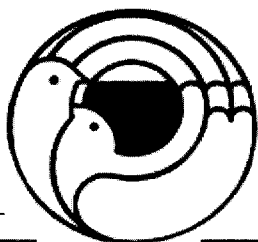


March
2014

Vol. 49 No. 3



Newsletter of **LEPOCO**

Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern

Help Out: How can you help make the Annual Dinner a wonderful success? 1) Recruit friends to join you in attendance. 2) Sell Art Raffle ticket to friends and supporters before the dinner (call LEPOCO for more tickets). 3) Post the dinner flyer at your church, school, library, or other public space (call LEPOCO for most copies). 4) Place an ad in the dinner program booklet for your business, organization or as your witness for peace. (Call LEPOCO to reserve a space.) 5) Sign up to help cook, serve, set-up, staff information tables, clean up, etc. 6) If you cannot attend sponsor a friend to attend for you.

Peace Camp

Join the planning team for this summer's day camp for young folks, July 21-25, returning to First Presbyterian Church, Allentown, with Dan Miller as pre-camp convener and Donna Hartmann as week-of convener. Next planning meeting & work night: Wed., March 19, 6:30 pm, LEPOCO Peace Center. (Please see Peace Camp flyer and volunteer form enclosed with this mailing.)

Monthly Peace Vigil

Wars continue. Please help witness for peace.

4:00 - 5:00 pm; Second Thursdays:

April 10 & May 8

3rd & Wyandotte Sts., Bethlehem

Contact: Vince Stravino 610-216-8103 / Tom Ulrich 610-882-1136

Tax Day

April 15, Tuesday

Help question the U.S. appetite for military spending with the always informative War Resisters League "pie chart" flyer: "Where Your Income Tax Money Really Goes."

Outside Post Offices during Regular Business Hours. Call 610-691-8730 to sign up for a time and place.

And

Join a discussion of leafleting etiquette/style, and the deeply informative WRL flyer : 5 pm, Thursday, April 3, at Mimi Lang's Home, 1526 Oakland St., Bethlehem

Call 610-691-8730 for directions and more details.

I
am
a PEACE
group
I
am
a person
I
am
LEPOCO
come to
my
birthday
48
Listen to
Randy Kehler
meet old friends
help me
celebrate
survive
support me
you
are part
of who
I am
we need
one another
Saturday
March 29
5:30

Wesley Methodist Church

Be Inspried: We hope Mimi Lang's poetic creation above entices you to join us on March 29. Remember Janet Ney's informative article about the speaker, Randy Kehler, in last month's newsletter. Remember his topic: "Resisting the Secrecy & Lies that Make War (& Other Forms of Violence) Possible." Remember his life of activism including 22 months in prison for draft resistance during Vietnam; his years of organizing for nuclear disarmament and clean energy, for an end to war and wars; for land stewardship and government transparency. Remember his war tax resistance that led to the film, "An Act of Conscience."

Know that the Peace Singers and the LEPOCO Chefs will be in fine form with music and food. For all these reasons and more, plan now to be at the LEPOCO Dinner on Saturday, March 29. A reservation coupon is on the back page of the newsletter.

Why Mass Incarceration Matters

Mass incarceration is the civil rights crisis of the 21st century, says Dr. Elizabeth Hinton of the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, who was one of three panelists on January 23rd, at Muhlenberg College's annual celebration of Rev. Martin Luther King's birthday. Because there is much to celebrate, remember, and continue in honor of Dr. King, Muhlenberg had a week-long series of events -- "Unheard Voices" -- with twelve departments and organizations as co-sponsors.

The U.S. incarcerates more people than any other country. Dr. Heather Ann Thompson of Temple University outlined how federal policies have not only made the "land of the free" an ironical statement, but also how the War on Poverty (which celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2014), became the War on Crime -- especially focusing on incarcerating people of color. Gov. Ronald Reagan (California) predicted in 1970 that the number of blacks in prison would rise above that of whites by 1975. How did this come about?

One element was the inclusion in the National Crime Prevention Program of the criminalization of civil rights protesters. Another element was equating delinquency in school with being a criminal. Eventually what we see is the erosion of neighborhoods and generations of children being orphaned by the criminal codes. "Tough on Crime" policies were implemented, laws were renewed with longer sentences, and the presence of police in schools streamlined the process of incarceration by putting children in jail -- rather than after-school detention. Once out of prison, however, a returning citizen can't get a job and doesn't even have a say in making his/her life better -- by 2006, 47 states had passed laws taking away the right of former convicts to vote. The War on Drugs has exponentially enhanced the criminalization of urban space.

