



PAX EDUCARE
THE CONNECTICUT CENTER FOR PEACE EDUCATION

Vol. 4-1
Notes from the Director

Spring 2006

A member of the Pax Educare board asked me a short time ago, "so..what keeps you going?" He meant, I believe, what sustains you over the long haul in the work that you are doing? It was a fair question, one that I have pondered since then. I know that I do keep going and continue to love the work I do. This is in good part due to support from folks like you who are receiving this newsletter. Though we are growing, we are still a small, grass-roots organization, on a "shoe-string" budget, so it is certainly not for monetary reasons that I persist. And I hesitate to use the personal pronoun because, though I am the sole "staff" of Pax Educare, it is through the support and hands-on help from volunteers and the student interns we have had that have really made so much difference in our moving forward with our mission.

Pax Educare is unique, at least in Connecticut, bringing together the often disparate groups of academics, educators and activists in the pursuit of teaching peace. It helps knowing that we can be of service to the community in providing resources and vehicles for people to network and dialogue on so many important issues. It helps that people tell us they learned a great deal at and were inspired by a particular event we sponsored, enjoyed a book they checked out or a resource or curricula we recommended. It helps that I believe education is the most important vehicle for social change. As Maria Montessori stated "all politics can do is keep us out of war". And it also helps that I am sustained and nurtured by my spiritual community, the Hartford Friends Meeting.

It also helps to keep our eyes on the real and positive forces at work in the world. Not only are so many folks doing wonderful work to promote social change, there is research showing that we, in fact, are a more peaceful world than we may realize. A recent Human Security Report tells us that, contrary to what we read about and hear in the media and contrary to popular assumptions, largely because of global peacebuilding and conflict intervention activities, many of them UN sponsored and developed, the number of armed conflicts has actually declined 40% in the last fifteen years. Genocide is down and the number of people in refugee camps has dropped world-wide. Though current intra-state conflicts most often involve gross human rights abuses, compared to wider wars, the number of people actually killed is declining. The pundits argue that some of these statistics depend on definitions, especially taking into account disease and malnutrition and other factors of structural violence. These criticisms have validity. Nevertheless, the data is there. <http://www.humansecurityreport.info/>.

There is real and credible research going on in the field of peace learning. Working with the United States Institute of Peace on a small project on their early history has led me to appreciate the kind of work that the Institute does and the hurdles that were overcome for its establishment. It will soon become a major presence on the Mall in Washington DC. And meeting three energetic Brandeis students at a recent New England Peace Studies Association gathering and the work they are doing promoting the development of a Department of Peace was truly inspiring.

*And finally, some really good news came out of a recent issue of *Sojourner* magazine. America's first Truth and Reconciliation Commission has convened, healing a divided community in Greensboro, North Carolina around a 1979 Klan murder in which five civil rights activist were killed.*

*Hope abounds. Here at Pax Educare we continue to enjoy visitors stopping by. Peek inside for upcoming events, including a March 26th return engagement with *Magical Strings*, this year to be held at *La Paloma Sabanera* coffee shop and bookstore in Hartford. Mary Lee Morrison*

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56 Arbor Street

Pax Educare is a resource center for the research, study and the teaching of peace

The Mission of Pax Educare is to link families, educators, students and community practitioners to partnering opportunities and resources in order to help promote the processes and skills needed to build a more peaceful world. In doing so, we seek to answer the question-how do we educate for a more peaceful tomorrow?

Some New Holdings in Our Library

1000 Peacewomen Across the Globe, published by the Association 1000 women for the Nobel Peace Prize 2005. The book highlights in one page biographies the lives of 1000 women world-wide who are working globally for peace, reconciliation and many risking their lives to transform lives from poverty and despair to hope. It is indexed by country and includes an index by key words. Some women are well known. Others are not. US women include Betty Burkes, Betty Reardon, Cora Weiss, Grace Paley, Barbara Lee, Elise Boulding and Connecticut's own Kate Donnelly. A wonderful resource for the study of women, peace and development.



