

## Group Opposes Imperialism

By Rhonda Neugebauer

The Latin American Solidarity Committee, a recently formed political action/education group in Lawrence is already thriving. Their first public project will be the showing of two free films on Tuesday, March 28 at 7:30pm in Spencer Art Museum. Both films are being co-sponsored by the International Club.

"Compañero" is about the life of Chilean singer and poet Victor Jara, his brutal torture and public execution. Victor Jara was part of the New Chilean Song Movement. He and other musicians sang of contemporary social, economic and political issues. Their music was deeply rooted in traditional musical instruments and Chilean folklore. When the military junta overthrew the constitutionally elected Marxist government of Salvador Allende, they banned the musicians, songs, instruments and recordings of the New Chilean Song Movement to counter cultural resistance. Victor Jara was loved by the Chilean people. In tribute to Victor Jara, American songwriter Holly Near wrote, "They can kill a man, but not a song when it's sung the whole world 'round."

"To the People of the World" is about human rights and conditions of political prisoners in Chile since the military coup in 1973. Amnesty International estimates that more than 100,000 Chileans have been arrested, 5,000 of them executed. This film is an appeal to the people of the world to help through education and solidarity.

Following the films, Luis Ramirez, a Chilean refugee now living in exile in Kansas City, will discuss and answer questions about his personal experience as a political prisoner. Representatives from the K.C. Chile Solidarity Committee will provide information on how Americans can put pressure on the junta to secure the release of political prisoners.

The Latin American Solidarity Committee's goals are to keep alive the spirit of anti-fascism, to encourage understanding of existing repressive conditions of military rule, and to promote critical analysis of the implications of United States maintenance and support of military juntas in many Latin American countries.

## Old Glory on Tour

The Watkins Community Museum, 11th and Mass., opened an exhibit entitled, "The Glory and the Dream: The History of the United States Flag," March 21.

The exhibit, on loan from the Tumbling Waters Museum of Flags in Montgomery, Ala., is the largest



known flag exhibition in our nation's history, and includes original historic flags, as well as reproductions of flags lost through time, contemporary flags, engravings, and an original mural, all from the permanent collection of the Tumbling Waters Museum. The exhibit traces the artistic and historical significance and origin of the U.S. flag from the fifteenth century through the twentieth century and beyond.

The Lawrence exhibition is the 10th and last stop on a tour that began as a Bicentennial celebration three years ago on March 21, 1975, at the Alabama Dept. of Archives and History in Montgomery, Alabama.

This is the only exhibit stop in this area, and will continue through April 23, during the regular museum hours of 10 to 4 Tuesday through Saturday and 1:30 to 4 on Sunday. Admission is free.



Kansas City Concert

## Willow Presents Woody

Woody Simmons will be appearing in concert with Nancy Vogl on Friday, March 24, 8:00PM, at the Linwood Multipurpose Center, 32nd & Flora, Kansas City, Mo.

Woody has performed in Kansas City once before with the Clinch Mountain Backsteppers; Nancy has played here and recorded with the Berkeley Women's Music Collective. They are taking a cross-country tour to promote Woody's new album, "Oregon Mountains", distributed by Olivia Records.

Woody Simmons is an extremely versatile guitar, piano, banjo, mandolin player and singer. She performs her own tender melodies to foot-stomping banjo picking. Woody is featured on banjo on Cris Williamson's album, "The Changer and the Changed" on the Olivia label.

Willow Productions is pleased to sponsor Woody in concert March 24. Tickets are available for this performance at: Capers Corner and New Earth Bookstore in Kansas City, Kief's in Lawrence, The Soundboard in Topeka, and the Woman's Place in Columbia.

## Growing up Gay!

Rita Mae Brown, author of the best-selling novel, *Rubyfruit Jungle* will appear in Kansas City for an exclusive midwest engagement on Friday, March 31st at 8pm in the sanctuary at 4601 Main.

Rita Mae Brown's *Rubyfruit Jungle* is an autobiographical novel about growing up gay and enjoying it. It was too hot for the establishment press to handle so a feminist press, Daughters, Inc. published the manuscript in 1973. Overnight it became an underground best seller selling 70,000 in trade paperback.

This year *Rubyfruit Jungle* was picked up by Bantam Books and went on to sell 250,000 copies in the first month and a half after its release in the mass market edition. In 1979, director Joan Tewkesbury, Nashville screen writer, is scheduled to begin filming the movie version with Cris Williamson doing the sound track.

Tickets for the event are available at Capers Corner and New Earth Bookstore in Kansas City, Kief's in Lawrence, The Soundboard in Topeka, and the Woman's Place in Columbia. They are \$3 in advance and \$4 at the door.

## Skills Exchange

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Though the organizers speak of operating at the business community's periphery, the economic aims are deadly serious. "For a lot of our families, fifty cents saved is a big deal," Miller said.

Hagg said participants will have to understand that the exchange system will be completely voluntary. She produced a copy of the membership agreement, which releases Penn House from responsibility for damages or poor workmanship.

Though money will not be involved, many market principles will remain in effect. Any "buyers" will have the right to turn down services of a "seller" whose services aren't wanted. And, by the same token, "Sellers" can refuse service requests.

"If you have offered a service, you can attach any special circumstances you want, Hagg said. Usually people who want baking done, will bring their own materials, such as flour."

Fletcher said ultimately the exchange should run virtually on its own. Penn House is seeking continuing funding to cover office expenses. Ideally, exchange volunteers with no previous job experience can be trained to mind the office and handle contacts, she said.

For more information or to join the exchange, call Penn House at 842-0440.

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