Having people in prison is beneficial to a few, though. Convicts are leased to businesses as money-saving labor. In Pennsylvania, eight state senate seats exist in their present locations because prisons are counted as residences in the census.

Tyrone Werts, Soros Justice Fellow of 2013 and former member of Pennsylvania's prison population, agreed with his fellow panelists that keeping the recidivism rate high keeps money and power in the hands of the few. In 1975, there were seven state prisons; in 2012, there were 28 and three more are under construction. Overcrowding has become such an issue that Pennsylvania is exporting its prisoners out of state. [Note: Pennsylvania's general population increased by only 8% from 1970-2010, not justifying the 300% increase in the number of prisons.]

Most of the changes in the laws leading to mass incarceration have been of a slow accretion, but more people are becoming aware of the mass injustice in the justice system and a few changes are happening. One initiative from the Obama Administration has been to instruct federal prosecutors to only charge defendants

with crimes where, in essence, the sentences are shorter term, if the crime was not violent. Another grassroots initiative is "Ban the Box" -- where one advocates for removing from job application forms the "box" indicating that the applicant has been convicted of a crime. The consensus of the panel and the heartfelt plea, especially from Mr. Werts, was that the accumulation of civil rights losses caused by mass incarceration is best overcome when one is able to earn a living and thereby regain respect for one's self and the respect of the community.

- Sheila Clever

Decarcerate Pennsylvania will hold a second organizing meeting for the Lehigh Valley area on Sat., April 5, 1:30-3:30 pm, at St. James AME Zion Church, Allentown (410 W. Union St.).

Decarcerate PA's mission is to have no more prisons built in our state; to reduce the number of people in prison; and to begin community reinvestment in schools, jobs, housing, etc., instead of expanding our prisons.

Check out the LEPOCO website at www.lepoco.org for a Calendar of Events, Newsletter Archive, Videos, & More.

Sign up for LEPOCO e-mail updates or to receive your copy of the newsletter by e-mail, by calling 610-691-8730, or by writing to lepoco@fast.net.

Newsletter of LEPOCO

Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern

313 West Fourth Street

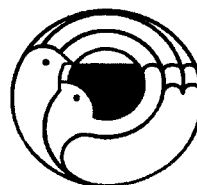
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The *LEPOCO Newsletter* is published eight times a year by the Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern, a nonviolent, non-profit organization dedicated to peace in all forms.

Annual dues are:

Regular Member	\$35
Limited Income Member	\$ 5
Household Membership	\$45
Supporting Member	\$75

Articles/news should be submitted to the address above for consideration for the next issue of the newsletter.

Newsletter Staff: robert Daniels II, Tom Stinnett, Nancy Tate, Jeff Vitelli.

Thanks to all the people who collate and prepare the newsletter for mailing each month.

LEPOCO Steering Committee: Sarah Andrew, Terry Briscoe, Martha Christine, Sheila Clever, robert Daniels II (ex-officio), Janet Goloub, Julius Iwantsch (co-treasurer), Monica McAgnon, Dan Miller, Janet Ney, Susie Ravitz, Stefan Rogers, Tom Stinnett (co-treasurer), Nancy Tate (ex-officio).

Popcorn / Potluck & Politics

Friday, March 14th, 7:00 pm

"An Act of Conscience"

A Popcorn & Politics Film projected on the big screen at the LEPOCO Peace Center.

This is a special P&P. Randy Kehler, featured in this documentary, will speak at LEPOCO's Annual Dinner, March 29th. Randy Kehler and Betsy Corner's life-long commitment to pacifism led them to risk losing their home. For fourteen years, they publicly refused to pay federal taxes as a protest against war and military spending. The film chronicles their struggle to nonviolently resist the IRS seizure of their home. They were joined by many supporters, including Fr. Daniel Berrigan and Pete Seeger. Narrated by Martin Sheen. Directed by Robbie Leppzer. 90 minutes. 1997.

Please bring a snack or beverage to share.

Friday, April 4th, 7:00 pm

"Dirty Wars"

A Popcorn & Politics Film projected on the big screen at the LEPOCO Peace Center.

This documentary follows investigative reporter Jeremy Scahill as he delves into the hidden world of covert wars, from Iraq to Yemen, Jordan, Somalia, and beyond. What begins as a report on a deadly

U.S. night raid in a remote corner of Afghanistan quickly turns into a global investigation of the secretive and powerful Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC). Scahill is pulled into a world of covert operations unknown to the public and carried out across the globe by people who do not exist on paper and may never appear before Congress.

Directed by Rick Rowley. 87 minutes. 2013.

