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The Mobilizer Newsletter of

# Peace Action of Wisconsin



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DATED MATERIAL



## PEACE ACTION OF WI SAYS “NO” TO WAR WITH IRAN! STOP ARMING ISRAEL!

Harry Targ with contributions from the PAWI Steering Committee

Today, the world faces multiple possibilities for war, starvation, death, and destruction.

In response to the attack on Israeli targets on October 7, 2023, Israel launched a genocidal war on all of the Palestinian people in Gaza and the West Bank. Indiscriminate attacks on Palestinian targets have involved hospitals, schools, universities, and entire communities desperately fleeing. According to the Gaza Health Ministry, 57,800 people have been killed including: journalists, international relief workers, UN employees, and others, but this number does not take into account those buried under the rubble or those who have died from starvation imposed by Israel. Seventy percent of Palestinians killed by Israel in residential housing are women and children. In fact, Harvard’s Dataverse has now released a study to say that 377,000 people are unaccounted for in Gaza.<sup>1</sup> The Israeli government is blocking vital food deliveries to Gaza while the few official food distribution sites have been determined to be a “tactic of war.”<sup>2</sup> The UN reported at least 410 people were killed when trying to get food and experts warn of mass starvation.

This war on the Palestinians was facilitated from 1948 until today by the United States, which has provided over \$300 billion in aid and military sales to Israel. In short, the United States is complicit in Israel’s genocidal war on the Palestinian people.

On June 13, 2025, Israel launched surprise air attacks on Iran, hitting military targets and assassinating Iranian leaders. Israel for years has called for the United States to support a war on Iran, alleging that Iran is building a nuclear arsenal that would be a threat to Israel’s survival. Even John Stewart recently ridiculed this trope that has been regularly proffered – over more than a decade.<sup>3</sup>

Seventeen US intelligence services recently concluded that there is no evidence that Iran is moving toward building an atomic bomb. The Director General of the IAEA<sup>4</sup> just said, “I indicated very clearly that we did not have elements to prove that Iran had a plan or a systematic effort towards a nuclear weapon.” While Iran has enriched some uranium up to 60%, journalist Richard Medhurst explains<sup>5</sup> that this break from the original 3+% enrichment agreement - which the US tore up during Trump’s first term and which had been agreed to earlier by Obama - resulted in a series of tit for tat negotiations over years to lift sanctions and get back to the original agreement. But the negotiations at each stage were sabotaged by the United States, Israel and their Western allies, for example, when Israel bombed Iran and when the US assassinated General Soleimani.

Before the US recently and illegally bombed Iran’s nuclear facilities (unsuccessfully on June 21) most diplomatic statements from Iran had indicated that they were prepared to resume negotiations. However, Iran’s top negotiator and members of the negotiating team were killed in an illegal strike by Israel. When one calls for more negotiations, there should be some assurance of safety for the negotiators.

While President Trump has entered the war on the side of Israel, the Israeli air war on Iran continues, and Iran is responding by bombing Israel. Seymour Hersh, based on his longtime intelligence contacts, wrote that US bombers would use US bunker buster bombs to attack Iran’s uranium enrichment facilities on June 25 - evidently off by just a few days. Trump himself has threatened to use tactical nukes to try to eradicate those underground facilities. If this threat comes true, this escalation could lead to World War III. Ironically, Iran - until 1979 - was a stalwart US ally that extended US

## Lanterns For Peace

Annual Commemoration of the Atomic Bombings of  
Hiroshima and Nagasaki

6:00 – 9:00 p.m.



