

# State And Local News

## Durham offers folk-dancing

People interested in non-sexist folk-dancing have been meeting on Sunday afternoons at the Durham Arts Council since mid-January.

Organizer Carl Whittman said that although many traditional dances emphasize expertise and couples, the dances he has chosen are meant to de-emphasize competitiveness and professionalism.

Most of the dances he leads are from 16th, 17th, and 18th century England and Scotland, although he also includes ones from Yugoslavia and Israel. "I choose forms that are affirmative of liberation movements," he said.

Whittman has led folk-dancing in a gay community and in a community college in Oregon. He said that dancing is a form of communication between people. "The Oregon experience brought people of good will together without a lot of rhetoric," he said.

The 30 gay and non-gay women and men who have been meeting in Durham have different levels of experience. Whittman said he wants the setting to be comfortable. "The dancing should be a celebrative learning experience and open to new participants."

Scheduling is flexible. Interested people should call Carl Whittman or Allan Troxler at 489-3798 in Durham for more information. Participants are occasionally asked for a small contribution to cover rental costs; otherwise there is no charge.

## Brown cancels appearance

Despite recent publicity, Rita Mae Brown will not be appearing at UNC-CH on Tuesday, Feb. 19.

The author of Rubyfruit Jungle and The Hand That Rocks the Cradle was to have appeared on the Chapel Hill campus as part of the Carolina Symposium.

A spokesperson for the Carolina Union said that Ms. Brown is working against a deadline on another book and is unable to take speaking engagements. "We hope we can get her to come here, maybe in the fall," she said.

## Monandry group meets in feb.

The February meeting of Monandrous Gays will be held Friday, Feb. 15, at 6:30 pm. It will be a pot-luck dinner followed by a brief discussion for old and new members.

The group's name stems for the word "monandry," the custom of having one husband at a time.

"Meetings are open to anyone interested in meaningful gay relationships. Members of the group range in belief from rabid monogamists to those who include the possibility of other relationships outside one's primary relationship," said a spokesperson.

The group, which was organized in the fall of 1978, meets in the Chapel Hill area. It usually has program meetings on various aspects of relationships. January's directed discussion was on sexual role-playing in gay relationships.

For more information, call Mike Young at 942-3909.

## TALF changes format

The Triangle Area Lesbian Feminists have reorganized the format of their program meetings. TALF holds a program meeting bimonthly, with a potluck on alternate months.

In the new program format, the business session begins at 7:15 with a facilitator. Announcements should be given to the facilitator before the meeting. Announcements are made between 7:15 and 8, after which is a light meal. At 8:30, the program part of the evening begins.

"We hope this new format will make the handling of announcements easier," said a spokesperson.

Past TALF program topics have included lesbian art history, FBI and grand jury harassment, self-defense, and stress and tension release. The March 1 TALF meeting will consist of a potluck and announcements.

TALF meetings are held the first Saturday of each month at the Durham YWCA on Proctor Street.

## WASG holds weekly meetings

The Women's Alternative Sexuality Group, a women's discussion group, is seeking new members.

A spokesperson for WASG said the group is open to non-gay as well as bisexual and gay women. She said, "We follow guidelines of confidentiality and respect for the viewpoints of others."

(story cont. p.8)