Please bring a snack or beverage to share.

Sunday, April 27th, 6:00 pm

Ursula Wuerth

"The Inspiring Moral Mondays in North Carolina"

Potluck & Politics at the LEPOCO Peace Center.

Ursula and Hans Wuerth made a temporary move to North Carolina last summer. (A permanent move is anticipated later in 2014.) Ursula quickly found the peace and justice activists in Chapel Hill where they were living. She will talk about what she has learned about the inspiring Moral Mondays movement that is taking on a range of peace and justice issues in that state under the leadership of the NAACP and the Rev. William Barber.

Please bring some food to share for the potluck dinner at 6:00 pm.

The presentation and discussion should begin shortly after 6:30 pm.

Friday, May 2nd, 7:00 pm

"Little Town of Bethlehem"

A Popcorn & Politics Film projected on the big screen at the LEPOCO Peace Center.

This documentary shares the story of three men, a Christian, a Muslim, and a Jew, willing to risk everything to bring an end to violence in their lifetime. Shaped by events of their Palestinian and Israeli upbringing these men, finding inspiration in the words and actions of Martin Luther King Jr. and Mahatma Gandhi, struggle together to discover a common humanity through nonviolent action. Directed by Jim Hanon. 77 minutes. 2010.

Please bring a snack or beverage to share.

Book Group

The First Tuesday LEPOCO Book Club will meet next on April 1st. The book for discussion will be *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* by Michelle Alexander.

On May 6th, they will discuss *Hammar skjold: A Life*, by Roger Lipsey; on June 3rd, *House of War: The Pentagon & the Disastrous Rise of American Power*, by James Carroll; and on July 1st, *The Smartest Kids in the World: And How They Got That Way*, by Amanda Ripley.

You are invited to read any/all of these books and join the lively discussion. The Book Club meets at the Bethlehem Wegman's (off Rt. 512, north of Rt. 22). The meeting starts at 6 pm. You can get some food and/or drink on the main floor and join the group in the upstairs dining area. For more info. contact Mimi Lang at 610-866-2407.



Steering Committee Nominations

LEPOCO's Steering Committee plans and provides leadership for the Action Meetings, held the second Monday of the month (these meetings are open to all members and friends of the organization). The Committee makes decisions between monthly meetings and handles finances, personnel, and other organizational issues. The election for this year's Steering Committee will be completed at the Annual Dinner. (See balloting instructions below.)

Martha Christine, Julius Iwantsch (co-treasurer), Monica McAghon, Dan Miller, Janet Ney, and Susie Ravitz will continue serving their two-year Steering Committee terms that began in 2013. A special thank you to the Steering Committee members who will be retiring from this responsibility in March: Sarah Andrew, Sheila Clever, and Stefan Rogers.

We are grateful to all these LEPOCO members (new to and returning to the Steering Committee) who, as Sheila Clever put it in a Newsletter last year, are the "best people on the planet" convening at 313 W. 4th St. "once a month to strategize how to nonviolently build a sane and just world." Here are the nominees for 2013. (Please note the line on the ballot below where you can note your interest or suggest others to serve in this capacity.)

Terry Briscoe of Bethlehem is the coordinator of Pax Christi Lehigh Valley, part of the international Catholic peace organization. He has been a long-time member of LEPOCO and was a leader in the Lehigh Valley Peace Coalition when it was most active 2002 to 2010. He is retired from Bethlehem Steel. He and Sylvia have four children and nine grandchildren. This will be his second term on the Steering Committee.

Bridger Buller of Bethlehem has been involved with various LEPOCO events since 2004 -- demonstrations in Easton's Center Square during the second Iraq War, Youth Peacemaker Training, LEPOCO's annual Peace Camp, and various others. He holds a degree in Political Science from Kutztown University, and has a special interest in digital privacy and online rights. He is acutely aware of both the need for the private and free flow of information between individuals and organizations like LEPOCO, as well as the threat that such a flow of information faces from corporations, legislators, and government surveillance.

Janet Goloub of Treichlers is a long-time leader in the Americas Solidarity Group. She has served three non-consecutive terms on the Steering Committee. She worked in the past as an arts administrator, sings with Camerata Singers and Lehigh University's Choral Union, and is an on-air volunteer at WDIY. She is an avid gardener and hiker. In 2009 she completed section hiking the Appalachian Trail. A world traveler, she was a member of solidarity delegations to Haiti and Colombia.

