



Issue 11

January 2015

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Dear Friends of Peace, Justice, & Sustainability

Thank you to all who have supported our efforts with energy, time, funds, and/or encouragement!

Here is a brief update on events we have organized or collaborated on in the past year. *In peace, Heather K.*

Open hours every Tuesday 5-8pm & Fridays 7-9 pm. Potluck & Presentation each last Friday (except a few) Monthly board meetings first Thursdays, 7 pm.

Annual Peace Feast & Annual meeting

Ongoing: Monitor FNSB plans for military drone tech park & to restrict civilian land uses.

Calls to Action: "No!" more US war in Middle East; Keep Space for Peace* vs additional missiles to Ft. Greely; concerning property tax breaks to military-contract co.

21 people testified at Borough mtg, opposing spending an additional \$250,000 to bring F-35s to Interior AK

KWRK-LPFM /APC – FCC construction permit

Alternatives to Violence Program, 2 workshops **

Arbor Day Peace Tree planted, Veterans' Memorial Park

Alaska Peace Center Booth at Tanana Valley Fair

International Day of Peace and People's Climate March

Ring In Peace on Armistice Day

Presentations:

Code Pink Summit by Rob, & "Collateral Damage" whistleblower PFC Manning's court martial hearing.
Doug Yates: Fukushima & Alaska, after which City Council & FNSB passed Resolutions to test radioisotopes in fish.
*Call for Moratorium on Militarization of Alaska's Economy - Spring Days of Action**
*Susan Grace: BHUTAN: Happiness...a GNP?***
Fairbanks Peace Choir Spring & Winter Concerts
Movies "Johnny Got His Gun," "Unmanned- America's Drone Wars," "The Jet That Ate the Pentagon", "To Prison for Poverty", "Wage Theft"
Alison Carter: Intro to Worker Owned Co-operatives

Upcoming in 2015:

Jan. 30 *Potluck & presentation by Tony Gasbarro: "Growing Up Poor Amid Violence in El Salvador," at Mary Siah Rec Center*
Feb. 10 *Peace Choir resumes. New folks welcome.*
Feb. 12 *Presentation on Alternatives to Violence Project at UAF Alumni Lounge*
Feb. 13-15 *Advanced Alternatives to Violence Project workshop***
Feb. 27 *Potluck & Experiences in Cuba at UAF Alumni Lounge*
Poster Contest - Watch for updates.
May 30 -3rd Annual Peace Feast & APC Annual Meeting & election of board members
* With North Star Veterans for Peace
** With Chena Ridge Friends Meeting

TBD - What activities and events would YOU like to see Alaska Peace Center sponsor?

We hope you find these activities worthy of your continued support.

Please consider sending a donation and/or indicating how you would like to volunteer, by mailing back the donation form on the last page.

"Peace cannot be kept by force; it can only be achieved by understanding."

Albert Einstein

ALASKA PEACE CENTER POSTER CONTEST

“Imagine all the people living life in peace. You may say I’m a dreamer, but I’m not the only one. I hope someday you’ll join us and the world will be as one.”

John Lennon

The Alaska Peace Center is sponsoring a poster contest for art work by high school students on “Imagine Peace”.

Entries are due February 28th, 2015 by 5 pm. Size is to be on 11 inch by 17 inch poster paper. Entries will be judged on originality and visual quality that reflect peace, by the APC board of directors, with the winning poster announced on March 15th.

Winning poster will receive a first prize cash award of \$150, second prize will be \$100, third prize \$50.

One hundred copies of the winning poster will be signed by the winning artist.

This is the beginning of an annual poster contest for students to “Imagine Peace” in an effort to further peace in the world.

Send entries to: The Alaska Peace Center,
3535 College Rd, Suite 203, Fairbanks, AK 99709.
For additional information contact APC via email at:
info@alaskapeace.org.



Growing a Grassroots Radio Station

Flyn Ludington

Fairbanks Open Radio is on track to hit the airwaves this summer with a new low-power radio station, KWRK-LP 90.9 FM!

In a time of rapid and deep cultural change, serious dialogue and action is required. KWRK-LP will bring that ferment to our community. And since FOR will not accept donations from large corporations or foundations, it will be up to local volunteers and individual donors to grow this station from the grassroots.

Last year, FOR (with the help and support of the Alaska Peace Center) received one of 1000 low-power educational radio station construction permits granted nationwide by the FCC. For more than ten years, citizen media activists pushed the FCC to allow community organizations access to the increasingly corporatized airwaves. It was an historic opportunity, as the FCC currently has no future plans to offer any more permits of this kind.

KWRK-LP will broadcast from College and University, reach a maximum signal radius of 5 miles, and eventually stream online at kwrk.org. Programming will include local music, in-depth educational interviews, radio drama, and book readings; as well as shows from sources like Pacifica, Project Censored and others. KWRK-LP will also air popular shows like Counterspin and Richard Nelson’s Encounters, which were available locally years ago.