**Saturday, August 9, 2025**

**Inside Zao Church, Rain or Shine, Accessible**

2319 E. Kenwood Blvd, Milwaukee

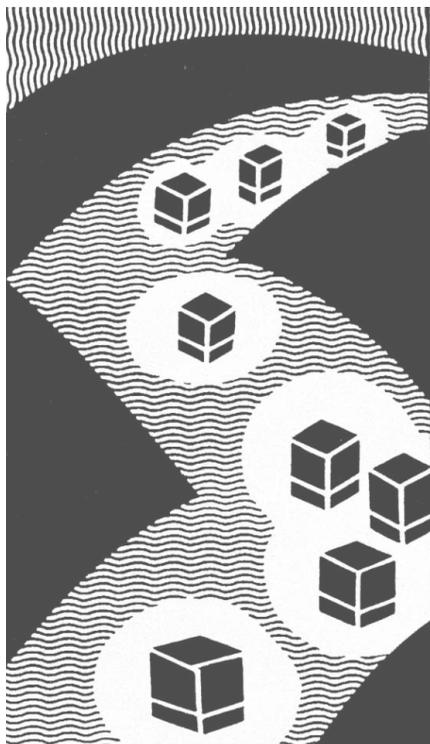
6:00 p.m. - Making of Japanese Lanterns & Origami Cranes

7:15 p.m. - Program

8:30 p.m. - Lantern Procession

Entertainment - Irish band *Ceol Cairde*, speakers, music, & poetry.

Organized by Peace Action Wisconsin  
Funded by the Annette J. Roberts & Joan R. Robertson  
Fund for World Peace, World Law, and Peace Education



# PEACE ACTION OF WI SAYS "NO" TO WAR WITH IRAN! STOP ARMING ISRAEL!

geopolitical and military presence to the Persian Gulf, closer to our purported real "enemy," China.

Peace Action of Wisconsin regards the current situation as very, very dangerous. The Palestinian people are the victims of violence and starvation. The US has moved ships into the area which could become the target of false flags (the USS Liberty was attacked by Israel during the Six Day War) and the United States has become an active participant by dropping its own bombs on Iran.

## PLEASE CALL YOUR REPRESENTATIVES (202-224-3121) to demand:

- the United States stop funding the Israeli military;
- the United States resume diplomacy to resolve differences in the region regarding nuclear weapons; and
- that that they sign onto the House<sup>6</sup> and Senate<sup>7</sup> War Powers Resolutions to require Congressional authorization for war and H.R. 3565<sup>8</sup> to stop providing Israel with bombs for illegal acts.

We urge all nations from the Middle East, the G7, and the Global South to resume conversations in the United Nations to expand diplomacy, end militarism, and pursue a peaceful world.

1 [https://www.cair.com/press\\_releases/cair-says-harvard-dataverse-report-proves-us-israeli-gaza-aid-concentration-sites-are-tactic-of-war-not-humanitarian-relief/](https://www.cair.com/press_releases/cair-says-harvard-dataverse-report-proves-us-israeli-gaza-aid-concentration-sites-are-tactic-of-war-not-humanitarian-relief/)  
 2 Ibid.  
 3 [https://x.com/Partisan\\_12/status/1935165863948337316](https://x.com/Partisan_12/status/1935165863948337316)  
 4 <https://x.com/Kahlissee/status/1936891664049819897>  
 5 <https://x.com/richimedhurst/status/1936220938808283508>  
 6 <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-concurrent-resolution/38>  
 7 [https://www.kaine.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/iran\\_war\\_powers\\_resolution.pdf](https://www.kaine.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/iran_war_powers_resolution.pdf)  
 8 <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/3565>

## MILWAUKEE JOINS SOLIDARITY FAST FOR GAZA

Jim Carpenter

On June 6, outside Milwaukee’s federal courthouse, members from several organizations held a press conference/rally to kick off Milwaukee’s Solidarity Fast for Gaza. This is part of a national solidarity fast led by Veterans for Peace and allies with a central “40 day fast” outside of the UN and satellite fasts around the world. As of June 23, there were 787 fasters. The fast is scheduled to end June 30 with escalation tactics to follow if the following demands are not met.

- 1) Resume sufficient humanitarian aid, under UN authority, to the people of Gaza.
- 2) Stop US arms to Israel NOW!

Here in Milwaukee, we set the goal of obtaining at least 40 person-days of fast by June 30. (One person fasting one day is one person-day). On June 6, we easily exceeded that - 29 people pledged 175 person days, with 5 attempting fasts over 20 days. Even fasting one day is sufficient. We stressed that individuals should not attempt fasts that are risky, even if it means not fasting.

On June 22, the UN issued a stark warning over the deepening crisis in Gaza, where civilians are being killed daily while trying to access food, water and medical care. “This is carnage,” Mr. Whittall, the top UN humanitarian official in the region, said. “It appears to be the erasure of Palestinian life from Gaza.”

