**Nonviolence Trainers Build Capacity**

Twenty-two people gathered at the scenic Cayuga Nature Center near Ithaca, New York, on April 2-4, 2004, for a weekend training for nonviolence trainers organized by Syracuse Peace Council and partially funded by a grant from the A.J. Muste Memorial Institute. The training was designed to make upcoming nonviolent actions more effective by: (1) developing new trainers and (2) improving the skills of existing trainers.

The training brought together activists from many parts of upstate New York, as well as from New York City and Massachusetts to work through sections on nonviolence, group process and consensus, role plays, and legal issues. The four lead trainers also presented or led exercises on the role of the facilitator, designing agendas, addressing oppression issues, incarceration, affinity groups and health issues related to direct action. At the end of the training, participants were tired but much better prepared to work as nonviolence trainers. “My favorite aspects were the role play section and the part where we facilitated a section,” wrote one participant in the final evaluation. “I felt these two really contributed to what I consider to be a real breakthrough experience overall.”

A 125-page resource manual for nonviolence trainers was provided to participants to assist them as they return to their communities to build the movement for peace and justice. For more information, contact Syracuse Peace Council, 315-472-5478, spc@peacecouncil.net, www.peacecouncil.net.

—Andy Mager, Syracuse Peace Council

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**Nancy Muste Baker, 1916 - 2004**

Nancy Muste Baker (born Ann Dorothy Muste in 1916) was the first child of A.J. Muste and Anna Huizinga Muste. She was born in Newton, Massachusetts, where A.J. had his first parish. Nancy’s earliest memories were of Brookwood Labor College which her father led after he had organized the American Workers Party. At Brookwood, the family lived in the midst of a community of young people committed to workers’ rights and to strengthening their abilities as labor organizers. Nancy would talk about the people she met there and her family’s role in the community. She particularly remembered their participation in Saturday evening entertainments – one of the songs they sang was The Bomb Song where Nancy and her quite-staid parents sang, “Oh, it’s sister Jenny’s turn to throw the bomb...”

Nancy graduated at the head of her class from Katonah High School, where Brookwood was located. Through the generosity of wealthy pacifists, she was able to go to Swarthmore College but, dreadfully homesick, she finished her degree at Barnard, where she made lifelong friendships. After college, Nancy married John Baker (her high school sweetheart), the son of an intelligent but impoverished family. Nancy and John (known to all as Jack) struggled to make ends meet during the last years of the depression. Jack worked first as a manager at the A&P, and then by dint of ability and diligence as a draftsman in the shipbuilding industry. Nancy served

*continued on page 2*
David Dellinger, 1915-2004

“The best tribute to a dead leader is to carry on his work—or better still to carry on one’s work more creatively. When the dead leader is A.J. Muste, one will try to work more persistently, more shrewdly and with appreciation of all those who work by different methods or at a different pace.”

These words opened the introduction of the A.J. Muste memorial issue of Liberation magazine in September 1967. They were written by David Dellinger, who died on May 25 at the age of 88. Thirty-six years later, they could just as accurately be applied to Dave's life and work.

Dave was something of a protégé of A.J.’s and worked closely with him from the World War II period until A.J.’s death. Dave was, along with A.J. and Barbara Deming, one of the best known and most influential pacifists of the late 20th Century. In addition to serving with A.J. as an editor of Liberation, Dave worked directly with him on the Quebec-to-Guantanamo Walk for disarmament, the Assembly of Unrepresented Peoples, and the Fifth Avenue Peace Parade Committee.

He was one of the “Union 8”, a group of seminarians who in 1942 chose to refuse their automatic conscientious objector status by refusing to register for the draft at all. He served several prison terms during World War II for these actions. Never one to pass up an opportunity to agitate, Dave was involved in protests against racial segregation in the prison system. He is best known for his membership in the Chicago 8; a group of protest organizers who were indicted for conspiracy during the 1968 Democratic National Convention.

Throughout his life, Dave was an ecumenical activist. While maintaining his personal commitment to pacifism and nonviolence, he worked closely with a wide range of groups and organizers. During the late 1980s, the Muste Institute worked with Dave’s associates to create a special fund to support him while he completed work on his autobiography From Yale to Jail. In 1993, the Institute also supported a book tour which promoted the book’s publication.

Dave spent the last thirty years of his life in rural Vermont, teaching, writing and continuing to organize and participate in a broad number of protests. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Peterson, five children, two sisters and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. One of his sons, Raymond, predeceased him.

