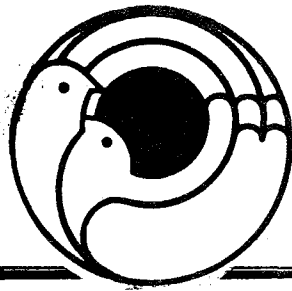


September
2006

vol.41 no.6



Newsletter of **LEPOCO**

Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern

Resistance Unarmed

A photographic exhibition focused on Colombia's peace communities is opening at Lehigh University's Girdler Gallery in the University Center September 29, and runs through December 10. Through LEPOCO's Americas Solidarity Group, Lehigh's Art Galleries has arranged for the exhibition with the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR).

Resistance Unarmed profiles three communities located in the northern Urabá region: Cacarica, an Afro-Colombian community in Chocó province; the Balsita Community of Life and Work near the town of Dabeiba, and San José de Apartadó, both in Antioquia Department. The title refers to the many small peace communities in Colombia which have chosen nonviolent resistance in the face of threats, harassment, and attacks by armed groups as a means of surviving in the midst of the armed conflict prevalent in the country for the past 60 years.

Through images of life in these communities, the exhibition raises questions about viewers' experiences of community and nonviolence in the U.S., and challenges people to examine the stereotypes associated with Colombia and to be inspired to be in solidarity with Colombians working for peace.

The exhibition was put together by FOR, and has been traveling to different locations in the U.S. since early 2005. The photographs are the work of four people: Betty Udesen of the Seattle Times, Eros Hoagland, freelancer, Jutta Meier-Wedenbach, former employee of FOR (who visited the Lehigh Valley in 2002); and Carin Anderson, a 2002 human rights volunteer in San José de Apartadó. The photographs taken in San José de Apartadó are of special interest to LEPOCO, as it is the peace community with which LEPOCO has developed a connection during the past four years through its Americas Solidarity Group.

LEPOCO's serious connection started with FOR's accompaniment program and Joe DeRaymond committing to a six-month stay in San José in 2003. (Javier Sánchez, a leader of the Community, spoke here in June 2002.) By accompanying residents of San José when they go outside the peace community, non-Colombians' presence insure a high degree of security against attack by the armed groups in Colombia, i.e., paramilitaries, guerillas, and the army. Since then, I joined an FOR delegation to Colombia which included San José in 2004, and Joe returned for several weeks during a particularly threatening period in 2005.

We are happy to announce that Renata Rendon, who accompanied for FOR in San José from September, 2004 through March, 2005, will come to Bethlehem on November 10th to speak about her experiences there, including the time of the February, 2005 massacre of 11 members of the peace community. That massacre resulted in the relocation of the peace community of San José. Currently employed at Amnesty International, USA, she is especially qualified to speak about human



This is one of the many beautiful photographs in the exhibition.

rights throughout Colombia and possible global effects of the Colombian peace communities. She is returning to Colombia in September to be part of a documentary al Jazeera, the Arabic media company, is making about Colombia for airing in Europe.

The public is invited to a opening reception from 6-8 p.m., Friday, September 29, at the Gallery. Please call LEPOCO, 610-691-8730, for directions.

- Janet Goloub

Editor's Note: Both Joe DeRaymond and Janet Goloub will be present at the reception to talk about the peace communities and Ricardo Viera, Director of Lehigh University Art Galleries, will speak about the exhibition.

Hiroshima Remembrance

"Remember the Maine!" was the rallying cry for the Spanish American War. In 1898 people were excited by this demand - but who remembers the Maine today? There are still people alive who clearly remember getting the news that Pearl Harbor had been attacked. But now the news each December 7th is that there are only 18 more shopping days until Christmas.

On August 6, 1945, the United States dropped an atom bomb on the Japanese city of Hiroshima, incinerating 70,000 people immediately, ultimately killing twice that many. Each year LEPOCO does an excellent job of helping the community to remember the pain that day engendered as well as to understand that nuclear annihilation continues as a very present threat. Through readings, songs and the opportunity to take action we are given the chance to feel one with people with whom we might ordinarily feel no kinship.

The major readings this year came from an article written by Arundhati Roy. Though published in *The Nation* almost a decade ago, the words hit our ears as if they had been freshly minted for us today. In the article Roy expresses her horror over India's detonation of its first atom bomb, in May, 1998. "If only, if only," she writes, "nuclear war was just another kind of war... But it isn't. If there is a nuclear war, our foe will not be China or America or even each other. Our foe will be the earth herself. The very elements - sky, air, land, wind and water - will turn against us." Her sentiments seem so obvious. Why is it that those "in charge" can't figure it out on their own? And if they need help, why won't they listen to her clear and eloquent words?

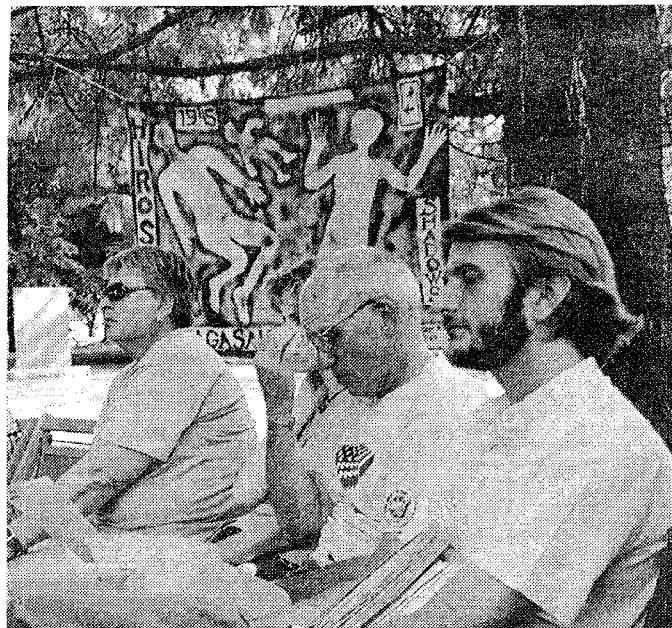
Arundhati Roy is angry with those in India who have perpetrated this fraudulent way to secure India's future. But she also says, "Give credit where credit is due... The Masters of the Universe, ladies and gentlemen - the United States of America... Thank you for showing us the way. Thank you for altering the very meaning of life. From now on it is not dying we must fear, but living." When she says this, she's referring, of course, to the aftereffects of a nuclear bomb, but she's also clear that it is "supreme folly to believe nuclear weapons are deadly only if they're used... They pervade our thinking. They are the ultimate colonizer." Other readings enumerated the ways in which focusing on nuclear superiority impedes, even destroys, social progress. When you're already well-fed and well-read it's easy to decide you'd rather out-rank Pakistan than pull 400 million people out of dire poverty. From the vantage point of Capitol Hill, retaining Sole Super-Power Status feels more doable than creating a meaningful universal healthcare plan.

"The only good thing about nuclear war," Arundhati Roy writes, "is that it is the single most egalitarian idea man has ever had... Devastation will be indiscriminate... We're radioactive already and the war hasn't even begun... Take it personally. Take it

very personally." Our job is to not allow this plea to disappear into the mists of history with the Maine. Our job is to live committed lives of peace. Our job is to see it as a personal responsibility to make it possible for the annals of history to continue.

- Donna Hartmann

Editor's Note: This report first appeared in *The Bethlehem Regurgitator* published by Peter Christine.



