



Grandmothers for Peace International

Barbara Wiedner, Founder, 1928 - 2001

Lorraine Krofchok, Director

Founded 1982

Spring 2009

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.” — Margaret Mead

Dear President Obama:

We welcome your presidency with joy, hope and relief. Grandmothers for Peace have been here since 1982, working for a better, safer world for the future. We are a unique, international organization and dedicated to what we do. You, more than most, know the importance of grandmothers in one's life. We are all safe in the arms of grandmother. We are here to help. The future of our country and indeed the world will be in the hands of our children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. And a grandmother will be there; she is the all embracing image of care and love.

In your inaugural address you so very eloquently stated: “To those who cling to power through corruption and deceit and the silencing of dissent, know that you are on the wrong side of history, but that we will extend a hand if you are willing to unclench your fist.” Sadly, the United States has had a fist up for many years and we too have to reach out with an open hand. You are our greatest hope for peace. As we reach to become a global community once again, please consider these:

*End the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Enough people have died. Diplomacy, not war.

*Rapid and intense diplomacy in the Middle East, addressing the suffering of both the Palestinians and the Israelis. We must play a responsible, and impartial role.

*Eliminate nuclear weapons, and no new nuclear power plants (Where do we store the waste?)

*End torture. Our thank you for the rapid response on Gitmo. Next step: Closing the School of the Americas (WHINSEC) at Ft. Benning, GA.

*Basic health care so our nation can thrive and go back to work to help rebuild our country.

I have a sign in front of my house that shows the number of dead in Iraq and Afghanistan. Please, I want to take down that sign and not have to change the numbers, each time thinking about the families whose lives are changed forever. Our hope is that you will be a peace president.

Grandmothers for Peace will be here, ready to help you. I thank you for taking on this huge task. May our country thrive in your care. We must become a beacon for peace and justice, the hope for the world to live in peaceful co-existence.

*Peace to all of us,
Lorraine Krofchok, Director*

This Moment

On January 20, 2009, I sent out the following email message:

Dear Grandmothers for Peace all over:

I will forever savor the moment when Barack Obama became President Obama, 44th President of the United States of America. Whatever happens after this moment in time, that is politics and how our government works. But these moments are precious. We ARE a part of history!

Tell me, right now if you can, how YOU feel — now.

We truly have made history in the US. Look at what the world thinks too!

Peace to ALL of us! Lorraine

What follows are YOUR comments for “THIS MOMENT.”

My heart is full - and I'm one of the many who shed tears of joy during the inauguration ceremony. I'm hopeful for our country and the world - it has been a long time since I've felt that.

- Arlayne Knox, Fairbanks, Alaska

Tena koe e atamarie, e hoa
(atamarie: peace in Maori)

Greetings and peace, dear friend Lorraine,

I have spent many hours this morning watching President Barack Obama's inauguration and it has filled me with the same joy and hope I felt when I watched the release of Nelson Mandela from prison back in 1990.

There is an optimism in the air: your commentators were very enthusiastic in their praise: our commentators from the USA Embassy here in Wellington recorded it: we at home in New Zealand

► This Moment, Page 2

4,237 US Military Deaths in Iraq War
Cost of War: \$594,578,391,745
(\$341 Million per Day)

644 US Military Deaths in Afghanistan War
Cost of War: \$206 Billion

feel it, just as keenly as do our American friends and neighbours.

Be thankful that there is an opportunity for a new move forward throughout the world. We can all work together to make freedom, peace and happiness something which every citizen of this beautiful planet can enjoy.

Grandmothers for Peace has been an integral part in us coming to this moment, this day, this fresh beginning. In knowing this, everyone should remember the suffering and struggles which have preceded this point of no return. We can only go onward to a better life and I thank you for your contribution. Of course, we cannot rest easy now but surely we will have increased energy to carry on and see peace in our time.

Nga mili o te tau hou

Good wishes for this New Year

- *Sandra, New Zealand*

After all the squabbling and back-biting is over, the American people do come through! And when we don't, it's because our choice has been taken from us ... witness the Supreme Court decision in 2000 and the screw-up in 2004.

But I've never seen anything like this! Has there ever been such a joining of the people? Quoting Tiny Tim, "Bless us, everyone!" Bless all the peoples of the world!

- *Bread and peace, Helen, New Jersey*

And from Helen's school teacher neighbor and dear friend, Donna: I had a wonderful day yesterday enjoying the inauguration with my 8th graders in Pequannock. The entire school watched the event in wide-eyed wonder. They were quoting the speech today. One girl asked me today, "Did you cry? Or did you get that funny feeling on your skin?" I think Obama has made a connection with 13-year olds, if those are my choices!

- *Celebrate, Donna, New Jersey*

My heart is full of joy and hope at this wonderful time of change. I want to shout to all the ends of this country, **YES WE DID!**

- *Kathie McLean, Sacramento, CA*

I will savor this day ... to see a black man become President of the USA!!! I'm not good with words, but I can tell you it took a lot of me to not cry through the whole inauguration. And I really enjoyed his speech.

I pray God gives him the strength and wisdom to hang in there. He has such a huge challenge ahead of him after what Bush has done to us.

- *Catalina Island, CA*

At the end of the ceremony, when our National Anthem was played and the camera

panned to our flag blowing in the breeze, I cried. And for the first time in 7 years, it was tears of gratitude and joy. My country and my flag have been returned to me - I can fly my flag again now.

- *In Peace, Fran, Sacramento, CA*

How do I feel about President Barack Obama? Relief, hope and a renewed pride in being an American. I have one grandchild and he is half African American. As I watched him come into this world in 2000 I felt a combination of joy and fear. Why was I afraid? Because in our country, one drop of African American blood makes him black. Our country has never been a safe place for African American males. Maybe now it will be. What better role model for him than a president of mixed blood?

- *Judy Nisonger, Fair Oaks, CA*

In President Obama's speech, he urged us to choose hope over fear and to invoke the memory of soldiers in America's Revolution. These images inspired me to believe.

The real accomplishment in terms of his being an African-American (or Hispanic or Asian) is the day when we won't see it as historic, but as the way it is.

- *Nan, Elk Grove, CA*

A message from Hedwin to her grandchildren:

I hope your Mom and your Dad will read this message to you. Today we made a really amazing thing happen in our country. We made a man who is an African-American, President of the United States. When you are older, you will all know what a great victory this was, a victory over people who are mean-spirited and unkind.

Our new President wants us all to help and wants us all to work to make it a better place for everyone. So I hope you will all do your part:

- ~ Listen to your parents.
- ~ Work hard in school.
- ~ Be nice to the people you meet.
- ~ Be a good sport when you play sports.
- ~ Help people when they need your help.

We love you all very much.

- *Hedwin, Southern CA*

I am thrilled and I feel the work is just beginning. Yesterday, when I was getting dressed to go to a day of service with two friends in my precinct that I made as a result of campaign work for Obama, a little voice said to me, "Wear your GFP sweatshirt." I did and was interviewed by Channel 7. I also got some positive comments on it. But, more important, six people from the precinct met Sunday to discuss where we go from here. Another precinct has spearheaded the emphasis on service and we had a fun fundraiser for the Crisis

Center. Our group is interested in restoring the Constitution. I am suggesting that we start a campaign to get all of our citizens to read the constitution. But tonight, I will be partying.

- *Pace e bene, Iowa City, Iowa*

In general, I would like Obama to be forward looking rather than spending too much time and energy trying to undo the W years. I would like to see them all imprisoned, but the likelihood of that happening probably isn't very great.

- *Myrna, Gold River, CA*

It was a wonderful day. The fact that Martin Luther King's birth was celebrated in such a magnificent way must please SO many people all over the world. I believe we should all pray, in our own way, for the Obama family and their well being.

Our local government people need to be encouraged to be open to new ideas and ways of handling each person's need in their district or state. Poverty, unemployment, health problems, etc, face so many of the middle and lower class. We as citizens in our communities must be aware and willing to lend a hand to those in need.

