

Memorial for Joey Santos

On Sunday, August 12th, about one hundred mourners gathered at Resurrected Life Church in Allentown, for a memorial service commemorating Joey Santos, an unarmed Latino man from New Jersey, who was shot and killed by police in South Whitehall Township near Dorney Park on July 28th. The Lehigh Country District Attorney has charged the officer in Santos' death with voluntary manslaughter.

Arlene Figueroa, Santos' partner and the mother of one of his daughters, addressed the memorial service at Resurrected Life, as did speakers from several Lehigh Valley religious organizations. In her remarks Ms. Figueroa expressed her hope that God would bring justice for Joey; she also said she was praying for the police officer and his family because she knew how devastating the events of that day would be for them.

Cecilia Baxter, a United Church of Christ pastor and one of the religious leaders speaking at the memorial, said, "Standing on the side of the oppressed means standing with people of color who are dying by police brutality and whose families have been destroyed by a racist criminal justice system."

Joey Santos' case should be contrasted with a recent one in Easton. While Santos was behaving erratically, he was unarmed, yet shot five times, three times in the face, by the officer, whose baton, Taser and pepper spray were in good working order. In Easton in July, a white resident, who threw a Molotov cocktail at police, fired a shotgun at them and approached them with a machete, was subdued using only a stun gun.

In the wake of Santos' death, Make the Road PA has been organizing a public response. Please see the related article on page 6 of this newsletter.

- Mick Baylor

Have You Noticed? There's an Election in November!

The election for members of the U.S. House of Representatives, some U.S. Senators, and many state offices will be Tuesday, November 6. In Pennsylvania you can register to vote until Tuesday, October 9.

Registration in Pennsylvania can be done at www.pavoterservices.pa.gov. You can actually register online. You can also find the location of your county voter registration office, and you can print out a voter

registration form that you can either mail or deliver to that county voter registration office.

You can join the voter registration efforts of NextGen. They are very active on local campuses and welcome volunteers of all ages. They gather to do canvassing for voters every Saturday morning at 10 am, in their office in south Bethlehem, on the Mezzanine level of the Flatiron Building at 4th & Broadway. You can learn more about this effort or any of their volunteer efforts by calling Lizzie Morasco at 410-459-1919.

Finally, LEPOCO is planning a theater party for a screening of Michael Moore's new film, "Fahrenheit 11/9." Moore writes that the film "is a story of hope..., a story about deception and betrayal..., a story about what happens to people when they've hit rock bottom..., a story of where we might be heading as a society." The group theater party might happen soon after the film opens on September 21, so contact LEPOCO if you would like to part of this group.

- Nancy Tate

Love the World: Ban the Bombs

LEPOCO's annual Hiroshima-Nagasaki Commemoration took place Sunday, August 5, 6 pm, convening with readings and music at the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Lehigh Valley. The approximately 30 attendees then processed with banners and drumming to the Tondabayashi Garden for the rest of the program.

It was not easy for LEPOCO's Committee to End Wars members to come up with the theme of this year's event. It meant a review of the atomic bombings of 1945, and a sober look at the tragedies of this world, such as the U.S. supported Saudi bombing of Yemen, the U.S. military's role in climate change, the federal dollars spent on war strategizing and weapons manufactured to sell to other countries. At the same time, the members of this planning committee: Susie Ravitz, Mimi Lang, Nancy Tate, Brenda Havens, and myself, wanted very much to cocoon ourselves with love and honor of the good on this planet, the Poor People's Campaign, the words of Wendell Berry, the war resisters.

We heard excerpts from Dan Berrigan's comments about burning draft records at Catonsville, Maryland, during the Vietnam War. We heard an excerpt of War Resisters League leader Dave McReynolds' writing, a poem by Kenneth Carroll honoring historian Howard

(continued on page 2)

Love the World: Ban the Bombs

(continued from page 1)

Zinn. We heard a reading about the good done by the Freedom Flotilla with aid for Palestinians in Gaza, the good of Rev. William Barber, II, and the Poor People's Campaign he leads, and comments about how walls dividing us can come down that were made by filmmaker Michael Moore in "Where to Invade Next?"

Special thanks to the LEPOCO Peace Singers, the readers, Cari Poole and Unitarian Universalist congregation, and all those who attended. Postcards urging more humanitarian action were signed and sent to the U.S. Ambassador to the UN, Nikki Haley, and our Pennsylvania Senators Casey and Toomey. The complete program can be found at www.lepoco.org.