Arlene Kalkowsky, Michelle Meacham, Peter Crownfield and Robert Daniels were among the over 40 people who gathered in Bethlehem's Rose Garden Park for the Hiroshima-Nagasaki observance on August 6. The banner in the background was made by Monica McAgghon and Mimi Lang. On August 4, LEPOCO showed the documentary, *Radio Bikini*, a sobering reminder of the severe damage nuclear weapons have caused even in their testing.

Newsletter of LEPOCO

Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern

313 West Fourth Street

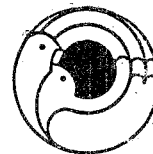
Bethlehem, PA 18015

phone: 610-691-8730

fax: 610-691-8904

website: www.lepoco.org

e-mail: lepoco@fast.net



The LEPOCO Newsletter is published 10 times a year by the Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern, a non-violent, non-profit organization dedicated to peace in all forms.

Annual dues are:

Regular Member \$25

Limited Income Member \$ 5

Household Membership \$30

Supporting Member \$50

Articles/news should be submitted by the third Wednesday of the month for use in the following month's newsletter.

Newsletter Staff: Ellen Buck, Peter Crownfield, Fran Dreisbach, Arlene Grow, Mike Lawton, Tom Lloyd, Bob Riggs, Tom Stinnett, Joan Stolz, Joan Stone, Nancy Tate, Marion Thorne, Jeff Vitelli, Hans Wuerth and Ursula Wuerth.

Thanks to all the people who staple, fold and label the newsletter each month.

LEPOCO Steering Committee: Dan Acker (co-treas.), Ellen Buck, Peter Christine, Peter Crownfield (ex-officio), Robert Daniels, Julius Iwantsch (co-treasurer), Holly Kent, Mike Lawton (ex-officio), Janet Ney, Susie Ravitz, and Nancy Tate (ex-officio).

Peace Picnic

Come celebrate fall and help raise funds for LEPOCO. We are planning a Peace Picnic at the Lehigh Valley Friends Meetinghouse in Bethlehem (on Rt. 512, ½ mile north of Rt. 22), on Saturday, October 14, from 3 to 7 pm.

We will have outdoor games to enjoy and we will cook veggie dogs on a grill for guests with all the fixings, however, any covered dish or snack donated will be appreciated (chips, casseroles, salads, desserts, etc.) You can wet your whistle with cold cider or lemonade.

The LEPOCO Peace Singers will perform. Our special guest will be Tom Mullian, a guitarist and singer who will perform songs from his album *Six Strings for Peace*. A rough schedule for the day is: 3 pm - games; 4:30 pm - food; 5:30 pm - music.

To raise funds we are asking a donation of \$20 per family or couple or \$10 per single person (limited income donations: \$8 and \$3, respectively). Bring folding chairs if you can. We will provide paper cups, plates, etc., but if you want to bring your own regular cups and plates that would be swell for the environment.

We hope you can join us to relax and enjoy the outdoors with peaceful friends.

- Ellen Buck

Popcorn & Politics

at the LEPOCO Peace Center

Friday, October 6, 7 pm

1st Friday Film

& Panel Discussion

"Winter Soldier"

In 1971 more than 125 veterans gathered to give eye-witness testimony to the war crimes and atrocities they'd participated in and witnessed in Vietnam. This rarely seen documentary of the Winter Soldier Investigation gives those courageous soldiers a powerful and deeply moving voices as they risked everything to tell the truth and regain their humanity. "Winter Soldier" maintains a frightening relevance today and is the only audiovisual record of this historic turning point in American history.

Following the film there will be a panel discussion featuring two Vietnam veterans who testified at the Winter Soldier hearings: Dr. Jon Bjornson and Bill Perry. Dr. Bjornson was a Major in the U.S. Army Medical Corps and served as a psychiatry-neurology consultant in Vietnam from May 1964 through April 1965. Bill Perry



was a Private First Class in the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division, serving in Vietnam from November 1966 to August 1968.

The event is free, though donations for the speakers and the Delaware Valley Chapter of Veterans for Peace will be accepted. The film will be projected on LEPOCO's new big screen and will begin promptly at 7pm, at the LEPOCO Peace Center, 313 W. 4th St., south Bethlehem. Space is limited. To make sure all who attend can be accommodated please call 610-691-8730 to reserve your seat.

- Robert Daniels

LEPOCO Yard Sale

One can never tell what treasure might turn up at LEPOCO's annual yard sale. Sometimes it's a superb stereo system, sometimes beautiful clothing, sometimes collections of books too wonderful not to share, sometimes odd and mystifying bric-a-brac, sometimes just simple and useful stuff you've been looking for. But the point is, in order to find this stuff, *you gotta be there!*

The yard sale will take place Saturday, September 16th, from 8:30 am to 1 pm, at the CACLV's Forte Building at 5th and Williams St., on Bethlehem's South Side. No rain date - this is indoors, in a spacious room.

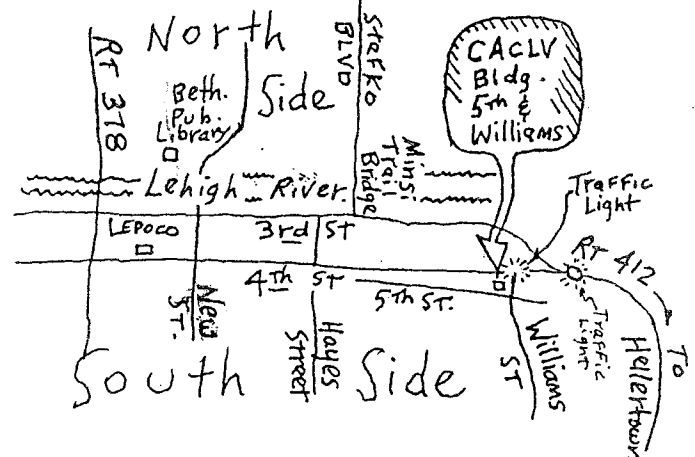
To donate, (and your donations are needed!) please bring your crazy-practical-misunderstood-orphaned-deluxe-foolish-impulsive items, in good condition, to the LEPOCO office between noon and 5 pm, on Wednesday or Thursday, September 13th or 14th. On Friday, September 15th items can be delivered directly to the CACLV building. It's very helpful if you can price the items beforehand.

Also, we need volunteers to help with pre-sale sorting, to set up, to assist buyers, clean up, etc. Call the LEPOCO Office at 610-691-8730 if you can help.

If you can donate some baked goods, they are bought and devoured with the special delirium of hungry shoppers. There's nothing like homemade.

Come join us for this important fundraiser. You may even find a treasure or two.

- Mike Lawton



Dent 9 Get Steep Fine

On August 2nd, Lehigh County Judge William Platt found the Dent 9 (Sarah Snider, Susie Ravitz, Anna Maria Caldara, Maria Weick, Joe DeRaymond, Tim Chadwick, Art Landis, Bernie Berg, and Robert Daniels II) guilty of defiant trespass for being in Rep. Charles Dent's office 15 minutes past closing time on January 17th. They were reading the names of U.S. troops and Iraqis who have been killed in the war and urging the Congressman to endorse John Murtha's bill that calls for a withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq. Though Rep. Dent talked with his staff by telephone that afternoon (he was with his children at home for a snow day), he did not offer to speak with the Nine by telephone, he did not offer to set a time to meet with them, and he had his staff call the Bethlehem police and prepare to arrest the Nine.

