

# Handful of Salt

Volume XXXV, Number 4

July-August, 2011



**Let's re-ignite the torch:  
Re-starting our young activist leaders program!**

**By Liz Moore, PJALS Director**

Since the early 80's, PJALS' vibrant youth program helped countless young people get a taste for social justice. I started coming to the youth program (then called Youth for World Awareness) in 1991—I felt I'd found an oasis of like-minded people from different high schools, encouraging each other to ask questions and to educate ourselves about issues we cared about in our world. I remember impassioned conversations, making signs for protests, and a fundraising concert. I felt like I'd found a political home and began to learn the organizing skills that I've continued to use since then.

Now we've kicked off our fundraising drive to re-start PJALS' youth program and to create an Organizer position to staff it and other peace and justice work, thanks to the commitment and generosity of wonderful folks at our May auction. This effort is part of our 3-year goal of

engaging young people to increase their involvement in PJALS and to support youth-led efforts. We will have a 7-month leadership development program for young activists (ages 16-22), from student groups, faith communities, and community groups as well as new PJALS members. We'll offer a series of workshops on topics including corporate power, racial justice, nonviolence and militarism, campaign planning, project coordination, conversations to move someone to take action, and effective meetings. Every month, program participants will volunteer with a group of their choice (including PJALS of course!).

We want to provide a gathering place for young people to ask questions, to educate each other, and to explore social justice work together. We can create a program unique for its focus on hands-on organizing skills and we can help grow a vibrant network of young people committed to social justice.

We need your help in two ways:

1. Will you donate now to help re-start this great program? Costs will include dedicated staff time, materials, food, and, if we can, bus passes and stipends for those who complete the commitment. Your donation of \$50, \$100, or any amount will help launch this exciting program! It's easy at [www.pjals.org/contribute](http://www.pjals.org/contribute).

2. Will you help us connect with young family members or friends? Can you connect us with a group at a high school, college, your faith community, or elsewhere? Call us!

**Peace and Justice Action League of Spokane**

Affiliate of the Fellowship of Reconciliation

35 W. Main, Ste 120M, Spokane, WA 99201 • 509-838-7870 • [www.pjals.org](http://www.pjals.org)

### **The Handful of Salt**

is published six times a year by the Peace and Justice Action League of Spokane. Its name comes from Gandhi's salt tax protest in India, a successful, nonviolent, grassroots action that created significant social change against overwhelming resource advantages.

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Contact PJALS: 509-838-7870, [www.pjals.org](http://www.pjals.org), [pjals@pjals.org](mailto:pjals@pjals.org)

### **Volunteers Make It Happen**

Contact Dale at 838-7870 to share your time and talents.

**Volunteer Opportunities,  
Contact Dale at 838-7870  
or [draugust@pjals.org](mailto:draugust@pjals.org)**

**Activist Change Theater, Next Meeting is  
June 28th at 5:30  
in the Com Building Lobby**

**July 10: Jordan Valley School Building  
Project, 35 W Main**

**August 13: Hispanic Heritage Festival,  
11-6, Volunteers needed for tabling**

**August 20: Unity in the Park, 11-4  
Volunteers needed for tabling**

Become a Handful Contributor.  
We welcome your articles, subject to editing  
for space and appropriateness of content.  
Contact [draugust@pjals.org](mailto:draugust@pjals.org)

### **Wish List**

**External Hard Drive for computers for  
back-up and storage. About \$100**

**Canopy, 10' x 10', About \$250.**

**Printing our Next issue of the Handful,  
\$450; Mailing our next issue \$100.**

**PJALS' expenses for one month, \$6,000**

**Case of Copy Paper, \$48**

**Office chairs and desktop computers  
less than two years old.**

**Volunteers for office work and other  
tasks beginning September 2011**

## Bring Our Billion\$ Home

### By Shar Lichty

PJALS new banner debuted at Bloomsday and was recently in the Pride Parade. Its beautiful blue background displays the message of our flagship campaign, "Money for People, Not for War: Bring Our Billion\$ Home."

