

11-1-1988

Que Ondee Sola- November 1988

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Recommended Citation

Rosa, Felix, "Que Ondee Sola- November 1988" (1988). *Que Ondee Sola*. 142.
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Que Ondee Sola

November 1988, Volume 22, No. 5

OVER 300 STUDENTS FROM ORR, CLEMENTE, KELVYN PARK AND LATINO YOUTH H.S. ATTEND

College Day For Feeder Schools: An Unprecedented and Successful Event

On October 28th the **Union for Puerto Rican Students (UPRS)** and **Que Ondee Sola (QOS)** invited Latino students from four high schools to Northeastern to spend the day learning about the university and become acquainted with the programs available to them on campus. The purpose was to encourage high school Latino students to continue their education, and offer our services, resources, and moral support so that they are in a better position to continue their education.

Over 300 juniors and seniors from Clemente, Orr and Kelvyn Park High Schools, as

well as students from Latino Youth Alternative High School were in attendance at the College Day event.

The day began with presentations made by Erica Gonzalez, Myrta Badillo and Max Torres of Proyecto Pa'lante; Julio Cortés of Student Support Services; Santos Rivera, Director of Special Programs; Samuel López of Financial Aid and Flavio Vega of Affirmative Action.

The students were then taken on a tour of the University and served a delicious lunch of Puerto Rican food. The day ended with a concert of cultural music performed by Ruco

Gandía and special guests from Aires Bucaneros. The concert was also in commemoration of the 1950 Nationalist Insurrection in Puerto Rico. We feel this was a good experience for the high school students and are hoping to make this a regular event.

On behalf of the **UPRS** and staff of **QOS**, we would like to thank the Music Department, Audio-Visual Department, Commuter Center, Cafeteria, and everyone who worked to make this event a success. We regret the misunderstanding with the Commuter Center and hope to resolve it.



New Vice-President for Student Affairs, Melvin C. Terrell, Meets with Student Organizations

On Monday, October 17, 1988 the new Vice President for Student Affairs, Melvin C. Terrell addressed the Student Senate and several other student representatives.

Melvin C. Terrell addressed the audience calling for more cooperation between the UNI administration and the student clubs. He said that the student organizations should not see the administration as their enemy, but rather as a helping force.

Full of dynamism Mr. Terrell stated publicly his commitment to the student organizations and to become a liason to ease the tension between the administration and the organizations. He presented some of his new

ideas for improvement and how this will be promptly implemented. For example, allocating more space for student organizations, developing further the existing organizations, more student events, among others.

Some student representatives were glad to hear this, given the past experiences with this office. The energy and enthusiasm with which Mr. Terrell presented his ideas are a good indication, as well as a step towards making the situation better.

We hope that Vice President Terrell can stand by his words, it would be an improvement in this administration.

"GANGS IN CHICAGO"

REGISTER NOW REGISTER NOW REGISTER NOW REG

DAYS: TUES/THURS

Professors López / Dr. Stern

TIME: 9:40-10:55

CREDIT: 3 HRS.

ROOM: A-111

Interdisciplinary-3 hours credit for Criminal Justice, Sociology or as an elective.

Que Ondeé Sola

is published at Northeastern Illinois University. The opinions expressed in *Que Ondeé Sola* do not necessarily reflect those of the administration. Responsibility for its contents lies solely within the staff. We appreciate and encourage any and all suggestions or contributions.

Editor..... Félix Rosa
Co-Editor..... Beatriz Nieves
Staff..... Iris Flores, Arlene Calderon,
Ivonne Diaz, Ulysis Albarán, Caryn Creamer.

ANGEL RODRIGUEZ CRISTOBAL REMEMBERED MARTYRED FOR OUR CAUSE

On November 11, 1979, Angel Rodríguez Cristóbal, a member of the Central Committee of the **Puerto Rican Socialist League**, was assassinated by US agents. He was tortured for more than two weeks in a dark and damp cell at the Federal Prison in Tallahassee, Florida.



