooling was homosexual either by his affiliation with High Tech Gays or because he was discharged from the U.S. Army for homosexuality.

Richard Rudy, president of High Tech Gays, said delays in getting

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SUIT

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security clearance can jeopardize people's job security.

"Someone like Tim gets hired by Lockheed to do a secured task," Rudy said. "If delays drag on and on, he cannot do the security work for which he was hired."

Lockheed usually helps people in that situation by finding other work for them, even if it takes more than a year to get security clearance, Rudy said. Other, smaller companies, however, sometimes must let people go if they cannot get security clearance quickly enough.

"That, in turn, hurts their employment record and they can have trouble getting hired later on," Rudy said.

Both Rudy and Gayer said security clearance application delays are "common" for homosexuals.

"My own application for security clearance was delayed, too (in 1980)," Gayer said, "and the same

down the hall in 1978 or 1979."

For most applicants, Gayer said, DISCO simply runs a computer check to see if the applicants have prior criminal records and then grants the security clearance.

For homosexuals, however, Gayer said, the agency always refers them to the Defense Investigation Service for review.

Investigators working for that service use a manual that specifically singles out homosexuals for discrimination, Gayer said. The manual asserts that homosexuals are security risks, more subject to blackmail than other people.

Gayer argues that the Defense Department knows that homosexuals are not more subject to blackmail. A study done for the secretary of the Navy in 1957 found no proof that homosexuals are a security risk and noted that the number of blackmail cases against them had been "negligible," he said.

Defense Department representatives have denied discrimination against homosexuals, Gayer said.

"They've said that for a long time though," Gayer said, "and

4B Friday, August 31, 1984 ■ San Jose Mercury News ●●● C

Gay group sues defense agency for refusing security clearance

By S.L. Wykes
Staff Writer

A group of Silicon Valley gays is suing an agency of the Defense Department to stop it from refusing security clearances to gays.

The suit, filed Wednesday in U.S. District court in San Francisco, claims that the Defense Industrial Security Clearance Office in Columbus, Ohio, treats clearance applications from gays in the same manner as it would applications from "alcoholics, criminals and psychotics," said attorney Richard Gayer.

Gayer is representing High Tech Gays, a social organization of over 100 electronics and engineering professionals.

DISCO processes security clearances for private companies working on classified Defense Department projects.

Gayer said that the agency's consistent denial of clearance to homosexuals permanently brands them in a federal index as "unreliable and untrustworthy" employees.

The suit also names as a defendant Defense Investigative Services, a Defense Department arm that investigates applicants for secret and top secret clearances and refers its findings to DISCO.

In particular, the suit claims discrimination against Tim Dooling, a member of High Tech Gays who is a nuclear fusion engineer with

Lockheed Missiles and Space Co. in Sunnyvale.

Dooling was granted a security clearance from the Army less than a year before applying for a similar clearance through Lockheed.

Defense Department regulations allow conversion of Army clearances to industrial security clearances. But Dooling says that instead of verifying that clearance, DISCO began an extensive and unjustifiable investigation of his background, normally required only for the highest level of security clearance.

The suit claims that a memorandum from DISCO referred Dooling's case to a higher review board and recommended he not be granted the clearance because he had disclosed that "he belongs to a gay organization (High Tech Gays), that he has homosexual activity with casual acquaintances, that he intends to inform his employer of his homosexuality and he intends to continue his homosexual lifestyle."

Dooling was granted clearance by that higher review board.

"What we have here is a tradition that says 'we don't like gays because we don't like gays,'" said Gayer. "What DISCO wants is for homosexual applicants to go straight."

The 27-year-old Dooling is an ex-Army intelligence officer who was discharged from the service

after he revealed his homosexuality.

"In the Army, they give clearances to 18-year-olds who don't even shave," he said. "I was raised to believe that you judged people on their merits — that if you worked hard, you would be rewarded."

Officials at DISCO declined to comment on the suit until they had been able to review it. The agency has 60 days to respond.

Gayer, who also works as a circuitry designer with GTE-Sylvania, continues to pursue his own discrimination lawsuit against the Central Intelligence Agency.

That suit seeks to overturn a similarly reasoned policy of not granting security clearances to gays because they may be susceptible to blackmail.

Gayer filed that suit in January, asking that the CIA be directed to act on his application for a top level security clearance. His application was initially processed by DISCO.

But so far, Gayer said, he has been unable even to gain access to the government's evidence in the case.

Court rulings have upheld arguments by government attorneys that a release of their evidence — classified documents — would be a threat to national security.

Gayer is appealing those decisions.

San Francisco Chronicle

Thursday, August 30, 1984 ●● 27

Silicon Valley Gays Sue U.S. Over Red Tape

A group of Silicon Valley high-tech specialists sued a branch of the Department of Defense yesterday to speed security clearances for gay people.

The suit, filed in U.S. District Court in San Francisco by an organization called High Tech Gays, claims the Defense Industrial Security Clearance Office causes delays of up to a year in granting a secret security clearance to gays, a process that usually takes six weeks.

The suit charges that the clearance delay causes some private employers with defense contracts to hesitate to hire or keep gay employees.

The suit says such a long delay violates gays' rights to freedom of speech and association, equal protection and due process of law.