

DATED MATERIAL



The Golden Rule Peace Boat in Milwaukee

September 1–4, 2023
Lakeshore State Park - 500 N. Harbor Drive, MKE
Hosted by Milwaukee Veterans for Peace Chapter 102

- Friday– September 1,** 10 AM - Welcoming Press Conference at Discovery World, followed by Boat tours until 4 PM. Potluck dinner to greet the crew at 6 PM at Zao Church, 2319 E Kenwood
- Saturday– September 2,** 2 PM – 5 PM: Party at at the Golden Rule boat slip at Lakeshore State Park, 500 N. Harbor Drive, Milwaukee, WI.
- Monday– September 4,** Labor Day, 1 PM – 5 PM: Boat visits/tours of the Golden Rule at Lakeshore State Park.
- Tuesday– September 5 -** The Golden Rule departs for Racine, WI.

Contact Bill Christofferson - 414.486.9651 or VFPchapter102@gmail.com



George Paz Martin 1946-2023

by Julie Byrnes Enslow

When George Paz Martin walked in the door of the Peace Action Center in the summer of 2000, it was a gift to our organization. He came to join the Ralph Nader for President Campaign that was renting our back office and within weeks he had taken a leadership position to grow the Green Party in Milwaukee and Wisconsin.

We invited George to join our local Peace Action Steering Committee and a year later he was hired as our Program Director to replace Tom Seery who was moving on. George brought many diverse community connections to the job along with skills in organizing, communications, promotion, and bringing folks together. His strong, powerful voice and oratorical talents became a huge asset as Peace Action Wisconsin took leadership in the struggle to prevent the Iraq War after 9/11.

We were in the streets on Sept. 15, 2001 demanding no war of revenge on Afghanistan after the World Trade Center attack. George took an active role. As our government attempted to blame Saddam Hussein for the 9/11 attacks, George moved into national leadership to prevent the Iraq War with United for Peace and Justice (UFPJ), the country’s largest anti-war coalition. He was elected co-chair of the national organization where he served for 8 years, while he also worked non-stop at the



George Martin and Julie Enslow • Photo : Sue Ruggles.

local level. He was sent by UFPJ on a dangerous fact-finding mission to Iraq a few days after the infamous “Shock and Awe” bombing of that country. The war had begun and it consumed our efforts for years to come.

George organized events with speakers from Iraq, 9/11 Families for Peace, Palestinian and Israeli activists for justice in Palestine and continued building our strong ties with the Muslim community. He traveled every

year to Fort Benning, Georgia to the vigil to close the Army School of the Americas and was often a featured speaker or workshop leader.

George brought together the immigrant rights movement, progressive elements of the labor movement and the peace/anti-war movement to work on common concerns and against the war. He trained hundreds of people in non-violent civil disobedience and direct actions, and was arrested several times for civil disobedience.

He led numerous trainings in organizing skills and mentored many young activists who have gone on to do outstanding work at the local, state and national levels. (Milwaukee labor activist Jacob Flom, DC labor lawyer



Over 300 attend George's memorial • Photo : Sue Ruggles

George Paz Martin 1946-2023

Continued from page 1

Adam Breihan, National Director of Just Foreign Policy Erik Sperling, and State Representative Supreme Moore Omokunde are a few examples of those trained and influenced by George Martin.)

When George was 16, he was taken to the March on Washington by Father James Groppi, his parish priest. He stood 10 feet from Dr. King when he gave his “I Have a Dream” speech. It changed George’s life and he remained committed to King’s vision of nonviolent change. While he was Program Director, George co-founded Milwaukee’s alternative Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day event to emphasize King’s radical opposition to the three great evils of Racism, Materialism and Militarism and it grew to draw hundreds of people every year.

While serving on the national board of Peace Action, George was chosen to represent the organization in Hiroshima and Nagasaki on the anniversary of the atomic bombings. He spoke to tens of thousands of Japanese and told them of Milwaukee’s annual Lanterns for Peace event based on their tradition of floating lanterns in the river to remember those who died from the bombings.

