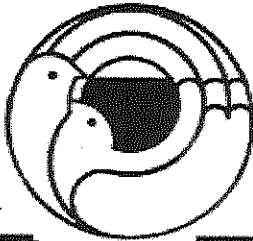


January-February
2019
Vol. 54 No. 1



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

Come to the Peace Camp Party!

Get ready to sing familiar songs, play games, do crafts, dance, learn some new peacemaking skills, and eat party food!

On Saturday, January 26, from 9 am to noon, there will be a celebration of Peace Camp at the First Presbyterian Church, in Allentown. Last year, there was so much laughter and creativity crammed into the three hour snippet of Peace Camp, that we wanted to do it AGAIN! What a joy it was, to watch families enjoying, together, the unique experience that Peace Camp offers. Children and their significant adults are invited to attend and participate in the varied Peace oriented activities. Experienced peace campers and potential new peace campers are invited to attend. What a refreshing, warm, welcomed break from winter, it will be.

Call the LEPOCO office, 610-691-8730, for more information and to register your family. There are no age limits, if adults plan to stay with their children for the festivities.

- Amanda Zaniesienko

LEPOCO Annual Dinner

When LEPOCO members and friends gather for the Annual Dinner this year on Saturday, March 23, a lifelong activist will bring a message of nonviolence; our speaker, Frida Berrigan, has been protesting war, including a childhood arrest, since she was very young. Frida, daughter of Elizabeth McAlister and Phil Berrigan, and niece of the Father Dan Berrigan, grew up in Jonah House, a peace community in Baltimore. Today, she writes a column for Waging Nonviolence, "Little Insurrections" (wagingnonviolence.org), and she is the author of the book, *It Runs in the Family: On Being Raised by Radicals and Growing into Rebellious Motherhood*.

For 2019, LEPOCO is returning to a familiar site for its fundraising event; the Cathedral Church of the Nativity, 321 Wyandotte St., Bethlehem. As always, a vegetarian meal prepared primarily by volunteers, will be served; doors will open at 6 pm. (Note that this start time is an hour later than has been customary in recent years.)

Frida's mother and father lived a life of anti-war activism that resulted in frequent arrests and jail sentences. Just last year, Elizabeth McAlister was arrested for participating in an action at a nuclear submarine base.

In one of her columns, Frida described telling her three children that their grandmother is in jail. She

explained what her mother did. "My mom, Liz McAlister, who turned 78 in November, had been arrested deep inside the King's Bay Naval Base in St. Mary's, Georgia, in the early hours of Wednesday morning. Along with six friends, she carried banners, statements, hammers and blood onto the base. They started their action on April 4: the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King's assassination."

Frida's husband, Patrick Sheehan-Gaumer, is also carrying forward family tradition. His parents are Joanne Sheehan and Rick Gaumer, founders of the New England chapter of the War Resisters League and longtime friends of LEPOCO.

In addition to her work around nonviolence, Frida and her family live below the poverty line, grow vegetables, and conserve natural resources. She is the office manager for FRESH New London (Connecticut), an organization dedicated to transforming the food system. In the past, she has worked with Bill Hartung at the World Policy Institute and New America.

In addition to Frida's presentation, LEPOCO will conduct elections and the very popular raffle of tradition. The LEPOCO Peace Chorus will bring their musical talents to the evening.

- Janet Ney

LEPOCO Annual Dinner:

Saturday, March 23, 2019

Episcopal Cathedral Church of the Nativity
Third & Wyandotte Sts., Bethlehem

(Social at 6 pm; Dinner at 6:30 pm)

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

Name _____

Phone _____

_____ Mail tickets to:

Address _____

Zip _____

_____ Hold tickets at door.

*Dinner tickets by advance reservation only.
Program-only tickets available at the door.*

Annual Dinner Tickets: \$35 - Regular Adult;
\$75 - Special Supporter; \$10 - Limited Income Adult / Child;
\$10 - Program-only, regular; \$5 - Program-only, lim. income

Return to: LEPOCO, 313 W. 4th St., Bethlehem, PA 18015
or call 610-691-8730 to confirm your reservation.

