Check out the Articles inside about Rising From the Ashes

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Rising From The Ashes: How Do We Create Peace From Chaos, Confusion and Conflict?

Saturday, June 13
8:30 am – 5:30 pm
University Congregational Church
405 University Ave.
JRPC Members free; Non-members $15
lunch, snacks and evening reception included

Register @ jrpc.org

Lightning Keynotes by
▶ Dr. Keiko Ozeki
Center for Ethical Leadership
▶ Dr. Kim Maynard
Internal Peacebuilding Practitioner & Author
▶ Lizzi Juda
Artistic Director, Turning The Wheel
▶ Patrick Marsolek
Author/Teacher/Facilitator
Non-Violent Communication
Open Space Facilitation by Harold Shinsato
Dear peace community,

For the ten years I have been here as Director, I have wanted to create a conference that would bring us together to dialogue, reflect and find ways we could work together to make positive change in our world — together as a peace community. Many of you are working for a variety of passions and interests. Imagine if we could bring all that energy together, make connections, build capacity and work as a community. Not only will it strengthen JRPC as an organization, but I believe it can empower us all to be better change agents and peacemakers.

I am delighted that Harold, Kris, Ethel, Maggie, Kim and Rebecca stepped forward to make this dream a reality. I know our community has some great minds and beautiful souls. I am excited to see what we create as we bring all that together this June.

Why have you registered for the Rising From the Ashes Un-conference?

Carel says, "I recall Betsy talking about the event, before it was announced and as she spoke I thought about the various possibilities of dialogue and exploration about Peace. It seems quite timely to think of Peace rising up from the Ashes … so our conversation on June 13th, I believe, includes exploring the ashes and what it will take to rise up again. Personally, sharing conversation brings home an inner understanding of my own thoughts as well as my neighbors and from there we just might find a way to make a difference. Maybe it's like sharing how to make a peace crane and then that person shares how to make one and then another and another and soon, we have 70,000 … but more important we have an action, a shared action of peace."

Rising From The Ashes Agenda

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<td>Closing Circle</td>
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<td>5:30 pm</td>
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<td>Music by Lawrence Duncan</td>
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Registration is limited to 100. Sign up today at www.jrpc.org
JRPC Members register for free; non-members are $15
2015 Peacemaker of the Year Award

A Joyous Occasion—by Patricia Herries

“Let There be Peace on Earth” was sung by all in attendance at the opening of the 2015 Peacemaker of the Year Award on April 26 at Christ the King Catholic Church. “... And let it begin with me” is the perfect metaphor for this year’s recipients, Kathi and Glenn “Woody” Wood. As attested by a variety of speakers, including their eldest son on hand for the event, this couple embodies the lifelong practice of non-violence, inclusiveness, enthusiasm, compassion, and the spreading of love and joy throughout the world. They are a reminder of what we can all accomplish for peace.

In accepting the award and the beautiful quilt intricately depicting a map of the world, made especially for them by the Missoula Peace Quilters, Kathi stated her belief that, “Peace begins when the hungry are fed.” Woody added, “This is truly the greatest honor I’ve ever received.”

Betsy Mulligan-Dague, Director of the Jeannette Rankin Peace Center, concluded by pointing out how valuable Kathi and Woody have been as volunteers throughout our community and at the center. She said, “You are my rock!” Indeed, Kathi and Woody Wood have been and continue to be a solid rock in building a foundation for peace.

The "Life" of a Peacemaker

Today is Monday, April 27, the day after our celebration and presentation of our quilt as the 2015 Peacemakers. It seems like only yesterday that Betsy Mulligan-Dague called us last October and surprised us with the news. It has been an amazing journey since that time. A beautifully worded press release by Betsy, followed by a front page article in the Missoulian with an amazing photo by Kirk Wilson, a TV interview by the local ABC Fox News, and the many congratulatory phone calls, emails, and cards.

Nonetheless, the actual celebration event was anything but climactic. An introduction and welcoming by Betsy, and no one can do it better, followed by inspirational messages from Father Jim Hogan, Anita Doyle, and son Woody, Jr. This combination of speakers did a most remarkable job of setting the tone of the celebration. Then came the presentation and unveiling of the "Peacemaker Quilt", followed by ooh’s and aah’s from the audience. It is not only a lovely work of art but also a history of our lives. The Peace Quilters certainly grasped the information during our interview and ran with it. They totally understood who we are. The quilt will always be cherished and displayed in our home.

In retrospect we would both like to let everyone know how much we felt the love from all concerned as well as the Missoula community. It has been a very humbling experience, and we hope to live up to the expectations of being “2015 Peacemakers”.