About 400 Leaflets for Peace were handed out at Musikfest on Monday, August 6, Hiroshima Day, and we brought concern about nuclear weapons to the monthly Peace Vigil in Bethlehem, on Nagasaki Day, August 9.

- Monica McAgthon

Rhapsody in August

On August 3rd, approximately 25 people saw the film, "Rhapsody in August," directed by the famed Akira Kurosawa. The film traced the impact of the atomic bomb that was dropped on the city of Nagasaki on August 9, 1945, on three generations of a Japanese family. The film dealt with the ongoing, sometimes repressed, psychological trauma that the atomic bombing inflicted as well as the problems of transmitting the memory of the event from generation to generation.

Following the film, Susie Ravitz led a lively discussion of the film that began by taking up the question of why the film has been so controversial for U.S. audiences. The discussion benefitted from the contributions of Kelly Denton-Borhaug, a professor at Moravian College, who has led peace studies students on visits to Nagasaki.

- Mick Baylor

Acting for Disarmament

Here are some opportunities to speak out for disarmament this fall.

September 15-23: 2018 Campaign Nonviolence National Week of Actions. See paceebene.org.

September 21: United Nations Peace Day.

September 21-22: The Moment of Truth - Campaign Nonviolence National Convergence, Washington, DC. There will be nonviolence training, a gathering with speakers, a march from statue of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to the White House where people will vigil and some will participate in nonviolent direct action.

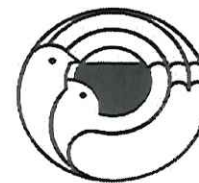
September 26: United Nations International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons/Nuclear Abolition Day. See paceebene.org.

September 29, noon-2 pm: Monthly Protest at Drone Center, Horsham Air Guard Station, Rt. 611 & County Line Rd., Horsham. See brandywinepeace.com.

October 6-13: Keep Space for Peace Week - International Week of Protest to Stop the Militarization of Space. See space4peace.org.

October 11, 4:30-5:30 pm: Monthly Vigil for Peace, Third & Wyandotte, south Bethlehem.

October 24-30: Count the Nuclear Weapons Money, New York City, during UN Disarmament Week. One trillion dollars is set to be spent to modernize the nuclear arsenals of nine countries over the next 10 years. This is an effort to publicly show the scale of this war investment threatening nuclear annihilation and how these dollars could be devoted to peace and humanitarian needs. While the world's government meet at the United National General Assembly this campaign will count \$1 million dollar notes (designed by artists) in teams of two in front of the UN and at other publicly visible places in New York City for this week. Volunteers are sought to help for half an hour or more. See nuclearweaponsmoney.org for more information.



Newsletter of LEPOCO
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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, October 5th, 7 pm "Who Are These Russians & Why Do We Hate Them?"

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

Regis Tremblay of Woolwich, Maine, is an independent filmmaker living on a fixed income. With the support of friends he has been traveling to Russia and other countries in recent months making films like this one. Phil Reiss viewed this film at this summer's Veterans for Peace convention and brought a copy back to the Lehigh Valley to share with others.

Produced by Regis Tremblay. 56 minutes. 2018.

Please bring a snack or beverage to share.



Marx Visiting the Lehigh Valley

Whether maligned or praised, Karl Marx has been misrepresented and so he is coming to the Lehigh Valley to set the record straight - in a Friday, September 21, production of "Marx in Soho," a one-person play by historian, playwright, and peace and justice activist Howard Zinn. Bob Weick, a former Lehigh Valley resident, will be channeling Marx at 7 pm, on stage at the Ice House on Sand Island, in Bethlehem.

This performance is part of a national and international "Marx in Soho" tour that Bob Weick has been doing to celebrate the 200th birthday of Karl Marx. When Bob started this tour in 2017, he had already performed this play over 300 times.

This presentation of the play has been organized by the Beyond Capitalism Working Group of the Alliance for Sustainable Communities of the Lehigh Valley. Other support is coming from LEPOCO, Mock Turtle Marionette Theater, Moravian College Theatre Company, the South Side Initiative, Tackling T.I.N.A., Green Action at L.U., and Lehigh Valley Greens.

The public is invited. Admission is free, but donations are very much welcomed.