The Work of L.V.-CASK

The Lehigh Valley Committee Against State Killing (L.V.-CASK) was formed as a LEPOCO Working Group in 1996. Since its founding, members of CASK have participated in rallies against capital punishment on the steps of the state capital and local courthouses, personally lobbied state senators and representatives, both in Harrisburg and at their local offices, been present at legislative hearings on abolishing the death penalty, hosted former death row inmates as speakers throughout the Lehigh Valley, attended national conferences and training sessions on the issue, written numerous letters to the editor opposing capital punishment, and maintained a clipping file on the issue gleaned from local, national and international publications.

When L.V.-CASK was founded, Governor Thomas Ridge was signing a flurry of death warrants and Pennsylvania had the fourth largest death row in the nation. The death penalty was an election issue that candidates for public office would use to show their support for fighting crime and while most religious groups had taken positions against capital punishment, there were no studies done of its cost, effectiveness, fairness, or its wrongful convictions.

While Pennsylvania still has the Death Penalty on the books there have been many positive developments over the past twenty years. Pennsylvania now has three studies which present the problems with the Death Penalty, the "Final Report of the PA State Supreme Court Committee on Racial and Gender Bias in the Criminal Justice System" (2001), The American Bar Association's "PA Death Penalty Assessment Report" (2007), and the "Pennsylvania Joint State Government Commission Task Force and Advisory Committee: Capital Punishment in Pennsylvania" (2017).

Pennsylvania has had only three executions since the death penalty was reinstated, all of which only occurred when the appeal process was waived at the request of the inmate. Pennsylvania has not had an execution since 1999 and the current governor has indicated that he will not sign death warrants under the current system. Pennsylvania's death row has greatly diminished with numerous death sentences overturned through the outstanding work of the Atlantic Center for Capital Representation in Philadelphia. Six persons who had been sentenced to death in Pennsylvania have been exonerated and released, proving false the common assumption that the death penalty is flawless.

While those of us who have been involved with CASK would like to be able to say that our work is done because the death penalty is abolished in Pennsylvania we must admit that there is still more work to be done until that day comes to pass. We must also admit that this work is beyond the ability of our small group of stalwart members to complete. With the possibility of executions during the next few years close to null, our committee has decided that L.V.-CASK will

suspend holding meetings and planning events for the foreseeable future. We hope that the work we have done has in some small way, helped bring us closer to the day when Pennsylvania has removed this useless, expensive, unfair, barbaric and cruel punishment from its books. If you have questions or concerns about this decision please talk with members of the committee or contact that LEPOCO Office.

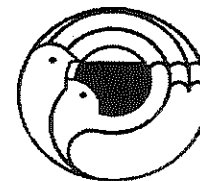
- David Rose

Remembering Pat Summers

Editors Note: In late October I read a notice in the newspaper that the Lehigh County Coroner was looking for the next-of-kin for Patricia Summers. I called people who had known her best and it was determined that this was indeed the Pat Summers who had been active in peace work locally. There was no other notice of her death published locally so we asked Rick Dow to share some memories of the life of this peace activist. - Nancy Tate

I met Pat Summers in 1986 while she was a participant in The Great Peace March for Global Nuclear Disarmament. The March was a cross-country event aimed at raising awareness to the growing danger of nuclear proliferation and to advocate for complete, verifiable elimination of nuclear weapons from the earth. The GPM consisted of hundreds of people who walked from L.A. to Washington, D.C., leaving Los Angeles on March 1, 1986, and arriving in Washington, D.C., on November 15, 1986, a journey of about 3,700 miles. Along the way announcements were made seeking relief

(continued on page 7)



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 \$10

Household Membership \$45

Supporting Member \$75

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

Newsletter Staff: Tom Stinnett, Nancy Tate, Martin Boksenbaum, Amanda Zaniesienko, Carol Baylor.

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

LEPOCO Steering Committee: Carol Baylor, Mick Baylor, Terry Briscoe, Sharlee DiMenichi, Julius Iwantsch (co-treasurer), Nancy Johnston, Christine Loch, Dan Miller, Janet Ney, Jim Orben, Stefan Rogers, Scott Slingerland, Tom Stinnett (co-treasurer), Nancy Tate (ex-officio), and Amanda Zaniesienko (ex-officio).

