

Countering Military Recruiters in Our Schools

Peace House Program Gains Ground, Needs Your Help!

With the beginning of another school year, military recruiters are once again prowling the hallways and lunchrooms of local schools, bringing their exaggerated promises of job training, money for college and adventurous travel to unsuspecting students. Peace House, working in collaboration with students, parents and veterans, seeks to expose the realities of military enlistment and offer alternatives to young people looking to make decisions about their future. Our counter military recruitment program has made significant progress this fall and we need your help to continue our success.

With a recruiting budget of nearly \$4 billion a year, the Pentagon has unparalleled access to young people in our public schools. Military recruiters stock career centers and counseling offices with slick brochures, posters and DVD's. They hang out on campus and pass out book covers, key chains and other paraphernalia.

Under provisions of the "No Child Left Behind Act", schools are now required to provide military recruiters with personal information for all juniors and seniors, unless they submit an "opt out" form. This allows recruiters to contact students at home, expanding the reach of their persistent messaging. Schools are required to alert students and parents of the option to "opt out", though often the information is difficult to find or understand.

Operating under the principle of equal access, we have contacted high school counselors and administrators in Jackson and Josephine counties to introduce our program and explain our purpose. Peace House is working with school administrators to ensure they are properly alerting students and parents about their privacy rights and the option to "opt out" of having their information released to the military. We are working with counselors and career center advisers to schedule campus visits and to stock brochures and materials in their offices. And we are seeking out teachers who will invite us to present in their classrooms.

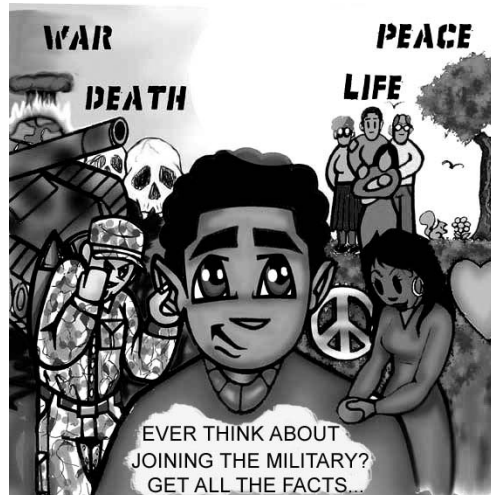
All of these efforts are paying off. We now have access to two schools in our region and are working diligently to gain access to the rest. Many students and parents are stepping up to help us out and increase the visibility of the peace movement in our schools. We will be offering trainings for folks interested in counter-recruiting on campuses and at community events. Contact Peace House if you are interested in training or want more information about this program.

In order to counteract the \$4 billion budget for military recruitment, we need the efforts and resources of the entire Peace House community. At the moment, we have limited money to spend on counter-recruiting materials. With your generous contributions, we can purchase more posters, buttons and magazines to reach out to young people in our communities and dispel the myths of military recruiters.

Please send contributions earmarked for counter recruiting to Peace House. All donations are tax deductible and will be put to work countering military recruiters throughout southern Oregon. Together we can make our schools a place for education, not militarization.

Stuart O'Neill

Program Assistant at Peace House



Graphic courtesy of CCCO - www.objector.org



Giant old-growth cut in unit 1 of the Horse timber sale, the first Biscuit sale to be cut. - Photo by Tim Ream

Senator Smith Threatens Biscuit Rider

Oregon Senator Gordon Smith's lawless logging rider for the Biscuit fire is still threatening our rights, our taxpayer dollars and our wild Siskiyou forests. If Gordon Smith refuses to retract his extreme lawless logging rider, he will likely attempt to attach it to an appropriations bill (a bill that is difficult to vote against because it funds government services). The Senate was scheduled to adjourn on October 8th for campaigning and events in home states. If a rider did not appear before then, it could be attached to a bill after the November elections. Your continued help is needed over the next two months to make sure Gordon Smith's lawless logging rider never strikes the wild Siskiyou.

Please take a minute to call Oregon Senators Gordon Smith and Ron Wyden. Capitol switchboard: 1-800-839-5276 (ask for Senators Smith and Wyden)

ASK THEM TO:

1. Oppose Senator Gordon Smith's lawless logging rider and any legislation that locks courthouse doors and legislates logging in the wild Siskiyou (ask Smith to withdraw his extreme lawless logging rider).

2. Create a Siskiyou Wild Rivers National Conservation Area to protect this special place for future generations.

MORE INFO:

Oregon's junior senator, Gordon Smith, has

stated that no logging is taking place because of "endless court delays." He is using this fallacious argument to justify his extreme, lawless logging rider. Here are the facts:

1. Only six timber sales are currently under legal challenge. Many others, including Horse, are open to logging.

2. The most recent timber sale auction closed without a single bid — in other words, the timber industry did not need the wood from the sale, even when it was offered at prices below market value because of a heavy subsidy from taxpayers. Most sales that have sold have gone for the minimum bid price - as low as \$17 per thousand board foot. This means that private logging companies are buying log-truck loads of your Siskiyou forests for \$85.

3. Gordon Smith received more money from the logging industry than any other Senator during his last election campaign — \$151,559. His extreme lawless logging rider is a disgraceful attempt to use one of America's most important public forests as a political payback.

4. Gordon Smith's lawless logging rider would waste \$30 million taxpayer dollars to subsidize destructive logging in old-growth reserves and roadless forests. It would also hurt the economy and fire safety of local communities.