To his credit Judge Platt allowed some arguments about international law, the Pennsylvania Constitution, and the issues around the war in Iraq, during the trial. Unfortunately, he did not recuse himself after declaring his friendship with Rep. Dent and he imposed the maximum fine of \$300 each on the Nine (or 10 hours of community service) plus court costs of \$366 each. Over 50 people filled the courtroom to witness the trial and support the Nine that day.

These gentle people, guilty of peacemongering, have not decided if they will appeal the judge's decision. But, Rep. Dent's legal counsel, Pete Richards, has called one of the Nine to announce that he is advising Rep. Dent to refuse any meetings with the Nine as long as the case is under appeal! This follows a request by two of the nine (and others) in the presence of a seemingly amiable Congressman to meet with him regarding the Declaration of Peace.

There will be a party to honor the Nine and their generous lawyers (Martricia McLaughlin, Phil Lauer, Don Miles, Ray DeRaymond, and Joe DeRaymond who was pro se) on Saturday, September 23rd, at 5 pm, at the home of Martricia McLaughlin and Bob Glazer, College Hill, Easton. All supporters are invited to attend. (See directions below.) Please bring some food to share. There will an opportunity to help with expenses for this case to date and if they should proceed with an appeal.

- Nancy Tate

Directions to the McLaughlin-Glazer home from Rt. 22 heading east: Exit at 13th St. At bottom of ramp, proceed straight and immediately get into the left lane at the light. Turn left onto 13th St. Proceed down a hill and then up to stop light. At the light, bear to the right (going further up the hill) (do not take the sharp right turn). The road will bend to the right and then go for about a 1/2 mile until you hit a residential area. That is Lafayette St. Go past two stop signs, the second is Cattell St. At the third block past Cattell take a right onto Broadhead. Go one block to a "T" at Wayne Ave. Turn right onto Wayne. There is the second driveway on the right after the turn. It is a beige house with burgundy trim. The address is Paxinosa, but you will never be on Paxinosa Ave.

Here are excerpts from the some of the eloquent sentencing statements made by the Dent 9:

"Your honour, our democracy is in grave danger if peaceable, engaged citizens like those before you can

be arrested, prosecuted, and punished simply for insisting on speaking after hours to a congressperson about an issue as urgent as the illegal War in Iraq that is killing and maiming people as I speak, and proliferating human and civil rights abuses on a daily basis. Criminalizing dissent and discussion on an issue of such magnitude, because it's inconvenient for the elected public servant and his staff violates the spirit and letter of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. On that basis I'm asking you to waive punishment for each of us."

- Maria Weick

"...I cannot and will not stop pressing my obligation and duty to humanity to redress our elected officials by making them accountable to the people they have vowed to serve. It is my right and duty as a US citizen and member of humanity.

Rep. Dent allegedly represents me in our legislative branch of government, which has done nothing to stop this immoral war that kills young men in the prime of their lives, children, woman, and old defenseless people. If our elected officials, who are supposed to represent us, believed in diplomacy and dialogue instead of violence, bullying, and criminalizing dissent as a means of settling differences, we would not be here in front of you today. I respectfully request that you find humanity in your heart and show support of our noble cause today by waiving sentence."

- Tim Chadwick

"As the Germans in Hitler's war, so the Americans in George Bush's war. As to the victims of our crime, my apologies to the congressman's staff who were late for dinner."

- Art Landis

"I am not guilty of what this court says I am guilty of. If I were guilty of that I would also be guilty of being a "good German", one who knows that the policy and actions of ones government are illegal and are crimes against humanity and remains silent. I am not a "good German", but I am a good citizen who has attempted to speak with my congressman about an immoral, illegal war and instead of being welcomed into his office, was placed under arrest. I am a good citizen who watched my congressman march in lockstep with the war policies of an administration that lied and deceived the American people about the need for war. I am a good citizen who deserves to have an elected representative who is willing and eager to hear concerns from his constituents, particularly when they concern matters of life and death and war. I am a good citizen who believes in the constitution and knows with all her heart and soul that the war policies and actions of the current administration are immoral, illegal, unconstitutional.... It is the administration and the congress who have so shamefully allowed the slaughter to continue in Iraq who should be on trial, not nine citizens seeking an audience with their congressman."

- Susie Ravitz

A Time to Declare Peace

As i begin this writing i note that the number of American soldiers to die in Iraq is 2638. The most conservative of estimates on the number of Iraqis to violently die as a result of the conflict is 41,041. Every day i check these numbers and every day i mark the change on a small slip of paper pinned to my chest. Rarely do the numbers stay the same. They go up and keep going up. In the course of my day i am often asked about this red number. The tone of the question is almost always light; the curious trying so hard to be clever. The mood decidedly makes a sharp shift after i answer.

The reality of the war stings. It is cold and blunt, but it is often such a wound that opens us up to greater healing and more passionate action. The numbers create a dialogue that penetrates deep the ignorance of a war still going on. This is more than a mathematical exercise, some morbid scoreboard, or a strange sociological experiment. For me personally, it also is prayer and penance. It is a daily reminder that i must do more to end the war in Iraq. The numbers are human lives lost; the tragic cost of apathy, complacency, and grave miscalculation.

What can one do when the President of the United States seems unwilling to reassess failed policy and most Congressional Representatives blindly follow in lockstep? They drag their feet stubbornly resisting a change in position and the numbers go up. The responsibility for the change we wish to see is ours. It is up to us to provoke change.

Working for the political campaign of your candidate of choice is a valid way to become more involved, but waiting for the November elections to set things aright will be too late for many soldiers and civilians. An average day in Iraq can mean the deaths of dozens of Iraqis and a handful of American soldiers.

The Declaration of Peace is a campaign to get individuals to make a commitment to take nonviolent steps for a comprehensive, concrete, and rapid end to the U.S. war in Iraq. More than 450 national, regional and local organizations have endorsed The Declaration; thousands of people have signed the Pledge. Locally, following the trial of the "Dent 9," fourteen concerned citizens met with aides to Pennsylvania Senators Santorum and Specter delivering the Congressional Declaration which calls for legislators to sign onto important resolutions currently being debated in Congress. Later that same afternoon the Congressional Declaration was personally put into the hands of local Congressional Representative Charles Dent. At all three deliveries promises were made for prompt responses and follow-up meetings.

Should Congress refuse to "declare peace" by September 21 signers of the Pledge are called to engage in creative actions locally and in Washington D.C. On September 26th and 27th, two days of nonviolent civil disobedience and legal protest will take place at the U.S. Congress. Local actions may involve a 24+ hour standing vigil where the names of the war dead will be

read aloud outside of Congressional offices. One thing we can all do is call and write our Representatives, encouraging them to sign the Congressional Pledge, demanding them to do more to end the U.S. war in Iraq. We can all do more. We must. It is our duty as citizens in this democracy, and our responsibility to those who no longer have a voice.

- robert Daniels II

Postscript: I began this piece a week ago, have worked at it in fits and starts. As i close i feel that i must update the numbers: 2653 American soldiers, 41,639+ Iraqi civilians and security forces.

To become involved in the Declaration of Peace campaign contact LEPOCO, and see www.declarationofpeace.org, www.icasualties.org, www.iraqbodycount.org, and www.iraqpledge.org.



Eyes Wide Open Across PA.

The impact of the Iraq war and occupation is the focus of the exhibit *Eyes Wide Open Across Pennsylvania*. The exhibit features over 122 pairs of combat boots with names memorializing the US soldiers from Pennsylvania who have died in the Iraq war. It also includes a display of 50 pairs of Iraqi shoes with names representing the Iraqi civilian deaths.

