

How to get involved

by Verena E. Maethner

Whether he was born and raised in Oshkosh or Osaka, the student interested in the myriad hues of culture in the world has amply opportunity for discovery at UNL.

A total of 13 different organizations and programs exist here to establish closer relationships between foreign students and American students and among the foreign students themselves. All of the programs are designed to involve both American and foreign students in some way or other.

Much of the value in these programs lie in providing students with a place and time to get together and learn from each other. But periodically most organizations also sponsor a special event such as a slide show, dress show or social function.

What follows, then, is a listing of the organizations and some of the up-coming events.

International Club is kind of the parent organization for foreign students on campus. They keep track of foreign students, help them with problems, sponsor many of the other organizations. On Nov. 17, foreign student night will happen in the Union Ballroom. Involving all of the foreign students and many Americans, it is perhaps the biggest social event of the year. For more information on this or on membership, contact Mehmet Antan in the Union, room 336.

International House makes it possible for students from all over the world to live together. Now, two floors of Women's Residence Hall is filled with students from 18 different countries. Activities included a coffee-house, speakers, language tables, slide shows and informal social events, and are open to everyone. Residents are chosen on interest and nationality.

The Chinese Student Assn. has a Chinese tea house set up every Friday afternoon at St. Marks on Campus. They also run free Mandarin and Cantonese classes and sponsor Chinese movies from time to time. Later a Chinese Christmas dinner and New Year's party are planned.

The Indian Assn. also sponsors Indian movies at times. Times and places are announced in the *Daily Nebraskan*. Their big event, India Night, happened earlier this semester.

The Muslim Assn. is the only group which limits its membership. It is designed to provide Muslims an opportunity to practice their religion at Friday prayer meetings in the Union. But everyone is

invited to attend their Sunday afternoon meetings in the Union to learn more about Islam. Nov. 11, at 6:30, at Wesley Foundation, EID-UL-FITR (the end of the holy month of Ramadan) will be celebrated and is a good opportunity to learn more of Islam. The program includes a short movie about the pilgrimage to Mecca and a native dress show.

The Arab Student Assn. has monthly meetings designed for discussion of problems facing the Arabic world. Also, plans are being made for an Arabic night later this year.

The African Assn. has the distinction of including not only UNL African students, but also students from Wesleyan and Omaha. The group is trying to establish an organization which will carry over back to their own countries.

The Italian Club will host an international banquet dinner, Nov. 12, at International House. One dollar pays for all you can eat. Also, informal discussion and social gatherings happen periodically.

German Club will probably hold its first meeting next week, time and place to be announced in the *Daily Nebraskan*. A Christmas Party as well as slides and talks about German, Switzerland, and Austria are planned.

The International Women's Group, as the name implies, is designed to give foreign women (whether they are wives or students themselves) a sense of community. Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday mornings, at First Presbyterian Church. Baby sitting and transportation are provided. Activities include tea and talk, playing world games, world songs, dinner with husbands and working on decorations.

The host family program attempts to bring together foreign students and American families in an almost-family atmosphere. The program now includes 285 American families. The families are given the names of UNL foreign students and they then try to work out time to get together. The program can provide Americans close-up perspectives on different cultures and can provide the foreign student help in surviving his initial period of cultural shock.

YWCA, although not exclusively involved with foreign students, does sponsor an international luncheon for foreign and American students at the Lutheran Chapel, Thursday noons. Cost—50 cents for students, 75 cents for non-students.

Also, a French Club and a Latin American Club are now being organized.

International Night



Nov. 17th - Union Ballroom -
8:00 p.m. 50¢ - tickets on sale

Obtain tickets at international student office
and union ticket offices, also at the door-

NATIVE CULTURAL ACTIVITIES