The Power of Nonviolence: the Way of the Cross, a step by step curriculum guide for middle and high school students by K.K. Kuriakose. A gift from the author. A resource book with biblical and theological insights to teach nonviolence.

The Power of UN Ideas: Lessons from the First 60 Years from the United Nations History Project Series, by Richard Jolly, Louis Emmerij and Thomas Weiss. Highlights little known but important pioneering work by the UN in the economic and social arena.

Seeking Peace by Johann Christoph Arnold with a preface by Thich Nhat Hanh. Explores humankind's multifaceted search for peace and draws on the world's historical and contemporary spiritual traditions. Peace has nothing to do with passive resignation and everything to do with living honestly before God, others and the light of our own conscience. Gift from Sr. Mary Louise Rouleau.

In the Name of Democracy: American War Crimes in Iraq and Beyond edited by Jeremy Brecher, Jill Cutler and Brendan Smith. Features chapters by local activists John Humphries of Reclaiming the Prophetic Voice and Marela Zacharias of Latinos Contra La Guerra.

A Voice From the Holocaust by Eve Soumerai and Carol D. Schultz. A memoir of a Berlin childhood (Eve's) and subsequent life as a Jewish refugee in the United Kingdom, who later returned to post Nazi Germany, seeking answers on the Holocaust. For middle and high school students. Gift from E. Soumerai.

Upcoming Pax Educare Events

Events are always unfolding so stay tuned.....

Magical Strings, with Philip and Pam Boulding, returns for their FOURTH Hartford engagement sponsored by Pax Educare March 26th at 3 PM. This year's concert will be at La Paloma Sabanera coffeehouse and bookstore on Capitol Avenue in Hartford (corner of Babcock). www.lapalomasabanera.com Parking is available on the street and at the Lyceum, 227 Lawrence Street. Plan to arrive early. Seating will be limited. www.magicalstrings.com

Student comments on HIPP

*I have learned what to do when someone tries to hurt me
I have learned "I" messages when I am upset
To solve problems never say you "can't"
I learned how to be more cooperative
Not to hurt people when I get angry
It was fun..a great experience*

HIPP (Help Increase the Peace) Youth Training, Advanced Level March 30-31. We had a successful Basic in January and look forward to our youth trainers again joining us for the middle level workshop. HIPP youth leaders from Burr and Watkinson joined us in leading the workshop. We had several community members join us, including Erini Orsaris of the Hartford Area Mediation Project.

A **national gathering of HIPP facilitators**, youth and adults, will be held in Boston May 27-29th. We are hopeful we can take several of our trained youth to participate, share resources and continue to be energized by this inspiring program. Burr and Watkinson schools and Pax Educare



are currently working with Shiela Mullen, staff member at Watkinson, to seek grant funding for our coalition HIPP work to encourage staff from area schools and organizations to attend our workshops. For more information on HIPP, contact the American Friends Service Committee, Washington D.C. office <http://www.afsc.org/hipp.htm> or Pax Educare. The latest national HIPP newsletter reports that, according to the results of a year-long research study by Kathryn Liss, national coordinator, HIPP has been shown to have a positive impact on the lives of those who participate.

Plans are in the works for a collaborative research project on HIPP with Donn Weinholtz, faculty member in the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions at the University of Hartford and one of his doctoral students who will work with the staff and students of Watkinson and Burr schools and Pax Educare on this project.

The work of HIPP and the Burr-Watkinson-Pax Educare, Inc. coalition devoted to teaching youth the skills of nonviolence were recently featured in the *15th Anniversary 2004 Report of the Governor's Prevention Partnership*. We are grateful to the GPP for their generous grant funding two years ago which provided the solid grounding for the development of the coalition. www.preventionworksct.org.