The Lehigh Valley Peace Coalition is working to bring the exhibit to the Lehigh Valley the weekend of October 7th. Locations are still being secured so if you have a suggestion please contact LEPOCO or Terry Briscoe.

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), an international social justice organization, originally created *Eyes Wide Open: The Human Cost of War* to illustrate the lives lost in the war in Iraq. The national exhibit now includes over 2600 pairs of combat boots representing US military deaths along with over 3000 pairs of shoes representing a small fraction of Iraqi civilians (over 45,000) who have been killed in the conflict. The national tour first opened with 500 pairs of boots and has been to over 60 cities across the country. The Pennsylvania exhibit started in 2005 and has been to over 14 cities around the state. The web site, www.AFSC.org/Pittsburgh, contains details and pictures of the exhibits at various locations. The pictures and stories illustrate the very positive impact of the exhibit.

The Lehigh Valley Peace Coalition is sponsoring the exhibit, which is free and open to the public. There will be a need for many people to staff the exhibit (after taking an orientation training to be listeners) and to set up and tear down the exhibit each day. If you can help, please call LEPOCO.

- Terry Briscoe

Securing the Realm

On Friday, July 21st, 350 truth seekers turned out at the Unitarian Church in Bethlehem to hear Scott Ritter and Ray McGovern talk about the disaster in Iraq and the very real possibility of further, and greater, disaster in Iran.

They are an interesting contrast in styles. Ritter is an in-your-face drill sergeant, clearly frustrated by the apparent indifference of the U.S. public to the terror and destruction being perpetrated by their government. "We are a warrior society," he said, "pre-programmed to accept war." He said that 6000 Iraqis died in just the past month, and 2.5 million died as a result of the economic sanctions during the Clinton administration. Even though it is now public knowledge that we were misled into this war, no one is being called to account. "There has been no political price to pay," he said. "So long as the Congress and Senate are staffed by those who voted yes, this war will not come to an end. Vote out everyone who voted yes!" Ritter's powerful emotional appeal was met by thunderous applause. He went on to say that war with Iran is inevitable, given our current leadership. "The goal of this administration is not peaceful resolution," he said, "It is regime change by force."

Ray McGovern is a more low-key, contemplative personality, though obviously driven by the same revulsion that Scott feels towards current foreign policy. Since he was a CIA analyst for 27 years, he started by giving a little background on the CIA and then explaining how it had been politicized and corrupted in recent years. Instead of being an agency designed to collect information to guide foreign policy, it's now being pushed to find data that can be used to support the ideology of the administration.

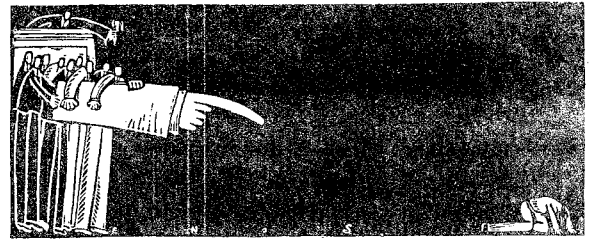
McGovern said there are two things everyone needs to understand about this war: 1) We in this country no longer have a free press and 2) The world is running out of oil. The war against Iraq, he said, is the first of the resource wars of the 21st Century.

Ray said he fears for our democracy. He urged everyone to get active and elect those who will end the war. Don't vote for anyone who equivocates on the war. "The hottest circles of hell," he said, quoting Dante, "are reserved for those who remain neutral in times of crisis."

In a recent interview published on www.truthout.org, McGovern talked about how the current administration has been taken over by people who, in the early 90's, were regarded by the CIA as "crazies." People like Paul Wolfowitz, Richard Perle, Cheney, Rumsfeld, and Eliot Abrams helped co-author a report in 1996 called, "A Clean Break: A New Strategy for Securing the Realm." It lays out, McGovern said, the policy that is being implemented now. They would go after Iraq, then Lebanon, then Iran, then Syria. "The plan is laid out there," McGovern said. "Anyone who

doesn't take that seriously dismisses it at their own peril."

- Mike Lawton



A Hidden Prison Nation

The United States contains 4.6% of the world's population and holds 23% of the world's prisoners, over 2.1 million, far more than any other nation, with an incarceration rate far higher than any nation. Over 2 million children have parents in prison. Within our borders exists a separate, hidden, prison nation.

From April to July of this year, I served a 90-day federal prison sentence for protesting the School of the Americas in Fort Benning, Georgia. I spent 14 days in "the hole," six days in Lehigh County Prison, and the remainder in the general population of the minimum security Schuylkill federal prison camp.

Lehigh County Prison was a disgrace, holding prisoners yet to be found guilty in punishing conditions, without reading materials, locked down for most of the day in spartan cells. All are treated with contempt, as guilty, by the guards. I was subjected to internal searches and strip searches, despite my objections. Cells were ripped apart by guards, and then left for the prisoners to rearrange. In population, there was a pathetic library, and no books may be sent to prisoners. The food is abysmal.

With our prisons at 107% capacity, a prisoner is a unit of production warehoused within a multi-billion dollar system that provides employment, is traded on the stock market, enriches corporations, and dishes out excellent salaries for a parasitic class of administrators. Judges hand out sentences of many years to people who are no of danger to society, and who have much to offer.

I remember the men I left behind, their good spirits in the midst of repression, their humanity despite the inhumanity of the conditions. I honor Naed Smith, Jane Hosking, John LeForge, Ken Crowley and Sr. Mary Dennis, still serving their sentences for the Fort Benning SOA protest, and Kevin McKee, serving over two years for his resolute, calm, and dignified refusal to pay taxes for war, and Luta and Joe and Eric and Ben and Lloyd and Stan and Footjoy and Ray and Cesar and Gustavo and all the famous men with whom I shared this time.

- Joe DeRaymond

A Thank You & A Welcome —

This is a thank you to Peter Crownfield for the passion and never-quit energy he brought to his position as LEPOCO's Youth and Militarism Coordinator during the past year. Specifically, we owe Peter that thanks because he determinedly challenged the military's access to our children by tenaciously working to expand counter-recruitment efforts at area high schools. Time and time again Peter refused to be brushed aside by school boards whose members were not interested in giving the peace community an opportunity to inform students of alternative ways they could serve their country, finance college or gain life skills other than thru military service.

Peter also championed the students' right to be informed and their rights in regards to what they can or cannot be required to do. He raised the alarm over the provision in the No Child Left Behind Act that requires schools to give the Pentagon students' personal information, and he pushed community members to demand that their high school provide students with a well-advertised opportunity to opt-out. Peter confronted school officials on the ASVAB test, letting them know that by cooperating with the military to disguise a recruiting assessment test as an aptitude test they were shirking their responsibility to protect and advise their students.

Perhaps, most importantly, we owe Peter our thanks because his work provides us with the framework we need to ensure that counter-recruiting efforts in the Lehigh Valley can continue to expand. This school year LEPOCO welcomes Stephanie Garman as our Youth and Militarism Coordinator. Stephanie has extensive experience working with adolescents, and became interested in working for LEPOCO on the counter-recruitment issue to fulfill the internship requirement for the Masters Degree in Sociology she is pursuing at Kutztown University.

An excellent way to express your appreciation for Peter's efforts is to welcome Stephanie by offering her your time and help!