When we launched this movement building campaign, we had set an initial goal of gathering 500 individuals and 10 organizational endorsements by June 30, 2011. We began signature collection on MLK Day at the Unity March where we collected over 250 signatures. Since that time volunteers have been gathering signatures at various events and presentations have been given to a variety of organizations. I am proud to report that we have surpassed our initial goal and currently have over 700 individuals and 12 organizational endorsements. The organizations which have endorsed our campaign are: PDA Spokane; Veterans for Peace, Spokane Chapter; The LGBT Center; Dempsey's Brass Rail; Code Pink, Spokane; Boundary County Peace Group; Sustainable Structures; Senior Legislative Coalition of Eastern Washington; MEChA of EWU; Scary Feminists of EWU; Eastern Washington Voters; and Yak Research.

I am currently working to put together a presentation to deliver to organizations when we request their endorsements. We will first be seeking endorsements from the 25 co-sponsors of the Peace & Economic Justice Action Conference this past March who have not yet endorsed. In addition to this list, we will be approaching local chapters of Unions who are affiliated with U.S. Labor Against the War.

As part of this campaign, I have been participating in "The New Priority Networks" monthly conference calls. This network includes several organizations across the country with campaigns similar to ours, calling for an end to the wars, reduction of Pentagon budget and a shift in spending to services that benefit our communities. These calls provide a great resource of ideas and the opportunity to learn from organizers of other campaigns across the country. The New Priorities Network has launched an online poll to gather information on which federal budget the public prefers: Obama's, Ryan's GOP, or the Progressive

Caucus' Peoples Budget. You can find a link to this poll on our website: [www.pjals.org](http://www.pjals.org). The poll gives a side-by-side comparison of the three proposed budgets and asks which one you prefer. Participants are asked to provide their zip codes in order to track information by congressional district. This information will be used in the future to approach our elected Representatives. Please visit our website for more information on Bring Our Billion\$ Home and to take this quick poll which closes on July 15, 2011.

## Balancing the Budget on the Backs of the Most Vulnerable

### By Shar Lichty

Despite the efforts of the Our Economic Future Coalition, which PJALS is a part of, to close tax loopholes and preserve vital services, the legislators passed an all-cuts budget.

The work of this coalition and its members did increase discussion around and consideration of closing some of the 567 tax loopholes, which contribute to the revenue problem our state continues to face year after year. There were several bills introduced during the special session that called for closing of specific loopholes while dedicating funding to specific programs, placing sunset dates and putting better transparency measures into place; however, with the passage of I-1053 last November which instituted a 2/3 majority requirement to raise taxes, none of them survived.

While this year's budget managed to make reductions rather than eliminations to several programs as originally proposed by the Governor, these reductions and the elimination of programs such as the cash portion of Disability Lifeline will be devastating to many individuals in our communities. Enormous cuts to vital public health, education and safety infrastructure make up 90% of the budget solution for the next biennium with the

*Continued on page 5*

## **Moving from Domination to Partnership by Dale Raugust**

In June I participated in “The Ultimate Men’s Summit” an online series of web seminars. One of the most soul stirring was the discussion of how we, as men, and we, as a society, can move from a patriarchal mindset to one of solidarity, not replacing patriarchy with another oppression, such as matriarchy, but moving to a place where the talents and dispositions of each person, female or male, determines the responsibility and authority that each person will share.

Riane Eisler, author of The Power of Partnerships, and other books on male-female relations and partnership spirituality, was one of the presenters at the Men’s Summit. She said the following about partnership spirituality: *“Moving from domination to partnership in the relations between men and women will not by itself take us to a more just and peaceful world. However, it is an essential change that has vast repercussions. [Moving from domination to partnership] provides a basic mental map for all other relations between people who are different – people of different races, ethnic origins, religions, and so forth. If we do not reject the old view that one half of humanity is entitled to dominate and even brutalize the other half, all of us face a bleak future. Partnership spirituality sees the divine in both male and female form.”* Partnership spirituality is not just the change we want to see within our sexual intimate relationships, but within all relationships. All of us have a need to connect intimately with other people, not only on a physical level but also on a deep soul level. A relationship of spiritual partnership, whether between lovers, friends, or family, facilitates this intimacy.