Support for our President Obama and family is vital to what he and his cabinet can accomplish. Peace for all is my prayer.

- *Roma Jo Thompson, Bridgewater, VA*

EVERYTHING has changed with the Obama family in the White House, with Barack Obama in the office of the President. I truly believe this country can now do anything, provided it remembers to set its moral compass before it leaps into action.

- *Lee Gilbert, Sacramento, CA*

I joined a large group of local folks at a historic restaurant here in Fredonia this morning. We cheered and applauded, even jumped for joy and hugged, many with tears and choked voices. It was delightful to be with others to share the joy in person, as we saw the millions on the Mall sharing the joy of the moment.

We were reminded of the other side of the situation, as several groups of people came to the other part of the dining room, carefully keeping their attention away from the large TV screen and the cheering watchers. The almost 50 million who voted for McCain/Palin are still here, still needing to be invited to participate in this new era of responsible citizens and government.

As a mediator, I know this will not be easy. As a teacher, I know we need to start very early and be consistent in modeling and teaching respect for each other. As a mother and grandmother, I am reminded daily of the continuous nurturing that everyone needs and how that nurturing needs to change over time.

THIS MOMENT

As active members of our neighborhoods and larger communities, we all know how much work needs to be done and the support we need from each other as we add our talents and energy to the work.

Whatever you've been doing, do it with even more enthusiasm. Look around and find new ways to help everyone grow and learn to share their talents. Support the leaders by your own work, and take joy in that action together.

- Faith, Fredonia, NY

Oh what a lovely day! People with "LIFE" once-again-back, in our world! I am still pinching myself! Can we really BELIEVE that we will have joy again? A-h-h-h-h a sigh of relief! I used a half a box of tissues today!!

- Grannie from Duluth, MN

As on most Tuesdays I spent the morning at the Los Angeles Catholic Worker soup kitchen on Skid Row in downtown Los Angeles. The Worker has been serving meals there for almost forty years, and for the past several years, the majority of our unemployed and homeless visitors have been African-American males, many, veterans of the Vietnam War. Today we positioned a TV screen where many would be able to view the inauguration. After the main ceremony and all through the morning, it was easy to see the effect Obama's rise to power has had on our friends. Many the smiles, many the joyful remarks, and I daresay, it appeared that many stood a bit taller, breathed a bit easier, knowing they were a big part of this historic day. After Obama's speech one of our more articulate visitors remarked, "You know, I think this is the first time I ever understood what a politician was talking about!"

It was a truly memorable morning.

- Patty Carmody, Santa Clarita, CA

I've realized this is the best day of my life since the birth of my kids. I'm so proud of our country. My heart is full. We've taken back our government, finally. Now, to work. All together, most of us in the same direction. Healing. Love and Hugs to all.

- Gilbert, Arizona

Thank you Grandmothers For Peace for putting a focus on today. I had to work and just got done seeing/hearing the speech, swearing in, parade and all. I have been in great crowds of people in Washington, DC, several times and have seen many more on TV over all these years. This is the first time I saw them all smiling. This is the first time I saw black, brown, red, yellow, white people all mixed up and hugging one another. This is the second time I felt joy and inspiration. The first time I was a young woman too young to vote for John F. Kennedy, but his words sent me on

my way toward political activism. Today, as a Grandmother and still an activist I am grateful to have the feeling that a life's work has not been in vain and that great possibilities exist still for the young women too young to vote today who will be tomorrow's Grandmothers For Peace. Love to you Lorraine for keeping us all in focus,

- Jeanne, Constable, New York

The world keeps spinning forward

Let us lift our new president up with our prayers. Together — he in his wise leadership and we in helping him with prayers and whatever he calls upon us to do — we can do it.

- Sun City, Arizona

We celebrated the inauguration of President Obama for the joyous event it was. We all felt the new day coming. We all agreed we felt "joyous, energetic, hopeful, ready to work and be a part of the future," feelings surely missed for the past eight years. Thank you for all you do.

- Linda Wiles, Lakeway, Texas



GFP Linda Wiles, left, with granddaughter Claire Wiles, 2, and maternal grandmother, Debby Aldridge.

below: The Texas GFP and Veteran for Peace Dick Underhill celebrate the Inauguration.



We up here in the 'true north strong and free' or the 'great white north,' depending on how you view us, are very happy to see a REAL leader finally take charge down there. We wish you and President Obama and VP Biden all the best and hope that Americans will still be with them at the end of 2009 despite what may come. We celebrate this turning and we hope that a new vision will prevail.

CONGRATULATIONS & GOOD LUCK.

- Gini Walsh, Victoria, BC, Canada

My stress level has gone down 1000% since George W. Bush is no longer our President. When Barack Obama became our 44th president, my hopes and prayers for a renewed promise of PEACE, PROSPERITY and JUSTICE FOR ALL, become a goal we can achieve.

- Love, Pat Chapman, Marietta, Georgia

I am so relieved after all these Reagan and Bush and Cheney years. I am with peace friends in Honolulu, close to the school Obama attended. I hope he and we can implement at least a part of what he tried to help to bring about. If you find good articles for me about the tasks to be done now, please send them in sisterhood.

- Eva Quistorp, co founder of Women for Peace, Germany, Berlin

I was fortunate to get a pair of tickets to the Inauguration from my Congressman. My husband and I had worked hard during the primary and general election campaigns and were thrilled to be able to see the fruits of our labor. Despite some concerns about the effects of cold weather and crowds on our not-so-young-anymore persons, we decided to put the same energy and enthusiasm into getting ourselves to the Mall.

Fate and human fallibility intervened. Despite getting to the assigned entrance point at 4:30 AM, we became victims of the soon-to-be-infamous "3rd Street Purple Tunnel of Doom." When we finally reached the entrance gate to the Mall, it was 9 am and the stationary line awaiting admission was more than 3/4 of a mile long. Screening, we were told, would not begin until 9:30 am.

We reluctantly decided it would be better to go home and be sure of seeing and hearing the proceedings.

As I think about the experience, I am not too disappointed. We were packed shoulder to shoulder with thousands of fellow citizens celebrating the renewal of our Country's promise. I soon realized that we had been afforded the opportunity to be part of an historic demonstration of the best attributes of our national character. The potential for an unpleasant outcome never materialized, while the spirit of love and joy was palpable. I have always been proud to be an American; but on Tuesday, I was absolutely elated to be an American.

- GFP, State of Virginia

As we watched our new president take the oath of office we laughed, we cried, we were free. That is what I felt, freedom. As we all know this freedom comes at a price. Never again staying quiet, never again standing by as our country is divided by lies and deceit. I feel renewed and ready to do what ever I can to make this change happen. Thank you, Grandmothers for Peace, all of you. Yes we can, yes we will, YES WE DID. Peace to all.

- Susan Gaul, Kennewick, Washington.

I was certainly having a glass of wine and dancing around with CNN continuously switched on for the inauguration day. It felt like such a heavy weight had lifted - let's hope

► This Moment, Page 4

THIS MOMENT

he continues with more of the same decisions he made on the next day. How the poor things managed watching all those displays and then dancing at 10 balls afterwards was amazing! Yes, I think the last eight years have made much of the international community heavy-hearted, even without always realizing why.

- *Jean Stead, London, England*

I feel full of hope like never before for our country. President Barack Obama, our young, energetic, inclusive, amazing leader, is a "dream come true." So down to earth, a loving, dedicated family man with his lovely wife Michelle and daughters Malia and Sasha. We are all blessed.

- *Merry Nielsen, San Antonio, Texas*

What a day for our country. I was born in Los Angeles in 1935 and remember going with my mom and dad to Union Station to see my uncle go off to fight in World War II (where he was shot down and died in Europe). There were signs on the drinking fountains at Union Station: "FOR WHITES ONLY" AND "FOR COLORED ONLY." I must have been 4 or 5 and my mom pulled me away from the fountain because I had gone to the one that said "FOR COLORED ONLY."

