

Handful of Salt

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Sept-Oct-Nov 2013



Director's Report by Liz Moore

It is the Zimmerman mindset that must be found guilty

Like millions of people across the country, I was very saddened when I learned a Florida jury had found George Zimmerman not guilty of murder nor manslaughter for shooting and killing Trayvon Martin. I thought about how I, as a white mama, never have to think about preparing my sons to walk or drive in a world that repeatedly demonstrates it places less value on the lives and actions of people of color--and that "never have to think" is just one example of the white privilege I live and breathe and which they inherited unearned at birth. Though racism has so many facets, a parent's need to gird their child to face and survive racism has always seemed like one of the most piercing forms. I want to share with you Tim Wise's powerful piece "No Innocence Left to Kill: Racism, Injustice and Explaining America to My Daughter," to which we'll link in our blog.

Professor Michelle Alexander, author of *The New Jim Crow*, wrote "If Trayvon Martin had been born white he would be alive today. That has been established beyond all reasonable doubt. If he had been white, he

never would have been stalked by Zimmerman, there would have been no fight, no funeral, no trial, no verdict. It is the Zimmerman mindset that must be found guilty - far more than the man himself. It is a mindset that views black men and boys as nothing but a threat, good for nothing, up to no good no matter who they are or what they are doing. It is the Zimmerman mindset that has birthed a penal system unprecedented in world history, and relegated millions to a permanent undercaste. Trayvon, you will not be forgotten. We will honor you - and the millions your memory represents - by building a movement that makes America what it must become. RIP"

On our blog we'll link to two other recommended pieces.

3 things you can do:

Sign on to the NAACP's petition to the Department of Justice asking for federal charges, including civil rights charges, to be filed against George Zimmerman **at naacp.org/The-DOJ-Petition**

Educate yourself about the NAACP's set of policy principles called "Trayvon's Law" which embody legislative responses that will greatly reduce the likelihood of another tragedy like the killing of Trayvon Martin.
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Peace and Justice Action League of Spokane

Affiliate of the Fellowship of Reconciliation

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The Handful of Salt

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

Steering Committee: David Brookbank (vice-chair), Jessica Jahn, Rebecca Lamb, Darlene McCarty (Secretary), Suzy Vennard (chair, also Volunteer Office Manager and Volunteer Coordinator)

Staff: Liz Moore, Director; Shar Lichty, Organizer; EWU interns Dom Felix and Jeremiah Manes (beginning late Sept.)

Wonderful Volunteers: Aaron Kathman, Allie Keranan, Art Hathaway, Chris Nerison, Deb Conklin, Jeremy Street, Lucy Vazquez, Mark Hamlin, Mark Stucker, Mary Naber, Mike Nuess, Nancy Street, Tara Williamson

Contact PJALS: 509-838-7870, www.pjals.org, pjals@pjals.org

Volunteers Make It Happen

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

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Go to naacp.org or visit the online version of this article for a link. <http://www.naacp.org/news/entry/naacp-releases-trayvons-law-principles-for-state-legislative-advocacy>

Go to <http://www.showingupforracialjustice.org/> and download their "Justice for Trayvon Action Kit" which includes posters, links, suggestions for conversations, and specific actions you can take.

Become a Handful Contributor.
We welcome your articles, subject to editing for space and appropriateness of content.
Contact slichty@pjals.org

Fall Events

Save the Dates!

(More information on inserts)

- Sept 19: A Force More Powerful screening, discussion & social 5:30pm Community Building Lobby
- Sept 21: Volunteer Appreciation Party & Membership Meeting 4pm
- Sept 26: Mumia: Long Distance Revolutionary at Magic Lantern 7pm
- Oct. 5: PJALS "Books not War" booksale Time/Location TBA
- Oct 14: American Winter screening at Bing Crosby Theater 6:30pm
- Oct 17: From Spokane with Love screening at Magic Lantern. 7pm reception, 7:30pm film
- Oct 25: PJALS Friend to Friend party. 5pm Community Building Lobby

*Rusty Nelson on
Peace and War*



"The Unknown Peace Pact"

Why is it that we - humans, Americans, patriots, progressives, veterans, educators and educated, thinkers and doers - have never been able to get

violence out of our system? This question screamed at me, again, as I pondered the unlikely existence of the Kellogg-Briand Pact, signed by most of the world's nations in 1928.