This movement from the domination of

patriarchy to the partnership of solidarity translates on an international level to a rejection of the domination politics of the old world to the cooperation of the new world in which stronger nation states do not dominate weaker ones. Eisler speaks of there being two previous revolutionary movements in the history of humankind: the agricultural revolution and the industrial revolution. This movement from domination to solidarity Eisler labeled the “ecological revolution”, an appropriate title as the movement is more than just male-female relationships, but our relationship between racial, ethnic, religious, national and all other groups including our relationship to the planet.

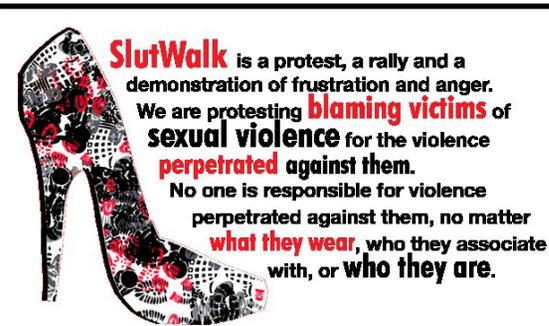
Domination by stronger nation states prevents effective global partnerships for development and the spirit of domination kills any initiative to foster human solidarity and creates a propensity to consider short-term financial profit and wealth accumulation as a primary concern. Eisler defined Solidarity as “a union of interests, purposes, or sympathies among members of a group; or a fellowship of responsibilities and interests.” The way of the future is the replacement of domination with solidarity, patriarchy with partnership, competition with collaboration and consumerism with sustainability. As Dr. Martin Luther King said: “One day we must come to see that peace is not merely a distant goal that we seek, but a means by which we arrive at that goal.” To get from the domination of patriarchy as it is manifested on the world stage, to solidarity and partnership, we must first eliminate patriarchy and domination from our lives, then we can address its elimination from world politics.

*Shar Lichty: Balancing the Budget:*

*Continued from page 3*

other 10% consisting of fund transfers, no new revenue options were incorporated. The \$4.5 billion in cuts from this budget follow \$5.5 billion in cuts that came over the last two years and will impact our state in ways I find to be immoral and unacceptable.

Wall Street Banks will continue to thrive, individuals can still elect to have cosmetic surgery with no sales tax, and private jet owners will still enjoy exemptions on their excise taxes while our most vulnerable: children, seniors, the unemployable, those with developmental disabilities and immigrants lose vital services. Some of these cuts will result in the inability of these individuals to have their basic needs of housing, food, and healthcare met. Others will have their quality of life and care reduced to unacceptable levels. All of these cuts will cost our state more money in the future. What will it take for lawmakers to realize that our communities are too big to fail, people dying in the streets or institutionalized? These are some of the results I see coming from the budget they just passed.



*Picture Credit: Megan Dawn Mahnke*



*Taylor Malone, Slutwalk Organizer  
And Greg Youmans, Miss Conception  
Picture Credit: Christopher Anderson*



*Picture credit: Jessica Nuna*



## **Rusty Nelson, On War And Peace**

“It’s the economy, stupid,” seems to have worked for President Clinton. At least, from this side of the Bush administration, Bill Clinton appears a genius at compiling a budget and the political plan to make it stick. He made both Bushes look inept at anything having to do with money, except raising campaign cash.

Apparently, some observers feel the Bushes have suffered enough by comparison to a balanced budget, and Obama should hang from the same gibbet

Obama was the first big party presidential candidate to get my vote since Walter Mondale, but I never expected an economic miracle. I think he’s done a very good job in most areas, considering political constraints, such as being bound to big business almost as tightly as the Republicans who salivate over his anticipated failure.

My disappointments in Obama have to do with his failure to reject the war economy, which had so much to do with the inherited fiscal catastrophe. Accepting the war economy, he condoned dominance of the military industrial complex over the federal government, the priority of war over peace, corporations over people, and status quo over reform.

When I ask, with other Veterans for Peace, “How’s the war economy working for

you?” it’s not criticism of President Obama. It’s criticism of public acceptance of policies and attitudes that failed us a generation ago and made The Great Recession inevitable.

