

November-December
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Newsletter of **LEPOCO**
Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern

Occupy Wall Street

To try and capture all that is taking place and all that has taken place in the Occupy Wall Street movement is too large a task for this brief article, but here's some first-hand ramblings for what it's worth...

*There's somethin' happening here,
What it is ain't exactly clear*

I've been a subscriber to *Adbusters* magazine for nearly a decade. It's a graphic intensive activist publication with an anti-consumerism bend. Every other issue seems to be calling for worldwide revolution. Some calls to action have been moderately successful (Buy Nothing Day, TV Turnoff Week) while other happenings don't appear to happen at all. Who then knew to take the call to camp out on Wall Street seriously? Certainly the poster depicting a ballerina twirling atop the Wall Street bull was striking. The caption "WHAT IS OUR ONE DEMAND?" followed by the sparse details "#OCCUPYWALLSTREET. SEPTEMBER 17TH. BRING TENT." captured the imagination while confounding it at the same time.

September 17th arrived and with it hundreds of protesters. This was well short of the 20,000 that were hoped for, but a core group of about 200 would camp out that first night. Though the numbers were low, the individuals who stayed made a powerful impression upon me (and apparently many others) as i viewed the proceedings via a live internet stream. A silent walk and candlelight vigil was held at midnight on Wall Street. Barricades had been erected to prevent protesters from accessing the street. The marchers approached the barricades maintaining a powerful silence. They stood before the police for several minutes before turning around and marching to another of the blocked entrances to Wall Street where they would stand in silence again. As i witnessed this i was reminded of the second Selma-to-Montgomery civil rights march; the one that took place two days after Bloody Sunday, where King and company approached the police line, knelt to pray, and then turned around to save the confrontation for another day. It was then that i realized this movement was something to take seriously and seriously be a part of.

*What a field-day for the heat,
A thousand people in the street*

The first days of the demonstration were largely ignored by mainstream media. The media first latched upon the bare breasts of a few women protesters. Sex

sells. Then, young women protesters being pepper sprayed ruled the day. If it bleeds, it leads. But after the endorsement of several unions who swelled the ranks for a major march and the arrest of over 700 on the Brooklyn Bridge a few days later, the movement got the attention it deserved.

I was part of that 700+ and with about a baker's dozen of arrests under my activist belt, i can say that this arrest was the most thrilling. The moment of decision to hop over the bridge guardrail from the pedestrian walkway onto the street and the spectacle of all those people charging across the bridge made for a very exhilarating experience. In jail i had the joy to get to know Casey O'Neill, a 34-year-old data manager from Oakland, California. Fed up with a political system corrupted by corporate money and the growing economic inequality in the U.S., Casey quit his job and bought a one-way plane ticket to New York to partici-

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Be There!

On Monday, November 21st, from 10 am to Noon (try to arrive by 7:30 am), the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) will meet to "consider adoption" of regulations which will lift the moratorium on natural gas drilling in the Delaware River watershed. You are very much urged to be there and help say, "Don't Drill the Delaware. The meeting will be held in Trenton, NJ, in the Patriots Theater of the War Memorial, 1 Memorial Drive.

For three years the Delaware Riverkeeper Network and others have fought to protect the Delaware River from the abuses of fracking. Over 69,000 comments were filed with the DRBC - a record number. Lawsuits have been filed attempting to stop the DRBC from moving ahead without the needed environmental studies. The Delaware River was designated the most threatened river in the U.S. in 2010. The water supply for over 15 million people will be at risk if drilling is allowed to go forward.

Buses are being arranged that will stop near the Lehigh Valley (at the Quakertown Park & Ride & at the Delaware Water Gap Welcome Center). Please contact Faith Zerbe at the Delaware Riverkeeper office to reserve a seat or for other transportation info.: faith@delawareriverkeeper.org or 215-369-1188. Call LEPOCO if you are stuck for local car pool suggestions.

Anyone able to participate in nonviolent direct action on the 21st is invited to attend nonviolence training on Sunday, November 20, at 6:30 pm, at the Trenton Quaker Meeting House, 142 East Hanover St., Trenton (08608). For information about housing possibilities for that evening please see the DelawareRiverkeeper.org logistics page.