- Maria Weick

Rally to Defend Constitution —

The ACLU of Pennsylvania is organizing a rally for the Constitution on Sunday, September 17, giving people from across the state an opportunity to speak out against the betrayals by the present administration. The Rally will be at 2:30 pm, on Independence Mall in Philadelphia. The lead speaker will be John Dean, former White House counsel and author of *Worse Than Watergate: The Secret Presidency of George W. Bush*. The ACLU lists the following abuses of the Bush Administration: unauthorized domestic wiretapping, illegal detentions, flagrant violations of human rights at Guantanamo, secret CIA kidnappings, torture, the chilling of peaceful dissent...and the list continues to grow. For more information call the ACLU at 215-592-1513.

Weekly Peace Vigils

Bethlehem: 4-5:30 pm, Thursdays, 3rd & Wyandotte Sts.
Contact: Vince Stravino 610-216-8103

Allentown: Noon-1 pm, Fridays, 5th & Hamilton Sts,
Rev. John Clint Fowler, 610-746-5013

Allentown: 4-6 pm, Fridays, 15th & Allen Sts.
Contact: Angela Morey 610-434-1489

Easton: 10-11 am, Saturdays, Centre Square
Contact: Reggie Regrut, 908-859-5632

Please attend as often as you are able!

JROTC Still an Issue in Easton

Oskar Castro, head of the Youth and Militarism program for American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) based in Philadelphia, will make a presentation to the Academics In Education Committee of the Easton Area School District, on Thursday, September 14, at 6:00 pm. The meeting will be at the Education Center for the school district, 1801 Bushkill Dr., Easton (take the 13th St. exit off of Rt. 22; turn left onto 13th St. at the stop light; turn left at the next stop light onto Bushkill Dr.; the Center is ¼ mile on your right). Oskar Castro is a long-time national organizer on issues around the military hazards facing young people. This is an important opportunity to hear his presentation and an opportunity to support those working to keep JROTC out of the Easton Area High School.

People, especially residents of the Easton Area School District, are also encouraged to speak at the next school board meeting on September 21 at the same Education Center. Please contact LEPOCO if you would like more information.



Friday and Saturday, September 22 and 23, the second Pennsylvania Renewable Energy and Sustainable Living Festival will be held at the Kempton Community Center in Kempton, 15 miles west of Allentown. There will be workshops with experts from across the U.S., working demonstrations of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies, and the opportunity to learn about sustainable agriculture. The admission is \$12 for adults, \$6 for young people, and children free. See www.paenergyfest.com for more info.

Responses to War

As this newsletter is prepared we look back on a summer that included the intense suffering of a war between Israel and Hezbollah in Lebanon while the war in Iraq has only grown more intense. The following are short reports on the wars and the responses of those seeking peace.

On June 22, U.S. Army First Lieutenant Ehren K. Watada became the first commissioned officer to publicly refuse deployment to the unlawful war in Iraq. He was formally charged with contempt toward Pres. Bush, conduct unbecoming an officer and missing movement. He faces more than seven years in prison - over five years for First Amendment speech alone!

On Aug. 17, Lt. Watada succeeded in placing the war on trial during a pre-trial hearing at Ft. Lewis, Washington. The Commanding General, Lieutenant General James Dubik will decide whether to proceed to court-martial on any or all charges. (The investigating officer recommended a general court martial on all charges - including five charges for political speech.) Contact Lt. Gen. Dubik at 253-967-1110 to urge that he not bring court martial proceedings against Lt. Watada.

"Who would have believed that conditions in Iraq would have sunk these past three and a half years into the chaos and violence that defines the country today? Hanna, an Iraqi friend recently wrote, 'My family is still alive, but I do not know what will happen tomorrow. We, all Iraqi people, need your prayers for it seems the end of the world will come soon.'"

Senior Fellow Rick McDowell, Friends Committee on National Legislation, Washington Newsletter, July-August 2006

"There is no way to change what Iraq has done to me. The scars are permanent, and I've grown tired of hiding them. It's time for the nation to start thinking about what it really means to support the troops. It's time to consider the full affects of this war on its participants and it's time to share the burden. The nation needs to know what war really does to its sons and daughters. The troops don't stop serving when they come home."

From an Op-ed by Eric Fair of Bethlehem, *The Morning Call*, 9/7/06

"In her book *Baghdad Diaries*, Nuha Al Radi described how fragile the birds were when the bombs dropped on Baghdad during the first Gulf War. I now understand just what she meant. Two days ago, when Israel dropped a barrage of bombs on the southern Beirut suburb of Dahidh, I happened to look out at a small area of trees after the first set of bombs crashed down with unimaginable force. There, I saw hundreds of birds take to the skies around their trees in a state of utter panic, flying every which way to escape the sound waves... Wars affect people and the environment in which they live. For every bomb that is dropped, thousands of smaller worlds die a small death."

From Op-ed by Rana El-Khatib, a poet living in Beirut, *The Morning Call*, 8/2/06

"For this was not just an Israeli invasion of Lebanon, it was an Israeli-American (sic) invasion. Israel is the largest recipient of U.S. aid, and has been so for decades. From 2001 to 2005, 'Israel received \$10.5 billion in Foreign Military Financing - the Pentagon's biggest military aid program - and \$6.3 billion in U.S. arms deliveries,' Frida Berrigan and William Hartung of the World Policy Institute wrote."

"The Israeli-American Invasion," *The Progressive*, Sept. 2006

"Here we have a Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice, who gazes at the rubble of Lebanon, at 600,000 refugees being strafed with cluster bombs, and squeaks happily that we are witnessing 'the birth pangs of a new Middle East.'"

Alexander Cockburn, "The Triumph of Crackpot Realism," *The Nation*, August 14/21, 2006

"A more permanent solution must be built upon negotiations with everyone in the area, including Syria, Iran and their militant movements (evil or not). Above all, it is long past time to negotiate a viable, self-governing Palestinian state that is accepted and guaranteed by all of the players in the area. Killing more Hizbollah and Lebanese civilians only increases the rage against Israel and its patron, the United States."

Peter G. Cohen, "Stop Indulging the Monster," 8/17/06. Peter says

he is a Jewish-American veteran of WWII, an artist and mural painter and the first Chairperson of LEPOCO. He now lives in Santa Barbara.

"Today, I will depart Chicago en route to Lebanon to join with Lebanese and internationals in seeking an end to the war." This opening line of an e-mail from Kathy Kelly of Voices for Creative Nonviolence, led the L.V. Peace Coalition, meeting on Aug. 10, to send a statement of support and a donation to Voices for their efforts.

"Uri Avnery is the founder of Gush Shalom (Peace Bloc). On August 5, he addressed 5000 people packed into Magen David Square in Tel Aviv: "We are the few facing the masses that thirst for war, but next month, or next year, every one of us will proudly proclaim: I was here! I called for a stop to this accursed war. And thousands who are cursing us now, next month, next year, will claim that they, too were here." "The Israeli Peace Movement: Light Among the Ruins," *Foreign Policy In Focus*, 9/8/06

"The tactics used by many Arab militants should be resoundingly condemned both for targeting innocents and for bringing disaster on their own peoples. Even so, underneath America's scorn for Hezbollah and Hamas lies an incredible racism that pretends to believe that no Arab could possibly have any legitimate grievance with Israel. Even as Israel smashes their nations into oblivion. To deliver a solution to this crisis from out of that racism is to birth a monster."

