

FORsooth

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July/August 2010

George R. Edwards – let us continue his path to peace

by George Morrison
FORsooth editor

George Riley Edwards spoke to the congregation of a church in a small Tennessee town about 60 years ago shortly after he became ordained as a Presbyterian minister. He was essentially being interviewed for the job of pastor there, but after telling the worshippers their ranks should include working class and black residents of the town, one member informed George he would not be going to the pastor's residence, the next step on the itinerary, because he was no longer being considered for the position.

Son Riley Edwards told that story June 15 at the memorial service for his father, who died June 2 at 90 of congestive heart failure at his Louisville home.

The anecdote - one of many describing George Edwards' passionate, strong-willed, revolutionary pursuit of justice - came amid traditional Presbyterian hymns sung by hundreds at Caldwell Chapel of the Louisville Presbyterian Theology Seminary, where George taught theology from 1958 until his retirement in 1985.

The ending of his work at the seminary merely gave George more hours to leaflet, picket, write, debate, speak and practice tax resistance in a bold and sometimes uphill, but always life-affirming and upbeat struggle to end racism, war, homophobia and any other form of oppression or violence he and his wife Jean could think of ways to oppose.



George Edwards, who died June 2, shares an energetic moment, left photo, with activist Mattie Jones during a peace and justice gathering. George agitating for peace, justice and racial equality on a Louisville sidewalk, right, was a common happening.

They used myriad talents — composing parody songs and staging elaborate sidewalk protests - and outright courage. They sometimes occupied offices of politicians and administrators to rally support for gay rights, peaceable alternatives to U.S. foreign policy and fairer



— photos courtesy Jean Edwards

economic opportunities for people held back by racism.

The couple, who married in 1947, co-founded the Louisville FOR chapter in 1975. They were heavily involved in organizing resistance to U.S. aid for and training of death squads, opposing the death

penalty, supporting civilian police review and backing a peaceful settlement of the Mideast conflict and an end to Israeli's occupation of Palestine.

So intertwined were George and Jean's efforts and beliefs, that Bob Cunningham,

(continued on page 4)

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INSIDE

A different drummer marked an educator's life p. 2

Greed in the Gulf - an ecological disaster p. 3

More pictures from George Edwards' life pp. 4-5

Encouraging developments in a trying time p. 7

...And the cause goes on; Social Security defended

FORsooth staff report

Social Security has accumulated a surplus of \$2.5 trillion which can be used to keep it solvent, protesters maintained in defending the entitlement program outside a "town meeting" June 26 organized by a group they said was trying to curtail federal safety net programs.

Members of Kentuckians for Single Payer Healthcare also described as readily fixable the problems of Medicare, another target of AmericaSpeaks, which held town meetings all over the nation that day.

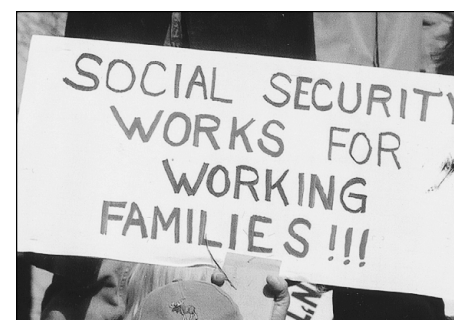
About 30 people protested in and outside the JCPS Gheens Academy, site of the gathering.

"It appears that AmericaSpeaks wants to shape the national discussion so it can provide feedback to the President's newly appointed Fiscal Commission," a flier by KSPH said, adding that the 18-member commission is "stacked heavily in favor of slashing benefits in both Medicare and Social Security."

KSPH also said the Fiscal Commission's staff is being provided by a foundation operated by Wall Street billionaire Pete Peterson and that the foundation financially supported the AmericaSpeaks events.

However, AmericaSpeaks' web site described the organization as "A Neutral, Non-Partisan Convenor," which gives the public "an opportunity to make decisions about important issues without fear of manipulation or bias. Our ability to help citizens and elected officials come together around tough public issues is dependent on our commitment to maintaining this neutral role."

Still, KSPH said the town meeting is part of an effort by conservatives costing more than \$1 billion to convince the public that slashing entitlements "is the only way to protect our children and grandchildren



— photo by Eddie Davis

from poverty," adding: "We must oppose such propaganda."

Although Social Security receipts have been hurt by high unemployment, the web site Wikipedia said: "Projections are that current receipts will continue to exceed expenditures until 2017 (according to Charles Blahous, Special Assistant to the President for Economic Policy). Thereafter, there will be a shortfall that will be made up by withdrawals from the Trust Fund, although the Trust Fund will continue to show net growth until 2025 because of the interest generated by its bonds."

Time magazine reported last year that the Social Security "system will still manage to provide a slight surplus for federal coffers in fiscal 2009. But from 2010 through 2012, there are small projected deficits, and after heading back into the black from 2013 to 2015, the program will then become a growing drain on federal finances, projects the (Congressional Budget Office)."

KSPH acknowledged Medicare's "financial troubles," but said they are quite fixable without any reduction in benefits. "Here's our suggested fix," the flier said. "Eliminate the massive waste and expense caused by the private health care industry. Put the 'savings' into Medicare - protect it, improve it and expand it to all."

Educator Zambia Nkrumah dies; ‘blazed many trails’

by Gracie Lewis

I attended the “Celebration of Life Services” for Zambia Nkrumah, who died June 13 at 57. We have lost a bold and brilliant African-American woman who blazed many trails and opened many doors for countless people.

Family and friends stated, “Zambia never met a stranger.” She was the godmother to 16 children! She loved God, her family, and others. With full knowledge of her divine purpose as defined in Jeremiah 29:11, she heeded the *call* and tapped into the creative part of her soul in carrying out her God-given purpose. It was indeed inspiring to hear the many family members and friends reflect on the legacy of Zambia Nkrumah! Zambia was a warrior and educator, and full of wisdom. She sought to inspire and encourage somebody *daily*! We give thanks for her witness.