Perhaps you've seen reports from St. Paul, where Minnesotans seek to honor Frank Kellogg, who, as U.S. Secretary of State, wrote this landmark agreement with the Foreign Minister of France to outlaw war as an instrument for resolving international conflicts. If not, you may be surprised to learn that such a treaty is still legally in effect, internationally and for the United States. Although the pact is violated almost continuously and has no enforcement provisions, it has been effectively used to prevent territorial expansion through military force, although territory has lost a great deal of ranking in reasons for war.

If you consider the number one reason for war, today, you might be tempted to say "oil," but I think we can safely say that is only a part of the real priority for countries on the lookout for a good, bloody, international fight. A more comprehensive incentive is indicated by signs and bumper stickers that appeared in the Spokane area a few years back. Bill Niggemeyer and the Lay Franciscans used the slogan, "Take the Profit out of War," a worthy challenge for any peacemaker, particularly in a country that famously rewards corporate war profiteers. Indeed, looking back, we see that corporate greed not only gets us into wars, it keeps us there. While banks collapsed and auto-makers begged and other manufacturers sent their jobs offshore, Halliburton and General Dynamics celebrated unprecedented power and profits. While casualties and suicides spiked for the military, companies like Boeing and Lockheed-Martin kept their bottom lines healthy with sales to the Pentagon. And

with the old arms race morphing into the war technology race, life is good for the top people in the death business.

Even among peace folks, there will be some sincere beliefs that our country had to ignore Kellogg-Briand to save the world from Hitler and/or Hirohito, but as the history of that war matures, we find more and more reasons we should have pressed for the ban on war. That pact was desperately needed by the people of our planet, but peacemakers got very little attention.

It began as a treaty between France and the U.S., perhaps because M. Briand felt sorry for us or was afraid of us because Congress shunned the League of Nations.

The League of Nations didn't outlaw war. It was designed to discourage military aggression by providing ready-made alliances to defend countries under attack, and, I believe, was Woodrow Wilson's attempt to atone for letting himself be persuaded that there could be such a thing as a "war to end all wars." Of course, many of those who persuaded him to enter WWI, further punished him by trashing his plans for the League, which continued to ineffectively operate without the U.S. or much influence until after WWII. Then, we signed on to the Nuremberg Principles, the 'horses-out-of-the-barn' agreement on war crimes and another law the U.S. officially ignores.

In the United States of 1928, one could find a huge variety of opinions about war. Most observers had been stunned by the brutality of the Great War's life and death in trenches, huge lethal explosions from distant artillery, and frightening clouds of toxic gas. From there, an opinionated person might decide it was mandatory to end war...or necessary to step up our training and resources so the U.S. military could out-brutalize any other fighting force. It was still unthinkable, I believe, that war should result in the deaths of hundreds of innocent children and other noncombatants, not to even dream of the hundreds of thousands considered collateral damage in our 21st Century, undeclared wars.

Speaking of undeclared wars, do you suppose

(Continued on page 4)

(Rusty Nelson on Peace and War, cont from page 3)

the Kellogg-Briand Pact may be partly responsible for our failure to declare war since 1941. We have this treaty that bans war. Let's avoid the W-word and go over there and kick some butt in a police-action/freedom-spreading exercise/quasi-military operation. Hey, it won't last long, will have few casualties, and will be good for business and our balance of payments. Hardly like a war, at all.

I want to know if our congressional delegation knows about this treaty, heck, if anybody in Congress knows about it. Anybody in the State Department? Anyone among our allies? Enemies? How about the N.S.A? Ed Snowden? They didn't teach this stuff in my history classes, but I graduated from high school in Georgia in 1962, and my American or world history teachers thought their courses had gone well if we reached the establishment of the United Nations by the end of the year. It was a bonus if a few of us learned how lame the League of Nations had been. Kellogg had been a senator from a yankee state, Secretary of State under a forgettable president, and then an international jurist, so he certainly couldn't take valuable lesson time away from Jefferson Davis or Robert E. Lee. That's my excuse. You might have a better one if you couldn't find Kellogg-Briand in Zinn's [A People's History of the United States](#).

