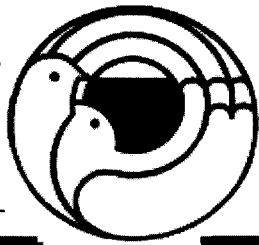


October-November
2012

Vol. 47 No. 7



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

Hard to Believe??

Yes it is hard to believe that 2012 has only one quarter of the year remaining for all of us to get ready for the 53rd Annual Nazareth-to-Bethlehem Christmas Peace Pilgrimage on Saturday, December 8th.

Everyone is invited to walk the 10 miles with the four rest stops and relief transportation. The pilgrims walk in all sorts of weather; there is never a postponement or cancellation.

Busses provide transportation from Bethlehem to Nazareth's Moravian Church for the walk which begins at noon. Participants may wish to bring a packed lunch to eat at the church; supper is provided at the conclusion of the pilgrimage along with singing, an inspiring speaker, plus a time to donate for the costs of the event such as the buses and the food, etc.

Rev. Dr. Christine Nelson, executive director of Lehigh County Conference of Churches, will speak on "Peace and Justice and the American Way," following supper at Christ UCC Church, at Center and Market Streets, Bethlehem.

Go to www.peacewalk.org for the complete schedule and a map of the Christmas Peace Pilgrimage route (also a flyer about the Pilgrimage is enclosed with this newsletter).

- Fran Dreisbach

The Drones Visit

Nick Mottern and George Guerci generated lots of discussion and interest with the 2012 Know Drones Tour on September 20 & 21. They appeared at Lehigh University, Lafayette College, Bethlehem's City Center plaza, a LEPOCO Potluck & Politics, and the Quaker Peace Fair in Bucks County. The presentations focused on the main reasons why drone warfare is wrong and how drones are being used to further U.S. access to oil and other natural resources in foreign countries where they are used.

The Know Drones tour explained that the use of drones has grown rapidly, due largely because it allows attacks into remote areas without risking U.S. military personnel -- and, of course, because manufacturers reap enormous profits and lobby for ever-greater use. At this point, the military-industrial-Congressional complex's grip on the nation has far exceeded the 1961 warning by then-President Eisenhower. Nick suggested that anyone who authorizes, directs, or participates in the use of drones to attack other countries or to kill civilians should be tried for war crimes.

These attacks often kill more innocent civilians than even suspected combatants, and they breed resentment against the U.S. -- and the Know Drones folks pointed out that drone use is not only morally wrong but illegal.

1) Sending drones into other countries with which the U.S. is not "legally" at war violates international law. In almost every case, the U.S. says that a drone attack targeted specific enemy combatants, but evidence indicates that many civilians are killed for no reason, another violation of international law.

(2) When used for assassinations, the use of drones also violates executive orders that ban assassination under any circumstances. The first such order was issued by President Ford, and every subsequent president has confirmed the ban on assassinations -- but both Romney and Obama continue to support their use.

(3) Drones are a threat to civil liberties, both in foreign countries and here at home. Drones are already used for surveillance in other countries, and continual

(continued on page 4)

Holiday Open House

Saturday, November 10th, 12 - 4 pm

&

Sunday, December 2nd, 1 - 4 pm

LEPOCO Peace Center

313 West Fourth Street, south Bethlehem

Fair trade crafts and food
from around the world through

SERRV;

Buttons, Stickers, Cards;
Holiday Cards & 2013 Calendars

(Items also available during normal office hours
until the end of December.)

Death Penalty Again Questioned

It was a beautiful early fall day in Bethlehem when a group of students and local citizens gathered in a Lehigh University lecture hall to hear the Reverend Joseph Ingle speak about the case that is the basis for his new book, "The Inferno: A Southern Morality Tale." The relevance of a talk about the death penalty was made painfully obvious before we even entered the hall as literature and petitions for signing were provided to try and halt the execution of Terrance Williams on October 3rd right here in Pennsylvania. Sarah Snider, a member of the local Amnesty Chapter has been writing to Terrance Williams on death row for six years and has shared with him the many rising hopes and crushing disappointments that people experience when arguing for their life against a system trying to kill them.