Republicans who’ve been around longer than Obama are allowed to have their cake and eat it, too. Many of them were with G.H.W. Bush when he snubbed the peace dividend handed to him on a piece of the Berlin Wall; with Bill Clinton when he embraced NAFTA and put U.S. jobs on the fast track to Latin America and Asia; with G.W. Bush when he rewarded tycoons for putting American unemployment and environmental degradation on steroids by excusing them from billions in taxes. And when Obama was overly generous in the bailout, they insisted he do more for corporations.

I say Obama was overly generous because I think bailout funds should have been given to consumers to purchase goods and services. Even banks would have been well-served by enabling struggling homeowners and if a big banker had to ramp down from a Bentley and a Ferrari to a Lincoln and a Corvette, it would boost the real U.S. economy. Any stabilizing funds to businesses should be directed to payroll for rank and file workers, instead of incentives to reduce employment to increase profits. Fat cats already received too much assistance in that regard, as the power of the WTO may assure that corporations never have to worry about powerful unions and full employment, again.

I don’t want to tax my space and your attention span with cherry-picked statistics, but if you need that, I’ll be glad to make suggestions. My job, as I see it, is to prepare you to ask your conservative neighbors, relatives, friends and congressional delegation, “How’s the war economy working for you?” Don’t be shy about asking the same of local and state candidates for public office, military members and mercenaries between hazardous duty assignments, Fairchild

boosters, students, and job-seekers.

Surely we have learned that electing Democrats instead of Republicans is not a solution. Bashing the concept of socialism, desperate economic refugees, or organized teachers and government employees, is an even worse idea. In fact, changing the way we think will be necessary for Americans to take back our economy and government from the rampaging military juggernaut which precludes progress in safety and security, not to mention prosperity. I won't stop voting or writing letters to elected representatives, but while we vet more radical proposals, I'd like to mention a few missed opportunities which didn't even involve military spending.

In Washington, income tax is seen as a political challenge, rather than a matter of economic justice or much needed revenue. Even politicians who have trouble pronouncing "economic justice," will say they're for it. They may admit our state has the most regressive tax system in the country, but they'll insist a state income tax is poison. I, for one, have no problem saying, "I told you so!" But don't be surprised that voters who would enjoy torturing the rich will not vote to tax the rich. My generation of modest-income-voters was brainwashed by Ronald Reagan to believe we must treat the rich as we wish to be treated when we become rich, by and by. Even Bill Gates could not convince voters that an income tax is good for Washington, and I hear zero state legislators raising the issue during the loudly lamented massacre of education and social programs. One national opportunity seems to have escaped everyone's notice. I only thought of it when I accepted a federal subsidy to buy an HD box. Millions of Americans were given about \$40 to buy this gadget, even if they didn't need the money or the box, or if, as in my case, it failed to produce television reception because of a

geographical barrier. Congress gladly appropriated funds in order for the broadcast industry to provide technology which would stimulate sales of new equipment and subscriptions to cable and satellite services. Broadcasters got their socialized high definition, but Congress can't see the value of single-payer health insurance. But here's the missed opportunity: If Congress pays taxpayers' money for the HD boxes, why can't it require that the units be manufactured in the U.S.? I don't know how many jobs that might have saved or created, but it's more than none.

Green energy guru William McDonough came to Spokane to spark former Mayor John Powers' One Spokane campaign. He made a suggestion to a large audience about utilizing the old Kaiser rolling mill in Spokane Valley. Make windmills, he said, and get in on the clean energy boom. Well, the boom has hit Washington, and it's costing someone millions of dollars to transport huge windmill components from places like Denmark and South Dakota. If any of us in the audience had venture capital, I guess we figured that scheme couldn't compete with slave labor in Asia.

I'm in no mood to hear that we can't tax the wealthy because they create jobs. Without going offshore, show me the jobs they create. While you're at it, explain why it's Obama's fault that the slowest job growth in U.S. history occurred from 2000 to 2007.

Okay, I'm retired, but I have two hard-working children. They do meaningful work, and they're good at it. In the war economy, every day brings a threat to their employment, housing and health care. How stupid is that?