Mary Kay O'Donnell of Bethlehem has been a member of LEPOCO since moving to Bethlehem from Philadelphia in June 2010. Previously she was active with the Brandywine Peace Community for many years. She has been a fundraiser for Peace Action, Clean Air Council and PennPIRG. In the Lehigh Valley she has been active with Organizing for Action (OFA) serving as a phone coordinator for their work on immigration reform the health care law, women's rights and preventing climate change. She attended College Misericordia and taught elementary school before becoming a stay-at-home mom. She has participated in many self-awareness workshops and seminars and has worked as a massage therapist.

Jim Orben has been a LEPOCO member since the Vietnam era. He is retired from his working in the environmental field on pollution control and testing facilities for various companies. A Quaker, he has been active with the Lehigh Valley Friends Meeting for three decades. He has been active with the Cooks Creek Watershed Association for almost 40 years. He and his wife Debbie live on a rural homestead (with garden and orchard) near Springtown. He is an avid bike, skier, runner, hiker, golfer...

Tom Stinnett of Riegelsville will continue serving as co-treasurer, a role he has filled recently since 2009, and which he also filled as solo treasurer from 1974-1983. A mechanical engineer he is mostly retired from his work in the biotechnology equipment field, but still does some consulting work. He has served as president of Riegelsville Borough Council for many years and is married to LEPOCO staff-person, Nancy Tate. He has been active in many aspects of LEPOCO's work since the early 1970s.

Election Ballot

At-Large Steering Committee Members (vote for five):

Terry Briscoe ____
(2-year term)

Bridger Buller ____
(2-year term)

Co-Treasurer (vote for one):

Tom Stinnett ____
(2-year term)

Janet Goloub ____ Mary Kay O'Donnell ____ Jim Orben ____
(2-year term) (2-year term) (2-year term)

*Please note here if you or anyone you know would be interested in serving on the Steering Committee:

This ballot can be cast at the Annual Dinner on Saturday, March 29, 2014, by 5:30 pm, or by mail to arrive at the LEPOCO Peace Center, 313 W. 4th St., Bethlehem, PA 18015, by Thursday, March 27, 2014.

The Struggle Shared —

"Rising to the challenge of climate change is a big idea for next year. But it is also a big idea for the future -- of humankind and of our planet. It is a momentous responsibility to shoulder, but I firmly believe that every one of us can step up and become leaders in combating climate change, promoting sustainable development and building lives of dignity for all. Future generations will judge our action on this issue. In 2014, we have the chance to step over to the right side of history. Let's take it."

- Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations

THE TOOMY BOOTH

MEMORIAL WATER TANK - In July of 2003, Tommy Booth, the son of LEPOCO members Tom and Ginny Booth, was killed in a tragic automobile accident. The family wanted a way to mark the tenth anniversary of Tommy's passing. His sister Jane found a project that would make a big difference in a small corner of our world. She found an organization, The Uganda Water Project, which works with individuals who want to develop a connection to rural communities in the East African nation of Uganda. The family developed a campaign and raised funds locally from friends and family, including the LEPOCO community.

In November of 2013, a water collection tank which holds 2,500 gallons was installed at Lutete Day and Boarding School in the Luwero District of Northern Uganda. The tank will provide a stable source of drinking water for about 400 people, and will last for approximately 30 years. This part of Uganda is in the Luwero Triangle which has been the site of much suffering from war and human rights violations, particularly in the past few decades.

The Ugandan Water project encourages the building of relationships in funding and constructing much needed water collection tanks all over Uganda. We encourage readers to simply visit the following website (www.ugandanwaterproject.com) for more information, including a brief informational video about the lack of potable water, the effects on children and this simple yet powerful solution.

Tom and Ginny Booth, Tommy's sister, Jane and her husband, Mike

Fluck want to thank all who contributed to The Ugandan Water Project in Tommy's memory.

TRANSFORM NOW SENTENCED

- This column has featured articles (July & October 2013 Newsletters) about the Transform Now Plowshares describing the nonviolent protest action of Sister Megan Rice, Gregory Boertje-Obed, and Michael Walli in June of 2012, and the U.S. Department of Justice's escalating prosecution of the three as terrorist saboteurs.

The Y-12 three were sentenced on February 18th. Judge Amul Thapar, a George W. Bush appointee, was expected to dole out sentences that would ensure all three defendants would live out their lives in prison. In a pre-sentence hearing, he said "The critical point is contrition, and I don't think any of the defendants are contrite about what they did."

Against such expectations Judge Thapar sentenced Megan Rice to two years, 11 months, and the other two to five years, two months. They were ordered to pay restitution of \$52,953, for damages to the Y-12 facility (cut fences, blood on the facility's uranium store-house, spray-painted biblical passages...and embarrassment of the U.S. Government).