Popcorn & Politics

Friday, February 1st, 7 pm

"Faubourg Tremé: The Untold Story of Black New Orleans"

A Popcorn & Politics Film projected on the big screen
at the LEPOCO Peace Center, 313 W. 4th St., (south) Bethlehem.

This documentary details the rich existence of the oldest black neighborhood in the U.S., and its significance as the origin of the southern Civil Rights Movement and the birthplace of jazz.

Filming for the documentary began in 2000, but was completed post Hurricane Katrina.

Directed by Dawn Logsdon. Written by Lolis Eric Elie. 68 minutes. 2008.

Please bring a snack or beverage to share.

Friday, March 1st, 7 pm

"Emma Goldman"

A Popcorn & Politics Film projected on the big screen
at the LEPOCO Peace Center, 313 W. 4th St., (south) Bethlehem.

This American Experience (PBS) documentary describes Emma Goldman as dedicated to "free speech, free thought and free love." Goldman was a Russian emigrant and a famous lecturer and writer who fervently attacked government, big business and war.

Written & Directed by Mel Bucklin. 53 minutes. 2004.

Please bring a snack or beverage to share.

More Upcoming films in P&P/First Friday Film series: April 5 - "Scarred Lands & Wounded Lives: The Environmental Footprint of War";
May 3 - "The Garden"; June 7 - "Carla's Song"; July 5 - "The Visitor"; August 2 - "The Man Who Saved the World";
September 6 - "Okinawa: The Afterburn."



MLK's Profound Moral Vision

LEPOCO's January 15th homage to Dr. M. L. King, Jr., was a program focusing attention on and support for MLK's vision of solidarity with the poor and oppressed, while at the same time remembering how that vision included being profoundly opposed to the war in Vietnam -- King succinctly linked the three evils of racism, extreme materialism, and militarism. The centerpiece of the program was a Tavis Smiley Film Production, "MLK: A Call to Conscience," which examines Dr. King's Riverside Church speech in light of reflective interviews with notable people close to and/or knowledgeable about Dr. King's public opposition to the war in that 1967 speech, and the resultant public furor over it.

The program was held at Godfrey Daniels in Bethlehem. About 50 people attended. LEPOCO's Peace Singers opened the program with Civil Rights-era songs, "Woke Up This Morning," and "Down by the Riverside," and ended on a song of optimism, "Higher Ground." The program was facilitated by Susie Ravitz, and Monica McAgnon and Elizabeth Griner led the discussion after the film.

Thanks to Dave Fry and Ramona LaBarre for welcoming us to Godfrey Daniels; to the Peace Singers; to

Tom Stinnett for technical support; to those who offered comments after the film. Thanks also to all those who came out on such a cold night in support of MLK's most profound moral vision.

- Monica McAgnon

Peace & Justice Scholars at Moravian

Moravian College is hosting two special Peace & Justice Scholars in Residence, January 28-31. Emiko Okada is a survivor of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. She speaks about her experience and advocates for the elimination of nuclear weapons. Steve Leeper has been working for the abolition of nuclear weapons since 1998. He has worked for Mayors for Peace and now works for the Hibakusha Appeal Campaign. They will deliver a public lecture on Wednesday, January 30, at 7 pm, "Life Under the Mushroom Cloud: Peace-building & Activism," in Prosser Aud., HUB, at Moravian College.

Also, a small group of LEPOCO folks will meet with Emiko Okada and Steve Leeper for a luncheon discussion at the Peace Center, at noon on Tuesday, January 29. If you would like to join this discussion, please contact LEPOCO (610-691-8730).

•••••

... and on the International Front: COP24 on Climate _____

On a scale of 1 to 10, 10 being the best chance and 1 the worst, how do you rate our chances of making it through the climate crisis unscathed?

What, you say, we're already being scathed? All over the world? You've been seeing story after story in the newspapers, on TV, on the radio, on blogs, social media, you name it? Where have I been? Catastrophe after catastrophe after catastrophe? And we have twelve years to get things sorted out or we're going down the toilet?

Well, I have to admit, things do look *kinda* bleak.

