

USNPCA

United States Nonviolent Peaceforce Chapters Association

Spring/Summer 2011

Your Task Force

The Task Force has been very busy since last October reviewing your feedback and coming up with guidelines and fine tuning our organizational structure, mission and purpose.

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Panera Night - and Other Great Fundraising ideas.

How have we have raised money and awareness?

Page 2 and 3



Fundraising, Outreach and Education

Chapters are ever so busy on so many fronts. Check out stories from San Diego and Philadelphia on this page. See how one Chapter honored the life and work of David Hartsough.

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Training and METTA

We're not only Fundraising, We're Educating, We're Organizing...We've been very busy this



year!

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The Website - Building Community

Our website is a community portal, meaning that it's a place where we can log in and share ideas with each other, download resources, and continue to build our database of NP Supporters across the US.

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October Meeting - MN

The MN Chapter hosts this years meeting at The Yackels

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Task Force

Last October we formed a Task Force to evaluate our organization and tighten our structure in response to the re-organization process of Nonviolent Peaceforce. At this year's meeting in Minneapolis the team will propose changes (see below) to the Mission and Purpose statements. We look forward to discussing our ideas further with everyone in October.

Refined Mission and Purpose

USNPCA Mission Statement

The U.S. Nonviolent Peaceforce Chapters Association nurtures a powerful network of local chapters that help Nonviolent Peaceforce build a nonpartisan, unarmed, international, civilian peacekeeping force. Each chapter, working in association with other chapters, member organizations, and committed individuals, becomes a stronger advocate for Nonviolent Peaceforce and for the practice of nonviolence locally in order to create a sustainable peace throughout the world.

USNPCA Statement of Purpose

USNPCA is an organization of groups and individuals strongly committed to NP and its mission. We exist as an organization to:

- Promote and publicize NP locally, in the media, and through our networks
- Represent the interests of NP within our respective spheres of influence
- Fund raise to support the work of NP
- Bring a regional Nonviolent Conflict Intervention training program to our communities to build skills and create advocacy for nonviolence
- Provide volunteers in service to NP
- Help with recruitment of field team members by publicizing openings to our networks
- Provide moral support to NP field team members

Individual Members and Chapters

We have opened the organization to individuals. In fact, we are all individual members, but those of us united by geographic proximity are encouraged to form a chapter association.

[From the Website](#)

Why Join the USNPCA?

Membership is free and provides you with many benefits including:

- Access to the Member Resources section of the USNPCA web site which provides you with additional resources to help you the spread the word about the Nonviolent Peaceforce
- Access to USNPCA conferences, education events, announcements, briefings, and newsletters
- Opportunity to participate in USNPCA surveys and discussion groups
- Opportunity to join an existing Chapter or get help to start a new one

How do I join the USNPCA?

Joining is easy. Simply fill out the [registration form](#) on the website! Once approved you are a member and will have access to valuable resources on the web. We do not share any of your personal information beyond the Nonviolent Peaceforce and the U.S. Chapters.

Fundraising News

Fundraising is the gentle art of teaching the joy of giving.

- **Hank Rosso**

Panera Night

The Pennsylvania Chapter held a FUN **Panera Night** outreach/fundraiser. Here's what chapter member Anne Moore (c3moore@hotmail.com) had to say about the event:

We held a Panera Night at the West Chester Panera Bread Cafe on 2/10/11.

Six of us did the promoting and took turns receiving the receipts from the 90 people who came to eat from 4-9pm. Panera Bread gives 10% of the sales from "our" people to the organization.(resulting in \$106) For a minimum of effort, this made public NP with a table of brochures and signs, enabled lots of good visiting among all of us, amazed that so many people came (our first scheduled date 1/27 was snowed out so we wondered if the response would be as good on this second attempt). Someone suggested a donation basket, and that resulted in an additional \$155.

If there's a Panera in your area you might want to try this fun idea.

Mel Duncan Visits Midland MI

"We are not there to take sides," he said. "We're not there to pick winners and losers, that's for local people to do. We are there to protect civilians who are caught up in the violence and to prevent the further outbreak of violence."

"When Nonviolent Peaceforce co-founder Mel Duncan speaks, people

listen." Thus began an article in the Midland Daily News about his May 13-17 visit to Mid-Michigan. Mel was invited by the Helen M. Casey Center for Nonviolence and the Mid-Michigan NP Chapter and co-sponsors: First United Methodist Church, Memorial Presbyterian Peace Fellowship, Church of the Brethren, Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, Michigan Peace Team, Delta College Global Peace Studies, Pax Christi Michigan, Bay Area Women's Center, Community Resolution Center, Alpena Coalition for Peace, and Livonia



Citizens for Peace.

Mel spoke at First United Methodist, (host), Memorial Presbyterian, Church of the Brethren, H. H. Dow and Bullock Creek High Schools and Delta College. The students asked many good questions. Also, at the initial gathering, three students read their poetry or played music-a celebration of art and artists as a vital connection in building a more peaceful world.

Peter Dougherty of Michigan Peace Team introduced Mel who said about Peter's work, "We are building on your shoulders." He also named groups such as Christian Peacemakers, and Peace Brigades International.

This 6th annual NP fundraiser, "A Portion for Peace", continues throughout 2011. We have already made connections with one school/church about possibilities in the fall. There will be a December library display of student poems and artwork about nonviolence, peace and learning to get along.

Peace Bonds, in denominations of \$10-\$500 also will be on sale all year and can be purchased through the NP website or through our Center.

Jeanne Lound Schaller
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Pedal for Peace

The Nonviolent Peaceforce Minnesota Chapter is organizing an event called Pedal for Peace, a bike ride that will take place on July 23rd, 2011 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The purpose of this event is to teach people about the Nonviolent Peaceforce, engage them to participate in the organization, and encourage them to fundraise. We are tabling at events and giving presentations at local non-profits, school groups, and churches. The event will include three different ride lengths, lunch, speeches, and bands.