In sentencing Megan Rice to 35 months, half the low end of the Government's recommended sentencing range, Thapar said that he hoped when she was released she would use her "brilliant mind" to make a difference in Washington, DC, rather than commit crimes in Tennessee.

It is quite likely that the sentences will be appealed, according to William Quigley, a law professor at Loyola University New Orleans, who

worked pro bono for the peace activists.

Marc Ash, writing for www.ReaderSupportedNews.org, describes the current political climate as one where the incarceration of the Transform Now Plowshares is representative of an increase in political prisoners in the U.S. He cites Chelsea (Bradley) Manning, Lynne Stewart, Tim DeCristopher, John Walker-Lindh, John C. Kiriakou, as among the examples. He says the corporate media has paid very little attention to this trend. While the climate of mass media driven fear may be fed by Republican zealots, Ash says the Obama administration seems more intent on silencing whistleblowers than any White House in history. In the media attention and growing support that the Plowshares defendants have been receiving, Ash sees parallels between their case and the prosecution of Pussy Riot that exposed Vladimir Putin's vindictive campaign against his political opponents in Russia.

Sister Megan Rice was anything but vindictive in her statement to the court on February 18: "The problem with this trial is that people don't know the law. There is an alternative to nuclear weapons -- common sense... If you resist nuclear weapons, you are upholding the law... The need to expose crimes pushed us to our action... To remain in prison for the rest of my life would be the greatest honor this court could bestow on me."

Barack Obama could, with the flash of his presidential pen, pardon the Transform Now Plowshares. Or, Pope Francis, who has embraced the plight of the poor, and is an advocate for disarmament, could call for the immediate release of these three devout Catholic activists.

Let us call on Obama to honor the spirit of his Nobel Peace Prize, and release these passionate peacemakers. Let us ask Pope Francis for his blessing of their courageous action for the survival of our planet. (For more information see www.transformnowplowshares.org.)

- Jeff Vitelli

Bits & Pieces

⊕ Thurs., March 27, 9:30 am to 3 pm, the Northampton Community College Forum on Peace, Justice & Conflict Resolution will present their **4th Annual Peace & Justice Conference**, in the Lipkin Theater, Kopecek Hall, at the Main Campus. The keynote address at 11 am, will be given by Kelsey Timmerman on, "Going Global: A Search for Community in a Globalized World." He is the author of two books, "Where Am I Wearing?" and "Where Am I Eating," around this theme. LEPOCO will have a display as part of the conference and there will be a Global Community Open Forum at 1:30 pm.

⊕ The Bethlehem Area School District (BASD) School Board voted unanimously against the Advanced Military Aerospace Science Academy (AMASA) **Charter School** on Feb. 10th. They gave four reasons for rejecting the charter, first and foremost was the lack of public support. The Board specifically cited the turnout at their December meeting where 20 members of the public spoke -- fifteen spoke against AMASA, only five spoke in favor of it. (Thanks again to those who were in attendance back in December.) At the February meeting Esther Lee spoke eloquently on behalf of the Bethlehem NAACP to say that "NAACP does not support charter schools." She followed with a good list of reasons why.

LEPOCO's Military Charter School Response Committee had a follow-up meeting on Feb. 17th, where it was decided to keep an eye on AMASA to see what their next move may be. They may choose to appeal the School Board decision in Harrisburg or resubmit their application. According to AMASA's Facebook page they intend to "press on." Please contact LEPOCO if you wish to stay in the loop.

⊕ "Reforming U.S. Food Aid / Ending Hunger in America" is the theme of the annual Bread for the World program which will be held Sat., April 26,

8:30 am to 3 pm, at First Presbyterian Church, Allentown. See www.breadppjr.org for more info.

⊕ **Judy Woodruff and Louise Legun** were married on Feb. 7, just across the border in New Jersey, after being denied a marriage license at the Northampton County Courthouse. They joined another same-sex couple in the celebratory event and rally for the cause of legalizing same-sex marriage in the state of Pennsylvania. Congratulations to Judy and Louise for their public commitment to each other and to moving human rights forward.

⊕ **Three Mile Island Alert (TMIA)** will observe the 35th anniversary of the beginning of the nuclear accident at TMI on Fri., March 21, with a potluck dinner and program at the Fort Hunter barn, Harrisburg. Risa Murase of Sophia University, Tokyo, will speak about "Fukushima: Voices of Local Residents," and Scott Portzline will speak on "Out of Control" about the first ten minutes of the TMI accident. He will also present an update on Fukushima. To make a reservation call Kay Pickering at 717-233-7897.