Conditions across Gaza continue to deteriorate. Water wells have run dry or are located in dangerous areas, sanitation systems have collapsed, and disease is spreading rapidly. “Our warehouses stand empty,” Mr. Whittall said. “Displaced families flee with nothing – and we have nothing to give them.” He urged the international community to act: “We need a lasting ceasefire, accountability, and real pressure to stop this. This is the bare minimum.”

For coverage of the rally, go to: <https://wisconsinmuslimjournal.org/solidarity-fast-for-gaza-mke-calls-people-of-conscience-to-fast/>

For details of the Solidarity Fast, use this QR code



## IN MEMORIAM JIM MORRELL AUGUST 18, 1944 – MAY 31, 2025



Source: Ann Batiza. Jim Morrell was a stalwart protestor. Here he stands with Jim Carpenter on a cold morning in April of 2024 in front of a fundraiser for Tammy Baldwin, urging Tammy to “STOP FUNDING GENOCIDE.”

It is with deep sorrow that we report the passing of our beloved friend, activist and steering committee member, Jim Morrell. Perhaps some of you know Jim from the Saturday Stands at which Jim was a regular attendee. He often held a simple PEACE sign.

Jim came to us from Washington, D.C., where he had been the Co-founder and research director of the Center for International Policy from 1975 to 2002. Subsequently, and until the present, he was the founder and executive director of the Haiti Democracy Project. His activism stretches all the way back to his work with the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee to register voters in Mississippi in 1965.

He was a frequent visitor to our office, a generous funder of or actions, and a constant presence at protests against war - in particular against the genocide in Gaza.

In keeping with Jim’s environmental consciousness, he was laid to rest in a green ceremony at Milwaukee’s Forest Home Cemetery.

At our Annual Picnic on June 21, we honored Jim with a display of some pictures of his activism while Jerry Hills played several songs for Jim on his native American flute.

We send our deepest condolences to Jim’s partner and our friend, Judy Gaskell.

## JOIN US / RENEW



\_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_ Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ \$30 individual \_\_\_\_ \$10 limited income

\_\_\_\_ \$50 household \_\_\_\_ \$100 supporter

\_\_\_\_ \$1000 lifetime membership

Additional donation of support \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks out to Peace Action of Wisconsin  
 P.O. Box 11126 • Shorewood, WI, 53211

**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.**

## TELL CONGRESS: STOP THE GAZA GENOCIDE!

### CALL 202-224-3121 for the Congressional Switchboard

Please call Senators Baldwin and Johnson and express your disgust at their unwillingness to block weapons that Israel is using in a genocide. Neither voted for the Joint Resolution of Disapproval on April 3 that would have blocked the sale of such weapons.

Call the White House at 202-456-1111 Tuesday-Thursday between 10am - 2pm CT. You can leave a message on the public comment line.

## NO TO GENOCIDE! NO ARMS FOR ISRAEL!

# STAND FOR PEACE

July 5: Lincoln Memorial/La Fayette Hill  
 12: Center/Fond du Lac  
 19: Cleveland/43rd  
 26: St. Paul/Water

August 2: King/North  
 9: No Stand/Lanterns for Peace  
 16: Lincoln Memorial/Michigan  
 23: Silver Spring/Santa Monica  
 30: Lincoln Memorial/La Fayette Hill

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**Peace Action**  
 of Wisconsin

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## PEACE CALENDAR JULY - AUG. 2025

PLEASE CHECK OUR ONLINE CALENDAR FOR DATES & TIMES OF ACTIONS FOR A CEASEFIRE IN GAZA AND FOR PALESTINE.

**Thursday, July 4, 1:00 pm**, People's Independence Day March at Red Arrow Park, Milwaukee.

**Saturday, July 12**, 24 Hour International Peace Wave by Zoom at <https://ipb.org/events/peace-wave-2025/>

**Saturday–Sunday, July 19–20 (TBD)**, Protest the Milwaukee Air & Water Show McKinley Park & at Bradford Beach, Milwaukee.

