

Gay Community Lobbies to Keep Boy Scouts Out of School District

By *Don Nelson*

In what may be only the second in the country, the board of trustees of the Alum Rock School District of San Jose has voted unanimously to not renew a teaching contract with the Boy Scouts of America because of the BSA's homophobic employment policy.

The San Francisco school district ousted the Scouts from city school programs last month for similar reasons.

Gently chiding the Superintendent for bringing the contract renewal before them given the districts stance against discrimination the board voted 5-0 to sever the contract with the Scouts which provided an "in school" math and science program to elementary school students. The program was supplemental to the core education

provided to 8,000 boys and girls in the district.

When asked if the Scouts could comply with the Districts policy forbidding a subcontractor from discriminating against an employee due to circumstances that do not directly affect his or her job performance, Brian Allen, the executive for the Boy Scouts of Santa Clara County replied affirmatively. Yet when asked by the board if the Scouts would refuse to hire a person if an applicant was openly gay or lesbian or terminate a person because of their sexual orientation, Allen also replied affirmatively.

"When they openly said they would discriminate, it became very easy for me to vote against them," trustee Alex Salazar, Jr. said.

Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee (BAYMEC) members Wiggys

Sivertsen, Ken Yeager and Paul Wysocki had met with the Scouts two days previous to the board meeting to persuade them to renounce the anti-gay policy of the national organization. "We were hoping to send a message to the national office that people all over the country oppose this, not just in San Francisco," said Yeager. The representatives from the Scouts refused to compromise.

Wysocki, Ron Schmidt of the Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators (BANGLE) and Don Nelson of High Tech Gays each spoke before the board in support of the opposition and were supported by what appeared to be a majority of the audience.

AB 101 Follow Up

by *Don Nelson*

Nothing new needs to be said about the unfortunate veto of AB 101 by Governor Wilson so let me fill you in on what is being planned for the future.

A recent conference call with the Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality, (LIFE), a co-sponsor of AB 101, and various state-wide AB 101 committees resulted in two proposals for follow up.

The first would be to re-introduce legislation similar in wording to AB 101 but different enough to allow Gov. Wilson to sign without appearing to "lose face". An important consideration when one has his sights on a second term and a residence at 1600 Pennsylvania Av. The rationale is that he would be more likely to sign a gay rights bill after the pressure of a dual

Senate race is over. It would also allow him a second chance to sign it in the event that he had regrets over the veto.

The caveat to this plan is that no such legislation would be introduced unless Wilson made a public show of support.

The second plan is a ballot initiative to allow the public to vote for gay and lesbian rights, a prospect bolstered by a recent California poll showing that 62% of those polled would not support a veto of AB 101.

The deadline for submitting wording for an initiative that would appear on the June 92' ballot is November 31st.

The primary negative argument to a ballot initiative is that the poll was not conducted by those parties most interested in the passage of AB 101 and

therefore of questionable value. No legislation similar to AB 101 would be introduced as a ballot initiative unless an independent poll coordinated by LIFE showed a similar majority of support. The reason being is that a lack of support would translate to a loss at the ballot box, an outcome that would have serious and detrimental ramifications for many years, hindering all future chances for gay and lesbian rights legislation.

The various state-wide groups to fight for AB 101 have estimated that the cost of a poll to be about \$65,000, of which the South Bay committee has pledged to raise \$5,000. You will soon receive information about a fund-raiser in November and I urge you to attend the event or otherwise support it.

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A workshop
Sunday; November 17, 1991 2:30-5:30 pm

Location
Billy DeFrank Center 175 Stockton St. San Jose, CA

Presentation
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Registration & fee
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• Fee includes information packet



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Community Coalition

All gay and lesbian community groups are invited to take part in the formation of a Community Coalition in the South Bay.

The purpose of this coalition is to identify the common issues of our community and coordinate our plans of action in such a way as to most efficiently reach our goals.

At this meeting the attempt will be to establish a structure with which the community can accomplish this. Some of proposed issues to be addressed in the future include.

Political Issues -

- Response to AB 101 veto
- Promotion of a common political agenda
- Youth Issues -
- Rise of HIV + youth
- Need for youth shelter/services
- Health Issues -
- The depletion of resources for PWA's and AIDS education

Community Issues -

- Non-discrimination in private industry
- Response to United Way

The first Community Coalition meeting will be held at 7:00 on Thursday, November 7th, 1991 at the Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center. Call (408)293-3040 for more information.

Help With The Newsletter

by **Bob Correa**

We need help from interested HTG members who can write articles for the newsletter. If you have attended an activity or community event, write an article about it for the newsletter. Call me or Don Nelson (numbers below) if you have any questions, and would like to help out.



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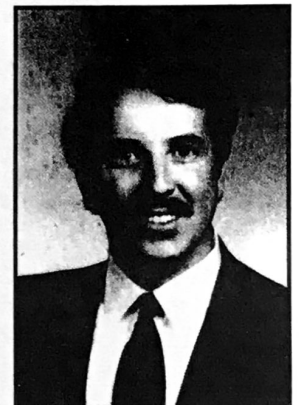
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HTG Activities

Chicken Liver & Brussels Sprouts Dinner, Pizza Rebellion, and Movie Night

Saturday, November 2

The very special people who love both chicken livers and brussels sprouts will meet at Pete's at 6:30 p.m. for a potluck of delicacies featuring one or both of the featured foods. Donna and other spouses, significant others, and assorted friends will meet at the same time at the Stuff Pizza at 2000 S. Bascom Ave., Campbell (that's near Tower Records, across from the Pruneyard).

