

Local Progressive News from the **Nashville Peace & Justice Center**

**School of the Americas**

The School of the Americas (SOA), renamed the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHISC), is a combat training school at Fort Benning, Georgia. It has trained over 60,000 Latin American soldiers in anti-rebellion techniques, sniper training, military intelligence, interrogation tactics, and commando and psychological warfare. Graduates from the SOA have consistently committed some of the worst crimes in Latin American history. Many SOA graduates have returned to Latin America and used their skills to rape, murder, manipulate, and massacre their own people.

Jean Lynch-Thomassen ~ 1st UU

The School of the Americas began in Panama in 1946. Called the "biggest base for destabilization in Latin America" by Jorge Illueca, former President of Panama, it was forced out of the country in 1984. It relocated to Fort Benning, Georgia, where it still operates. Each November, there is an annual protest at the gates of the SOA. There are already a dozen people from Nashville going to join the thousands of concerned US citizens.

Graduates of the SOA have committed countless crimes and human rights violations all over Latin America. Graduates assassinated Archbishop Oscar Romero, massacred over 900 civilians in El Mozote, and are still being cited for human rights violations. The most notorious dictators from Panama, Argentina, Peru, Ecuador, and Bolivia graduated from the school of the Americas, and hundreds of human rights workers, religious leaders, and civilians continue to be murdered by people trained in a school sponsored .....continued on page 7



Sept.8 protest outside a \$20,000 a plate fundraiser in the Loews/Vanderbilt Hotel. Photo by Edward Belbusti.

**Call from the Center**

**We need your help.** The Nashville Peace and Justice Center just received an anonymous \$10,000 Matching Grant. We have until December 10<sup>th</sup> to raise \$10,000 in new annual commitments. For every dollar you pledge (through an automatic bank draft or check) before the deadline, another dollar will

Matt Leber ~ NPJC Coordinator

be added to NPJC's operating budget for the upcoming calendar year. If we meet the December 10<sup>th</sup> deadline, your money will allow us to hire a new, full-time organizer in the first trimester of the new year. In June 2003, we launched the NPJC Sustainability Campaign, a campaign to raise \$50,000 on an annual basis through a committed group of members like yourselves. We've already raised over

\$18,000. With this Matching Grant and your help, we will have almost reached our goal. All tax deductible donations go to further the work of the Center and make the programs, projects and events we coordinate possible.

Meanwhile, NPJC hasn't just been fundraising. In the last two months we have:

- \*Organized **The Village**, 10/13-18
- \*Co-organized the **Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride**, 9/29
- \*Organized the **Nashville Students for Peace and Justice Training**, 9/27-28
- \*Helped gain a **reprieve for** Death Row Inmate **Philip Workman**, 9/15
- \*Hosted **Progressive Metro Council Panel**, 9/15
- \*Hosted the **Gathering to Greet President Bush**, 9/8.
- \*Co-organized the **Poor People's March**, 8/5-6

Next year, with your support and another coordinator, we can solidify our developing program areas: Building a Culture of Peace, Localizing Global Justice and Understanding Oppression. These programs will help us address the three evils as Dr. King framed them: racism, militarism, and materialism.

**How to Contribute: Page 3**

**Welcomed in Nashville**

Carter Moody

**a stop on the Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride**

Nashvillians turned out in large numbers on September 29 to welcome the Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride (IWFR), participating in several public events organized by local volunteers.

Two buses of 100 riders spent the afternoon and evening here. They were part of the 18-bus national caravan from nine major cities. The IWFR was conceived as a response to the injustices of current immigration policy and a national mobilization to promote immigrant rights. Inspired by the 1961 Freedom Rides of the Civil Rights Movement, buses filled with immigrant workers and their community allies – the new Freedom Riders – crossed the US in late September and convened in Washington for lobbying and in New York Oct. 4 at a rally of some 100,000 supporters.

Key principles the Freedom Riders advocated include easing the path toward legalization and citizenship for all immigrants; ending bureaucratic delays in reunification of families for immigrants and refugees; protection of worker rights regardless of legal status; and protecting civil rights and due process for all immigrants.

A diverse team of Nashville volunteers worked for at least ....continued on page 7

**"The true American goes not abroad in search of monsters to destroy." ~ John Quincy Adams, July 4, 1821**

## Nashville Peace and Justice Center

A community-based, multi-issue center for the Middle Tennessee region seeking to promote peacemaking, social justice, and environmental issues in our society and the world.

### MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Americans United for Separation of Church and State  
Amnesty International  
Bring Urban Recycling to Nashville Today  
Church Women United  
Clergy and Laity Concerned  
Common Cause  
Community Relations Committee / Jewish Federation  
Cumberland Greens Bioregional Council  
The Emma Center  
Earth Matters  
First Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashville  
Greater Nashville Unitarian Universalist  
Interfaith Alliance of Middle Tennessee  
Latin American Central American Solidarity Association  
Living Wage Campaign of Nashville  
Middle Tennessee Presbytery / Peace With Justice Committee  
Mideast Peace Coalition  
Nashville Friends Meeting  
National Organization for Women  
Pan Africa  
Radio Free Nashville  
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy  
The Scarritt Bennett Center  
Tennessee Coalition to Abolish State Killing  
United Nations Association  
United Nubian Congress  
Veterans for Peace  
War Resisters League

### ALTERNATIVES

is the official bimonthly publication of the Nashville Peace & Justice Center

### EDITORIAL COLLECTIVE

Christina Van Regenmorter, Jean Lynch-Thomasen, Pam Beziat, and Gene Kelly

### SUBMISSIONS

We seek cartoons, articles, letters, and photos related to peace and justice issues relevant to the Tennessee progressive community. We will try to respect the integrity of your submissions, but we reserve the right to edit for clarity, grammar, spelling, and length. Objections? Write us a letter.

Fax: 615-320-8897 P: 615-321-9066

[christina@nashvillepeacejustice.org](mailto:christina@nashvillepeacejustice.org)

# Report Back from Iraq, part 3

Kathy Kelly's speech in Nashville on June 14, transcribed by Becky Renfrow

A few things picked me up. I have a friend named Rod, he's an engineering professor, and during the war, when the electricity went out, Rod went to the top of his building. In between bombardments, he pulled out his

Kathy Kelly ~ Voices in the Wilderness

telescope. You can enjoy the stars far better without any lights on. He said to me, "Kathy, you must continue to enjoy the universe."

Another thing that gave me hope: Judy Meeker and others in your community have made quilts, beautiful quilts, expressive quilts that have been sent to people as sign of friendship and as a sign of building bridges. There was a baby that was born in the AlFonar hotel while we were there. I can't tell you what a joy it was to give that baby a quilt.

Um Zainab, the mother of Zainab and Maladh, after a day of staring out at the occupation with tears were running down her face, said to me: "Never did I think that this would happen to my country. I feel very sad, and I think that this sadness, it will never go away."

I wanted to give her some time to herself, so I took the kids away. Then I thought, well I can't really take them for a walk out in the sunshine because there's concertina wire all around our hotel right now. I can't take them outside because the young soldiers would definitely want to play with the kids. The soldiers were just dying to have some experience other than the dust and the dirt and the cruelty of this war, but I couldn't have Um Zainab's kids playing with the soldiers while she's staring out the window trying to cope with the reality of this occupation. I certainly didn't want the kids going anywhere near the TV because at that precise moment it was showing corpses strewn along the road. So, I took the kids up to my room, and I spotted one of the quilts. I thought, "Oh, this is a blessed moment," and I said, "Let's wrap the quilt up and give it to your mom." So we did.

Um Zainab was so grateful for that quilt. It meant everything in the world to her.

Perhaps the greatest moment of hope happened for me after I returned back to the

United States. I heard an Iraqi woman named Nemal on Dennis Bernstein's Flash Points radio. I knew her well. She ran a very well-to-do antique arts and crafts center that hosted Voices many times. First, her home was bombed. Then, there was this sand storm so that the sand blew in with much debris and dirt and wrecked all of the furniture in her home when all of the windows had been shattered. And then when the looting happened, her antique arts and crafts center was completely ransacked. She'd lost everything. When I left her, she seemed a sort of disoriented and a little disheveled for a woman who had been such an erudite, classy person. However, in the interview, I heard her say that never again would she and her friends ignore the plight of the poor. Now that they've lost everything, they understand what it means.

That gives me a great deal of hope for the resurgence of Iraqi commitment to a decency, to a way of life that is predicated very much on sharing on hospitality instead of stratified class

systems.

I think that as we think about the works of mercy and the works of war, we will see increasingly that those who have been through conducting the works of war, to burn the crops, to destroy the homes, to kill the living, will feel that horrible taste in their mouths that says this is not who we want to be, this is not what we want to be about. This is not what we want to pay for.

We'll look at the works of mercy: to visit the sick, to visit those in prison, to comfort the dying, to bury the dead. And, we'll realize that this is so much more in who we want to be. This is so much more what we want to do. And I think, in that space, recognizing the choice that we face, recognizing our chance to tip the balance so that there can possibly be survival, we can get beyond the barbarism of warfare that sometimes seems so entrenched even in our way of life. We have opportunity to tip that balance, and then, perhaps, the Iraqi people and the U.S. people will be able to come together.