Rolf Skar Siskiyou Project

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From the Staff of Peace House

You might be wondering why another Clear Actions is in your hands so soon after the last one. With the November 2 elections just weeks away and all the associated decisions facing voters, we wanted to ensure that Peace House supporters have the tools they need to make conscious choices. As a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, Peace House is not allowed to endorse or support candidates in any election. This can leave those of us who work in the non-profit world feeling a little left out of the excitement.

Yet, we can weigh in on issues. And there are many facing Oregon voters this fall. Oregon has one of the most active citizen initiative processes of any state in the country. Consequently, each election is full of ballot measures that we must decide on. Often these ballot measures are confusing and difficult to understand how they impact our lives. To assist you this November, our friends at the

Rural Organizing Project (ROP) in Scappoose, Oregon have prepared a voter guide that, in their own words, "helps voters think through how to vote PRO-DEMOCRACY this election."

In the center of this issue of Clear Actions, you will find ROP's voter guide. Please use it as a tool to educate yourselves and your neighbors. The board and staff of Peace House are proud to be one of the 45 member organizations in the ROP family. Take time to look over this voter guide, and do what you can to encourage people to vote "PRO-DEMOCRACY" on November 2. For more information about ROP, log on to their website at www.rop.org.

In Solidarity,

The Peace House Staff

Thank You for Supporting My Trip

I want to thank all the wonderful people who sent money for my trip to Chicago for the Nuclear Policy Research Institute's Anti-Nuclear Conference. Thank you Theresa Lowrie, The Wesslers, The Pattons, Ellen Craine, Susanne Watkins, and Robin Emens. You sent me enough to not only go, but Peace House will also be donating \$100 to the NPRI fundraising dinner that will feature the Indigo Girls! I invite everyone to hear about what I will have learned at the October conference by coming to Peace House, upstairs at 7 pm on November 5.

Linda Richards

"Any time we deny any citizen the full exercise of their constitutional rights, we are weakening our own claim to them."

- Dwight David Eisenhower

Thank You!

Peace House has raised \$10,000 from fundraisers in the last three months, keeping our doors open for the work of creating a culture of non-violence. This support has been essential to Peace House. We have received donations from \$1 to \$1,000. Every dollar and every volunteer effort has kept our dream of peace alive. Blessings to all of you.

Thanks to Ramana Waymire

Have you ever wondered why Clear Actions is such a professionally designed, tight newspaper? Well we owe it all to Ramana Waymire. For a year, Ramana has been the layout designer for Clear Actions. Each month, she's dealt with our perpetually problematic calendar, last minute changes, pickyness and numerous itsy-bitsy requests that add up to extra work. The October issue of Clear Actions was Ramana's last issue and

we would like to give her a huge Thank You for all the time and energy she's given to Peace House by designing Clear Actions.

Lesley Adams is helping us out in a pinch by designing this issue. We're looking for a layout designer for the January issue (starting in December) and beyond. Experienced people are encouraged to send an e-mail inquiry to recruit@peacehouse.net or call 482-9625.



A publication of Peace House

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Photo by Joe Dully

Women In Black - In **Medford**, every Wednesday at noon on Vogel Plaza for a half hour of silence. In **Ashland**, Fridays at noon on the Ashland Plaza. In **Grants Pass**, first and third Mondays at 11am to 11:30 at the Post office and after, meeting to noon at the Community Room behind The Creative Alternative (229A G St, under the Art Museum) In **Cave Junction**, Mondays at noon for a half hour at the County building. In **Roseburg**, every Friday at 12:30-1pm in front of the fire station on Garden Valley. For information call (541) 677-9118.

WIB T-shirts are available at Peace House for a \$10 donation.

Donate to the Draft Resisters Memorial

At the Multicultural Fair, September 25, an elderly man named Howard sternly said to me, "I want to talk to you." I figured I had offended him somehow, but instead of admonishing me, he pulled out his wallet. "Look at this" he said as he pulled out a laminated card which was a replica wallet-sized version of his "Honorable Discharge" from the US Navy. He said he always carried the card with him because he was proud of his service in WWII, a war when, he said, "We fought against imperialism, not for imperialism!" He then showed me more treasures from his wallet; a newspaper clipping about Nelson, a small Canadian arts community at the west end of Kootenay Bay, that wants to build a memorial to all the Americans who resisted the draft during the Vietnam War by escaping to Canada. The article from the Mail Tribune, Sept 24, 2004 said that the town of Nelson was planning a memorial to honor

"the courageous legacy of Vietnam War resisters and the Canadians who helped them resettle in this country" and a festival, "Our Way Home," planned for July 8-9, 2006. The memorial has been met with extreme hostility from the US since a Fox news story on September 20. Howard put the address for the Nelson Chamber of Commerce and a \$20 bill in my hand and said, "This is seed money. Let the people know about this, and ask them to send money for this memorial." I can't say it any better than Howard did.

Linda Richards

Please send money, cards, and words of support to:
Nelson Chamber of Commerce
225 Hall Street
VIL 5X4
P 9,300

Vietnam Archival Volunteer Needed

Peace House has been given several donations of archival material relating to U.S. militarism, the Vietnam War and the peace movement from 1960 and onward.