Reverend Joe Ingle shared the story of Phillip Workman, an inmate on Tennessee's death row, with whom he developed a relationship that lasted until Phillip was executed by the State of Tennessee. The story had so many absurd court decisions and blatant self-serving actions by those in power that Joe felt it often necessary to reassure us "you can't make this stuff up." The human damage caused to all involved with the case was painful to hear described and the final outcome, the dispassionate and methodical killing of another human being, in this case one innocent of the crime, was upsetting, especially when hearing of its effect on those who cared for Phillip.

As a people we are lessened when the state, in our name, decides that one of us is not worthy of life. It is through the efforts of people like Joe Ingle and Sarah Snider, persons who have reached out to those who are "the least among us," that we can see evidence that the qualities of caring, compassion and forgiveness are not lost to the loud cries that call for answering violence with more violence.

- David Rose

Editor's Note: We can express some relief that the execution of Terrance Williams was not carried on October 3rd. His case will receive further review, especially with regards to defense arguments that the murder victim had sexually abused him for most of Terrance's adolescent years and that prosecutors had withheld evidence of that abuse from the jury.

Serving Migrants

On October 11, 20 local peace activists welcomed Leonila Romero González of Mexico, Walker Grooms, Witness for Peace (WFP) National Grassroots Organizer, and Claudia Rodriguez, from WFP staff in Mexico, for a presentation (at St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Allentown) about Leonila Romero's work with migrants passing through her country.

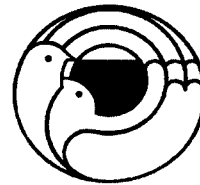
Leonila works for the Catholic Migrant Ministry in Mexico City where she serves 66 shelters for migrants throughout Mexico. Her work with migrants began with

the group Las Patronas, in southern Mexico. She showed a video of the long trains ("The Beast") traveling from Central America (C.A.) through Mexico, on which migrants from C.A. hitch a perilous ride atop the train cars. For 10 years the women of Las Patronas (starting with Leonila's grandmother) have cooked simple food (rice and tortillas) and in a rather dangerous maneuver throw the food and bottles of water to the train's passengers as they hang from the sides of the train. This work is supported by donations from young people all over Mexico. Leonila estimates that 90% of those riding the trains, hoping to reach the U.S., are from Honduras. When they started Las Patronas was serving 10-20 people on the trains each day, now they serve more than 200 a day.

Leonila's visit was part a tour bringing attention to the WFP long-standing program: Roots of Migration. Las Patronas are ordinary people providing a compassionate response to suffering that grew (at least in part) from U.S. free trade policies in the Americas and our militarization of the region through the "War on Drugs." Their compassionate response led to help from others and hopefully will lead us to a deeper questioning of government policies that cause people to leave their homes.

Walter Grooms spoke about the need to reverse free trade agreements like NAFTA, to end Plan Merida and its militarization of anti-drug policy and called for comprehensive immigration reform.

- Nancy C. Tate



Newsletter of LEPOCO

Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern
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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, Addison Bross, Sheila Clever, robert Daniels II (ex-officio), Janet Goloub, Julius Iwantsch (co-treasurer), Janet Ney, Kelly Quain, Susie Ravitz, Stefan Rogers, Tom Stinnett (co-treasurer), Nancy Tate (ex-officio).

Popcorn/Potluck & Politics

Sunday, October 28th, 2012, 6 pm

Vince Stravino:

"Current Status of Peacemaking Efforts in Israel & Palestine"

Potluck & Politics at the LEPOCO Peace Center.

Vince Stravino, retired physician and dedicated peace activist, joined his second Interfaith Peace-Builders delegation to Israel and Palestine this past May and June. He will report on the wide-ranging experiences from this delegation. (See a report on one aspect of his trip on page six of this newsletter.) His presentation will include photographs from the trip.

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

The presentation and discussion should begin around 6:45 pm.

Friday, November 2nd, 2012, 7 pm

"The Koch Brothers Exposed"

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

Investigative documentary that uncovers the 1% at its very worst. Billionaire brothers Charles and David Koch bankroll a vast network of organizations that work to undermine the interests of the 99% on issues ranging from Social Security to the environment to civil rights. Directed by Robert Greenwald. 55 minutes. 2012.