Under George’s leadership, Peace Action Wisconsin grew in number and in reputation

as one of the outstanding chapters of Peace Action in the country. His travels to World Social Forums and international peace conferences, where he often spoke to thousands of people and was interviewed on hundreds of radio and TV shows, carried our name around the world. Since his retirement from Peace Action, he worked with the climate action group 350.org Milwaukee. He continued to present talks and workshops on the links between militarism and climate change. He served on the Milwaukee City/County Task Force on Climate Change and Economic Equity. His last public appearance was at City Hall with a powerful plea for the City Council to accept the Task Force’s proposal for climate action. It passed.

George passed away suddenly on July16 from a massive heart attack after an excellent time at Bastille Days where he ran into many friends, enjoyed the music, and ate good food. He had spent 5 months in the hospital with a serious blood infection and was trying to regain his strength and a normal life. Over 300 people attended his memorial celebration, many from out of state. Peace Action’s national president Kevin Martin flew in from DC to speak of his special friendship, respect and love for George.

We are grateful for his life and his work for a peaceful, just, and healthy world.

Contact the White House and Members of Congress

To reach your representative and senators:
Call the Congressional Switchboard at
202-224-3121.

Access www.congress.gov/members
Send letters to First St SE, Washington, DC 20004

How to Call the White House:

The Biden White House has very limited phone line hours. Call 1-202-456-1111 to be connected to the White House public comment line. Please note, you must call between the hours of 10am - 2pm CT, Tuesdays - Thursdays while the phone line is open. Send letters to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20500

CLUSTER BOMBS TO UKRAINE

by Harry Targ and Chris Breihan

The Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) is an international treaty to ban cluster bombs, a type of explosive weapon which scatters submunitions (“bomblets”) that can lie unexploded for years until they are disturbed. Often brightly-colored and shiny, these small objects have proven lethal to people—especially children—who find them, even years later. The treaty to ban them is supported by 123 nations, but the US, Russia, China, India, Israel, Pakistan, and Brazil, all of whom produce or stockpile significant quantities of cluster munitions, stand in opposition to this prohibition.

And now the Biden administration has decided to transfer cluster bombs to Ukraine. To their credit, 19 House progressives signed a letter objecting (including WI MC Mark Pocan).

US Under Secretary of Defense for Policy Colin Kahl, however, argued that the controversial US bomblets were necessary “to keep Ukraine in the fight,” (Brad Dress, *The Hill* 07/07/23) thereby guaranteeing that the death and mayhem from this war will continue into future generations.

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1001 E. Keefe Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53212

Call office for information on monthly sustainers.

If you are not receiving our *Peace Action Email Alerts* please email us your email address so you can keep in touch with current activities.

THANK YOU TO OUR PEACE ACTION VOLUNTEERS

- **George Martin Memorial** - Julie Enslow, Amy Enslow, Chris Breihan, Tom and Carol Seery, Jim and Eldeen Carpenter, Dan Folkman, Brian Verdin, Brian Bunzel, Kristina Paris, David Drake and many more
- **Lanterns for Peace** - Brian Bunzel, Chris Breihan, Liz Richard, Paul Host, Tom and Carol Seery, Ken Gass, Jim and Eldeen Carpenter, Bruce Ware, Annette Robertson, Kristina Paris, Cookie Anderson, Babette Grunow for set up and clean-up. Bill Richard for paddling his kayak to retrieve the lanterns
- **Lanterns for Peace Tablers** - Haiti Democracy Project, Casa Maria, Milwaukee Antiwar Committee, Julian Assange Defense Milwaukee, EXPO of Wisconsin, United Nations Association of Milwaukee, No Line 5 Dirty Oil Pipeline in WI, and Veterans for Peace Milwaukee Chapter 102
- **Mail crew**- Sue Cottrell, Marsha Vila, Eldeen Carpenter, Trish Beausang, John Payton, Roger Hansen, Tom Neibler, Joyce Ellwanger, David Lindberg, Babette Grunow, Tom Rodman. Thanks to Brian Verdin for bringing your wonderful collection of peace and justice flags to our actions.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK FOR PEACE ACTION OF WISCONSIN



PEACE CALENDAR : SEPTEMBER 2023 - OCTOBER 2023

September 1–4
The Golden Rule Peace Boat in Milwaukee,

Labor Day weekend- Greet and visit the Golden Rule, Lakeshore State Park – 500 N. Harbor Drive – Milwaukee, WI, hosted by Milwaukee Veterans for Peace Chapter 102. See ad on back page for schedule.