## **"WE ARE UNARMED AND WE ARE SAILING"**

**On Anniversary of Mavi Marmara Killings, U.S. Boat to Gaza Announces Sailing Plans – Passenger list includes six from the Pacific Northwest.**

**by Marianne Torres**

June 16, 2011

With the situation changing daily, participants in the international Freedom Flotilla II-Stay Human are determined to set sail for Gaza by the end of June in the continuing struggle to break the deadly Israeli naval blockade of Gaza, where 1.5 million civilians live in what is called by many “the largest open-air prison in the world.”

Not deterred by Israel’s attack last year on the Free Gaza Flotilla that resulted in the deaths of nine civilians on board the Turkish ship Mavi Marmara and the wounding of many more, 50 Americans will be aboard the American-flagged ship, the US Boat to Gaza named *Audacity of Hope*, when the international Flotilla sets sail in late June.

Israel is pulling out all stops to halt this Flotilla before it sails, from scare tactics like describing their plans to drop attack dogs and handlers onto the boats and use snipers to kill resisters to pressuring governments to stop the boats from sailing from their various ports. Israel is now holding naval exercises in the area as part of the intimidation tactics.

The makeup of this year’s Flotilla is changing constantly as world events contrive to require new decisions and pressure from Israel mounts. The biggest ship, the Turkish Mavi Marmara carrying 800 people, may yet pull out, pressured by the flood of Syrian refugees into Turkey’s northern border. The charitable organization that owns and runs the ship is being pulled to address the humanitarian emergency within Turkey,

though intense pressure on the Turkish government to stop the ship has not made their decision any easier.

Freedom Flotilla II is comprised at press time of approximately 1000 people in 10 boats from Ireland, Spain, Switzerland, the U.S., Canada and more, in a continuing international effort to bring an end to the blockade, under which the people, almost half of whom are children, are suffering food shortages, 45-60% unemployment, and live on less than \$2.00 a day. 70 percent of the population obtains not-always-potable water for only eight hours every two days.

PJALS members will recognize some of the most oft-used attempts to stop the Flotilla: “now is not the time”; “you should go through ‘established channels’ first”; “this is not the way to do it.” In fact the Canadian government is also using exactly that reasoning in their attempt to stop the Canadian ship from joining the Flotilla. In France, pressure was successfully applied to the insurance company that was to insure the French boat, which has pulled out as a result.

The failure of “established channels” is the very reason for the campaign to break the siege. Israel’s determination to allow just enough food in to keep the population from starving to death and to prevent rebuilding after repeated air and land attacks on the civilian population requires an international response to end that siege. Because that response has not been forthcoming, international activists have been working since 2008 to accomplish that “outside established channels.” Opening the Rafah Crossing to Egypt in no way addresses the desperate need in Gaza: crossing remains limited, the situation is unstable, almost no humanitarian aid or construction materials are allowed in, and Rafah doesn’t lead to the West Bank.

The Flotilla will carry letters from people all

over the world to the people of Gaza, minimal amounts of aid, and their passengers include teachers, journalists, students, healers, doctors, attorneys, peace activists, members of various parliaments.

Among the passengers on the US Boat are six people from the Pacific Northwest: David Schermerhorn from Deer Harbor WA – crew and veteran of several flotilla sailings; Richard Lopez - jazz musician, Tumwater; Megan Horan - activist, Seattle; Erin DeRamus - acupuncturist, Portland; and Johnny Barber - EMT, Gallatin Gateway MT. Over 35% of the US passengers are over 60, the eldest being Hedy Epstein, 84 and David Schermerhorn, 81.

The US Boat will also carry several high profile passengers on the US Boat to Gaza:

- Ann Wright, retired US Army Colonel and former US diplomat who resigned in 2003 in opposition to the Iraq war, and an organizer of the US Boat to Gaza.