*Kathy Kelly and Voices in the Wilderness are now being fined \$20,000 by the Justice Department for their gifts of medicines to the Iraqi people during the sanctions. Please use your voice: [www.vitw.org](http://www.vitw.org).*



A quilt made by More Than Warmth. Besides Iraq, MTW quilts warm hearts worldwide. Photo by Judy Meeker.

# The Village

From October 13-18, NPJC staff member Sean Siple and members of the Nashville homeless community spent the week together on Legislative Plaza. Each evening, they were joined by a collection of community educators speaking on the day's theme and local musicians -- from high school band Guillotine to the Blair School quartet. Co-sponsored by the Tennessee Alliance for Progress (TAP) and featuring dozens of local non-profits, The Village was an ambitious project that touched the lives of many of the people who participated within it.

## Notes from Day 2 (Christina Van Regenmorter)

After one day at the Plaza, we're slightly damp and most of us (what with the penchant our city has for leaf blowers between 1 am and 5 am) are pretty sleepy, but it's been good. We were joined by over 40 homeless people last night -- and many, many more came for breakfast this morning. Starting at 5:00 am, two high school students (Tai and PJ) served as short order chefs, cooking up eggs and pancakes. A local teacher named Clare Bratten (who gave away five blankets and loaned us her electric heater) and a wonderful retired volunteer from Wilson county named Frank Newbell ran the Oatmeal/Grits operation. We went through 5 dozen eggs, innumerable pancakes, 1.5 boxes of grits, two tubs of homemade applesauce, and 1 large container of Quaker oats. Just as we were running out of food for the

second time, Jane Hussain stopped by the camp with a carefully wrapped box of freshly toasted scones, cinnamon pecan rolls, and muffins. We've been getting donations: blankets, a tent (without poles...), clothes, sleeping bags, and food -- from oatmeal to chili to boxes of donuts and pies. Yet, as quickly as things are received, they are given away.

## Letter from Father Charlie Strobel, homeless advocate

"I thought Monday night, as I sat in the circle and heard people speak from their hearts, that another generation is alive and actively pursuing justice, not in "grand" and "glorious" ways as a whole generation did in the 60's (and forgive me for the comparisons); still it felt like the 60's and others times since then, from the 70's to today, but perhaps, your pursuit of justice is an even harder effort, because it is not newsworthy.

Still I felt safe in the circle. It was inclusive; it was free; it was peaceful and loving; it was diverse; it was critical about defending the weak; it was hopeful; it was prophetic; it was persevering and dogged in its focus. It was a metaphor for the family of God; it was a parable; it was spiritual; it was good. It reminded me of the transfiguration scene when the disciples said to one another, "it is good for us to be here, let's build three tents..."

The Village was good. It was good for people to be there, whether there were hundreds of thousands or a handful. The Village let the light shine in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it. You and others are lights in the darkness.

## How to Contribute to the NPJC (before Dec. 10)

As you read in the Note from the Center, we've won an anonymous matching grant of \$10,000. However, in order to receive it, we need to raise \$10,000 more dollars by December 10, 2003. We're doing our best as staff and volunteers to get to that deadline through writing personal letters, making phone calls, and et cetera, but the greatest help would be if you (one of the 3,052 people who are connected to the Center) would consider making a financial contribution. Many of our constituents and volunteers have an extraordinarily low income, but if you can give the NPJC the equivalent of a couple of take-out dinners a month, we'd appreciate it.

We request that if you are able to use our new Automatic Bank Withdrawal Program (ABW). Part of our Sustainability Campaign, it allows us to make our fundraising work more efficient and dedicate more time to organizing. With a monthly contribution of \$10, \$25, \$50, \$75, \$100 or more, you help us get one step closer to building an NPJC with permanent, relevant programming.

Fill out the bank information below with your details and mail to: NPJC Sustainability / 1016 18th Ave. S. / Nashville, TN 37208. Only Matt Leber and Development Coordinator, Bill Harkey, will see your commitments.

<b>NPJC Automatic Bank Withdrawal Registration</b>
Name: _____
Monthly Donation: \$ _____
Bank Name: _____
Branch: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip: _____
BK Transit/ABA No. (9 digit # at bottom of check): _____
Account Number: _____

<b>YES! I can donate to the NPJC.</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100 <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 Monthly Sustainability Donor
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 Annual Donor
<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 individual membership
<input type="checkbox"/> \$10 limited income membership
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 supporting or family membership
<input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in Volunteering
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip _____ Telephone _____
Email _____
Note for <b>donations by check</b> : write annual, monthly, or one-time in the "memo" line of check

# Sights and Smells from the WTO

Jane Eisely ~ Activist at Large

It is Wednesday, September 10, 2003, the evening of the third day of protests in Cancun, Mexico. Along with an uncoupled number of students, campesinos and political activists from many countries, I am here to protest, and if possible, to disrupt the meeting of the World Trade Organization (WTO.) Agreements proposed by the United States would make it illegal for governments to say no to the operations of companies that want to “privatize” resources, services, utilities or labor and destroy small farmers and markets by forcing on heavily subsidized US grain. We are filled with outrage over what GATT and NAFTA and the World Bank have already done to small farms in the Global South. Since Monday, there have been several marches, and a Korean farmer has killed himself in protest right in front of a police barricade. There are still three days to go before the delegates to the conference and the representatives of many non-governmental organization —NGO’s— are expected to pack up and go home.