**Saturday, August 9, 6:00PM**, Lanterns for Peace at Zao MKE Church, 2319 E. Kenwood Blvd., Milwaukee

### ONGOING ACTIONS

**Tuesdays at 8:00 pm**, The Grass Is Greener on Riverwest Radio 104.1FM. Also streaming at riverwestradio.com.

**Thursdays, Noon–12:30 PM**, Crosses for Peace – Women in Black Vigil for Justice Against War. Main St. & 4th St., Platteville. Contact: Deborah Buffton, buffton@yahoo.com

**Saturdays**, Weekly Driftless Palestinian Solidarity Vigil at Decker St. & N. Main St., Viroqua, WI

**Saturdays, 12:30 PM**, Racine Coalition for Peace and Justice Stand for Peace on the first Saturday of the month at the Martin Luther King Plaza, 909 Dr. Martin Luther King Drive, Racine. On other Saturdays at the NW intersection of Highways 20 and 31 in Racine. Drive into the Kohl's parking lot and park near the AT&T store, 5502 Washington Ave., Racine.

**First Saturdays, 11:00 AM**, Fox Valley Peace Coalition, Vigil in Appleton at College Ave. & Appleton St. For info: ronnajeane61@gmail.com

**Third Friday of every month**, DSA Movie Night at Zao Church, 2319 E. Kenwood Blvd., Milwaukee.

**On the 23rd of each month**, WISDOM leaders and others around the country take a moment to remember people in prison — especially the people in Solitary Confinement who are locked alone in a small room for 23 hours every day.



Peace Action of WI and others commemorated children killed in Gaza using the imagery of shrouds along Lincoln Memorial Drive.

## MEDIA COVER PAWI'S PROTEST IN RESPONSE TO US BOMBING

Ann Batiza



[Caption: Source: Ann Batiza. Screenshot of Jim Carpenter from CBS58 news on June 22, 2025, during the emergency protest.]

Peace Action of Wisconsin (PAWI) responded to the illegal US bombing of Iran and the ongoing genocide in Gaza with an emergency protest on Sunday, June 22. Led by co-chair, Jim Carpenter, our program manager, Sabine Wolter, posted a graphic on social media and alerted our membership to the 5 p.m. protest on the steps of the Federal Building in Milwaukee. We also sent out a media advisory.

This preparation paid off in both participation and media coverage. Despite the extreme heat, around 30 people came, many with their own signs and many new to our group. Jim Carpenter led the event while other speakers included James Hinden, Khalid Abukhamireh, and Ann Batiza. Then the crowd took out their phones to call Ron Johnson's office. Participants had been given a flyer with information about three related resolutions or acts including the Senate<sup>1</sup> (S.J. Res. \_\_) and House<sup>2</sup> (H. Con. Res. 38) War Powers Resolutions to stop war without Congressional authorization. In addition, we asked participants to call Congress to support H.R. 3565<sup>3</sup> to stop arming Israel's genocide in Gaza.

1 [https://www.kaine.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/iran\\_war\\_powers\\_resolution.pdf](https://www.kaine.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/iran_war_powers_resolution.pdf)

2 <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-concurrent-resolution/38>

3 <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/3565>

4 <https://www.tmj4.com/news/milwaukee-county/we-do-not-want-this-milwaukee-residents-protest-bombing-of-iran-nuclear-sites>

5 Ibid.

6 <https://www.cbs58.com/news/milwaukee-protesters-oppose-us-bombin-campaign-of-iranian-nuclear-sites-polls-show-americans-concerned-by-iranian-threat>

7 <https://www.cato.org/blog/americans-dont-want-another-war-middle-east>

Media amplified our voices. Kaylee Stal<sup>4</sup> of WTMJ4 captured our primary message by writing, “Among several calls to action, Peace Action [of] Wisconsin urged Congress to support War Powers Resolutions in both chambers and to end US weapons funding to Israel.” Her broadcast featured PAWI member Chris Broms who said, “I just reached my breaking point with what’s going on in Gaza, and I couldn’t stay silent. That’s why I’m here.”

