

high tech gayzette

The Newsletter for Lesbian and Gay Professionals in High Tech Industries
December 1996

High Tech Organizers at Nov. Meeting



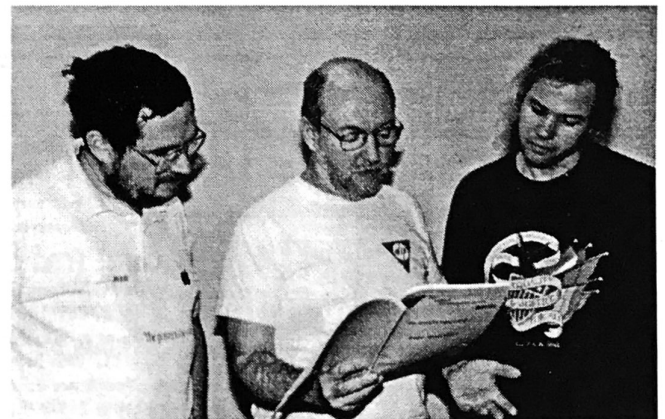
High Tech Gays was fortunate to have at our November meeting Kim Harris, Diversity Manager for Hewlett-Packard, and his partner Bennet Marks, founder of Apple Lambda. They spoke about their efforts over the last decade or so to organize employee groups, get sexual orientation added to corporate non-discrimination policies and gain Domestic Partnership benefits within their companies.

Hewlett-Packard announced this year that they will offer Domestic Partnership benefits, and Kim went into some detail of the work the H-P Gay and Lesbian Employee Group (H-P GLEN) went through to secure management support. H-P GLEN promotes sensitivity to diversity throughout H-P. One of their efforts

resulted in "Safe Space" stickers for heterosexual co-workers to place at their desks, signifying a supportive for lesbian and gay colleagues. One touching anecdote Kim shared occurred when a co-worker asked him for 32 such stickers. After informing his co-worker in no uncertain terms that the stickers were not to be just handed out, but were a very serious matter, she informed Kim that she was aware of that. She had asked in her department who would want a sticker to display at their desk and, with full knowledge of what they signified, 32 people requested them.

Meanwhile, Bennett recounted his tentative steps at coming out while forming Apple Lambda in 1986. Although begun with no small amount of trepidation, Bennett was very pleasantly surprised at the level of support of Apple management for the group, which provided them with an way to do outreach to and consult with their lesbian and gay employees. Although the situation is not entirely the same nowadays, however, with a new (less progressive) CEO and fiscal concerns Apple being what they are, Apple is still an industry leader in diversity efforts. Apple instituted domestic partner benefits in 1992.

by Mike Bromberg with Dean Dennison
all photos by Bill Weaver



Bennett, Kim, and HTG President Texx read from a script based on employees' personal stories that is used in Hewlett-Packard diversity training sessions

from that editor guy

So what is UP with this newsletter?
Well, funny you should ask. . . .

New logo - the last few were from
hunger.

New fonts - tired of the old ones.

New program - I was just sick to
death of FrameMaker and decided
to redo the whole layout in
PageMaker, a much easier program
to work with.

Scanned photos - the first time
ever? And we call ourselves high
tech? Pshaw!

And less clutter, too.

Trust me - your editor is MUCH
happier. Hope you are, too.



WHAT'S UP!

4 december - HTG board meeting

7:30 at the Center in the Lavendar Liquids area. Your input is welcome.

8 december - HTG meeting / potluck

Turkey dinner. Surprise entertainment. HTG provides the turkey. A good time, all around. Bring a side dish (or vegetarian entree) for the feast. 6:30 PM at the DeFrank Center. A definite add to your day timer or PDA, people.

16 december - newsletter deadline

Noon today. That's right. Articles, ads, pictures, whatever. No bullshit, kids. (PS - For your editor's e-mail address, give him a call).

18 december - newsletter stuffing party

6:00 PM or so at the Center. Come help out and stuff, lick, label and collate. Puts hair on your palms...or something like that.

25 december - Christmas at the Center

Yes, once again the Center will be open Christmas Day for all those who wish to drop in and share holiday cheer. This year, however, it has been proposed that computer training happen at the Center. Sounds good, no? Help the community get a little more computer literate. Well, of course for this to happen people need to want to volunteer to help out (and bring their computers, if possible). If interested in getting involved in this, call Mike at (408) 297-9781. Ho Ho Ho! But even if this doesn't happen, drop by to help set up tables, or donate food (or buckage) to the Center. And mention that you're with HTG while you're at it.

High Tech Gays

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Contributors

Gabrielle Antolovich • Fred Marcella • Texx
Bill Weaver • The Masked Party Guy

Anyone interested in HTG may sign up to receive the newsletter free for three months. To become a member of HTG, send a check with your name and address for one of the amounts below to the above address

Yearly Membership Rates:

Individual	\$30
Family	\$50
Full-time Student	\$12



HTG Officers

President: Texx
Secretary: Fred Marcella
Treasurer: Dean Denison

Other HTG Contacts

- HTG Voicemail recording & messages: (408) 289-1484
- E-mail: info@htg.org
- HTG Web Page - <http://www.htg.org/>
- Newsletter Editor: Mike Bromberg (408) 297-9781
- Women's Caucus: Gabrielle Antolovich (408) 289-1484

For information on advertising or submitting articles, contact Mike Bromberg. The deadline for advertising or articles is 10AM on the third Monday of each month.