Please bring a snack or beverage to share.

Friday, December 7th, 2012, 7 pm

"Surviving Progress"

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

Humanity's ascent is often measured by the speed of progress. But what if progress is actually spiraling us downwards, towards collapse? This documentary shows how past civilizations were destroyed by alluring technologies and belief systems that served immediate needs, but ransomed the future. As pressure on the world's resources accelerates and financial elites bankrupt nations, can our globally-entwined civilization escape a final, catastrophic progress trap?

Directed by Mathieu Roy and Harold Crooks. 86 minutes. 2011.

Please bring a snack or beverage to share.



Book Group

The First Tuesday Book Group will meet next on November 6th, at 6 pm. The new location for their meetings will be at the home of Bob & Carmen Riggs, 1113 Prospect Ave., Bethlehem. (Call 610-867-1244 for directions.) At this meeting the group will discuss *Drone Warfare: Killing by Remote Control*, the 2012 book by activist and writer, Medea Benjamin. *Drone Warfare* looks at the growing menace of robotic warfare: who is producing the drones, where they are used, who are the pilots of these unmanned planes, who are the victims and what are the legal and moral implications.

For their December 4th meeting the group will discuss *Queen of America* by Luis Alberto Urrea. After the bloody Tomochic rebellion, Teresita Urrea, beloved healer and "Saint of Cabora," flees with her father to Arizona. But their plans are derailed when she once again is claimed as the spiritual leader of the Mexican

Revolution. Besieged by Pilgrims and pursued by assassins, Teresita embarks on a journey through turn-of-the-century industrial America -- New York, San Francisco, St. Louis. She meets immigrants and tycoons, European royalty and Cuban poets, all waking to the new "American" century. And as she decides what her own role in this modern future will be, she must ask herself: can a saint fall in love? *Queen of America*, is at turns heartbreaking, uplifting, and riotously funny.

To learn more about the book group call Mimi Lang at 610-866-2407.

Cut Military Spending Our Lives Depend On It!

Get your LEPOCO original Bumper Sticker! You can use it on your car or any other public location. A dollar donation would be appreciated, but a promise of getting this message out will also suffice. Call, write or visit LEPOCO to get your sticker(s).

The Drones Visit _____

(continued from page 1)

surveillance with the possibility of attack is used to discourage people from gathering in public places. Homeland Security is now beginning to offer surveillance drones to local police departments in the U.S. -- and the manufacturers say weaponized versions will be available soon. What happened to the First Amendment, the right to free speech and the right to peacefully assemble with others? Nick and George were clear that the ongoing militarization of the police runs counter to the basic values of the U.S.

At the Lehigh presentation, a graduate student from Yemen described a drone attack that wiped out an entire village of innocent civilians. (The administration's *de facto* policy is that anyone killed in a drone attack was a combatant unless proven otherwise -- after they are dead!) She went on to question why the U.S. attached such low value to the lives of people in these countries.

Students at Lafayette had a wide range of questions and opinions, ranging from one young man who offered the unpleasant thought that, "It's better for 50 innocent Pakistanis to die than a single American," to those who were immediately engaged with human rights and moral reasons not to use drones.

Nick and George also pointed out that the drones are often controlled by "pilots" -- including civilians -- stationed at bases in the U.S., where they control the drone electronically using video and radar images. When they finish their day's work as part of what is called "the kill chain," they then go home to their families -- the Know Drones folks could only speculate on the serious impacts this will have on them.

In the midst of all the frightening news about the extent of drone use, one very encouraging sign was that 40 or 50 students showed up for the late-afternoon talk at Lehigh, and 60-plus students turned out at Lafayette. Most students stayed for the entire presentation and Q&A sessions that followed.

The *Express-Times* and Channel 69 both covered the tour in some detail. Contact LEPOCO for copies or links to these stories or for more information on dangers posed by militarization of police forces.