NCC Annual Peace Conference

"Life After Hate" is the topic for this year's Peace Conference at Northampton Community College, on Tuesday, October 2nd. The keynote presentation will be by former members of hate groups who are now working to inspire others to move "to a place of compassion and forgiveness, for themselves and for all people."

The keynote presentation will be at 11 am, in the Lipkin Theatre at the college. At 9:30 am, local peace and social justice groups (including LEPOCO) will set up displays in the lobby to the theatre. The morning program will be followed by workshops and an evening panel discussion, on the same theme. NCC is located at 3835 Green Pond Rd., Bethlehem. You can learn more at www.northampton.edu.

Nobel Peace Prize Laureate to Speak at Lafayette College

Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, president of Liberia from 2006 to 2018, and co-recipient of the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize will speak in Colton Chapel, at Lafayette College, on Tuesday, October 23, at 7:30 pm. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf is an economist and politician, and was the first democratically elected female head of an African state. She was jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize with two other women leaders. They were recognized "for their nonviolent struggle for the safety of women and for women's rights to full participation in peace-building work." For more information see www.lafayette.edu.

Rethinking the Institution of War

Dr. Hakim, a friend and mentor to the Afghan Peace Volunteers, wrote on commondreams.org, "It's frustrating that whereas all human beings wish to live meaningful lives, we seem helpless in the face of a few individuals waging wars and exploiting our world.

"But we can each do something about this insensible status quo, as ordinary folk of the People's Peace Movement (PPM) show us by taking one barefoot-step at a time, traveling to the Northern areas of Afghanistan to persuade fellow Afghans, whether they're with 'insurgent groups' or with the U.S./NATO/Afghan forces, to stop fighting.

"Their action of walking without shoes suggests to us that, for us to survive today's militarized and profit-driven norms, we have to live each day differently, and with clarity and compassion.

"We've been thinking that we need armies to stop 'terrorists', but armies don't stop 'terrorists'. Instead, they give 'terrorists' reason to keep fighting. We need to think anew."

You can read his complete article at www.commondreams.org, August 20, 2018.

Peace Camp 2018 Reviews

First Year at Peace Camp

Spirits of the past coming back or never really left.
You never know what you will find on your own back porch.

This was my first year coming to peace camp. I worked as the co-leader of the orange group. Being an undergrad at Lehigh, it always felt like too much to take a week and help teach peace between research and summer internships. I didn't know what I was missing.

In a world of screens screaming for attention.

The simple bliss of dis-connection.

Singing with young voices,

"Spread seeds of peace, Dandelion!"

Can bring tears to your eyes.

Peace Camp sits in a magical hidden space,

above deadlines and emails,

wires and laptops,

highways and traffic,

guns and bullets.

Sunshine summer mornings.

In the blink of an eye.

For that long second.

I laughed,

I danced,

Sang my heart out,

Ran around in circles,

Taught about the earth,

Had little voices teaching me,

What it is to be young and alive

Again.

I wouldn't take it back for anything.

Peace camp will always be in my memory.

- Connor Burbridge

Many Years as a Peace Camper

Because of Peace Camp I have become a peace activist myself by taking part in the National School Walkout Day to Protest Gun Violence as well as the Women's March, twice. I also pay more attention to politics and realize the effects on young people like me.

I look to create peace in the world and have also great like-minded friends through Peace Camp that I am in contact with all year.

I've been going to Peace Camp for a very, very long time. The camp has a very welcoming and friendly aura that accepts everyone for who they are. The camp leaders are of all ages and create a wonderful experience. During the day we learn about current and past events that peace activists have led and how we too can become a peace activist. Peace Camp has definitely created who I am today and is something I love to take part of during the summer.

- Olivia Sullivan (14)

Another First Time Peace Camp Leader

Now in its 29th year, Peace Camp teaches young people, teenagers, and adults tools and practices for peace.

This year we had 70+ children from Kindergarten through 8th grade, who were from varied backgrounds and who came together for a fun week. Peace Camp allows children to see peace as a path they can and should follow, through the week-long teaching of interpersonal conflict resolution skills, critical thinking, global citizenship, and through the inspiration of peace heroes.

The goal is to create a safe environment in which campers can make new friends, to integrate the small groups by age into the larger peace camp community, and to learn something about, "What is peace?" There are lessons in tolerance, celebrating the cultures of the world, peaceful nonviolent approaches to problems, care for the environment, and a shared vision of a safer and more just world.

