

SOMETHING NEW

Interest groups allow students to branch out, do something different

With many students on campus focused on their studies, it became hard for some to find time to get away from working on their academic requirements. But students found the selection of over 400 interest groups to be an escape from scholastic life or a chance to experience something new they wouldn't have otherwise had a chance to try. From the Classical Movies Club to the Free Thought Alliance to Colorblind, students donated their time to their passions or to help other people.

For example, a particular favorite of many students was the many service trips offered. Throughout the year, students collected money through bake sales, reverse trick-or-treating, fundraisers with local business, or other methods. The money raised was used when students traveled over Winter, Spring or Summer Break to locations which ranged from domestic to foreign to help out communities in need.

Many clubs were based on mutual

interests and held events celebrating these passions. Skiffy, the Science Fiction Club, held a large event each year in which members dressed up like characters from *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* and watched the movie together.

To form a new club, a group of interested potential members drafted a Constitution which was submitted to the Office of Student Activities for approval. From there, the new club would strive to recruit members through the semi-weekly sounding board of Student Happenings or put up flyers in the most traveled places on campus.

The varied interest groups on campus provided opportunities for students to break away from their studies and do something new. Whether students were looking for group membership that would deeply involve them or just a way to get a bit of relaxation each week, interest groups were the solution.

>Katherine Orth



During Pie and Dye, members of the group Colorblind smush together the remains of pies. Colorblind held many events where students could pie members and tie-dye t-shirts to promote diversity on campus.

»groupmentality



Members of the Student Environmental Action Committee gather recycling materials into the Crim Dell Meadow. The event's purpose was to raise awareness about what materials could and could not be recycled at the College.



The Queen's Guard watches over the Sunken Gardens during a September 11th memorial event. The Queen's Guard was an organization that performed demonstrations at events like football games and the King and Queen's Ball.



During a visit to the College, Gubernatorial Candidate Terry McAuliffe stops to speak to Students for a Better Williamsburg. Actually a registered PAC, the group raised awareness about student-relevant issues in the community and collected funds for supporting future student candidates for Williamsburg City Council.



After a meet at the University of Richmond with the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA), members of the Equestrian team pose for a picture. The team had several events during the year, all sponsored through IHSA.

Members of the Student Environmental Action Coalition (SEAC) pose with their poster, made before the TODAY show. Environmental interest groups like SEAC allowed students to get involved with something they were passionate about.