—Murray Rosenblith

Zinn Film Hits Theaters

“Howard Zinn: You Can’t Be Neutral on a Moving Train,” a documentary by Deb Ellis and Denis Mueller about the famous historian and activist, is being released theatrically this summer. The film, which was supported with a grant from the Muste Institute and previewed in New York last October at a special Institute-sponsored screening, will be aired in June in Portland, Oregon, and in Provincetown and Boston, Massachusetts. The film will open for its commercial run at New York City’s Cinema Village starting on July 23. Some screenings will feature special appearances by Howard Zinn. For details, see http://firstrunfeatures.com/howardzinn.html


—Shirley Baker
New Grants, April 2004

DENVER JUSTICE AND PEACE COMMITTEE
Denver, CO: $1,500
Since 1979, the Denver Justice and Peace Committee has promoted peace and economic justice for Latin America. This grant goes for the Global Solutions to Violence Education Project, educating students about international issues, creating future activists and leaders around issues of globalization, human rights and nonviolent conflict resolution.

EQUAL JUSTICE CENTER/MIRA
Austin, TX: $1,500
This grant goes to the Poultry Workers Justice Campaign, a joint project of the Mississippi Immigrants Rights Alliance (MIRA) and Equal Justice Center’s Mississippi Poultry Workers Justice Campaign. The two groups bring together Latin American immigrant workers and African American workers in Mississippi with supportive community leaders to hold the poultry industry accountable for abusive labor practices.

GROUND ZERO FOR PEACE
Brooklyn, New York: $1,000
Ground Zero for Peace was founded by firefighters, EMTs and paramedics who assisted in rescue and recovery efforts at the World Trade Center on September 11th, 2001. These emergency “first responders” seek to promote nonviolent alternatives to war and create fellowship with other first responders throughout the world. This grant goes for a trip by GZFP members to Afghanistan to meet with Afghan colleagues, and to raise awareness in the US about the extent and impact of US military operations in Afghanistan.

HOLY LAND TRUST
Bethlehem, Palestine: $1,000
Holy Land Trust was founded in 1997 to strengthen and improve the lives of children, families and communities in the Middle East through community development and economic assistance programs. This grant goes for Palestinian Nonviolence Support Program trainings, seeking to develop a strong, unified, indigenous Palestinian nonviolent movement, cultivate skilled community leaders, to inspire and attract Palestinians to the nonviolent movement and publicize these efforts.

MIROVNA AKECIJA
Prilep, Macedonia: $1,000
Mirovna Akecija (Peace Action) was formed in 2001 by the Group for Antimilitarist Action (GAMA) and Antimilitarism, Anti-Violence (AMAN). This grant goes for an international seminar on conscientious objection and peace, organized with War Resisters International in June 2004 in Ohrid, Macedonia. The seminar seeks to increase the visibility of conscientious objection in Macedonia and strengthen networking among CO groups.

NEBRASKANS AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY
Lincoln, Nebraska: $1,500
Nebraskans Against the Death Penalty was founded in 1981 after Governor Charles Thone vetoed a bill passed by Nebraska’s legislature which would have repealed the state’s death penalty law. This grant goes for the Rural Empowerment Project, an effort to expand the statewide movement to end the death penalty by building local leadership in Nebraska’s rural communities.

PEACEFUL TOMORROWS
Cary, NC: $1,000
September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows was founded in February 2002 by relatives of 9/11 victims to promote effective, nonviolent solutions to terrorism and to acknowledge their common experience with all people similarly affected by violence. This grant goes for the “Stonewalk 2004” Project, highlighting the issues of civilian casualties and the human costs of war during the election campaign.

SAN DIEGO MILITARY COUNSELING PROJECT
San Diego, CA: $1,500
The San Diego Military Counseling Project was founded in 2003 to provide military service personnel with information about their rights and discharge options and support their efforts to speak out, organize and protest against military activities. This grant goes for production and distribution of outreach and publicity materials.

SER PAZ
Guayaquil, Ecuador: $10,000 (SFE)
This grant from the Institute’s donor-advised Sheilah’s Fund East goes for the work of SER PAZ with high-school students and at-risk youth in Guayaquil, Ecuador, providing peer conflict resolution and education toward building a culture of peace.

WAR RESISTERS LEAGUE
New York, NY: $1,500
War Resisters League, founded in 1923, advocates Gandhian nonviolence as the method for creating a democratic society free of war, racism, sexism, and human exploitation. This grant goes for the “Stop the Merchants of Death” Campaign, a speaking campaign about the companies which profit from wars, invasions and occupations.

YOUTH INTERVENTION FOR PEACE PROJECT
Bujumbura, Burundi: $2,000 (INTF)
Youth Intervention for Peace Project seeks to confront the negative forces which lead young people in Burundi to participate in inter-ethnic violence for political ends, and to introduce them to nonviolent methods of action as a viable and constructive alternative. This grant from the Muste Institute’s International Nonviolence Training Fund (INTF) goes for a nonviolence training program for youth in Bujumbura this summer.
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