



“We’re Here Because You’re There”

Prasannan Parthasarathi, Newton

The Trump administration’s Muslim ban and executive order on the deportation of undocumented immigrants has generated enormous popular and legal opposition. While many thousands have rallied in protest across the country and around the world, and much ink has been spilled commenting on these orders, the foreign policy dimensions of immigration and asylum seeking have been ignored.

Why do immigrants and refugees seek entry into the United States? Are they just terrorists and bad hombres, as the President asserts?

Some years ago, a British immigrants-rights activist wrote, “We’re here because you’re there.” This statement applies with equal force to the United States. Many are here because we are there.

This may be most obvious in the case of the refugee crisis in the Middle East.

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There was no refugee problem in the region (save for Palestinians who had been expelled from the lands that became Israel) before the US invasion

of Iraq in March 2003.

We are familiar with the sequence of events: the chaos and violence of Iraq, which overflowed into neighboring



Rally against Muslim ban, Copley Square, January 30

Syria, adding gasoline to an already incendiary civil war; the cruelty and everyday violence of ISIS, which stoked fear across both Iraq and Syria. The displacement of some 15 million Syrians as a consequence of these developments is unprecedented in the Middle East. George W. Bush’s illegal invasion of Iraq set off this horrific chain of events.

The flood of migrants from Central America is another case in point. In the 1980s, the United States declared war on the Sandinistas in Nicaragua, which is today the second poorest country, after Haiti, in the western hemisphere. Under the Reagan administration the people of Central America were the victims of brutal US-backed regimes in El Salvador, Guatamala and Honduras. The violence has continued unabated—El Salvador is today the murder capital of the world, a status it achieved by pushing aside its neighbor to the east, Honduras. US interference in the region continued when Secretary of State Hillary Clinton green-

lighted the 2009 coup in Honduras. Is it any wonder that Central Americans by the thousands risk life and limb to trek north through Mexico to make their way into the United States?

Brazil has also faced US meddling. Under the presidency of Lula, the Workers Party government lifted 20 million Brazilians—10% of the population—out of poverty. The US objected but could not do much because of Lula’s extraordinary popularity. However, his less popular successor, Dilma Rousseff, was deposed in a soft coup, which brought the plutocrats back to power. During the Lula years emigration to the US fell, but it is likely to increase again as the Brazilian state tilts towards

the rich.

Finally, US economic policies, most critically in the form of free-trade agreements, have taken a toll on working people around the world, including of course the United States. The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) devastated the peasant economy of Mexico. In the early 1990s imports accounted for less than 10 per cent of Mexican corn consumption. Fifteen years later cheap, subsidized corn imports from the United States were nearly 35 per cent of consumption. In that period, Mexican campesinos flooded north, having lost their livelihoods. Something similar is being replayed around the world as US sponsored free trade agreements give open access to the products of US-government-supported agribusiness in markets from sub-Saharan Africa to Southeast Asia.

The peace movement must make the above connections and bring them to the table in debates on immigration and refugee policy.

Pursuing Justice, Building Peace: Annual Meeting April 1

Cole Harrison, Executive Director

In his first month in office Donald Trump has appointed a reactionary cabinet stocked with generals and billionaires; pushed for more pipelines; attacked immigrants and refugees; and announced that his budget will transfer \$54 billion a year from domestic programs to the military.

His address to Congress February 28 doubled down on his empty promises and anti-immigrant rhetoric.

Massachusetts Peace Action will organize people to resist Trumpism at every turn, stand with those most under attack, oppose policies of war and militarism, and lay the groundwork to ensure that progressives gain political power in the years to come.

Our members will gather for our 2017 annual meeting Saturday, April 1, at the First Church in Boston.



The keynote address, **"Trump's Foreign Policy and the American Empire in Decline"**, will be presented by Vijay Prashad,

a scholar of Middle Eastern politics, development economics, North-South relations, and current events. The George and Martha Kellner Chair in South Asian History and Professor of International Studies at Trinity College, Prashad is the author of *The Darker Nations: A People's History of the Third World* and sixteen other books.