Ramzi Kysia as quoted in *Voices for Creative Nonviolence*, 8/06

On Aug. 2, a 14-person delegation, including Cindy Sheehan, Tom Hayden, and Medea Benjamin, traveled to Jordan to meet with official representatives of the largest Shiite coalition, the minority Sunni bloc, the secular parliamentary coalition, the Muslim Scholars Association and torture victims from Abu Ghraib. The common thread among this diverse group of Iraqis and U.S. citizens was a desire to set a timetable for the withdrawal of U.S. troops, to ensure no permanent bases in Iraq, and to secure a U.S. commitment to pay for rebuilding Iraq.

8/22/06 message from CodePink

"Before 9/11, the gap between CEOs of publicly traded companies and army privates was already a galling 190 to 1. Today, it is 308 to 1. The average army private makes \$25,000 a year. The average defense CEO makes \$7.7 million... While Army privates died overseas earning \$25,000 a year, David Brooks, the disgraced former CEO of body-armor maker DHB, made \$192 million in stock sales in 2004. He staged a reported \$10 million bat mitzvah for his daughter." Derrick Z. Jackson, "Soldiers Die, CEOs Prosper," *The Boston Globe*, 8/30/06, reporting on a study by the Institute for Policy Studies and United for a Fair Economy

Peace Camp 2006



(Top left) Janice Kay guides the Yellow Group so they can prepare the snack for the next day's camp.

(Top right) Lateef Cannon works with children in the Orange Group on a papier-mache craft project.

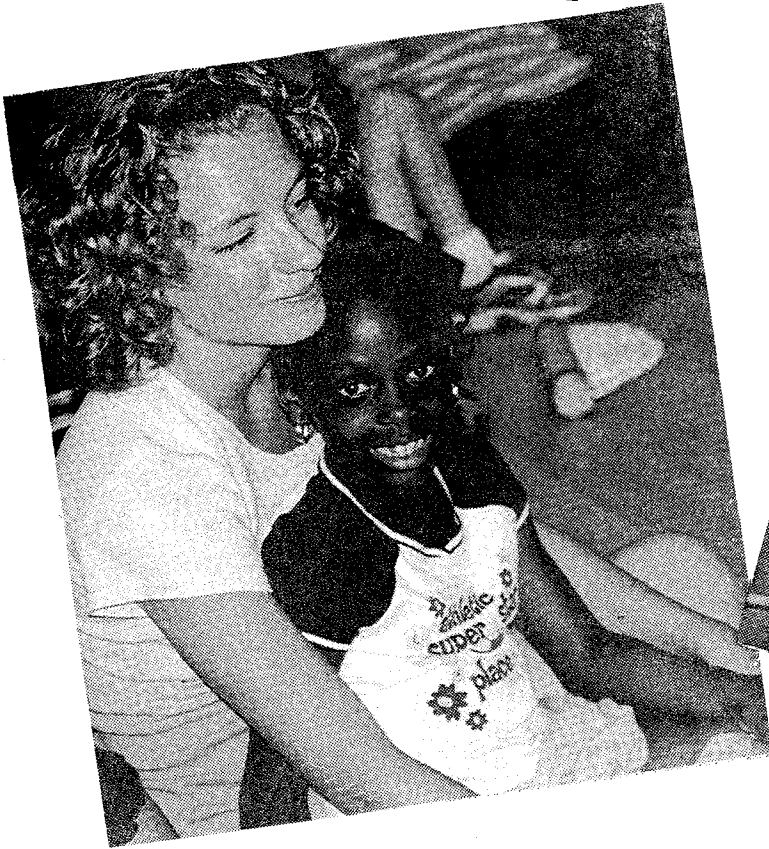
(Lower left) Eric Hunter was a favorite with boys in the Red Group for some fun.



(Lower right) Sayda Zelaya portrays Wangari Maathai, a winner of the Nobel Peace Prize from Kenya for the Green Group.

Photographs by Susan Ravitz. (See Over)

Peace Camp 2006



Over 60 children participated in Peace Camp (Young People Making Peace Summer Day Camp), July 24-28, at First Presbyterian Church in Allentown. Over 50 teenagers and adults helped make the camp possible each day, as leaders and helpers, as resource people, preparing snacks and the Friday luncheon, and doing other tasks. Thank you to First Presbyterian Church for the use of their space, to the Center for Humanistic Change for their special assistance, to the active Peace Camp Planning Committee, and Donna Hartmann, who led that Committee in the final weeks. It was a very successful camp. The follow-up for 2006 and beginning of planning for 2007 will start with meetings on Tuesdays, October 3rd and November 14th, both evenings at 7 pm, at the LEPOCO Peace Center, 313 W. 4th St., south Bethlehem. All those interested in joining this process are urged to attend.

(Top left) Anna Smith enjoys the company of Tonja Butler, both of the Purple Group.

(Top right) Two boys from the Yellow Group enjoy the drumming circle led by Meg Deak on Wednesday.

(Bottom right) The Rose Group poses for their special photograph.



The Struggle Shared

...I believe that if you really want to change the world, you can. You must be clear and very conscious of the actions you decide to take to bring about the change you seek. It isn't magical and it isn't mystical... If you want to live in a better world you have to decide to act to create that world.

- Jody Williams, Land Mine Ban Organizer
Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, 1997

MAYORS ACKNOWLEDGE "AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH" - For several weeks during July, the 19th Street Theatre in Allentown presented "An Inconvenient Truth," the feature-length film featuring Al Gore's incisive documentary on global warming. The show on July 21st was occasioned by the appearance of the mayors of the Lehigh Valley's three major cities, endorsing the U.S. Conference of Mayor's Climate Protection agreement.

The text of the proclamation cites actions that cities across the nation are taking to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through a plethora of programs to provide economic and quality of life benefits to urban residents, including reduced energy bills, preservation of green space, improved air quality, reduced traffic congestion, economic development, and job creation through energy conservation and new sustainable technologies.

Addressing the crowd of environmentalists gathered at the theatre, Ed Pawlowski, Mayor of Allentown, spoke of the success of the city's recycling program and plans to install solar panels on some city buildings to supply electric power to facilities, as well as the local grid. Similarly, Bethlehem's Mayor John Callahan talked about the importance of the city's recycling program and efforts to capture methane from the water treatment facility. Easton Mayor Phil Mitman spoke of his personal commitment to environmental protection and the non-partisan draw of the issue.

Source: *The Bethlehem Regurgitator*, edited by Peter Christine.

ANNUAL FAITH IN ACTION AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY - Once again the Lehigh Valley Chapter of Amnesty International is coor-

inating local response to the International's call for a weekend of focused consciousness-raising activity around the death penalty. October 20-22 are the dates for a flurry of activity in churches, synagogues, community centers, sidewalks and living rooms across the country.

The local Amnesty Chapter has some resources available to help you organize an event, including a DVD of "The Exonerated," a powerful film featuring the stories of six former death-row inmates who have been exonerated of their capital offenses. If you would like to use this DVD, call Maria Weick at 610-346-8793.

On October 7th there will be a Rally for a Moratorium on the Death Penalty in Pennsylvania, in Harrisburg. This is being organized by Amnesty College Initiatives, centered at Penn State. Local college affiliates will be connected and the Lehigh Valley Chapter will coordinate bus or carpool information.

On November 1st, the Chaplain's Office at Lehigh University is sponsoring a forum on the death penalty with Sister Helen Prejean, outspoken advocate for abolition of the death penalty. She is featured in the popular film, *Dead Man Walking*.

So, put your faith into action to abolish the murders by the state of those the state holds responsible for the crime of murder. Keep asking, "Why do we kill people who are killing people, to show that killing people is wrong?"