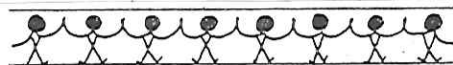
The campers were kept very busy enjoying the arts and crafts, games, music, dance, and drumming activities that were a part of the daily schedule.

We started each day gathering the children into their six small groups which were age based, for the Peace Camp opening. Chris Klump, our resident music leader, taught camp songs that were a unifying experience. The songs included 1960s-style protest songs, songs in a variety of languages, songs with hand motions, and silly songs like, "The Moose Song!"

One new concept that Donna Hartmann, Peace Camp convener, introduced was the idea of a "splat" - her made-up word for turning a negative situation into a positive change. The children created small skits taken from their experiences and presented the skits during the opening and closing gatherings. Their mini-plays were about creating peaceful resolution to conflicts. The oldest group presented a multi-media show about young activists getting involved and speaking their truth after the Parkland High School shootings that led to the creation of a national movement. Their message was young people can make a difference in the world through action

Peace Camp would not be possible without hours of work and heartfelt participation by many adult and teen leaders and helpers who made camp such a fun-filled, memorable time for everyone involved. Many thanks to all the parents and significant adults who registered children for Peace Camp and attended openings and closings, helping to create the peaceful community.

- Penny Kornet



Peace Camp 2018



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1. Blue Group at Games

2. Young'ns in Silly Hats

3. Sharing ILLUstrations for Chris KLump

4. Green Group Peace Marcher

5. Hugging for Peace!

6. Final Gathering—Orange Group in front

7. Happy in the Yellow Group!

8. HULA Hooping with the Purple Group

9. Peace Camp Friends!

10. Rose Group Peaceniks



Photos: Susie Ravitz

Layout: Amanda Zaniesienko

Building Beloved Community

On August 28, Adanjesus Marin, executive director of Make The Road Pennsylvania led a conversation on Building Beloved Community at the monthly meeting of POWER Lehigh Valley. Make The Road, the state's largest Latinx organization, organizes in Latinx communities building power for justice. Mr. Marin is a lifelong advocate for social justice as a community and labor organizer. This is an excerpt from his remarks.

"There are many revisionists who want to paint the life of Martin Luther King (who popularized the term Beloved Community) as one of softness, passivity and compromise. The truth is that's not what he, and his wife Coretta who continued his work, were about at all. He was clear on what Beloved Community meant. It included the elimination of poverty, hunger, homelessness, and racial discrimination. Today we would add climate security and a number of other things.

"There's another concept of Beloved Community, one where a group of people decide to live together in harmony. The truth is MLK didn't speak of living in harmony in Beloved Community, but rather resolving issues by addressing them directly instead of working through the use of violence and State oppression.

"We can't achieve a world where we eliminate racism and live together in peace and justice if we don't address the systemic causes of our oppression. In Make The Road (MTR), we place a high value on building what we call communities of struggle where we share socially (food and song) and share planning -- how we're going to take on the system, locally, nationally, and internationally, that is holding communities down and oppressing us.

"We need to fight against those systems that are preventing Beloved Community from existing. For example, capitalism, with its history of slave holding, racism, and genocide is at the source of poverty and homelessness. We need to look at the unbridled power of corporations.

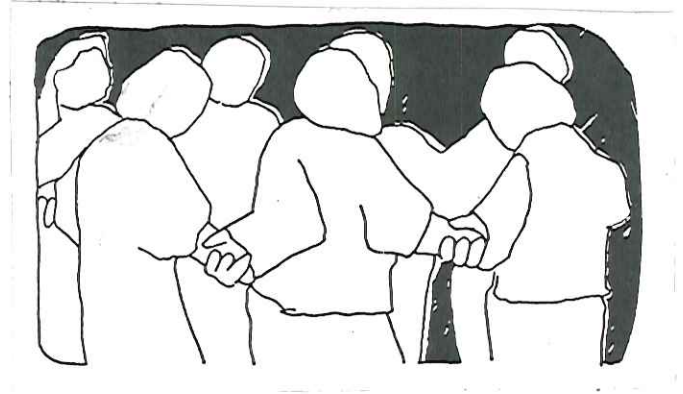
"The feeling of futility is a large part of what we confront. In organizing, we don't meet many people who think, 'Oh, the system is going great.' We do find that we need to overcome the system's weapon of futility, the belief that's been ingrained in us that 'this is how it's always been, and the way it will always be.' This isn't true, as our history shows us. The example of Nelson Mandela and the successful movement to free South Africa and eliminate apartheid is one example.