The Growing Divide

Saturday, October 29, I had the interesting experience of going to the United for a Fair Economy workshop, "The Growing Economic Divide: Which Side Are You On?" -- 16 or 17 years after attending the first one that LEPOCO sponsored. About 30 people gathered at Zion Reformed UCC in downtown Allentown, the day we were to have serious early snow. Steve Schnapp, UFE Education Director, led the workshop, which was sponsored by the Lehigh County Conference of Churches and several other organizations. Special visitors to this country from Guatemala were introduced, Rev. Vitalino Similox and Norma Coloma, Executive Director and General Secretary of the LCCC equivalent there.

We started by sharing experiences that were signs of the current economy, and Steve described the crossroads we are at of growing insecurity, greater burdens, stress, and scapegoating. The workshop is participatory, and several of us physically illustrated the excellent charts provided: CEO pay compared to average worker pay here and abroad, ownership of household wealth, mortgage and credit card debt graphs, etc. All indicate something we know, that while the rich always seem to get richer, the richest have outrun everyone. These figures have increased amazingly even in the past 15 years.

For example, dividing the population into five equal parts, or quintiles, real family income growth in the past 40 years includes this: the middle gained 11%, and the highest gained 49%. Out of that top 20%, the top 5% gained 73% and the top 1% gained 169%. When taking a step forward represented a 10% gain, the man representing the top 1% had to go into the next room. Another example is that in the U.S. the average CEO pay to average worker pay has greatly increased, now at 475 times the worker. Mexico, the next highest in the chart, is 47:1, and the European countries shown are between 10 and 20:1. The workshop also focuses on the history of the politics and social attitudes that made these things possible.

Steve encouraged the many discussions that occurred throughout the workshop and Bob Walden gave several biblical examples that referred to economic situations, including guiding people's interactions in society. Throughout the workshop was an outrage about unfairness in current economic sensibilities; in countries with smaller divides (Sweden, Japan, e.g.) many societal problems are reduced, such as high school dropouts and murder.

After lunch, the workshop emphasized effects of "boosts and blocks," various governmental programs and attitudes on segments of the population. In all cases, whites have benefited, non-whites much less so, and Afro-Americans always benefited least. The workshop ended with Six Principles of a Solidarity Economy, which include cooperation, equity in all dimensions, sustainability, and pluralism/diversity/

grassroots organizing. The time ran out before we could solve all the problems. Leaving, I went to the parking lot and went home, after clearing 5" of snow off the car.
- Janet Goloub

Shut Down the SOA

November 18-20, thousands of social justice activists from across the Americas will gather at the main gates of Fort Benning, Georgia, to call for an end to U.S. militarization and for the closure of the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, aka the School of the Americas. The three-day convergence will include a massive rally; speakers from the NAACP, the Sisters of Mercy, the Georgia Undocumented Youth Alliance, as well as talks by torture survivors and human rights activists from Latin America; and plenaries, workshops, concerts, and strategy sessions.

Tying in with the "occupy" theme, Father Roy Bourgeois, the founder of SOA Watch, said, "The SOA provides the military muscle to protect the greed of the 1% at the expense of the 99% throughout the Americas."

At least three local activists plan to be in Georgia for this gathering, Sheila Clever, and Bob & Carmen Riggs. For more information go to www.soa.org. If you haven't participated in this gathering it is always inspiring and the purpose remains crucial.

Newsletter of LEPOCO

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

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

LEPOCO Steering Committee: Addison Bross, robert Daniels II (ex-officio), Becky Irwin, Julius Iwantsch (co-treasurer), Ruth Karpinski, Mimi Lang, Janet Ney, Kelly Quain, Susie Ravitz, Stefan Rogers, Tom Stinnett (co-treasurer), Nancy Tate (ex-officio), Ruth Walden.