April 2017 is the 50th anniversary of **Dr. Martin Luther King's speech** at Riverside Church in New York, **"Beyond Vietnam"**, a powerful and historic articulation of the message of the modern peace and justice movement. We will read key excerpts from

the speech at this event.

A c t i o n - oriented breakout groups will address nuclear disarmament; Middle East wars and war dangers; Palestine/Israel; climate and peace; fossil free/nuclear free energy; economic and social justice; racial justice; and electing progressive candidates. Each of these breakouts will be organized by one of **Massachusetts Peace Action's** volunteer-led working groups.



In the business meeting, members will elect the board of directors, hear a presentation on and potentially vote to affirm our program plans for 2017, and hear a brief finance report.

Registration, literature tables, and lunch will be available starting at noon and the meeting itself will run from 1:00 to 5:00 pm.

Admission to the event is \$10 for members and students or \$20 for non-members, including lunch. Only members can vote at the business meeting. Pay your 2017 dues today or at the door to participate; see back page for details.

2017 Board Nominees

MAPA's board consists of up to 18 at-large members who serve a two-year term, half elected each year, and up to six representatives of campus chapters. The following at-large candidates have been nominated by the Executive Committee for 2017-2019.

New Candidates

Paul Robeson Ford is senior pastor at Union Baptist Church in Cambridge. He is completing a PhD in Theology at the University of Chicago focusing on the intersection between prison ministry, mass incarceration, and theology that is centered on transformation and liberation.



Val Moghadam is professor and director of international affairs at Northeastern University, and director of its Middle East studies program. A native of

Tehran, Iran, she studies globalization, social movements, and gender.

Candidates for Re-election

Rosalie Anders of Cambridge is **co-convenor of MAPA's Climate and Peace** working group.

Carol Coakley of Millis is the **vice-chair of MAPA's board, represents MAPA on Peace Action's national board, chairs Metrowest Peace Action, co-chairs our Legislative/Political working group, and is our Office Coordinator.**

Bonnie Gorman of Quincy is co-chair of our Legislative/Political working group.

Rosemary Kean of Dorchester convenes our Racial Justice working group.

Jeff Klein of Dorchester chairs our Palestine/Israel working group and A New Day for Israel/Palestine initiative.

Maryellen Kurkulos of Fall River participates in our Economic and Social Justice working group.

Guntram Mueller of Newton co-chairs our Boston Downwinders group.

Denise Simmons is Mayor of Cambridge.

Palestine/Israel in the Trump Era

Eva Moseley, Cambridge

Despite the Trump administration's contradictory policies, MAPA's Palestine/Israel working group is keeping on, to advance Palestinian rights and for our own sanity, and to add new issues as needed: e.g., opposing David Friedman as ambassador to Israel.

The Jewish Community Relations Council wrote a bill in January (S.1689/H.1685) that ostensibly would prevent discrimination on the basis, among other criteria, of national origin. As such it is redundant; such laws already exist. But, as the JCRC explained in a press release, the real target is the Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) movement, a non-violent effort to change Israel's policies of occupation and settlement in Palestinian lands. Boycotts are a constitutionally protected form of free speech.

We're working to block the anti-BDS bill together with Jewish Voice for Peace – Boston and Alliance for Water Justice in Palestine, supported by 100 other organizations.

At the same time that legislators are expected to vote on legislation submitted by the JCRC, 10 state senators, 12 state representatives, the Governor, and the Attorney General have all taken donor-funded trips to Israel. While state officials are prohibited from taking gifts of \$50 or more, the State Ethics Commission (EC) has made an exception for travel. MAPA's formal complaint to the Ethics Commission last year was brushed off. The legislature has now appointed a Task Force on Integrity in State and Local Government. We testified at its hearing on gifts (Feb. 1st), making the case for more stringent oversight of lobbyist-funded travel.

Israeli settlements in occupied territory are obstacles to peace, as Secretary Kerry and President Obama

pointed out in their last weeks in office. H.Res.11, condemning the Obama administration's support of a UN resolution criticizing settlements, received 80 No votes in Congress in January, including Massachusetts Reps. McGovern, Clark, Lynch, and Tsongas, a greater number than have dissented on pro-Israel Congressional votes in the past. MAPA board member and Democratic State Committee member Carol Coakley has submitted a resolution to the DSC which reaffirms long-

standing US opposition to settlements, arousing intense discussion. DSC leaders have promised a public hearing on the issue within the next two months.

