

TOGETHER: social alternative

By BOB HAMILTON
Collegian Staff Writer

TOGETHER, the new social club sponsored by the Graduate Student Association, is an alternative.

It is an alternative to patronizing a noisy, crowded bar to meet people. It is a place to talk other than a party, where wall-to-wall people can be enough to make a person talk to himself.

It is not group therapy or GSA's version of a lonely hearts' club.

It is a rational approach to the task of meeting others, according to originator Barbara Buschell.

At a TOGETHER meeting people get a chance to express opinion on the night's discussion topic.

Topics are generally personal, such as, "How do you get out of a romantic relationship you no longer want to be part of?"

"People don't enjoy talking about their feelings, or are afraid to," said

Pam, one of the participants. (The last names of people quoted have been withheld by request.)

"Something like this is good because if a guy just comes up to me on the street and starts a conversation, I want to talk to him but I wonder about his motives," she said.

TOGETHER also seems to benefit the older student.

"As a 29-year-old undergraduate I find it hard to communicate with students 10 years my junior," said Conrad.

And Bill, a middle-aged graduate student, said, "The older student finds many problems in State College. He doesn't belong to the faculty. He can't relate to undergraduates. And it is difficult for him to relate to townspeople. They are permanent and he is transient. He is nowhere."

TOGETHER is also a good experience for a single woman, according to Chris, a divorcee visiting

the campus from Philadelphia.

"This is terrific, the discussion was very worthwhile. In a singles bar the people who talk to me only want to make it with me," she said.

A TOGETHER meeting can be a learning experience.

"In discussions like this you find out how little you know. And that's sometimes hard to swallow," Bill said.

"But that's good," added George, a doctoral candidate, "because you also find out how little everyone else knows."

According to Buschell, one of the best things about TOGETHER is the lack of pressure on a person to respond in a socially acceptable manner as there would be at a bar or a party.

"It is just a place where people can come and talk and hopefully learn something about the others they are taking to," she said.

Kissinger requests oil price floor

PARIS (UPI)—The United States formally asked its leading allies yesterday to keep their oil prices at a level high enough to encourage speedy development of domestic energy resources.

The price-floor plan, developed by Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, was submitted at the opening of a three-day session of the International Energy Agency's governing board.

It was designed to strengthen the consumers' bargaining hand in talks with the powerful 13-nation Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

OPEC's quadrupling of oil prices has put the balance of payments of many Western

nations heavily in the red, slowing down economic growth.

Undersecretary Thomas O. Enders, a top Kissinger aide, told newsmen before the start of the IEA conference that the price-floor plan, originally announced Monday in Washington, was the only way to create a "market balance between producers and consumers."

"It is essential to have a position of this kind to have in place and in advance a right bargaining balance when we get to talk to the producers," Enders said.

Conference sources said member nations may speed up work on various joint energy plans, most of them

fathered by Kissinger, because of the threat of a new tug of war with the oil cartel.

OPEC nations are considering a Kuwaiti request for a possible new oil price increase because of the steady drop of the value of the dollar in which the West makes all oil payments.

In Caracas, however, Venezuelan Mines Minister Valentin Hernandez said the current \$10 to \$11 dollar per barrel price level set by OPEC would remain in force over the next nine months.

"We feel that the current price, set by OPEC, is equitable and we have taken a very firm stand on this," he said.

The IEA, set up last fall to

cope with the energy crisis, expanded its membership to 18 nations yesterday through the admission of New Zealand as a full member and Norway as an associate.

Other members are the European Common Market nations except France, the United States, Japan, Canada, Australia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey.

France's President Valery Giscard d'Estaing said Tuesday night the latest Kissinger plan should be discussed only after a preparatory French-sponsored meeting of oil producers, consumers and developing nations he wants to hold in Paris in mid-March.

Senators to launch campaigns

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Sen. Lloyd Bentsen of Texas yesterday scheduled a press conference Feb. 17 to make official his unannounced campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination.

His Senate colleague, Henry A. Jackson of Washington, already has bought national television time tonight to formalize his own hard-running but unannounced candidacy.

In setting times for their announcements, both senators sought to prolong suspense about their plans. But since each reported raising more than \$1 million in the "planning" stages of their campaigns, a decision by either to pull out would be a major political surprise.

The expected entry of the two senators will increase the field of formally announced Democratic candidates to five. Rep. Morris Udall, D-Ariz., former Gov. Jimmy Carter of Georgia and former Sen. Fred Harris of Oklahoma already have launched official campaigns.

Former Gov. Terry Sanford of North Carolina also is an active but unannounced Democratic candidate. Sanford, now president of Duke University, has said he will make his decision this spring.

When Sen. Walter F. Mondale, D-Minn., decided late last year to forego a 1976 presidential campaign, speculation began that another Senate liberal might be encouraged to step into the vacuum.

Gov. George Wallace of Alabama remains a likely but unannounced 1976 Democratic candidate, but has not made up his mind whether to run, and former Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy of Minnesota, who sought the Democratic nomination in 1968, is a declared third party candidate for 1976.

The Republican field for 1976 is occupied alone by President Ford, who yesterday repeated his intent to run for the office he succeeded to without election.

Ford has no announced opposition, but Sen. Howard Baker, R-Tenn., was reported Tuesday to be testing sentiment for a

1976 run, and the Republican speculation also included former Gov. Ronald Reagan of California, who has taken on an extensive speaking schedule.

Jackson sought the Democratic nomination in 1972 but never came close to Sen. George McGovern. He was—and remains—a favorite of Democratic Party "old liberal" regulars, and despite some recent tiffs with AFL-CIO chiefs, is expected to have strong labor backing for his 1976 effort.

Bentsen, a first-term senator, is expected to make a dual pitch for support. He is a "new face" on the Democratic scene and he is counted among the ranks of "New South" politicians who have turned away from traditional segregationist Dixie politics.

Career seminar set

Professionals in the field of recreation and parks will be on hand tomorrow and Saturday at a Professional Career Conference.

The conference, sponsored by the Recreation and Park Society, will allow students to seek permanent and seasonal jobs and practicums, according to Sussan Alters, chairman of the event.

The conference will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. tomorrow in the HUB Ballroom with interviews with the professionals. A

banquet will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the HUB Terrace Room.

Saturday programs include a seminar on problems in the field at 10:30 a.m., a discussion led by James Zinec, director of the National Park Service's Allegheny Portage Railroad at 1 p.m., and interviews in the afternoon. All Saturday programs will be held in 101 Kern.

More information on the conference is available in 257 Rec Hall.

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 Husband Sweetheart
 Mother Neighbor
 Father Friend
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 Daughter Classmates
 Brother Father-in-law
 Sister Mother-in-law
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7:00-8:45-10:30 daily
Matinees — Th, 2:30
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Thurs, Mat. — \$1.00
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7:30-9:45
Starts tomorrow —
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"Makes Marion Brande's
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