Popcorn/Potluck & Politics

Friday, December 2nd, 7 pm: *Wild in the Streets*

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

When Congress gives 15-year-olds the right to vote, the youngsters promptly elect a rock star president who decrees mandatory retirement at 30 and LSD therapy at 35. Part political satire, part cautionary tale, "Wild in the Streets" is an absurd projection of the turbulent 60s with a groovy soundtrack. Starring Christopher Jones, Shelley Winters, Hal Holbrook, Diane Varsi and Richard Pryor. Directed by Barry Shear. 94 minutes. 1968.

Please bring a snack or beverage to share.

Friday, January 6th, 7 pm: *YERT: Your Environmental Road Trip*

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

Called to action by a planet in peril, three friends hit the road - traveling with hope, humor, and all of their garbage - to explore every state in the U.S. in search of the extraordinary innovators and citizens who are tackling humanity's greatest environmental crises.

Directed by Mark Dixon and Ben Evans. 88 minutes. 2009.

Please bring a snack or beverage to share.

Pastor Samantha Lioi: "Justice & Peacemaking in Colombia"

This Potluck & Politics talk was originally scheduled for Sunday, October 30th – the weekend of the big Halloween snow and widespread power outages. LEPOCO was out of power so there was no P&P that night. A new date has been set for Sunday, January 22. Watch for further details in the next newsletter, but save the date and plan now to attend.



LEPOCO Book Group

The First Wednesday Book Group will meet on December 7th, at 6 pm, at the Panera Bread Café, 3301 Bath Pike (Center St.), Bethlehem. The group will discuss *When the Stars Fall to Earth*, by Rebecca Tinsley, a novel centered around the plight of five Darfuri refugees as each one copes with life and soul-threatening circumstances.

The Book Group will not meet in January. Books for February and March will be chosen at the December meeting. To learn more about this Group call Carmen & Bob Riggs (610-867-1244) or Susie Ravitz (610-253-2522).

Move the Money!

Peace activists addressing the Congressional Super Committee that is working to decrease the Federal government's deficit say, "Move the money from wars and weapons back to our communities!" A similar message to that Committee comes from the New Priorities Network: "create jobs, save services, tax millionaires and corporations, end the wars and cut the Pentagon."

In case you have failed to notice, Pennsylvania's Senator Pat Toomey, is on the Super Committee. Pat Toomey lives in the Lehigh Valley. One of his offices is at 1150 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown (18104). Please contact him now with your variant of the messages above. Visit his office and drop off a letter. Mail a letter/postcard to that office. Call the local office (610-

434-1444) or his Washington, DC, office (202-224-4254). Urge your friends and family to do the same.

Learn From Prometheus Radio Project

A representative of the Prometheus Radio Project will be at LEPOCO on Tuesday, November 22, at 7 pm, to explain the possibilities for Low Power FM community radio opened up by the Local Community Radio Act of 2010. Low power stations have been used to expose government corruption, help clean up toxic waste, win better working conditions, promote community health services, and share information in minority languages. Community activists, peace activists, and others are invited to attend this meeting to help determine whether there is interest in such a project here.

If you want more information or would like to be part of the discussion on November 22, please contact robert Daniels at 610-691-8730 or at lepoco@fast.net.

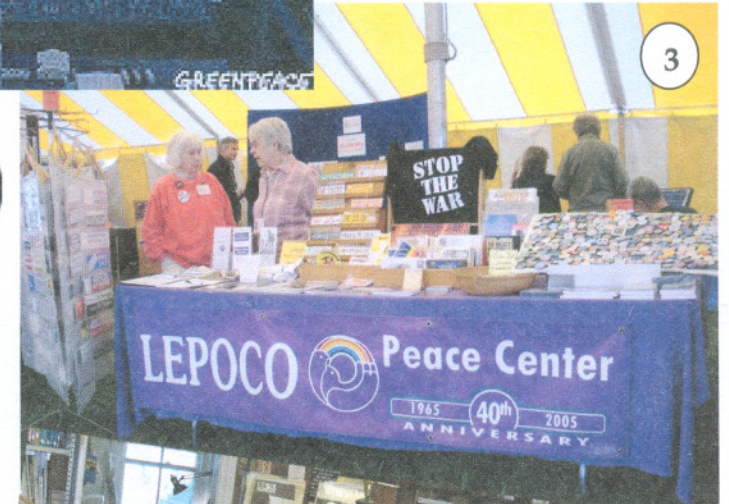
The 2012 calendars have arrived!