Indeed, at the recently concluded COP24 conference held in Katowice, Poland (Dec 2-15, 2018), the nations of the world were still politicking about what actions to take vis-à-vis the task they agreed to 24 years ago: preventing dangerous human interference with Earth's climate system. [COP24 was the 24th annual Conference of the Parties (COP) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) adopted at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992.]

While there was discussion of what would be needed to meet the assessments to be made in 2020 of actions taken ("COP24 Stocktake on Pre-2020 Implementation and Ambition"), there's still uncertainty about what actions, if any, nations will actually take, either individually or collectively.

If we look at the Polish government's COP24 website, cop24.gov.pl, for their take on COP24, it's all good, "The Global Climate UN - COP24 in Katowice ended in success. . . we have a global climate agreement."

On the other hand, the view from India was less than euphoric. Kuwar Singh points out that there was a watering down of the 2015 Paris Agreement's principle of equity, according to which developed countries would provide financial resources to developing countries to help them mitigate and adapt to the risks posed by climate change (12/16/18 article by Kuwar Singh, "Why the latest climate summit is a mixed bag for India").

And there were other shenanigans, like four oil-exporting countries -- the US, Russia, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait -- blocking formal endorsement of the landmark scientific report of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that was released in October 2018. And then there's the gap between targets set by individual countries to reduce their carbon emissions and the targets the UN Environment Program says will be needed -- collectively, targets will need to be raised three times to limit global warming to 1.5°C.

The politicking continues.

And what is there for the rest of us to do?

Some of us proceed with a combination of fatalism, a stopping-to-smell-the-roses enjoyment of our still beautiful planet, and personal commitment to carry on the fight. Like climate change researcher Dahr Jamail, having surrendered and accepted the inevita-

bility of the world's desperate situation, he finds meaning in caring for the small piece of land where he lives, nonetheless he feels "obliged to work to serve and care for the planet with as much assiduity, tenacity and devotion as I am capable of." ("In the Face of Extinction, We Have a Moral Obligation," *Truthout*, 12/3/18.)

Others of us, like fifteen-year-old Greta Thunberg of Sweden who spoke at COP24 on behalf of the world's youth climate movement, look to "the people" to do what's needed:

So we have not come here to beg the world leaders to care for our future. They have ignored us in the past and they will ignore us again. We have come here to let them know that change is coming whether they like it or not. The people will rise to the challenge.

Rob Hopkins, founder of the Transition movement, also doesn't expect governments to actually lead in addressing climate change. He looks to communities to lead the way to resilience: "successful national and international responses are all more likely in an environment where community responses are abundant and vibrant." (*The Transition Handbook*, 2008-9: 76)

Well, communities *are* leading the way wherever they are battling to say no to unwanted oil and gas extraction, processing, and infrastructure building. Like when they enact Community Bills of Rights and Rights of Nature ordinances, as Grant Township, PA, did, with the help of the Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund (CELDF), in its fight against fracking wastewater injection wells. And, communities are leading the fight against the many pipelines, like PennEast.

Naomi Klein, expecting governments to follow the logic and imperatives of capitalism thereby continuing to do ecologically wrong things, looks to the communities that are building the next, regeneration-based economies (*This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Climate*, 2014): *The really inconvenient truth is that it's not about carbon -- it's about capitalism. The convenient truth is that we can seize this existential crisis to transform our failed economic system and build something radically better.*

What are you willing to put your efforts into?

- Martin Boksenbaum

A holiday letter from peace activist Marge Van Cleef contained these words of wisdom: "We are desperately attempting to 'stay sane' in these days when the cruelty and oppression against our brothers and sisters is stunning. They are the ones thinking they would find safety here. But they are treated worse than thieves -- herded into outdoor cages, or prison/detention centers.

And our environment has been sold to the corporations, the ones who think they can have the last word. But let's listen to the women in Argentina:

When everyone was terrorized we didn't stay at home crying - we went to the streets to confront them directly. We were mad, but it was the only way to stay sane.

- The Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, Argentina, 1994

Fair Districts – The Struggle Continues

On December 1st, I attended a Town Hall, in Harrisburg, entitled, “Reclaiming Our Democracy.” This day of speeches was organized by Fair Districts PA. More than 250 people attended.