The mayor of Cancun has set aside space in city parks for the students and campesinos who have made the long, expensive trek to this resort city. Protestors are also camped at a major intersection on the road to the hotel strip. The low budget hotels and hostels in Cancun city are full. On a stage under a huge thatched roof, a group is singing to drums and guitars. Separated from the city by the Laguna Nichupta, the hotel zone is an L-shaped spit of land some 15 miles long, connected to the mainland by bridges at both ends. There is a barricade between the city and the hotel zone. No chance, then, that demonstrations like those in Seattle will keep the WTO delegates from the meetings.

Even at night, the air is like warm soup. At midday the next day, the sun bears down like a heavy hand. From the deck of my hotel, the wedding cake turrets of the convention center are reflected in the water. A BBC TV crew appears to do a photo op. They tell me that they have seen no American TV crews, except one from Fox News. That evening, CNN is totally absorbed in a developing hurricane, and makes no mention of the WTO, which bears more potential for devastation than any hurricane.

Near the convention center I approach a group wearing WTO badges. I say that I am here to protest the WTO and hope that they will oppose the US proposals. I stop several smaller groups and ask them if they realize that there are big demonstrations going on in Cancun city. Some say yes, but others say no. I ask a delegate from Holland if he thinks the WTO is a good thing. He hesitates, and then says yes, because we can't have anarchy. I think of the name of our affinity group: Amor y Anarquista— Love and Anarchy, and ask if many small agreements would be preferable to a top-down approach. He smiles and nods. He tells me that any agreements will come on Sunday or Monday, after some of the delegates have gone home.

Three delegates from Zimbabwe are seated in front of me on the bus on Friday morning. The issue, they say, that is keeping all African countries out of any agreement, is subsidies to cotton. They are serving as both conference and NGO delegates, as Zimbabwe couldn't afford to send a larger delegation. I tell them about what the delegate from Holland told me about agreements being made after the official end of the conference. They

look surprised, but one man nods and smiles cynically.

By evening the barricade has been closed and strengthened. It is now a row of metal mesh cages, some 12 feet tall, chained together across both lanes of the highway and the wide parkway between them. I approach one of the dozens of blue-clad police guarding the barricade and peer through the mesh. May I pass? “No pase,” I am told.

It is Saturday, the last official day of the WTO meeting and the day of the big march that we have all been preparing for. Our affinity group has made a huge puppet to be carried in the parade. She is Ixtel, Mayan moon goddess. She is earth-colored, and wears a green snake around her headdress. Ahead of us is a sea of marchers, banners, carts and free-lance percussionists. We grab the beat. Groups are running across the playing fields to join the slowly moving procession. The walls along the parade route are covered with anti-WTO graffiti. People have come out of the houses and businesses along the route to watch us pass. The sun beats down.

A mile later we reach the boulevard leading to the hotel zone. The parade has swelled to about 4000. Ixtel has been joined by Chac, the rain god, and a silvery feathered serpent. There is a dias at the intersection and a man is giving a speech in English. The parade moves past him toward the barricade and then scatters into groups under the trees on the boulevard. Suddenly there is a downpour, and before it ends we are soaked. Behind the barricade we can see a double row of police in full riot gear, but without guns. We prop Ixtel against a tree and move closer.

A group of women are attacking the barricade with bolt cutters. A Korean is tying a rope to the barricade. At a signal, the Koreans begin to haul on the ropes. A section in the middle of the roadway tips, but does not fall. The crowd claps a rhythm and cheers. There is a long pause while the Koreans return with bolt cutters. Then the ropes are retied, and when the line of men pulls, a section gives way. The police watch, impassive, as another section is removed, and then another. The women have cut through the mesh of another of the cages. In front of the opening the Koreans have made, someone is giving a speech. It is hard to hear. The wet ground is littered with water bottles and bits of plastic.

I sit on the curb and watch the crowd. The boulevard is crowded with marchers and onlookers. Many are wearing badges that identify them as delegates, NGO representatives, or press. I see a delegate from the European Parliament near the barricade, cheering for the[anti-WTO] speaker. Someone says that an African delegate stood up in the WTO meeting and said that “the voices outside are very loud.” Someone else is saying that the talks have broken down. On the next day, Sunday, the Kenyan delegate announced that he would not continue, effectively ending the WTO meeting. It is clear that we have won, and without violence.