My dad, Frank Mitchell, was in the movies and he told me how he and Bill Robinson, a famous dancer and actor who appeared with Shirley Temple in movies, went to have dinner at the Brown Derby, a famous restaurant in Hollywood. The restaurant told Bill Robinson he couldn't enter the restaurant because he was "colored" and my father said he told them he would not enter without Mr. Robinson and they both left. How far we have come and how proud I am of our country!

- *Barbara R. Cloud, Santa Clarita, CA*

This was an unexpectedly moving day for me as we watched the inauguration. We're always called to do something for the greater good, and it's all about hope and working together. A little kindness and lots of respect would help, too

- *Selma Blackburn, Little Rock, Arkansas*

I feel hope for all citizens of the USA for the first time in years. Obama is tough – just keep that boyish smile on the back burner. He means business. We should be prepared for change. I would go back to work in the government again in a minute.

- *Kay Weeks, Ellicott City, Maryland*

I am overjoyed and overwhelmed to have lived long enough to witness today's event. We are having celebration parties in England with the glimmer of audacity of hope that today brings.

- *Peace be with you. Dorothy, England*

We were fortunate to be able to watch the Inauguration at a local theater, and it was a full house. The excitement in the crowd was shared by all. My spirits were lifted knowing that there is hope for our country and our world.

While I don't want us to place too much expectation on our new president, I am confident that he will effect change for the good. I feel so privileged to watch history in the making and will never forget this experience. What a wonderful legacy to leave to our grandchildren!

- *Fran Rajotte, Nashville, Tennessee*

I can only describe feelings of lightness and hope. I can't stop smiling. I am sharing this journey with my grandchildren and reminding them to stay aware of their day because when they have grandchildren those children will certainly ask "how they felt on this historic day." Grandmother of 7, the oldest is 19.

- *Noralee Jennings-Bradley, Sacramento, CA*

We have given ourselves an incredible gift. I have never been prouder to call myself an American. I'm off to visit grandchildren tomorrow in Texas. I am driving this time, and although my license tag says 'Alabama,' I will proudly sport my old bumper sticker across the many state borders: *Obama 08*. O happy day!!!

- *Huntsville, Alabama*

I felt a renewed sense of pride in our Country and especially hopeful that globally our new President is going to make a difference. I think many divisions and wounds are being healed right now as we watch these events take place. This can only lead (I hope) to the beginning of breaking down the root causes of war. There is a true sense of connectedness world-wide and we must keep this momentum going. May our hearts be filled with peace.

- *Joanne Thompson, San Carlos, California.*

I just got back from the Oracle Arena. My family and I watched the inauguration with about 12k other people. I have been between tears and giddiness all weekend and today I walk with a little more bounce in my step. The weight of the last 8 yrs has lifted off the world's shoulders (at least for today).

- *Ginny, Hayward, California*

I watched the inaugural ceremony with

NEW ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER

Grandmothers for Peace International
P.O. Box 1292
Elk Grove, California 95759 USA
PHONE: (916) 730-6476

great delight and expectations. Indeed we have made history by putting a black man in the Presidency and the White House. President Obama gives us a sense of hope that we can succeed in bringing about change so desperately needed! We must pray for our new President that he will stand strong against the greatest threats to our country: global warming, an endangered economy, and ongoing war and violence.

This is just the beginning and it is my conviction that we as a people will have to stand firm in demanding that the President represents us and not corporate interests and the military industrial complex.

We the people are the main movers of where this country will be going. We must also pray and keep the pressure on our congressional leaders to support our President and unite against all said threats that really endanger our survival.

- *Peace, Pat Dressler, Hanford, California*

I feel a great renewal of hope - those days of dread and fear have faded. A new world awaits us. I almost feel like going out to buy a US flag to fly in front of our house - a real first for me. Peace and justice are possible. Thanks, Lorraine, for always being there with wisdom, kindness and insights into our situation.

- *Kathleen Lane, Sacramento, California*



Local Sacramento, CA, GFP gather to celebrate the inauguration of Barack Obama. Back left: Ellen Broms, Judy Neel, Zohreh Whitaker, Lorraine Krofchok, Sarah Johnson: Front left, Nancy Baker, Patricia Altenburg.

The Global Zero Launch

In Paris December 8-9, 2008, approximately one hundred international leaders launched **Global Zero** to eliminate nuclear weapons worldwide to combat the threat of proliferation and nuclear terrorism. These leaders discussed the key steps to eliminating nuclear weapons and the Global Zero public outreach plan.

ADD YOUR VOICE - Join citizens and leaders around the world who have endorsed the goal of **Global Zero** - **SIGN the DECLARATION** at:

www.globalzero.org

Inauguration Day: A Personal Account

I took my 10-year-old son Davis with me to Washington, DC, not simply to witness history, but to show my support and respect for our new President by being physically present at his inauguration. I also wanted to teach my son that elections do matter and that taking part in the political process is perhaps the most important exercise of our civil liberties. We ended up spending six days in Washington, and the experience proved to be amazing. We met people from all over the country and all over the world that felt compelled for varying reasons to attend this event. One common thread in everyone's story was that they were hopeful for the first time in years and wanted to witness the dawn of a new era.

On Inauguration day, Davis and I were out of bed and on the Metro by 5:45 am, and the trains were already getting crowded. We were traveling from Arlington, VA, to the Capitol. When we reached our stop, the platform was so full of people trying to get out of the station and upstairs that I opted to ride one more stop and walk back to our destination. When we arrived near the gates that we were supposed to enter with our "BLUE" Inaugural tickets, we found ourselves in fairly good position — not that far back from the gate. But we were in a very thick line of people that continued to grow as the morning went on. When we reached the line, it was about 6:45 a.m. and very cold. The temperature was in the 20s with a wind-chill factor of about 17 degrees.

The people in line were so upbeat and happy, even with the harsh conditions. As the morning wore on, the cold really began to take its toll. Not everyone dressed well for the weather and many were physically miserable. What was great was seeing how everyone helped one another. Some passed out hand and foot warmers to those in need, others gave up a layer of clothing or an extra scarf to ease the chill for another. I was also able to help someone in need. An elderly man who had dressed up for the occasion in a beautiful suit, overcoat, gloves, a regular man's hat (fedora), and regular dress shoes found himself shivering in the bitter cold. His feet, especially, were freezing. I had a space blanket folded up in my pocket that I took out, unfolded and wrapped around his head (right over his hat) and tied it in front of his face to help keep the chill off his ears and face and hold some of the heat in that was escaping from his head. Then the people around us moved him to the middle of the crowd where he could be sheltered from the cold air from all sides and benefit from the body heat. It was wonderful to see people helping others in this way — very inspiring.

They opened the gates and began to process the people around 8:00, but we did not reach the security check point until almost 10:00, which means we were in line for THREE HOURS! Davis was not doing well. He was definitely warm enough - we both were, but he was really bored and wanted to go back to the hotel. By hour number three he began to cry and begged me to leave. Again, the people around us were

By JUDY CUNNINGHAM, GFP

great. A group of college students behind us reminded Davis of the magnitude of

the event and said that there were many people who would love to have his ticket and would envy his spot right now. Then they engaged him in a really fun word game where one person said the name of a city and the next person had to say the name of another city that began with the last letter of the last city. It was good, it got his mind off of things and even made him laugh a few times when people got stuck. Also, the entire morning, there was this one fellow in line with a beautiful voice that would start singing Mo-Town tunes like "My Girl," and soon the whole crowd was singing along with him. It was terrific!

After FINALLY getting through the gate, we made our way to a spot on the lawn where Davis promptly sat down and began playing his DS (Game Boy). By now the event had begun. The Marine band was playing and they were just beginning to introduce officials that were arriving for the event. We were right in front of the Capitol in one of the closest standing areas, but we had to view it on a jumbotron screen, because the actual event was too far above us to see. The lawn area we were on filled up quickly and the people around us were reacting to the people they were viewing on the screen. Many people were calling for respect when they showed George W. Bush

on the screen. Some were booing, but many were saying, "Show respect please. He's our President for 30 more minutes." I thought the civility was great. Others broke out in song, singing "Na-na-na-na/ hey-hey good bye!"