Angel lived in Vieques, one of several small islands comprising the archipelago of Puerto Rico. In Vieques, his people lived off the land and sea. Fishermen from Vieques fish to feed their families and sell the rest of their catch in the open market, earning their livelihood in this way. However, this tranquil life was shattered by the US armed forces who invade Vieques yearly and use three fourths of the island for military practice. Most of the land is ruined by these actions. Many people suffer physical and mental problems, some have even died as a result of the tremendous anxiety caused by the fear that someday a simple computer error may send missiles and bombs raining down on the settlements. They are also disturbed by the noise and pollution caused by the US Navy's target practice.

On May 19, 1979, the people joined together under the leadership of the local fishermen's association and demonstrated against the Navy's actions. They wanted the Navy off of their land for good. This demonstration led to the arrest of twenty-one people, among them Angel Rodríguez Cristóbal.

Angel was later found guilty of illegally trespassing on US' territory and was sentenced to six months in jail. Angel was the first person to declare himself a Puerto Rican Prisoner of War. He was looked upon with pride by the other twenty people who were arrested and later found not guilty. The US government did not like his actions; they did their best to make Angel's six months in jail the worst time of his life.

Shortly after Angel was sentenced, he was transferred to the federal prison in Tallahassee, Florida. Here was where Angel's torture began. He was put to work in the kitchen, and acquired an infection on his hands. He asked for medical treatment, but the guards refused to let him see a doctor. Angel refused to continue to work under those conditions and he was punished and harassed.

Angel was able to let people know what was taking place in the prison. His friends were allowed to visit him and they found him in poor physical health, but mentally he was as strong as ever. After this visit, the guards became more violent; they did not give him food for over a day and threatened to poison his food and kill his lawyer. Angel was injected with drugs leaving him almost in a coma.

On November 10, 1979, Angel was visited by Juan Antonio Corretjer, Secretary General of the **Puerto Rican Socialist League** and National Poet of Puerto Rico. Juan Antonio Corretjer found Angel very weak, but strongly committed to his political beliefs. Nine hours after this visit, Angel was found hanged in his cell. The US agents made it look like a suicide, but those who believed in Angel knew he was assassinated by US agents. His political beliefs were too strong for him to go weak on us like that.

Angel lives on in his people's hearts. The struggle he gave his life for will continue until our country is free.

MARION PRISON

THE SHOCKING FACTS: TORTURE IN THE USA

It was opened in 1963 to replace Alcatraz prison. It's called Marion. Marion is an experimental prison for the whole federal prison system. It is the most maximum security prison in the country.

The Bureau of Prison established the Control Unit, "a prison within a prison" where prisoners have been subjected to sensory deprivation and solitary confinement. In the early years at Marion, prison officials experimented with the use of drugs on Control Unit prisoners. Marion also uses "boxcars". These are small, enclosed, soundproof boxes in which prisoners are placed, as a means of psychological torture.

Two guards were killed in isolated incidents by two prisoners on October 1983. Authori-

* *All physical contacts were ended. No prisoners can touch or be touched by family members or loved ones.*

* *Prison authorities shut down work programs, group educational activities and congregational religious services.*

* *The water supply at Marion in the end may prove to be the most damaging (and even deadly) of the conditions of incarceration there. Essentially Marion draws its water supply from a toxic waste dump.*

* *Top prison officials have made it clear they intend to permanently maintain the lockdown status, in spite of Congressional and Church inquiries, and a class action lawsuit by the prisoners.*

...Ralph Aron who was then the warden of Marion (1975) testified in Federal court: the purpose of the Marion Control Unit is to control revolutionary attitudes in the prison system and the society at large.

ties seized this opportunity to violently repress the entire prison population although there was no prison riot. They turned the prison into one huge Control Unit. Since 1983 the 350 men who are imprisoned at Marion have experienced the brutal and dehumanizing conditions there.