September 1, Friday, 6 pm Potluck Dinner to Greet the Crew of the Golden Rule, Zao Church, 2319 E Kenwood Blvd, Milwaukee, WI 53211. Hosted by Peace Action of WI and Veterans for Peace Milwaukee Chapter 102. Bring your favorite dish. No desserts, please.

September 5, Tuesday, 3:30 pm Reefpoint Marina, 2 Christopher Columbus Causeway. Welcome by County, Native American Color guard and Skip Twardosz, elder of the Potawatomi tribe. Proclamation by Mayor Cory Mason. Introduction to Golden Rule by Helen Jaccard, manager of Golden Rule Project. 4:00-5:30 pm “Open Boat”- Visit the boat. Meet the crew.

September 6, Wednesday, 1:00-5:00 pm “Open Boat”- Visit the boat at Reefpoint Marina. 1:00-1:45 pm Live music at Reefpoint Marina provided by Milwaukee native David HB Drake. 2:45-3:15 pm Live music by David HB Drake at Ground Zero Veterans Outreach in Union Grove, 1011 Main

Street. 3:15-4:30 pm Presentation at Ground Zero Veterans Outreach in Union Grove 7:00-8:15 pm Presentation at the First Presbyterian Church, 716 College Avenue. rcpjpeace@yahoo.com

September 9, Saturday, 10 am United Nations Association of Milwaukee Forum. Updates on the Milwaukee Sister City Program, speaker is Al Durtka. In-person at Zao Church, 2319 E Kenwood Blvd, Milwaukee WI 53211. Zoom link will be provided on www.unamilwaukee.org/ or peaceactionwi.org.

September 21, Thursday, 7 pm Zao Church, UN International Day of Peace, Peace Action of WI. Teach-In on the threat of nuclear war in the time of heightened global conflict, the risk of nuclear war with Russia over NATO expansion and the war in Ukraine, and with China because of continuing military build-up by Japan, South Korea and the US in the Pacific region.

September 24-30 The Defuse Nuclear War coalition week of action calling for diplomacy on the Ukraine war, taking ICBMs off hair-trigger alert, and reinstating the ABM, INF and Open Skies treaties.

September 24, Sunday, 11 am-3 pm Harbor Fest 2023, featuring the Milwaukee Boat Parade and Fest, 600 E. Greenfield Avenue, outside

of UWM’s School of Freshwater Sciences. Visit our Peace Action of WI table.

September 30-October 8 Global Days of Action for Peace in Ukraine, www.peaceinukraine.org/milwaukee_event23

September 30, Saturday, Noon-1:30 pm Milwaukee Stand for Peace in Ukraine, Intersection of Lincoln Memorial Drive and Lafayette Hill Road, Milwaukee, WI 53202. Ceasefire and Peace Talks! Stop the Killing!

October 9, Monday Indigenous People’s Day- activities to be announced

October 22, Sunday, 1 pm United Nations Association of Milwaukee program, celebrating the 78th Anniversary of the UN with Whitefish Bay High School Model UN. Whitefish Bay Public Library, 5420 N Marlborough Dr, Whitefish Bay. The presenter is Danielle Brian, Executive Director, Project on Government Oversight (POGO), a nonpartisan independent watchdog group that investigates and exposes waste, corruption, abuse of power, and when the government fails to serve the public or silences those who report wrongdoing. Washingtonian magazine has named Danielle as one of the most influential people shaping good government policy.

LANTERNS FOR PEACE 2023

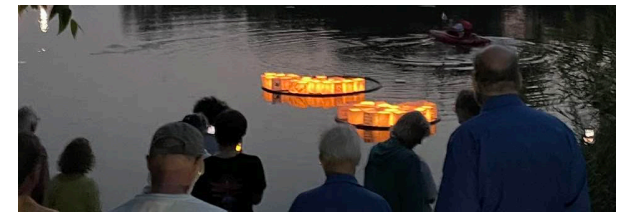
by Chris Breihan and Pam Richard

Peace Action of Wisconsin held its annual “Lanterns for Peace” remembrance of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6th at ZAO Church, with the floating of lanterns at Lincoln Park on August 9th. The Milwaukee Anti-war Committee, Veterans for Peace, and Peace Action co-hosted the event.