New England Peace Studies (NEPSA) sponsored colloquium at Clark College March 11, "Teaching Peace, Conflict Resolution and Nonviolence: Fostering Community and Sharing Resources among Secondary Schools and College-Level Educators" will bring together secondary and higher education teachers for a day of sharing. The symposium will feature many resources for teaching peace. The event is free but a charge of \$10 for lunch will be incurred, as well as a charge for any copied materials purchased. Because of the nature of the

Thanks to the following contributors to Pax Educare since October 1, 2005: Sandra and James Napolitan, Kiki Eglinton, Jeanne and Anthony Morasini, Rev. Jervis Zimmerman, Margaret Hardesty and Richard Socwell, Ana Lachalier, Ellen and Scott Nielsen, John and Beverly Stamm, Lenora Grizzell, Karen Swamm, Cynthia and James Reik, Barbara and Bill Taylor, Jim Secoolish, Amanda Kapwell, Ginny and Tim Allen, Diane and Donn Weinholtz, Judy Hyde and Helen Armstrong, Ruth and Larry Alexander, Ray and Carolann Boucher, Kathy Schiaroli, Joy and Roger Floyd, World Affairs Council and its director, Felicity Harley, Ellen and Dick Klinck, Lorraine Cetto, L. Brooke and Thomas Nelson, Gerda and David Walz-Michaels, Suzanne Lavoie, Mary Lee Morrison and William Upholt, Roz and Alan Spier, Nancy Brockett of Soul Support, Miram Epstein of Books to Dreams and Hartford Friends Meeting. In kind contributions came from the Adaskin String Trio, Karen and Phil Will and Chris Robinson.

conference, in an attempt to keep the numbers down to encourage dialogue and sharing, this event is by invitation only. If you would like an invitation, contact Pax Educare. A NEPSA web site is under construction.

April 15th showing of "Weapons of the Spirit" by Pierre Sauvage, Le Chambon-sur-Lignon was a tiny Protestant farming village in the mountains of south-central France. Defying the Nazis and the French government that was collaborating with the Nazis, the villagers of the area of Le Chambon provided a safe haven throughout the war for whoever knocked on their door. **Friends Meeting House, 144 S. Quaker Lane in West Hartford. Pot luck at 6 PM, film at 7:30 PM. Suggested donation-\$6.** Pax Educare and the Peace and Social Concerns Committee of Hartford Friends Meeting are co-sponsors.



The showing will be in tribute to our departed friend and comrade **J. Fred Pfeil, in memory of his love for his fellow humans and for his courageous work for social change, teaching us by his example of the power of nonviolence. Fred passed from this life November 29th 2005. Fred was a professor of English and Creative writing at Trinity and founded the film studies program there.**

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Plans are also in the works for a May play reading on a social justice/peace theme. We will gather at Pax Educare, perhaps share a meal, and engage in our own dramatization (no real skill in acting need be expected!). If you have ideas for a play to read, contact Pax Educare, Inc. Advisory Board member Helen Raisz is organizing this.

Tidbits of News, Local and Statewide, and Pax Educare Recent Events

I am always pleased when good news crosses my desk. A program that teaches Hartford public high school students outdoor mountaineering skills has completed their first year's program, having taken students to a facility operated by the Appalachian Mountain Club in New Hampshire. Students who participated represented families with ties to many different ethnicities and geographic areas of the globe. **A Mountain Classroom for the Hartford Public Schools**. PO Box 1309, Glastonbury, CT. Donations are welcome. May this successful program be a metaphor for our continued efforts at building a global community.

No Child Left Inside 2006 Annual Conference sponsored by the CT Outdoor and Environmental Education Association will be held Friday, March 31 at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, CT. A day of informative presentations, workshop, exhibits, silent auction and reception. For teachers, environmental educators, staff and volunteers from nature centers and museums. For further information, go to:

www.coeeaconference@yahoo.com

Veteran local human rights educator Eve Soumerai recently paid a visit to Pax Educare. Eve has been using theater and oral history to teach the concepts of peace in schools and community settings for many decades. On **March 10** Eve, who in the late 1930s was among the Jewish children transported out of Nazi Germany to England in the KinderTransport through the efforts of British Quakers and a law quickly passed by Parliament, and who lost her family in the Holocaust, will host a **Tribute to Peace Makers** at Temple Sinai at 7:30 PM. 41 West Hartford Road in Newington, CT. The public is invited. The evening will include theatrical performance, music and speakers. Young people are especially welcome.