We are in need of an experienced archival volunteer who can donate their time and effort to assist Peace House in preserving this material for future generations of peace activists. This work will include deciding what materials will be needed to accomplish this project and then proceeding to organize, label and display the materials. Peace House will purchase the necessary materials for this project. Call Peace House 482-9625

"The fear of wilderness, the fear of indigenous people, and the fear of not having control are all the same fear."
- Linda Hogan

A Summary of Constitutional Amendment 36

If passed, Constitutional Amendment 36 will permanently alter the Oregon State Constitution to read; "It is the policy of Oregon, and its political subdivisions, that only a marriage between one man and one woman shall be valid or legally recognized as a marriage." This ballot measure is the so called Defense of Marriage Act, (DOMA) which sadly has already passed in some states.

This amendment would ban same-sex marriages in the State of Oregon and create policy that Oregon does not recognize marriages performed legally in other states, unless that marriage is between a man and a woman. It is currently state policy to recognize all out-of-state marriages that are valid in the state where the marriage was performed, unless the marriage violates public policy in Oregon. Basically, Amendment 36 would create a strong policy against recognizing same-sex marriages.

Much of the support for Amendment 36 has come from churches. Many of the signatures to put this measure on the ballot were collected in the pews. Strange, since this amendment seems contrary to the Christian faith, in that it discourages a strong family bond. I am pleased to say that several Christian churches here in Ashland met recently to discuss a response to Amendment 36.

There is a strong grassroots campaign brewing throughout the state, "No on Constitutional Amendment 36". There is good information and places you can go to help at www.noon36.com.

As a woman in love with a woman, let me just add this; there is no hidden agenda behind the LGBT movement, it's about love and it's about respect for human intimacy.

Brandy MacDonald

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of Peace House*



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Contact Linda Richards
(541) 482-9625 about leaving a bequest to Peace House.

STAND

Small Town Actions for a New Democracy

Welcome to ROP's Voter's Guide for Small Town Oregonians Who Care About Democracy

Rural Organizing Project (ROP) is an organization that exists to promote democracy. By democracy, we mean that the people who are affected by a decision help make the decision, that the will of the majority is respected, but not at the cost of the rights of the minority, that people are well-informed and educated, and that our decisions promote a reasonable standard of living. In short, democracy means a healthy and just community that values you and your rights, abilities, and decisions! We share in this guide our best wisdom on the decisions we will be making this critical election year. This is a real people's guide to real issues and important decisions that you face this year. Use your vote. Strengthen the collective voice for justice in small town and rural Oregon. We will be heard!

A Different Way to Look at the Issues

We hear it all the time from pundits and TV talking heads: small towns and rural communities are conservative, big cities are liberal. As usual, real life is more complicated than what the media would have us believe.

The reality is that there are wide varieties of opinion in small towns. And people, no matter where they live, hold a range of views that are hard to tag as strictly liberal or all-conservative. Liberal-conservative labels are short hand that allow professional political mechanics to engineer a majority on election day.

In this voter's guide you will find a common sense way to look at the issues. For over ten years, the rural and small-town activists of the Rural Organizing Project have worked to present a different frame of reference to our communities. Instead of judging an issue on where it sits on the left-right divide, we try to see if a political choice promotes democracy as an enduring value, or if it does damage to the ideal of "government of the people, by the people."

Democracy is a gift from one generation to the next; something that has been won, bit by bit, through hard struggle. Democracy is also something that is made, not received. Small town voters will have a large impact in this election. We will decide the fate of many important issues and candidates. As we use our vote to decide divisive questions, we need to make sure that we preserve the tradition of democratic self-rule in order to pass it on to our children.

Talking About Tough Issues

In this critical election year, we face important choices that will impact the face of Oregon for years to come. Some of the choices that we are asked to make require us to respond to issues, such as Marriage Equality and the "War on Terror," that can be misunderstood and manipulated in divisive ways that do not support real democratic values. Ballot measures and candidates affect democracy. Consider the impact then spread the word! November 2nd, we put these basic principles to the test. Remember them as you ask yourself whether your vote will help strength democracy or support the interests of cynical opportunists.



How to hold politicians accountable to the rural and small town values of democracy and justice.

If democracy is to work, it must continue to uphold some basic principles. Here are four principles of democracy according to the *World Book Encyclopedia* (1994 edition):

1) Inclusion of all; Equality for all. "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all [people] are created equal, and are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among which are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness." *US Declaration of Independence*.

2) Majority rule and minority rights. "No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." *14th Amendment to the US Constitution*.

3) Democracy requires well-educated and well-informed people who participate in the democratic process. "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." *1st Amendment, US Constitution*.

4) A reasonable standard of living~economic justice. "Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age and other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control." *Article 25, Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by UN General Assembly (US included) 1948*.

Impartial sources for more election information: www.open.org/~wvor/ (League of Women Voters of Oregon) & www.projectvotesmart.org

The Basics... Every Oregonian is represented in the *federal government in Washington DC* by two US Senators. Currently, our US Senators are Sen. Gordon Smith and Sen. Ron Wyden. You can find their contact information in the phone book. Every Oregonian is also represented in the *federal government* by one US Congressperson. Who that Congressperson is depends on where you live. Every Oregonian is represented in the *state government in Salem* by one state representative and one state senator. Who they are depends on where you live. Call your County Elections Department to find out who your US Congressperson, state representative and state senator are (look in the phone book under County, Elections).

The 2004 ROP Voter's Guide is reprinted by Hipfish as a public service.