Advertising Rates Per Insertion:	
Business Card (3.5 x 2")	\$25
1/4 page (3.75 x 5")	\$40
1/2 page (7.5 x 5")	\$70
10% discount for six months.	

High Tech Gays is a Cooperating Organization Member of NGLTF.

HTG Returned Check Policy: A \$10.00 service charge will be applied against any checks returned to HTG due to insufficient funds.

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with an H-P scanner & 5MP printer.

An Evening at the Theater

by The Masked Party Guy

On the 24th of October, a group (albeit a small group) of HTGers, under the guidance of Gene, the Activities Chairman, attended a performance of Cabaret. This is the same Cabaret that catapulted Liza Minelli to super stardom. This performance was presented by Theater Works at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts. I had never been in the building before and was quite impressed with the acoustics and mechanical capabilities of the facility. For example, a rotating section of stage allowed fast changes of scene without the "close the curtain, move the props" routine.

The play itself was excellent in performance with especial plaudits to the "emcee" (Francis Jue) and Sally (Liana Young). The play takes place in Berlin just before the crash of 1929 and the rise of Nazi-ism. It tells the story of a young, would-be American author who is caught up in the wild social whirl of Berlin and the impact of the Nazi movement on those around him. I was surprised at the openly gay and bi characters and the general acceptance of them. I was particularly moved by the song of Frau Schneider who was to marry a Jewish merchant but was warned off by friends and their relationship is destroyed. She sings, "What would you do if you were me". On reflection, so much of the hate and intolerance that was key to the Nazi movement is now seen today in the late 20th century American "Christian" coalition. Tell me it isn't true.

Participation in these activities is a big plus to membership in HTG. It could be a play, dinner at a restaurant, a beach party - but regardless, it's always a congenial time.



From the Prez

Well, the attendance numbers are stabilizing - the fall seems to have stopped for now.

I have been asking for 6 months now for program ideas, and I have only gotten a few. High tech, and workplace issues are the recurring program ideas. I tried to stay away from high tech for fear of chasing off the non high techies (our name really has more to do with our location and history), and avoided workplace issues since it didn't seem proper to step on AGOG's toes, but I guess I better toss out those personal concerns and listen to the program ideas if we are to hang together. So, I have added those ideas to the program mix. It's taken a while but I'm just getting the hang of this program thing.

See you in December, we have planned a "musicale". If we miss you, have a safe and joyous holiday season!

Pax Vobiscum, texx

A Note from the Secretary

by Fred Marcella

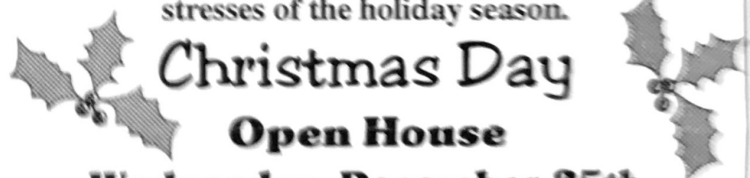
I would like to remind the members of HTG that address changes result in extra mailing charges to HTG. When a newsletter is returned as undeliverable, we are charged first class postage for its return. PLEASE, if you move, send us a change of address so you can receive the newsletter without interruption. Because of slow mail response, you can miss two newsletters before the correction is made in our files and we get to pay for TWO returned copies. Thanks for your help.

BILLY DeFRANK LESBIAN & GAY COMMUNITY CENTER



a United Way Agency

The DeFrank Center is a safe place for lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and the transgendered. We see our open house as an opportunity to enjoy friendship in an alcohol-free and smoke-free environment during the stresses of the holiday season.



Christmas Day

Open House

Wednesday, December 25th

12-7pm

AA meetings at 1pm, 5pm

2pm - Community Luncheon



*Lavendar Liquids will be open.
Lots of fun and games
Bring food, drinks and yourself*

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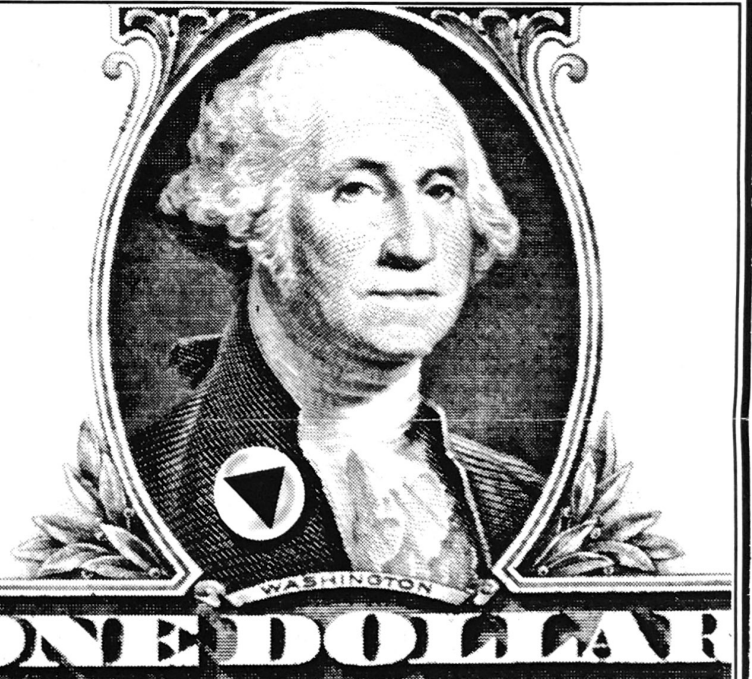
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