We thank each and every one of you -

Kathi and Woody Wood

a quote by Glenn "Woody" Wood, 2015 Peacemaker:

"Non-profits are not known for their user friendly web cites, so you can imagine my surprise when I renewed our family membership with the JRPC and found it be totally effortless. Renew your JRPC membership on line and see if you don’t agree with me that it is actually a pleasant experience."
Search for Peace Student Art Awards on First Friday May 1
By Nancy Leifer

The 2015 awards for the Search for Peace Student Art Challenge were presented Friday, May 1, at 5:15 pm as part of the First Friday art show at La Stella Blu, 612 South Higgins. The Jeannette Rankin Peace Center’s annual Search for Peace Art Challenge for students of all ages accepts art in any form from elementary, middle and high school and college students. This year’s award winners included paintings and a video performance, along with a retrospective of art from previous years in drawings and poetry. In addition, the show featured a wall hanging of 900 paper peace cranes, the initial cranes to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Search for Peace was started in 2001 by Father Jim Hogan as a way to encourage young people to express their visions of peace in art. The award presentation included an address by Father Hogan to encourage actions that continue making peace, and comments by the award-winning artists. This year’s artists include Mattias Remes, Zuzana Remes, and students from the University of Montana Introduction to Acting class taught including Madison Barnett, Kelly Bouma, Duc Anh Dang, Charles Early, Sofia Elofir, Matteus Hartley, Robbi Leibenguth, Nicholas Lewis, Sze Chung Lui, Janelle Meier, Stacy Norberg, Reed Polito, Tucker Richlie and Meagan Rick.

In addition to the Jeannette Rankin Peace Center, the 2015 Search for Peace Art Challenge was co-sponsored by the Zoo Town Arts Community Center (ZACC), First Security Bank, the Missoula Independent, the Missoula Area Central Labor Council, and La Stella Blu.

This year’s Search for Peace art challenge featured the theme “Work for Peace.” The challenge was open to students from Elementary School through University. Students were invited to express their visions in the media of their choice: essays, poems, short stories, text arts, drawings, paintings, photography, sculpture, etc. Entries were accepted in one of five categories: elementary school, middle school, secondary school, university and collaborative, with cash prizes for each category.

As befits the theme “Work for Peace,” all of the art was displayed in the second floor gallery of the Union Hall, 208 East Main Street, Missoula as part of First Night Art Walk, Friday, May 1, 2015. The Search for Peace awards ceremony was also Friday, May 1st, International Workers Day, at Union Hall.
June is Jeannette Rankin’s birthday month. Every June we celebrate the birthday of our namesake, Jeannette Rankin. So we like to think of June as our membership month because together we work for the peace and justice she lived for. Your membership in the Jeannette Rankin Peace Center is critical to our success. It is your time, energy, suggestions and your contributions that keep us going. So we want to make sure membership is as valuable for you as you are to us. In order for us to better create value for both of us, we have created a short survey for you to give us your feedback to help us figure out the things you value the most so we can concentrate on them.

We appreciate your time in responding. Everyone who completes the survey by June 8th (including name and contact information) will be entered for a chance to win a $50 gift certificate in our fair trade store as a thank you. We will draw the winner on June 11th.

Please visit https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/8LLM7KL

1. Are you a member?
   Yes
   No
   Unsure

2. What makes membership valuable (check all)
   Events
   Enews
   Print news
   Store
   Being part of a cause that is important
   The personal connection
   To volunteer
   Use of library
   Use of dish pantry
   Use of community room
   Other

3. What would make JRPC membership more valuable?

4. We are striving to decrease our use of paper. What is your communication preference?
   Online only
   Paper only
   both

5. What could we do to make it easier for you to renew or join online?

6. If you are a member, would you consider increasing your membership amount?
   Yes
   No
   n/a

7. Would you consider becoming a sustaining member (rankin file)?
   Yes
   No
   Already am

8. Tell us what you like about belonging to JRPC?

9. What else would you like to tell us?

10. Would you like someone from the peace center to call you
    Yes
    No

Breaking News from our Fair Trade Store!!

Hopefully you have been following our progress as our new co-managers, Romy and Suzy, do their magic and create a place we can all be proud to shop in and showcase. Lots of new items, new vendors and new arrangements are showing up every day. If you haven’t been in for a while, you are missing out.

With all this new energy, we felt it was time to give the store an identity of its own. Lots of people never came in because they never realized we had a store. So after getting some ideas and feedback from some of our shoppers, we are moving forward to call our place, “The Olive Branch”. It will always be a project of the JRPC and will still be Missoula’s only 100% fair trade showcase store where you can shop with conscience. With a clear identity as a store, we hope to reach out and educate an ever broader audience of shoppers on the benefits of fair trade.