If it takes a personality to teach us about possibilities for peace, I'm all for it. I hope the folks in St. Paul make a big splash and put Kellogg's name in perpetual lights. But I'm the kind of guy who might be a little skeptical about that. I don't trust the school systems or the media to be of much help when there are more recent historical icons like Norman Schwartzkopf and John Wayne. How do we in the Northwest treat the memory of Jeannette Rankin? Do Montana school children know her name? She was the first woman in the U.S. House of Representatives, and in 1917, she cast one of 51 votes against declaring war on Germany. The *Helena Independent* called her, "a dupe of the Kaiser, a member of the Hun army in the U.S., and a crying schoolgirl." The abuse was

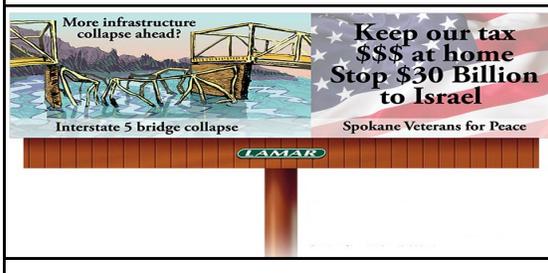
worse when, 24 years later, she stood alone to oppose declaring war on Japan.

Our senators and representative are much too sophisticated to risk that kind of criticism without a huge campaign contribution to mitigate the insult. They don't get to vote on declarations of war, these days, but they all agree that our armed forces should have the best of everything, including funerals and treatment for the wounds to their bodies and their souls, as long as it doesn't detract too much from spending at Fairchild and plush contracts for Boeing.

Having been a hawk, a warrior, and now, a pacifist, I can take up the mantra of the ever-popular NRA: We don't need new laws (treaties). We just need to enforce the ones we have. - RN

Spokane Veterans for Peace, Chapter 35, has contracted for the placement of a billboard on I-90 between Couer d'Alene and Post Falls urging that we "Stop \$30 Billion to Israel." This was a joint collaboration with an anonymous matching grant funder who has helped placed dozens of such billboards across the country, many of them sponsored by local Veterans for Peace chapters.

Spokane Vets for Peace views our \$30 billion funding for Israel as both unnecessary and counterproductive to the aims of 1) peace in the Middle East and 2) filling domestic needs. We note, too, that funding for Israel has substantially increased in the face of the sequester that has devastated social programs and infrastructure spending drastically.



12 hours for everyday suffering

by Lucia Vazquez

At first I was very optimistic of being able to do the full 12 hours with only water to drink yet as the day progressed I doubted being able to make it— my feet were sore, my head pounding, constant thoughts of food raced in my head.

My pain was nothing compared to the number of years families wait to see their loved ones, the deaths of innocent people attempting to seek a better future, the agony undocumented students experience knowing that tuition is due, the fear children face when their parents leave for work, the cruel reality that you're one traffic stop from deportation—these are all real scenarios and being able to symbolized the suffering undocumented people face every day was my motivation.

My family is very important to me, growing up I witnessed my mother's activism, but never fully understood why she was so involved with everything or why she had to drag us children to meetings and events. However, in recent years I finally understood the importance of her work, when I discovered that two of my siblings were undocumented. Like many undocumented students, after graduation my sisters will be lucky to find a job picking crops in the fields or cleaning houses despite their countless hours of



community service, honor cords, and diplomas.

The truth is that I can no longer ignore the injustices my sisters and undocumented people face. They all deserve the same opportunities that I have been given because they have proven themselves part of this country.

In the meanwhile, I will continue to do my part in educating our public and politicians, making phone calls, and being present at actions and mobilizations around immigration reform, the dreams of 11 million undocumented Americas are counting on that. The time is now for Congress to do the right thing and pass a just and humane comprehensive immigration reform with a path to citizenship and that keeps families together.