Even in the final stages of her cancer, she was “getting it done.” She planned her homegoing celebration. It includes music, dancing and a reflection of her life and legacy. She was unashamedly African-American, and she took the time, to reflect on her African heritage. There is meaning in a *name*! She changed her name from Cleo Gully to Zambia Nkrumah, after Kwame Nkrumah, the first President of

Ghana, which declared its independence from British colonialism on March 6, 1957.

Zambia was the Educational Director of the River City Drum Corps, which she and her husband founded 15 years ago. They put their mark on the drum corps as a “character building” group with strong Christian values and knowledge of their history.

Zambia was a “woman of vision and purpose.” She wrote in her obituary that she lived by the seven principles of Kwanzaa: Unity, Self-Determination, Col-

lective Work and Responsibility, Cooperative Economics, Purpose, Creativity, and Faith. Zambia was a board member of the Women of Vision and Purpose which provided outreach and support to women and families. The group held free workshops on business and professional development, financial literacy, and domestic violence throughout Metro Louisville.

Debbie Entwistle, a teacher, reflected on work with Zambia as her teaching assistant. Zambia had a gift of working with “exceptional children.” When she worked with Zambia at the Henry Clay Elementary School on 34th Street and River Park, Debbie said that children looked to her for storytelling.

Zambia always wanted to do more, and she went on to the University of Kentucky and in 1978 earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Education specializing in special education. Zambia taught for three years in Lexington before coming back to

Louisville. She taught in the Jefferson County Public School system for 27 years.

Kim Wilson informed us that Zambia designed an Art and Culture curriculum for the students at Westport Middle School, where she taught social studies. Zambia taught the students all about the courageous men and women who took part in the Underground Railroad. She also challenged her students to do a “Millennium Quilt for

the Year 2000.” We need more teachers who will challenge students to think creatively and encourage them to do community service.

Chester and Ann Grundy, speaking at her Celebration of Life Services, reflected on Zambia’s years at the University of Kentucky. They spoke about her trip to Washington, D.C. for the 2009 inauguration of President Barack Obama. Zambia sent them a postcard and she stated, “just look at what we have done.” Surely, it was the organizing and voter registration drives that paid off in the end. We must continue to fully participate in the democratic process and create a “People’s Agenda.”

Albert and Brandy Shumake, U.K. graduates, reflected on Zambia’s mentoring. They said, “she taught the youth in the River City Drum Corp how to take the SAT and to apply for scholarships.” She encouraged each of them to stay focused and to have a positive attitude toward learning. Zambia taught all of us how to love one another, and how to live a life of *purpose*! Now she’s surely sitting at the “Welcome Table” and God is saying, “Well done, my good and faithful servant!”

The writer, of Louisville, is an activist for racial justice and a clean environment.



Contest results corrected

Our generation failed the youth last month as FORsooth reported incorrectly the order of finish in the Louisville FOR’s 2010 Peace Essay Contest winners. The corrected list of the winning writers, all of whom are from Dupont Manual High School in Louisville, is:

- 1st place, Conor Fitzpatrick
- 2nd place, Elizabeth Penava
- 3rd Place, Mary Richardson
- 4th place, Sarah Wang

Students in Jefferson County high schools were invited to write about the crises in Afghanistan, Liberia or Somalia.

Imagine seeing this in color:



Now imagine reading instantly updated news from the FOR. You can do both at www.louisville-for.org

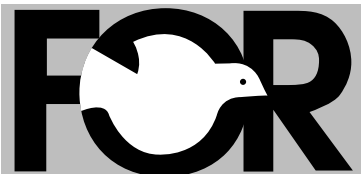
The Louisville FOR’s web site includes Action Alerts about issues of great concern to peace and justice people. It also lets you link to peace groups in many nations and look over every FORsooth going back to April 2002. And the pictures – starting with the July-August 2008 issue – are in color.

If you love blogging, contribute your thoughts and hopes to the US FOR’s blog www.forpeace.net. Keep up with the national organization’s unequalled activism for a world of nonviolence and justice at www.forusa.org.

As much as we know you love reading FORsooth, there’s no reason to wait till next month to be inspired and challenged by the FOR.

FOR’s Mission Statement

The Fellowship of Reconciliation seeks to replace violence, war, racism and economic injustice with nonviolence, peace and justice. We are an interfaith organization committed to active nonviolence as a transforming way of life and as a means of radical change. We educate, train, build coalitions, and engage in nonviolent and compassionate actions locally, nationally, and globally.



Founded 1915

FORsooth is published by the Louisville chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Send submissions for news stories or commentaries to George Morrison, editor, c/o 2236 Kaelin Ave., Louisville, KY 40205, e-mail: <klm86@att.net>.

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95 Years on Peace Frontiers

Since 1915, the Fellowship of Reconciliation in the United States has led campaigns to obtain legal rights for conscientious objectors, win civil rights for all Americans, end the Vietnam War, oppose U.S. intervention in the Third World, and reverse the superpowers’ arms race. An interfaith pacifist organization, the FOR has members from many religious and ethnic traditions. It is part of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation, with affiliates in 40 countries.

In the development of its program FOR depends upon persons who seek to apply these principles to every area of life. If you are not already a member, we invite you to join us in this endeavor. Membership consists of signing the Statement of Purpose, indicating that you agree with FOR goals.

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Despoilment of ecosystems and loss of jobs near gulf

Two major current tragedies confront the U.S. working class. The first is the degradation of our waters, and our livelihoods, by greedy oil magnates who sacrifice safety and the environment in the pursuit of profit. The second is the general high unemployment crisis, which seems to be deepening and upending so many workers’ lives.

In 1990, one year after the oil ship Exxon Valdez ran aground, spewing torrents of oil into pristine Alaskan waters, the U.S. Congress passed the Oil Pollution Act, so there would be rapid response to any future spills. The oil giant BP was a major part of the cleanup effort of the Exxon ship. Unfortunately, it took 20 years of litigation before Exxon paid up.