"At MTR, we use an approach called Anger, Hope, and a Plan. If people aren't upset (Angry) they won't take action. We offer Hope by sharing examples of what others have done to achieve victories. We involve the community in creating a Plan defining how we can win - and the part individuals can play."

More information about MTR is available at www.maketheroadpa.org. The Power Lehigh Valley conversations on Building Beloved Community will continue

on September 25, with a talk by Rev. Gregory Holston, executive director of POWER Interfaith. The program is at Resurrected Life Church, 916 W. Turner St., Allentown, starting with a potluck dinner at 6:15 pm, and the talk at 7 pm.

- John Paul Marosy



Left Turn: A New Publication

Amidst the rightward political shift all around us, the Beyond Capitalism Working Group (BCWG) is introducing a new print publication for the Lehigh Valley, *Left Turn*, to provide critical left perspectives and analyses. BCWG argues that shifting left is necessary to build a just and ecologically sustainable future.

The premier issue, dated September-October 2018, covers a variety of topics written by people here in the Lehigh Valley. There are essays by Faramarz Farbod on capitalism, Alex Fischer on the Democratic Party, Ted Morgan on rage and disaffection, Gary Olson on the Poor People's Campaign and another on a thought experiment, and Phil Reiss questioning what the phrase "in the national interest" means. There's an article by Bob Riggs on Berta Cáceres, reprinted from the March 2018 LEPOCO newsletter, as well as essays by Fred Rooney, Adam Heidebrink-Bruno, and Martin Boksenbaum, and an interview of Bob Weick regarding his performance as historian Howard Zinn in *Voices of a People's History of the United States*.

BCWG is a working group of the Alliance for Sustainable Communities-Lehigh Valley is also hosting a September 21, 2018, performance of Bob Weick playing Karl Marx in *Marx in Soho*, discussed elsewhere in this newsletter.

In the second issue of *Left Turn*, BCWG plans to discuss alternatives to capitalism. And because 2018 marks the 200th birthday of Karl Marx, it will also commemorate Marx's life and work.

Left Turn welcomes submissions, comments, concerns, or suggestions for future topics. Please send them to leftturn@sustainlv.org. We hope *Left Turn* contributes to the struggles of others for a better society. For more information about *Left Turn*, contact the editors at leftturn@sustainlv.org.

- Martin Boksenbaum

Protecting Latin American Defenders

Latin America and the Caribbean has become the most dangerous region in the world for people engaged in campaigns to protect their environments. There is great and urgent need, therefore, to protect the environmental and human rights defenders themselves. The Americas Solidarity Group (ASG) of LEPOCO and other Lehigh Valley organizations have been attempting to address that need to good effect. But work on a much larger scale is required. Perhaps the Escazú Agreement, discussed below, offers some hope.

Most recently, LEPOCO and Lehigh Valley Monthly Meeting (of the Quakers), sent contributions to the Fellowship of Reconciliation Peace Presence in response to its call for funds to support important accompaniment efforts in Colombia, whereby U.S. accompaniers protect, by their presence, local peace communities. Note: more funds are still needed.

And LEPOCO has continued its efforts to get congressional support for HR-1299, The Berta Cáceres Human Rights in Honduras Act, a bill introduced in the U.S. Congress in response to the assassination of renowned Honduran indigenous environmental leader Berta Cáceres. It calls for suspension of U.S. security aid to Honduras until human rights violations committed by the Honduran security forces cease. An ASG contingent visited the office of local representative Matt Cartwright, who became one of the 70 representatives to sign onto the bill as a co-sponsor.

The violence against indigenous people and the violation of their lands continue. And the assassinations continue. In Colombia alone, 20 were murdered in less than a month after the presidential elections on June 17 of this year.

In recognition of the scale of the problem, there is, in the works, the Escazú Agreement. Adopted in Costa Rica, by representatives of 24 countries on March 4, this agreement would be the first binding treaty in the region to establish protections for the rights of access to information, public participation and access to justice in environmental matters, as well as enshrining the protection of environmental human rights defenders.

