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# Citizens for Peace Activities and Accomplishments 2010

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**Citizens for Peace  
Activities and Accomplishments  
2010**

**Monthly Membership Meetings: Second Tuesday of each Month: 7 – 9 pm  
at Unity of Livonia (Five Mile Rd. east of Middlebelt)**

Monthly meetings are advertised and open to the public. Each meeting has a program

- Jan. 13: Presentation on Restorative Practices and Peace Circles; facilitated by Rosemary Doyle and Jerry Mehler
- Feb. 8: “Love and Peace”; presentations by Reverend Dennis Skiles & Kathy Henning
- Mar. 8: “Season for Nonviolence; work of Gene Sharp;” presented by Ann Abdo, Sally Peck, and Denise Marsico
- Apr. 12: Peace Essay Contest Award Ceremony
- May 10: “From Domination to Partnership: Building Foundations for Peace;” viewed presentation given by Riane Eisler at the National Department of Peace Conference in 2009 in Washington, D.C.
- June 14: Department of Peace legislation and Youth Promise Act update and letter writing campaign to senators, congressman, and President.
- July 12: “Domestic Violence Prevention,” presented by Carmen Dominguez of First Step and Judge Erick Cholack, Wayne County Circuit Court, Family Division
- Aug. 9: Viewed presentation “When Hope Takes a Stand” by Ocean Robbins, founder of “Yes! Youth for Environmental Sanity” given at the National Department of Peace Conference in 2009, Washington, D.C.
- Sept.13: Members review books they read from the Peace Collection at the Livonia Public Library.
- Oct. 11: “Guided by Spirit,” experiences of Ann and Rick Abdo volunteering at a Boys and Girls Club on the Pine Ridge Indian reservation.

Nov. 8: Citizens for Peace 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary party.

Dec. 13: Presentation explaining the Heart Math Method by Colleen Mills.

### **Speaking Engagements**

Jan. 23: Presentation on importance of creating a Department of Peace given to the League of Women Voters Dearborn/Dearborn Heights Branch.

Mar. 27: Two workshops at the Pax Christi Conference: "The Power of Peace: Creating a Department of Peace" and "Nonviolent Communication" at Mercy High School, Farmington Hills.

May 14-16: Presentations on the Department of Peace, Restorative Practices, and "The Gift of Peace" play by Citizens for Peace members at the Midwest Regional Conference at Madonna University, Livonia.

Nov. 7: Presentation on the Department of Peace and Citizens for Peace given to the Peace & Justice Committee of St. Thomas A. Becket church, Canton.

Nov. 21: Presentation on the Department of Peace given to the Nation Group at the Birmingham Temple, West Bloomfield.

Dec. 9: Presentation about Citizens for Peace given to the Michigan Dept. of Peace Campaign, 6<sup>th</sup> District Group and seven other peace groups in Kalamazoo.

### **Special Events**

May 14-16: Sponsored Department of Peace Midwest Regional Conference at Madonna University, Livonia.

June 13: Peace Vigil at Livonia War Memorial, Five Mile and Farmington.

Sept. 21: One Peace; Celebrating United Nations International Day of Peace; viewed film "Visions of a Universal Humanity".

## **Tabling**

This activity involves setting up a table at an event and passing out information and talking with people about the Department of Peace legislation. It gives us the opportunity to explain the concept of peace-making at the federal level of government.

- Mar. 21: Swords into Plow-Shares, Central United Methodist Church, Detroit.
- Mar. 27: Pax Christi Conference Mercy High School, Farmington Hills
- Apr. 2: Peace Unity Church, Clarkston where they showed the film, "Fierce Light".
- Apr. 24: "The Things they Carried" program; Cromaine Library, Hartland.
- May 14-16: Midwest Regional Department of Peace Conference at Madonna University, Livonia.
- June 3: "Search for Peace in the Middle East;" film and panel discussion, Hope United Methodist Church, Southfield.
- Sept. 16: "School DAZE" at Schoolcraft College, Livonia.
- Nov. 20: Holiday Mart at the Swords into Plowshares Peace Center & Gallery, Central United Methodist Church, Detroit.
- Dec. 5: Care & Share Fair, Brighton Education & Community Center.

## **Restorative Practices:**

On November 8, 2007 School Administrators, counselors and teachers were invited to a seminar to learn about changing the culture of schools to create a healthy community for learning. Based on restorative justice it is a method of discipline resulting in building a sense of community and reducing conflict and violence in schools. Since that time Wayne RESA (Regional Educational Service Agency) has held workshops to train educators. Beginning in Sept. 2008, Hamtramck School System adopted this method for all their schools. The workshops continue with Citizens for Peace members helping to notify educators and attending the sessions.

- May 15: Demonstrated how Peace Circles work at the Department of Peace Midwest Regional Conference at Madonna University, Livonia.

Nov. 9: Restorative Practices Peace Circle Training at RESA for anyone working in K-12 schools.

### **Peace Collection:**

July: CFP donated funds to the Commerce Township Library to purchase books from the 2009 Peace Bibliography Addendum.

Aug.: CFP donated funds to Redford Township Library to select & purchase books from the 2009 Peace bibliography Addendum.

July: Livonia Public Library created a separate Peace Collection to highlight the books purchased with CFP donated funds.

### **Working with Other Organizations**

There are many organizations working for a more peaceful world. By working together we hope to develop a broad base of support of people who can use their influence to help change policies of our federal government.

Feb. 26-28: Sponsored the officers of the Schoolcraft College Peace Alliance so they could attend the National Student Peace Alliance Conference in Austin, Texas.

June 30, 31: Cosponsored the viewing of the Film, "Countdown to Zero" in Royal Oak; worked with The Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice, Michigan Stop the Nuclear Bombs Campaign, WAND, and Peace Action of Michigan.

Aug. 5: Cosponsored commemoration of bombing Hiroshima and Nagasaki; presentation by Phyllis Bennis, "Stopping Nukes, Stopping Wars." worked with Huntington Woods Peace, Citizenship & Education Project, Jewish Voice for Peace – Detroit, Swords in Plowshares, and U.S. Peace Council-Michigan Chapter at Zion Lutheran Church, Ferndale.

Sept. 21: Celebrated United Nations International Day of Peace; viewed and discussed film "Visions of a Universal Humanity with Barbara Marx Hubbard at Livonia Civic Center Library Auditorium, Livonia.

## **Fund Raising Events**

Sept. 18: Walk for Peace; fundraiser for the Peace Alliance, Royal Oak.

Oct. 16: Participated in the Macy's "Give Back" promotion

## **Contact with Congressmen and Senators**

June 14: Sent postcards to Congressman, Senators, and President asking for support of Youth Promise Act and Department of Peace Legislation

May 16: Congressman Conyers spoke at the Midwest Regional Department of Peace Conference.

July 24: Met with Senator Stabenow to thank her for being a co-sponsor of the Youth Promise Act.

## **Media Coverage**

### **Radio**

Apr. 6: Colleen Mills interviewed by host, Basima Farhat on The People Speak:

[www.thepeoplespeakradio.net](http://www.thepeoplespeakradio.net)

### **Livonia Observer Newspaper**

Notices and press releases of all meetings and special events

### **Publications**

Updated The Citizens for Peace information pamphlet