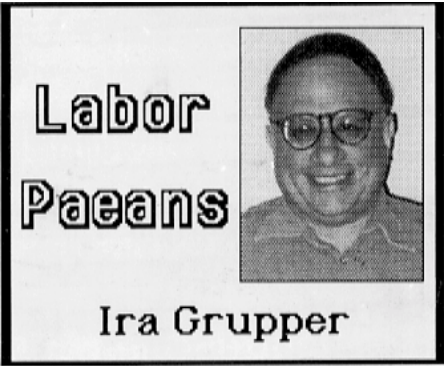
Now, more than two decades later and despite this law, there is an even worse oil spill, with BP at its center. Yet nobody in government or in private industry can tell us just how much oil is gushing from the broken pipeline of BP’s ship Deepwater Horizon. Nor can they tell us what will happen to the hundreds of thousands of poor and working class people suddenly without work, not able to tend the oyster beds, shrimp grounds and crab habitats, or sell their labor power to the tourist hotels and restaurants of the Gulf Coast. Not to mention carpenters, electricians and so many others now jobless.

The despoilment of fragile ecosystems and marshes by the unbridled quest for oil profit is unconscionable, inhumane and barbaric. A June 17 Associated Press dispatch reports: “Dolphins and sharks are showing up in surprisingly shallow water off Florida beaches, like forest animals fleeing a fire. Mulletts, crabs, rays and small fish congregate by the thousands off an Alabama pier. Birds covered in oil are crawling deep into marshes, never to be seen again.... Fish and other wildlife seem to be fleeing the oil out in the Gulf and clustering in cleaner waters along the coast in a trend that some researchers see as a potentially troubling sign.”

Just as troubling was the testimony before Congress of the oil barons, and the outrage - despite their not pushing for past enforcement — of so many in the U.S. Congress, beholden as they are to the deep pockets of Big Oil.

Louisiana’s governor, Bobby Jindal, now wants Big Government and Big Business to provide massive government assistance. Don’t tell the Tea Party.

What are Mr. Jindal and company to do? Allow drilling and risk more spills, or prevent drilling and multiply the number of unemployed? Further complicating the



lives of the proletariat: union and other pension funds, on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean, are heavily invested in BP.

On the state’s website, the lieutenant governor of Louisiana reports: “The Chambers of Commerce, business organizations and local elected officials in coastal Louisiana are banding together to urge President Barack Obama and U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar to modify the six-month offshore drilling moratorium in an effort to save over 20,000 jobs in the region.

Louisiana’s governor, Bobby Jindal, now wants Big Government and Big Business to provide massive government assistance. Don’t tell the Tea Party.

“The Gulf Economic Survival Team (GEST) has been formed under the leadership of Louisiana Lieutenant Governor Scott Angelle at the request of Governor Bobby Jindal. The team’s message is simple: The Administration’s May 28 order, suspending all existing offshore drilling in depths greater than 500 feet for a minimum of six months, will cause irreparable harm to Louisiana’s energy service industry and drive a stake through the heart of coastal communities already suffering tremendously from the environmental and economic impacts of the BP oil spill.”

Yet the AP reported in early June that “conservative politicians throughout the Gulf are suddenly warming to government solutions. All along the Gulf Coast, where the Tea Party thrives and ‘socialism’ is a common description for any government program, conservatives who usually denounce federal activism suddenly are clamoring for it.”

As this column is being put to bed, President Obama just finished his address

to the nation, from the Oval Office, on the Gulf Coast oil crisis. BP has agreed to set up a \$20 billion fund, with more coming, to compensate those who’ve lost their livelihoods. What about the 11 workers who lost their lives?

Will there really be enough money to pay for all the lost jobs and income? Why was there all that chaos and jurisdictional disputation between the Coast Guard and BP? Can we trust either of them?

...

Turning to the national unemployment picture, a fightback is beginning to take shape. The NAACP, headed by Ben Jealous, and the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) are planning a massive demonstration in Washington, D.C. October 10. The A.F.L.-C.I.O. and other labor and liberal groups have been approached about co-sponsoring the rally.

The New York Times (May 10) quotes George Gresham, president of 1199 SEIU United Healthcare Workers East, which is based in New York and, with 300,000 members, is the service employees’ largest

local: “It is annoying that some people treat the Tea Party as the only voice out there trying to speak out about the economic downturn.... It’s very annoying to see the Tea Party folks on television all the time as if they’re speaking for working people, while all they’re doing is divid(ing) working people and push(ing) our agenda back.”

Brother Gresham is also quoted as saying, “Iremember what Franklin Delano Roosevelt told the labor movement about reforms: ‘Go out and make me do it.’ “

It is encouraging to see organized labor move from its seeming lock-step with the White House to criticism of moderate and conservative Democrats. Labor took a principled stand in opposition to Democratic Party right-winger Blanche Lincoln, even though President Obama campaigned for her, and despite her opposition to healthcare reform and Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA).

There were rumors and anonymous quotes from high-up Democrats, according to the *Huffington Post* (June 9), about organized labor’s opposition to Blanche

Lincoln. “It was a remarkably blunt dumping on the unions (by the Obama administration). And, in the process, it provided one of the most telling revelations as to how frayed the relationship between Obama and the modern labor movement truly is. Up until now the two parties have generally aired their disagreements over policy and politics in private, with scant public acknowledgment that friction was building below the surface.”

Also quite telling was a statement from AFL-CIO spokesperson Eddie Vale: “We are not an arm of the White House or the DNC or a political party. We work on issues. And if we feel like someone is standing up for working families, we support them, and if they don’t, we won’t support it. In the past, people would have assumed that was talk, but now we have backed that up with action.”

A colleague of mine reminds us: “President Obama was able to split the Black vote (in the Arkansas runoff) between the progressive majority and the corporate candidate. The implications are serious and must be examined closely.” President Clinton aided and abetted, along with the Democratic Leadership Council (DLC).

In fairness to President Obama, his appointments to the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) have been pro-labor. Yet, the Democrats who stripped COBRA and other important support for laid-off workers were being supported by Obama when they were challenged in the primary elections.