⊕ Support **Medea Benjamin** and human rights by making two calls. Medea Benjamin (who spoke at LEPOCO's An-

nual Dinner in 2013) was brutally deported from the Cairo airport in early March. She was en route to an international women's gathering in Gaza. You are encouraged to call the Egyptian Embassy (202-895-5400) to demand an apology, and urge them to open the Rafah border to Gaza and end the brutal crackdown on journalists and Egyptian activists; and, to call the Egypt Desk at the U.S. State Department (202-647-4680), urging them to assist this peaceful U.S. citizen, abused by Egyptian authorities, and urge them to end U.S. military aid to Egypt. For more info. see www.codepink.org.

⊕ *I was also prompted to wonder whether it's now possible for Americans to simultaneously grapple with two basic truths. The first, of course, is that the 9/11 attack was an unconscionable crime against humanity. The second, and more difficult requires responding to the question posed by the legendary late historian Howard Zinn: "In what ways has American foreign policy inflamed and antagonized people all over the world to the point of creating terrorists?"*

- From an op-ed by Gary Olson, *The Morning Call*, 2/10/14, that prompted an unfavorable public response by Moravian College's president and a lot of discussion about academic freedom at the College.

MEETINGS...MEETINGS...MEETINGS...MEETINGS...ETC.

Sunday, March 16, 7 pm: **LEPOCO Peace Singers** rehearsal & meeting at home of Barbara Wurth, Bethlehem. A rehearsal will also be held Sunday, March 23. Call 610-691-8730 for more information.

Monday, March 17, 12:30 pm: **Newsletter Planning Committee** meeting at the Peace Center.

Wednesday, March 19, 6:30 pm: **Peace Camp Planning Committee** meeting & work night at LEPOCO.

Thursday, April 3, 5 pm: **Nuclear Abolition Sisters Meeting & Discussion** at home of Mimi Lang, Bethlehem. Please see page 1 for more info.

Thursdays, April 10 & May 8, 6:15 pm: **Lehigh Valley Chapter of Veterans for Peace** meeting at LEPOCO Peace Center (prior to the meeting some in the veterans group will participate in the second Thursday Peace Vigil, 4-5 pm, and go for dinner at 5:15 pm, at the south Bethlehem Perkins Restaurant).

Mondays, April 14 & May 12, 7 pm: **LEPOCO Monthly Action Meeting** at the Peace Center. All members & friends are welcome at this business meeting where the organization's activities are reviewed and set.

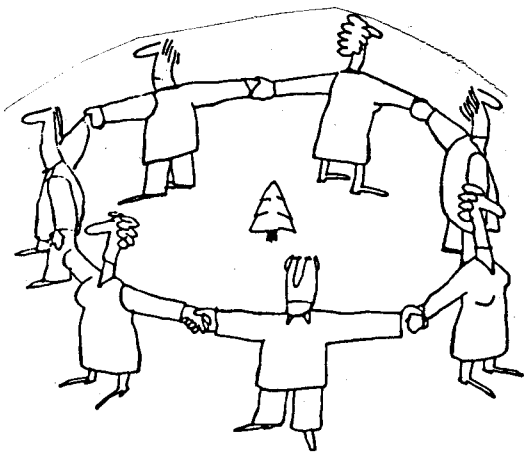
Wednesday, May 14, 4-7 pm: **Bike-Walkathon 2014 Planning Committee** calling & meeting at LEPOCO.

Please join in the meetings and work of these groups as you are able. If you want more information on the Americas Solidarity Group, or about any of the meetings listed above, please call LEPOCO at 610-691-8730. For a regularly updated calendar of events and meetings, please see www.lepoco.org.