HOW TO CHOOSE A CANDIDATE

It is hard to choose a political candidate. How do we know if a politician reflects our values, and whether he or she will work for our interests?

Some people go by “brand name”—political party. Some folks try to figure out where a candidate is at by watching the TV ads, listening to radio spots, reading campaign junk mail (good luck if that’s your method!). Then there’s the trusty coin toss.

The most reliable way to choose a candidate is also the best way to keep that person accountable to you when in office: decide what issues matter most to you, make a list, then do what you can to find out where that candidate stands on your concerns. For example: All politicians say they are for working families. One way to test this is to find out where they stand on raising the minimum wage. The Federal minimum wage is lower today than it was in 1968. The state minimum wage was raised by a vote of the people in 2002, but some politicians have tried to overturn that vote. Where does your candidate stand?

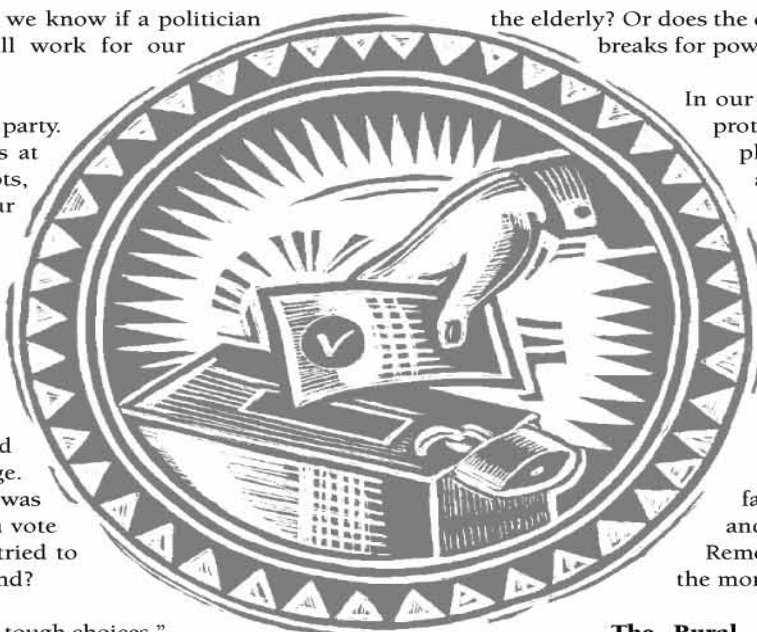
Politicians often say they can be trusted to “make the tough choices.” Often, elected officials must make difficult choices when budget money is tight. When there is a budget crunch, does your candidate immediately propose cuts to services for the needy and powerless, such as health care for children or

the elderly? Or does the candidate put everything on the table, including tax breaks for powerful corporations?

In our system, the majority rules, but minority rights are protected. In these uncertain times, some politicians play on fears by scapegoating minorities. Immigrants and people of Muslim faith have been targeted since 9/11. In Oregon, gays and lesbians are targets of a proposed Constitutional amendment to limit their right to marry. Does your candidate stand up for minority rights, knowing that an injury to one is an injury to all?

One good thing about this election season is that candidates are reaching out to voters. Use the web sites and phone numbers from the campaign ads, contact the candidates or their staff and ask hard questions about where they stand on economic fairness and civil liberties. Get together with friends and neighbors, compare notes, share information. Remember, information is power. The more you learn, the more you can make the system work for you!

The Rural Organizing Project (ROP) will help you to access election-year information. Call the ROP at 503-543-8417 or go to www.rop.org



OREGON BALLOT MEASURES

NO on Measure 38.

Would eliminate the state-owned accident insurance company—SAIF—and replace it with an out-of-state private insurance corporation. Threatens accident coverage for small businesses and increases the power of private insurance corporations in the state.

NO on Measure 37.

Would pay out billions in tax dollars to big business land owners for following laws that protect the environment.

NO on Measure 36.

Would put unequal treatment of gays and lesbians in our state constitution, denying Oregon families health care, inheritance rights and the ability to make life-saving medical decisions. Our constitution is designed to protect people, not hurt them. While we may disagree on social issues such as marriage, those disagreements do not belong in our constitution.

NO on Measure 35.

Would change the Oregon Constitution to limit the awards victims of reckless and negligent medical practices may receive. The Constitution—our basic rule book for government—is not the place to solve the medical negligence issue. This Bill also avoids taking on the big medical insurance corporations, placing the whole burden on the victims of medical malpractice.

YES on Measure 34.

Would manage state forests to preserve long-term timber jobs, protect the environment, including fish and game habitat, and increase employment in recreation, fisheries and resource conservation.

YES on Measure 33.

Would create licensing program for non-profit regulated dispensaries to supply patients and caregivers with Medical Marijuana.

Thinking About Our Rights

Rural Organizing Project has surveyed thousands of voters this election season. A significant majority believe that their basic Constitutional rights must be protected. We asked people if they agreed or disagreed with the following statement: “Giving up some constitutional rights will make Americans safer.” By far, most people disagreed with this statement (in Forest Grove 76% of respondents disagreed with giving up Constitutional rights for safety).

Most people understand that the US Constitution and the Oregon Constitution are the rule books we use to govern ourselves. The first ten amendments to the US Constitution are known as the Bill of Rights. These are the rights everyone has on US soil; they are not favors granted by the government for good times only. The American system is a democratic republic where the majority rules, but the rights of minorities are protected.

