

## Social Groups

12, 11, 2008

### SOCIAL

Discovery Community, Inc. is an all volunteer organization whose mission is to provide gay and bisexual men ongoing opportunities for social connection, personal growth, and community development. DCI was founded in 1986 and is incorporated as a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. The organization is committed to being inclusive, and thus strives to keep events affordable to men from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds.

MAX (Men's Associated Exchange) is a membership-supported fraternal organization. Their mission is to provide a fun, open, diverse and welcoming community for gay men via social and philanthropic events. Through active participation in MAX, members embrace fellowship, leadership, personal growth and community involvement, fostering a positive gay image for all.

The Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA), is an organization dedicated to furthering the interests of gay & bisexual Asian/Pacific Islanders by creating awareness, by developing a positive collective identity and by establishing a supportive community. GAPA was formed from the need for an organization to address, through a democratic process, social, cultural and political issues affecting the gay & bisexual Asian/Pacific Islander community.

South Bay Queer & Asian (sbQA) The mission of South Bay Queer and Asian (sbQA) is to be a leading social and support group that provides queer Asians and Pacific Islanders in the South Bay with a safe and fun place to come out and be comfortable with their sexual identity and ethnicity.&rdquo;

### SPORTS AND INTERESTS

BayLands FrontRunners, established in October 1991, is a running and walking club for lesbians, gays and friends. Membership is open to all men and women, and They welcome you whether you're a walker, jogger, runner or racer. They currently have over 400 active members, primarily from Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties, in the San Francisco Bay Area. Come out and join them for their weekly Fun Runs. BayLands FrontRunners is the local chapter of International FrontRunners, an informal network of FrontRunner clubs which began in San Francisco, California in 1974, and which has now spread worldwide.

CHEER San Francisco has been thrilling crowds locally, nationally and internationally with its unique brand of high-energy routines. This all-volunteer group is dedicated not only to providing polished professional entertainment, but also to the philanthropic mission of the squad, serving as true ambassadors of good will to the communities in which they perform.

Different Spokes San Francisco is the San Francisco Bay Area's Lesbian and Gay bicycling club, open to all members of the Gay-Lesbian community and its friends. They promote relationships through the shared interest of bicycling.

Foggy City Dancers is one of three gay and lesbian-oriented square dance clubs within the City of San Francisco. In August, 2003, Foggy City celebrated its 20th anniversary with a weekend of square dancing that brought people from all over the United States. Membership in our club is open to all, regardless of age, race, gender, religion, ethnic background, or sexual orientation. To dance at their club classes or events, no partner is needed (although many of our members bring their partners whether they square dance or not). There are no formal dress requirements, most come dressed casually as square dancing can be a surprisingly high energy exercise. Their objective is simple &ndash; to offer an enjoyable environment for all those who would like to square dance.

The Gay & Lesbian Tennis Federation is a 350-plus member tennis club, with members playing throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. The club hosts events for players of all levels, from novice to teaching pros. Members play year-round at courts all around the Bay Area, and also participate in club-sponsored tennis events and tournaments, such as monthly Social Doubles, Spring and Fall Team Tennis, the Holloran Club Singles Championships, the Sissenstein Club Doubles Championships, and our year-end Awards Banquet.

The Gay Men's Buddhist Sangha is a lay group that meets every Sunday from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Hartford Street Zen Center for the purposes of providing a safe environment to support one another in their various spiritual practices. All gay men, including Buddhist newcomers, are most welcome.

Golden Gate Wrestling Club is open to anyone over the age of 18 with an interest in freestyle wrestling. That includes men and women at all skill levels. Height, weight, gender, race, age, disability, and intelligence can be mixed in any proportion to produce a good wrestler. Beginners are encouraged and you are welcome to come just to watch. Workouts are friendly and physical, beginning with a team warm-up, then breaking up into smaller groups by weight class. Not all practices are structured.

QuickTricks Bridge Club offers duplicate bridge games and lessons to the general public and is associated with the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL). They are located at 100 Diamond Street, between 18th and 19th Streets, in the Most Holy Redeemer Church, in the Castro / Eureka Valley neighborhood of San Francisco, California.

Lambda Cycling Foundation, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to building up the rewarding and challenging sport of cycling within the gay and lesbian community. Their mission is to promote the positive tenets of sportsmanship and

team spirit and to serve as a light for the lesbian and gay community seeking positive role models and strong self-esteem. They seek to achieve this mission by building a team of riders, winning team and individual bicycle racing events and providing gay and lesbian cyclist with the support necessary to achieve their highest ambitions in the sport.

Northern California Rainbow Divers (NCRD) is a non-profit SCUBA diving club for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgendered divers and their friends. They have more than 100 members (roughly 60% men and 40% women) throughout the Bay Area with a core membership of around

50 active members who share a passion for diving in California's magnificent kelp forests and for adventure travel.

San Francisco Bay Blades &dash; (SFBB) is a LGBT rowing organization

dedicated to the promotion and visibility of the sport of rowing in the gay community and the visibility of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender athletes in the rowing community of the San Francisco Bay Area. They row on Lake Merritt and are part of the Lake Merritt Rowing Club. The SFBB was founded in 1998 to represent and prepare competitive rowers for the Gay Games in Amsterdam. They welcome both competitive and recreational rowers and coxswains: Competitive and Recreational. They welcome all members of the LGBT community and their friends.

The San Francisco Fog R.F.C. is a club committed to an ethic of inclusion. The vision of the club is to be the preeminent rugby club in the world that actively pursues the participation of people of color, gay men, women, and other groups traditionally under-represented in rugby. Over one hundred members strong, Fog Rugby welcomes newcomers, as well as experienced players, coaches and supporters of all ages, races

and sexual orientations.

SAGA North is the San Francisco Bay Area's Gay and Lesbian ski, snowboard and recreation club. They provide opportunities for skiers and snowboarders to participate with each other in outdoor activities. They strive to promote friendship and among those with similar interests. They organize numerous ski trips to Lake Tahoe and out-of-state during the ski season, as well as summer trips with activities including hiking and water skiing.

Gay ice hockey? Heck yeah! The Bay Area has THREE gay hockey teams -The San Francisco Earthquakes, the Oakland Quakes "Deux" and the Oakland Silver Quakes! We're a fun group of gay and gay-friendly folks who love to play hockey. Come out and cheer us on, come to a practice, or come out and join the team!

The San Francisco Spikes is a predominantly gay non-profit social organization which provides an opportunity to play soccer in a positive and friendly environment. They field two soccer teams that compete in local leagues: the Marin Soccer League and the San Francisco Soccer Football League. They are part of IGLFA (the International Gay and Lesbian Football Association) and compete in the annual IGLFA World Cup and the Quadrennial Gay Games, as well as other gay soccer tournaments within the United States and around the world.

The San Francisco Track & Field Club began in the Fall of 1982, immediately following the first Gay Games in San Francisco. Dr. Tom Waddell, founder of the Gay Games, had put together a team of athletes to represent San Francisco in track and field at the Games. Those athletes had such a positive and uplifting experience from participating in the 1st Gay Games that they banded together to form the San Francisco Track & Field Club. The formation of the Club enabled them to stay together and continue training and competing in the years between each Gay Games, allowing them to strive for personal excellence in athletics, which is a hallmark of Waddell's Gay Games philosophy.

The San Francisco Unity Triathletes were formed in preparation for Gay Games V in Amsterdam. Now that's over, They're continuing on increasing their numbers and their presence in the triathlon community as well as the lesbian and

gay community. And there's also Gay Games VII in Chicago 2006!