The Syracuse Cultural Workers wall calendar for 2012 features a cover with a most appropriate poster message, "Do It Yourself, Do It Together, Become the Revolution."

The War Resisters League has published their last book calendar. The theme "Organize This! A 1955-2011 Retrospective." The calendar features all the calendar covers since the WRL began publishing calendars in 1955. Both calendars are \$14.95 each, and are available at LEPOCO during office hours or during meetings.



Peace Pics



- 1) The Greenpeace blimp buzzes the GenOn Coal Power Plant in Portland, PA on August 11th.
- 2) Henry Moyer-Daniels accompanies his father Robert on a visit to Occupy Wall Street in October.
- 3) Pat Judge and Carmen Riggs chat while staffing LEPOCO's Peace Boutique at the Renewable Energy & Sustainable Living Festival in September.
- 4) The LEPOCO Peace Singers gather around the peace pole to perform at "Finding Hope After 10 Years of War" at Bethlehem's Rose Garden Park.
- 5) Nancy Tate, Joan Stoltz, and Eleanor Hay collate the October 2011 issue of the LEPOCO Newsletter.
- 6) A peace contingent participated in the Steel workers & Friends Labor Day Parade.



The Struggle Shared

In a changed world, comfort will come less from ownership than from membership. If you're a functioning member of a community that can meet at least some of its needs -- for food, for energy, for companionship, for entertainment, for succor -- then you're more secure. It is toward that gradual building of such communities that we will now turn.

- Bill McKibben from *Deep Economy*

A NEW TRANSITIONAL TOWN - Springing from discussion groups in the Lehigh Valley Alliance for Sustainable Communities a group of Valley residents have joined the International Transition Movement, and declared Bethlehem an official Community in Transition. Based on the work of permaculture educator Rob Hopkins, and his students at Kinsale Further Education College in Ireland in 2005, the movement is a global network empowering communities to respond to the intertwining planetary crises of peak oil, climate change, and economic instability. Their Kinsale Energy Descent Action Plan was adopted by their Town Council, and became the first community document of its kind, going beyond issues of energy supply to look at creative adaptations in the realms of food, farming, education, economy, health, and more.

Through Hopkin's Transition Notes the network spread like a benign virus around the world. Transition U.S. was launched in 2007, and today there are 400 communities that have officially joined the network. Locally, environmental activists have gone to Genesis Farm in Blainstown for Transition Training, and inspiration. Genesis, a working Community Supported Agriculture Farm, has been a strong example of the transition philosophy for years. Through the Alliance discussions, a Lehigh Valley transition hub was formed to encourage local initiatives. The Social Action Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Church has hosted discussions for a Bethlehem group, whose initial project will focus on sustainable local agriculture.

The Lehigh Valley hub group meets every Friday at 8:30 am, at Morning Star Center, Bethlehem. Two resources, Rob Hopkins *The Transition Handbook*, and Charles Eisenstein's *Sacred Economics*, have

been ordered for the Bethlehem Area Public Library. To learn more about the Global Transition Network go to www.transitionus.org. To get involved in the Bethlehem initiative, see www.transitionslv@sustainlv.org.

LIVING GREEN IN THE VALLEY

ON THE AIR - Annie Prince and Bruce Wilson have begun hosting a new segment on WDIY, local Community Public Radio, featuring tips and suggestions on how to reduce one's carbon footprint, living a greener, more environmentally friendly life style. You can hear the four-minute segments on Tuesdays at 6 pm (as part of NPR's "On the Media") and they repeat at 5:45 pm, on Wednesdays (during "All Things Considered"). The programs began airing in July, with the first segment sharing summer environmental education opportunities for children in the Valley, followed by short pieces on rebates, and incentives for making energy improvements, and easy ways to reduce energy and save on heating and air conditioning costs. Most recently they had an interview with spokespeople from the Lehigh Valley Transition Hub. Annie says, "The program is a way for WDIY to support living lightly here in the Lehigh Valley and we hope the program will give easy tips on doing so."