We began by making lanterns and folding paper cranes in the tradition of Sadako and the 1,000 Paper Cranes. Frogwater, and Glenn and Laurie Asch lifted the mood with their music.

After a moment of silence for anti-war and anti-nuclear leader Daniel Ellsberg, and a heart-wrenching poem from Hiroshima read by Peace Action’s Julie Enslow, National Peace Action President Kevin Martin took the podium calling for “No more Hiroshimas! No more Nagasakis! No more Hibakusha! No more war!” This is “the closest we’ve come to nuclear war since I was born,” said Martin. “With the war in Ukraine, the risk of escalation up to and including the possibility of nuclear war is unacceptably dire.”

Sara Onitsuka of the Milwaukee Anti-war Committee and a Japanese American, told of hearing about World War II from both sides of their family. One side was



incarcerated in the Japanese internment camps in the US, and the other was in Japan when the bombs dropped. Sara visited Hiroshima as a child, but also spoke about the US’s continued meddling in Japan post-WWII to the current day, and why this is important in today’s global context.

“Japan is a crucial ally to the US because of its usefulness to the US military. There are 85 US military bases in Japan,” mostly in Okinawa, “... whose people strongly oppose US military presence. These bases... are there to threaten, intimidate, and surveil China, the DPRK, and Russia.” ...

“We should be specific in our demands to get the US out of Japan, no war with China, and no to NATO and other US wars.”

After a reading of poetry by the Hibakusha read in Japanese and English by Teddy Breihan, our lanterns carried our messages out onto the waters of Lincoln Park.

We remember, but more importantly, we pledge “Never again.”



Banner Drop at the Brady Street Bridge • Photo : Clark Blomquist

TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR JULIAN ASSANGE

by Ann Batiza

About 15 people, largely PAWI members, helped to drop two giant, “Free Assange” banners over the Brady Street Bridge on Julian Assange’s birthday, July 3rd. Similar drops organized by Assange Defense occurred in Milwaukee, Madison, and Brookfield, WI, and in about 50 cities across the country.

Many thanks to all - especially to Jim and Eldeen Carpenter, Stephen Beall, and Tom Rodman who helped to bring materials down and stayed for the three-hour drop -

and to Tom for his videos posted on YouTube. We dropped the banner again during the flyover show on July 22 and will do this again.

Thank you also to Jim for helping me hand out flyers at the Oriental’s Oppenheimer showing and to Stephen for staffing the Assange table at Lanterns for Peace.

The situation for Assange is dire in that only one appeal within the U.K. courts is left. This means that he could be extradited when the High Court reconvenes in October for a final hearing. On the other hand, the court might drag its feet as it did recently for nine months without providing a ruling. Given the Kafkaesque rulings in the past, we fully expect a verdict of extradition.

Assange’s lawyers may be able to appeal that verdict to the European Court of Human Rights, but England has ignored its rulings in the past. Therefore, Assange could be extradited once the U.K. verdict comes in on “Day X.”

“Day X” events are being planned across Europe and the US. Stay tuned. In the meantime, please contact your representative and senators at 202-224-3121 to ask that the charges against Assange be dropped. Only the American public will be able to save him and our press freedom.



September 2: Lincoln Memorial/Michigan - Veterans for Peace Golden Rule Peace Boat

September 9: Lake Drive/Silver Spring

September 16: Forest Home/43rd

September 23: Capitol/Teutonia

September 30: Lincoln Memorial/Lafayette Hill

- Peace in Ukraine Coalition

Change Oct 7 92nd/Burleigh

- Stand with the School Sisters of Notre Dame

October 14: King/North

October 21: Capitol/Oakland

- Stand for Julian Assange and Press Freedom

October 28: 27th/Oklahoma

The Mobilizer Newsletter of
Peace Action
of Wisconsin

PUBLISHED BY PEACE ACTION OF WISCONSIN, INC.
Mobilizer Committee: Ann Batiza, Christie Breihan, Jim Carpenter, Babette Grunow, Pam Richard, and Harry Targ

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TRIBUTES TO



I knew George for decades and was impressed by his leadership and commitment towards international justice and peace. He was always unafraid to express his views about any issue involving human and civil rights violations, violence and racism, whether in this country or internationally.