Over 200 organizations have signed a joint open letter calling on the heads of state of all 33 Latin American and Caribbean countries to ratify this groundbreaking Escazú Agreement during the upcoming United Nations General Assembly in New York City this September. At least 11 countries must sign and ratify it by September 27, 2020, for it to come into force.

The open letter calls on governments, after signing, to then adopt rapid and effective measures to implement it in their respective countries. The more than 200 global, regional and national signing organizations work across Latin America and the Caribbean in fields such as human rights, the environment, development, and democracy. Among the organizations: Amnesty International, Greenpeace, Human Rights Watch, Front Line Defenders, Global Witness, and CIVICUS.

Information about the Escazú Agreement was provided by a CIVICUS press release on September 4, "Treaty Could Protect Environment and Human Rights in Latin America." CIVICUS is a global civil society alliance with headquarters in South Africa.

- Martin Boksenbaum



Book Group Discussed "Evicted"

Most of us think that typical poor families live in public housing or get some kind of housing assistance. It simply is not true; only 1 in 4 families that qualify for housing assistance actually get it. 67% of poor renting families are forced to spend 70-80% of their income in the private housing market. These are just some of the troubling statistics the LEPOCO Book Group learned from the reading and discussion (on September 4th) of "Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City," by Matthew Desmond.

Mr. Desmond believes that eviction is the process which binds rich and poor in a mutually dependent struggle. His book is based in Milwaukee, a city of fewer than 105,000 renter households where landlords evict approximately 16,000 adults and children each year; some through a formal process, many informally. The author lived with eight families, black and white, all living below the poverty line, during 2008 and 2009. He also shadowed landlords and worked to understand their views and why, "The hood is good" for them.

The author found no statistics to answer questions like how prominent is eviction, what are its consequences, who gets evicted, and what do families go without to pay for housing. With the help of the MacArthur Foundation, the Milwaukee Renter Study was born from 2009-2011. Mr. Desmond concludes that eviction is a cause of poverty, not a condition of poverty. He believes housing to be a right where a universal housing voucher would cost far less than our current homeowners tax benefits. This book brings so many situations and laws to our attention. These problems and solutions are not part of our public knowledge or debate - they should be.

To learn more one can read the book and/or view a presentation by the author (30 minutes) at the Library of Congress Book Festival online: [libraryofcongressbookfest2017/matthewdesmond](https://www.loc.gov/congressbookfestival/2017/matthewdesmond/).

- Diane Dilendik

Editor's Note: The LEPOCO Book Group meets on the first Tuesday of the month, at 6 pm, at the home of Bob & Carmen Riggs, Bethlehem. Books for the remainder of 2018 are: Oct. 2 - "Predictably Irrational: The Hidden Forces That Shape Our Decisions," by Dan Ariely; Nov. 6 - "What Unites Us: Reflections on Patriotism," by Dan Rather & Elliot Kirschner; Dec. 4 - "Do They Hear You When You Cry?" by Fauziya Kassindja. You are invited to join all, some, or any one of the discussions. For more information contact LEPOCO 610-691-8730.

Bits & Pieces

☪ David McReynolds (1929-2018) died on August 17, at age 88. Ed Hedemann, friend and co-worker at the War Resisters League for many years wrote, "David McReynolds... had suffered a fall in his apartment and apparently never regained consciousness."

"I first met him during a trip from Austin to NYC in 1970, and three years later joined him as a member of the War Resisters League staff. Though we would periodically differ on tactics and politics, he could always be relied upon as a brilliant, challenging, blunt thinker, speaker and writer, who many times came up with projects - some resulting in his arrest - that would help propel WRL's militantly pacifist message to the wider public.

"...David was on the WRL staff for almost 40 years (1960-1999), a long-time member of the Socialist Party, who ran for Congress in 1958 and 1968, President of the United States on the SPUSA ticket in 1980 and 2000 - the first (I think) openly gay candidate for President - and for the U.S. Senate from New York in 2004 on the Green Party ticket. An internationalist and former chair of the War Resisters' International, he traveled extensively, many times to war-torn countries, once getting arrested in Red Square during an anti-nuclear protest in 1978."

He was an avid photographer. He adored animals, especially cats. For a wonderful, inspiring look at his life view DemocracyNow.org, August 20, or read, "David McReynolds Modeled a Life of Building Peace and Living Without Apology," by Frida Berrigan, at wagingnonviolence.org.