* *For 23 hrs. a day prisoners are locked in individual cells 6' by 8' (in other federal prisons inmates are let out of their cells an average of 13 hours a day).*

* *They are denied contact with each other and forced into total idleness.*

* *During the initial stage of the lockdown, over 100 guards equipped with riot gear were shipped in from other prisons, and assisted Marion guards in systematically beating 1/2 of all the prisoners at Marion while they were handcuffed and defenseless.*

* *All Control Unit prisoners are subjected to humiliating finger probes of the rectum everytime they leave the unit for a court date, hospital visit, etc. (The men consider this rape).*

Last year, Amnesty International, the Nobel-prize winning organization that monitors human rights abuses throughout the world, issued a report condemning Marion in the strongest possible terms. Amnesty concluded that Marion's prison policies are in violation of the "United Nations Minimum Standards for the Treatment of Prisoners". Amnesty added that the conditions at Marion amount to "cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment". Amnesty went so far as to send the director of the Bureau of Prisons, Michael Quinlan, another of its reports entitled "Safe Guards Against Torture".

The Bureau of Prisons, in efforts to justify its actions, tries to perpetuate the myth that Marion contains "the most vicious, predatory prisoners in the system". On the other hand a study by the governments own consultants carried out a few years ago, indicated that only 20 percent of the prisoners at Marion actually had a security rating appropriate for Marion. The other 80 percent could have gone to the many other prisons.

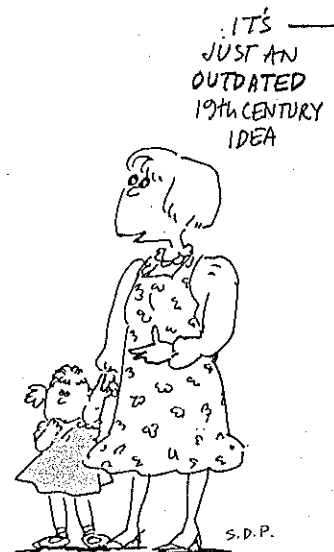
Who is in Marion? Prisoners are put in Marion simply because they are disliked by the

Cont. on pg. 9

Socialism for Beginners

The QOS staff is pleased to offer this special insert, which is designed to acquaint our readers with a simplified version of political economy. In this society, we are not often exposed to a different vision of the world, so we have initiated this process, not to convert or proselytize, but to enable our students to have a more critical view of the society by understanding the new social system which is springing up around the world. While we differ with some of the analysis and criteria of *Socialism for Beginners* by Anna Paczuska, with illustrations by Sophie Grillet, we are excerpting it because it is a work which simplifies the understanding and development of socialism.

SOCIALISM is simple. It is working-class men and women collectively and democratically running society for themselves. It is not a new idea. Most books say that socialism was conceived in France and Britain as recently as 1830, but that is only partly true. Ideas don't suddenly leap out of history fully formed. They grow from earlier ideas and are shaped by the society in which they develop. The vision of equality and co-operation which was called socialism in the early 1800s has been with us, in one form or another, for a very much longer time.



CAPITALISM
IS THE EXPLOITATION
OF MAN BY MAN —
SOCIALISM IS THE
OPPOSITE



SOCIALISM
IS DEATH
TO THE
LACKEYS OF
IMPERIALISM!



3RD WORLD
GUERRILLA

As long as there has been class society, there have been rebellions. Throughout history people have fought injustice and inequality. Socialism is rooted in the age-old struggle for freedom and equality. Today the struggles against capitalism and imperialism continue that fight. All over the world there are socialists striving for equality and workers' power. But although more people than ever before call themselves socialists, they have all discovered socialism in a different way, and so have different ideas about what socialism is. An added complication is that many tyrannical regimes hide behind the name of socialism. And capitalists do everything they can to persuade everybody that tyranny – not freedom – is in the nature of socialism.

So socialism is at root a simple idea, but the word can have quite contradictory and confusing associations.

This book tells the story of socialism, how it grew out of the struggle for freedom, how it changed and how it has been misused. There is not room for everything, so as much space as possible has been devoted to the organization of the fight for freedom. Intellectuals have an important part to play, but ideas and theories are important only when they are born out of organization and struggle. In turn they help to stimulate and encourage new activity.

Many have dreamed about a world run by workers. Socialists go out and organize for it.

SOCIALISM
IS HIGHER
PRODUCTION
NORMS



RUSSIAN
BUREAUCRAT

NO, NO!
YOU'VE ALL GOT
IT WRONG!

LENIN



SLAVE REVOLTS

The story begins with slave rebellions, of which there were many in the ancient world. The rebels were often joined by peasants and small tenant farmers, as well as by 'free' wage-workers (proletarians).

