

HIGH TECH GAYS
P.O. BOX 6777
SAN JOSE, CA 95150

Nov. 13, 1983

To The Editor
The Advocate
1730 S. Amphlett, Suite 225
P.O. Box 5847
San Mateo, CA 94402

Dear Sir:

I was very pleased to see Scott Anderson's article in Issue 381 on gay scientists, but disappointed that he left High Tech Gays off of his directory of such groups, especially since we represent "Silicon Valley," perhaps the largest concentration of engineers and scientists in the country.

Mr. Anderson is right in stating that most businesses in the high tech fields don't consider the issue of gay professionals who may be in their employ. The reason is that, for the most part, we are closeted while at work, or at least choose not to make an issue of our sexual orientation on the job. And that is not wrong: what is wrong is having to keep a low profile because we are afraid of losing our jobs.

High Tech Gays (where 'gay' is intended to encompass both male and female) has as one of its purposes to educate high tech employers that gays do occupy professional and other key technical positions in their companies and are making vital contributions. Until our work places are truly open, though, we do feel a need of support and counsel from our peers.

High Tech Gays meets monthly for business meetings and nearly as often for social activities. The social gatherings (theatre parties, hiking, camping, etc.) have allowed us to form a network friends in a wide range of businesses. We keep lists of job openings and those of our members seeking employment.

We publish a monthly newsletter, now going to a mailing list of over 175, which frequently features articles on specific companies and what their attitude is toward gays in the work place. And our meetings (always open to all) are a forum for airing views and concerns of our members and guests.

We are not a "social club" nor an "activist group", but a meeting place where socializing, education and activism can balance to meet the needs of Silicon Valley's high tech gays.

Very truly yours,

Rick Rudy, President