Lucia Vazquez was a Young Activist Leader and intern with PJALS 2012-2013. She now organizes for immigration reform as a staff person with OneAmerica.



PJALS members at our July 3rd action against government violations of our civil liberties received positive responses from passersby



Redefining Power

by Sheila Fox

I identified with Moji Agha, the Iranian-American poet/writer and peace, human rights and Earth activist that PJALS sponsored recently. Thank you PJALS!

It got me going.....wheels turning..... Moji, a cultural psychologist described himself as having a unique psycho-culturally informed perspective, a Sufi orientation and a “wisely humble” approach to “the nonviolent global struggle against injustice, war and suicidal destruction of human civilization and the planet we share. “ He used language like the “integrated good” “civil spirituality” and “understanding the oneness of all beings.”

This approach speaks to me. It is a somewhat unique perspective and fosters a conversation I feel is crucial to nonviolent resistance, **the redefinition of power.**

There’s a Yiddish saying, “*Abi gezunt ken men gliklekh zayn.* “if you have your health then you can be happy. Happiness spurs energy, energy spurs action. **Health is POWER!**

As a practitioner and advocate for holistic health and as a singer/musician, I too bring a somewhat unique mind and spirit to peace, justice and environmental work. I want peace and justice activists to be strong and healthy! The earth needs you to be on this planet as long as you can! I want to challenge you to examine your health habits and develop a new relationship to your power! **Health Power!**

There are many levels to health; health of the body, of the mind, and of the spirit. When we look at individual or collective health from the ancient wisdom gathered by Traditional



Chinese Medicine, East Indian Aryuvedics and Native American or other indigenous healing traditions, one finds the key component to ill health is separation, from self, community, planet....

This dualistic mental model dominates our world today. In believing that one person is separate from another and that we are separate from nature, we disconnect from our True Nature, where our real power lives. Our bodies are dependent upon and part of the living breathing system of earth, the resources of water and air. Every cell of our bodies; we are mineral, water, air, space, heat or fire, light....

The Personal is soooooo Political!” “Developed” nations continue to participate in toxic, destructive ways, from the industrial corporate complex to our communities and right into our homes. We all participate in it. When you shop at Safeway or Albertsons, Home Depot or Costco and buy food or products that contain ingredients that you can’t pronounce or don’t know what they are, you are most likely buying something not healthy for yourself or the planet and you are handing over your money and your power to your oppressor and destroyer. Our power lies in figuring out how to not participate in it. It takes diligence, discipline, patience, self examination, understanding and compassion to create our way out. These qualities remind me of the Palestinians and Israeli peace activists I met on my trip there! Their hope and commitment inspires me.

If you think you can’t afford to shop at the alternatives to these box stores or don’t have time to hang up the laundry instead of using the dryer, think again. You can’t afford not to! Buy in bulk, bring your own container, grow your garden (without chemicals) or buy from the Farmers Market. Use baking soda and

The Intersections of Us

by Shar Lichty

At the end of July I was fortunate to attend the Activists Mobilizing for Power (AMP) Conference put on each year by Western States Center in Portland. I have been wanting to attend this conference for four years and this year all the forces were in alignment to make it happen.

I have a lot of respect for the work Western States Center does, particularly in the areas of racial and queer equity. As I found myself surrounded by 400 like-minded individuals at a conference that offered several workshops on how to advance this work, had gender neutral restrooms, and a plenary on the gender binary, I felt at home.

One of the most moving experiences I had during my three days at AMP happened at a film screening for *All of Us North Carolina*, a documentary about queer people of color who fought against NC's Amendment One, which stripped domestic partners of their civil rights. The wonderful folks in the film not only organized to fight the amendment but did so with an analysis of the intersections of all of us marginalized by the status quo. They made a commitment to build capacity not only for this specific campaign but to be an ally at all future threats to civil rights and personal



freedoms in NC whether it was supporting comprehensive immigration reform, marching on Bank of America in response to illegal foreclosure actions, opposing voter suppression measures, and so on.