We persist because Palestinians need justice; US public opinion is changing; even many young Jews do not subscribe to "Israel can do no wrong"; because current policies are bad for Israel and the US too; and to honor the memory of David Zackon, who died on Mar. 13, 2016. We miss his dedication and his cheerful presence.

Budgets, Transit and Transparency

Michelle Cunha, Bedford

MAPA's Economic and Social Justice Working Group has been hard at work. In December we and our cosponsors held a standing-room-only symposium at MIT on building a public transporta-



tion network that serves more than just Boston. Former Governor Mike Dukakis (*above*), the keynote speaker, pointed out the need to divert federal funds from the military and bring federal funds to Massachusetts to rebuild (and in some cases, build) more train lines, purchase more subway cars, and develop bus lines that serve communities currently with no, or substandard,

public transportation options.

In January, we collaborated with Reps. Mike Connolly (D-Somerville), Denise Provost (D-Somerville), Jay Kaufman (D-Lexington), and Sen. Pat Jehlen (D-Somerville), to introduce the Revenue Information and Accountability Act, which would require the state government to inform Massachusetts taxpayers where their federal tax dollars go. This successor to the Budget for All Resolution is now awaiting a hearing in the State House.

The ESJ working group continues to work with Raise Up Massachusetts to increase Massachusetts' minimum wage to \$15/hr, to pass the Paid Family Leave Act, and to pass the Fair Share Amendment, which would raise \$1.5 billion a year for schools and transportation by a 4% tax on people whose annual income is over \$1 million.

We plan to hold an event on or about Tax Day, April 15, to highlight corporations and the rich (including President Trump) who don't pay their taxes, and tax money used for militarism instead of community needs.

If you wish to work toward economic and social equality we'd love to have you join our workgroup. We usually meet on the 2nd Monday of the month at Encuentro 5, 9A Hamilton Place, Boston (near Park Street station), from 4-6 pm.

*US Policy and the Middle East***Ineffective, Counter-productive, and Destructive***Val Moghadam, Somerville*

More than ineffective, U.S. policy in the Middle East has been counter-productive and destructive.

The policy has been ineffective because the U.S. has not been able to show true

leadership, play the role of honest broker, and ensure a just peace between the Palestinians and Israelis.

It has been counter-productive because longstanding U.S. support for autocratic rulers and for Israel, and its military presence in the region, has engendered radical Islamist movements that have targeted the U.S. (**"the far enemy"**) as well as Arab states (**"the near enemy"**).

It has been destructive because of the dreadful (criminal) decisions to invade and occupy Iraq in 2003, and to respond to the Arab Spring by **overthrowing Libya's Gaddafi, supporting an armed rebellion in Assad's Syria,** and **encouraging Saudi Arabia's wanton bombardment of the poorest country in the region, Yemen.**

When 19 young men – 15 of them from Saudi Arabia – used passenger planes to attack U.S. cities on September 11, 2001, the assault seemed to show that the post-WWII international order was no longer stable and that the U.S. was incapable of containing conflict, disorder, and challenges to its authority. Regime change in Iraq was meant to showcase US military might and its global power. Instead, it **opened up a Pandora's box of resistance, grievances, protests, regime reprisals (e.g., the violent crackdown on the Green Protests in Iran in 2009), labor unrest, the Arab Spring uprisings, sectarian conflicts, the expansion of terrorism, and intra-regional competition for domination (notably between Iran and Saudi Arabia).**

It seems almost superfluous to add that confidence in democracy has

greatly diminished in the region. Both the 2008 global recession and the Arab Spring caused much economic havoc, worsening the already high unemployment rates across countries.

The Obama Administration, notably during **John Kerry's tenure as secretary of state,** carried out some admirable diplomatic moves, including the nuclear agreement with Iran and the refusal to send troops to Syria. (The rapprochement with Cuba was another positive achievement.) Still, it dispatched deadly drones; armed **"moderate" rebels in Syria and allowed Turkey, Saudi Arabia and Qatar to provide logistical and military support for any and all kinds of rebels;** did nothing while Saudi Arabia set about destroying Yemen, its people and its cultural heritage; and provided Israel with billions of dollars in military aid. Meanwhile, Russia has emerged/re-emerged as a dominant actor in global politics, and this is anathema to the U.S. political establishment.

