

### Fremont School Board President Shares Story With HTG

Fremont school board President Robert Stipicevich addressed the July meeting of High Tech Gays at the Billy DeFrank Community Center in San Jose.

Rick Rudy, President of HTG, introduced Stipicevich stating that he came to tell us about coming out in his work place, a very public workplace, something we all should try to do if we possibly can. Roaring applause followed when Rick stated that we all were proud of him.

Stipicevich told the crowd of over 250 that before he announced publicly he was gay, he consulted with only two people; One was his lover and the other was his twin brother.

Stipicevich stated that organizations like HTG and the turnout at the meeting was more important than what he had done coming out publicly. "Everyone has the right to come out and say who they are. We in the gay community need to support each other and it is not just Robert Stipicevich we need to fight for but that we are able to be our own selves."

Stipicevich explained that his friend Al, who was present at the HTG meeting, convinced him to do the May 18th interview in the *Sentinel*. This public announcement led the recall efforts now taking place.

Stipicevich said that overshadowed by all of this is the fact that he is President of one of the best school districts in the State, a job he is proud of. "That is the issue that is important, not the fact that I am gay." In the effort against the recall Stipicevich will focus on the record that the school

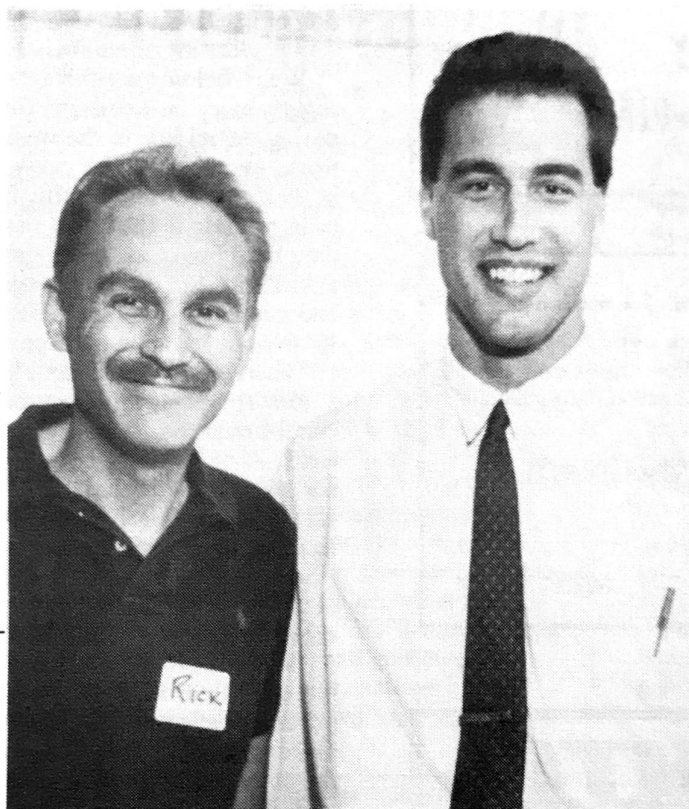


Photo by Ted Sahl

district has and what he has done to help maintain that record.

A Fremont resident for 21 of his 26 years, Stipicevich attended Kindergarten through 12th grade in the district he now governs. He was involved in a youth program in Sacramento when he found that not all school districts were the same. He ran for the President of the Fremont School District in 1983 at age 20, but lost. At that time he was appointed to the districts Financial Advisory Committee where he learned how the budget process worked.

Running again in 1985 and receiving over 10,000 votes, the largest ever for that position, Stipicevich was elected President of the Fremont School District. He noted that the recall effort against him will require 12,000 signatures just to force a special election.

At the next board meeting following his coming out, Stipicevich began to receive support from fellow district board members as well as people outside the school board including Congressman Don Edwards who immediately responded with a letter of support.

When a recall drive was announced, the story received national attention. The attention was focused on the fact that in this day and age, 25 miles from San Francisco and Berkeley, there is a contingency of people that are still trying to take away civil rights.

