

SINGLE?

Thomas More Club Offers A Chance to Meet People

By CHARLES RANDISI

In order to make new acquaintances, single people need not "hang out" in bars, think up catchy lines, look suave or pretty, and wait for somebody else to make the first move.

One alternative is the St. Thomas More Club, for single people over 18 and out of high school.

Gerry Adams, More Club president, says the club offers "an opportunity to meet people."

The More Club got its start in 1956 out of Sacred Heart Parish. In the early days, says Adams, the club was very religiously oriented — monthly Communion Masses, recitation of the Rosary, days of recollection, were integral parts of the group's activity.

But now the club invites people of all faiths, "in the spirit of ecumenism."

"Religion has become more of a personal thing," says Adams. "I won't dictate what our members should or shouldn't believe."

There are around 125 active members in the More Club — "a few more girls than guys," Adams says.

Events are mostly social — dances, hayrides, roller skating parties, weekend outings. There are also service-related activities. The More Club has worked with youth from St. Joseph's Villa, had clothing drives, and done Christmas caroling. In October they held a car wash for muscular dystrophy.

Adams is quick to deny that the More Club is any sort of "lonely hearts" organization or caters strictly to people who are looking for marriage partners. "Yes, definitely people have gotten married through the More Club," he says, "but we're not preoccupied with that idea. We're just a good way to meet decent people."

Business activities are what hold the More Club together. A general meeting for all members is held monthly at St. Andrew's Church hall, and a newsletter informs members of upcoming plans.

Adams estimates the average age of "More Clubbers" at 23 or 24. "There used to be an upper age limit of 30, but we dropped it because we didn't feel it was right to get rid of a member just because he had a birthday."

He feels that other "singles" clubs that have recently become popular are "more commercialized, less personalized" than the More Club, which is an incorporated, non-profit organization.

One group that is similar to the More Club in structure and purpose is the St. Christopher Club. The only difference Adams sees is that the Christopher Club "appeals to a slightly older age group."

Plans are being made for the **CARD PARTY**

St. Cecilia's Ladies Guild will hold a card party at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8, in the church hall.

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two groups to hold occasional joint activities.

Membership, though up a bit this year over last, is a problem. As a guest on a recent radio show, Adams made an appeal for new members. "Four or five people became members because of it," he says.

"A lot of the problem in getting

members," he adds, "stems from ignorance about us."

All More Club events are open to prospective members and guests. Anyone wishing information about the group may contact Adams at 254-5742, or Mary Jane Ross, membership chairman, 272 Driving Park Ave., Rochester, 14613.



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The Brookwood Science Information Center will be closed on December 31 as well as January 1. However, it will be open Sunday, December 30, from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. as usual. It will reopen its doors on Wednesday and Thursday immediately following New Year's from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

Why not take advantage of those two days and have the children visit Brookwood during their holiday vacation? Cousins and friends in town for the holidays will also enjoy seeing the Center. It's a fascinating way to learn the story of electricity. And you might get some insight into the current energy situation.

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