- Ray McGovern, Army infantry/intelligence officer in the early 60s, known to many anti-war activists for his social justice work over the past 20 years;

- Alice Walker, internationally celebrated author (e.g. *The Color Purple*), poet and activist;

- Kathy Kelly, co-coordinator of Voices for Creative Nonviolence, a campaign to end U.S. military and economic warfare, and who was a PJALS-sponsored speaker in 2006; and

- Greta Berlin, known to Spokane folks as a major organizer of and participant in the first Free Gaza Flotilla in 2008, which PJALS activists embraced and contributed to generously.

The May 31 Press Release said the *Audacity of Hope* will carry thousands of letters of friendship and solidarity with the people of Gaza from people around the world.

Inspections of the boat and its passengers prior

Inspections of the boat and its passengers prior to departure will confirm the non-violent nature of the mission. In the release, Richard Levy, attorney and passenger on *The Audacity of Hope* and a former official in the Jewish organization B'nai Brith, explained that "Because Israel occupies Gaza, and accordingly has obligations under the Geneva Conventions, it cannot legally blockade Gaza. Therefore, attempts by the Israeli government to prevent ships from going to Gaza are equally illegal."

In a May 9 2011 press statement out of Brussels from the International Committee of the Freedom Flotilla Coalition, the committee said "The UN Human Rights Committee Fact Finding Mission into the 2010 flotilla attack found Israel's blockade on Gaza to be unlawful. The International Committee of the Red Cross has said that Israel must end its illegal closure of Gaza. Yet Israel continues to disregard international law and ignore the will of the international community. Without any strong diplomatic action being taken to enforce international law and defend the human rights of the Palestinian people, the flotilla must sail and other international initiatives to end Israel's impunity are called for."

Palestinian organizers inside and outside Palestine are planning another "Return March" to the borders, this time to coincide with the arrival of Freedom Flotilla II in Gaza. This march, called the "Flotilla March" will commemorate the Nakba Day and Naksa Day casualties from marches to the border during June this year. Nakba Day is named for the massive displacement of Palestinians from their homes in 1948 and Naksa Day refers to the second displacement in 1967.

**For information about the Flotilla go to [www.pjals.org](http://www.pjals.org) for web site links.**

## Safe and Sustainable Streets

### The Complete Street Ordinance

by Kitty Klitzke, Futerwise

The streets and sidewalks of our city are an important part of the livability of our community. They ought to be for everyone, whether young, old, motorist, bicyclist, walker, wheelchair user, bus rider, poor or wealthy. 30% of Washingtonians don't drive. But too many of our streets are designed only for those who can own, insure, and operate a car.

This lack of transportation choices creates big problems for our community and our economy. Studies show that elderly and disabled people in unwalkable neighborhoods with poor access to transit leave home much less frequently than those more walkable neighborhoods, thus participating less in our community and economy. Transportation costs are the 2nd largest expense in American households; having more transportation choices would also help the working poor in our community cut down or eliminate this burden.

Passing a Complete Streets Ordinance would ensure that transportation planners and engineers consistently design and operate the entire roadway and sidewalk with all users in mind. New city streets and major repaving projects would be designed for everyone to walk, cycle, or get to bus stops. PJALS' Steering Committee endorses the Complete Streets Campaign. Will you join them in encouraging our local governments to adopt a Complete Streets Policy. For more information please visit:  
[www.futurewise.org/spokane/completestreets](http://www.futurewise.org/spokane/completestreets).

## How Did the US Become World's Leading Jailer?

By Chuck Armsbury

The Exile Nation Project: An Oral History of the War on Drugs and the American Criminal Justice System

Filmmaker Charles Shaw will be present for a premiere screening in Spokane this summer, and you are invited. The screening and discussion with the filmmaker will be on Friday, July 15th from 6 to 10 p.m. at the Magic Lantern Theatre, 25 W. Main Ave, Spokane, Washington. Admission is \$10 at the door, supportive contributions much appreciated, and no one will be turned away for lack of funds.

The Land of the Free punishes or imprisons more of its citizens than any other country of the world. Exile Nation is a documentary collection of testimony from formerly incarcerated people, their family members, and experts on America's criminal justice system that tracks the US government's steady, 40-year, trillion-dollar social catastrophe of the war on drugs, and the movement to counter it.