Stipicevich said that gay rights and civil rights are the same thing and we must never forget that. The recall is an attack on the civil rights of any citizen of Fremont.

Stipicevich feels that one of the dangerous things that could happen is that he may become an excuse for big fundraising by the Right Wing.

The recall group can state any reason for recall. Stipicevich supported the inclusion of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation phone number in the district curriculum because they have materials appropriate for the entire social spectrum. The recall group got a copy of the most graphic of the materials and are using that to build the case against Stipicevich. If enough signatures are gathered, Fremont will have to spend \$80,000 on a special election.

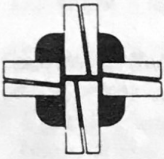
After speaking, Stipicevich answered many questions from the group. He said that speaking to us is like preaching to the choir. He hopes we know the chorus if he needs our help in the future.

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**HIGH TECH GAYS**

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## Why The HTG BBS is Always Busy

By Allan Hurst

As of this writing (7/9/89), the High Tech Gays BBS has fielded well over 12,000 calls, 8,700 messages, and has a fairly steady user base (even accounting for deletion of inactive users) of about 550 callers. This is a very healthy set of numbers for a single-line BBS.

We're fielding roughly 60 calls a day on the average, slightly more on weekends (up to 80/day), slightly less during the middle of the week (as low as 50/day). That works out to one caller every twenty minutes. Recently, with the increased traffic from the parade. We've been running in the low- to mid-90s in percentage of time used out of available time. (The BBS is only available 23 hours a day due to automated system cleanup and maintenance.) Some days, there are as few as 5 to 10 seconds between each pair of calls to the system!

Where are all these people coming from?!

A surprisingly large number of new callers have come from the free BBS listings in Bay Area Computer Currents and MicroTimes, followed by the BBS number being listed in the HTG Newsletter and in the HTG Information Pamphlet. We also have a healthy number of word-of-mouth referrals as well as referrals from other BBSes. (A monthly report showing sources of new callers by numeric totals and percentage is available on-line in the BBS' Bulletin Section.)

With the premiere of the HTG National Echo Conference, our BBS is going to receive nationwide exposure on a variety of systems from Florida to California, encouraging direct calls from people in all parts of the country who want to download information on security clearances or find out more about HTG. The HTG Echo is scheduled for implementation sometime in mid-to-late July; as of this writing (7/9/89), preliminary NetMail and EchoMail testing is being performed.

The unexpected (but VERY welcome!) popularity of the system coupled with the HTG Echo is going to make the system even busier. And THAT'S why we've been pushing the Multi-Line Upgrade Fundraising Campaign so much recently.

HTG/Outreach BBS can be reached at (415)572-9594. The system runs at 2400, 1200, and 300 bps, and is available 'round the clock. If you haven't called it yet (or haven't been able to get through yet!), pull up your terminal program's automatic redialer and have at! See you on-line!



## HTG Activities Calendar

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### Activities Committee

Saturday, August 5

We're holding the meeting at Steve and Phil's new home at about 3:00 in the afternoon and then having a barbeque. That's one way to keep the meeting from lasting too long.

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### A Day at Alcatraz

Sunday, August 6

Sorry - you missed the deadline to sign up for this one. I'm sure someone will tell you how much fun it was.

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### An Evening at La Cage

Saturday, August 12

Reservations closed.

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### HTG Picnic Meeting

Sunday, August 13

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### Rancho Cicada Camping II

Friday - Sunday, August 18 - 20

By now I'm sure you've seen the pictures and heard the stories about the first Rancho Cicada weekend in June. Get your reservations in soon to join the second one. Cost is \$30.00 for the weekend. Bring your food and bedding - no tents, cooking utensils, or camp stoves needed here. Yes, dear, you can even bring along your hair drier.