Many people say that they support a proposed amendment to the Oregon Constitution to define marriage as between a man and a woman. People cite opposition to same sex marriage as the reason they are in favor of changing the Oregon Constitution to reduce the rights of a minority group, gays and lesbians.

Here’s the basic question for Oregonians: should people write their personal social or religious beliefs into the Constitution? The founding fathers, remembering the religious wars in Europe, made sure that religious freedom was part of the original Constitution. It still took a civil war and almost two hundred years of struggle to remove racial prejudice from the Constitution. Should we be so quick to write discrimination back into the constitution—this time against gays and lesbians? Is the Constitution, our government’s rule book, the proper place to debate a social issue like same-sex marriage?

COMPARING THE CANDIDATES

The Rural Organizing Project does not endorse candidates. We are providing the following information on a broad range of issues so that voters can be more informed. We obtained the information from AOL News/Time President Watch at www.presidentwatch.com

THE ISSUES	Kerry	Bush
Raise the minimum wage	favors	opposes
Extend unemployment benefits	favors	opposes
Medicare prescription drug coverage by private insurers	opposes	favors
Expand Medicaid to cover more uninsured Americans	favors	no opinion
Privatize Social Security	opposes	favors
Roll back cuts for people making over \$200,000	favors	opposes
Additional tax breaks for big business	opposes	favors
The war in Iraq	opposes somewhat	favors
Outlaw abortions except for rape/incest	opposes	favors
Oil drilling in the Arctic Wildlife Refuge	opposes	favors
Tougher fuel efficiency standards	favors	opposes

The Rural Organizing Project is a non-partisan, non-profit organization. ROP works to advance democracy in all 36 of Oregon’s counties. Call today to get involved

503-543-8417
P.O. Box 1350
Scappoose, OR 97056
www.rop.org

Design by Pattie Ladd, Riverun Graphics



A Grim Look at a Future

A Review of the Global Security Institute

*Number of nuclear weapons in the world: 30,000

*8 countries (US, Russia, China, Great Britain, France, Pakistan, India and Israel) possess nuclear weapons.

*Number of accidents, false alarms, and malfunctions involving nuclear weapons - 20-30 per year according to the US Department of Defense. Several of these have put us on the brink of accidental nuclear war.

*Dollars the US spends per day on maintaining its nuclear arsenal: \$100 Million

Which is approximately what the International Atomic Energy Agency spends in one year to safeguard nuclear materials worldwide.

In response to these nuclear threats, THE GLOBAL SECURITY INSTITUTE (www.gsinitiate.org) founded in California by the late Senator Alan Cranston, forged a strategically effective team that includes former heads of state and government, distinguished diplomats, effective politicians, committed celebrities, religious leaders, Nobel Peace Laureates, and concerned citizens. This team works to achieve incremental steps to enhance security and bring about the global elimination of nuclear weapons. GSI stands for multilateralism, the rule of law, and the moral unacceptability of nuclear weapons. They work through four result-oriented program areas that target: Heads of Government, diplomats and other officials around the world; Members of Congress and their staff; Legislators around the world, and Leaders in

the global community.

To educate the U. S. Congress, GSI formed a Bipartisan Security Group consisting of Republican and Democratic experts with experience in diplomacy, law, intelligence and military affairs. This group provides reliable information to Members of Congress and critiques global security issues. Emphasis is on multilateralism and strengthening the rule of law.

The Middle Powers Initiative (MPI) is a network of eight international NGO's chaired by Senator Douglas Roche (Canada). MPI works directly with diplomats and middle power governments to promote legal solutions that support the elimination of nuclear weapons. They produce briefing papers widely read among government officials. Middle powers exist as politically and economically significant countries that have renounced nuclear arms. They serve as a bridge to influence nuclear armed countries to keep treaty promises and reduce nuclear dangers.

Recent accomplishments include convening strategy consultations at the United Nations in New York and Geneva to preserve and strengthen the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the most important of all international arms treaties. Also, GSI is responsible for authoring and distributing numerous policy briefs to foreign ministry officials in more than 50 key countries, and sending delegations to five capitals of NATO countries to urge high level officials to make NATO's nuclear policies consistent with NPT commitments.

Marguerite Craig

Los Alamos National Laboratory

Continues to Suffer from Scandals

Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) continued to be in the news following a series of scandals in recent months that have drawn attention to the Lab's lax security, mismanagement, and safety mishaps.

In September, a hydrologist hired by the Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety released a report that traced low concentrations of contaminants in the Rio Grande to leaks at LANL. Lab officials deny the report's contention that the contaminants, including explosives and perchlorate, leached into the river from springs. Both parties agree that the groundwater underneath LANL is contaminated with chemical byproducts from lab activities. The New Mexico State Environment Department has taken water samples in the area that lend credence to CCNS's position that contaminants are moving faster than the Lab predicts.

The fallout from the three-month shutdown of Los Alamos due to security lapses and worker injuries continues. In mid-September, LANL director Pete Nanos announced that 12 Los Alamos employees would be either fired, forced to resign, or suspended without pay as a result of their role in the problems at the Lab. Of 23 employees originally under inves-

tigation following the 7 July discovery that computer disks containing classified material were missing, ten have been cleared of wrongdoing and one is still under investigation. It is now not entirely clear whether the computer disks ever existed. Nanos refuses to clarify the issue. Each day the Lab was shut down cost over \$4 million in lost productivity.