Our friends at Westridge Creative are helping us design a logo that will fit nicely with our dove, so stay tuned for more to come!
REPORT FROM THE NEW HAMPSHIRE REBELLION
by Walter Wilde and Frances Coover

Some readers may be familiar with the name “Granny D.” In 2000, a month after her 90th birthday, New Hampshire’s favorite daughter Doris “Granny D” Haddock finished her 3,200-mile walk across America to advocate for campaign finance reform. Even that far back it was obvious to many that the primary means used by special interests to gain influence over presidents and congressmen was to generously fund their very expensive campaigns. Fourteen years later her spirit inspired the New Hampshire Rebellion, an uprising of dedicated New Hampshireites fighting to protect our elections from an even bigger influx of special interest money. (In 2010 the Supreme Court handed down its Citizens United decision that legalized unlimited election spending by corporations and billionaires). The authors (Walt and Fran) joined the New Hampshire Rebellion’s second mid-January walk across that state to bring attention to the need for reform. Though our 64-mile trek through the frigid New England landscape may pale in comparison to Granny D’s 14-month ordeal, we are proud to have marched side by side with so many fine citizens intent on striking at the root of corruption in our government.

Walking from four directions, 400 energized activists converged on Concord, the state capital, on January 21st. It was the fifth anniversary of Citizens United. The longest walk, 158 miles, started in Dixville Notch to the north. We two joined the Keene contingent, heading 64 miles to Concord from the western part of the state. Walkers also arrived in Concord from Portsmouth (east) and Nashua (south). Our joint rally on the final day exceeded all our expectations. We heard from many recognized leaders of the anti-corruption movement, including Lawrence Lessig, Hedrick Smith, and Zephyr Teachout. Other functions included a workshop on candidate “bird-dogging,” a dramatic impersonation of Granny D talking about her cross-country adventure, and testimonials by individual walkers.

But our fondest memories were of the personal relationships that we formed while walking with the fired-up New England rebels hell-bent on getting Big Money out of our elections. Their signature project, already well underway, is to post volunteers at every campaign gathering in the state to demand publicly from all 2016 federal candidates what specifically they plan to do about the system of corruption in Washington. Rebellion members aim to convince the candidates that they ignore this issue at their own peril. At the same time they hope to stimulate a spirit of activism in the broader American public. The short-range goal of the rebellion is to elect a reform-minded majority in Congress committed to enacting nonpartisan electoral reforms to reduce the corrupting influence of Big Money. The ultimate prize will be the adoption of a constitutional amendment to eliminate forever any Supreme Court tinkering with our right to elections free of unlimited private “investment.”

Imagine…a world where elections once again mean something, where energetic politicians no longer bound by obligations to wealthy special interests relearn the art of governing in the interest of their electors. What if, for one election, we based our votes solely on reforming this one fundamental aspect of government? Might not the restoration of citizen sovereignty be worth prioritizing for at least one congressional session? This is the guiding precept of the New Hampshire Rebellion, which they earnestly invite the rest of the country to follow.

The tide of discontent is rising in this country. Were you aware that retired mailman Doug Hughes who recently landed a gyrocopter on the Capitol lawn was attempting to deliver 535 copies of a letter – his own – to all members of Congress about the need for fundamental campaign finance reform? Or that Bernie Sanders, the fiercely independent senator from Vermont – has entered the presidential primary race opposing Hillary Clinton? If you aren’t yet acquainted with the hard-headed New Englisher, you soon will be. Though many consider him to be ultimately not electable, no one delivers the message that “things gotta change” better than Bernie. To be clear, Bernie himself is not nonpartisan (he’s running for president, after all), but on the nonpartisan issue of money in politics, he is fully behind the reform movement. In truth, the movement to reclaim democracy from the clutch of America’s plutocrats is gaining strength week by week. We were privileged to have participated in the New Hampshire Rebellion, and we thank those JRPC members who contributed to the cause. As opportunities to join the growing movement arise in the months ahead, we urge readers to find ways to join the fray.

For those who would like to know more about the life of Granny D, Walt has donated a copy of her final book, Granny D’s American Century, to the JRPC library.

With her walk across America at the age of 90, New Hampshire native Doris Haddock entered the national consciousness as “Granny D,” a candid and feisty champion of commonsense populist politics. Four years later she ran for the U.S. Senate against the usual entrenched big-party interests—and lost. In the meantime, she became a cause célèbre, and an example of the kind of politics that puts people first. Granny D’s American Century is the story of Doris Haddock both before and after these events: as a young woman whose bedrock New England values were tested during the Great Depression, and as a no-nonsense nonagenarian putting those values to work in the causes of voters’ rights, women’s rights, and campaign finance reform.

Written in a clear, unsparing prose, Granny D’s American Century is a warm reflection on a life well lived, and a clear and spirited call for virtue in American civic life. Check it out in the JRPC library.
RAFFLE!