FOR will include marginal groups (both as listeners and content producers) such as: youth and elders, native language speakers, veterans, the poor and homeless, incarcerated persons past and present, activists and other working class folks.

Meetings are held in the studio every Wednesday at 5pm (also the APC office - above the Fuji restaurant – at the address below). You can also call 374-0577 with suggestions and solidarity, or visit and “like” our facebook page.

To donate funds, you can send a check to:

KWRK-LP
3535 College Rd., Suite 203
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Also, in the coming weeks FOR will be launching an online crowd funding campaign. Look for “Fairbanks Open Radio: KWRK-LP” on indiegogo.com.

And please, stay tuned!

Fairbanks Peace Choir

Suzanne Osborn

Creating a culture of peace through song!

Feb. 10 - May 2, 2015 All Singers Welcome

Rehearsals Tuesdays 6:45-8:30pm at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 4448 Pikes Landing Road

Suggested donation \$75 Call 322-2521

Freedom

Rob Mulford

A friend recently asked me, "How do you define freedom?" My immediate response was panicked-reflexive, a return to 8th grade English, a la say, "Define the word reprobate." However, like the concept love, I found no Webster's definition that quite fit the bill. Poets come close. The slave and the caged creature know it intuitively.

I once heard folk singer, Utah Phillips say, "The state can't give you free speech and the state can't take it away... You're born with it, like your eyes, and your ears. Freedom is something you assume, then you wait for someone to try to take it away. The degree to which you resist is the degree to which you are free."

On January 23, another friend of mine, Kathy Kelly reported to federal prison to begin serving a 3 month sentence for the crime of carrying a loaf of bread onto Whiteman Air Force Base, one of the bases where pilots remotely operate weaponized drones over Afghanistan and other countries. Kathy and her accomplice, Georgia Walker, wanted to break bread with base commander Brig. Gen. Glen D. Van Herk and read him a letter. The letter was from friends of Kathy's, with whom she had lived in Afghanistan. Their message was simple: "Please stop killing us!"

The prosecution had said, "Ms. Kelly needs to be rehabilitated." The judge agreed.

One third of women in prison worldwide, are in U.S. prisons. Kathy will soon be joining them, listening to their stories, sharing them later with whoever will listen, as well as those who will refuse, a recidivistic practitioner of the crime of freedom.*

On March 4th to 6th, I'll be joining friends at Creech Air Force Base near Las Vegas, Nevada, in an attempt to shutdown that horrid center of drone warfare. I may get arrested. I don't know. In the name of freedom please consider joining us, if only in mind and spirit.

*Kathy Kelly came and received enthusiastic response at 3 local high schools & UAF in 2006. While she is in prison, she can receive letters through the mail. If you would like to write, please address your envelope to:

Kathy Kelly 04971-045
FMC Lexington
FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTER
SATELLITE CAMP
P.O. BOX 14525
LEXINGTON, KY 40512

Alaska Quakers in Washington, D.C.

Maia Genaux

*Karl Franke, David Bantz and I participated in the annual ... lobby day of the Friends Committee on National Legislation (a Quaker lobby group) in Washington, D.C., Nov 2014.

Our task for FCNL was to request that each elected official make a public statement supporting negotiation with Iran regarding development of their nuclear capabilities. 25 elected officials issued supporting statements after the visits, adding their names to more than 120 already on record.

We visited with staff of Rep. Don Young and Senators Begich and Murkowski (she also joined us eventually). Rep. Young's office...presented some challenges... Our request ... was easily rejected by his staff, favoring instead, "Walk softly and carry a big stick," ... "the best peace achievable is a Cold War style bipolar standoff;" ... "the best way to deal with ISIS is kill them all." I'd like to ask, "What experiences have you had that lead you to advocate this position?"

Our visit with Sen. Murkowski went better ... [but] the likelihood of her advocating for negotiation seemed slim...

we offered her a booklet by FCNL and American Friends Service Committee, entitled "Shared Security." ...a vision statement in development, identifying that the goal of "security", or well-being, anywhere depends on "security" everywhere. ...[and] depends on our shared safety, food and income distribution, education, environment, etc. ...

She was interested, accepted the booklet, leafed through it ... she seemed to be contemplating what such goals might look like, and what efforts already underway might feed healthier outcomes...

David expects to continue his communications with Sen. Murkowski's office. Karl and I are considering participation in FCNL's lobby efforts next year.

* see the "current newsletter" page on the [APC website](#) for full text.

Alternatives to Violence Workshops & Presentation in Fairbanks!

Carrie Farr

Those of us organizing the AVP workshops here in Alaska are excited! We are growing! There will be an advanced AVP workshop this Feb. 13-15 for those who completed the beginning workshop. We will have Roger coming back from the Seattle AVP as well as Karen from Homer to facilitate the weekend.

Then in late March (probably March 27-29), we will have another beginning AVP. There was a working group of AVPers who gave workshops in the 1990's in the communities around Alaska and in three of the jails in the state. Lucky for us, we have found five of the 1990's facilitators interested in becoming active again and leading the way for those of us who will become facilitators in the future.