On 30 September, the first shipment of weapons-grade nuclear material was transferred out of LANL's Technical Area 18 (TA-18) and moved to the Nevada Test Site. TA-18 has been the target of post-9/11 scrutiny because of its vulnerability to possible terrorist attacks. In October 2000, a mock drill conducted by military forces demonstrated that it could have easily constructed and detonated a bomb inside TA-18 that would have destroyed part of New Mexico. Criticality experiments, which involve self-sustaining nuclear chain reactions, are conducted at TA-18. The Santa Fe City Council recently passed a resolution opposing continued operations at TA-18 citing findings that the facility is not safe and secure.

For more information, visit: www.ucnuclearfree.org; www.nuclearactive.org; www.lasg.org; www.utnuclearfree.org

Rumsfeld, Abraham Urge Restored

Nuke Weapons Funding

In a September 8 letter, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham urged Congress to restore funding for nuclear weapons initiatives that a key House panel zeroed out or reduced in the budget for the fiscal year 2005. The letter was delivered to House Speaker Hastert, Senate Majority Leader Frist, House Appropriations Chairman Young and Senate Appropriations Chairman Steven.

Rumsfeld and Abraham's letter stated, "We are writing to express our concern about several provisions in the FY '05 House Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill and accompanying report and their implications for our Nation's nuclear security. If specific funding levels, detailed in the report, are sustained, they would eliminate or severely restrict key programs and initiatives necessary to support the Nation's nuclear weapons stockpile and restore a long-needed responsive nuclear weapons infrastructure. Specifically, we oppose the elimination of FY 05 funds for the Advanced Concepts Initiative, the Robust Nuclear Earth Penetrator study, and planning for a Modern Pit Facility. Such actions are contrary to our efforts to transform the U.S. nuclear stockpile to be smaller and more responsive to the threats we face in the 21st century. They also run counter to the FY 05 Defense Authorization bills passed by both the House and the Senate.

We also oppose reductions in funds for key warhead Life Extension Programs, underground nuclear test readiness, which would preclude achievement of the 18-month readiness posture considered prudent by the Administration, and other support activities essential for the continued safety and reliability of the stockpile. In summary, if the House's actions, cited above, are sustained in this or future years, it would impede our ability to ensure the effectiveness of our nuclear deterrent, especially as existing warheads age well beyond their design service lives. More broadly, it would disrupt critical elements of our strategy to adapt the Nation's nuclear deterrent forces

to the defense needs of the 21st century. Finally, it would place at risk the significant reduction in the nuclear stockpile called for by President George W. Bush last May, and it could limit future opportunities for deeper stockpile reductions. We look forward to working with you to address our mutual concerns."

The House version of the Energy and Water spending bill, approved in June of this year, would eliminate funding for three administration programs. The White House requested \$27.55 million for research on the Robust Nuclear Earth Penetrator, or "bunker buster" bomb; \$30 million for planning a modern pit facility to produce new plutonium triggers, and \$9 million for an initiative for new nuclear weapons. The measure would also reduce the administration's request for extension of the W-80 strategic cruise missile warhead from \$146 million in FY05 to \$106 million, while providing flat funding of \$1.33 billion for all directed nuclear stockpile activities, representing an \$89 million drop from the administration's request.

The move by Rumsfeld and Abraham drew the ire of House Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman David Hobson (R-Ohio), who complained on 17 September that the White House left him out of the loop. Neither Hobson nor his Senate counterpart, Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman Pete Domenici (R-New Mexico), received the letter. Upon hearing rumors of the letter in July, Hobson asked the administration not to send it so as not to unduly influence conference negotiations to reconcile the House and Senate versions of the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill. With the measure nowhere close to conference because of the Senate's stalemate over a proposed nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain in Nevada, Hobson said the administration's timing was curious. He also said the administration's requests "were technically questionable and frankly unnecessarily provocative in the international arena. They also cost a bunch of money."

Source: Congress Daily, 21 September 2004



Peace Community Calendar

Phil Ochs Song Night & Silent Auction

Sunday, October 24 at 8:00 pm

Doors open at 6:30 pm for a Silent Auction to benefit Peace House

Unitarian Center, corner of 4th and C Streets, Ashland

Tickets \$17 in advance, \$20 at the door, \$10 for kids 5-17

For more information, contact St. Clair Productions at 541-535-3562 or www.stclairevents.com.

Advance tickets available at The Music Coop in the A Street Marketplace.

Southern Oregon Friends of Cuba Talk Back with Brad Jones

Wednesday, October 27

Potluck at 6:30 pm, talk back at 7:30 pm - Pastors for Peace Caravan discussion.

Peace House, 543 S. Mountain Avenue, Ashland

October Benefit for Abdill-Ellis, Starring Dave Rummans

Saturday, October 30 from 8:00 - 10:00pm

Location will be indicated on the ticket at time of purchase.

Tickets are available at the Abdill-Ellis Lambda Community Center in the Historic Armory on Oak Street. For more information call 488-6990.

Election Day – November 2

Oregon ballots must be deposited in official drop boxes by 8:00 pm on November 2.

Contact your local county clerk for drop box locations. In Jackson county, call

(541)774-6147. In Josephine county, call (541)474-5240.