The most famous slave rebellion was led by **Spartacus**. It began in 73 BC when he and his fellow gladiators broke out of their barracks in Italy and called on other slaves to join them. Thousands came to their stronghold on the slopes of Mount Vesuvius. The slave armies easily defeated the hastily-gathered Roman regular troops sent to stop them. Women fought as fiercely as the men when the rebel camps were attacked. Soon the slave armies had marched the length of Italy undefeated.

SPARTACUS!
THE MOST SPLENDID FELLOW
IN ALL ANCIENT HISTORY; A GREAT
GENERAL, A NOBLE CHARACTER
AND A REAL REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE PROLETARIAT!

SHUCKS,
KARL, YOU'RE
MAKING
ME BLUSH



Many of the slaves wanted to take on the power of Rome and defeat it – not just escape. Perhaps that is why when the way to the north and freedom lay open they turned back, to fight the Roman armies again. This time they were not successful. They were driven into the southern tip of Italy and finally defeated in a bloody battle in which many were killed, including Spartacus himself. Six thousand survivors were publicly crucified as an example to other slaves.

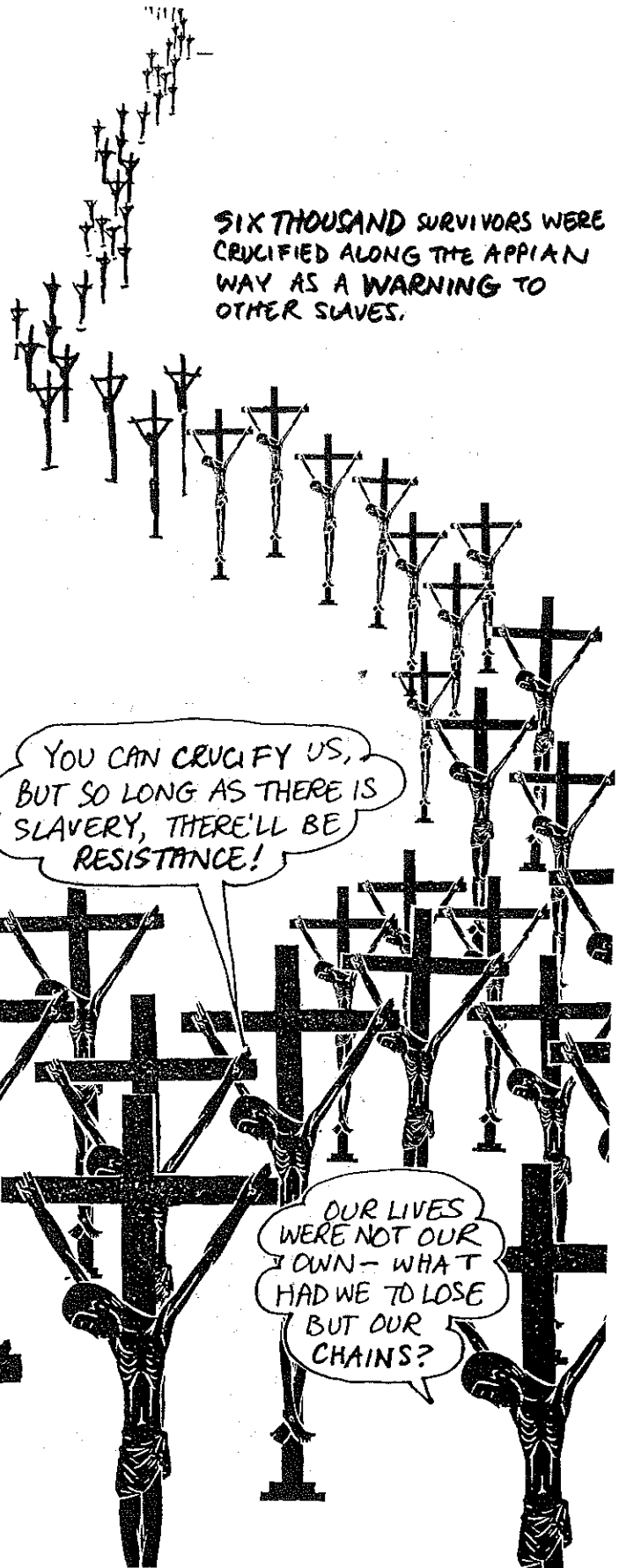
Even as the remnants of Spartacus's army cursed their murderers, 40,000 slaves in the mines of Spain, Delos and Macedonia were taking up arms. Fifty years later silver miners in Greece staged another massive insurrection. By the third century AD, Rome was threatened by rebellions in North Africa and all over the western part of its Empire.