Bruce and Annie are co-owners of Bruce Wilson Contracting, specializing in green building, and co-founders of the Lehigh Valley Green Builders, a non-profit.

Tune into WDIY (88.1 FM: Allentown/Bethlehem; 93.7 FM: Trexlertown/Fogelsville; 93.9 FM: Easton/Phillipsburg), to hear "Living Green in the Lehigh Valley." Stream it at www.wdiy.org.

SECRET US SPECIAL FORCES

OPERATE IN MOST - Last year, in *The Washington Post*, Greg Jaffe and

Karen DeYoung reported that US Special Operations forces were currently deployed in 75 countries, up from 60 at the end of the Bush Era. According to U.S. Special Operations Command (SOCOM) spokesman Colonel Tim Nye, the number may reach 120 by the end of this year. This expanding global presence presents striking evidence of a rising clandestine Pentagon elite waging secret wars around the world.

The failed Special Forces raid in 1980 to rescue the hostages in Iran in which eight US service members died led to the conception of SOCOM in 1987, assigning special forces a single home, a stable budget, and a four-star commander as their advocate in the Pentagon for the first time.

Today, SOCOM has grown into a combined force including Army "Green Berets" and Rangers, Navy SEALs, Air Force Air Commandos, and Marine Corps Special Operations teams, as well as specialized helicopter crews, boat teams, civil affairs personnel, para-rescuemen, and even battlefield air-traffic controllers and special operations weathermen. Their assignments are the US military's most secret missions, including assassinations, counter-terrorist raids, long-range reconnaissance, intelligence analysis, training foreign troops, and weapons of mass destruction counter-proliferation operations. From a force of 37,000 in the 1990's Special Operations Command has grown to 60,000 personnel, with a budget that has quadrupled in that time from \$2.3 billion before September 11, 2001, to \$9.8 billion.

One counter-insurgency advisor to General David Petraeus calls the Joint Special Forces Command, a clandestine sub-command of SOCOM, "an almost industrial-scale counter-terrorism killing machine" that maintains a global hit-list of suspected terrorists that includes US citizens. Clearly, even bringing all the troops home from Iraq and Afghanistan, and all our overt wars, will only scratch the surface of the U.S. militarization of the planet. The world will need peace activists for a long time, folks.

Source: "Uncovering the Military's Secret Military" by Nick Turse, 8/3/11, www.TomDispatch.com.

- Jeff Vitelli

Occupy Wall Street

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pate in what he sees as "the last hope for some sort of real change." He proved to be an extraordinary individual in a crowd full of extraordinary individuals.

Everybody look what's goin' down

This revolution, such as it is, has been televised. Whether on the nightly news, a live internet stream, or on YouTube, Occupy Wall Street is out there. While social media like Facebook and Twitter have been instrumental in getting the word out, this revolution has also been live. Live and very alive. The recently departed Gil Scott-Heron would be proud. General Assemblies take place frequently. Here, various working groups come together to strategize plans as grand as occupying Times Square (October 15th) and as practical as keeping the park clean.

The New York movement has grown to other cities in the U.S., around the world and here in the Lehigh Valley. Occupy Allentown (corner of 7th and Hamilton) has been going strong since October 3rd. Occupy Bethlehem is located next to the Library in Payrow Plaza and the Tondabayashi Garden. And, by the time of publication, Occupy Easton will have had its first overnight encampment. (They have been present in Scott Park Saturdays and Sundays since early October.) For more information search individual "Occupy" cities on Facebook, or visit www.occupytogether.org, but especially, go to one of the local sites and chat with the people there. It's worth the trip to New York or Philadelphia if you get a chance, but the local occupations need all the support and encouragement they can get.

*There's somethin' happening here,
what it is ain't exactly clear*

...but it sure is exciting (and long overdue).
- robert Daniels II

Notes: Search "LEPOCO Peace Center" on Facebook for an album of robert's Occupy Wall Street photos with captions. Source for lyrics used in this article: Buffalo Springfield.