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### Gay Day on Angel Island

Sunday, September 17

Angel Island is an interesting place at any time. It's a pleasant, level hike around the island, with interesting stops at some of the old military and immigration installations. You can take a slightly more demanding hike to the top of the hill in the center of the island. From either level, the view of the Golden Gate is one of the finest around. On Gay Day, there will be the addition of a number of events sponsored by Frontrunners and other sports-oriented gay organizations from San Francisco. We'll have lots more information at the August and September meetings. Please note that we had the day and date wrong in the July newsletter.

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### Tacky Tour of Santa Cruz

Saturday, September 23

If anybody can lead us to the tackiest wonders of the beach city, it's Santa Cruz resident, Alan. Who knows what he'll have cooked up for us. Stay tuned.

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### La Cage Aux Folles

Friday, September 29

This time it will be the Palo Alto Players who bring us the tale of Georges and Albin. It will be at the Lucie Stern Theater in Palo Alto. Tickets are \$14.00

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### Stanford Linear Accelerator Center

Saturday, October 14

If you've ever wanted to see the inside of that two mile long building that stretches under Interstate 280, now's your chance. When we did this tour two (or three?) years ago, we had so many signups we had to split it over two weekends. Apparently, they now have two buses and they can accommodate 70 people at once. We'll start signups in September and continue until the tour date or until we have 70 names. There will be a nominal \$3.00 charge.

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### Broadway Bound

Friday, October 20

By Theatreworks, at the Burgess Theater in Menlo Park. Price and details later.

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### HTG Halloween Party

Saturday, October 28

We haven't picked a spot yet for HTG's "Party of the year." If you have a reasonably large house and you would like to act as host, contact Steve or Bill.

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### Dreamgirls

Sunday, November 5

By San Jose Civic Light Opera, at the Center for the Performing Arts, \$25.00.

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### San Jose Cleveland Ballet

Sunday, November 26

No, it isn't Swan Lake, that's a week or so later. This is a mixed repertory program, of considerably more interest to those who have

been "swanned-out" in previous years. The cost will be \$20.00 for members, \$22.00 for non-members.

## HTG Annual Picnic

Sunday, Aug. 13

On Sunday, August 13th join High Tech Gays for our Annual Summer Picnic at Stevens Creek Park in the Cupertino Foothills. Bring an appropriate dish to share for the bar-be-cue potluck and also bring something to grill for yourself. The picnic begins at noon and runs until ???.

We won't have a regular meeting during the picnic, there will be just some brief announcements.

Entertainment will be provided by the El Camino Reelers dance group.

Volleyball, horseshoes, and whatever other "games" you can offer are just part of the fun!


See the map on the back page for directions.

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## Do You Have A Suggestion For Our Next Guest Speaker?

The executive committee of High Tech Gays is always looking for interesting and topical speakers or groups to feature at our monthly potluck meetings. If you have an idea for a subject that you feel would interest other members of HTG, let us know. We'd appreciate the input.

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**THANK YOU**

I would like to thank the 35 friends and fellow members of HTG who sponsored me in the AIDS/Community Center Walk-a-thon in June. They pledged a total of \$370.00 and some have already sent in more than they pledged. If all of the remaining pledges are honored, the total will be close to \$400.00.

Total pledges for the event were over \$6,000.00.  
Pete Conroy

The Humanist Community of San Jose is now forming a Bay Area Chapter of L/GHTS (Lesbian and Gay Humanists). For more information, Call (408) 251-3030, or write to HCSJ, 3032 Warm Springs Drive, San Jose, CA 95127-1875

**Directions to the HTG Annual Picnic, Sunday August 13th beginning at 12:00 PM**

Traveling north or southbound take Freeway 280 to the Foothill Expressway exit. Go south (towards the hills) for about 4 miles. Foothill Expressway becomes Stevens Canyon Road. Drive all the way past the reservoir, then turn left to enter the Sycamore group picnic area.

Carpool if possible as parking is limited and there is no parking allowed along the road. In past years, the parking rules have been strictly enforced!