An Arab writer described one African rising:

"They hate the master and the rich, and when they meet a master riding in his chariot and surrounded by his slaves, they make him get down, put the slaves in the chariot, and oblige their masters to run on foot. They boast that they have come to re-establish equality on earth, and they summon the slaves to liberty."

Empires that succeeded Rome suffered similar attacks. The Byzantine Empire was plagued by slave revolts and strikes. In the ninth century a rising of black slaves draining swamps in Egypt held out for fifteen years against their Arab rulers.



Dr. Ben Coleman Scholarship

The Puerto Rican Cultural Center, a community based institution, has announced the creation of the Dr. Ben Coleman scholarship for a Northeastern Illinois University graduate pursuing any field of study at the graduate level in Afro-Caribbean Studies.

The scholarship will be for \$250.00 to be used during the 1988-89 year. Selection of the scholarship recipient will be made by a committee to be established by the Union for Puerto Rican Students (UPRS). Any student who is interested in being considered for this scholarship should fill out the following coupon or contact QOS, ext. 3805.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Social Security #: _____

Telephone: _____

Year Graduated: _____

TORTURE IN THE US CONT.

Bureau of Prisons, some for writing "too many" lawsuits and others for protesting the brutality of the prison system. Several prisoners at Marion have been sent there right from court and have never even served time in another prison, let alone caused trouble. It is no coincidence that many of the men in Marion are political prisoners, put there specifically for the purpose of trying to destroy them as human beings, to break their spirit and, so they hope, to lead them to destroy themselves, commit suicide.

The US government is wise to the fact that political prisoners are quite different from ordinary prisoners and treat them accordingly. In fact Ralph Aron who was then the warden of Marion (1975), testified in federal court: "The purpose of the Marion Control Unit is to control revolutionary attitudes in the prison system and the society at large".

Prisons reflect the structure of society. They also reflect the nature of movements for social change. In the sixties, as the Civil Rights and Black Power movements grew, the numbers of Black political prisoners swelled and the prison

struggle became a major part of the Black liberation struggle. Political Prisoners like George Jackson stated clearly that prisons are an important tool in the governments efforts to contain and destroy Black people's freedom. *Political Prisoners are conscientious objectors.

There are nearly 200 political prisoners and prisoners of war in United States prisons today. (The government refuses to admit this). They come from Puerto Rican, Black/New Afrikan and Native American liberation movements. They include progressive Christians, white anti-imperialists, draft resisters, grand jury resisters. The movements that these people represent honor, love and respect them. The government says that they are criminals or terrorists. Although the government denies the existence of political prisoners in this country, it always reserves the harshest treatment for these very people. Control Units are designed to break every prisoners spirit. In the case of political prisoners and prisoners of war, the Control Units are part of a calculated strategy to weaken these movements and to intimidate others.

Gentrification...

A Brick's Story

by: Uly

José and María were talking as usual. They were talking about the new things that started happening around the community.

José and María, by the way, are very, very close to each other. They are bricks that were built right next to each other in a corner building in the West Town sector of Chicago.

José and María always had so much to say to each other; in fact, all they could really do was talk and sleep. Sitting there on the wall they had time to see and notice EVERYTHING. They even knew about things that happened on the other side of their building, since news traveled fast by word of brick.

But one topic that was hot around the bricks these days was gentrification. The Puerto Rican kids that played handball with them had all left.

The aroma of that Puerto Rican food did not perfume the bricks any more at dinner time. Everything was lonely and still. This was their conversation that day:

María: You know, José, I heard that the bricks on the other side of the building got sandblasted.

José: Yeah, you know, those people that bought us want to make us whiter with that sandblaster. Next thing you know they'll change our names to Joe and Mary.