Pax Educare welcomes Katie Breslin, new web Coordinator and Student Research Associate. Katie, a senior at Saint Joseph College majoring in sociology, brings a wealth of experience and computer prowess. She spent time in Hungary last year, studying public policy. Katie will be working under the supervision of Mary Lee and Professor Marilyn Denny on a project analyzing the historical and contemporary movement to establish a U.S. Department of Peace. Katie lives in Stonington, CT. Welcome Katie!



Katie Breslin

West Hartford Group Convening on Girls and Violence. Hopeworks, Inc. (www.hopeworkscentral.org/aboutus.html) was the host for a gathering of educators, social workers, police personnel and human service workers including Pax Educare director Mary Lee Morrison, to move forward the idea of continued dialogue around the issue of girls and violence in the local region. This gathering in mid January was a follow-up to a series of state-wide forums held on this issue, sponsored by the Governor's Prevention Partnership and the CT Department of Public Health. Plans are to consider a town wide symposium in the future and for the continued sharing of good prevention research and resources. If you would like more information or to become part of this initiative, contact Mary Lee at Pax Educare, Inc.

Professor Chengiah Ragaven Gave Talk at Recent Discussion Group at Pax Educare. Chengiah Ragaven, native of South Africa and currently teaching at Southern Connecticut State University, visited Pax Educare in November to talk about his life and work during the South African freedom struggle. Born in 1933, Ragaven was arrested in 1967 for his work with the South African resistance movement and for his work with the African National Congress. He was dismissed from his teaching position with the Natal Education Department. He shared with us his view that peace from the point of view of the world's oppressed people sometimes looks different than that seen through western eyes. A lively discussion ensued.

Pax Educare Obtains Research/Writing Contract with the United States Institute of Peace- Founder/Director Mary Lee Morrison is engaged in research on the early history of the Institute, the process that led up to the forming of the U.S. Commission recommending its establishment and the role that Elise Boulding played both during and subsequently in the work of the Institute. A draft of a publication is due to be finished in mid March.

Pax Educare was recently featured in two local publications. A January edition of the *West Hartford News* focused on Mary Lee's recently published biography of peace researcher and educator Elise Boulding and included the work of Pax Educare. A February issue of *West Hartford Life* included a more extensive discussion of our mission and focused on some of the activities with which Pax Educare is engaged, including several of the important groups and individuals with whom we partner.

The Adaskin String Trio returned in October to bestow their gifts of music as a benefit for Pax Educare at a concert at the home of Karen and Phil Will in Hartford. The trio was joined by pianist Sally Pinkus and bassist Robert Black. Over thirty guests were treated to their wonderful music and all proceeds were given to Pax Educare. We are deeply grateful.



An engaged audience

The Adaskin String Trio with Sally Pinkus and Robert Black take a bow



Pax Educare recently co-sponsored a forum with Scott Ritter, convened by the **West Hartford Citizens for Peace and Justice**, in January. Over 500 people heard the riveting message of this former Marine and Iraq weapons inspector that included strongly worded language that the present course of the Bush Administration on the war on terrorism is rabidly off course and of the need for citizenry to remain vigilant and engaged in continued questioning of U.S. foreign policy.

Pax Educare recently joined **The Grantwriters Development Network**, whose mission is to help non profits find appropriate funding sources and means to further their own missions. GDN holds seminars and informal gatherings, where resources and ideas are shared. For more information go to www.gratnwritersnetwork.org

Regional News and Resources-News of Peace Studies

There is Growing Interest in Campus Peace Studies. Mary Lee recently was asked to put together a syllabus for a proposed introductory course at Saint Joseph College. Greenfield Community College in Franklin County, MA is developing a peace and justice studies major. Central Connecticut State University's program is now in its second year, offering a peace studies minor under the direction of a group of professors led by David Blitz and Carol Shaw Austad.

The New England Peace Studies Association (NEPSA)'s membership is growing. To join NEPSA, contact Kathleen Kautzer at Regis College kathleen.kautzer@regiscollege.edu. See listing under *Upcoming Events* for information on the March 1 NEPSA colloquium.