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT for Montana Shares, a partnership of Montana-based nonprofit groups dedicated to improving the quality of life in communities throughout the state. Enter to win one of the 36 fabulous prizes, including 2 grand prize packages!

| GRAND PRIZE #1 - FISHING FUN | A king or double queen room for two at and donated by the Baymont Inn & Suites of Helena plus a dinner for two at Route 12 Restaurant in Helena. (HARFF)
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------
|                             | Gift certificate towards premium portrait session for all new session to include prints, canvas collections and more at Lisa Wareham Studio in Uptown Butte. (MAI WAH)
|                             | A gift basket of Montana grown food products. (MFBN)
|                             | A beautifully framed, numbered print (00/100) depicts American Indian hunting in a harsh Montana winter by W.S. Geltzer. (KM)
|                             | Pair of Alora titanium triangle closure earrings by jewelry designer, Marc Enckels. (RC)
|                             | A “Beauty Basker” filled with Vapour Organic Beauty, Kevn Aucun, and Glitter Gel cosmeticons. (MMP)
|                             | Sterling silver swirls ring with oval Amethyst stone. (LCHS)
|                             | Gallery wrap canvas print set of Montana landscapes by Kitty Kalden. (NARAL)
|                             | Portable padded stadium seat features padded seat end back with an adjustable backrest for comfortable seating. Seats are lightweight and fold flat for easy carrying with a sturdy, reinforced strap. (SAF)
|                             | Family Plus One Membership to ExplorationWorks with reciprocal admission to over 250 Science Centers in North America. (EX WORKS)
|                             | A one night stay, including lodging, complimentary social hour, and full gourmet breakfast for two at and donated by The Barstister Bed & Breakfast – Intimate elegance in a 1874 Victorian Mansion in Helena. (DRM)

**DRAWWING TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2015**

Suggested donation $10 per ticket, or 3 tickets for $25. Need not be present to win.

To enter the Montana Shares raffle, enter your information and return tickets to the address on back.

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Credit donation to: JRPC (member group listed on back)
GRAND PRIZE #2 - EVENING OUT
Four premium tickets to the Nutcracker Ballet performance by Queen City Ballet Company in Helena in November 2015. (QCCB)
A one night's lodging in a Deluxe King room for 2 people including the breakfast bar at and donated by Best Western Premiere Helena Great Northern Hotel. (YCG)
$50 Gift Certificate to Silver Star Steak Co. in Helena, Coffee mug done by Helena artist Sarah Jaeger, $5 gift card from Fire Tower Coffee House and Flooster in Helena and a $10 gift card from Starbucks. (ML2A)
$50 Town Pump card and $50 VISA gift card (GFGB)

One full-festival registration for MT Audubon’s Wings Across the Big Sky Bird Festival June 2016 in Missoula. Also a collection of bird and nature books, including Trevor Herriot’s Grass, Sky, Song, winner of the Sasakawarowa Non-Fiction Award. (MA)

“Basket of Hope” with 2 bags coffee, a mug, “Crossing Divides: A Couple’s Story of Cancer, Hope and Healing” by Scott Bischio, water bottle, shirt, earrings, bracelet & original of painting cards by Whitney Hall. (CSSM)

“It’s a Dog’s Life” package. Includes one-on-one consultation with HVG’s shelter behaviorist Ben Donohue, 1 hour consultation on training & sports to play with your dog. 4 sessions of Canine Training classes at HVG & a leash, collar & engraved tag. (HV)

Sixty inch White natural freshwater knotted barrel pearl necklace. (LCHS)

Original Acrylic 12” x 12” painting “Far From Egypt” by Emnis painter Sarah Morris. (MWGO)

T-shirt, Sun Glasses, Mammoth Mini-pump, bike lights, water bottle, and socks (DVMT)

$100 Big Sky Brewing Gift Certificate. (MCAT)

You and three friends will get to enjoy a seven step Anti-Aging Ultimate Facial using Arbonne RE9 and Genius skin care. Pamper time includes light appetizers and wine or champagne and cupcakes. Hosted by Maryann Hubbard at The Loft of Missoula. (AM)

Ceramic covered casserole/dish in green, beige and dark brown created by Kay Feist. (HMA)

Abundance of Montana basket featuring Montana-grown and processed products donated by AERO farmer and rancher members from across the state. (AERO)

An elegant overnight stay at and donated by The Sanders – Helena’s Bed and Breakfast. (MS)

“A touch of Montana” gift basket. (BBSM)

An “Osprey Escapist 30” backpack. (WMA)

An intreacately beaded Native American belt buckle from the Russell Museum. (NWMT)

Take care of your car package. Car wash tokens, tire rotation, oil change and more! (REO)

Thanks to all the businesses and friends who donated prizes to the Montana Shares 2015 raffle.

Donations help promote the work of these nonprofits:
(The member group that coordinated their prize is noted in parenthesis after each description.)