María: No joke, you know, I heard that sandblasting is really painful.

José: Don't say that. You know how much I hate pain.

María: What are we going to do?

José: I don't know.

María: I have an idea, let's all of us bricks get together and crumble when those nasty new owners come into the building.

José: Not a bad idea, María, let's get the word out to these other bricks.

María: *Si, José, todos unidos venceremos.*

Uly is a freshmen student at Northeastern Illinois University.



Victorian Gardens in West Town, Chicago replaces housing for 24 families with four luxury units for Yuppies.

Invasion of the Building Snatchers

By Andrés Molina

Andres is a student at the Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos Puerto Rican High School and is planning to enroll in Northeastern after graduation

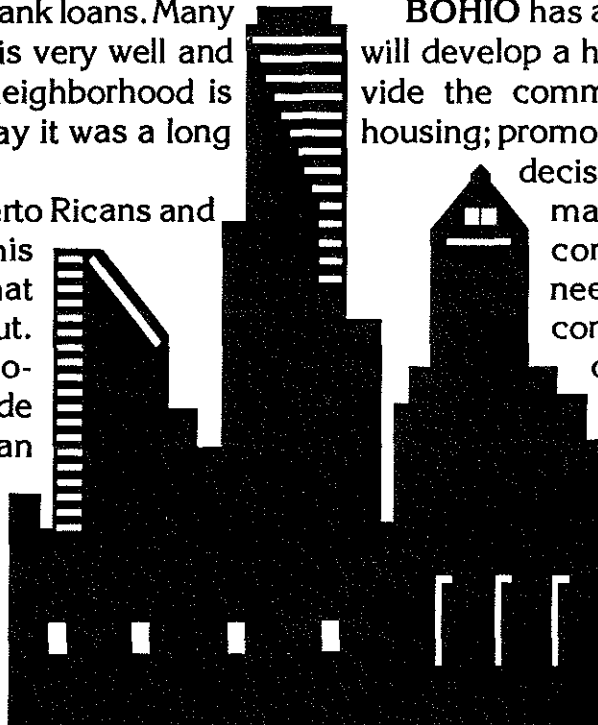
If you have been living in the West Town neighborhood for awhile, you have probably noticed that the community is changing. Many people (Yuppies) are moving in. They buy houses and renovate them with easily renewable bank loans. Many people think that this is very well and good. They say the neighborhood is coming back to the way it was a long time ago.

But for the poor Puerto Ricans and blacks who live in this community, it means that they will be pushed out. This neighborhood renovation does not include them. Actually it is a plan to disperse them and destroy their community.

A group of concerned people have noticed this trend and

have put together an organization to keep Puerto Ricans in the West Town neighborhood. The name of the organization is BOHIO and it stands for Barrio Organized for Housing Improvement.

BOHIO has a five part program which will develop a housing cooperative; provide the community with low income housing; promote an environment in which decisions about housing are made democratically and conscious of everyone's needs and; develop a new conception of housing based on human needs rather than property as a method of gaining profits; and will develop a homeowner's association to help community residents with upkeep and prevent them from becoming victims of real estate speculators.



Development for whom, and for what?

Underdevelopment, for Whom Else?

Urban renewal, gentrification, redevelopment, back to the city, and speculation all mean the same thing to poor and powerless third-world people (especially blacks, Puerto Ricans, Mexicans, Native Americans); it means, destruction of the community, Manifest Destiny, Racism, exclusion, dispersment and redlining people into small pockets or areas (*Bantustans a la South Africa*) by insurance companies, it means Population Control and Spatial Deconcentration, it means Genocide!

*Festival Tierra Adentro 1988
presents*

"Our Traditions"

...a night of Puerto Rican Christmas Folklore

Humboldt Park Civic Association
LeMoyne and California

December 10, 1988
6:30 p.m.

\$8 Donation
includes typical
Puerto Rican Dinner

Program:

A Children's Show
A Christmas Theater Presentation,
folkloric caroling contest
and much more

For more information,
please call Maritza Nazario at 235-4723 or Marcos Vilar 342-8022

Sponsored by:
Juan Antonio Corretjer Puerto Rican Cultural Center and Moriviví Productions