I was moved by their relationship and cultural organizing model as well. Every event shown in the film involved food and music, an opportunity for folks to get to know each other, and campaign planning. PJALS has and does this to a degree, I want to consciously use this model whenever possible as a way to both strengthen relationships and the campaigns we work on.

The day after election day, having experienced a huge loss at the ballot, several members of this group were in Charlotte marching on Bank of America. Campaigns are exhausting whether you win or lose making this a remarkable demonstration of their commitment to support all in the fight against the system that oppresses us. Our system negatively impacts us in different ways but unless you are a white, hetero, christian, male, m/billionaire you are to some degree being oppressed. This intersections of us, when recognized, is our greatest strength. It happened to a small degree with the "We are the 99%" messaging of Occupy. Yes, we are the 99%, now how do we work together to change the system that prevents us from being the 100%?

Redefining Power, continued from page 6
vinegar for your cleaning products, the list of alternatives is vast and is out there.

The key to real health and power is when we align and connect with ourselves and hence our planet. Do no harm to any living thing, be it plant, mineral, animal.

Your brain and nervous system will function a lot better if your body, mind and

spirit are listened to equally. This is how we harness real power. Our focus becomes sharp, creativity flows, energy sparks, our hearts are filled and we are more resilient to whatever comes our way. Envision and revision! Redefine and find your power! We might just be able to create the peace and justice and harmony we all seek.

Smart Justice Update

PJALS is a member of the Smart Justice Campaign Coalition that is participating in a countywide effort to reform our criminal justice system. The Smart Justice Campaign is a broad coalition of 30 organizations and individuals that has come together with others in our community who want to reform our criminal justice system to create a fair and just system. We are incarcerating too many non-violent offenders in Spokane County at a great cost to the taxpayer, to offenders and their families, and we are disproportionately impacting communities of color, low-income, and people with disabilities.

We want to see our tax dollars focused on proven programs that are more effective and efficient than incarceration with the goal of creating a strong and safe community, lowering costs, and changing people's lives so that they stay out of jail permanently. This is what we call Smart Justice and we want to see

it in Spokane.

Our community has a huge opportunity to make major reforms our criminal justice system starting this year. A three-member Spokane Regional Criminal Justice Commission that was appointed by the Mayor of Spokane and the County Commissioners is in the process of conducting a comprehensive and broad review of the criminal justice system that is in the process of conducting a comprehensive and broad review of the criminal justice system.

Look for more information from PJALS this fall about the Criminal Justice Commission's draft recommendations and an opportunity to comment and attend a public hearing. PJALS and the Smart Justice Campaign will be working to turn out Smart Justice supporters. For more information on the Smart Justice Campaign, our policy recommendations and Plan for Regional Smart Justice, go to: www.smartjusticespokane.org.

Engaging students for social justice! PJALS Director will be first Activist-in-Residence at EWU

PJALS is excited to announce that director Liz Moore will serve as the first Activist-in-Residence at EWU this winter. This is a wonderful opportunity to further the work we've begun through our Young Activist Leaders Program and our community organizing internships. We're committed to supporting youth-led organizing and increasing youth engagement in our social justice campaigns. This Activist-in-Residence Program will do both while connecting us more deeply with students and faculty at EWU.

The Activist-in-Residence Program will

support community engagement of students and faculty, provide opportunities to network with a variety of student groups and many EWU departments and programs, and establish broad and diverse connections between EWU and the wider community.

EWU's Women's and Gender Studies Program (WGS) and the Women's Studies Center (WSC) led the creation of the Activist-in-Residence Program, in which a local or regional activist will work with WGS students and faculty, WSC, student groups, and other programs and units throughout the University for one quarter each year. Through interaction with the Activist-in-Residence, students will gain valuable experiential learning pertinent to their academic programs and will engage with community members and groups on a variety of issues.