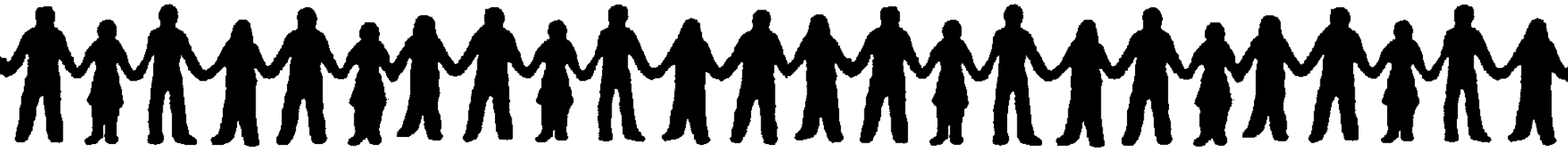
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We close with the news, as reported in the *New York Times* (June 13): “The United States has discovered nearly \$1 trillion in untapped mineral deposits in Afghanistan, far beyond any previously known reserves and enough to fundamentally alter the Afghan economy and perhaps the Afghan war itself, according to senior American government officials.

“The previously unknown deposits — including huge veins of iron, copper, cobalt, gold and critical industrial metals like lithium — are so big and include so many minerals that are essential to modern industry that Afghanistan could eventually be transformed into one of the most important mining centers in the world, the United States officials believe.”

A colleague used the exact language that I used on learning this: “Why am I not surprised?”

Contact Ira Grupper at irag@iglou.com.



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George R. Edwards

(continued from page 1)

another speaker June 15, said he once wondered whether “N’jean” was George’s last name, for all the times he heard people at a meeting saying “George and Jean.”

Jean Edwards, as did her three children and many grandchildren who came to the June 15 service, exuded strength and good cheer as activists and friends joined them for the memorial, and a reception afterward, to bid farewell to George and celebrate a life many considered exemplary for its strict adherence to nonviolence, love and multi-faith spirituality. George also always maintained indomitable optimism, despite living through five U.S. wars, reactionary presidents and a public still largely embracing the death penalty and the myth of military preparedness.

Of course, George also lived to see growing support for gay rights (a subject on which he wrote the 1984 book *Gay/Lesbian Liberation: a Biblical Perspective*), some states lessening their use of executions and the public setting racism aside in choosing a black president.

Beyond U.S. borders, George saw his Gandhi- and Jesus-inspired faith in nonviolence affirmed by the toppling of regimes in South Africa, Poland, East Germany and the Philippines which to many had seemed immovable by anything but warfare.

Despite the demoralizing spectacle of continuing war, including often by private militia doing the awful deeds of governments that then denied being human rights abusers, George also could take some joy out of seeing Leymah Gbowee, a Liberian activist, leading a sweeping movement against the rape, murder, and the use of children as soldiers in her nation.

When being anti-war wasn’t popular, George defied the nation’s common wisdom and angered some relatives in his hometown of Memphis, Tenn. by practicing his belief in Satyagraha, or love-centered nonviolent resistance to evil, when he registered as a conscientious objector to war during World War II.

Just after the war, he used his deft carpentry skills to rebuild damaged buildings in Italy in a program organized by the American Friends Service Committee.

George delivered his public words with such emphatic zeal (“Those who preach intolerance are responsible for the violence that intolerance breeds!” he said during the early years of Louisville’s LGBT rights movement) that they seemed like action, not merely speech.

Listeners felt George could achieve a victory for human rights by sheer force of his will. It wasn’t that easy, of course, but his Southern, silvery oratory undoubtedly did from time to time stop right-wing fundamentalists in their tracks - this minister, after all, sounded like one of their own. The salvation to which George pointed the way, however, was *from* fundamentalism and the nationalism and tyranny that underlie it.

Away from the podium or sidewalk vigil, he and Jean showed a gentleness that complimented their passion. As septuagenarians, around 15 years ago, George and Jean would typically rise before dawn, accompany Rev. Louis Coleman and other activists to Frankfort to press for stronger gun controls or more minority state contracting. Then while some of the younger members of the delegation (including myself) were resting from the trip, the Edwardses would be pruning their bushes or baking.

George shortly might be typing a letter to the editor on his manual typewriter in his well-ordered in-home office, which was conspicuously absent computer technology, but replete with enough reference material from books, magazines and newspaper clippings to overload a flash drive.

Two of the books on his shelves were his own: the aforementioned *Gay/Lesbian Liberation: a Biblical Perspective*, and his 1972 work *Jesus and the Politics of Violence*.

(continued on page 5)



Hundreds attend George Edwards’ memorial service June 15, (top photo, by Eddie Davis) at the Louisville Presbyterian Theology Seminary. He had agreed to donate his body to the University of Louisville medical school. FORsooth editor George Morrison’s favorite picture of George (below, by Eddie Davis), shows him discussing peace in a lunchtime program in 2007 with activists from many African nations. (Bottom, by Cathy Ford) George and FOR colleagues Virginia Noonan, Jean Edwards and Doug Magee stage an educational protest against military spending on tax day 2009.



A Tribute to Rev. Dr. George Edwards

Onward, Christian soldiers—
March, but *against* war.
March also for justice:
That’s what life is for!

Ike Thacker

George Edwards and youth peace activist Eileen Blanton, top picture, speak in a 1985 workshop on disarmament at Holy Spirit Church in Louisville featuring national FOR organizer Richard Deats. Bottom left, George does the heavy lifting for peace, transporting bundles of FORsooth newspapers to be labeled. Bottom right, George and Jean Edwards are honored with an award from the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression.

— photos courtesy Jean Edwards



George R. Edwards

(continued from page 4)

George didn’t quite completely eschew the internet, which Jean uses daily. Jean said he once used her account to send a single e-mail, so yes, he did experience the 21st century in the truest sense.

Overwhelmingly, however, George Edwards was about venerable values, not technological trends. So consistent were his marches and protests in downtown Louisville — particularly a midday vigil each Friday for peace in the Mideast - that the imprints of his shoes are virtually dug into the sidewalks.

That is fortunate, because it makes that much easier the absolute moral imperative of following in George Riley Edwards’ footsteps.



How I Survived the Vietnam War

My adventure with “crunchy granola” began in Toronto, Canada. It so happened that George had a study leave in 1970 during which time the war in Vietnam was raging. For several years prior to that, we had been engaged in draft counseling for the young men who felt that the war was very wrong. We never advised anyone to go to Canada, but we impressed upon them the gravity of such a decision that would cause them to leave family and friends with no possibility of returning, besides being unemployed and all alone in Canada with no place to live.