When Obama was about to be sworn in, it was absolutely silent and still around us. Everyone was glued to the screen. After the Oath of Office was administered everyone cheered, and bounced, and clapped. Strangers were hugging and high-fiving one another, and many were crying. It was one of the most moving things I have ever witnessed. Tears were streaming down my own cheeks as I hugged Davis so hard he almost popped! Then, when Obama began his Inaugural Address it was silent once again as everyone listened intently, breaking out in cheers several times when Obama hit a certain chord.

Following the event, everyone exited in an orderly fashion and we made our way several blocks back to our train station and headed back to Arlington. In fact, the entire event was orderly and calm. I read in the paper that there was not a single arrest the whole time related to the Inaugural event. Very cool!

I will remember this event for the rest of my life. I will especially remember how honored I was to be in the presence of so many fellow revelers who came together with common hope and pride, and who bolstered my faith in humanity through their gracious acts of kindness.

— JUDY CUNNINGHAM, Roseville, California, is the daughter of Sarah Johnson and the granddaughter of Corine Thornton, both long-time active GFP members.

“When Obama was about to be sworn in, it was absolutely silent and still around us.”

Superior, Wisconsin

Jan Provost

We have had a very busy few months. **Northland Grandmothers for Peace** celebrated our chapter's **25th Anniversary** at Peace Church in Duluth, MN. We had wonderful speakers and a great turn-out. Memories were shared and our commitment to achieving our goal of a Nuclear Free world for future generations was reinforced. We also gained a dozen new members!!

Many thanks to **Donna Howard, Dorothy Wolden, Lyn Clark-Pegg, Clarice Peterson, Sue Breskin, Coral McDonell, and Karen Barschdorf** for their wonderful planning for this event. And thanks to **Toni Thorstad and Michele Gordon** for their heartwarming presentations. **Nikki Smith** (granddaughter of Jan Provost) gave a wonderful observation from a grandchild's point of view as to the great impact a grandmother's work for peace has on her grandchildren.

Our annual **Peaceful Toy** drive for underprivileged children was a wonderful success even though we lost a few business drop-off sites due to closings because of the bad economy.

Thanks to **Dorothy Wolden and Penny Cragun** for chairing this event again and thanks to all the Grannies (Grandpas) who took care of pick-up and delivery of the toys to the various agencies.

We joined the nationwide **Iraqi Moratorium Project** and hold a monthly rally. Faithful Grannies have withstood zero degrees temps. Now that's dedication!

Presently we are showing monthly documentaries at the Superior Public Library. Our next film is Feb. 26th at 6 pm.

2009 is getting off to a great start!



Karen Barschdorf, I, and Dorothy Wolden, withstand zero degree temperature at an Iraqi Moratorium rally.

Indiana

Christie Smith Stephens

Grandmothers for Peace, International, Indiana Chapter, celebrates the inauguration of President Barack Obama. We send our very best wishes and our support to him, to his wife Michelle and to their daughters. We welcome this new day in the United States of America and we hope for a new day of diplomacy and peace with our neighbors around the world. Can we make peace and live peaceably on this planet we call home? Yes we can! Yes we must!

Our chapter is also celebrating the reaching of a significant milestone for the **Caldwell Peacemaking Fund at Anderson University**. The **fund has now reached one million dollars**. The fund was established at Anderson University by **GFP Dondeena Caldwell and her husband Maurice Caldwell** in memory of his parents. Our chapter has supported this fund and its work as individuals and as a chapter.

This fund supports peace studies, peace and conflict resolution classes and programs at the university. Dondeena and Maurice Caldwell, both now in their 80s, have been lifelong peacemakers. We are grateful for their extensive and faithful work for peace and justice and **proud to have Dondeena as a member of the Indiana Chapter of GFPI**.

Phoenix, Arizona/Northwest Valley Chapter Ordell Nelson

Rayilyn has Parkinson's disease; so when she's able to join us, she sits in her walker. Her Grandmothers for Peace sign makes her message of peace crystal clear. Thanks to the stop light at 99th & Bell, cars speeding by often stop right in front of her. One day a glaring passenger shouted at her, "**HAVEN'T YOU GOT ANYTHING BETTER TO DO?**" Rayilyn said firmly, "**NO!**"

That sums it up. Grandmothers for Peace must be at on 99th & Bell every first and third Saturdays.

In November, we joined the peace demonstrations at the Phoenix Veterans Day Parade. Some stood with other peace groups at the corner of Camelback & Central holding large peace banners.

Others walked with the **Veterans for Peace** float which had a flag-draped casket surrounded by boots with name tags. The crowd reaction was wonderful; some saluted, others cried, and many applauded.

The Veterans Parade committee doesn't want ANY flag draped caskets in their parade; so Phoenix Veterans for Peace is on probation. They may not be in next year's parade. The Veterans Parade apparently is a military RECRUITMENT tool; war is to be glamorized.

As the float from the Korean War passed us, someone near us said, "Now that was a GOOD war!" It was shocking to hear the words "GOOD WAR." That's an oxymoron. There's never been a GOOD war!



GFP Ordell Nelson
January 17, 2009.

I recently gave a speech about Grandmothers for Peace at the **West Valley United Nations Association** and included a popcorn demonstration showing the size of our nuclear arsenal. First, I dropped one popcorn kernel into a metal bowl. That

one kernel equals 15 Hiroshima bombs. Then I dropped 6 kernels, which equals enough bombs to destroy all of Russia. Finally, I poured 10,000 kernels (5.63 cups!) noisily into the metal bowl. Those 10,000 kernels equal **150,000 Hiroshima bombs - our CURRENT NUCLEAR ARSENAL**. The noise of the falling kernels somehow makes it all so real.

We're pleased with Obama's election, but he'll need reminding about the **CHANGE** he's promised, and that is exactly what **Northwest Valley Chapter Grandmothers for Peace** will continue to do at 99th & Bell, every first and third Saturday.

United Kingdom Jean Stead

The UK is undertaking a costly update to its Trident intercontinental ballistic missile system at Aldermaston, in the south of England. Two generals and a high-ranking Field Marshal caused a sensation by protesting against this in the New Year, saying that to insist on the update would actively encourage other countries to believe that nuclear weapons were vital to the secure defence of "self-respecting nations" and it should be abandoned. Well said! As military men, they know more about this than politicians. And, for a short time, their letter in the Times of London led the news headlines.

But they were not the only ones protesting.

So were **Grandmothers for Peace in the UK**. Three months earlier, a whole day blockade of the base at Aldermaston, Britain's bomb factory, was held to stop the building trucks getting through.

Sylvia Boyes and Helen John, both of whom have served prison sentences for their brave demonstrations, represented GFP at the blockade. GFP asked them to take a banner. Helen ("I'm no good at those") persuaded Sylvia to make one so that everyone would recognize the grandmothers were there. Sylvia, grandmother of six, went back to her home in Yorkshire, not far from Menwith Hill, and got to work. "It's quite easy," she said. "I bought a white sheet from a charity shop, cut out lettering saying "Grandmothers for Peace" drew and painted a big heart and peace sign and stuck on the letters."

They had an overnight stay with the Aldermaston protesters - there is a regular women's group at the base- and then spent a day blockading with their banner. The area was heavily policed, but, as shown in the picture, they gathered round and so had their photograph taken with the banner!



Helen John, left, and Sylvia Boyes, UK GFP

Sylvia, wife of a Church minister, has just been released from prison after serving part of a four month sentence. With others, on Hiroshima Day last summer, she cut through the huge fences at Fylingdales, a joint US/UK radar station, as a demonstration against US Missile Defence and the militarisation of space, and was arrested. Protests have been made that the UK, as well as Eastern Europe, joined the controversial missile defence programme without a debate in Parliament. Menwith Hill, where there is ongoing protest led by Sylvia, Helen and others, is a "listening station," the biggest electronic monitoring station in the world, operating on behalf of the US National Security Agency, and it can monitor all civilians.