For more information on drones, see the many resources at www.knowdrones.com. Also there are two new studies about the serious problems with drones: 1) "Living Under Drones: Death, Injury, and Trauma to Civilians From US Drone Practices in Pakistan," from the International Human Rights and Conflict Resolution Clinic at Stanford Law School and the Global Justice Clinic at NYC School of Law is available at www.livingunderdrones.org, and 2) "Drones: The Physical & Psychological Implications of a Global Theatre of War," from MEDACT, a global health charity based in London is available at www.medact.org. Finally we can all take heart at the actions of Code

Pink activists who recently traveled to Pakistan to join a march against drones. See more at www.codepink4peace.org.

- Peter Crownfield

Your Support Is Needed _____

Monica McAghon wrote an inspiring fund appeal letter for LEPOCO which arrived in your mailbox early in October. Many of you have read it by now. Because the need is so great we are publishing the first two paragraphs here as a reminder of our donations request for those of you who have not had time to read the original letter. Responses have started flowing in to the letter and that is heartening. With a generous response it is possible the Steering Committee can dial down the discussion of finances at the next Action Meeting from the level of alarm to that of concern. Please use the coupon below to return your donation. We are most grateful for whatever response you can give.

Here's the opening from Monica's letter:

In the book "Losing my Cool: Love, Literature, and a Black Man's Escape from the Crowd," Thomas Chatterton Williams talks about keeping it real, about getting out from behind the hip-hop pose to develop his own individuality and his response-ability to the realities of the larger world. Going to college was his vehicle, his venue, and for many of us who also listen to the voices of our conscience, LEPOCO is our vehicle, our venue.

We all hop to the beats and rhymes of our own individual lives, but with LEPOCO we enfold and develop our collective concerns for the whole earth. Locally, LEPOCO members are at anti-fracking conferences and privatization debates and anti-war vigils. We're a supportive bunch of citizens who care for each other as much as we care about doing something valuable for the future of this planet...

Support LEPOCO!

___ Enclosed are my yearly LEPOCO dues of \$_____.
(\$35 individual; \$45 hh; \$75 supporter; \$5 lim. income)

___ I am also enclosing an extra donation of \$_____.

___ I would like to support LEPOCO's work with a
___ monthly/___ quarterly pledge of \$_____.

___ I'm interested in the following issues: _____

Name Phone # e-mail

Address City Zip

Return to: LEPOCO Peace Center, 313 W. 4th St., Bethlehem, PA 18015.

The Struggle Shared _

"... Old age hath yet his honor and his toil;
Death closes all, but somehow ere the end
Some work of noble note, may yet be done
Not unbecoming men who strove with Gods.
The lights begin to twinkle from the rocks;
The long day wanes; the slow moon climbs; the deep
Moans round with many voices; Come my friends,
'Tis not too late to seek a newer world."

- Alfred Lord Tennyson, excerpt from *Ulysses**

REMEMBERING ANNE

MONTGOMERY - Sister Anne Montgomery is well-known in the peacemaker communities as one of the founding activists of the Plowshares movement. Anne lost her battle with cancer on August 27, in Atherton, CA, at the age of 85.

On Sept 9, 1980, she along with seven others, including Daniel and Phillip Berrigan, entered a General Electric Nuclear Weapons Plant in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, where they beat on warhead nosecones with hammers, and poured blood on documents and files, thus putting into action the biblical injunction to "turn swords into plowshares." Of the seventy-five Plowshare actions that have occurred since, Anne participated in six, serving time in Federal Prison as recently as 2009.

Since 1995, Anne Montgomery was also active on Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT). She was on teams in Sarajevo, and Herzegovina, during the war in the Balkans, and later served in Hebron and Iraq. In 2006 she talked with Kathy Kelly, a leading U.S. peace activist, and CPT member, while the two were in Amman, Jordan, awaiting visas to enter Iraq. Three surviving members of a CPT Iraq delegation had just been rescued in a military operation after being kidnapped. The fourth member of the team, Tom Fox, had been murdered.

Kathy Kelly asked Anne if, in her decades as a peace team member, she could discern any patterns that would be insightful for future teams in such difficult missions. This is part of Anne's response: *The pattern begins first with forming communities, and second with*

thinking carefully about means and ends: not trying to sustain a difficult life of activism on one's own, and always insisting that the means you employ determine the ends you arrive at.