George worked tirelessly to oppose the occupation and destruction of Iraq and the atrocities committed against the Iraqi people. George also took a strong stance against the Israeli occupation and the atrocities committed against the Palestinian people.

We can best honor George Martin by expanding our efforts to continue his work for peace based on justice.

Othman Atta, President, Milwaukee Islamic Society

...

What a terrific fierce and yet gentle warrior. He was such an inspiring force.

Bill Henning, UFPJ

We will miss his uncanny ability to educate, inspire and move us to action. That booming voice coupled with a Teddy bear personality and intense love for humanity was indeed unique. May his memory be a blessing.

Medea Benjamin, CODEPINK Co-founder

...

What a loss George's passing is - for our movement, for all of us. His legacy will remain with us, for inspiration and determination, and sometimes when we need to remember to laugh. George was one of our best -- an organizer with intersectionality deep in his bones, and a true internationalist.

I'll miss him -- as he remains part of our pantheon, among the greats.

Phyllis Bennis, Director, New Internationalism Project, Institute for Policy Studies

...

GEORGE MARTIN

This is a terrible loss. One of the things that made George so special was his ability to bring people together -- a rare quality these days. I remember so many gatherings that began with George's booming voice, "Hello Family!" George was a fierce nonviolent warrior for peace and justice, a kind and gentle soul, and a dear friend. He will be missed by many but never forgotten.

Jackie Cabasso, Director, Western States Legal Foundation

...

George was one of the good guys. His energy was infectious, his commitment was deep and his compassion was hard to match. I will miss my friend.

Leslie Cagan, United for Peace and Justice, lead organizer of national rallies and marches.

...

I am sure I speak for all peace activists who knew George when I say that he was enormously inspirational to us and his memory will continue to inspire us. We know his spirit will continue to guide us.

My work with George goes back 30 years when I first witnessed his amazing oratory skills at Vets Place Central. I am grateful that he turned those incredible skills and his unending energy for organizing into promoting a world without war.

Jim Carpenter, Peace Action Wis, End the Wars Coalition

...

George's entire purpose was to make the world a more peaceful and just place. That purpose was always and forever rooted in love. Love you and miss you, my friend.

Jarrett English, advocate with the ACLU

...

I am so grateful that I got to meet George at protests and at national Peace Action meetings. It is impossible to forget that joyful spirit. He seemed to have a direct link to an infinite source of optimism and love.

Sally Jones, New York State Peace Action

...

What a presence and for ... ce for change! I will always hear him on the United for Peace and Justice mike bellowing, "War, what is it good for? Absolutely nothing!" He will be missed.

Leslie Kielson, UFPJ.

...

I see George as a tremendous gift to the nation and the world. We are better for his long life's work. He's

gone, but oh, the gift his life has been.

Charlie Koenen, beekeeper and educator

...

He was one of the first few people who helped encourage me to do this work. His training and speeches were legendary.

Fabi Maldonado, former Racine County Supervisor and Green Party member

...

George could bring order, solidarity and love to a room full of people all at the same time. A great leader in the Green Party and beyond.

Gloria Mattered, Green Party

...

I'm so sorry for y/our loss. George was a light in so many lives. He always summoned the best in us and personified the vision and ideals of our era. I will keep him close in my thoughts and prayers. His inspiration is too important to let go, ever.

Jill Stein, Green Party

...

I have been mentored/trained in every aspect of social justice, climate justice, Peace Action, media and everything in between by Baba George. It has been a most fulfilling 3 1/2 years working with him on the city county task force on climate and economic equity. I am eternally, grateful for having been able to sit at his feet.

Supreme Moore Omokunde, WI State Representative

...

I'm so sorry to hear of George's passing! He definitely was a force of nature and we will miss him greatly!

Col. Ann Wright, Dissent: Voices of Conscience

