



Peace Talk

Building a Culture of Peace

Vol. 28 No. 2

Peace Surge

A peace activist friend called me the other day and asked, "What's happening with the peace movement?" I told her, "We're having a Peace Surge. Plug in!" How?

Get on a bus for the ONE NATION TOGETHER march in Washington, D.C. on October 2nd.

Organize something locally for October 7-10 to mark the the 9th anniversary of the original invasion of Afghanistan. NCPA will join the International Days of Action with a vigil in Raleigh on Oct. 7th (see calendar).

Reflect on the power of nonviolence in building a new society, October 20-22. NCPA is sponsoring the speaking tour of Terrence Rynne, author of Gandhi and Jesus: The Saving Power of Nonviolence.

Get the word out to colleges, student groups, church young adult groups and friends aged 18-24 about our first annual ***Student/Young Adult Peacemaker Award***.

You can call your Senator about the New START treaty or write a letter to the editor. *And* it's almost time to go to the polls. Electing peace candidates can make a huge difference. Let us hear from you; what you're doing or want to do to help build a culture of peace. *Thank you for being a part of our growing organization.*

-- Betsy Crites,
Director

Student / Young Adult Peacemaker Award

North Carolina Peace Action invites students and young adults ages 18-24 residing in North Carolina to submit either an:

Artistic Expression: A dance, song, poetry recital, artistic rendering, video, or stage act of up to 10 minutes OR

Written Essay: 600 words addressing:

HOW COULD TAX MONEY BEING USED FOR WAR BE REDIRECTED TO MEET HUMAN NEEDS?

Prizes: *Grand Prize* is an all expenses paid 2-week trip with Witness for Peace to Latin America.

Deadlines and Presentations:

October 11th: Submit Entry Form

November 6th: Submit Essay

November 13th: Art Presentations / Final Awards





Journey to Peace

(Above) Journey to Peace: On June 13th-14th, Iraq Army veteran, Josh Stieber, told audiences in the Triangle about the painful dissonance US soldiers face when they find themselves killing innocent people. Watch the wiki leaks video “Collateral Murder” on our website. Co-sponsored with WILPF Chapel Hill, Orange County Coalition for Peace and Justice, Elders for Peace, and Eisenhower Chapter of Veterans for Peace.

Collaborations are Crucial

(Right) Peace Booth at the NC State Fair:

Every year NCPA helps organize and staff the Peace Booth at the NC State Fair. It is an effective way to reach people who would not normally attend NCPA sponsored events.



Diversity for Education

(Left) March for Diversity in Education in Wake:

Betsy and Mia Austin-Scoggins carried the NCPA banner supporting the effort to prevent re-segregation of schools in Wake



(Left) America’s Immigration Dilemma: On August 8th, NCPA co-hosted a fundraiser for the Student/Young Adult Peacemaker Award scholarship to travel with Witness for Peace. Ninety people attended to hear Marisol Jimenez McGee speak on the causes of immigration, i.e. the economic disintegration of countries like Mexico due to trade agreements that favor the wealthy elites and corporations. We raised \$2,400 to help send the winners of the Student /Young Adult Peacemaker Award to Latin America with Witness for Peace.

New START Ratification: The 2.2.2 Campaign

Nuclear weapons will someday be a relic of the past. Hold that thought while we take the next step.

The Senate must ratify the New START.

That is the simple message for our **2** Senators Kay Hagan and Richard Burr. Write or call them **2** times and get **2** friends to write or call **2** Senators, **2** times. Ask those friends to get **2** friends to do the same. Let us know your progress at www.ncpeaceaction.org For details on New START, the NPT and the CTBT, go to www.peace-action.org : “Nuclear Weapons Policy Guide”.

Sen Richard Burr: 202.224.3514 & 800.685.6916 <http://burr.senate.gov>

Sen Kay Hagan: 202.224.6342 & 919.856.4630 <http://hagan.senate.gov>

A Call for International Days of Action: October 7th-10th

“We call for decentralized International Days of Action October 7-10th to bring US and NATO troops home. We call for ceasefire, negotiations, and withdrawal of foreign forces.”

Nineteen international peace groups from Germany, France, Greece, Czech Republic, Belgium, Portugal, Sweden, the UK, Ireland and the US have issued this call. The US groups are Peace Action, American Friends Service Committee and Code Pink.

The 9th anniversary of the disastrous invasion of Afghanistan will be marked with public actions, educational events, press releases and Congressional call-in days. Candidates need to hear that the public does not support the war. NCPA plans a press conference and vigil in Raleigh on October 7th at 5 PM. Write, email or call NCPA for an organizing packet for your area or join us in Raleigh.

For “Letters to the Editor” on Afghanistan

- US military leaders now concede there is no military solution to what is at its core an Afghan civil war.
- In the middle of the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression we are flushing extraordinary amounts of taxpayer money down the drain of a futile, murderous and destructive war.
- A growing majority of Afghans no longer see the US and NATO forces as liberators. Instead they see the Western occupiers as the primary cause of the suffering and insecurity and want them to leave.

Much more could be said on this subject. Go to www.peace-action.org and write a letter to an editor. Send us a copy.

The Choice is Clear

“We must realize terrorism isn’t a country per se, but a philosophy. Our commitment in Afghanistan must come to an end soon -- financially it will break us, not to mention the physical strain on our military.” Elaine Marshall, candidate for the US Senate from North Carolina.

Peace Voting Score for NC Senators: Richard Burr (R): 0% ; Kay Hagan (D): 78%

See the Congressional Scorecard at www.peaceactionwest.org for details and your Congressperson’s scores.



“Imagine the impact on secular society if the entire body of Christians rejected the exclusive identification of justice with retribution, turned to a concept of restorative justice, and embraced, modeled, and lived the way of nonviolence.” Terrence J. Rynne

F A L L 2 0 1 0 C A L E N D A R

- **October 2nd:** The **ONE NATION TOGETHER** campaign. Return your pledge to get on the bus to Washington, DC. (See insert)
- **October 7-10th: A Call for International Days of Action.** The 9th anniversary of the disastrous invasion of Afghanistan will be marked with public actions, educational events, press releases and Congressional call-in days. See Page 3.
- **October-November:** Support the *Student/Young Adult Peacemaker Award* by letting your friends, ages 18-24, know about it. We also need donations of airline miles and in-kind donations for prizes would be very welcomed. See the full details on our website and email director@ncpeaceaction.org (A special NCPA program. See front page.)
- **Mid-September Ratification:** The **2.2.2. Campaign** on Page 2. NC is a swing state to get New START ratified! Peace Action and NCPA are leading this effort statewide.
- **October 21-23rd: Terrence Rynne**, founder of the Marquette University Center for Peacemaking and author of Gandhi and Jesus: The Saving Power of Nonviolence will speak to audiences in Raleigh, Greensboro and Charlotte.
- **October 14-24th:** The **Peace Booth** at the NC State Fair: <http://www.ncpeacebooth.org>

Access this newsletter on-line at www.ncpeaceaction.org where you can also sign up for email up-dates. Contact NCPA at: 919.381.5969 or at director@ncpeaceaction.org -- *Hope to hear from you!*

NC Peace Action

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