The second event will be our fifth annual Arts for Peace. The first was a sale of a about a hundred and fifty works of a single artist. It was a highly successful, never to be equalled in the money it raised, introduction to this series This year that same artist is donating approximately a third as many pieces for another sale. This means that we have a lot more work to do to enlist enough local artists to make up for the other two thirds of the sales. The original person has given the works as a pure donation. This time we have to decide exactly how the artists want to handle their donations, and how we can make sure that they gain something from the experience of donating art for sale for the financial benefit of Nonviolent Peaceforce.

Ann Warner
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More Fundraising and Outreach

From San Diego Chairperson Debby Park (rayandeb@gmail.com) :

Chairperson Debby Park attended the USNPCA conference in the Boston area Oct. 7-10 and learned so much from the featured speakers, workshops and other attendees. The following Saturday she went to Riverside, CA, to help Marilyn Sequoia and Rose Monge conduct a half-day NCI Training which was excellent. Those ladies really know how to cover so much and so well in just a few hours!

In December, our chapter participated in two events that raised funds for NP. On Dec. 5, six chapter members had a table at the Episcopal Cathedral of San Diego Alternative Gift Market where we sold Peace Bonds and aprons and potholders made from fabric with peace signs. Chapter member Diane Besemer was our super seamstress for the handmade items. We made \$500! On Dec. 11, we had our usual table at the annual Holiday Peace Bazaar where we again sold Peace Bonds, peace aprons and potholders, along with dishtowels and Peace wall hangings. This time we made \$415 for NP!

On January 17, several chapter members attended the All People's Breakfast for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and handed out dozens of NP brochures to the many attendees. We have been meeting pretty regularly on the first Saturday of each month and are trying to practice NCI skills. On April 2, we will meditate on and discuss our favorite quotes from Gandhi. And on May 14, Debby will offer a two-hour

"Nonviolence in our Daily Lives" (mini-NCI workshop) at the Open Door Bookshop of Christ Lutheran Church in San Diego. We are inviting parents with teen-agers.

Celebrating the life of David Hartsough

"Real peace must grow out of mutual respect and a commitment to resolve all differences by peaceful means." - Tehran, Iran, March 2, 2009

As our part of events across the country in honor of the founders of the Nonviolent Peaceforce, the Chapter hosted celebrations of the life of David Hartsough, a native of our area. We cooperated with the Friends Philadelphia Yearly Meeting in an October 31 reception attended by 68, and a November 1 panel for schools with 40 in attendance.

Swarthmore College hosted David November 2 for a class then an open meeting attended by 30. That evening he went to Crosslands Retirement Community, where he and his wife Jan spoke with 45.

David's talk at Swarthmore stimulated interest in learning more about NP. The Chapter and the College's Peace and Conflict Studies Program arranged a January 27, 2011, meeting for discussion following viewing of DVDs of Unarmed Civilian Peacekeeping and of the 15-minute version of dialog between David Hartsough and Mel Duncan. Twenty-four took part despite inclement weather.

Clarkson Palmer
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Metta and the USNPCA

The mission of the Metta Center is to promote the transition to a nonviolent future by making the logic, history, and yet-unexplored potential of principled nonviolence available to activists and agents of cultural change (which ultimately includes all of us).

When NP closed the Capacity Building arm of the organization it also ended the North American domestic training programs. Rather than see these valuable curricula vanish, the trainers and facilitators approached The Metta Center in Berkeley with the proposal that Metta become the new fiscal sponsor of the training programs. Metta has accepted this proposal.

What does this mean for the USNPCA? Chapters are welcome to continue using the curriculum for the eight hour workshop Nonviolent Conflict Intervention (NCI) as they always have. The Coordinating Committee is working on a Memorandum of Understanding between Metta and the USNPCA so that the two organizations can benefit from this shared interest in training "activists and agents of cultural change" in the skills and practices of nonviolence. The Committee will provide chapters with guidelines to ensure that we satisfy any concerns of NP regarding the branding and provenance of the curriculum.

2011 Annual Gathering

October 6th through the 9th

It's back to Minneapolis this year! We will have the benefit of meeting many of the U.S. NP Office staff. These connections build a strong future for NP.



On the weekend of Indigenous People's Day (or Columbus Day) we will convene our fifth annual meeting. The planning of the agenda is under way, so if you have items you wish to see addressed now is the time to send them in to the coordinating committee (cc@usnpca.org) and we will work to include your suggestions.

The venue will be a private affair at The Yackels. Accommodations at the house are limited so please register your intent to attend soon so that if we need to find local homes for guests we will have time to make those arrangements. We are doing everything we can to minimize expense this year.

We are happy to announce that Mary Lou Ott will be with us this year!! We also have both Mel Duncan and Tim Wallis on the schedule. Mel will give us the latest information on the U.N. Advocacy work and Tim will give us the NP updates and, hopefully, lead us in some lively peace songs.

The Website



The [website](#) is a tool for us to use to connect, coordinate, and share the news of our local chapters and NP. But it's only as good as the community using it. If you have any questions about signing up and using the website please contact me.

In Gratitude, Terri usnpcaor@usnpca.org

"NP chapter members/supporters letter-to-local-media project."

Looking for a new way to support NP as an individual or as a chapter. We wish to assemble of team of supporters who agree to write letters to their local media, in response to prompts from our communications person, Georgia Afton. The program will begin later this summer. We'll be keeping track of what we send and what gets published, to determine if this is a useful way to direct our energies. Would you be willing to be on this team? If so, email [Linda Burkett](#).

Coordinating Committee and Task Force

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