Soon after we arrived and settled down in a large rented house, we were contacted about taking in a young resister from Louisville. His name was Joe and he was on the basketball team at the University of Louisville. After noticing how tall he was, we knew that he was a very valuable player. Word spread, and soon we had another resister living with us. This one had left his wife behind. He was quite depressed and also afraid to go outside because he thought the FBI would pick him up. Gradually we became acquainted with others from Louisville, and we sometimes had potluck suppers together. I learned many new cooking ideas from them, especially how to make “CRUNCHY GRANOLA.” It was inexpensive and it was their daily standby when money was scarce.

Soon the year ended. I was back in Louisville, looking for a job. Every night the evening news brought very graphic pictures of the war in Vietnam. With time on my hands, I started making crunchy granola. At that time also, one of the seminary students opened a very small health food store on Bardstown Road where I soon started selling my small plastic bags of Granola. The radio was playing in my kitchen as I worked. One morning I heard Pete Seeger sing “Where Have All the Flowers Gone?” At that point I knew that the peace movement was alive in the USA.

Nowadays our young men are not being drafted. We have a volunteer army. Nevertheless many soldiers are seeking conscientious objector status from within the service. This was depicted recently in the new film “Soldiers of Conscience.” After the screening in June, in the discussion following, George Edwards described very movingly his experience as a conscientious objector in World War Two.

For all of these reasons, the young men who are caught up in this difficult time of decision are always on my mind. Still I was not prepared for the riveting account of the homily by Bishop Thomas Gumbleton “The Feast Day of Franz Jaegerstaetter” (*The*



National Catholic Reporter, June 21-25, sent to me by Miriam Corcoran, SCN) It was delivered on May 20, 2010 in Jaegerstaetter’s home town in Austria. Franz was a young farmer who refused to serve in Hitler’s army and was finally beheaded.

Gumbleton reflects on the extraordinary way that Franz’s witness and martyrdom have spread throughout the world. He cites his own experience, while rethinking his whole attitude toward war, how he was influenced by Gordon Zahn’s book, *In Solitary Witness: The Witness of Franz Jaegerstaetter*. He speaks of how many people in the United States have been influenced by this courageous witness, including Daniel Ellsberg who published secret documents from within the defense department that destroyed the credibility of the U.S. government. The revelation of these documents had a tremendous effect in the United States and helped to change the public attitude toward the war in Vietnam. Bishop Gumbleton further states that as a result of Ellsburg’s revelation, for the first time in the history of our country, and perhaps unique in the world, the Catholic bishops, as a body, publicly condemned a war in which our own country was engaged.

All of this because one man refused to go to war.



FINANCIAL REPORT
June 2010

BEGINNING BALANCE	\$11,424.48
Donations & Honorariums	2,755.00
TOTAL	\$14,179.48

EXPENDITURES:

FORsooth Editing	\$150.00
FORsooth Layout	100.00
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FORsooth Mailing	200.00
FOR National Dues.....	100.00
May TTL donations.....	117.00
Sponsorship of TA week	50.00
Brett McGrath trip to Palestine	300.00
Office Expenses	54.30
	\$1,501.30
	<u>1,501.30</u>

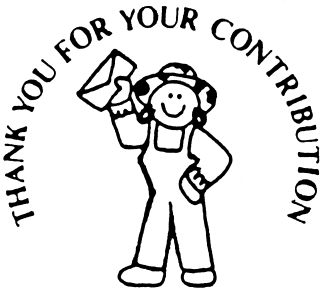
ENDING BALANCE	\$12,678.18
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Experience El Salvador

Louisville-based delegation/pilgrimage to El Salvador is now forming!

Proposed dates: November 10-19, 2010
Cost: Approx. \$1700 including air fare

Itinerary includes visits to places made holy by the sacrifice of the martyrs: Oscar Romero, four women religious, Rutillio Grande. Plans are being made for meetings with those who knew and worked with Romero including Msgr. Ricardo Urioste and Jon Sobrino. Delegation will participate in events for the anniversary of the assassination of six Jesuits, their housekeeper and daughter.

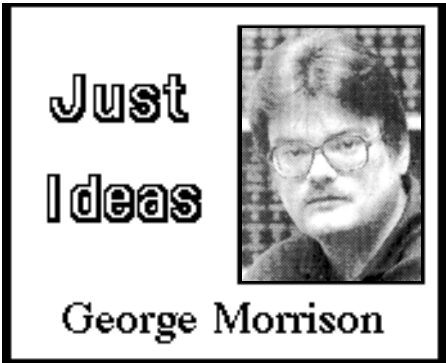
For more information contact Jim Flynn: jflynn502@aol.com

Two passions of George Edwards’ life show progress

Our beloved friend George Edwards could be pleased about a couple of recent developments in this world he left June 2.

Just before the end of his 90-year life, the movement for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered equality passed a momentous point when the percentage of Americans in a Gallup poll in May describing gay and lesbian relationships as “morally acceptable” reached 52 percent. That, the Gallup organization said in a news release, marked the first time the number had exceeded 50 percent since the yearly question was first asked in 2001.

That year, just 43 percent said same-sex relationships were morally acceptable and the nine-point increase has been steady — throughout the last decade — not some fluctuation.



The percentage calling the relationships “morally wrong” has dropped, also steadily, from 53 to 43 percent since 2001.

Ever nicer, the greatest cause for this opening of the American mind, Gallup said,

is a very large increase in men choosing “morally acceptable” in the poll — from 39 percent in 2006 to 53 percent this year. That’s a heartwarming 14 percent boost that indicates men are more comfortable with change, and in more than just same-sex relationships.

The moral fabric of the LGBT rights movement is intertwined with a new ideal of gender roles in general - for heterosexuals as well as LGBTs.

As an author who made a clear Biblical case for gay rights and a heterosexual male who passionately wanted to see men discover their capacity for constructiveness and compassion, George could certainly derive great satisfaction from this change.

Another type of justice George fervently worked for — economic fairness — also could be rising in some widely scattered places.

We all think of corporate-owned food places and coffeehouses as impediments to justice, sometimes even groaning when one comes to town.