☪ Dave Fry will have another "Night Out" with Sam Steffen on Wednesday, September 26, 7 pm, at Godfrey Daniels. Now living in Philadelphia Sam Steffen grew up in Bethlehem, and was a Peace Camper. His music is described as hard-hitting songs on current social and political issues -

continuing in the great tradition of Guthrie, Seeger, Paxton, and other young songwriters of today's folk music. Tickets: \$10.50. For reservations see www.godfreydaniels.org or call 610-867-2390.

☪ Thank you to the many volunteers who have helped staff the LEPOCO presence at fairs, festivals, and in parades this summer.

VegFest, Bethlehem, July 14: Carol Baylor, Christine Loch, Dalton Young, Dan Miller, Deb Orben, Jim Orben, Monica McAghon, My Lien Nguyen, Nancy Tate, Scott Slingerland, Tom Stinnett.

Pride in the Park, Allentown, August 19: Amanda Zaniesienko, Carol Baylor, Chris Klump, Dan Miller, Diane Dilendik, My Lien Nguyen, Nancy Tate, Sharlee DiMenichi, Stefan Rogers, Tom Stinnett.

Lehigh University Community & Club Expo, August 27: Amanda Zaniesienko, Stefan Rogers.

Northampton Community College QuadFest, August 28: Amanda Zaniesienko, Terry Briscoe.

Labor Day Parade, Bethlehem, September 2, where the Peace Bird flew: Carol Baylor, Dan Miller, Jeff Vitelli, Julius Iwantsch, Kathryn Hoffman, Khoi Nguyen, Mick Baylor, Mimi Lang, My Lien Nguyen, Nancy Tate, Ronnie Arena, Tom Stinnett.

☪ The beautiful 2019 calendars from the Syracuse Cultural Workers

(book & wall) have arrived at LEPOCO and are available for sale.

☪ The Morning Call published an op-ed by LEPOCO staffperson, Nancy Tate on September 10, "U.S. Complicit in Yemen Humanitarian Disaster." It is available as a blog at lepoco.org.

☪ While some federal officials have not acknowledged the massive failure of government agencies in addressing the tragedies in Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria last year, many activists are observing the one year anniversary on September 20 with memorials and calls for a just recovery for the island. As this newsletter is being prepared Make the Road Pennsylvania is planning a silent vigil in Allentown on the evening of September 20.

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.

Support LEPOCO!

___ Enclosed are my yearly LEPOCO dues of \$_____.
(\$35 individual; \$45 household; \$75 supporter; \$10 limited income)

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

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

___ I'm interested in the following issues: _____.

Name _____ Phone # _____ e-mail _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Return to: LEPOCO Peace Center, 313 W. 4th St., Bethlehem, PA 18015, or
Donate through PayPal by going to the "membership" page at www.lepoco.org

Bits & Pieces

Ⓐ Kathy Kelly, Ellen Barfield, and several Veterans for Peace members were among the 22 people who began the Disarm Trident: Savannah to Kings Bay Peace Walk on September 4. The ten-day, hundred-mile walk along the length of Georgia's coast was in solidarity with the seven Kings Bay Plowshares, who were arrested on April 4th, for their non-violent protest at the Trident missile base in Kings Bay, Georgia. Three of the seven remain in jail. You can learn how to write to those who remain in jail, how to make a donation to their efforts, and more at www.kingsbayplowshares7.org.

Ellen Barfield wrote on Day 5 of their walk, "The slow pace and effort of walking down the byways and town sidewalks of people directly affected by the pollution and economic distortion of a sub base in their beautiful tidal marshes is an important way to further our own understanding of all that is risked by the atrocity we struggle against. We walkers have seen the butterflies and wildflowers too, the graceful Spanish moss-draped live oak trees, the herons and hawks which soar over the lush green woods and meandering creeks."

Among the signs carried by the walkers, "Children Want a Nuclear Free World."

Ⓐ On Tuesday, October 23, POWER Lehigh Valley and ACLU Pennsylvania, are sponsoring a discussion of "Smart Justice: Taking Action to End Mass Incarceration in the Lehigh Valley." The featured speaker will be Nick Pressley, Director, Smart Justice Program ACLU of Pennsylvania. A panel discussion with local activists and families impacted by mass incarceration will follow his talk. A potluck dinner will begin at 6:15 pm, with the program starting at 7 pm, at Resurrected Life Children's Academy, 916 W. Turner St., Allentown.