LEPOCO Financial Report 2013

Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Balance	2013
Membership Dues, Fund Appeals, Pledges	\$39,461.37
Boutique & SERRV Sales (net)	\$1068.38
Annual Dinner (net)	\$3,596.63
Art Raffle (net)	\$634.56
Bike-Walk-A-Thon (net)	\$1,858.42
Yard Sale (net)	\$706.18
Dividends and Interest	\$42.76
Guy Gray & Greta Browne July Reception	\$91.00
"Greenwich Village" Movie Theatre Party (net)	\$ 492.60
Gas Well Royalties (Part of Hare Bequest)	\$21.31
Total Revenue	\$47,973.21
Contributions to Others (Ads for NAACP & Peace Center)	\$65.00
Salaries, Taxes & Benefits to Employees	\$31,232.88
Rent, Electric, Telephone	\$6,328.45
Insurance (Fire, Liability & Worker's Comp)	\$1,286.00
Internet Service Provider	\$531.00
Other Computer Fees (Domain Fees, E-Mail, Virus Protection, Software)	\$133.95
Investment Loss	\$165.58
Printing and Postage (Newsletter, Bulk Mail Fee, etc.)	\$3,270.90
P&P's (Popcorn & Politics, Potluck & Politics)	\$17.75
Fairs & Festivals (Pridefest, Earth Day, Vegfest, Buckingham Peace Fair)	\$95.00
Fund Appeals	\$705.87
Other Program & Events (ML King, H-N, Tax Day, Peace Singers, etc)	\$201.23
Supplies (Office, Copier, Printer, Paper)	\$1,724.23
Repairs (Office, Copier & Computer)	\$1,192.90
Misc. Office Expenses (Mowing Grass, Washing Windows, RCN Installation Fee, etc.)	\$169.95
Miscellaneous (Working Groups, Bank Fees, Late Fees, etc.)	\$45.47
Total Expenses	\$47,166.16
Excess or (Loss) for Year	\$807.05
Fund Balances at the Beginning of the Year	\$7,613.08
Change in Investment Value	\$420.08
Fund Balance at the End of the Year	\$8,840.20

2013 Fund Balances	Beginning of Year	End of Year
Cash, Savings and Investments	\$13,070.64	\$13,638.98
Liabilities	\$5,457.57	\$4,798.78
Net Assets and Fund Balances	\$7,613.07	\$8,840.20



Randy Kehler, speaker

"Resisting the Secrecy & Lies that Make War
(& Other Forms of Violence) Possible"

LEPOCO Annual Dinner

Saturday, March 29, 2014, 5:30 pm

(pre-dinner music & appetizers at 5:00 pm)

Wesley United Methodist Church

2540 Center St., Bethlehem

Also featuring: Vegetarian Banquet, LEPOCO Peace Singers, Art Raffle,
Steering Committee Election, Literature for Peace & Justice

Call 610-691-8730 for reservations or more information.

For 40 years Randy Kehler has been active in organizing, & advocacy on many issues -- nuclear disarmament & alternatives to armed conflict, energy reform & land stewardship, economic development, electoral democracy.

Randy spent 22 months in federal prison for his Vietnam-era military draft resistance.

Randy and his wife, Betsy Corner, have redirected their federal income tax payments to non-military needs -- food for the hungry, shelter for the homeless, and relief for war victims. Their war-tax refusal & the IRS seizure of their home is the subject of an award-winning documentary film, "An Act of Conscience."

He is a co-founder of Traprock Peace Center; Franklin County Community Development Corporation; Project Unspeakable; Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign; Safe & Green Campaign & SAGE Alliance.

Annual Dinner Tickets:

\$30 - Regular Adult

\$75 - Special Supporter

\$10 - Limited Income Adult / Child

\$10 - Program-only, regular

\$5 - Program-only, limited income

Dinner tickets by advance reservation only.

Program-only tickets available at the door.

Enclosed is \$_____. Please reserve ____ tickets for:

Name

Phone

____ Please mail tickets to:

Address

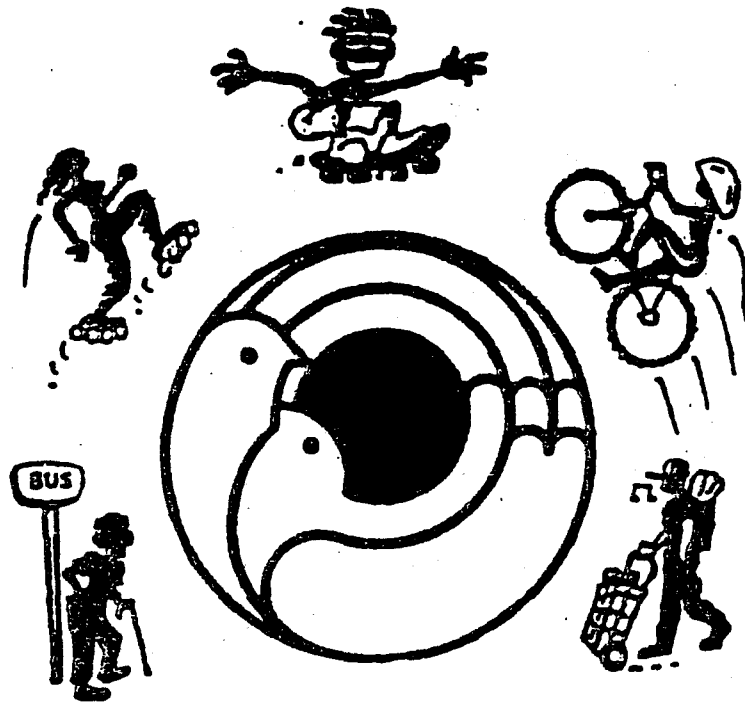
Zip

____ Please hold tickets at door.

Return to: LEPOCO, 313 W. 4th St., Bethlehem, PA 18015,
before 5 pm, Monday, March 24, 2014.