Corporate Tax Evasion Costs Us Dearly

by Carroll W. McInroe, former Sgt., U.S. Army and WACAN Editorialist

“Mankind has not been born with saddles on their backs, nor a favored few booted and spurred, ready to ride them.” Jefferson wrote those words in an 1826 letter to a friend, only days before his death – but he wrote for all of us. He was sounding a warning for the ages; mankind has always been plagued by the privileged and the powerful riding roughshod over the rest of us. And they always will - if we let them.

Today’s American corporations, with the full support of much of today’s Congress, are rampaging unimpeded, not just across our hallowed shores, but across the entire planet. They have taken over our country, our jobs and our lives - while we slept.

We talk to foreign operators on corporate phones, wear corporate clothes, eat corporate food, bank in corporate banks, suffer corporate insurers, watch corporate news, buy corporate meds, recover or perish in for-profit corporate hospitals, spend our last suffering days in corporate nursing homes and lie buried forever in well-mown corporate graveyards - all the while trying to survive on ever-lower corporate wages.

We working Americans have become the victims of a carefully orchestrated, greedy, uncaring economic coup d’état by the richest plutocrats ever to inhabit the earth. It has taken corporate America just 30 years to dominate our country, buy our Congress, slash our wages, steal our pensions, close our factories, and outsource over 12 million of our best jobs. Millions of hardworking U.S.



citizens go to bed each night worrying “how do I pay all these bills, just to live?”

Now the mega-rich want your Social Security and Medicare too. They cleverly call their new plan the “Grand Bargain,” or “Chained CPI.” Aided and abetted by a corrupt Congress, a weakened President, corporate news, and a silent American public, their first steps are to raise the retirement age to 70, and cut the Social Security Cost of Living Allowance (COLA).

Who are these 100 or so rich men (yes, all men) who want you to “Fix the Debt,” while they refuse to pay their fair share? CEO Randall Stephenson of AT&T makes \$20 million a year, with a retirement package of \$158 million. Rupert Murdoch, owner of influential Fox News, is worth over \$8 billion. These two are fairly typical of today’s American corporate leaders - aristocratic, arrogant, and immensely powerful.

These giant corporations, Fortune 500 all, grossing over \$100 billion a year each, are using offshore tax havens like the Cayman Islands to escape paying their taxes. The Tax Justice Network estimates the world’s wealthy may have as much as \$32 trillion untaxed dollars hidden offshore. America is not broke, rather She is held hostage.

Today’s corporate elites have more money and power than Roman emperors ever dreamed of, yet they want to gut our Social Security, destroy our middle class and confine us forever to miserly minimum wages. We must not let them.

Rule by the rich and corporate tax evasion is the story of the 21st century; they control our lives and our futures. We soon express our outrage as a united people, or the American dream is dead. *(Continued on page 10)*

A Progressive Attitude Adjustment

by Jeremy Street, PJALS member

Progressives will see a positive social sea-change when they start thinking and acting more like my father did.

He had his shortcomings, of course, but people listened to him and seriously considered what he said. He was a Lawyer for fifty years in California, president of the Monterey County Bar Association before I was born, nominated for a judgeship, and occasionally found himself to be an unwitting write-in candidate in various elections. “Toby” as his friends called him, was a lifelong Republican. But although his perspective was conservative (in the old-school sense of the term), his friends included a wide range of people of differing perspectives, many of which were not from the business or legal realms where he spent his workdays. In fact, he was known to spend some of his time with artists and free-thinkers. I’m told that back when the canneries were still operating in Monterey he would gather with artists, thinkers, and occasional strangers at a friend’s bayside laboratory where they would drink the notorious “Lay Away Plan” and argue ideas sometimes for an entire weekend. I understand the “discussions” could get quite loud but were never really bitter. Toby and his friends considered ‘argument’ to be a method for discovering truth by chipping away falsehoods from each other’s thinking, not a way of winning a contest.

This little cluster of jovial friends and helpful adversaries became known as “The Lab Group” and I understand Salvador Dali visited once or twice, and Joseph Campbell attended a few times before anyone knew his name.