Czechs, Poles and German politicians are arriving in London this January to take part, with British MPs, in a conference which will deal with the involvement of these countries in US Missile Defence, which has created a crisis in relations with Russia and other countries.

Sylvia Boyes was among those invited to speak, along with the Europeans and **Kate Hudson**, head of the **Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament**.

There was general cheer in Britain when Barack Obama was elected. He has promised change, and let's hope that will bring change to this world of wars and nuclear weapons.

Florida Keys

Anne Anthony

We continue to Stand for Peace every Saturday, 10-11am, at the Big Pine Key stoplight. Winter visitors have recently joined the vigil. We've seen increasingly positive support for peace from the mainland tourists en route to Key West, and from local residents.

We are working to implement President Obama's plans to *Renew America Together* and have helped in the formation of a local networking group, *Keys Progressive Forum* (www.keysprogressiveform.com, in its beginning stages).

And, sadly, we are making plans for the 6th Anniversary of the Iraq War Vigil. Thank you, Grandmothers for Peace, for your continued inspiration and calls to action for peace.

Maryland

Deborah Matherly

While some of our members were very involved in the election campaign (separate from our chapter work), we managed some significant accomplishments and continued work on other initiatives.

We meet every month. In October we had a table at the Oakland Mills International Festival, where we had crafts for kids (draw "What Peace Means to Me"), information for students about military recruiting, petitions to *Keep the Maryland Guard Home*, our CDs "Waging Peace for Children and Other Living Things," and information about our chapter.

In November we launched our CD on CDbaby to expand our outreach. Please listen to the selections and spread the word! (www.cdbaby.com/cd/wagingpeace)

In December we had a table at the Howard County Human Rights Annual Dinner and Awards ceremony; **June Martyn** (one of our members) read poetry at the event.

January 19 we participated in and had a table at the Interfaith Celebration at All Souls Unitarian Church in downtown DC.

We are working with other local groups to

lobby for legislation to *Keep the Maryland Guard Home* (except in declared emergencies - part of the national initiative.) We have been working with a neuropsychologist who has developed a self- and family-member- assessment tool for brain damage. We hope to help him distribute it widely, both to help our veterans and to encourage young people to take it as a "pre-test," in hope that they may reconsider enlistment when they know more about the risks. We are also working with other groups to persuade the school board to not allow military recruiters unlimited and automatic access to Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) test results.

We are looking forward to continuing to lift up our voices for peace, knowing that more people are listening!

North Carolina

Lynn Heritage

We planned and organized the September *Peace Day Celebration*. There was singing, drumming, and Peace readings from many different sources, including the *UN's Cyber Schoolbus*. It was a beautiful celebration and we look forward to the 3rd event in September 2009.



Each Peace Flag has a peace quote.

This year our Grandmothers For Peace group is looking to become more actively involved within our local community and to serve in a way that will promote the idea that Peace begins at home. Peace and love, Lynn

Gallup, New Mexico

Rose Marie Cecchini, MM

The annual Witness for Peace in commemoration of Hiroshima and Nagasaki was held by Pax Christi New Mexico at Los Alamos, NM, August 1-2, 2008.

Saturday's annual "**Sackcloth and Ashes**" peace vigil was held in Los Alamos. It began with prayer and a blessing over the sackcloth and ashes. Then, in silence, a steady procession of burlap covered pilgrims started moving along the sidewalk of Trinity Avenue, up to the bridge leading to Los Alamos Laboratory, where the first atomic bombs were designed, produced and tested.

During the Bush administration, there were plans to develop a new series of "usable" nuclear weapons, "bunker busters," but Congress, in their saner moments, twice voted down the funding requested by the White House (billions of dollars) and the project is currently at a standstill. We hope and pray that the Obama administration will reject nuclear proliferation,

and instead work pro-actively for nuclear disarmament worldwide.

Texas

Jo Wharton

Jo Wharton of Texas is following her dream: to put little origami peace cranes in all types of public places where people will be reminded of Sadako Sasaki, a young Japanese girl who died from the effects of the atomic bomb at Hiroshima. She folds cranes with the intention of peace coming to the world, writes peace on the wings, gives them to strangers, and leaves them wherever she goes.

Visit Jo's website for folding directions and colorful pictures of the peace cranes on public display. www.cranesflyforpeace.com

Mesa, Arizona

Kathy Mauldin

Dear Lorraine: While unpacking a box from our move, I found the *Spring 2008* newsletter. I hadn't had time to read it, but when I did tonight I just about fell over!! We have a chapter in the N.E. Valley of Phoenix!! I was so tickled to see photos of all those wonderful people in their wonderful shirts, carrying their wonderful Peace signs; you have no idea

However, upon follow up, I discovered they are in the N.W. Valley of Phoenix – the Sun City Chapter, about 50 miles away.

Despite **Dave** and I both wearing our t-shirts proudly and carrying my groceries proudly in my tote, not one recruit has been motivated to acknowledge us. Actually, I take that back. Dave said a few times at the grocery store a few ladies give him the "thumbs up," but I think it's because he's a fine lookin' man and around these parts they are few and far between!! (gotta keep a sense of humor).

We've been waging a lonely 2-man protest; signing the petitions, writing and calling our representatives, receiving updates from the Union of Concerned Scientists and other Peace groups. But to know there were actually 100 other people who got off their collective "fannies" and demonstrated ~ oh my, I was so proud! I just had to drop you



Jo Wharton with her origami peace cranes.



Kathy and Dave Mauldin

a note and let you know. Keep up the good work. Keep the faith and "Keep the Peace." God bless you, Kathy

Iowa

Bryson Dean

Greetings from Iowa City - a great place to retire. This city is so busy with all manner of events. On the front burner these days is the Gaza situation. Groups in the city have done a good job of educating folks on the situation.

My hope in the coming months is to help people connect the dots between the environment/sustainability and the war machine, and how seriously its activities devastate the environment. Pace e bene, Bryson

UPDATES: OTHER GRANNY GROUPS

St. Augustine, Florida

Renee Mintz

Grandparents for Peace, St. Augustine, recently protested for new energy resources at Congressman Mica's office.

Other activities have included: a table for children's art work at *Peace Day*; participation in the August *Nagasaki Remembrance* at the Submarine Base in St. Marys, Georgia.

Presently, we are working in conjunction with *Veterans for Peace* and *People for Peace and Justice* to establish the *Peg McIntire Scholarship*. In Peace, Renee

I Will Not Raise My Child To Kill Your Child

I will not raise my child to shoot your child

I will not raise my child to shoot guns

I will not raise my child to kill your child

In a war with your daughters and your sons.

I'm told that freedom is something to die for

Of all nations we are the most free

But where is the freedom if the children go to war

If we're all afraid to walk down the street

We were raised to accept all this bloodshed

It's the last one surviving that wins

We've allowed it too long, we must make it all stop

It's the child who will suffer for the sins.

— Barbara Choo —

"SOA 6" are sentenced

January 26, 2009, six human rights advocates appeared in a federal courthouse in Georgia and were found "guilty" of carrying the protest against the School of the Americas (SOA/WHINSEC) onto the Fort Benning military base.

Ranging in age from 21 to 68, the "SOA 6" were among the thousands who gathered on November 22 and 23, 2008, outside the gates of Fort Benning, Georgia, to demand a change in U.S. policy towards Latin America and the closure of the SOA/WHINSEC.

Speadking out clearly and powerfully in court, they made a compelling case for the closure of the school and creation of a culture of justice and peace, where there is no place for the SOA mindset that promotes military "solutions" to social and economic problems. They stood up for all of us working for a more just world.

The "SOA 6" are:

Father Luis Barrios, 56, from North Bergen, New Jersey, sentenced to 2 months in federal prison and a \$250 fine.

Theresa Cusimano, 40, from Denver, Colorado, 2 months in federal prison and \$500 fine.

