

Benefit Drawing Helps Send Representatives to NP International Assembly

The Boston Chapter has been instrumental in organizing a nationwide fundraising campaign for NP. Funds raised during the benefit drawing will be used to assist representatives from NP Member Organizations traveling to the International Assembly in Nairobi, Kenya. Many Member Organizations, especially from the Global South, cannot afford to send delegates to the Assembly. “Diversity of attendees is essential,” said Sherry Zitter of Boston. “Critical decisions will be made with the election of the new International Governing Council, and the adoption of a long-range Strategic Plan to guide NP’s development over the next five years.”

There is plenty of time to get tickets to sell before the September 14 drawing. The prizes are diverse in nature, ranging from a framed NP Peace Bond signed by the Dalai Lama to lovely weekend retreats in Central Massachusetts, Wisconsin, and San Diego. To get tickets and more information, contact Sherry Zitter at 978-562-3372 (before 9 pm eastern time please) or at sherry@sherryzitter.org.

Details of Work a Day for Peace 2007

The Fall campaign has been titled **Make Peace Grow — How will YOU Work a Day for Peace?** This year’s theme focuses on how people are working for peace, their inspiration for working for peace, how people can and will work a day for peace, in order to embrace and celebrate the international days of peace and nonviolence.

The 12-day WaD campaign will kick off on September 21 with the international day of peace and run through October 2, Gandhi’s birthday and the International Day of Nonviolence. The campaign will feature an interactive website that will be updated each day of the campaign with profiles of real people working for peace, and peace facts. Other high-tech features, such as a text message a day of peace facts will be offered as well. Finally, the campaign will involve a fundraising letter (mailed), and posters (both on line, and in print). USNPCA members will be emailed templates and materials for the campaign.

Submitted by Lylee Rauch-Kacenski, Work a Day for Peace Intern
lrauch@nonviolentpeaceforce.org

Burlington, New Jersey Site of Second Annual USNPCA Meeting

Three Philadelphia-area chapters served as hosts to the second annual chapter meeting in June. Almost thirty people from 7 states came together for four days of community building among Chapters. The gathering emphasized the re-energizing of USNPCA, and focused on discussing the challenges and vision for the rapidly growing Nonviolent Peaceforce. For the Chapters, it was a time to share stories, accomplishments, concerns, and support.

The energy level lifted us to exciting discussions, plans for the future, and the decision to focus our energies through four important committees: Mentoring, Training, FUNdraising, and Communication.

In order to build stronger and more numerous Chapters, we need a strong Mentoring Committee. Additionally, the “Youth Resources Contacts” working group created itself with the goal of inspiring younger people to become chapter members. If you’re interested in any aspect of the Mentoring Committee, please contact Tom Moore, at c3moore@hotmail.com.

Continued on page 2.

We also decided to focus on the Nonviolent Conflict Intervention training as a valuable recruitment tool. San Diego recently held a very successful Training for Trainers, and Carroll Boone's report showed that there is great potential to expand Chapters through offering this training. If you're interested in being a part of the Training Committee to support this program, please contact Carroll Boone at carrollboone@yahoo.com.

A FUNdrising working group was formed to help us all put the FUN in inviting supporters to help NP grow financially. If you are interested in helping with this critical project, please contact Sherry Zitter at sherryzitter@sherryzitter.org.

The Communications Committee continues to produce the USNPCA newsletter and maintain the website. If you're interested in this committee, contact Paul Christian, pscl@cox.net.

Even if you were not able to attend the gathering, we hope you will consider joining one of the committees. The USNPCA community needs you as we work together to strengthen NP.

On our last evening, we participated in a conference call with Atif Hameed, the coordinator of the Mindanao project. Six peacekeepers are currently deployed in this new project, and Atif inspired us and encouraged us to stay in touch with him and the other Mindanao field team members.

A new USNPCA Coordinating Committee was elected to serve one and two year terms in order to maintain better continuity of projects from year to year. A list for the current Coordinating Committee is shown on page 4. A complete review of the conference may be found online at: http://usnpca.org/Burlington_Recap.doc

Committee Reports

Training

The NP Training Committee members include Joan Bernstein, NP North American coordinator; 4 NP trainers, Sheri Wander, Rebecca Bryson, Delia McGrath, and Sherry Zitter; and NP Coordinating Committee member, David Berrian. The committee developed the training materials for the NCI Non-violent Conflict Intervention Training and the various guidelines for offering the training, and training for trainers.

It has recently expanded to add participants from the June NP San Diego NCI Training for Trainers: Carroll Boone, Walter Davis, and Catherine Rogers; and participants at the Philadelphia USNPCA June meeting, Mariana Garrettson (Philadelphia area NP) and Norm Keegel (Western WA NP).

The committee will begin meeting monthly by telephone in August.

Submitted by Carroll Boone
carrollboone@yahoo.com

Inter-Chapter Communication

Website: Recent updates include the Burlington Conference report, Coordinating Committee Minutes, and updated information in the ATM resources section.

Listserv: We continue to add interested recipients to the listserv. It was agreed that we all need to encourage the use of the listserv as a resource exchange to help increase information sharing and collaboration between chapters. If your chapter members would like to join the listserv, please email name, email address, and chapter name to usnpca@usnpca.org.

Inter-Chapter Newsletter: The publishing schedule for 2007-08 will be August, November, February, and May. Submissions from chapters and committees are requested by the 15th of the preceding month.