LOCAL HALL OF FAME -

LEPOCO's beloved Joe DeRaymond is also appreciated in other circles that his life transcribed. He graduated from Nazareth High School in 1968. On October 13, 2012, the Nazareth Area Blue Eagle Education Foundation held an Alumni/Homecoming Wall of Fame Gala to honor outstanding Nazareth High School graduates. Of the four graduates honored (Dr. Frank Kessler, 1947; Dr. Joseph Merola, 1960; Lynne D. Allen, 1966, and Joe), Joe is the only posthumous honoree.



The Foundation supports extended learning opportunities and programs within the Nazareth Area School District, in Academic, Cultural Arts, Technology, and Athletics, and sponsored the event as a fundraiser.

The plaque honoring Joe will include a copy of the lovely painting of Joe by Joe's brother, William, and a quote from Joe, "*It is up to us to resolutely try to hold accountable our government and corporate actors for their actions damaging humanity and the Earth -- to intervene if necessary with imagination, nerve and a commitment to a non-violent ethic that is strong in its resistance and generous in its joyful approach*

to struggle." Thank you to those who made this well-deserved recognition possible.

ECONOMY RESOURCES FROM GENESIS FARMS - LEPOCO activist Anna Maria Caldera has been collaborating with environmental educators at Genesis Farms. She has written three comprehensive articles recently on issues that particularly affect our area: one on genetically engineered food, one on fracking, and a third on the Rose-land Power Line Project. The articles were written for the Genesis Farm Ecological Learning Center in Blairstown, NJ. They can be found on the organization's website, www.genesisfarm.org, under "Resources and Links." Then go to "Five Smooth Stones." They each give an introduction to the issues, why the schemes are environmentally destructive, and what we must do to stop them.

Anna Maria spent several months discoursing with Genesis Farm founder and director, Sr. Miriam Therese MacGillis OP, and Attorney Liz Marshall, cofounders of the Ridge and Valley Charter School in Blairstown, whose curriculum is guided by principles of sustainability. They focused on ways that individuals can halt the corporate rampage of our planet. Under the heading "Five Smooth Stones," a reference to the weapons David used to bring down Goliath, strategies are suggested to empower us to restore Nature's balance.

Genesis Farm has long been in the vanguard of the deep ecology movement in our bioregion, is a regional hub and training facility for the International Transition Movement (see "Struggle Shared," November 2011), and has made a commitment to protect our region from the effects of fracking, the S-R Project, and genetic engineering.

- Jeff Vitelli

* This poem excerpt was suggested by Betty Compton as being supportive of the many elder peace activists in LEPOCO. It was also quoted by one of the speakers at Tom Lloyd's memorial service in late August.

Three Messages from Local Veterans For Peace

From Paul Fichter: An Invitation

Veterans For Peace

Berks County & Lehigh Valley Chapters
Fundraising Dinner

Speaker: Thomas Drake

Decorated U.S. Air Force & Navy Veteran
National Security Agency Whistle Blower

Sunday, October 21st, 5:00 pm

Topton American Legion Hall
133 Centre Avenue, Topton, Pennsylvania

For reservations or further information

Contact Louise Legun / Judy Woodruff at 484-248-6113

From Phil Reiss: A Poem

Like It Is

Will ripples of time
erase war's horrors
we try to forget?

Corrupt absolute power
sent myths down the
chain of command.

Did VC harm our families?
Could they invade Hawaii?
Thought of that lately?

Recall rock song message
"We won't be fooled again?"
Who really believes that?

Past mistakes are rarely
heeded. Merchants of
death can rest assured.

- Philip 'Phil' Reiss
Member - VFP Chapter 152

From Vince Stravino: A Report

The Israeli Government and the Environment

In the western world conservation is the ethical way to avoid waste and preserve this planet. For Palestinians living under harsh Israeli rule conservation is a key to survival and sanity.