Montana Shares (MS)
Alternative Energy Resources Organization (AERO)
AntiMeals (AM)
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Montana (BBBSMT)
Bike Walk Montana (BWMT)
Bridgcoro (NC)
Camp Mak-A-Dream (CMAD)
Cancer Support Community Montana (CSCMT)
Disability Rights Montana (DRM)
ExplorationWorks (EXWORKS)
Great Falls Community Food Bank, Inc. (GFCFB)
Heart of the Valley, Inc. (HOV)
Helena Area Habitat for Humanity (HAAHF)
Holler Museum of Art, Inc. (HMA)

Humanities Montana (HMT)
Joanette Rancin Peace Center (JRCP)
Komen Montana (KM)
Last Chance Community Pow Wow (LCPW)
Lewis & Clark Humane Society (LCHS)
Mai Wah Society, Inc. (MAI WAH)
Missoula Community Access Television (MCAT)
Montana 4-H Foundation, Inc. (M4HF)
Montana Association for the Blind, Inc. (MAB)
Montana Audubon (MA)
Montana Child Care Resource & Referral Network, Inc. (MCCRFN)
Montana Food Bank Network, Inc. (MFBN)
Montana Innocence Project (MTIP)
Montana Legal Services Association (MLSA)
Montana Meth Project (MMP)
Montana Spay/Neuter Task Force (MSNTF)
Montana Supporting Soldiers (MSS)
Montana Trout Unlimited (MTO)
Montana Watershed Coordination Council (MWCC)
Montana Wildlife Association (MWA)
Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)
NARAL Pro-Choice Montana Foundation (NARAL)
NeighborWorks Montana (NWMT)
Queen City Ballet Company (QCBC)
Rural Employment Opportunities (REO)
Student Assistance Foundation of Montana (SAF)
Youth Connections Coalition (YCC)
Call for Volunteers

**Peace Conference: Rising From the Ashes: How Do We Create Peace from Chaos, Confusion and Conflict?**
**Saturday, June 13, 8:30 to 5:30.** This is an “Open Space” conference in which the content of the conference comes from the participants. We need volunteers to help with conference logistics.

**Peace Gardener, Immediate and Ongoing through September.** JRPC has a beautiful garden in the alley behind the Center. Our long-time garden tender will not be able to help keep it weeded and tended this year. We need someone who likes to garden to put in about 2-3 hours per week keeping our peace garden beautiful.

**Crane Folders, immediate and ongoing through August 9.** Betsy has set a goal of having 70,000 paper cranes folded by August 9 to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. If ever you wanted to learn how to fold a peace crane, this is the time! We need people to fold cranes, and we need people to teach others at the numerous paper crane “fold-ins” we will be hosting from now through August 9.

from Nancy

**JRPC’s Vision for Peace Cranes in 2015**

August of 2015 marks the 70th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima. To commemorate the event, JRPC would like to engage the Missoula community in making 70,000 peace cranes between now and the beginning of August. The paper cranes will be displayed in prominent locations in Missoula’s downtown in August, with a special ceremony on August 6th, the 70th anniversary of the dropping of the nuclear bomb on Hiroshima. Now is the time to make peace through peace crane folding! Send your email address with the message line “Crane Brigade” to volunteer@jrpc.com and we will let you know more about how to participate in peace crane folding this spring and summer. Plus look for crane-fold-ins at various events throughout Missoula!

As of this printing, we have the first thousand cranes toward the 70,000 we are aiming to have strung and ready for the commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki! Peace cranes also marched in the International Wildlife Film Festival parade this year. Thank you to all our crane folders so far, who range from after-school program students, Girl Scouts, VISTA volunteers, instructors at the University, and peace knitters to our first regular “fold-in” participants, with special thanks to Cynthia Satterfield, Bonnie Tarses, Josie Edger, Amy Dockrey and Nora Moseman.

Remember that anyone can join in anytime. Check the JRPC website for the most current updated calendar of crane “fold-in” and crane station locations (places with instructions and information about JRPC’s crane project). Two crane fold-ins are ongoing: every Monday afternoon except the first Monday of each month, 3:45 to 5:15, in JRPC’s community room; and 1:00 to 3:00 pm Wednesdays at The Buttercup Market and Café, 1221 Helen Avenue, Missoula. Stop by one of these locations at these times, and you can either “fold-in” with other crane folders or learn how to fold a crane and become a paper folding peace maker! If you would like to host a “fold-in” or a crane station yourself, contact Nancy Leifer at nanceleifer@gmail.com and we will provide what you need.

Plans are to display the cranes in downtown Missoula, with the last great fold-in on Thursday, August 6, the 70th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima, and a ceremony on Sunday, August 9, the 70th anniversary of the bombing of Nagasaki. We anticipate having the cranes displayed in the window of the old Macy’s building for the remainder of August. Mark these dates on your calendars now, and check the JRPC website for a “fold-in” or two that you can attend between now and the beginning of August!
Humphrey Fellows are high-level professionals from around the world chosen to represent their countries in study and research. They will speak from their expertise and give us the opportunity to dialogue about issues we have in common. Such as war and peace, agriculture, recycling, medicine, and education.