Be All You Can Be

Bike & Walk For Peace & Justice



LEPOCO Peace Center's Annual Bike/Walk-a-Thon

Saturday, May 24th, 2014, 9 a.m.

Complimentary, light breakfast; Bike safety check; & body warm-up: 8:15 to 9 a.m.

Starting at Christmas City Fairgrounds
Main & Lehigh Sts., Bethlehem
(Meet at SE corner of fairgrounds.)

Bikers will take a 25.8k (16 miles) route west that will begin by paralleling the Lehigh River and the large train freight yards that are along the river. The ride will continue along the Lehigh River to Catasauqua and return.

Walkers will cover a 10k (6.2 miles) route along the Lehigh River Canal Towpath and on the South Bethlehem Greenway. The Lehigh Canal was the longest lasting towpath canal in U.S. history, remaining in full operation until 1932.

To Benefit: LEPOCO's local work for peace & justice.

The following businesses and organizations are generously supporting the Bike/Walk-a-Thon with prizes for top pledge-gatherers and/or in-kind contributions:

Aardvark Sports Shop of Bethlehem
Bethlehem Bicycle Cooperative
Genesis Bicycles of Easton
Nature's Way Market of Easton

The Old Library Shop of Bethlehem
Performance Bicycle of Allentown
Quadrant Book Mart of Easton
Trinity Episcopal Tai Chi of Bethlehem
Valley Preferred Cycling Center of Trexlertown

Contact the LEPOCO Peace Center at 610-691-8730 or lepoco@fast.net to register, for pledge sheets and more information.




July 21-25,
2014

9 A.M. to
Noon

Daily at
First
Presbyterian
Church,
Allentown

Young People Making Peace

 summer
day

CAMP

For children
ages 5-12
who have
completed
kindergarten
to 6th grade

Five mornings of stories, songs, games, crafts and learning activities related to the broad topic of peace and justice.

Sliding-Scale fee: \$10 to \$40 per child for the week

(Scholarships available, see back for details)

**Sponsored by Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern
and the Center for Humanistic Change**

For more information call (610) 691-8730

Call Today: Space Is Limited

Young People Making Peace: A Summer Day Camp

July 21-23, 2014

First Presbyterian Church, Allentown

Registration Form

Please register early. Camper registration will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. Registration suggested by Wednesday, July 2, 2014. After that date please call 610-691-8730 to check availability.

CHILD/CHILDREN

GENDER(S)

ADDRESS

AGE(S)

BIRTH DATE(S)

GRADE(S) IN FALL 2014

NAME OF PARENT/GUARDIAN

PHONE: (HOME)

(WORK)

(e-mail)

In an emergency, if I cannot be reached, please call:

Phone: _____

**** Parents and children are asked to pay what they can afford. Peace Camp expenses will be at least \$20 per child. There is a sliding scale fee (\$10-\$40/child). This helps ensure that those who can afford to pay more will help cover the costs for those who cannot.**

**** Because paying even \$10 per child may be difficult for some families, full or partial scholarships are available based on need. Call (610) 691-8730.**

**** PEACE CAMP DEPENDS ON VOLUNTEERS FOR ITS SUCCESS AND TO KEEP COSTS LOW. Please fill out the "Volunteers Needed!" section below if you can volunteer to help at Peace Camp.**

Enclosed is \$ _____ for registration for Peace Camp (sliding-scale of \$10-\$40 per child for the week).

How did you hear about Peace Camp? _____

Sharing Rides, Giving Rides

- ___ My child will need a ride to Peace Camp. Please call me at _____ to make plans for transportation.
Early registration is especially appreciated.
- ___ Please let me know of children attending Peace Camp from our area so we can pool rides.
- ___ I can offer rides to other Peace Campers.

Volunteers Needed!

- ___ I would like to help with Peace Camp planning and preparation.
- ___ I am available to help the full week of Peace Camp or the following days: _____
- ___ I can offer rides to Peace Campers.
- ___ I would like more information about volunteering at Peace Camp.

Return this form to LEPOCO, 313 West Fourth St., Bethlehem, PA 18015 or call (610) 691-8730 for more information.