

Group seeks volunteer workers

By SHERIE KELLER
Battalion Reporter

Student Volunteer Services is looking for special people — people who are willing to give the time, experience, and love that is needed to help others.

Helping others is what SVS is all about. The Texas A&M University organization acts as a referral center between student volunteers and 15-20 Bryan-College Station organizations that need help, said Janet Cooper, chairman of SVS.

Some of these organizations include the Boys Club of America, March of Dimes, Sherwood and

Crestview Nursing Homes, Bryan Hospital, Head Start and Planned Parenthood, the senior plant science major said.

All of the services SVS provides are free. It was started about three years ago by the University's Department of Student Affairs. It has since become a separate student organization, but the office is still located in Room 216 of the MSC, she said.

The work the volunteers do differs with each assignment. In nursing homes, the duties include writing letters for and visiting with the

elderly. At the hospital, volunteers can be nurse's aides or they may plan parties for the children's wards.

At the Head Start, the students are teacher's aides and help babysit, said Karen Joiner, one of the SVS directors. "I worked as a volunteer at the child care centers last year before becoming a director. It was fun and the kids were great," she said.

Big Brother-Big Sister and the Boys Club of America were also involved with SVS. But Bob Bowen, another member of SVS, said that last year work with those programs did not work out as well as hoped.

"We had plenty of volunteers, but not enough kids. We are hoping in the future that the Big Brother-Big Sister program can become a chapter on its own and work more with the kids. Bryan-College Station needs an organized chapter," Bowen said.

SVS members say the response has been better this year than last. "In the health field it has been better than we thought," said Mary Ortiz, director of that area of SVS.

"In the past volunteers have not asked to work in the nursing homes, but this year they are specifically asking to work there," she said.

"Students in the health fields usually are the most interested. Pre-dent and pre-med students can obtain valuable experience and references through this work," the junior bio-chemistry major said.

But students in those programs are not the only ones who can gain experience. For instance, the Boys Clubs of America program is looking for coaches. A PE major could gain valuable experience there, Cooper said.

"Volunteer work is very satisfying to me. In a small way I can help in the community," Joiner said. There are a lot of areas that people can work in with this program, so anyone can help, she said.

Besides providing and referring volunteers, the organization takes on several projects during the year. One of these projects, an Agency Fair, will be held Oct. 3. This fair will consist of 15-20 organizations seeking to create more interest in their service programs.

"The purpose of the fair is to introduce more people to the agency (SVS) and the organizations," Cooper said. "We hope more students will learn what we are doing and hopefully they will want to help."

Satellite benefits still increasing

WASHINGTON — As you read this, the telephone conversations of 10,000 people around the world may be going through a satellite thousands of miles high. Millions of others may be watching television via satellite.

In addition, these same switchboards in the sky can relay digital data across oceans and continents carrying electronic mail, transferring funds, reporting stock market activities and connecting networks of computers.

New jobs for communications satellites are developing as more and more people have access to them. The Comsat Corp., for example, announced a few weeks ago that it was considering using satellites to beam pay television directly to roof-top antennas on subscribers' homes.

Communications satellites were the earliest and remain the largest commercially successful offspring of the nation's space program.

"Certainly, no effort in the U.S. space program has yielded more direct and obvious benefits, and none has had more international involvement than satellite communications," Comsat vice president Burton I. Edelson told a congressional subcommittee last week.

The International Telecommunications Satellite Consortium, which is managed by Comsat, now has 11 operational or standby satellites in orbit to provide a global capacity of 50,000 telephone circuits.

The United States also has three domestic satellite systems in operation as well as commercial satellites to provide service to ships at sea.

Canada has its own domestic system, as does Indonesia. Other nations are planning domestic or regional systems.

Besides expanding international communications, Burton said Intelsat has significantly reduced the cost of overseas phone calls. He said Intelsat's charge for a telephone circuit is 18 percent of the original charge in 1965.

"Moreover, Intelsat is profitable for its participants," he said. "From its revenues of almost \$200 million this year, it will pay about 14 percent return on investment to its members."

Intelsat, which has 102 member nations, is tied together by a network of 250 ground stations in 103 countries. A telecast two weeks ago from Cuba to Yugoslavia marked the entry of Cuba into the system.

The first commercial communications satellite was the little Early Bird, launched in 1965. It had a telephone relaying capacity of 240 circuits and equaled at the time the combined communications capacity of all transatlantic cables.

The largest satellites now in the Intelsat system are five known as Intelsat 4A models. Each can handle as many as 6,000 simultaneous telephone calls.

Burton said an even more powerful Intelsat spacecraft scheduled to be launched early next year will have twice the capacity of the Intelsat 4A.

As satellite power increases and the size of space antennas goes up, ground stations have been able to use smaller and less expensive antennas.

Connally criticizes lawsuit against Philadelphia police

DALLAS — Republican presidential contender John Connally Monday angrily criticized the Justice Department's lawsuit against Philadelphia police for alleged brutality as an attempt to appease "an anti-police constituency."

In a tough law-and-order speech to the International Association of Police Chiefs meeting in Dallas, Connally said the Justice Department action was "an unwarranted and outrageous abuse of federal legal authority."

"One has difficulty in not concluding that its themes and actions are motivated more by a desire to appease a small but vitriolic anti-police constituency than they are by a real desire to obtain the truth," he said.

Calling such persons "politically muddled do-gooders" who make up a "fashionable special interest group," the former Treasury secretary

said Philadelphians "are perfectly able to look after themselves. They do not require the Justice Department's sledge hammer approach."

Connally also said he favors:

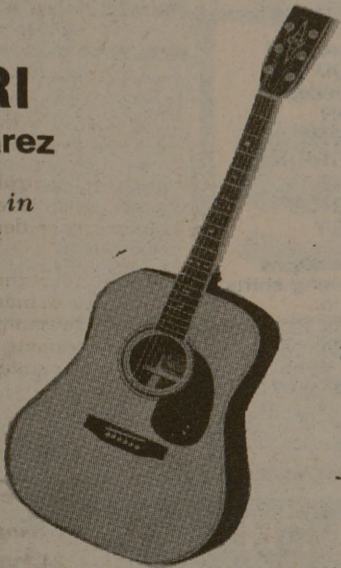
- "A nation of the old fashioned values in which police departments are respected, not made hostage to ideological inquisitions and political kangaroo courts."
- Reinstatement of capital punishment.
- Restoring voluntary prayers in public schools.



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