WOMEN NOBEL LAUREATES ORGANIZE FOR PEACE - The Summer 2006 issue of *Ms. Magazine* features an article, "The Peacemongers," about the efforts of five women, all recipients of the Nobel Prize for Peace, to unite women's and

peace groups around the world to avert a war against Iran.

In the 105-year history of the Nobel Peace Prize, only twelve times has the award been given to a woman. Seven of those women are still alive. One, Aung San Suu Kyi, remains under house arrest in Burma. Five of the others, Jody Williams, of the U.S.A., Shirin Abadi from Iran, Betty Williams of Northern Ireland, Wangari Maathai of Kenya, and Rigoberta Menchu Tum of Guatemala, formed the Nobel Women's Initiative in April 2006.

Their first step was to convene a meeting of U.S. and Iranian NGO leaders in Vienna in June to develop a strategy to build international pressure to convince the U.S. and Iranian Governments that negotiation and compromise are better alternatives to war. The NGO leaders in Vienna met with International Atomic Energy Agency officials to press for greater dialogue, stand firm on the inspection process, and especially discourage the use of nuclear "bunker-buster" weapons by the U.S. to destroy Iran's nuclear capability.

In both the U.S. and in Iran, public opinion is overwhelmingly opposed to war. In May tens of thousands of petitions were delivered to both the White House and Donald Rumsfeld's home, appealing for no military action against Iran. And in Tehran, thousands of university students took to the streets chanting, "We don't want nuclear power!" The protests were put down by 500 riot police and 25 students were wounded.

Jody Williams speaks eloquently for the Nobel Women's Initiative: "What we are calling for is quite simple: a nonviolent resolution of the standoff between the U.S. and Iran... We do not want to see another Iraq, and more disruption in the volatile and fragile Middle East. We do not want to see more suffering among women and children..."

- Jeff Vitelli

Financial Report 2005

Income

Donations/Dues	\$ 4797.45
Pledges	11545.00
Phonathon	7006.60
July Fund Appeal Letter	12795.00
(Gross Sales \$2307.13) Peace Boutique Sales	522.05 (net)
(Gross Sales \$1063.45) SERRV Crafts	-163.23 (net)
Bike/Walkathon	1840.75
(Gross 1237.28) Yard Sale	1137.04 (net)
Annual Dinner	3459.00
(Gross 630.02) Art Raffle	630.02 (net)
(Gross 4485.00) Buses to DC on 9/24/05	598.00 (net)
Tee Shirt Project	22.64
Farmers Market on South Side Bethlehem	22.00
Marx in Soho Play	115.00
Theater Party (Working)	136.20
Spanish Workshop Donations	152.00
PPL Stock Dividend	1.83
PAX World Fund Dividend	8.04
Citizens Trust Money Market Interest	39.39
Transfer from Citizen Trust Acct.	7000.00
Grant from Brenner Fund	500.00
TOTAL INCOME	52284.78

Expenses

Coordinators (Gross Wages)	\$30326.73
Occupancy Cost	4525.15
Telephone	2018.16
Newsletter	3066.67
Liability Insurance	778.00
Workers Compensation Insurance	232.00
Fire Insurance	211.00
Paper	1491.94
Copier Maintenance & Supplies	1082.04
Laser Printer Supplies	86.91
Computer On-Line Fees	137.11
Off-Set Press Repair & Supplies	127.19
Grass Mowing & Snow Removal	125.00
Miscellaneous Office Expenses	49.66
Office Supplies	484.87
Postage, Stamps for Mailings Besides Newsletter	1340.36
Dues Notices & Fund Appeal Notes	403.02
DVD's & Videos for Fund Appeal	220.00
Phonathon Expenses	80.57
Annual Dinner Program Expense	1140.58
Annual Dinner Food Expense	529.94
Bike/Walkathon Expenses	83.13
Lehigh Valley Peace Coalition	372.60
Americas Solidarity Group	146.70
Middle East Peace Group	22.20
Lehigh Valley Committee Against State Killing	2.10
Nuclear Abolition Sisters	3.95
Youth & Militarism Supplies	263.85
Iraq Veterans Against War (Share: 2005 Bikeathon)	878.80
Alliance for Sustainable Communities Ad	25.00
Tent for use at Fairs and Festivals	84.79
Bill of Rights Defense Committee of Lehigh Valley	209.85
Martin Luther King Observance	21.60
Hiroshima-Nagasaki Observance	48.49
Peace Singers	39.55
Potluck & Politics Programs	86.18
Registration Fees for Fairs & Festivals	110.00
Literature Purchases	79.00
Donation to WRL for Ad in Booklet	100.00
Donation: Nazareth/Bethlehem Peace Pilgrimage	75.00
Miscellaneous	117.80
TOTAL EXPENSES	51201.12

Editor's Note: LEPOCO's advisor to our treasurers, Tom Stinnett, was finally able to balance the Yearly Financial Reports of 2004 and 2005. The 2005 report is printed here. 2004 is available if you would like to see a copy contact LEPOCO.

Account Balances

	1/1/05	12/31/05
Checking	\$9216.55	\$11160.02
Citizens Trust Money Market Acct	2456.47	2574.36
L.V. WTR Life Fund	1080.28	1080.28
Petty Cash	125.00	125.00
Liabilities	- 10596.95	- 11601.02
	2281.35	3338.64
	Net Gain \$1057.29	

The Hare Bequest Account Balance is \$25,430.44 as of 12/31/05. It is held in the Citizens Trust Index Account. This account decreased in value by \$4358.10 in 2005 (\$7000 of which was a transfer from the fund to the Checking Accts).

The LEPOCO account with PAX World Fund had a balance, as of 12/31/05, of \$1816.95. This account increased by \$84.11 in 2005.

Liability & Special Accounts

Sales Tax: \$115.11 Cuba Caravan: \$100.00 Haiti Fund: \$85.00 Share the Wealth: \$157.68

Peace Camp: \$5156.91 (This is a \$295.32 decrease over the 1/1/05 balance. During 2005, there was \$1788.00 in income and \$1208.32 in expenses.)

Youth & Militarism-A.J. Muste Grant: \$904.67 (An additional grant of \$1000 was received in 2005. \$478.85 was spent for supplies.)

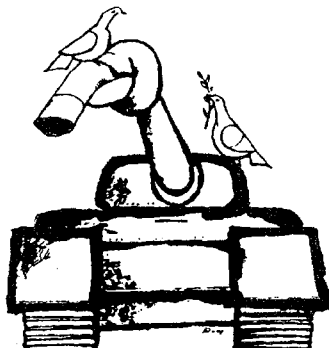
Barbara Lloyd NV Resistance Fund: \$2046.81 (Plans for this fund were announced in the June-July 2006 Newsletter.)

Travel to the Americas: \$192.40 (\$0.00 was spent on mailings about this effort.)

Arlene Wallach Memorial Fund: \$265.00 (Following the death of our dear friend Arlene Wallach a fund was set up in her name. We have not established what this fund will be used for.)

Jim Schneider Memorial Fund: \$1578.00 (Following the death of our dear friend Jim Schneider a fund was set up in his name. We have not established what this fund will be used for.)

Payroll Liabilities: \$999.44 (This includes taxes collected for staff that has not been sent into the various government entities as of the end of the year.)



Bits & Pieces

Ⓐ While many had expected that the first big shifts in population due to climate change would come to island nations in the South Pacific, the Earth Policy Institute warns that the first massive migration of climate refugees has been that of people moving away from the U.S. Gulf Coast. Institute president Lester Brown said that the approximately quarter of a million people who fled the devastation of Hurricane Katrina last year, and will not return, should now be considered "refugees." The report warns that if carbon dioxide emissions are not reduced, the number of climate refugees would "one day number in the millions."