Now Ixtel has been taken back to the convergence center where she was born. A group of Mayan women has asked to have her, and we are happy that she will walk the streets again in a demonstration planned for October 12. Tomorrow we will fly home to find that the WTO meeting has received scant attention in the major US media. But we are satisfied that we strengthened the chorus against the proposed agreements and helped to bring about the collapse of the meeting.

Agreements proposed by the United States would make it illegal for governments to say no to the operations of companies that want to “privatize” resources, services, utilities or labor and destroy small farmers and markets by dumping heavily subsidized US grain.

# NPJC STATEMENT ON NASHVILLE RECYCLING

The Nashville Peace and Justice Center is a coalition of twenty five organizations working for human rights, economic justice, environmental health and world peace. We recognize the importance of recycling for personal health, environmental health, and a sound social economy.

We commend the Purcell administration for closing the Thermal Incinerator Plant and starting a residential recycling pickup for the entire Urban Services District of Davidson County. However, the residential curbside pickup program is inadequate because it does not divert most recyclable or compostable materials. Presently, it diverts only about 12,000 tons of recyclables from a total of 713,000 tons of solid waste generated per year in Davidson County. It has not met early optimistic projections by the Division of Waste Management of the Department of Public Works. We understand that another 10,000 tons are diverted through recycling drop-off sites, and 39,000 tons are diverted through brush and leaf collections. Though these totals are only a small part of what should be diverted from landfills, we urge our members and all residents in the meantime to participate as much as they can in current programs, while working for much needed improvements in recycling, composting, and toxic materials recovery programs. We also urge people to compost their food and yard wastes in their own yards and gardens.

Recycling materials is only one part of healthful and sustainable energy and resource policies. Our social goals must include:

- 1) *reducing* consumption of unnecessary products and wasteful packaging materials,
- 2) supporting manufacture and use of products that are more durable, and
- 3) *recirculating* and *reusing* products that still have usable life.

The Nashville Peace and Justice Center intends to reduce, reuse and recycle as much as possible, to use office supplies with recycled content, and to encourage all member groups and individuals to do the same.

To support the broad environmental goals outlined above we urge Metro Government to take the following steps:

- 1) Use broader research including input from consumer and environmental groups, as well as technical and economic waste management analysis. Welcome and use the experience, input and commitment of local environmental groups.
- 2) Explore and encourage local markets for recycled materials, and remanufacturing businesses.
- 3) Develop a revised long range Solid Waste Plan, with new consultants and more citizen input, moving toward a clear goal of recycling most commercial, institutional and residential wastes. This plan should analyze all waste disposal costs, including direct landfill costs, transportation costs and effects, health and environmental effects, and opportunity losses from failure to recycle and compost. We urge numerical goals to divert much more of the waste stream from landfills in each succeeding year.
- 4) Begin pilot programs in wet/dry recycling aimed at developing broader wet/dry recycling in future waste plans. Valuable wet/dry models are already succeeding in Tennessee state correctional institutions and at Granbery Elementary School. Organic compost drop-off/pickup sites and more community garden sites using compost could contribute to this

goal.

5) Where possible, recycling or composting of commercial and institutional wastes should be mandated.

6) Household hazardous wastes may be less than 1% of the waste stream. However they are often intermingled with other waste elements. They are dangerous to human and environmental health when dumped in landfills, or otherwise disposed of improperly. More research and action is needed to recover toxic waste elements and dispose of them properly.

7) Minority and low-income neighborhoods feel targeted by concentration of waste processing stations, disposal sites, and contaminated industrial sites. Metro must address and resolve these concerns.

8) Bring strong environmental and recycling education into the public schools' curricula in order to educate a new generation committed to recycling and other healthful environmental policies.

9) Encourage active citizen involvement through the following steps:

- a) Active grassroots outreach to get support and participation by organized neighborhood groups.
- b) Quarterly, open invitation meetings between Waste Management Division staff and concerned citizens to report on progress and encourage citizen input.
- c) The Division of Waste Management provides access to some public documents and performance records as requested by citizens. The level of access has not been satisfactory to some of our member groups particularly concerned with waste disposal issues. We expect Waste Management will resolve differences to meet reasonable and feasible requests for information that citizen groups believe will help them to assist in analysis and planning for progress in comprehensive waste recycling for Metro Davidson County.

Nashville Peace and Justice Center makes this statement in a spirit of hope. We seek open communication and cooperation between citizen groups and government. We request a response to these goals from the Mayor's office and the Metro Division of Waste Management.