Kristin Holm, from Chicago, Illinois, sentenced to 2 months in federal prison and a \$250 fine.

Sr. Diane Pinchot, OSU, 63, from Cleveland, Ohio, sentenced to 2 months in federal prison.

Al Simmons, 64, from Richmond, Virginia, sentenced to 2 months in federal prison.

Louis Wolf, 68, from Washington, DC, 6 months house arrest and \$1000 fine.

For more information: www.soaw.org



Kristina Burnett, Hayward, CA, greets Fr. Roy Bourgeois at the 2008 November SOA demonstration.



SOA Greetings from San Gabriel Mission High School friends, San Gabriel, CA.

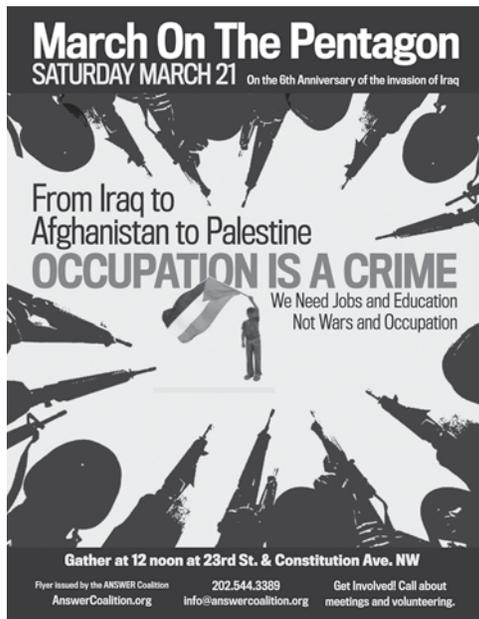
GFP NEW ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER

Grandmothers for Peace International

P.O. Box 1292
Elk Grove, California 95759 USA
PHONE: (916) 730-6476

Saturday, March 21, 2009

THE SIXTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE IRAQ WAR



While millions of families are losing their homes, jobs and healthcare, the real military budget next year will top one trillion dollars — that's \$1,000,000,000,000. If used to meet people's needs, that amount could create 10 million new jobs at \$60,000 per year, provide healthcare for everyone who does not have it now, rebuild New Orleans, and repair much of the damage done in Iraq, Afghanistan and Palestine. The cost for the occupation of Iraq alone is \$400 million each day, or about \$12 billion each month.

The war in Iraq has killed, wounded or displaced nearly one third of Iraq's 26 million people. Thousands of U.S. soldiers have been killed, and hundreds of thousands more have suffered severe physical and psychological wounds.

The war in Afghanistan is expanding. Robert Gates, Bush's defense secretary, who was kept at his post by President Obama, has announced that the troop levels in Afghanistan may double in the coming months. Both he and Vice President Biden predicted higher casualties — or what they cavalierly call "an uptick" in casualties — in the coming period.

We must also act to end U.S. support for Israel's on-going war against the Palestinian people. The Bush Administration also gave the green light and provided the weapons and the money for Israel's recent war against the Palestinian people in Gaza. More than 5,000 Palestinians were killed or wounded; the majority of casualties were civilians, including hundreds of children, in this high tech massacre. And "We the People" paid the bill, as the U.S. provides \$2.5 billion a year for Israel's massive military machine.

The March 21, 2009, March on the Pentagon will be a critical opportunity to let the new administration in Washington hear the voice of the people demanding an immediate end to wars and occupation, and demanding economic justice.

Joint actions will take place on the West Coast in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

A.N.S.W.E.R.: Act Now To Stop War And End Racism

Contact: www.answercoalition.org;

infor@answercoalition.org; 202.544.3389

GRANDMOTHERS FOR PEACE DIRECTORY

International Office

Lorraine Krofchok, Director
Grandmothers for Peace International
P.O. Box 1292
Elk Grove, CA 95759
Phone: (916) 730-6476
E-mail: lorraine@grandmothersforpeace.org

United States Local Chapters/Contact People

Alabama:

Evergreen Area Contact Person
Diane S. Sosebee
Phone: (251) 578-2350
E-mail: dianesosebee@hotmail.com

Huntsville Area Contact Person
Margaret Darlene Ehinger
Phone: (256) 536-2716
E-mail: ehingermd@bellsouth.net

Arizona:

Northwest Valley Chapter (Phoenix Area)
Ordell Nelson
Phone: 623-556-9187
E-mail: ognelson@cox.net

Arkansas:

Eureka Springs Chapter
Ann Johnson
Phone: (479) 253-2927
E-mail: homeineureka@earthlink.net

California:

Hayward Chapter
Corine Thornton
Phone: (510) 582-7699

Palm Springs Area Contact Person
Barbara Humphreys
Phone: (760) 770-7160
E-mail: vagabarb@earthlink.net

Sacramento Area Chapter
Lorraine Krofchok
Please see International Office
San Carlos Area Contact Person
Joanne Thompson
Phone: (650) 592-3656
E-mail: garnet248@sbcglobal.net

San Diego Area Contact Person
Kathleen Schroeder
E-mail: claywomank@pacbell.net

San Luis Obispo Area Chapter
Molly Johnson
Phone/Fax: (805) 467-2431
E-mail: peacegrannie@hotmail.com

Santa Clarita Chapter (So. California)
Patty Carmody
Phone: (661) 296-5904
E-mail: pcarmody@ca.rr.com

GFP Directory: U.S. & International Contacts

◆ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

California con't:

Southern California Area Contact Person
(West San Fernando Valley, Los Angeles County, Conejo Valley, Ventura County)
Flo Weber
Phone: (818) 716-7876
E-mail: floaweber@aol.com

Colorado:

Durango Area Contact Person
Lorna Waddington
E-mail: lornawadd@earthlink.net

Colorado Springs Area Contact Person
Rita Ague
Phone: (719) 339-7554
E-mail: AGUE2008@comcast.net

Florida:

Cocoa Area Contact Person
Terre Beasley
Phone: (321) 591-8644
E-mail: terrebeads@yahoo.com

Dunedin Contact Person
Samm Simpson
Phone: (727) 734-4192

Florida Keys Area Contact Person
Anne Anthony
Phone: (305) 745-9041
E-mail: grannyanny@bellsouth.net

St. Augustine Contact Person
Renee Mintz
E-Mail: pepper82@comcast.net

Georgia:

Atlanta Contact Person
Carolyn Dowie
Phone: (678) 513-4675
E-mail: carolyndowie@hotmail.com

Indiana:

Indiana Chapter
Christie Smith Stephens
Phone: (765) 644-0069
E-mail: ecstephens1@aol.com

Iowa:

Iowa City Contact Person
Bryson Dean
Phone: (319) 541-8806
E-mail: grandmotherfp@yahoo.com

Maryland:

Maryland Chapter
Deborah Matherly
Phone: (410) 730-6049
E-mail: dwmatherly@aol.com

Massachusetts:

Boston Area Contact Person
Susan Lees
Phone: (781) 316-1618
E-mail: swlees@earthlink.net

Michigan:

Area Contact Person
Joni Keskey
Phone: (231)-275-3040
E-mail: tjkeskey@chartermi.net

Minnesota:

Duluth Area Contact Person
Mona Cheslak
Phone: (218) 724-1193
E-mail: monajc@hotmail.com

St. Paul Chapter
Constance Fleisher
Phone: (651) 227-4619
E-mail: CBF36@aol.com

Missouri:

St. Louis Area Contact Person
Sue Jackson
Phone: (314) 647-1260 (evening)
E-mail: JACKSONDS@aol.com

Montana:

Area Contact Person
Bonnie Toczek
E-mail: montanamomma43@yahoo.com

New York:

Chautauqua County Area Contact Person
Faith Woolson
E-mail: woolson@netsync.net

Franklin County Chapter
Jeanne Norris
Phone: (518) 483-9176
E-mail: jeannenorris@verizon.net

North Carolina:

Southeastern Area Contact Person
Lynn Heritage
Phone: (910) 616-5523
E-mail: ncpeacegrannie@yahoo.com

Western Area Contact Person
Clare Hanrahan
E-mail: mariahsage@gmail.com

Ohio:

Bayside Area Chapter
Margaret Kreager
E-mail: bayside1022@yahoo.com

Oregon:

Myrtle Creek Area Contact Person
Julieene DeMarsh
Phone: (541) 680-4231
E-mail: julienne@tymewyse.com

Portland Area Contact Person
Cindy Prince
E-mail: cindy@jujujoint.com

Texas:

Amarillo Area Contact Person
Pam Allison
E-mail: psallison@earthlink.net

Austin/Lakeway/Hill Country Chapter
Linda Wiles
Phone: (512) 912-7624;
Cell: (512) 619-5715
E-mail: wileslinda@yahoo.com

Virginia:

Northern Virginia Chapter
Suzanne C. Doherty
Phone: (703) 425-6894
E-mail: scdoherty@cox.net

Washington:

Eastern Washington Area Contact Person
Susie Gaul
Phone: (509) 582-3495
E-mail: nimnal2@yahoo.com

Wisconsin:

Milwaukee Area Contact Person
Verdell De Yarman
Phone: (414) 562-8014

Northland Chapter (Superior)
Janet Provost
Phone/Fax: (715) 394-7929
E-mail: g4peace1@charter.net

International Local Chapters/Contact People

Germany:

Berlin Area Contact Person
Eva Quistorp (affiliated with Women for Peace)
E-mail: equistorp@aol.com

Romania:

Romanian Chapter
Ms. Victoria Dirvaru
Str. Mitropoliei Nr. 26
2400 RO
Phone: 0040 269 218178
Fax: 0040 269 232650

South Africa:

South Africa Chapter
Mufumbe Mateso, PWC General Secretary
Grandmothers for Peace
Power of Women and Children, South Africa
P.O. Box 17066, Hillbrow 2038
Johannesburg, South Africa

United Kingdom:

Area Contact Person
Jean Stead
E-mail: jeanstead@hotmail.co

Link to **Other Granny Groups** at
www.grandmothersforpeace.org

No GFP POLITICAL ENDORSEMENTS PERMITTED

Although Grandmothers for Peace, as an organization or chapter, can not endorse any political candidate or group due to our non-profit status,

WE DO THANK EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTS PEACE.

Grandmothers for Peace

P.O. Box 1292 • Elk Grove, California • 95759 • USA • phone: 1 (916) 730-6476
 e-mail: lorraine@grandmothersforpeace.org • web: http://www.grandmothersforpeace.org

ORDER FORM

	Prices	Sizes:						TOTAL
		Sm	Med	Lge	X-Lge	XX-Lge	XXX-Lge	
1. WOMEN'S SWEATSHIRTS (Blue)	\$19.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____					
2. WOMEN'S CREWNECK T-SHIRTS (Blue)	\$12.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____					
3. WOMEN'S CREWNECK T-SHIRTS (White)	\$12.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____					
4. WOMEN'S SCOOPNECK T-SHIRTS (Blue)	\$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	n/a	n/a	_____
5. WOMEN'S SCOOPNECK T-SHIRTS (WHITE)	\$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	n/a	_____				
6. MEN'S AUXILIARY SWEATSHIRTS (Blue)	\$19.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____					
7. MEN'S AUXILIARY T-SHIRTS (Blue)	\$12.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____					
				2-4	6-8	10-12	14-16	
8. Children's T-Shirts	\$10.00			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
9. Children's Sweatshirts	\$12.00			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	n/a	_____
10. OPEN-Top Tote — Navy (10 oz. Cotton Canvas, 14" x 10 1/2" x 5")	\$12.00						<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
11. ZIPPER-Top Tote — Navy (10 oz. Cotton Canvas, 22" x 15" x 5" w/small, interior zipper pocket)	\$15.00						<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
12. Baseball Cap with Logo (adjustable size)	\$12.00						<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
13. Bumper Sticker (postage included) [Volume discounts available]	\$ 2.00						<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
14. Sew-on Logo Patch (S&H included)	\$ 3.00						<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
15. Buttons (S&H included) [Volume discounts available]	\$ 2.00						<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING IS EXTRA

PRIORITY SHIPPING: ADD \$4.50 1st item = \$ _____

\$2.00 each additional item x _____ = \$ _____

Make **check** payable to **Grandmothers for Peace International**** for the **TOTAL: \$ _____**

Name: _____

Address: _____

****Return this Order Form to:**

Sarah Johnson
 9612 Kent Street
 Elk Grove, CA 95624 • USA
 Phone: (916) 686-5858
 E-mail: sjohnson@surewest.net

TAKE OUR MESSAGE WHEREVER YOU GO!



Sew-on Logo Patch

Hats on to GFP

For peaceful protesting — an adjustable Baseball Cap with The GFP Logo — \$12.00 each

&

Bumper Stickers

\$2.00 each, postage included.
 Volume discounts available.



Navy Zipper-Top Tote



Navy Open-Top Tote



Grandmothers for Peace International



P.O. Box 1292
Elk Grove, California 95759 USA
PHONE: (916) 730-6476
E-MAIL: lorraine@grandmothersforpeace.org
WEB: <http://www.grandmothersforpeace.org>

NONPROFIT ORGN
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Sacramento, CA
Permit No. 1041

Newsletter Editor/Publisher: Patricia Altenburg

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



— Please Support Our Work By Renewing Your Membership —

**G F P I M E M B E R S H I P
R E N E W A L / A P P L I C A T I O N**

Renew Keep me on the mailing list New Remove me from the mailing list

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: day _____ evening _____

E-mail: Put me on the GFP E-mail alert list.

Please make **membership check** payable to **Grandmothers for Peace Int'l**

<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Regular\yearly	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Mens' Auxiliary\yearly
<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Senior Citizen\yearly	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Patron\yearly
<input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Family\yearly	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Sponsor\yearly

\$_____ For International Donations, please contact Grandmothers for Peace by e-mail, or postal mail.

Mail to:
Grandmothers for Peace International
P.O. Box 1292
Elk Grove, CA 95759 USA

9/2008

Numbers You Need

4,237 US Military Deaths in Iraq*
Cost of War: \$594,578,391,745*

It is important that President Obama, key people in his Administration, and members of Congress hear from you. 

President Barack Obama
Comment Line (202) 456-1111
Switchboard: (202) 456-1414
Fax: (202) 456-2461
E-mail: comment@whitehouse.gov
Website: www.whitehouse.gov

First Lady Michelle Obama
E-mail: comment@whitehouse.gov

Vice-President Joe Biden
E-mail: vicepresident@whitehouse.gov

Secretary of State Hillary R. Clinton
Switchboard: (202) 647-4000

Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates
Pentagon Switchboard: (703) 545-6700

Members Of Congress
Senate & House: (202) 224-3121
(*icasualties.org; costofwar.com; 2-02-09)

Barbara Wiedner and Dorothy Vandercook Memorial Scholarship Foundation, Inc.

Leal Portis, President • 301 Redbud Way • Nevada City, CA 95959 • USA
Phone/Fax (530) 265-3887 • E-mail: portis.leal@gmail.com

2008 Scholarship Foundation Winners

Benjamin Simon: Takoma Park, Maryland - \$500



Ben is co-president of the club, Students for Global Responsibility. He has coordinated high-school student activists in several schools to pressure the Montgomery County Council into divesting the county's pension funds from companies that do business with the Sudanese government. Ben helped raise \$700 for Doctors Without Borders, encouraged 15 classmates to work for Habitat for Humanity in Washington, D.C., lobbied Maryland senators for Darfur legislation and planned a Dinner 4 Darfur. The Dinner raised \$7,500 for the Save Darfur Coalition and Doctors Without Borders: Sudan.