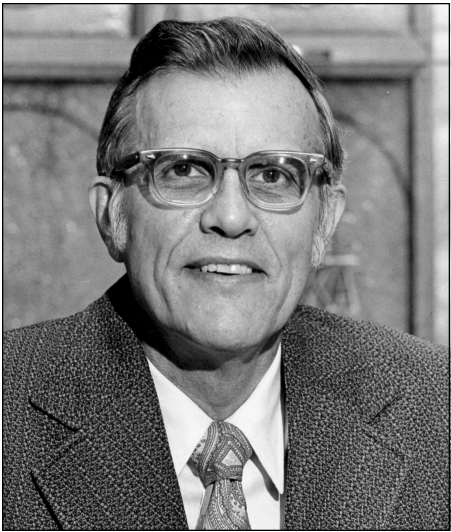
Well, in the Saint Louis suburb of Clayton, Mo., Panera Bread, which operates a chain of trendy bagel, sandwich and beverage places resembling coffee houses — with spacious tables and computer portals — is trying something quite commendable.

It opened a not-for-profit Panera Bread, which charges - are you sitting down - whatever customers can pay. Running the risk of being looted of free food, the company asks that customers pay what they can afford.

Patrons who can’t pay are asked to volunteer their time. Does that amount to exploitation of labor? Remember, the store is not-for-profit. “Take what you need, leave your fair share,” a sign says.

The Saint Louis Business Journal reported that non-chain food places in Utah, Colorado and New Jersey have tried the same concept. In my hometown of New Albany, Ind. a downtown hotel’s restaurant used a similar method in the 1990s.

The journal added that Panera says it plans to open two more pay-what-you-can



stores in undisclosed cities and that the company’s chairman hopes to operate one in each city where the 40-state chain exists.

In its early days, Panera’s experiment seems to be working - the establishment’s food is more accessible and the shelves aren’t being emptied in any feeding frenzies.

As we try to measure, as George surely did, how much our world actually was transformed by the election of an African-American president opposed to the Iraq War from its start, we must remember that positive change is often around us below our radar.

My association with George Edwards goes back to the days of the Reagan Administration, when “little victories” were all we could define. Today, regardless of whether the Obama presidency genuinely moves the nation and world forward (I believe it ultimately will), we can document some meaningful change in areas to which George courageously devoted his nonconformist life.

Contact George Morrison at
KLM86@ATT.NET.



*Help make
the dream of
justice and peace
a reality.*

Join the Fellowship of Reconciliation

LOCAL CONTACT:

Fellowship of Reconciliation / Louisville Chapter
2236 Kaelin Avenue / Louisville, Kentucky 40205
EdwardsFOR@bellsouth.net 502-458-8056

Remembering War, Working for Peace Hiroshima/Nagasaki Observances

Friday August 6, 2010 / 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Nuclear Disarmament Leafletting and Ceremonial Reading of John Hersey’s *Hiroshima*

Thomas Merton Square (4th Street and
Muhammad Ali Boulevard in downtown Louisville).

Friday August 6, 2010 / 8 p.m.

Traditional Lantern Floating Ceremony

Willow Lake (Grinstead Drive and Lexington Road)

Note: Rain date is Saturday, August 7, 8 p.m., Willow Lake

Monday, August 9, 2010 / Noon

Tolling of the Bell and Ceremonial Reading of Thomas Merton’s poem, “Original Child Bomb”

Christ Church Cathedral, 421 South Second St. in downtown Louisville

*For more information, contact Terry Taylor at (502) 299-7591
E-mail him at interfaithterry@gmail.com.*

Calendar for peacemakers

July 4 (Sun) **SUSTAINABLE LOCAL PUBLIC POLICY.** Every Sunday at 2 PM at the Legal Aid Society, 416 W. Muhammad Ali. Become a part of this grassroots movement bringing principles of sustainability into local public policy. For details, contact: j@bikecourier.org.

July 4 (Sun) **VIGIL FOR PEACE** every first Sunday evening, remembering all those suffering from conflicts in the Middle East. Bring a candle. 5-6 PM, Bardstown Road at Douglass Blvd. Sponsored by LPAC (Louisville Peace Action Community). For more information, call Harold Trainer at 387-9490.

July 5 (Mon) **SUSTAINABLE LOCAL PUBLIC POLICY.** Every Monday at 6 PM at the Center for Neighborhoods, 610 South Fourth Street, #701. Become a part of this grassroots movement bringing principles of sustainability into local public policy. For details, contact: j@bikecourier.org.

July 7 (Wed) **THE LOUISVILLE SUSTAINABILITY FORUM.** Meets the first Wednesday of each month. The forum’s purpose is to hold and promote the intention of sustainability for Louisville; establish and nourish relationships that strengthen community and create change; and create a space for discussion that inspires, motivates and deepens our ability to catalyze social change. Bring your lunch and enjoy the company of like-minded community members. Noon to 1:45 PM, Passionist Earth & Spirit Center, The Barn at 1924 Newburg Road.

July 8 (Thurs) **APPAF (American Palestine Public Affairs Forum).** Every second Thursday. A documentary film exploring the situation in Middle East will be presented. 6:30 PM, Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Road, Nelson Hall, Room 119. For more information, call Bashar Masri, 773-1836.

July 8 (Thurs) **THE FDR/LINCOLN LEGACY CLUB.** Meets the second Thursday of the month, for those interested in learning about fair trade and the American system of economics of Hamilton and Clay. 6:30 PM, 1838 Frankfort Ave. For more information, contact John Miller at papajohn15@bellsouth.net.

July 10 (Sat) **PEAK OIL.** Every 2nd Saturday, Main Library, 4th & York, Mezzanine, Boardroom. 9 AM. Call George Perkins, 425-6645.

July 11 (Sun) **“AIM HIGHER”** focusing on military counter-recruitment. Every 2nd Sunday at 7 PM, 2236 Kaelin Avenue at the FOR office. This group welcomes invitations to speak about conscientious objection, military recruitment, and the possibility for high school students to “opt out” of having their names given to recruiters. Call Jim Johnson, 262-0148.