The Town Hall was called to set a Fair Districts PA agenda of activities for the coming year. The primary goal is to set up one independent commission for redistricting. Fair Districts is fighting for fair and just elections – elections where every vote counts.

Districts in Pennsylvania have been unfairly gerrymandered to such a despicable degree that incumbents are virtually guaranteed re-election. And, of course, that is the goal of those who presently draw these maps.

Fair Districts has had its set-backs in 2018. But, the fight continues. The state Supreme Court gave us a taste of what fair districts in Pennsylvania could mean with a decision that led to the redrawing of the Pennsylvania districts for U.S. Congress seats. But, that new map is only temporary since the Pennsylvania legislature was unable to pass legislation setting up an independent commission to redraw the state’s districts after the 2020 census. Indeed, the gerrymandered legislative districts for the state legislature were not even affected by the Supreme Court decision.

On Thursday, February 21st, 6-9 pm, the Fair Districts PA team is sponsoring a Lehigh Valley town hall at Muhlenberg College. Come and join us in our fight for fair elections. (It will be live-streamed to other colleges across the state.)

The Shared Premise of Fair Districts: “...elections should represent the will of all the people, not just the politicians, and should provide citizens with meaningful choices in electing representatives. When partisan politicians manipulate voting maps to keep themselves and their parties in power, they shape election outcomes before the first vote is cast. When that happens, voters feel that they have no choice and legislators feel less need to listen to the constituents.

“We believe Pennsylvania needs to reform its redistricting rules and make the process of drawing districts impartial, transparent and accountable, promoting competitive elections and partisan fairness so that our government truly is of, by and for the people.”

- Dan Miller

Baptist for hot chocolate, and First Nazarene for candles and lanterns.

At the beginning of the walk at Nazareth Moravian, we always speak of the history of this witness. This year one of the earliest advocates of setting the walk from Nazareth-to-Bethlehem joined us. Taylor Landborn, now in his eighties, saw the apt geographic connection and brought it to Bob Euler who is credited as the Pilgrimage’s founder. This year as we introduced the walk we wanted to have the participants think about the mission of the walk and also to think about the future of the walk. The organizing committee is aging and we are looking to find new members who care to carry forward this witness – what will the 75th Pilgrimage be like? We asked for the walkers to consider helping in any one of the many tasks to organize.

During the recent past the planning committee has emphasized that the walk was not to be a political event and we have asked people not to bring protest signs. Some people have wondered whether this is too limiting in this time of continuous war and humanitarian crises in Yemen and Syria, among others. We asked the walkers to consider this question and discuss it as they walked. There was a chance to give some feedback at the stop at the Baptist Church. I believe that the sense of that feedback is that this walk should continue to have a non-confrontational aspect.

The end of the Pilgrimage was not quite as planned. We did have sandwiches and soup and the LEPOCO Peace Singers, but because of miscommunications, our speaker did not arrive until very late and many tired folks had to leave. Jondhi Harrell, Director of the Center for Returning Citizens, apologized for the confusion and made his presentation about the impacts of the prison and justice systems on community. He spoke of his personal history of incarceration, the lessons he learned in jail about community action (mediation of gang violence for example), the importance of family ties, and the need for meaningful work upon release. His organization is dedicated to advance these goals in a community setting in North Philadelphia.

One final note. The planning committee will be having a meeting in late February or early March and we still want to encourage people to help us. If you can help, please use the peacewalk.org webpage contact link to give us your name. All interested walkers: mark your calendars now for Saturday, December 14, 2019, our next Peace Pilgrimage.

- Rick Dow

A Report from the Annual Christmas Peace Pilgrimage

Another year has come and gone. Along with it, another Christmas Peace Pilgrimage -- the 59th. About 120 of us walked the ten miles in fine weather and in good spirits. Once again we were encouraged by the honking of horns, friendly waves and the flashing of the peace sign as we witnessed for Peace. We made our traditional stops at Trinity Lutheran for apples, First

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

Sign up for LEPOCO e-mail weekly updates by calling 610-691-8730, or by writing to lepoco@fast.net.

Follow LEPOCO on Facebook and Twitter. Please “like” and “share,” often.