The broadcast also showed Jim Carpenter saying, “We need a world without war—period.” You can find this coverage of our rally and the subsequent rally by the Party for Socialism and Liberation (PSL) at Zeidler Park under the WTMJ4 headline, “We do not want this”; Milwaukee residents protest bombing of Iran nuclear sites.”<sup>5</sup>

CBS58’s Adam Rife<sup>6</sup> also covered the protests. Again, Jim Carpenter was featured. When asked if the protest means Peace Action of WI is unconcerned about Iran’s nuclear program, he responded, “Peace Action is concerned with all nuclear weapons. We should have a world without nuclear weapons.” In CBS58’s write-up, Ann Batiza was quoted as saying, “I think people need to rise up and say, Enough is enough! And we don’t want any more endless wars.”

Fox6 News featured the Zeidler Park protest in its coverage and interviewed PSL’s Robert Penner who reiterated many of our messages. He was quoted as saying, “There’s no imminent threat to the United States or Israel, and so we are horrified.” He also said, “Cut off all aid and weapons to Israel, stop the genocide against the Palestinians.”

While CBS58 claimed Americans were concerned about an Iranian threat, the Cato Institute’s reporting<sup>7</sup> of a YouGov poll conducted prior to the US strike found, “Majorities of Democrats (65%), Republicans (53%), and independents (61%) all agree they do not want the US military involved” in Israel’s war with Iran. In fact, only 16% of Americans think the US should get involved.

How you feel about the US bombing Iran, the continuing genocide in Gaza, and the related legislation in Congress? Please call 202-224-3121 to let your Congressional representatives know how you feel.

# ACTIVISTS

## WI DEMOCRATIC PARTY CONVENTION PASSES “BLOCK THE BOMBS” RESOLUTION

Ann Batiza

At the behest of Jim Carpenter, Ann Batiza, Heba Mohammed and Jim submitted a floor resolution at the Democratic Party of Wisconsin (DPW) State Convention that was held in the Wisconsin Dells on June 14-15. The resolution said that the DPW thanked Representative Mark Pocan for co-sponsoring a “Block the Bombs Act, H.R. 3565” and urged the Wisconsin Congressional Delegation to sign on as well. This act prevents the transfer of certain weapons to Israel without a clear indication of what they will be used for and assurance they will be used in compliance with international law.

The floor resolution that was approved at the convention 236 - 30 is provided below:

### The DPW Thanks Rep. Pocan and Urges the WI Congressional Delegation to Join him in Co-Sponsoring “Block the Bombs Act, H.R.3565”

WHEREAS, Congressman Pocan co-sponsored H.R.3565, blocking bombs to Israel; WHEREAS, Senator Sanders states there’s a mountain of evidence demonstrating that American weapons are being used in violation of US and international law; WHEREAS, UNICEF notes 50,000 children killed or injured since October 2023 and asks, “What level of horror must be livestreamed before the international community takes bold, decisive action to force the end of this ruthless killing of children?”; and, WHEREAS, The Democratic Party base is overwhelmingly supportive of restricting weapons to Israel; THEREFORE, RESOLVED, The DPW thanks Representative Pocan and urges Wisconsin’s Congressional Delegation to co-sponsor H.R.3565. 99 words  
Submitted by Jim Carpenter and Ann Batiza, 4th CD; Heba Mohammad 5th CD

Heba Mohammed, Ron Jansen, and their colleagues spoke to this motion at the convention. They discussed the horrors of the genocide in Gaza and provided

statistics about the opposition of young Democrats to the genocide. Heba indicated that party nominee Kamala Harris’s support for the genocide in Gaza - continuing the Biden administration policies - had lost her a substantial number of young voters in the 2024 election.

Ann Batiza also spoke and noted that Israel had recently attacked Iran with US bombs - adding aggression to its ongoing war crime of genocide. She said this aggression was again based on lies about weapons of mass destruction. She said, “With this resolution, we are asking the Democratic Party of Wisconsin to be on the right side of history.”

Perhaps advanced preparation accounted for the success of the vote. Jim created a flyer alerting delegates to this floor resolution that was handed out the night before. Ann created poster-sized images of a Palestinian flag with the words STOP ARMING ISRAEL that was handed out to delegates before the vote.

The vote was covered by the *Journal Sentinel’s* Dan Bice. The article said:

“Also, delegates overwhelmingly endorsed a resolution to urge Wisconsin’s congressional delegation to back US Rep. Mark Pocan’s bill aimed at restricting the sale and transfer of certain US weapons to Israel. “Pocan’s bill is called the “Block the Bombs Act.” Democratic activists voted 236 to 30 to support the resolution.”