Ⓐ On Sunday, August 26, Phila Back organized a Lehigh Valley Rally to

Stop Kavanaugh, in Allentown. Several local groups endorsed and it was part of the national effort to question this nomination.

Ⓐ In early August, Ellen Gerhart, a 63-year-old grandmother and retired special education teacher, was sentenced to 2-6 months in jail and a \$2000 fine, after persistent work to protect her family's land and Pennsylvania waterways from the Energy Transfer Partners' Mariner East 2 pipeline. Gerhart's land was taken by eminent domain and trees were felled with the assistance of controversial security firm Tiger Swan, in April. This was after an over 700-day tree-sit that had stalled pipeline construction.

The gas that will pass through this pipeline is destined for the production of plastic. She is being held at the Centre County Correctional Facility. You can learn more about Ellen Gerhart in a story in Earth Island Journal, "We Stand With Ellen" at www.earthisland.org.

You can sign a petition of support for Ellen Gerhart at MoveOn.org and support her legal defense with a donation at GoFundMe.org.

Ⓐ The 19th Annual Peace Fair in Buckingham, will be held Saturday, September 22, 10:30 am to 4 pm (rain

or shine). This is a delightful small fair with activities for children, non-profit exhibitors (including LEPOCO), local crafters and artists, live music and food. A \$2 donation is suggested for those attending. The event is held on the grounds of the Buckingham Quaker Meeting and School near the intersection of Rt. 202 and Rt. 263, not far from New Hope.

Ⓐ The Fall 2018 issue of the Women Against Military Madness (W.A.M.M.) Newsletter carried a simple, but direct call to action. "There are many different ways to be involved in the peace and antiwar movement. You can focus on specific weapon systems such as drones that especially hurt children, or specific wars, such as the conflicts in the Middle East. You can focus on foreign policy education, join vigils and demonstrations, or take part in political action such as lobbying. You can spend a tiny amount of time every month, or a larger chunk of time every week. In any event just do something!



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

Monday, September 24, 3:30 pm: Lehigh Valley Committee Against State Killing meeting at the LEPOCO Peace Center, Bethlehem.

Tuesdays, October 2 & November 6, 6 pm: LEPOCO Book Group meets at home of Bob & Carmen Riggs, 1113 Prospect Ave., Bethlehem. See page 7 of this newsletter for more information.

Thursdays, October 4 & November 1, 12:30 pm: Americas Solidarity Group meetings at the LEPOCO Peace Center, Bethlehem.

Mondays, October 8 & November 12, 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.

Tuesday, October 9, 3 pm: LEPOCO Annual Dinner Planning Committee meeting at the LEPOCO Peace Center, Bethlehem.

Friday, October 19, 11 am: Stop the Wars Committee meeting at a restaurant in Easton. Call 610-691-8730 for more information and/or location of meeting.

Thursday, January 24, 2019, 3:30 pm: Peaceathon Planning Committee meeting at the LEPOCO Peace Center, Bethlehem.

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, the Peace Camp Planning Committee, Peace Singer Rehearsals, 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.



LEPOCO

Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern

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See Inside:

Page 1

- Memorial of Joey Santos
- Election!
- Hiroshima-Nagasaki

Page 2

- More Hiroshima-Nagasaki
- Acting for Disarmament

Page 3

- P&P
- Marx in Soho
- NCC Peace Conference
- Rethinking War

Page 4

- Peace Camp Reviews - 2018

Page 5

- Peace Camp Photos

Page 6

- Beloved Community
- New Publication

Page 7

- Protecting L.A. Defenders
- Discussing "Evicted"

Pages 8 & 9

- Bits & Pieces
- Calendar

Monthly Peace Vigil

(Second Thursdays)

October 11 & November 8

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.

Stand Up & Speak Out!

(Last Saturdays of month)

September 29 & October 27

12 - 2 pm

Protest:

Horsham Drone Command Center
(Rt. 611, Horsham)

Call 610-691-8730 for information
about car pooling and other details.



Peace Camp Reports & Photos
(see pages 4 & 5)

Friday, September 21

"Marx In Soho"

(see page 3 for more info.)

Saturday, September 22

Peace Fair, Buckingham

(see page 9 for more info.)