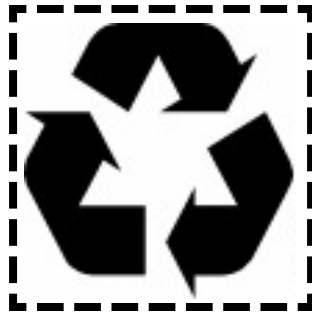


Photo by Al Levinson, Peace Coalition

Jack Moore from Middle Tennessee VFP and Ed Hart from the Alabama VFP chapter talk in the Sept 8 rally. Veterans for Peace is an educational and humanitarian organization dedicated to the abolishment of war.

# Past the Protests: Building a Culture of Peace

## (A Questionnaire)

Prepared by Peace Coalition Simplicity Project and Karl Meyer ~ War Resisters League

This inventory is based on the premise that world peace will require conservation and restoration of Earth's biological environment and more equitable sharing of limited world resources. As peace advocates, if we don't work to practice and demonstrate peaceful ways of living, what are we truly advocating?

### ENERGY CONSUMPTION

**HOUSING** - Do I live alone or share space in co-housing or community? Number of square feet of housing space per resident? 300 or less? 600, 900, 1200, 1500+?  
Explanation: Materials production, building construction, heating, and other energy costs are directly proportional to the amt. of housing and work space we occupy.

### VENTILATION AND AIR CONDITIONING

Windows & cross ventilation only - Fans - Air conditioning?  
Explanation: Air conditioning requires a lot of energy. It came into use in our country only in the last half century, and most of the world's people live without it, even in the tropics.

### ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES AND FIXTURES

Few in number, energy efficient models or many, not efficient?  
Turned off when not in direct use or often left on when not in use?  
Compact fluorescent lights, few fixtures or all incandescents

### TRANSPORTATION

Do I use private motor vehicles, or bicycles, legs, or public transit for most of my transportation? Number of people in living unit per motor vehicle? No motor vehicle?  
Annual motor vehicle mileage: 2000 or less, 5000, 10,000, 15,000 or more?  
Fuel efficiency of vehicles: 50 mpg. or more 40 30 20 10 5 or less?  
Do I use Bicycles, Walking, and Public transit for: Most trips; Frequently; Seldom?

### SIMPLICITY vs CONSUMERISM

#### REDUCTION

Do I reduce purchase and consumption of unnecessary manufactured products?

#### REUSING

Do I use products until they are worn out, then replace them, when possible, from thrift shops, alley recycling, dumpster diving, or other reuse options? Do I use less, and get most clothing, furniture and many other products from secondhand sources, or do I purchase all new things from retail stores.

#### RECYCLING

Do I use all available waste recycling options, public and personal - monthly curbside pickup for paper, aluminum and steel cans, drop-off centers for glass, plastic, toxics and bulk items, thrift shop pickups for reusable clothing and household products? Do I compost my own food wastes, leaves, and yard cuttings in my own yard or garden?

#### WORK

**PRODUCTION OR MANUFACTURING JOBS** - Does most of my work involve making necessary products or unnecessary or frivolous products?

Necessary Useful, but unnecessary Frivolous Destructive?

**SERVICE WORK** - Is most of my work direct services, responding to real human needs, or is it mostly unnecessary bureaucracy, social and economic bookkeeping, or services of marginal or questionable social value?

Necessary Wasteful bureaucracy Highly questionable Downright harmful?

#### LEISURE & RECREATION

Are my leisure and recreational activities simple and healthful for myself, for other people, and for the biological environment of Earth, or are they expensive, wasteful of energy resources, or destructive to the environment?

Earth friendly, local, personal - Spectator, derivative of a wasteful culture -

Expensive, extravagant, destructive?

### RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND SEGREGATION

**HOUSING** -Do my housing choices reinforce patterns of racial segregation associated with racial discrimination and economic inequality?

I am a minority. I am amid well-balanced racial integration.

I am in the majority.

**INSTITUTIONS** - Do I attend and participate in work, religious, civic and recreational institutions that are integrated or segregated?

Work Church School Civic associations Clubs Sports

### EATING AND FOOD PRODUCTION

Do I eat low or high on the food chain? Does most of my food come from close to home, or from far away?

Do I eat: Vegan - Vegetarian - Mixed, balanced diet - High level of meat and dairy?

Do I: Grow my own good - Buy local food - Buy food from over 200 miles away?

Explanation: Raising animals for food can require more than ten times as much land, energy, water and soil inputs per calorie of food value, when compared to eating vegetable products directly. Importing food from far away requires huge expenditures of fossil fuel energy for preservation and transportation, and also fosters food product monocultures that deplete soil and water, and often damage traditional local farming cultures.

### INCOME ALLOCATION

#### MILITARY TAXES

Do I pay Federal income taxes that finance militarism, wars and the projection of worldwide imperial power?

Live below taxable Pay no Federal Pay a percentage Pay all assessed income levels. income taxes. of all taxes. income taxes.