This year the Humphrey Fellows Program has twelve highly educated professionals from all over the world here in Missoula. They are here in the states to improve their English, see the world through your eyes, and learn what they need to help their community and country when they return. Each of them will attend a University in this country for one year before they return home.

While they are in Missoula, JRPC will host the 3rd Annual Intercultural Dialogue Series. May 7th was our first dialogue. Three speakers told all of us about their country, culture, and profession. Yelognisse Vitalien from Benin, West Africa is a Prince who is educated in health and communication. He is devoted to the cause and rights of vulnerable people and is looking for a new Africa with better infrastructure. Ten million people live in Benin with 12 kings ruling. He will attend Arizona State University. Yuxin Le is from China and works in the youth courts in her country. She will go to the Law School at the University in DC. The third speaker was an immigration Officer from Haiti. His topic for the evening was human rights and trafficking in persons. He gave us the history of slave revolutions in his country and will attend law school in Minnesota. Questions from the audience included vaccines, population, and future plans.

June 4th is our next dialogue. Don’t miss it or you will be missing out on broadening your own understanding of our global community. We will still hear from Ms. Halima Abdul Hossain from Afghanistan, Mr. Biraguitcha Anwone and Mr. Mawouena Komlan Bohm from Togo, Mr. Oscar Eduardo Diaz Forero from Columbia, Mr. Serge Egelbert Ekani from Cameroon, Mr. Claude Fanohiza from Madagascar, Mr. Amadou H. Maiga from Mali, Mr. Kouakou Bruno Tano from Cote D’Ivoire and Mrs. Alla Nadezhkina from Russia.

Montana Shares Raffle Tickets Offer Great New Prizes for 2015

Support JRPC and become eligible for great prizes by entering the 21st annual Montana Shares Raffle. Montana Shares is a partnership of nonprofit organizations working to build better communities across Montana. All donations to the raffle support Montana Shares in its efforts to help JRPC and other nonprofits. Raffle tickets and the list of prizes are enclosed in this newsletter.

We urge you to make your donation today and help support this great organization. Through Montana Shares, JRPC is able to raise thousands of additional dollars through workplace giving each year and raise public awareness within state and federal agencies and the more than 150 other workplaces that take part in the annual giving campaign.

The member groups of Montana Shares address issues such as health care, sustainable living, children and families, the humanities and the arts, justice, wildlife habitat, women’s needs, and animal welfare. They work together to bring each other’s important messages to audiences in public presentations as part of the Montana Shares workplace giving campaigns.

Take a moment to look over the flyer and the many different prizes you could win. To enter the raffle, return the tickets on the flyer, along with any donation by September 12th to: Montana Shares, P.O. Box 883, Helena, MT 59624.

Thank you for your support of Montana Shares and JRPC.

Thanks to our friends for helping to sponsor this newsletter!

Possibilities

Kris Bayer
essential oils, Raindrop Therapy
private library, raw food, student of freedom
Socrates Café facilitator and other Great Conversations
Why a Peace Unconference for Missoula?
by Harold Shinsato

On first arrival in Missoula the spring of 1998, the giant peace sign in graffiti on the hills north of I-90 greeted me. "This is the place for me!" It was just a few months later I informed the boss of my Xerox PARC spinout startup company based in Silicon Valley that I was moving north, and I’d enjoy the chance to keep the job if they let me telecommute from Missoula. Gladly he said yes, and a few months later I’d own my first home in the Rattlesnake, and by the end of 1998 I was engaged to be married.

It might seem odd that computers play an important role for why there’s going to be a Peace Unconference in Missoula, June 13. It wasn’t long after moving to this area I learned that Jeanette Rankin was the first woman in congress and that she was the only one to vote against our entry into both World Wars. It was an easy decision to become a member of the JRPC. Although I’ve done my share of peace marches, from various Iraq war marches in San Francisco & Missoula, back to protests at MIT in the 1980’s against US involvement in El Salvador, and attended a large number of the huge prayer circles for peace at the national Rainbow Gatherings, I’m still at heart a Geek, with a capital G.

And although I loved being in Montana, I missed connecting with my fellow geeks. The big annual Java programming language conference in San Francisco was amazing at helping me learn, although I hated trying to keep my eyes open and fall off my chair asleep during deadly boring PowerPoint lectures. My favorite parts were the chances to network, and I tried to bring that home to Montana by starting a Java Users group here. But that fell apart within a year once the “dot bomb” software company crash after 2000.

So I got very excited in 2007 when I learned about a famous (to geeks) limited invitation only “unconference” called FooCamp that avoided the boring PowerPoint lectures by letting anyone who showed up convene a session. Although I couldn’t get into FooCamp, others copied the format and called it “BarCamp”. Both Foo and Bar are a geek joke you can look up if you like, but what was really interesting was when I learned from the star unconference facilitator and organizer Kaliya Hamlin that the hidden “social technology” that started all these unconferences was something called Open Space.

