

# Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility

Dear Anna,

I am delighted to share a bundle of exciting news with you this month!

## Upcoming Events:



### **Hiroshima and Nagasaki Memorial (Portland): End Nuclear Madness**

Join us and our partners on **Thursday August 6th from 6-7:30 pm at the Japanese American Historical Plaza at the Portland** waterfront for this year's Hiroshima and Nagasaki Memorial. Our theme this year is meant to address the dangerous nuclear threat that we are all living under. Humanity is closer to a nuclear doomsday than we have ever been due to multiple conflicts that span the globe. It is critical that we come together to remember the real and widespread impacts of nuclear weapons and the generational legacy that has been left behind.

A special thanks to everyone who is helping to organize this event including the Japanese American Museum of Oregon, the Japanese American Citizens League, Veterans for Peace, Peace and Justice Works, Portland Friends

Meeting, Portland Japanese Garden/Oregon Hiroshima Club, along with individual activists and community members.



### **Golden Years Weighing Philippine Martial Law 1972-1981:**

Malaya Portland and Bayan Oregon is hosting the ***Golden Years Weighing Philippine Martial Law 1972-1981*** in Portland, OR at the **Propulsion Zone** from **July 24 until August 21**. The exhibition includes photographs on the Philippines that appeared in U.S. newspapers in the 1960s-1980s, curated by Victor Barnuevo Velasco. It is organized to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Philippine martial law, which was declared by the late President Ferdinand E. Marcos on September 21, 1972. The show's title is an ironic take on how the Marcos family labeled their rule as the "golden age of Philippine economy and society." By juxtaposing this claim with visual documentation of their era, the show examines the malleability of perception, the elasticity of reality, and the vulnerabilities of individual and national memory.

### **Protecting our World for Future Generations: An Interfaith Call to Abolish Nuclear Weapons**

This International Center for MultiGenerational Legacies of Trauma webinar is held in partnership with URI-Voices for a World Free of Nuclear Weapons, in advance of both the 22 July to 2 August 2024 Preparatory Committee for the 2026 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and of 6 and 9 August, when, in 1945 the United States detonated two atomic bombs over the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki that killed over 226,000 people, mostly civilians. Anticipating Nuclear Prayer Day, diverse international faith leaders will call for prayer and action to

abolish nuclear weapons and cataclysmic threat they pose for current and future generations.

[Register here](#)

## Action Items:



### **No Nuclear Waste in the Columbia River!**

On May 30, the U.S. Department of Energy (Energy), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) announced a set of public meetings (in Richland, WA, Olympia, WA, & Hood River, OR) and opened a 90-day public comment period regarding changes to Hanford cleanup. A four year closed door negotiation resulted in a “holistic” settlement agreement (the settlement) between the agencies. The negotiations did not include Tribal Nations, nor the public.

The settlement’s proposed changes to clean up will alter treatment, storage, and disposal plans for highly toxic and radioactive waste currently stored in 177 aging underground tanks and the soil beneath them.

Take Action today! [Write a comment](#), [learn more](#), and tell a friend!



**Support Oregon PSR!**

In the past months we have hear over and again the value of having the voice of health professionals and public health advocates raised in support of communities hit hardest by an unstable climate and renewed nuclear threats. That's what we have done so successfully! To sustain and grow this voice, we need your financial support today.

Please contribute today! Thanks to generous contributions from our board, your contributions will be matched up to \$10,000.

Together we seek a healthy, just, and peaceul world for present and future generations. Help us provide our amazing staff and volunteers with the resources they need to succeed.

Donate

## **Introducing New Board Members:**

### **New Board Presidents:**

**Regna Merritt** (she/her), a retired Physicians Assistant, built and directed Oregon PSR's Healthy Climate Program from 2012-2019. She worked as co-director of the regional Power Past Coal coalition (2017-2019) and served on leadership teams of Stand Up to Oil, Power Past Fracked Gas, and other local coalitions that successfully prevented the development of new fossil fuel infrastructure in the Pacific Northwest. Since then Regna has been on Oregon PSR's advisory board. We are thrilled to have Regna back in greater capacity and in a leadership position once again.

**Ann Turner** (she/her) has been a vital and consistent volunteer on our Healthy Climate Action Team for over a decade. She is a board-certified physician in internal medicine and hematology-oncology. She was a founder of South Central Family Health Center, a community health center in Los Angeles, where she was medical director and physician for 12 years. In 1994, she moved to Portland Oregon and joined the staff as Medical Director and primary care physician at Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center, serving migrant and seasonal farmworkers and other low income and vulnerable populations. She has participated in writing several reports including Methane Gas: Health, Safety, Economic and Climate Impacts, and has been a voice in successfully advocating against new fossil fuel infrastructure projects in the Pacific NW.

Ann's combined commitment to environmental justice and dedication to underserved communities inspire us all. We are enthusiastic to have Ann at the helm as we move our organization forward.

## **New Board Members:**

**Patricia (Patsy) Kullberg** (she/her) has been involved with Oregon PSR since 2012. She has been an active and passionate member of our Healthy Climate Action Team where she has led talks about the Social Determinants of Health and the impact of air pollution in Portland on frontline communities. She brings her experience as the medical director at Multnomah County Health Department, where she was also a primary care provider at a clinic for houseless, undocumented, and other marginalized folks. Patsy graduated from OHSU medical school, trained as a family physician at UC Davis Sacramento, and was a Robert Woods Scholar at U of Washington, where she earned her MPH.

**Leslie Cagle** (she/her) graduated from medical school at The University of Texas Medical School in Houston. She completed surgical training in Houston and then fellowship training at both UCLA and The University of Dundee in Scotland. She was active on the Oregon PSR board in the 1990's. A recent trip to the Hiroshima Peace Museum in Japan, prompted her to contact Oregon PSR. The timing was perfect, in that they had a board opening. She looks forward to working with the Oregon PSR Board as they continue their important work.

**Andy Harris** (he/him), MD is a graduate of University of Virginia School of Medicine and completed an ophthalmology residency at University of Wisconsin Medical School. He practiced ophthalmology for 30 years in Salem, OR, then founded and directed a course at OHSU, "Professionals Training in Global Health," to train doctors and nurses for volunteer opportunities in low-income countries from 2008-2018. Andy served on the National Board of PSR for ten years, including as board president in 1998. This is his 4th term on the board of OPSR, where his interests include climate stability, peace and justice issues, and the health consequences of environmental toxins.

I am excited to share that our out-going Board President **Pat O'Herron** will continue his work on the Oregon PSR Board as a board member. Pat served as our president for over a decade and played a crucial role in the growth and success of our organization. We are deeply grateful to Pat for his leadership and are delighted to have him on our board.

## **Introducing our new Interim Executive Director Jan Wilson (she/her)**

Jan joined Oregon PSR as Interim Executive Director in June of 2024, with the goal to help the organization make a successful transition to a younger and more diverse generation of nonprofit leaders. Jan is committed to helping build the board and create the operations structures necessary for future success. Jan has a computer engineering degree from University of Michigan, a law degree from Wayne State University, and decades of experience working in and leading Oregon environmental nonprofits.

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