No Stolen Election Pledge of Action

Wednesday, November 3

"I remeber the stolen election of 2000 and I am willing to take action in 2004 if the election is stolen again. I support efforts to protect the right to vote leading up to and on election day. If that is systematically violated, I pledge to join nationwide protests starting Nov. 3, either in my community, in the state where the fraud occurred or in Washington D.C." Sign the pledge at www.nov3.us

Local Chapter of WILPF to Form

Friday, November 5 at 1:00 pm

Paula Sohl's home, 283 Scenic Drive, Ashland

Anyone who would like to find out more about Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) may call Nancy Spencer at 541-488-1561.

Anti-nuclear NPRI Conference Talk Back

Friday, November 5, 7 pm

Peace House

Richard Becker, International ANSWER Coalition

Tuesday, November 9 Meese Auditorium at 7pm.

See www.peacehouse.net for information.

Richard Becker of the International ANSWER Coalition will speak on the aftermath of the November 2 elections.

Veterans' Day

Thursday, November 11

Work to bring our troops home now!

Buy Nothing Day

Friday, November 26

For 24 hours, millions of people around the world do not participate in the doomsday economy. For more info, see www.adbusters.org

Open House – South Mountain Friends Meeting and Peace House

In the third week of November, look for an Open House to share the remodel of the South Mountain Friends Meeting and Peace House. This open, peaceful space at 543 South Mountain is a legacy for both Friends and Peace House.

Check www.peacehouse.net for more information.

ONGOING:

Free, Confidential HIV Testing and Counseling

Every Wednesday from 5:00 – 6:00 pm

Abdill-Ellis Lambda Community Center, Old Armory Building, Oak St., Ashland

Call 541-488-6990 for more information.

Rally 'Round the Truth

Every Saturday until the elections from 12:00 – 1:00 pm

corner of Riverside Drive and Barnett Road in Medford

See page 8 for more info, or call Christine Haynie, 773.1680, or visit www.medfordcpj.org.

Ford Can Do Better But Isn't

There is no doubt that wildly fluctuating oil and gasoline prices have consumers over a barrel. Although we have the technology to make cars go farther on a gallon of gasoline and fill up fewer times at the pump, U.S. automakers are actually making vehicles that guzzle even more gas. Ford in particular is the worst offender, ranking lowest in auto fuel economy for the past five years. While Ford recently announced intentions to increase its fuel economy by 15 miles per gallon by 2030, this is completely inadequate.

The best way to protect consumers from skyrocketing oil and gasoline prices is by using existing technology to make all cars and trucks go farther on a gallon of gas. But we need our automakers to take the first step by increasing the fuel economy of their vehicles and making them available to the public. As an auto industry leader, Ford has the power to influence the industry by putting the environment and public safety before short-term profit.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the average fuel economy of Ford's Model Year 2004 fleet is 18.8 miles per gallon. This is lower than that of the 1923 Model T Ford, which got up to 25 miles per gallon. It's also the lowest overall fuel economy in the American auto industry, the place they've held since 1999.

Ford recently announced intentions to increase its fuel economy by 80 percent by 2030, but gave no concrete roadmap for achieving the long-term goal. Ford's intentions are laudable, but given that conventional and hybrid technologies are available today to increase the fuel economy of all of our cars and trucks to 40 miles per gallon over a ten-year period, they are totally inadequate. Ford's plan would equate to a 34 mile per gallon average over the next 25 years. Rather than increasing the fuel economy of its fleet, Ford is actively undermining the entire federal fuel economy program. In



comments on a recent Bush Administration proposal on the fuel economy program structure, Ford supported maintaining an exemption from all fuel economy standards for trucks between 8,500 and 10,000 pounds. Ford also supported a loophole that permits other pickup trucks, SUVs, and minivans to meet miles per gallon standards that are nearly 25% lower than those for cars. Although Ford recently introduced the new Ford Escape hybrid, which gets up to 36 miles per gallon, the company is only making 20,000 of the new vehicles. This is less than one-half of one percent of Ford's vehicle fleet.

Automakers have the technology to increase the fuel economy of all cars and trucks to 40 mpg within ten years. This would save consumers \$50 billion annually by 2015 at the gas pump, cut our national oil use by 2.3 million barrels per day - nearly as much as we currently import from the Persian Gulf, and reduce global warming emissions from cars and trucks by one-fifth.

Maureen Kirk

OSPIRG Executive Director

"We stand now where two roads diverge. But unlike the roads in Robert Frost's familiar poem, they are not equally fair. The road we have long been traveling is deceptively easy, a smooth superhighway on which we progress with great speed, but at its end lies disaster. The other fork of the road—the one 'less traveled by'—offers our last, our only chance to reach a destination that assures the preservation of the earth."

- Rachel Carson

Buying or Selling Property?**Virginia Ruffulo***Your Socially Responsible Broker***From Ashland to Grants Pass***Please keep me in mind for yourself,
your friends, and neighbors.*Virginia Ruffulo ReMax Ideal Properties
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realtor@magick.net | buyrealestateoregon.com

Community Meal

Each Tuesday, Uncle Food's Diner provides free meals for the hungry with food donated by the Walker Peace Garden, Ashland Food Coop, S.O.U., and P.C. Market of Choice. Come as a volunteer (no need to call) and help with food prep at 3 pm or with serving and cleanup from 4:30 to 6:30pm. Come to help and eat a good dinner too! It's fun and fulfilling to see Peace in Action. Anyone is welcome, in the spirit of a true community dinner.