Submitted by Paul Christian
pscl@cox.net

The USNPCA Chapter Newsletter is published quarterly, to assist the sharing of ideas, success stories, and important information among chapters whose members are dedicated to the practice of nonviolence, and the creation of a sustainable peace throughout the world. The newsletter is compiled by Paul Christian, chairman of the Inter-Chapter Communication Committee. Information to be included should be submitted via email to peaceforce_agnews@yahoo.com.

Chapter Reports

San Diego

NP San Diego has been very busy for the last few months.

In June, after several months of intense planning and outreach, we offered a Three Day Nonviolent Conflict Intervention (NCI) Training for Trainers (TT).

In addition to NCI theories and practice, participants were fed very healthy meals planned and served by local NP Chapter members and Friends of NP. Feedback – "There was a gracious and welcoming feeling to the whole weekend." "It was very well organized." "The food was about the best I've had—anywhere! Great variety and all fresh and tasty!"

Sixteen TT Graduates will follow through as trainers and/or organizers of One-Day NCI Trainers. The first One-Day NCI Training is already scheduled for September 8. Debby Park is coordinator, with co-trainer Walter Davis. For information, contact Debby at rayanddeb@gmail.com or 858-270-5978 Additional One-Day NCI Trainings are being planned for San Diego and Los Angeles areas.

NP San Diego is willing and available to coach and support other NP Chapters that would like to offer NCI Training. A set of sample Outreach and Planning documents is available. Contact Carroll Boone at carrollboone@yahoo.com or 619-697-3223.

We have accepted invitations for Tabling on September 21, at the Institute for Peace and Justice, and on September 22, at the Market Creek Plaza Amphitheatre, with the UJIMA Institute for Civic Responsibility. Both events are for the 2nd Annual International Day of Peace. That will give us the opportunity of displaying NP Peace Bonds, Rumors of Peace, talking about Work a Day for Peace, and doing our best to let others know about NP.

On July 9, SIX of us attended a meeting with the CARING COUNCIL, introduced by our most recent member, Walter Davis. Catherine Rogers is another new member. Both she and Walter came to

us through NCI Training. The CARING COUNCIL is made up of several grass roots groups working with specific communities who have limited or no political voice, and limited or no income, such as Supportive Parents Information Network (SPIN) which has a financial literacy program and access to bank accounts that can be obtained even by those who have been denied before. Another member group, The Trinity House, offers transitional housing for men, women, and children. It was heartening to meet these generous, caring San Diegans. Marilyn Slater, NPSD, will continue attending CARING COUNCIL.

We have found that other peace groups such as the San Diego Coalition for Peace & Justice, Foundation for Change S.D., Network of Spiritual Progressives, Activist San Diego, are eager to have us join in their peace activities, and that they really appreciate learning about Nonviolent Peaceforce. Gloria Joyce is NPSD's representative on the Board of Directors of the Peace Resource Center, and we daily receive more information and invitations than we can answer. We share these concerns, but stay focused on our own mission to support and spread the word about NP.

Submitted by Carroll Boone & Gloria Joyce
carrollboone@yahoo.com
gloria@npsand.org

Norfolk Chapter

There is no news from here, but I remain interested in all that NP is doing. I am aware of NP's financial struggles and attempt to spread the word as I am able.

Submitted by Alexandra Kedrock
bakedrock@aol.com

Philadelphia Area Chapter

No new news since that great conference

Submitted by Clarkson Palmer
ctpalmers@aol.com

Tucson Chapter

While there has not been much activity at the chapter level over the summer, members are staying busy with their responsibilities to USNPCA. Two members from Tucson, Faith Edman and Paul Christian, attended the annual chapter gathering in Burlington in June. The Association commitments increased for both attendees following the conference.

Paul has accepted the responsibility to head the Inter-Chapter Communication Committee and serve on the USNPCA Coordinating Committee. Faith will serve as one of the two representatives from USNPCA attending the International Conference in Nairobi, Kenya. She has also been nominated to serve as a North America representative to the International Governing Council.

We continue to seek new methods to increase the number of chapter members, and hope that the ability to offer NCI training will help spread the word about NP.

Submitted by Paul Christian
psc1@cox.net

USNPCA Coordinating Committee

Dave Berrian – Western Washington Chapter
425-482-3026
dberrian@earthlink.com

Carroll Boone – San Diego Chapter
619-697-3223
carrollboone@yahoo.com

Paul Christian – Tucson Chapter
520-325-1175
psc1@cox.net

Jenelle Van Eynde – Western Washington Chapter
425-765-2410
jenelle.vaneynde@gmail.com

Nancy Wrenn – Boston Chapter
617-969-2758
ncwrenn@aol.com

To contact the Coordinating Committee,
please email cc@usnpca.org

USNPCA Committee Contacts

FUNdraising

Sherry Zitter
978-562-3372 (before 9 pm eastern time please)
sherry@sherryzitter.org

Mentoring

Tom Moore
610-738-0851
c3moore@hotmail.com

Inter-Chapter Communications

Paul Christian
520-325-1175
psc1@cox.net

Training

Carroll Boone
619-697-3223
carrollboone@yahoo.com

Important Contact Information

usnpca@yahoogroups.com – A listserv distribution for Chapter contacts and interested Chapter members.

usnpca@usnpca.org – For general questions. The Communication Team monitors the content and answers or forwards the message to the appropriate person.

cc@usnpca.org – Direct email to all members of the USNPCA Coordinating Committee.

peaceforce_agnews@yahoo.com – The place to send information for the USNPCA Newsletter. The emails are monitored by the Communications Team.