LEPOCO's First Tuesday Book Group 2019 Reading List

- February 5: **The Geography of Nowhere: The Rise & Decline of America's Man-Made Landscape**
6 pm
by James Howard Kunstler (Bill Thomas)
- March 5: **The Secret Life of Cows**
6 pm
by Rosamund Young (Alwyn Eades)
- April 2: **Loaded: A Disarming History of the Second Amendment**
6 pm
by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz (Nancy Tate)
- May 7: **Pachinko**
6 pm
by Min Jin Lee (Diane Dilendik)
- June 4: **From War to Peace: A Guide to the Next Hundred Years**
6 pm
by Kent D. Shifferd (Mimi Lang)
- July 2: **Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family & Culture in Crisis**
6 pm
by J. D. Vance (George Tessaro)
- September 3: **The Soul of America: The Battle for Our Better Angels**
6 pm
by Jon Meacham (Bob Riggs)
- October 1: **The Mars Room – what it means to be poor & female in America**
6 pm
by Rachel Kushner (Martricia mcLaughlin)
- November 5: **Black Dog of Fate: An American Son Uncovers His Armenian Past**
6 pm
by Peter Balakian (Janice Kay)
- December 3: **Winners Take All: The Elite Charade of Changing the World**
6 pm
by Anand Giridharades (Ginny Schimmel)

You are invited to read one, some, all of these books
& join this lively discussion group.

Members of the group facilitate the discussion.

The group does not meet in January and August.

For more information contact:
LEPOCO Peace Center, 313 W. 4th St., Bethlehem, PA 18015
610-691-8730 / lepoco@fast.net / www.lepoco.org.

Bits & Pieces

☪ Carol Baylor reports on the activism of a LEPOCO friend, Ed Gallagher.

The Bethlehem Gadfly is a newly launched blog seeking to create community through conversation. Started by retired Lehigh University English professor, Ed Gallagher, the Gadfly has two main sections, one for serious local issues and the other a cluster of local fun and creative topics. He pays special attention to the work of Bethlehem City Council. The Gadfly encourages the community to post input on these issues. You can read his work at thebethlehemgadfly.com.

Also, in a generous and creative gesture, Ed Gallagher asked friends to pledge to LEPOCO a dollar amount for each mile he walked in the 2018 Peace Pilgrimage in December. His friends and family were quite generous. LEPOCO thanks Ed for his support.

☪ The Rev. Dr. Greg Edwards will give a keynote on "Silence Is Not an Option," at the **Fourth Friday Film Series** program on January 25, at 6:30 pm, at the UU Church of the L.V., 424 Center St., Bethlehem. The program will feature a Robert Reich film, "10 Steps to Save American Democracy," and comments by Rep. Steve Samuelson and former Rep. David Steil about reforming rules in the PA State House.

☪ **To My Unborn Child, A Love Letter from Fred Hampton**, a powerful new work, will be performed by Philadelphia actor/playwright Richard Bradford, on Saturday, January 26, at 8 pm, at the Ice House, on Sand Island, Bethlehem, sponsored by Selkie Theatre. Murdered by Chicago police in December 1969, this play gives Hampton one last chance to share his passionate vision of economic justice, race and human dignity with his unborn son. Reservations can be made at theatreselkie@gmail.com or by texting 484-241-9591. Tickets are \$15.

☪ On Tues., January 29, the play, **Beyond Bars**, will be presented at

Grace Episcopal Church, 108 N. 5th St., Allentown, at 7 pm. The play deals with the human impact of mass incarceration and the need for reform. This topic is presented through the experiences of those who have been affected by the criminal justice system, some in local prisons. The presentation is free, but donations will be welcomed. For more information call Hillie Cousart at 610-435-0782.

☪ **Anita Hill**, the law professor who testified against then-Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas about sexual misconduct nearly 30 years ago, will present Lehigh University's annual MLK address on Thurs., February 7, at 7:30 pm, in Baker Hall, Zoellner Arts Center, Bethlehem. The talk is free and open to the public. People are advised to arrive early. Doors open 6:45 pm.