At the event, Representative Moore asked Jim to take a picture with her as she received information about H.R. 3565. However, Representative Moore still has not signed on to this Act.



Source: Ann Batiza. Eldeen (far left) and Jim (far right) Carpenter celebrate the passing of the “Block the Bombs” resolution with US Representative Mark Pocan and State Representative Francesca Hong.

# IN ACTION

## MILLIONS RALLY FOR “NO KINGS DAY”

Christy Breihan

“No Kings Day” rallies brought out an estimated 5 million people across the US on June 14, the same day Pres. Trump held his military parade in Washington.

In Milwaukee, 10,000 people gathered in Cathedral Square while many hundreds more gathered in the suburbs. Police estimates said 15,000 marched in Madison while thousands more turned out in communities across the state.

One participant described the day as “part of a collective outpouring of anger and understanding that we must fight for and demand justice.”

The thousands of creative homemade signs at the rally reflected the breadth of the issues that moved people to participate. Freedom of speech and due process, as well as respect for the US constitution probably topped the list. “The only monarchs we want flutter in from Mexico,” said one decorative sign. Flags of Palestine, Mexico, and the US fluttered above us as others declared their support for reproductive rights, LGBTQ+ rights, protecting the environment and respecting the sovereignty of Canada and Greenland while opposing war with China or Iran.

Othman Atta was among the several speakers who spoke of the need to end US complicity in the genocide in Gaza and led the masses in a chant to “Free, free Palestine.” For many participants who came to support abortion rights or immigrant rights, this may have been their first time demanding justice for the people of Palestine. This mutual recognition of one another’s demands is why such rallies are so crucial to building movements that can effect change. They allow us to meet our allies and nurture the sense of community that gives us strength for the challenges ahead.

Source: Ann Batiza. Members of Peace Action of WI join other protestors in front of Derco in Milwaukee.

## RALLY AGAINST MILWAUKEE WAR PROFITEERS

Christy Breihan

Members of Peace Action of Wisconsin joined dozens of others mobilized by Milwaukee4Palestine on May 22 to commemorate Nakba Day, in a rally outside the Derco manufacturing complex on Milwaukee’s northwest side.

Why Derco? Because Derco (a wholly-owned subsidiary of notorious weapons manufacturer Lockheed Martin) is the sole distributor of the engine and parts powering the F-16 fighter aircraft being used by Israel to bomb Palestine. Manufactured by Pratt and Whitney (a subsidiary of Raytheon) for the planes made by Lockheed Martin, these engines are stored, repaired, and shipped by Derco, making this company “the lifeline of the entire Israeli air force,” according to a Milwaukee4Palestine statement. They power the jets that are “maiming and murdering” innocent people of Palestine, and have already killed at least 18,000 children. Derco is profiting from Israel’s genocidal war on Gaza.

Israel’s expansion of its war into Iran will present the dealers of death with even more opportunity for profit, as Lockheed is building F-35 fighter jets for Israel to join the fleet of F-15 and F-16s already in operation there.

Protesters rallied outside of Derco to raise awareness of this company’s direct role in these US/Israeli wars. We demand that Derco sever its ties with Israel. We call for an immediate arms embargo to stop the flow of weapons there. And we call for Derco to confine its business to commercial aircraft and get Lockheed Martin and other arms manufacturers out of Milwaukee!



**Thank you to Stand for Peace participants who have braved all sorts of weather to take a stand for peace at the weekly Stands: Barbara Aho, Ann Batiza, Steven Beall, Christy Breihan, Eldeen Carpenter, Jim Carpenter, Mary Devitt, Sandra Edlund, Babette Grunow, Art Heitzer, Jerry Hills, Chris Jazewski, Lauro Kukor-Shea, Rita Maniotis, Chris Broms, Tom Niebler, Pam Richard, Tom Rodman, Dr. Joe Shaker, Steve Shea, Deb Slakes, Roberta Thurstin, Don Timmerman, Kelly Kracht, Kamie Kracht, and Mary Jo Travis. We encourage all Peace Action WI members to join us there as often as you can. Signs and flags are provided. Thank you also to our mailing party!**