Two segments of Exile Nation feature November Coalition's leaders, Nora Callahan and Chuck Armsbury, who will also be present at the July screening. November Coalition, a national group with an office in Colville, Washington, was founded in 1997 to warn fellow citizens of exploding prison populations due to the war on drugs.

For more information on filmmaker Charles Shaw and the Exile Nation Project visit:

**[www.ExileNation.org](http://www.ExileNation.org) or [November Coalition \(www.november.org\)](http://www.november.org)**

## PRIDE MONTH

By SHAR LICHTY

June brings excitement for many with the start to summer vacations, warmer weather and graduations. It also brings some of my favorite events to Spokane as we celebrate Pride Month. This year I was able to attend several events and organize another as part of the Pride Calendar.

I began celebrating Pride with 175 other people as we joined together for Hands Across Monroe, an event in response to a recent attack on two gay men for holding hands across the Hawthorne Bridge in Portland. It was wonderful to see the community turnout making the statement that hate and violence will not be tolerated in Spokane. The following evening I attended the Rainbow Awards for the first time and enjoyed an evening of fun with friends, old and new. This year's well deserving recipients were Taylor Malone, The LGBT Center and Sandy Williams. Taylor Malone donated the cash portion of her award to PJALS, as her favorite charity. Thank you, Taylor for your support and all you do for our community! At the INBA lunch I listened to Major Marjorie Witt give a presentation on her experience with Don't Ask Don't Tell and her lawsuit against the Air Force. This was certainly a learning experience for me and provided me with insight on the real effects of this oppressive policy on LGBT individuals who choose to serve in the military. While I would prefer no one served in the military, I first and foremost want to see any individual making that choice to be able to do so openly and be fully accepted for who they are.

This year not only did PJALS provide peacekeepers for the Parade, as we have every year since it began 20 years ago, we had a delegation marching as well. Veterans for Peace and

And the P-Jammers joined us and PJALS won the award for best music in the park! Once again the event was fun and fabulous with only one guy and his giant sign there to protest. I spent all afternoon at the Rainbow Festival after the parade and was able to network and enjoy the entertainment as I walked around or helped with tabling. Pride is one of my favorite days in Spokane, one day of the year when I am proud to live here.

As part of the Pride celebration this year, PJALS held a free screening of the documentary *Out in the Silence* which tells the story of a high school student in rural Pennsylvania and the struggles and abuse he encountered when he came out. We were able to get support for this event from ten co-sponsors: The LGBT Center; Youth Suicide Prevention Program; Spokane AIDS Network; Salem Lutheran Church; Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane; The Alliance at SFCC; Safe Schools; OutSpokane; Odyssey Youth Center; and PFLAG Spokane. Because of the amazing local support for this screening, the creator of the film, Joe Wilson sent us a special "feature" version of the film with an extra ten minutes of footage. The film was followed by a wonderful discussion led by panelists that included two local high school students.

We were also able to "recruit" five youth for our Youth Leadership Group restarting this fall. I couldn't have asked for a more perfect evening to end my celebration during Pride Month this year.



**Peace & Justice Action League of Spokane**  
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## **Palestine: Projects of Hope and Healing**

Stories of Strength, Struggle and Reality for Palestinians and Israelis

With Sheila Fox, LMP, Sound Healer and Musician

Sunday, July 10, 2011 1:00—3:00 pm Community Building Lobby— FREE

See the Insert for more details

### **Please support PJALS!**

The Peace and Justice Action League of Spokane depends upon gifts and dues from members to continue to work for peace and justice, locally and globally. We welcome anyone who favors free exchange of ideas and nonviolent action to war or to inaction and ignorance. PJALS, 35 W Main, Suite 120M, Spokane, WA 99201.

You determine your own level of support and participation. Members also determine issues and projects that get the most attention and effort. PJALS is a 501©3 nonprofit corporation.

Call 838-7870 to discuss the by-the-month options, or visit [www.pjals.org](http://www.pjals.org) and click "Contribute" in upper right corner.

Other membership options:

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Essential/Vintage members \$60/year

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Retro members \$40/year

\_\_\_\_\_

Precious Scholars \$20/year

Phone/email \_\_\_\_\_