There are many ways to work on peace and this is one way--learning alternative ways to deal with conflict that are more effective than ways we may have learned growing up. AVP focuses on individual peace-making in the relationships around us. To learn more about it, you are invited to come to an interesting talk by Roger on Thurs. Feb.12 at the Alumni Center on the UAF campus (Constitution Hall) at 7 p.m.

**“When the power of love overcomes the love of power,
the world will learn peace.”**

Jimi Hendrix

On the Road in Cuba 7/31 - 8/15/2014, Highlights

Dear Friends of Peace Rider,...following up on friendships from my earlier February and March ride in eastern Cuba. I didn't take a bicycle this time.

Don Ross, aka Peace Rider, has been bicycling thousands of miles in recent years. You can check out his blog at: <http://ridefortheplanet.blogspot.com/>

Our nation loudly proclaims the words Democracy and peace. Its deeds are war and killing.

Our nation has been at war in the Middle East since 2003.

Official policy has become “endless war without end.”

War and military expenditures come at a price to all of society. Less resources available for education, employment, the general welfare of our own citizens.

Profits made from war are theft from every man, woman and child.

“Innocent until proven guilty” is replaced with “suspected” as all that is needed to kill an ‘enemy’. Justice and due process have been lost.

It is acknowledged after the fact that mistakes are often made by our killing military machine.

Who pays for the deaths of those who were innocent?
Can money buy the life of one who is killed?
What have we become as a nation?

The time for peace is now; it can be realized within you and may you live in peace forever.

Dick Farris

“An eye for an eye only ends up making the whole world blind.”

Mahatma Gandhi

North Star Veterans for Peace, VfP chapter 146, is looking for new members and energy!

Veterans for Peace Rob Mulford and John Spitzberg are the most reliable staffers of Open Hours for the Alaska Peace Center. They also keep abreast of what our armed forces are being called upon to do in our name, with our tax money (often close to 50% of the budget!), and other activities that influence the future of our community, state, nation, and world. John staffs Friday Open Hours 7-9pm. He invites veterans and those who embrace the VfP mission to visit, or call him at 828-230-6902.

Things to See & Do:

Friday, January 30th, 2015:

"Growing up poor and uneducated amid violence in El Salvador"

Come join the Alaska Peace Center's Potluck (6pm) and a presentation by Tony Gasbarro (7pm)

<http://www.projectsalvador.org/scholarshipprogram.html>

In the conference room at the Mary Siah Recreation Center
805 14th Avenue

*Next Alaska Peace Center board of directors meeting: Thursday, February 5th.
Come help plan activities!*

On the internet:

www.alaskapeace.org for lots!,

<http://www.kwrk.org/> for Fairbanks Open Radio

Check out Fairbanks Peace Choir facebook & youtubes by internet search!

See Rob Mulford's web site at <http://www.asymmetricmoose.info/no-winged-robot-assassins-north.html>

For more about Kathy Kelly: <http://vcnv.org/speaker-bio/kathy-kelly/> and about Creech AFB:

... <http://www.veteransforpeace.org/who-we-are/member-highlights/2014/12/01/shutdown-creechafb-national-mobilization-mass-nonviolent-di>

Friends National Committee on National Legislation: http://fcnl.org/about/events/washington_dc_shared_security_join_the_conversation/

American Friends Service Committee: <http://afsc.org/key-issues>

Alternatives to Violence Project: <http://avpusa.org/>

<http://www.veteransforpeace.org/>

http://www.ted.com/talks/glenn_greenwald_why_privacy_matters <http://courageoresist.org/>

http://www.democracynow.org/blog/2012/12/13/the_trials_of_bradley_manning

Where Your Income Tax Money Really Goes: <https://www.warresisters.org/federalpiechart> (Yes, tax time is approaching again...How many of us are unwillingly complicit in war crimes by allowing our taxes to fund them?)

War Tax Resistance <http://www.warresisters.org/wartaxresistance>

Global Day of Action on Military Spending: <http://demilitarize.org/> ; <http://newprioritiesnetwork.org/>



No Nukes North <http://nonukesnorth.net/>

Alaska Peace Center Donation Form

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____ May we add this to the APC's email list? Yes No

Are you interested in opportunities to help? Yes No My check for \$250 \$100 \$25 \$_____ is enclosed.

The Alaska Peace Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations to APC are tax deductible.

Vision: The Alaska Peace Center is committed to nonviolent conflict resolution, working for peace within ourselves, our community, and our world.

The Alaska Peace Center is committed to nonviolent conflict resolution and to working for peace within ourselves, our communities and our world. APC opened in 2005. It is a nonprofit organization with 501(c)(3) status.

Board members and officers:

Heather Koponen, Carrie Farr, Alan Batten, Rob Mulford, Flynn Ludington, Suzanne Osborn, Dick Farris



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