Uncle Food's Diner is serving at United Methodist Church, in the Wesley Hall at 175 N. Main, on the corner of N. Main and Laurel. For more information call Peace House 482-9625.

Help us!

We're stuck in the Stone Age!

We're closer to our goal but we're not there yet. If you've ever visited the Peace House office, you know we operate with a less-than-modern tech set-up. We rely on the assistance of computers, printers and copy machines in our work to educate and organize. Though we strive to use the least amount of paper (re-used or post-consumer recycled of course!) we often need these tools. Our copy machine has been broken for a few months and we can't afford to fix it. If anyone could find a spare few hundred dollars to help us purchase one, WE WILL

APPRECIATE YOU FOREVER. Since most of us don't have that kind of cash just laying around, we understand if you can only afford a smaller donation. We will gladly accept FUNCTIONING donated office equipment. That means we don't want to bike to work one morning only to trip over printers from the 80's. We need quality equipment. Please call the office to ask specific questions if you think you may be able to support us. Any donation is tax deductible and comes with a cute thankyou card from Grady.

Annual Spaghetti Dinner a Success

The Peace House staff would like to send out a telepathic hug to all the marvelous people who decided to forego the presidential debates and be present at the Peace House Annual Spaghetti Dinner. Almost eighty people packed into the Presbyterian Church community room, coming together to share stories, dinner and dessert, and a night of celebration. The room was decorated with newspaper articles and pictures charting the issues, accomplishments and 22 years of proud Peace House history. Board member Rich Rohde shared his vision and viewpoint. Dot Fisher-Smith treated us to a brief history of the people who have been mixed up with Peace House, and over dessert we held our raffle. Nearly \$1,000 was raised between the spaghetti dinner and the sale of raffle tickets. Thank you to each and every person who attended and to everyone who makes Peace House what it is.

Peace House thanks the following local farms for donating delicious organic produce for our Spaghetti Dinner:

Blue Fox Farms, for the nutritious greens, onions, tomatoes, squash, herbs and beautiful salad mix; Huntington Farm, for the luscious peaches; Boone's Farm, for the huge heirloom tomatoes, herbs and onions; Fry Family Farm, for the biggest heads of purple cabbage we'd ever seen, colorful bell peppers, tomatoes, and salad greens; Whistling Duck Farm, for an amazing and bountiful selection of per-

fect tomatoes. All of these wonderful farms have produce stands at the Tuesday Farmer's Market in Ashland (at the Armory on E. Main St.). Please support these terrific activists who supply us with yummy organic food!

Many thanks to Shop N' Kart, the Village Baker, and the Ashland Food Co-op for your donations and support!

Gracias to Shelley for the cocoalicious cookies and to Grace for the rich carrot cake.

Thank you to Standing Stone and American Linens for supplying us with tablecloths and napkins that made the dinner snazzier.

Thank you to Liza, Frank, Stella, Trace, Jill, Andrea, Brad Jones, and Jon Dowd for all the help in the kitchen before and after dinner.

Thanks to Mary Lou Lucas for the lovely fall harvest table arrangements. For those of you who couldn't make it, Mary Lou decorated each table with a peace dove candle surrounded by a fall-inspired garland.

I think that everyone who attended the dinner will agree that one of the most special parts was the terrific job Rowan, Aubyn, Stella and Frank did (very professionally) serving everyone plates of spaghetti and salad. Thanks kids!

Big thanks to Linda and Stu for being so extraordinary to work with and such genuinely radical people.

Grady Boyd**JOIN PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATIONS**

Citizens for Peace and Justice is coordinating demonstrations against the policies of the Bush Administration **every Saturday from 12:00 Noon until 1:00 PM** in Medford on the corner of Riverside Drive and Barnett. We gather in the parking lot next to the Burger King. We are encouraging all who are outraged at what is happening both domestically and internationally to come and be heard.

Bring a poster/sign or banner that articulates your particular concern. The goal is to maintain a presence that speaks out against the occupation of Iraq, about environmental policies, labor issues, women's choice issues, etc. Another goal is to educate those who still may not be paying attention to the sorry state of affairs in our country. To help achieve these goals, we will be asking progressive groups all over the Rogue Valley to join in. We will do this every Saturday until the November elections. Tell a friend - bring your family.

For more information call Christine Haynie 773-168. Visit Medfordcpj.org.

**"Here at home and throughout the**

world people are fighting back against the forces of wealth, privilege, and militarism — some because they have no choice, others because they would choose no other course but the one that leads

to peace and justice."**- Michael Parenti**

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Community Dance Jam

1st & 3rd Sat. NIGHTS

The DanceSpace - Ashland

8 - 11pm \$7.00

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email: ken@safeworld.com

Come Dance, Breathe, Move & Play!

Clear Actions

Call For Submissions

Clear Actions is accepting article submissions from writers. Help us get out the latest word on peace, justice, nonviolence and the environment. Email Linda at linda@peacehouse.net or Ann at editor@peacehouse.net

Yes! I Support the Work of Peace House.

Here is my: ☐ Contribution ☐ Pledge for:☐ \$35 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500☐ Check Enclosed \$ _____ Mail to P.O. Box 524, Ashland, OR 97520☐ I will pay my \$ _____ pledge by ____/____/____☐ Bill my credit card: ☐ One-Time Payment ☐ Monthly

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