My life hasn’t been the same since encountering Open Space Technology. I’ve facilitated over a dozen of these in Missoula and on both coasts, and I’ve attended dozens around the world. It’s a “social technology” because it doesn’t involve computer hardware, computer software, or code. But it is something you can “run” with a group, just like software on a computer. Amazingly, it builds community. It builds engagement. It solves problems. The originator of Open Space Technology, Harrison Owen, has written multiple books about amazing issues that have been solved in three days that normally would have taken multiple months. Open Space Technology has been used to resolve conflicts between Israeli Rabbi’s and Muslim Imams (a book, The Practice of Peace, was written about that particular Open Space event). It’s been done tens of thousands of times on all continents, and there are thousands of facilitators around the globe.

It’s almost impossible to express the power, the electricity, and the buzz that happens during these events. It’s an experience. The power of Open Space has been at the heart of much of the social innovation happening in the software field as people gather at easy to facilitate Open Space events.

What is so powerful and timely about these Open Space events, and how might we even make progress in something like world peace in the face of so much “conflict, chaos, and confusion”? Open Space helps leadership emerge and collaborate, in each heart that shows up with what we call in Open Space, “The Law of Two Feet”. Which means people are called to take responsibility for what they love as an act of service.

Having had a passion not just for computers and software, but also for peace and community building, why not apply Open Space directly for the cause of peace? And why not with the JRPC? Thanks to years of friendly support and enthusiasm from wonderful people at the center, like Ethel MacDonald, Betsy Mulligan-Dague, and the rest of the organizing team that has come together, now Open Space for peace, justice, and sustainability is happening in Missoula.

What do you care about? It’s welcome at an Open Space. But as we also say in Open Space, “Be Prepared to Be Surprised.” I’ve had my paradigms blown away so many times from people I’ve connected with at these events. And the sheer joy of connecting, in a spirit of love and peace, despite how much divergence of opinion or lack of connection we have on arrival, being free to follow my heart has let it grow and expand. And I’ve been forever changed.

I hope you’ll join us on June 13 and be a part of this unfolding story that you will get a chance to co-create.

Why we are passionate about this Un-conference...planning committee: Betsy Mulligan-Dague, Ethel MacDonald, Harold Shinsato, Kim Maynard, Kris Bayer, Maggie Lough, & Rebecca McClellan

When we first met as a committee to organize this Open Space event for the JRPC and the Missoula community, some of us did not know each other. We each brought a diversity of thought, background, and reasons for joining together. We each had personal concerns about the current state of things in our global community. As Harold led us through the process of connecting with each other, figuring out how to work together, and gaining clarity on our purpose and task, we have become a team with a mission to bring JRPC members and the community together to discover how to create peace from chaos, confusion, and conflict.

Our committee has wrestled with many issues and concerns. Maggie’s question is, “What am I grieving or what am I not grieving? There may be something in my life or our lives that we need to grieve to let it go, but we may still be in denial or too angry to grieve.” The old story is dying, and the new story is being created. Kim sees disaster as an opportunity to change the status quo. We want peace, but what is peace really? And what are these opportunities for reinventing community after conflict, disaster, and chaos?

We wonder... What part have we played in creating our current reality? What outcomes are possible from this Un-conference? What is our community putting off saying NO to? And, what is the gift YOU still hold in exile that would promote peace? We still wrestle with some of these and look forward to seeing you at this event. We hope you will bring your own questions and gifts so we can wonder about them together, and make a difference. Join us on June 13 for our Peace Unconference.
Dr. Kim Maynard, “Rising From the Ashes is Perfect Timing”

I am thrilled that Rising From the Ashes is happening now in Missoula. I have spent the past two and a half decades working in war-torn countries around the world and have come home to roost here. So, in this un-conference, my global peacebuilding past gets to connect with my community home! But more importantly, I see this as an event whose time has come.

We are staring into the face of tremendous change. We stand at the threshold of potential disaster and untold opportunity. It is both scary and exciting. On the one hand, wars are on the increase after over two decades of decline; and climate change, financial crisis, political upheaval, biodiversity loss, and pandemics threaten our world as we know it. On the other hand, everyday thousands of people are joining others in seeking a new story for humanity in recognition that the old way is no longer working. This rapidly changing world is thrusting us into a new paradigm that demands new approaches and new ways of being together.

Rising From the Ashes is perfect timing. We humans are seeing ourselves for the first time as a planetary species with a common, but unknown future. Both local and global groups working for peace, environmental sustainability, and justice are recognizing the interconnectedness of each of our missions and the exciting potential from our collaboration. Our destiny is linked; our future is unknowable. The question is how do we flourish in the unknown?