At about 8:00 p.m., both contingents will meet at Lynn and Donna's house for a movie night. This year's theme is "Gook girls go to heaven; bad girls are more fun to watch."

If you didn't pick up a map at the October meeting, call Voicemail for details.

Activities Committee

Tuesday November 5

This month's meeting is at Pete's. If you have some ideas for new activities and you would like to help us plan and organize, come join us. Call Voicemail and leave a message and we'll call back with directions. The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

George M!

Civic Light Opera

Wednesday November 6

Those of you who ordered season tickets, don't forget. Gene will meet us outside the theater at about 7:40 p.m. with the tickets.

Silicon Valley Gay Men's Chorus
Saturday November 9, 8 p.m.

Sunday November 10, 4 p.m.

The chorus presents a program of American music with special guests, the Sacramento Men's Chorus. Both performances are at the First Christian Church at 70 South 5th Street, San Jose. That's between Santa Clara Street and San Fernando Street, about one-half block north of the San Jose State campus. Tickets are \$10; seniors and children \$7.

HTG Monthly Meeting

Sunday November 10

The potluck begins at 6:30; the meeting at about 7:30. Please bring something to share at dinner and some-

thing non-perishible food basket.

Guys and

Palo Alto

Saturday No

Sorry, I gave the wrong date (the right day) in the November issue. If you ordered (and didn't meet Gene in front of the Theater in Palo Alto) please call me at 438-1111 p.m.

APLA at Disneyland

Friday December 13

Once again, the Aids Project of Los Angeles will take over Disneyland for an evening of fun. We will buy tickets in a group and provide you with information about some nearby motels we've stayed at on past trips, but all other arrangements are up to you.

We probably will be sending in the ticket order before the November meeting, so call Voicemail if you want to go.

We had the wrong date in last month's newsletter, but that was because we had difficulty reaching the organizers.

Christmas at Filoli Mansion

Saturday December 7

The spectacular mansion that was the model for Blake and Crystal's home on Dynasty will be specially decorated for the Christmas season. We'll meet at 10:30 a.m. for a tour of the mansion and, weather permitting, the beautiful gardens.

The cost for HTG members is \$10; non-members \$12. We must have paid reservations in by October 28, so call Voicemail right away if you want to go.

1940's Radio Hour

San Jose Rep

Sunday January 5

This heartwarming, toe-tapping musical sold out during its 1988 run starring Holly Near, sister of San Jose Rep Artistic Director Timothy Near. *1940's Radio Hour* gives the holidays a swinging twist in a fun-filled story with lively dance numbers and spicy performances of "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy," "I'll Be Seeing You," and other favorites when radio reigned supreme.

HIGH TECH GAYS

P.O.Box 6777 San Jose, California 95150

Hobbies to Keep School District

and girls in the

Sivertsen, Ken Yeager and Paul Wyszocki had met with the Scouts two weeks ago for a parade of parodies, fabulous costumes, outrageous props, and skyscraping head-dresses. And it is still as dazzling as it was when it opened. We have center balcony seats reserved, but we must have payment by the December meeting or we must cancel unused spaces. If you can't make the November or December meetings, call Voicemail.

Future Events

No details on the following yet, but we just want to let you know what we're working on.

Discover Downtown San Jose

Dinner at California Culinary Institute

Tahoe North Shore Skiing - Jan 24 - 26, 1992

Iron Mountain Skiing - Feb. 21 - 23, 1992

Yosemite Skiing - Mar 3, 1992
this may be doubtful, because of unavailability of space at Yosemite. Stay tuned.

Big Lil's Cabaret (with Bay Area Career Women) - Mar 13

Sweeney Todd - TheatreWorks - Mar 29, 1992

Sign Up For HTG Activities

When signing up for an activity, please do NOT send the payment to the HTG PO box. Send it directly to the person running the activity, or if address is unknown, send it to: HTG Activities c/o Steve Weirauch 3294 Mt. Logan Dr. San Jose, CA 95127

We'll help you come out to your parents.

Thinking about taking this important step?

Ask questions.
Get support.

P-FLAG can help!

A workshop
Sunday, November 17, 1991 2:30-5:30 pm

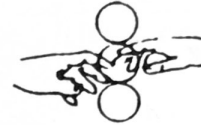
Location
Billy DeFrank Center 175 Stockton St. San Jose, CA

Presentation
• Personal experiences shared MEN and FRIENDS

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Aris Food Basket

The donations for the Aris food basket at the October meeting: ZERO!

How about getting into regular habits: Every week, while you're shopping, pick up just one extra item for Aris. It can be a can of soup, a bottle of juice, a package of prepared food mix, a jar of spaghetti sauce -- almost anything non-perishable in a package that won't fall apart.

Then set aside some little corner of a shelf somewhere, and reserve it for the Aris food. Maybe it'll work best if you put it someplace where you don't normally keep food, or maybe a spot in the kitchen with a sign on it. Maybe a corner of your car trunk will work. However you do it, be sure it is someplace where you'll see it regularly.

Finally, don't forget to bring it to the HTG meeting on the second Sunday of the month.

November Meeting Topic

At this writing, the planned speaker for the November meeting has not been confirmed so check Voicemail at (408)993-3830 for information.

Location of Next Month's Meeting

The next meeting will be on November 10th starting at 6:30 pm. at the Billy DeFrank Community Center at 175 Stockton St. (near The Alameda) in San Jose. Phone (408) 993-AGAY if you need directions.

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HTG'ers after the Stairway Hike in San Francisco.
Photo by Pete Conroy