July 12 (Mon) **OUTLAWING HOMOSEXUALITY: A HUMAN RIGHTS STORY.** Meet Valentine Kalende, a journalist from Kampala, Uganda, who has specialized in LGBT community work and advocacy for the last seven years. Along the way, she has been arrested, thrown out of houses by landlords, harassed by angry mobs, denied by family, excommunicated from church and discriminated against by employers. Kalende states the one thing that keeps her going is the love and hope she has for the struggle and the progress they have made as a group young activists in her country. Hosted by the U of L Women’s and Gender Studies Department. 6 PM, Ekstrom Library, Chao Auditorium. Free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.worldkentucky.org or call 561-5422.

July 13 (Tues) **IFCO PASTORS FOR PEACE 21ST FRIENDSHIPMENT CARAVAN TO CUBA.** Support the caravan on its journey through 130 U.S. and Canadian cities. Featuring silent auction of photos from Cuba, presentation by the Caravanistas, music, spoken word, salsa dancing, and more! 6:30 PM-8:30 PM, The Yearlings Club, 4309 West Broadway. Potluck begins at 6:30 (bring a dish); presentation at 7:15 PM. Sponsored by the Kentucky Interfaith Task Force on Latin America and Caribbean and the Henry Wallace Brigade. Donations encouraged. For more information, contact Carole at 742-3074 or David at 479-9262.

July 15 (Thurs) **KENTUCKY SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE.** Every third Thursday, 5:30 PM. Main Library, 4th & York Streets, Mezzanine Board Room. Call Kay Tillow, 636-1551.

July 16-Aug 9. **“ATOMIC SUMMER: JULY 16-AUGUST 9, 1945.”** Photographic exhibit related to the first use of atomic weapons in war and the horrifying aftermath. Interfaith Gallery at Christ Church Cathedral, Diocesan House, 425 South Second Street. Sponsored by Interfaith Paths to Peace. For more information, call 214-7322 or visit: www.paths2peace.org.

July 18 (Sun) **LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN STATES.** Every third Sunday. First Unitarian Church, 4th & York Streets, 3 PM. Call Beverley Marmion, 451-5658.

July 18 (Sun) **SUFI SINGING MASTER IQBAL BAHU.** A free concert sponsored by the Louisville Pakistani Physicians Association in cooperation with Interfaith Paths to Peace and others. 7 PM, Unity Church of Louisville, 757 South Brook Street. For more information, call 214-7322 or visit www.paths2peace.org.

July 20-22 (Tues-Thurs) **TRAINING OF EDUCATORS IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND PEER MEDIATION.** A 3-day training for school personnel and youth workers interested in creating a youth mediation program in their schools or community centers. Participants will learn to: address basic conflict resolution theory; create a site-based mediation

program; train youth mediators through hands-on activities; and involve other staff members in programming. Workshop is \$350 per person or \$650 for two person teams. Training includes a manual, daily continental breakfast and boxed lunch. Registration deadline is July 9th. Space limited to 25. Call Peace Education at 589-6583.

July 22 (Thurs) **2ND ANNUAL ASIA BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS SUMMIT.** Featuring Ambassador Nguyen Qui Bing, CEO of the ORAS Group, Dr. Vinay Bhargava, former Director of the World Bank, and Dan Flanigan, Senior Foreign Exchange Advisor at Fifth Third Bank. 8:30 AM to noon, Greenebaum, Doll and McDonald, 3500 PNC Tower, 101 South Fifth. Tickets \$75. Space limited. Register by calling the World Affairs Council of Kentucky and Southern Indiana at 561-5422 or register online at www.worldkentucky.org.

July 26 (Mon) **FOURTH MONDAY FORUM** sponsored by the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression. For details, call Katrina Byrnes at 778-8130 or email kyall@insightbb.com.

July 26 (Mon) **F.O.R. STEERING COMMITTEE.** Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Road. Every fourth Monday. Visitors encouraged. Call Dennis Bricking, 298-0590, or Phil Schervish, 558-7175.

Aug 3 (Tues) **“COMMON GROUND BETWEEN ISLAM AND BUDDHISM.”** Join Gray Henry Blakemore of Fons Vitae Press for a book event celebrating the publication of this new title. Free and open to the public. 7 PM, Carmichael’s Bookstore, 2720 Frankfort Ave. For more information, call 214-7322 or visit www.paths2peace.org.

Aug 6 (Fri) **PUBLIC READING OF SELECTIONS FROM JOHN HERSEY’S ‘HIROSHIMA.’** In commemoration of the 65th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. 11 AM- 1 PM, Thomas Merton Square, 4th and Muhammad Ali. For more information, call 214-7322 or visit www.paths2peace.org.

Aug 6 (Fri) **TRADITIONAL JAPANESE LANTERN FLOATING CEREMONY.** In commemoration of the 65th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. 8 PM, Cherokee Lake, corner of Grinstead and Lexington Road. For more information, call 214-7322 or visit www.paths2peace.org.

Aug 9 (Mon) **TOLLING OF THE CATHEDRAL BELL FOR HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI.** Join us for the tolling of the cathedral bell and reading of Thomas Merton’s “Original Child Bomb” in commemoration of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. 12 noon, Christ Church Cathedral, 421 South Second Street. For more information, call 214-7322 or visit www.paths2peace.org.

Aug 16 (Mon) **DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF FORsooth.** Contact **George Morrison, editor, at 454-2752,** or klm86@att.net.

Note: Please email new or updated calendar listings to calendar.peace@gmail.com, or call Nikki at 451-3402.

Aug 26 (Thurs) **FORsooth LABELING** at Beverley Marmion’s, 6:30 PM. We need you for one hour! Please stop by and socialize while your fingers do the work. Bouquets to those who do this important work every month! Call 451-5658.

OUT OF TOWN

July 3-5 (Sat-Mon) **RESISTANCE FOR A NUCLEAR-FREE FUTURE** at Maryville College & the Y-12 Nuclear Weapons Complex, Oak Ridge, TN. Celebrating the 30th anniversaries of Nukewatch, the Nuclear Register, and the Plowshares Eight. Networking, celebration, workshops, music, nonviolence training, and nonviolent action at Y-12. This gathering is for people who advocate, practice and/or support nonviolent direct action, civil resistance and civil disobedience in the struggle to stop nuclear power and abolish nuclear weapons. *To guarantee your dorm room, please register by June 11.* For more information, visit: <http://nukewatch.com/30th/index.htm>.