Mary Lee is teaching a course in educational foundations/educational studies at Central Connecticut State University. The syllabus is available on the Pax Educare web site, link to Resources, and includes a good deal of textual reading and discussions of global initiatives for peace and their implications for teaching and learning.



And Peace studies will come to the University of Hartford. Sharon Shepela, Professor of Social Psychology, recently visited Pax Educare to talk about the introduction of a course "Building Cultures of Peace: Nonviolent Strategies and Conflict Resolution", to begin in the Spring of 07. This cross-disciplinary course will feature an array of faculty from across the university as well as guest speakers. Sharon is the lead convener for the course, aided by other faculty, including Helen Raisz.

Advisory Board member Helen Raisz and Sharon Shepela

Curriculum of Hope Celebrates Twenty Year Anniversary-since 1986 this committee of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, women's teaching honorary society, has been cranking out a newsletter several times a year, chock full of wonderful resources and ideas, and spreading the good news about peace education. Founder Jeanne Morasini, a Pax Educare Advisory Board member, is to be credited with the vision and energy to initially move this project forward, begun out of her kitchen in Columbia, Connecticut. A collection of newsletters is now housed at the Homer Babbidge Library in its Alternative Press collection. Through the years, Curriculum of Hope has sponsored conferences with thousands of students and teachers participating, celebrating peace and learning ways to build it. To receive copies of the newsletter, contact Janice McKusick, editor-102 Chaffeeville Rd., Storrs, CT 06268, jmckusick@charter.net. There are over 800 current readers of the newsletter in 17 countries.

U Mass Graduate Program in Dispute Resolution is celebrating its 20th year anniversary, offering an 18 credit certificate program and a 36 credit master's degree. The program is located in Boston, offering speakers, workshops and conferences. Further information can be obtained at www.disres.umb.edu, 617-287-7421.

We are collecting good syllabi for high school and college courses in the study of peace. Please send them to us as an attachment in email, if you can. We will post them on our web site.

National/International News and Resources

The UN Mandated University for Peace Program in Peace Education in Costa Rica <http://www.upeace.org/> will host the annual summer institute, the **IPE (International Institute on Peace Education)**, sponsored by the **Peace Education Center of Columbia Teachers College**, <http://www.tc.edu/PeaceEd/> July 30-August 6, 2006, "Toward a Planetary Ethic: Shared and Individual Responsibility." The Institute will draw on the experiences of a diverse group of educators from around the globe. For an application contact the Peace Education Center at Teachers College. The University for Peace offers a Master's Degree in peace education.

The EURED Teacher Training Program was the topic of a symposium sponsored by the Peace Education Center of Columbia Teachers College in late November that Mary Lee attended. EURED's founder Werner Wintersteiner, a native of Austria and a recent professor in residence at Columbia, recalled for us the words of Yeats..."education is not the filling of a pail but the lighting of a fire". <http://www.humiliationstudies.org/news/archives/000176.html>

New Paperback Edition for Educators on Teaching About the War in Iraq and War on Terrorism-Whose Wars from Rethinking Schools www.Rethinkingschools.org

The Peace and Justice Studies Association is accepting proposals for the annual conference October 5-8 at Manhattan College "Who Speaks for the Common Good?" <http://www.peacejusticestudies.org/index.php>. Send

proposals to Margaret Groarke pisa2006@manhattan.edu.

The International Peace Research Association (IRPA) <http://ipra2006.com/> will be held at the University of Calgary in Alberta, Canada June 29-July 3 "Patterns of Conflict: Paths to Peace". The deadline for proposals has been extended until the end of February. Mary Lee will attend, along with her husband Bill Upholt, Helen Raisz and other New England educators.

A Mass for Peace, *Missa Latina*, composed by Roberto Sierra, has recently been commissioned by the National Symphony Orchestra and was performed February 2, 3 and 4th by the Choral Arts Society of Washington. It is, according to the conductor, a "plea for peace". <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/01/27/AR2006012700379.html>

Two upcoming courses sponsored by Plowshares Institute-June 19-23 a week long seminar, co-sponsored by and held at the Hartford Seminary, "Becoming Agents of Reconciliation in Congregations, Communities and Countries: Lessons from the U.S., South Africa and Indonesia" carries graduate credit and may be audited. A seminar to be held at Ghost Ranch, NM, "Becoming Agents of Reconciliation in Denominations, Congregations and Families" will be held July 17-23. For more information, contact Elizabeth Velez at Plowshares at www.plowsharesinstitute.org. 860-651-4304.