The answer is in our common personhood. I continually hear people say they want greater meaning in their lives, more connection, and to make a difference. Rising From the Ashes with its open space meeting technology offers a unique opportunity for the Missoula community to engage in these issues together.

Personally, I am honored to be invited to address this gathering and to learn from other Missoulians on how our different threads interweave. I am eager to link what is happening in Missoula with the larger context, especially in the Global South, and to create new possibilities together. To me, JRPC is the perfect locus for connecting many local elements with this growing planetary resolve for a world that is peaceful, sustainable, and just. My hope is that with this rich interaction, we find more ways to collaborate in a vibrant movement for a better future.

Dr. Kim Maynard dances in the interface between what exists and new possibilities. For nearly 30 years, she has worked in the heart of disasters and wars, supporting their transition from crisis to peace and renewal. Kim sees natural disasters, political upheaval, and conflict as a rare opportunity to change the status quo. She is currently a Mansfield Fellow in International Affairs at the University of Montana and researches, writes, speaks, and engages directly in revitalizing war-torn communities through local collaboration. Kim holds a doctorate in International Affairs and is the author of numerous publications including, Healing Communities in Conflict.

maynard@maters.us
Lizzi Juda is a dance instigator, community connector and merry maker. She has been leading movement classes and expressive arts groups for 25 years. Lizzi is passionate about providing opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to play, move, breathe and connect deeply with themselves and their creative spark. She founded Wild Ground Learning Center in 1992, Turning the Wheel Missoula in 2001 and The Hive Missoula, a center for creative development in 2014. She believes that the world will know peace when we can live in a grounded way with all that happens within and around ourselves.

Lizzi Juda, founder of the Hive: a center for creative, healthy and sustainable living

The Hive, located in the heart of Missoula, MT is on the bike path, the Clark Fork River and within walking distance to downtown. The property consists of roughly 40,000 sq. ft of existing buildings on 4 acres.

It is The Hive’s Intention to:

- Provide a nourishing environment for all ages and abilities that enliven the body, mind and spirit
- Provide an inspiring space for collaboration among entrepreneurs, businesses, students and craftspeople
- Provide hands-on, project-based experience for discovering our voice, knowledge and capacity to contribute to our community
- Provide a model for sustainable urban living that focuses on urban agriculture, energy efficient housing, innovative practices in transportation and resource use
- Strengthen the local economy by promoting self-sufficiency/resilience through cottage industries, business incubation, eco-tourism and local food production
- Create a thriving cultural and business district that is near downtown Missoula

800 S 3rd St W, Missoula, MT
(406) 926-1214
http://www.missoulahive.com/

Patrick Marsolek works with businesses, individuals and families on how to communicate effectively and compassionately and how to access untapped resources for growth and effectiveness. He is a Clinical Hypnotherapist with a private practice in Missoula and Helena. He is the author of “A Joyful Intuition” and “Transform Yourself: A self-hypnosis manual.” He also has produced a series of self-empowerment and self-hypnosis audio recordings. Patrick teaches experiential classes on hypnosis, intuition, compassionate communication and using altered states of consciousness for personal transformation.

Patrick brings his personal practice and professional emphasis on self-awareness and how we are an integral part of the larger, living world to this conference. He prefers to focus on experiential practices for creating peace, more interconnection between our inner and outer lives, developing empathy and respect for others, and helping people remember how we are one kind of consciousness living on a diverse, interconnected planet.

“I believe it is essential at this time that we remember how we are more than material beings, that life energy and consciousness in an integral part of our universe. The trend towards scientific materialism over the past 300 years has led humanity to a great sense of separation from the meaningfulness in people’s lives and a false sense of separation from the world. I believe the greatest good that could come out of this gathering would be that we each individually remember we are part of a much larger universe; and being plugged-in, we have the power, moment-to-moment, each day of our lives, to affect meaningful change in the world. That change may be observable, physical actions, connecting with diverse communities; and that change may also be powerful in more subtle ways, in the sense of living and expressing more peace, connection, love, respect and humility.”

Find out more at: http://www.InnerWorkingsResources.com

Harold Shinsato is founder and executive director of Montana Agile Culture House, Inc., which hosts the annual technology, arts, and community unconference in Missoula. Harold also writes code, facilitates large groups with Open Space Technology, coaches individuals, agile teams and enterprises, serves on the board of the Open Space Institute, and blogs at http://shinsato.com.
Details inside!

Also:
- Peacemaker 2015
- Search For Peace Report
- Report from the New Hampshire Rebellion
- News From the Fair Trade Store
- Montana Shares
- Volunteer Activities
- Humphreys Fellows
- June Membership Month

Rising From The Ashes: How Do We Create Peace From Chaos, Confusion and Conflict?

Saturday, June 13
8:30 am – 5:30 pm
University Congregational Church
405 University Ave.
JRPC Members Free Non-member $15
lunch, snacks and evening reception included
Register @ jrpc.org