Explanation: Through the last half century about half of all Federal income tax revenues have been spent for current military costs, plus interest on the portion of the Federal debt that can be attributed to past deficit spending for military purposes. These costs presently average about \$3000 per year for each U.S. resident. Payment of these taxes is the only contribution to military activities demanded from most of us. [*War Tax Resistance* Guide, 2003, War Resisters League - call Karl Meyer, 615-322-9523, for informed counseling on war tax refusal. ]

#### DISCRETIONARY INCOME

How much of my disposable income do I share with others through contributions in person, or to charitable, service and civic action purposes?

50% or more 40% 30% 20% 10% or less

#### INFORMATION, EDUCATION, AWARENESS

Where do I get most of my information and misinformation about what is going on in the wider world, beyond the range of my direct personal experience?

Personal contacts with live observers - Independent media, periodicals, and internet - Mainstream newspapers and magazines - Commercial radios and television news.

#### ALLOCATION OF TIME AS A RESOURCE

How do I use my lifetime?

Healthful balance between personal work, leisure, and community activity for the common good.

Full time employment for income to spend on mostly personal concerns.

Overtime employment to earn income, then spending most of income for products and services for personal use.

#### SOME QUESTIONS

Why have I made the decisions that I make?

Why will I continue?

Do I want to make significant changes in my current patterns and lifestyle?

What changes are most significant to me, and what changes am I willing to make?

If I won't make changes in my personal policies, how committed am I to a peaceful world and to changes in the military, social and environmental policies of U.S. governments?

#### A RESPONSE

The NPJC is working on programming that supports a "Culture of Peace" -- this includes, so far, work to start Simplicity Circles and a Sweat Equity cooperative. If you would like to help coordinate or support Culture of Peace coordinating (or have further ideas of how we can foster a more peaceful NPJC culture), please call the NPJC (321-9066) and talk with the coordinating staff member.



IWFR photo from TN indy media. <http://tnimc.org/>

### Freedom Ride in Nashville continued from page 1

six weeks organizing events. Riders were welcomed at a Noon rally at the Metro Court House, featuring veteran civil rights era sit-in organizer Rev. Jim Lawson, plus Vice Mayor Howard Gentry,

Kwame Lillard and others. Lunch was held at First Baptist Church Capitol Hill, and then the riders marched to the Public Library for viewing a civil rights documentary that featured Rev. Lawson's work with Nashville's 1960 sit-in movement which desegregated downtown restaurants.

Around 500 Nashvillians of many ethnic and international backgrounds joined the riders for a 6 p.m. march across the downtown Shelby Pedestrian Bridge, led by the Pearl Cohn marching band. Convening in Hall of Fame Park near the western end of the bridge, riders and supporters rallied with a wide spectrum of speakers from the IWFR and local organizations.

Several riders told us that Nashville's events and support were the best they'd yet seen in any U.S. city. The two buses of riders originated in Los Angeles and had stopped in a different city each day.

Lead organizers of the Nashville events were attorney Mario Ramos and Spring Miller of the international Enlaces America. A wide range of co-organizers and co-sponsors included the Nashville Peace and Justice Center, Connexion Americas, Salvador Guzman and Las Chivas Restaurant, the Nashville Task Force on Refugees and Immigrants, the Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition, local union organizations including the Nashville Central Labor Council and Tennessee AFL-CIO, and others.

"We hope this is the beginning of dialogue and relationship building among immigrant rights, civil rights, labor and religious groups in Nashville," Miller said.

(Carter Moody is development director at the Somali Community Center and co-chairs the Nashville Task Force on Refugees and Immigrants.)

### School of the Americas.....continued from page 1

and financed by our government -- just several hours away in Fort Benning, Georgia.

"It's a terrorist training camp," says Reverend Don Beiswenger. "Since the government is trying to close terrorist training camps, it seems logical that this one should close."

In 2001, the SOA was renamed the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, or WHISC. Although officials claim that this school is different from the School of the Americas, few significant changes have been made. Don Beiswenger, who has attended the protest at the School of the Americas five times, says that the change is "pretty cosmetic.... The core of the curriculum is still basically a military curriculum against insurgency, the insurgents being the people." US Representative Joe Moakley of Massachusetts also said that the changes were only superficial, "like putting a perfume factory on top of a toxic waste dump."

On November 22 and 23, thousands, including many from Nashville, will gather outside the gates the SOA in Fort Benning, Georgia in an annual nonviolent protest. This date commemorates the murder of two women and six Jesuit priests



A local Latino activist marches to the Hall of Fame park with the IWFR march. Several Hispanic newspapers, including La Noticia, gave the march the most thorough coverage an NPJC co-sponsored event has received all year. Photo by Al Levinson.