Jennifer Pimental: Dennisport, Massachusetts - \$500

Jennifer helped her school found its own chapter of STAND (Students Taking Action Now: Darfur). She recruited over 50 members, ran three major fundraisers for Darfur refugees, attracted national media attention and lobbied the Massachusetts State House for targeted divestment. Selected to be student speaker at Boston Commons Global Day for Darfur, she spoke before thousands. Recently, STAND discussed the lavish extravagance of proms with students spending \$500 for one night. Jen convinced hundreds of young students from across Cape Cod to come to "No Prom for Darfur." Although criticized by some students, parents and other adults, she helped carry it though - raising over \$10,000.



Lauren Weiner: Ventura, California - \$500



Lauren helped initiate the Ventura County Chapter of the Save Darfur Coalition and worked alongside adults of all ages. Now there are 50 members. She also co-founded the Ventura High School "Peacers" who sponsored a Peace Week with different lunchtime activities each day. Grandmothers for Peace and Veterans for Peace were among the groups represented. Both groups were asked to bring Opt Out forms to the school. Lauren responded maturely to criticism in the local newspaper. Currently Lauren and the Peacers are working toward certifying Ventura High School as an official "No Place For Hate."

Diana Banda: Ashland, Oregon - \$250

In May 2006, Diana helped organize a march in Medford, Oregon, to defend Latino rights. Congress was debating Bill HR4437 which sought to criminalize all undocumented individuals in the U.S., and to punish anyone assisting them in any way. This march attracted 1,600 protestors. Next, Diana became involved with the DREAM Act (Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors), a bill that would allow undocumented students to pursue higher education and a path toward citizenship. She made speeches and met with policy makers. Recently Senator Wyden invited her to become an intern. Diana dreams of being a Firefighter Paramedic and is already qualified as a CERT volunteer, and works at the Blood Bank once a month.

Ellen Biesack: Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina - \$250



Born into a peace activist family, Ellen attended her first antiwar protest in 1991 in Washington, D.C., - a march against the first Gulf War. When she was six months old, her father held her up and shouted "Babies for Peace!" By 16 years of age, Ellen fully embraced the concept of peace. She has stood on picket lines with Phillip and Daniel Berrigan, fed the homeless every Sunday in Raleigh Moore Square Park, attended the School of the Americas protest at Fort Benning, Georgia, is treasurer of the Amnesty Intl. club at school, and attends an anti-death penalty vigil whenever there is an execution at Raleigh Central prison. Recently, she was arrested at Johnston County Airport, where the CIA maintains two aircraft that have been linked to extraordinary rendition (also known as torture by proxy) and made her first trip to jail, the same jail cell her mother occupied in a prior direct action.

Lacey Davidson: Wirt, Minnesota - \$250

Lacey was elected Minnesota state president of the FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America chapters). For the past two years, she organized Deer River High School's "Peace Week." This was a time to identify problems in her culturally diverse school and community and to work together to find solutions. She invited a speaker from Advocates for Family Peace who shared touching information about abuse. As a result, many cases of abuse were reported. Lacey is consistently dedicated to service for others. She says, "Every morning when I wake up, I think about how I can make a positive difference in somebody's life this day."



Scott Elfenbein: Miami, Florida - \$250



Scott's passion is helping undocumented immigrant children who are brought to the U.S. by their parents when they are young. When they are older they cannot get jobs and are prevented from getting a higher education. When his friend, Juan, was about to be deported to Columbia with his family, Scott and five other friends flew to Washington, D.C., to lobby for this family. Other

teens joined them and the media picked up on their cause. The Gomez family's deportation proceedings were suspended for 45 days. Now Scott is lobbying for the DREAM Act (Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors). His story was picked up by Time, CNN, USA Today and the New York Times.

Lindsey Kim: Riverside, Connecticut - \$250



As a high school freshman, Lindsey joined Humanitarian Aid. Thus began her work toward helping those less fortunate than herself. She organized a Dodgeball for Darfur tournament. Then she founded Refugee Aid and was able to help North Korean and Rwanda refugees. Refugee Aid gathered 1,000 signatures which helped to keep Hyosung Choi from being deported to North

Korea. Lindsey organized a trip to lobby in Washington, D.C., and a Refugee Camp Out to simulate a real life refugee experience. Choi's mother says: "I believe that young people like Lindsey Kim are the precious gems of this country and the pillars that are going to help lift up America."

Katherine Miller: Portland, Oregon - \$250



Kaity first became aware of the social injustice of poverty while building homes in Tijuana, Mexico. She has worked there four years. Last summer she spent three weeks in Lima, Peru, volunteering at a clinic for mentally and physically challenged children. She has become fluent in Spanish so she can help doctors dispensing flu shots communicate with Spanish-speaking patients. As president of

her high school's Students for Social Justice Club, Kaity led a clothing drive that provided the Western Farm Worker's Assn. with 40 bags of warm clothing, over \$200 and 60 lbs of food. She canvases migrant camps to survey worker's needs.

Owoicho Echechofu James: Garki-Abuja, Nigeria - \$250



Owoicho was president of the Young Catholic Students Organization (YCS) of Nigeria. In this capacity he influenced over 12,000 students. There were often violent disagreements between schools, some of which lead to injuries to the priests. He was able to help settle these disputes peacefully and was proclaimed the Best Area President they had in 18 years, YCS Ambassador for Peace, and

his area was proclaimed the most peaceful. He was also involved in Little Hope Intl. which is committed to peace, conflict resolution in rural areas, gospel preaching and distribution of relief materials. He lives his life for peace.

Opar volunteered in the Community Services Department of the Nebbi Town Council. He has been engaged in areas of HIV/AIDS sensitization, conflict resolution and peace building. Opar has helped to negotiate peace in the Lendu/Alur clashes of two ethnic groups. Currently, he is studying at Makerere University in Uganda.

Ximena Mora: San Diego, California - \$250



Ximena started a chapter of Youth for Human Rights International Club (YHRI) on campus. She spread the word single-handedly and now there is a thriving club which helps students to have a more global view of the world. She's also a member of Reality Changers, a program that helps put inner-city teens into college programs while they are still in high school. In addition, she has represented the City of San Diego at Youth for Human Rights Intl. and is the founder and current president of Freedom 30, a group that works with YHRI. She has appeared on TV and given bilingual presentations at community centers as an advocate for social integrity and human rights.

Chelsea Lunn-Rhue: Parker, Colorado - \$250



Chelsea has traveled to Belize and to a small Mayan village, near the Guatemalan border, where she has learned about poverty first-hand. She went to the School of the Americas protest last year Fort Benning, Georgia, and urged other students to attend. Now she has begun a campaign at school to make all of their academic and athletic apparel "sweat free" - meaning that they come from companies and manufacturers who do not use or promote unjust labor practices, especially in the Third World. Chelsea's personal goal is simply to make a difference in someone's life. She has just begun.

Erika Solanki: Hayward, California - \$250



With her cousins, Erika created Couture Cards to raise money to lend to rising entrepreneurs in developing countries. She is co-president of Amnesty Intl. and is raising \$14,000 for Play Pumps Intl., an organization that drills water wells in African villages. Erika is president of her high school's South Asian Students Assn. After the recent Indian Ocean Tsunami, her club contributed \$7,000 to its victims. In two days, they also raised \$740 to aid the India-Pakistani earthquake victims. Another project was a cultural show which Erika spearheaded, raising \$800 for the Home of Hope, a charity which maintains orphanages in India. Her goal is to work full time with Lawyers Without Borders.

Kaylee Weil: Oceanside, California - \$250



Kaylee is the co-director of Kids for Peace, a community organization in which she works with children to foster a culture of peace. One of their service projects was the creation of Peace Packs, hand painted knapsacks filled with various school supplies and toiletries. These packs were then delivered by Peace Corps volunteers to more than 10 countries. Kaylee founded a Student Peace Alliance at her high school helping to stir students out of their apathy toward peace. She helped raise \$15,000 within her community. Presently, she is in charge of coordinating all the Student Peace Alliance groups in California.

Opar Abdulai: Kampala, Uganda - \$250