- "Earthweek: A Diary of the Planet," by Steve Newman, *The Intelligencer*, 8/20/06

Ⓐ A Community Power! Conference will be held Sat., Sept. 30, 9 am to 5 pm, at Stiteler Aud., Murphy Hall, Arcadia Univ., 450 S. Easton Rd., Glenside, PA. It will offer community solutions for peak oil and global warming. Cost is \$35 at the door or \$26 by Sept. 15. To register see www.poex.org.

Ⓐ The Center for Ethics at Muhlenberg College will offer another outstanding group of programs this fall under the theme, "What Does Freedom Mean?". Among the speakers will be Eric Foner on "The Story of the American Freedom," on Thurs., Sept. 21, at 7 pm, Miller Forum, Moyer Hall. On Wed., Sept. 27, Rabbi David Saperstein will speak at the same time and place. More information can be found at www.muhlenberg.edu/cultural/ethics.

Ⓐ Several people have raised very public questions about the presence of military recruiters at Musikfest. The community dialogue has been really lively. Thank you to those who wrote letters to the editor and all those who raised questions with the recruiters directly.

Ⓐ Some of the interesting Op-eds in *The Morning Call* this summer include: "Nation Must Wean Itself From Fossil Fuel Dependence," and "Biofuels Can Capture Sun's Energy, Reduce Need for Oil," both by Tony Verbalis on 7/13/06 and 9/6/06, respectively; "It Pays To Be Fuel Efficient and Reduce Carbon Dioxide," by Jim Shackelford on 8/24/06; and "Nationalism, Not Islam, Motivates Most Suicide Terrorists," by Gary Olson, on 9/5/06.

Ⓐ A Green Café Retrospective will be held on Sun., Oct. 1, at 6 pm, to benefit the Green Party Campaign of Greta Browne for the U.S. Congress. Music will feature Jason Hedrington and food from the menu of the old Café. A donation of \$30 to \$50 per person is requested. Reservations at greta_browne@hotmail.com or 610-865-9050. For more info. see www.greta2006.org.

Ⓐ America Votes Pennsylvania has an office at 502 E. 4th St., Bethlehem. They are busy every day working to register voters for this fall's election. If you want to help contact Guillermo Lopez at 610-861-4753.

Ⓐ The 7th Annual Peace Fair at Buckingham Friends Meeting and School near Peddlers Village in Bucks County, will be held Sat., Sept. 23, 11 am to 4 pm (rain or shine). This is a lively gathering with music, food and a multitude of displays by peace organizations. LEPOCO has had a peace boutique table each year. If you would like to help staff it please call 610-691-8730. Please consider attending the fair in any case.

MEETINGS...MEETINGS...MEETINGS...MEETINGS...

Wed., Sept. 13, Noon: Americas Solidarity Group meeting at Peace Center.

Tues., Sept. 19, 7 pm: Lehigh Valley Peace Coalition meeting at the LEPOCO Peace Center.

Sun., Sept. 24, 7 pm: LEPOCO Peace Singers rehearse at home of Martha and Peter Christine, Bethlehem.

Mon., Oct. 2, 6 pm: LEPOCO Fundraising Committee Meeting at Peace Center.

Mon., Oct. 2, 7 pm: LEPOCO Steering Committee Meeting at Peace Center.

Tues., Oct. 3, 7-8:30 pm: Peace Camp Planning Committee meeting at Peace Center.

Wed., Oct. 4, 8:30 am: Lehigh Valley Committee Against State Killing meeting at LEPOCO Peace Center.

Mon., Oct. 9, 7 pm: LEPOCO Monthly Action Meeting at Peace Center. All members and friends welcome!

Ⓐ Footage shot by Jim Schneider of local peace activity around the Iraq war will be part of a presentation titled "Democracy" at the Philadelphia Art Museum on Sun., Sept. 24, at 2:30 pm. Many of you have seen some of the footage in LEPOCO film presentations at the Annual Dinner in 2005 and 2006. The program is free with a ticket after regular museum admission which is pay what you will on Sunday. Call 215-235-SHOW for free tickets. This is an appropriate honor for Jim Schneider's work for peace. Jim died in early 2005.

Ⓐ Wages make up the lowest percent of the national domestic product since such statistics first were collected in 1947.

- Ann McFeatters, "White House Watch," 9/2/06, *The Intelligencer*

Ⓐ On Tues., Sept. 19, Pres. George W. Bush will be in New York City to deliver his defense of the disastrous Iraq War to the United Nations. United for Peace & Justice is planning a demonstration to say "No" to the policies of endless war-mongering. See www.unitedforpeace.org for more info. or contact LEPOCO if you would like to pool transportation.

Ⓐ An art exhibit on the theme Activism/Patriorism, is at the Barone Gallery, 19 N. 7th st., Perkasio, through Oct. 7th. Gallery hours are: Thurs. 11-8; Fri and Sat. 11-5. Call 215-453-1208 for more info.



LEPOCO

Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern
313 W. Fourth St., Bethlehem, PA 18015
(610) 691-8730

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 617
Bethlehem, PA

See Inside

- Page 1
Colombia Photos
- Page 2
Hiroshima
Remembrance
- Page 3
Peace Picnic
Popcorn & Politics
Yard Sale
- Pages 4
Dent Nine
- Page 5
Declare Peace
Eyes Wide Open
- Page 6
Securing the Realm
Hidden Prisons
- Page 7
Thank You
JROTC in Easton
Energy Festival
ACLU Rally
- Page 8
Responding to War
- Page 9 & 10
Peace Camp
- Page 11
The Struggle Shared
- Page 13
Bits & Pieces

Resistance Unarmed
Photographic Exhibition about Colombia's
Peace Communities

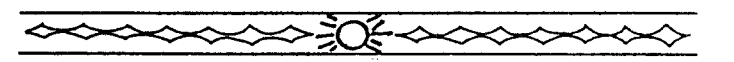
September 29-December 10
Girdler Gallery, University Center
Lehigh University, Bethlehem

Opening Reception: Friday, September 29, 6-8 pm
See page 1 for more information.

**Eyes Wide Open
Across Pennsylvania**
An exhibit memorializing the U.S.
soldiers from Pennsylvania who
have died in the Iraq War

October 6-9
At several locations in the
Lehigh Valley
Please see page 5.

LEPOCO YARD SALE
Saturday, September 16, 8:30 am -1 pm
CACLV's Forte Bldg., 5th & Williams St., south Bethlehem
Donations accepted Wed., Thurs., & Fri.
See page 3 for more information.



Sat., Sept. 23, 5 pm
**Party to Honor Dent 9
and their lawyers**
Home of Martricia
McLaughlin & Bob Glazer
College Hill, Easton
See page 4 for directions & more
information.

Thurs., Sept. 14, 6 pm
Oskar Castro
Youth & Militarism Staff, AFSC
Education Center,
1801 Bushkill Dr., Easton
**The Reasons to
Question JROTC**
See page 7.

In Washington, D.C.:
September 5 to 20
Camp Democracy
Non-stop Anti-War Presence on
The Mall as Congress meets before
the fall election
See page 8.

September 21 to 28
Declaration of Peace
Vigils, rallies, demonstrations &
civil disobedience across the U.S.
against the U.S. occupation of Iraq
See page 5.