In the early 1970s, while I was visiting a

high school friend’s house for the first time, his father, also an attorney, told me his first case in Monterey had been against my father and that “Toby, while dramatic, was so gracious that it was almost a pleasure to lose to him.”

The point here is that it is possible to be loud and vehement and persuasive in discussions without being vitriolic and self-righteous. And, that one can and should value and respect an apparent opponent and can effectively convey that gracious attitude across any line of disagreement. Learning and practicing that discipline is something I believe we would benefit from greatly.

There is much jeering at the unconverted by us progressives, and this angry habit subverts our intentions because it fuels opposition and never converts anyone. Would we rather dominate opponents or convert non-believers? The same people can be seen as enemies or as unconverted brothers and sisters depending on how we wish to view them.

And just as the skills of battle are summoned by the love of domination, the skills of conversion will be summoned by the love of love.



Corporate Tax Evasion, con’t from page 9

“When men yield up the privilege of thinking, the last shadow of liberty quits the horizon.” Thomas Paine.

Carroll is a Vietnam-era veteran, a rancher and the former Iraq/Afghanistan Vets’ Coordinator for Spokane VA Medical Center.

Data provided by Americans for Tax Fairness.

Peace & Justice Action Committee: A new model to advance our work

by Shar Lichty

After a summer off, our Peace & Justice Action Committee (PJAC) will be resuming our meeting schedule on Sept. 19th with a new approach: leadership development and campaign specific organizing. Liz and I have been trying to figure out how to do a version of our Young Activist Leaders Program for non-youth with our limited capacity because of the expressed interest we have received. As a way to re-energize the committee that focuses on our two main campaigns and provide leadership development opportunities at the same time PJAC is taking on a whole new look. I have been working on developing the leadership development model, recruiting leaders, and drafting a plan for Sept through June. I am excited about the possibilities that lie within this new model.

PJAC will run Sept through June with a summer break during July and August. We will continue to meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month with one meeting consisting of either a training, presentation, or event and the other dedicated to break-out sessions for working groups on the two campaigns we will focus on: statewide revenue and Money for People, Not for War: Bring Our Billions Home. We want this meeting to be more member driven, to provide opportunities for leadership development, to strengthen our relationships and organization, and to become a vibrant force in the campaigns we work on.

Here is a look at the next few months:

- Sept. 19th: A Force More Powerful screening (Ghandi & lunch counter sit-ins), discussion and social (light snacks)
- Oct. 3rd: Campaign Organizing workshop
- Oct. 17th: Benefit screening of From



Spokane with Love at Magic Lantern (see insert)

- Nov 7th: Campaign planning in working groups for the year ahead
- Nov. 21st: Legislative 101 with Paul Dillon, legislative aide to Sen. Billig
- Dec. 5th: Lobby Training for MLK Day (WACAN + PJALS)
- Holiday break
- January will focus on logistics and final planning for MLK Day actions in Olympia and Spokane and participating in those events.

The time is now to advance statewide organizing to advance the work to close corporate and luxury tax loopholes in our state and national organizing around militarism, Pentagon spending and the negative impacts both have on programs that benefit our communities. PJALS should play a lead role in both of these issues in Eastern Washington. We want and need the passion, dedication, and ideas of our fantastic members to help us make it happen!

Will you be a part of this exciting new approach? Will you make a commitment to participate in regular meeting Sept-June? Would you like to learn more about leadership opportunities and our vision for PJAC?

I would love to talk with you about it, you can reach me at either slichty@pjals.org or 509-838-7870.

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**Mumia: Long Distance
Revolutionary
Sept 26th 7pm
Magic Lantern**

**PJALS Volunteer Appreciation Party & Membership Meeting
Saturday, Sept. 21 4pm**

Saranac Rooftop (weather permitting) or Community Bldg Lobby

Join us for an update on our accomplishments and work moving forward, to thank our amazing volunteers, and enjoy food & fun with other PJALS folks!

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 and click "Contribute" in upper right corner.

Other membership options:

Name(s) _____

Essential/Vintage members \$60/year

Address _____

Living Lightly (low income) \$20/year

Phone/email _____