This summer, on my trip to Israel and Palestine with an Interfaith Peace-Builders delegation, I saw an efficient solar energy facility in the Hebron Hills built by the German government supplying basic electrical energy to ten remote Palestinian villages. Sunlight here produces two-and-one-half times more solar energy than in Northern Europe. The engineer in charge lamented the fact that his facility was scheduled to be

demolished by the Israeli government because of "no valid building permit." The German government is fighting this draconian decision. All international humanitarian aid projects have found it impossible to obtain such permits. In 2011 sixty projects such as wells, clinics, schools, solar panels, and farms were destroyed by the Israeli Defense Forces. These unjust actions prompted the official criticism of the Israeli government by all the twenty-seven Prime Ministers of the European Union recently.

An Israeli Palestinian environmentalist in Nazareth shared his interest in reclaiming abandoned water sources such as the old well we visited. With a little digging, he has found that some wells can yield water again. In addition, he is creative and has built several rainwater catchment devices for home use. Both these conservation resources are illegal under Israeli law and he risks a fine if discovered.

Most water in Nazareth must be purchased at inflated prices from a single Israeli supplier. We learned that Palestinians depend on Israel for water and must pay extra to live with 40 liters/day less than the minimum standard set by the World Health Organization. Water is power and control here.

We were not permitted entry to blockaded Gaza where 1.5 million Palestinians live and 90% of the water is unsafe to drink since the water and sewage plants were destroyed in the 2008 attacks. Attempts in Gaza to rebuild water treatment plants have been prevented by Israel because of "security concerns." International bidding for desalination plants has been considered but is stalled by Gazan officials who decline to accept local bids from Israelis whom they feel are responsible for the problem and must not benefit from this blockade.

We walked through the West Bank Dheisheh refugee camp and learned of rooftop "victory gardens" of vegetables nurtured by Palestinian housewives -- a smart use of space.

- Vince Stravino

Editor's Note #1) For more information see resources available at LEPOCO: *Steadfast Hope*, a publication and DVD produced by the Presbyterian and Episcopal Churches; and a DVD by Anna Baltzer, *Life in Occupied Palestine*.

Editor's Note #2) Please see page 3 of this newsletter for information about the Potluck & Politics presentation that Vince will give about his trip on Sunday, October 28.

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
by calling 610-691-8730 or by writing to lepoco@fast.net.

Bits & Pieces

☪ Thank you to those who helped with LEPOCO's booth at the **Veg-Fest** along south Bethlehem's Greenway on Sat., Sept. 8: Sarah Andrew, Robert Daniels II, Ruth Karpinski, Linda Sakovics, Nancy Tate and Tom Stinnett. And thanks to those who staffed the LEPOCO booth at the **Quaker Peace Fair** at the Buckingham Friends Meeting, on Sept. 22nd. Both events were well attended and we distributed literature and sold lots of peace boutique items.

☪ The Selkie Theatre presented "**Occupy Your Mind**," at the Unitarian Universalist Church of the L.V., Oct. 12th and 13th. The new piece crafted by New York City's theatre ensemble The Civilians, tells the larger story of Occupy in New York City through the individual stories of some of those who participated. It was funny, inspiring and poignant, and left one very grateful that those who occupied did so.

☪ On October 3rd some LEPOCO folks enjoyed a party at David & Kim Rose's home in Easton, and then walked to the Williams Center at Lafayette College for a concert by **Inti-Illimani** from Chile. Their music with its many Latin American (and other) influences was simply beautiful. We left with uplifted spirits and grateful hearts that Inti- has persisted for 45 years, singing for peace, human compassion and freedom -- even through 15 years of exile. This was the third visit Inti-Illimani has made to Lafayette College. May there be many more.

☪ For years LEPOCO's **phonathon** has been a main source of fundraising. Various changes in phone use technology and culture have severely limited the success of that effort. We are now modifying the effort to include personal notes to members that we are trying to reach. If you can help with a calling & writing night (or afternoon) please contact the office at 610-691-8730.

☪ You are urged to make the trip to Ft. Benning, Georgia, Nov. 16-18, for

the annual gathering sponsored by SOA Watch. Thousands of human rights activists, torture survivors, anti-war veterans, students, families, union workers, artists, and others will be there calling for an end to U.S. militarization and the closure of the SOA. There will be concerts, vigils, marches, workshops, films, and inspiring energy. For more information see www.soaw.org.