Aug 13-15 (Fri-Sun) **COMMUNITY ORGANIZER TRAINING WEEKEND.** Learn new skills and deepen your knowledge in this training weekend designed for new organizers and experienced campaigners in the fight to end mountaintop removal. Topics covered will include: organizing 101; how not to burn out; understanding regulatory agencies; talking to your neighbors about tough issues; conflict resolution; and more! Music and fellowship also on the agenda. Scholarships are available. Camp Virgil Tate, Charleston, West Virginia. For more information, please visit: www.theallianceforappalachia.org/training or call (304) 546-8473.

November 10-19. **EXPERIENCE EL SALVADOR: LOUISVILLE-BASED DELEGATION.** A delegation/pilgrimage is currently in the planning stage for these tentative dates. Cost will approximately be \$1700, including airfare. The itinerary will include places made holy by the sacrifice of the martyrs: Oscar Romero, four women religious, and Rutilio Grande. Plans are being made to meet with those who knew and worked with Romero, and the delegation will also participate in events commemorating the assassination of the six Jesuits. For more information, contact Father Jim Flynn at jfflynn502@aol.com.

Regular Meeting Times for Area Organizations

911 TRUTH LOUISVILLE (502-609-6020)
ADDICTION RECOVERY ADVOCATES OF KENTUCKIANA – 2nd Thursday (485-1248)
AIDS INTERFAITH MINISTRIES (AIM) OF KENTUCKIANA, INC. – 1st Tuesday (574-6085 or 574-6086)
AMERICA 2000 DEMOCRATIC CLUB – 4th Tuesday (459-0616)
AMERICANS UNITED FOR SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE – 3rd Thursday, every other month at noon (608-7517)
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL – 1st Saturday (637-8951)
APPAF [AMERICAN PALESTINE PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM] – 2nd Thursday (895-8155)
BREAD FOR THE WORLD – Last Monday (239-4317)
CAPA [CITIZENS AGAINST POLICE ABUSE] – 2nd Thursday (778-8130)
CART [COALITION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION] – 3rd Wednesday, Union Station, TARC Board Room (893-5172)
CLOUT [CITIZENS OF LOUISVILLE ORGANIZED AND WORKING TOGETHER] – (583-1267)
COMMITTEE FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST – 2nd Monday (456-6586)
COMMON CAUSE – Ad hoc discussions. Continuous engagement. (454-7797)
COMMUNIST PARTY USA – 1st & 3rd Sundays at 3:30 PM (384-3875)
COMMUNITY FARM ALLIANCE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY – 2nd Tuesday (775-4041)
CONVERSATION CAFE – Wednesday evenings (560-0085)
COUNTER RECRUITMENT, “Aim Higher” – Second Sunday (893-2334)
EARTH SAVE LOUISVILLE – 2nd Saturday (299-9520) www.LouisvilleEarthSave.org
FAIRNESS CAMPAIGN – Quarterly community dialogues and volunteer opportunities (893-0788)
FDR/LINCOLN LEGACY CLUB – 1st Thursday, papajohn15@bellsouth.net
FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION – 4th Monday (558-7175 or 895-8516)
FRIENDS FOR HOPE (Support Group for Adult Cancer Survivors) – 1st Thursday (451-9600)
FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF LOUISVILLE – 2nd Tuesday (893-8436)
GREATER LOUISVILLE SIERRA CLUB – 3rd Tuesday (897-3335)
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays (637-6265)
INTERFAITH PATHS TO PEACE – 1st Tuesday (214-7322)
IRFI [ISLAMIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL, INC.] – Sundays at 6:00 PM (502-423-1988)
JOBS WITH JUSTICE KENTUCKY (582-5454)
JURISDICTIONARY CLUB OF LOUISVILLE – Know the law and how to use it (500-8161)
JUSTICE RESOURCE CENTER – (345-5386)
KFTC [KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH] – 2nd Monday (589-3188)
KITOD [KENTUCKIANA INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON DARFUR] – (553-6172)
KY ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION – 3rd Monday (778-8130)
KY COALITION TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY – Last Tuesday (541-9998)
KITLAC [KY INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN] – 2nd Wednesday (479-9262)
KY RAINBOW/PUSH COALITION – (245-2272)
LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN STATES – 3rd Sunday (451-5658)
LOUISVILLE PEAK OIL GROUP – 2nd Saturday (425-6645)
LPAC [LOUISVILLE PEACE ACTION COMMUNITY] – (456-6914)
LOUISVILLE WOMEN CHURCH – Meditation every Sunday (473-8435)
LOUISVILLE YOUTH GROUP – Friday nights (893-0788), www.louisvilleyouthgroup.org
METRO SWEEP FOR ACCESS – 3rd Tuesday (895-0866 or 899-9261)
METROPOLITAN HOUSING COALITION – 4th Wednesday (584-6858)
MIGHTY KINDNESS – mightykindness@gmail.com (235-0711)
MUHAMMAD ALI INSTITUTE FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE, at UL (852-6372)
NAACP [NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE] – 3rd Monday (776-7608)
NAMI [NATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR THE MENTALLY ILL] – 2nd Monday (245-5287)
PARENTS, FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS (P-FLAG) – 3rd Sunday (329-0229)
PEACE & COMPASSION BUDDHA CIRCLE/CML – (451-2193, brozier@bellsouth.net)
RCRC [RELIGIOUS COALITION FOR REPRODUCTIVE CHOICE] – (866-606-0988)
RESULTS (a hunger lobby) – 2nd Saturday (451-4907)
SIERRA CLUB INNER CITY OUTINGS – 2nd Thursday, 7:30 PM (558-0073)
WOMEN IN TRANSITION (WIT) – every Wednesday, 6-8 PM (636-0160)

Note: If your group would like to be added to this list or if information needs to be updated, please let us know by calling 458-8056.