Other "Occupy" News

An analysis of census data released in early November said the wealth gap between younger and older U.S. citizens has stretched to the widest on record. A typical U.S. household headed by a person age 65 or older has a net worth 47 times greater than a household headed by someone younger than 35. College debt, the mortgage crisis, high unemployment, and weak social safety net all contribute to this disparity.

Philadelphia peace groups are taking their witness against war and corporate militarism to Occupy Philadelphia every Tuesday at 4:30 pm.

On the anniversary of the war in Afghanistan the Stop the Machine occupation of Freedom Plaza in

Washington, DC, began (and continues today) with a focus on bringing the occupation to the government that launches war without end, saying corporate exploitation abroad depends on the threat of war and war funding depends on the defunding of human needs.

Some occupiers and some occupier sympathizers have been calling for a Robin Hood Tax – a global tax on financial transactions set at 1% that would raise money from Wall Street and big banks and use that money to create jobs and invest in people.

Some Other Activist News

A new Lehigh Valley Peace Pole was dedicated on September 11, as part of the opening ceremonies for the new Channel 39 studios at SteelStacks. The dedication involved community groups including the NAACP, YWCA, churches and school groups, and included LEPOCO representatives.

Over 40 people gathered at Bethlehem's Rose Garden Park on October 9 under the theme, "Finding Hope After 10 Years of War." With readings, music and discussion we shared our sorrow that the war in Afghanistan continues. We also shared great hope in the voices for peace from Afghanistan and from among our gathering.

In preparation for that gathering the Nuclear Abolition Sisters spruced up the Peace Pole in the park and Maria Weick ordered and repaired one of the fading "May Peace Prevail on Earth" sides of the pole.

October 24-28 a small group of union organizers and unemployed workers brought an "occupy" to Senator Toomey's local office, calling for Jobs Not Cuts. They have been bird-dogging the senator across the state.

On November 6 several local activists joined thousands who encircled the White House to protest the Keystone XL pipeline proposed to carry the very dirty tar sands oil from Canada across the U.S. Four days later a huge victory came that postpones the decision on the pipeline, but leaves much more to be done to stop the tar sands oil removal.

On November 7, Attorney Mark Goldstone spoke at Lafayette College (his alma mater) on "Liberty versus Security: Is Free Speech in Danger?" He is a very active First Amendment attorney in DC, representing and advising many of those who participate in nonviolent civil disobedience in our nation's capital. He talked about cases (some involving local peace activists) from the 1980s to the present day.

On November 11 the local Veterans for Peace chapter held a memorial gathering at Rose Garden Park, Bethlehem, remembering especially those Pennsylvanians killed in the recent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Thank you to our local veterans for helping to keep these wars in the public eye.

Bits & Pieces

Ⓞ On Oct. 16, six LEPOCO members had their respective four cars towed from the CVS parking lot (near the office) while they were attending a Potluck & Politics program at the Peace Center. It cost \$200 (cash) to retrieve each car (reduced from the original \$275 since there were four cars picked up at the same time). **The CVS Six** (Maria Weick, Addison & Mary Louise Bross, Bob & Carmen Riggs, John Zachmann) have not taken this abuse without question. A meeting with the manager of our neighboring CVS brought no relief. Now "The Six" are appealing to others who may be able to help rectify this injustice.

As Maria Weick writes for the group, "While we acknowledge CVS' right to have a towing policy, we feel that CVS, in the interest of fairness and good community relations, should refund our towing charges given, 1) that the entrances to the parking lot do not have signs regarding towing, and... there are no signs warning people not to park in the area where we parked; 2) we had parked in this area for years without consequence" and 3) Pennsylvania law "prohibits towing without notice."

This is obviously a cautionary tale for anyone visiting LEPOCO and those considering patronizing CVS. It seems, so far, that cars are only towed when the store is closed, but one may want to park on the street in any case, even though parking meters are involved, 8 am to 9 pm, every day except Sunday. (\$1 for two hours parking sure beats \$275 for towing.)

Ⓞ **Can this be true?** Keystone Progress reported in mid-October that Representative Charlie Dent has received \$17,500 in donations from Koch Industries-- more than Gov. Corbett (\$12,000), more than Rep. Tim Murphy (\$15,000), more than Rep. Lou Barletta (\$13,500), and more than four

other representatives listed by Keystone Progress.