☪ Upper BuxMont Rising and Pennridge Democrats have been vigiling at Main St. & Temple Ave., in Sellersville, every Friday afternoon, since June, 2018. Their signs say "**Remember the Children**," and "**End Family Detention**." They are committed to continuing their vigil until all the children are back with their families. (Source: Bucks County Herald, 12/6/18)

Remembering Pat Summers

(continued from page 2)

housing for those who needed a break from camping out. I forget how I heard about this, but I responded and Pat spent a couple of days with Donna and me. After Pat completed the March we again had a spontaneous contact in Washington at a rally and that led to her staying with us for a longer period of time. Pat became part of our family as she and I shared our New England heritage and she came to have a loving relationship with our two daughters.

Pat was a Vietnam Era Army veteran with nursing training. She had very strong views about how the military treated and mistreated its members. I think this really fed her peace work. She was a very consistent participant in rallies and demonstrations. I knew that she had made plans to move to Florida and as I lost track of her, I thought that is where she had gone. Looking back, I am sorry that we unfortunately drifted apart.

- Rick Dow



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

Tuesday, January 22, 4:30 pm: **LEPOCO Annual Dinner Planning Committee** meeting at the LEPOCO Peace Center, Bethlehem.

Wednesday, January 23, 3:30 pm: **Peace Camp Party Planning Meeting**, LEPOCO Peace Center, Bethlehem.

Thursday, January 24, 4 pm: **Peaceathon Planning Committee** meeting at the LEPOCO Peace Center, Bethlehem.

Sunday, January 27, 7 pm: **Peace Singers** rehearse at the home of Nancy Johnston in Easton. Other rehearsals will be held Sundays, February 3 and 24, and March 3, 10, and 17, all in preparation for the Annual Dinner.

Tuesdays, February 5 & March 5, 6 pm: **LEPOCO Book Group** meets at home of Bob & Carmen Riggs, 1113 Prospect Ave., Bethlehem.

Thursdays, February 7 & March 7, 12:30 pm: **Americas Solidarity Group** meetings at the LEPOCO Peace Center, Bethlehem.

Mondays, February 11 & March 11, 7 pm: **LEPOCO Monthly Action Meetings** at the LEPOCO Peace Center. All members & friends are welcome at this monthly business meeting where the organization's activities are discussed & planned.

Friday, February 22, 11 am: **Stop the Wars Committee** meeting, Quadrant Book Mart & Coffee House, 20 N. Third St., Easton.

Please join in the meetings and work of these groups as you are able. If you want more information about these meetings or the meetings of the Newsletter Planning Group, Popcorn/Potluck & Politics Planning Committee, or any other committees, please call LEPOCO at 610-691-8730. For a regularly updated calendar of events and meetings, see www.lepoco.org.

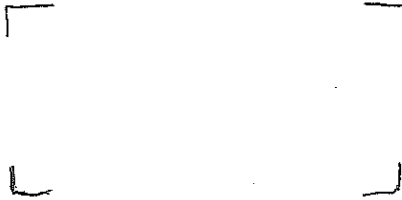


Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern

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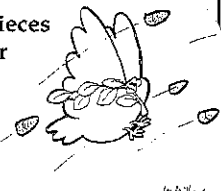
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Monthly Peace Vigil

(Second Thursdays)

February 14, 4-5 pm &
March 14, 4:30-5:30 pm

*Our wars & bombings continue.
Help witness for peace.*

3rd & Wyandotte Sts., Bethlehem

Call LEPOCO at 610-691-8730 for more info.

Peace Camp Party

Saturday, January 26, 9 am

First Presbyterian Church, Allentown
Children & their significant adults
are invited to attend.

(See page 1 for more information;
or call 610-691-8730 to sign up)

LEPOCO Annual Dinner

Saturday, March 23, 2019

Featured Speaker:

Frida Berrigan

Episcopal Cathedral Church of the Nativity
Third & Wyandotte Sts., Bethlehem

(See page 1 for more information.)

Saturday, February 2, 10 am

Join a LEPOCO visit to see
"Voices of Conscience:

Peace Witness in the Great War"

Mennonite Heritage Center, Harleysville

The exhibit remembers the witness of peace-minded people against the First World War, 1914-1918 - men & women, religious believers & secular humanitarians, political protesters & sectarian separatists.

Call LEPOCO for more information & to sign up to be part of car pooling from Bethlehem.