Reverend James Lawson, civil rights activist, leads the march into the park. Reverend Lawson, alongside NPJC activist Ironelly Mora, spoke at the rally. Photo provided by Carter Moody.



The Pearl Cohn marching band leads the marchers over the new Shelby Street walking bridge. Photo provided by Carter Moody.

### The Four IWFR Principles

1. Legalization and a path to citizenship for all immigrants.
2. The right to re-unite families.
3. Protection of worker rights without regard to legal status.
4. Protection of civil rights and civil liberties of all.

in El Salvador, committed by Salvadoran army officers trained at the School of the Americas. On Saturday, concerned citizens will rally in front of the gates to hear speakers and music against the School of the Americas. On Sunday, a memorial service will be held for those who have died, and then solemn protesters carrying crosses, flowers, or other symbols of remembrance will proceed to the gates of the School of the Americas, placing their objects on the gates of the SOA. On Sunday, those who choose to pass through those gates into the school's grounds, committing civil disobedience, will be arrested.

This protest sends a clear message for justice. Our country's citizens will not stand for any more bloodshed in our name. They remember victims who have died, and will do their best to not let it go on any longer. Protesters will gather in remembrance, they will gather in peace, and they will gather in solidarity with the people of Latin America.

Join us on November 22 and 23 in Fort Benning, Georgia and let your voice be heard. Visit [www.soaw.org](http://www.soaw.org) for more information on the School of the Americas and the protest.

Contact [christina@nashvillepeacejustice.org](mailto:christina@nashvillepeacejustice.org) or 321-9066 to join the Nashville group.



1016 18th Avenue, S.  
Nashville, TN 37212  
tel. (615) 321-9066  
www.nashvillepeacejustice.org

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Nashville, TN  
Permit, No. 1716

Address  
Service  
Requested



Educate those in Power  
write. call. visit.

# December November Winter 2003 Calendar

**President George W. Bush**

1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington D.C. 20500  
(202) 456-1111, FAX (202) 456-2461      president@whitehouse.gov

**Citizen Comment:** (202) 456-1111

(A 1-minute call before 8 am costs 29 cents)

**Congressional Switchboard:**

1(800) 648-3516

**U.S. Senator Bill Frist**

461 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Washington DC 20510  
(202) 224-3344      senator@frist.senate.gov

**U.S. Senator Lamar Alexander**

302 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington DC 20510  
(202) 224-4944      senator@alexander.senate.gov

**U.S. Representative Jim Cooper**

1536 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515      phone: 202.225.4311

**Gov. Phil Bredesen**

Governor's Office, Tennessee State Capitol, Nashville TN 37243-0001  
(615) 741-2001      phil.bredesen@state.tn.us

**TN Senator Jim Bryson**

310 War Memorial Building, Nashville, TN 37243-0023  
(615) 741-2495      sen.jim.bryson@legislature.state.tn.us

**TN Senator Thelma Harper**

2 Legislative Plaza, Nashville, TN 37243-0219  
(615) 741-2453      sen.thelma.harper@legislature.state.tn.us

**TN Senator Joe Haynes**

5 Legislative Plaza, Nashville, TN 37243-0220  
(615) 741-6679      sen.joe.haynes@legislature.state.tn.us

**TN Senator Douglas Henry**

11 Legislative Plaza, Nashville, TN 37243-0021  
(615) 741-3291      sen.douglas.henry@legislature.state.tn.us

▪ November 1: **TAP/Peace Roots Benefit** at The Farm in Summertown. 2:00pm. For info: Elizabeth Barger, jbarger@usit.net.

▪ November 2: **World Community Day.** Brookhaven Cumberland Presbyterian Church. 9:30 registration.

▪ Wednesdays. November 5-December 17: **Peace Coalition.** 6:00-7:30pm at the NPJC.\*

▪ Wednesdays. November 5-December 10: **Church Conflict Management** 7:00-8:30 pm at First Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashville

November 13: **Our World is Not for Sale! The Real Costs of Free Trade.** 7:30pm Central Labor Council, 2001 Elm Hill Pike.

November 15: **TAP House Party.** Reverend **Ed Sanders** and **Calvin Settles** 6:00pm at 1611 Forrest Ave, East Nashville. Email: nellrose@earthlink.net

▪ November 17: **Issues Forum** 6:30- 8:00pm at the NPJC.\*

▪ November 20: **International Affairs** brownbag lunch with United Nations Association. Noon- 1:30pm at the NPJC.\*

▪ November 22-23: **SOA Protest** at Fort Benning, GA. Rally for justice. Call 321-9066 to join Nashville caravan. Visit www.soaw.org.

▪ December 16: **Americans United** 7-8:30pm at Greater Nashville Unitarian Universalist. Info: (615) 646-9946.

