

The GUILFORDIAN

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The Front Page News Line

Gingher to read in Poetry Center

Greensboro author Marianne Gingher will give a public reading of her fiction Wednesday, April 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the Poetry Center at the Hege Library.

Gingher is the author of a novel, *Bobby Rex's Greatest Hit* and a collection of short stories, *Teen Angel*.

The author is the first guest of the newly formed Guilford College Writers' Center, which is replacing the Poetry Center Southeast.

Champion places third in NATS contest

Six advanced voice students traveled to East Carolina University in March to participate in the National Association of Teachers of Singing state auditions.

For the second consecutive year, sophomore Joseph Champion placed in the NATS competition. He won third place in the College Men's Musical Theater division.

Writing contest winners announced

The winners of the annual Dean's Writing Contest were announced last week:

- Dean's Award for Writing in the Sciences—Mike Sick
- Dean's Award for Writing in Aesthetics—Tracy Davis and Paul Grantham
- Dean's Award for Scholarly/Critical Writing in the Humanities—Laurel Nesbitt
- Dean's Award for Freshman Writing—George Darrow and Rebecca Winthrow

Society for the Study of Mystical and Occult Knowledge

New organization demythologizes the occult

Johanna Moorman
Staff Writer

Guilford's newest organization, the Society for the Study of Mystical and Occult Knowledge, held its first meeting Wednesday night in the Hut.

Shamanism. Wicca. Astrum Argentum. Many people are fascinated by earth religions, strange beliefs, mysticism and the occult. Several of these people were undoubtedly intrigued when they spotted a poster in Founders Hall which announced the formation of the society.

William Vidrine, the founder of the group, felt that there was a large body of people on campus interested in the occult—as evidenced by the large turnout for the Wiccan full moon ceremony last semester—and wanted a way to bring these people together to share their knowledge and learn more about their interests.

Before this group was formed there wasn't a group on campus that would meet their needs, Vidrine indicated.

There are several places to go to

find out about Christian denominations and religions such as Buddhism and Islam, but there was no place for those interested in groups and beliefs outside of the mainstream, Vidrine said. Thus, the Society was created.

The purpose of the society is to "promote the knowledge and appreciation of the field relating to the occult, hermetic sciences and Earth religion, and to thereby offer students a chance to become more culturally diversified," according to the society's constitution.

Topics of study will probably include the cabala, mysticism, the occult, shamanism, freemasonry, the Templars, the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn and Astrum Argentum.

Other topics may be introduced as well, but the Society is not meant to be an all-inclusive discussion base for belief systems, as topics like Zen are already covered by other groups and classes at Guilford.

Meetings will provide a forum to discuss and share knowledge about the occult and mystery

groups, and to listen to speakers from various groups such as the Rosicrucians and Wiccan covens.

The Society will also benefit from a pooling of resources, as it will be able to buy books on special topics and subscribe to magazines that might not be available to all members.

Other goals include mixing with interested groups in the community, promoting off-campus events, attending ceremonies and rituals of organizations, holding seminars and panel discussions on topics related to mysticism and the occult and exploring occult themes in literature and the arts and

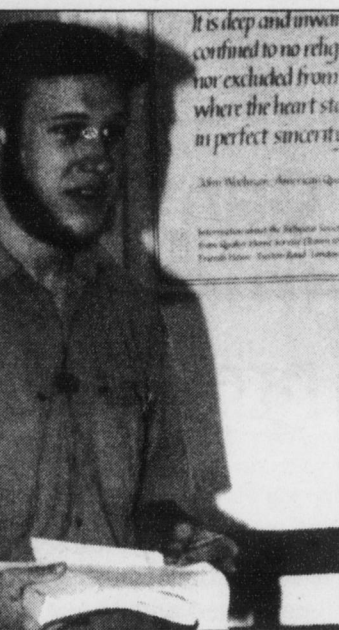


photo by Carl Beehler

Sophomore Will Vidrine, the founder of Guilford's newest organization, addresses group members at the Society's first meeting Wednesday night at the Hut.

sciences.

Campus Minister Max Carter is the organization's faculty sponsor. The group's address is P.O. Box 17631.

West African WWII veteran to relate experiences

Courtesy of College Relations

For two weeks in April Guilford College will host a World War II veteran from West Africa who will deliver a formal lecture and make several informal classroom presentations about his experiences as a frontline soldier in East Africa and Burma.

Edward Kwame Frempong, a retired civil servant and former sergeant in the British colonial army, will speak Wednesday, April 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the Gallery of Founders Hall. His topic will be "World War II Remembered: the Voice of a Frontline African Soldier."

Frempong who is from Ghana, the former British Gold Coast, gives frequent public lectures on the war under the auspices of the Veterans Association, contributes articles on the war to local Ghanaian newspapers and has lectured on national television.

In 1940, while working as an accounting clerk for a local merchant, he joined the Gold Coast Regiment and spent the next five years on active duty.

After the war he took part in the Victory Parade in London and returned home to work for the Settlement Office which became the Labour Department. He worked for the army administra-

The Intercultural Studies Program will present a panel discussion entitled *Democracy and Development in West Africa: a Focus on Ghana*, Monday, April 13, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Gallery of Founders Hall in conjunction with Frempong's visit. The topics for discussion are as follows:

- Labor issues in the early years of independence
Presenter—Edward Kwame Frempong
- Current prospects for democracy
Presenter—Dr. Baffour Agyeman-Duah, Bennett College
- Religion and democracy
Presenter—Rev. Albert Som-Pimpong

tion until he retired in 1979.

Frempong's visit to the United States is primarily sponsored by the Intercultural Studies Program at Guilford College.

Others assisting with his visit

are the History Department and the Academic Dean, and additional funding is being provided from a consortium of colleges, the Southern Atlantic States Association for Asian and African Studies.

"I hate to say anything nice about Joe Stalin. He really was a pill all things considered." -Henry Hood