☪ **Craig Moore**, a founding member of LEPOCO, died on October 8th. There will be a memorial service for him at the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Lehigh Valley, on Sat., Nov. 3, at 2 pm.

☪ The Lehigh County Conference of Churches will sponsor a program, "**A Modest Dream: A Place to Call Home**," on Sat., Oct. 20, 8:30 am to 1:30 pm, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 8th & Walnut Sts., Allentown. Speakers and workshops will focus on affordable housing, homelessness, and public policy. For more info. call 610-433-6421.

☪ On Friday Nov. 9, 9:30 am-2:30 pm, **Gary Dorrien**, the Reinhold Niebuhr Professor of Social Ethics at Union Theological Seminary and Professor of Religion at Columbia University, will

lead a seminar on "**Economic Democracy Then & Now: Renewing an Ecumenical Tradition**," at Prosser Aud., Moravian College. Sponsored by Moravian Seminary, the program is free, but one must pre-register by Nov. 2nd, by contacting the seminary.

☪ There will be a **single-payer health care forum** on Sat., Oct. 27, at 7 pm, at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, 234 E. Main St., Kutztown. Featured speakers will be Chuck Pennacchio and Dave Steil, both of HealthCare4All PA. For more info. see the organization's web site.

☪ Sun., Nov. 11, 1:30-5 pm, the **Coalition for Peace Action** based in Princeton, NJ, will hold their annual conference featuring Noam Chomsky, Juan Cole, and Amy Goodman as speakers. The conference will be held at Nassau Presbyterian Church, 61 Nassau St., Princeton. For more info. see www.peacecoalition.org.

☪ *By now our immense destructiveness has made clear that the actual value of some things exceeds human ability to calculate, and therefore must be considered absolute.*

- Wendell Berry, *The Progressive*, 8/12

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

Wednesday, October 17, 3:30 pm: Lehigh Valley Committee Against State Killing meeting at LEPOCO Peace Center.

Monday, October 22, 1 pm: Newsletter Planning Committee Meeting at LEPOCO Peace Center.

Thursday, October 25, Noon: Americas Solidarity Group meeting at LEPOCO Peace Center.

Thursday, October 25, 6 pm: LEPOCO Annual Dinner Planning Committee Meeting at Peace Center.

Friday, October 26, 3 pm: Nuclear Abolition Sisters meeting at Quadrant Café, Easton.

Mondays, November 12 & December 10, 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.

Thursdays, November 8 & December 13, 6 pm: Lehigh Valley Chapter of Veterans for Peace meeting at LEPOCO Peace Center.

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 LEPOCO Peace Singers, 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.



Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern

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See Inside:

Page 1

Peace Pilgrimage
Drones Visit

Page 2

Death Penalty
Serving Migrants

Page 3

P & P's
Book Group

Pages 4

Drones Visit
Donations Needed

Page 5

Struggle Shared

Page 6

Notes from VFP
Dinner
Poem
Safe Energy in
Palestine

Page 7

Bits & Pieces
Meetings...

*Veterans for Peace
Fundraising Dinner*
Speaker: Thomas Drake
Sunday, October 21, 5 pm
(See page 6 for more info.)

Potluck & Politics
Vince Stravino
Report from Trip to Israel & Palestine
Sunday, October 28, 6 pm
LEPOCO Peace Center
(See pages 3 & 6 for more info.)

Monthly Peace Vigil
Our wars continue. Please help witness for peace.
4:00-5:00 pm
Second Thursdays: November 8 & December 13
3rd & Wyandotte Sts., Bethlehem
Contact: Vince Stravino 610-216-8103 / Tom Ulrich 610-882-1136

**Nazareth-to-Bethlehem
Annual Christmas
Peace Pilgrimage**
**Saturday
December 8**
(See insert & page 1 for more info.)

LEPOCO Holiday Open House
Saturday, November 10, 12-4 pm
&
Sunday, December 2, 1-4 pm
(See page 1 for more info.)

Veterans For Peace
Veterans Day Observance
Sunday, November 11
10 am -3 pm
Rose Garden Park
8th Ave. & Union Blvd., Bethlehem