Thanks to the angels and elves who keep us going through donations of time, in-kind contributions, books and resources, co-sponsoring our events and promoting the work we do. *Carolann and Ray Boucher, Ronnie Casella and family, Karen and Phil Will, K.K. Kuriakose, Chris Robinson, The Adaskin String Trio and Sally Pinkus and Robert Black, The United Nations Association Greater Hartford chapter, Chengiah Ragaven, Helen Raisz, Eve Soumerai, The Boston Research Center for the 21st Century, Mary Gravelle, Bill Upholt, the West Hartford News, West Hartford Life and the Connecticut Urban Legal Initiatives and in particular Linda Yalen.*



**Magical Strings with Philip and
Pam Boulding Sunday March 26, 2006
3:00 PM**

**La Paloma Sabanera Coffee Shop and Bookstore
405 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT
www.lapalomasabanera.com**

With dancing hammers and pulsating strings, bringing light to these dark times, Philip and Pam Boulding create the distinctive music of **Magical Strings**, described by The Washington Post as "warm, graceful and sonically gorgeous." Celtic harps and hammered dulcimers are colorfully augmented by pennywhistles, concertina, valiha (Malagasy harp) and storytelling. Over the past 25 years they have drawn a loyal following worldwide, captivated by their energetic arrangements of Celtic music and their own engaging compositions, intertwining Celtic roots with classical and world

music influences. The music affirms our universal humanity and desire for peace.

**Pay at the door \$15 Students and low-income \$10
Additional donations are welcome**

**Sponsored by Pax Educare, Inc.-the CT Center for Peace Education- For information call 860-231-0445 or
email paxeducare@comcast.net**

Parking is available on the street and at the Lyceum, 227 Lawrence Street, Hartford
www.magicalstrings.com
www.paxeducare.org

Spotlight on Pax Educare Board Chair Diane Weinholtz

Pax Educare is honored to have Diane Weinholtz, Head of the Middle School at Watkinson School, as chair of the board of directors. Diane, when approached about serving, hesitated not a minute before saying "yes". Diane has a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Connecticut and teaches 6th grade science at Watkinson along with her administrative duties. A Quaker, she is involved in Friends concerns at the local and regional level. When not immensely busy being involved in such good causes, Diane enjoys running, hiking and spending time in New Hampshire at the family's cottage near the White Mountains. We are grateful to Diane for her hard work, warmth and support. Other Pax Educare board members are Ronnie Casella, Alex Mikulich and Ray and Carolann Boucher.



Don't Forget the Film Showing-April 15th at 7:30 PM, Friends Meeting House in West Hartford. Pot luck to begin at 6 PM. Viewing of "Weapons of the Spirit".

Donations to Pax Educare are gratefully accepted. Donations may be sent to Pax Educare: 56 Arbor Street, Hartford, CT 06106. Our application for non profit designation is in progress. To insure your contribution is tax deductible, you may make your check out to Center for Serenity, Inc. and earmark it for Pax Educare.

Pax Educare Board of Directors

*Carolann Boucher, Ray Boucher, Ronnie Casella,
Alex Mikulich, Diane Weinholtz-Chair*

Staff

Founder, President and Director
Mary Lee Morrison Ph.D., LCSW

Student Intern and Web Coordinator
Katherine Breslin

We are available for speaking to community and religious groups and for teacher in-service programs. We particularly like to engage in dialogue about building a culture of peace.

Advisory Board

David Adams, Miriam Bergamini, Carolann Boucher, Ray Boucher, Elise Boulding, Ronnie Casella, Marjorie Henry, Alex Mikulich, Jeanne Morascini, Helen Raisz, Diane Weinholtz

If you would like to receive a copy of the Pax Educare newsletter by email only, please let us know.

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