Ⓞ **Phyllis Bennis** wrote another of her cogent pieces on October 20, "After Gadhafi, the West Eyes the Libyan Prize: Oil Rich and Deeply Divided, the Country is Vulnerable to Outside Powers." You can read it at www.ips-dc.org under the "New Internationalism" project.

Ⓞ CIS (Centro Intercambio y Solidaridad) is calling for participation in their **International Election Observer Mission to El Salvador**, March 5-13, 2012. CIS is one of the organizations with which Joe DeRaymond (who died in 2009) worked for many years and Sarah Snider has participated in these delegations before. She plans to be part of this delegation as well. If you would like more information please see www.cis-elsalvador.org or talk with Sarah.

Ⓞ **The Free Trade Agreements** (FTAs) with Colombia, Korea and Panama have become law in October. There is not much about this development that is encouraging. However, we do need to thank Pennsylvania's Senator Bob Casey who voted against the agreements. To learn more about this issue see

Public Citizen's www.tradewatch.org.

Ⓞ **Guatemala has formally apologized** to the family of former president Jacobo Arbenz, 57 years after the U.S.-backed coup that ousted him from office. At a ceremony in October Guatemalan President Alvaro Colom asked Arbenz's family for forgiveness. Speaking on behalf of the Arbenz family, Arbenz's son, Juan Jacobo said, "My family suffered a lot in exile. We suffered the consequences of an injustice that took place in 1954, when an agency from a very powerful country, the United States, acted on the interests of a powerful North American company called the United Fruit Company, who were condemned in court for being a monopoly. Here started the injustice, and we call on the United States to recognize their errors."

Sadly on November 6, former General Otto Pérez Molina won Guatemala's presidential runoff to become the first military president there since 1986. His victory is seen as symbolic of how Guatemala is still dominated by the economic, political and military elites that were the intellectual authors of the State repression, terrorism and genocide in the 1970s, 80s and early 90s.

Sources: Democracy Now!, Rights Action, and the Guatemala Human Rights Commission.

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

Wednesday, November 30, 3:30 pm: **Lehigh Valley Committee Against State Killing** meeting at LEPOCO Peace Center.

Friday, December 2, 1 pm: **Newsletter Planning Meeting** at LEPOCO Peace Center.

Sunday, December 4, 7 pm: **Peace Singers** rehears at home of Bob & Carmen Riggs, Bethlehem.

Wednesday, December 7, 10:30 am: **Americas Solidarity Group** meeting at LEPOCO Peace Center.

Thursdays, December 8 & January 12, 7 pm: **Lehigh Valley Chapter of Veterans for Peace** meeting at LEPOCO Peace Center.

Mondays, December 12 & January 9, 7 pm: **LEPOCO Monthly Action Meeting** at the Peace Center. All members and friends are welcome at this monthly business meeting where the organization's activities are reviewed.

Please join in the meetings and work of these groups as you are able.

If you want more information about any of these meetings; or if you want to know the next meeting of the Nuclear Abolition Sisters, the Peace Camp Planning Committee, or the Bike/Walkathon Planning Committee, please call LEPOCO at 610-691-8730. For a regularly updated calendar of events and meetings please see www.lepoco.org.



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Bits & Pieces
Meetings...

"Don't Drill the Delaware"

Delaware River Basin Commission
Meeting

Monday, November 21

(See page 1 for more information.)

Prometheus Radio Project Discussion

Tuesday, November 22
7:00 pm

LEPOCO Peace Center

(See page 3 for more information.)

52nd Annual

Nazareth-to-Bethlehem
Christmas Peace Pilgrimage
Saturday, December 10

Evening Speaker:

Kelly Denton-Borhaug

Chair of Religious Studies at Moravian College

(See insert for details.)

Monthly Peace Vigil

*Our wars continue.
Please help witness for peace.*

4:30-5:30 pm

Second Thursdays

(Dec. 8 & Jan. 12)

3rd & Wyandotte Sts., Bethlehem

Contact:

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