Trump has now walked onto this world stage. And his views and plans seem to be all over the place. Initially, I was hopeful about his calls to work with Russia (especially to defeat ISIS and bring about peace and security in **Syria**), **end America's destructive wars,** focus on infrastructural development, and ensure trade agreements that would benefit American workers. But he also has spoken of allocating trillions of dollars to the U.S. military, has assumed a very belligerent stance on China and the agreements with Cuba and Iran, and has appointed an extremely right-wing Zionist as his ambassador to Israel – a man who has used hate speech against progressive American Jews.

The year 2017 began on a dreadful note – **the New Year's terrorist assault at the Reina nightclub in Istanbul, and two bombings in Iraq.** These are just a few examples of the ISIS reign of terror. More promising has been the ceasefire in Syria, brokered by Russia, Iran, and Turkey, an accomplishment

that previously eluded the U.S., the European Union, and the United Nations. We should be encouraged and hopeful by this, and we should call on the Trump administration to work with Russia and Iran to end the conflict in **Syria, restore that country's sovereignty, help rebuild its infrastructure and institutions, enable the return of refugees and internally displaced citizens, and ensure that Arab neighbors no longer meddle in Syria's affairs.** If this means compelling U.S. allies in the Gulf, including Saudi Arabia, to end support for the rebels in Syria by withholding the sale of arms, it would be a small price to pay to help stop the spread of violence and terrorism.

While I am on my wish list, let me add three other suggestions for the Trump administration. First, the U.S. should work with Russia, China, and other U.N. Security Council members to pass a resolution calling for a halt to all armed interventions and hostilities in the Middle East region, including **Saudi Arabia's assault on Yemen.**

Second, U.S. standing in the region would be infinitely enhanced were it to mediate between Saudi Arabia and Iran so as to end the hostility between the two countries and to point out that defeating the common enemy, ISIS, requires cooperation and not competition among countries in the region.

Third, the Trump administration needs to honor the nuclear agreement with Iran – not disparage and undermine it – and encourage U.S. allies Saudi Arabia and Israel to do the same. Fourth, if the U.S. can afford billions in military aid to Israel and trillions for its own military, surely it can afford several billion dollars to support the democratic transition in Tunisia through socially responsible investments for job creation and infrastructural development. What a different world that would be.

Val Moghadam is professor and director of international affairs at Northeastern University.

Working for Peace under the Trump Regime

Jenny Horsburgh, Newton North HS

In these times, working for peace may seem like a dead end. But it's a mistake to conceive of peace issues as separate from everything else that people are fighting for right now. And peace as a concept, as a story we enact about how we want to live in the world with each other, should be a core part of the vision we want to build, now and in the future.

Resisting the Trump regime must be about more than holding the line, or defeating certain egregious policies or actions. We need to think in terms of overarching change toward what this world could be. Because the crises that we are facing -- like xenophobia and attacks on immigrants, Islamophobia and threats to refugees and Muslims, sexism and homophobia and dangers to women and LGBTQ (especially transgender) people -- did not originate solely in this administration, and will not go away even if Democrats regain power. Treating each crisis we face, each particular group under attack, as a single issue will undermine our ability to face systemic challenges. An over-compartmentalized resistance will not be effective.

Peace activism is a very workable frame

within which to understand this, given how clearly foreign policy has domestic impact. How many refugees seek sanctuary here as a direct result of the destruction and destabilization that US wars and operations have sowed, from Iraq to Syria to Somalia? How many undocumented immigrants flee the poverty and violence that US policy, from regime change in Honduras to neoliberal trade deals with Mexico, has wrought? Foreign policy doesn't operate in a vacuum that ends at US borders -- it returns. The tens of billions of dollars in additional military spending that Trump promises will strip public sector and social support programs, and people in the US will feel that strain, just as people further away feel the impact of our engorged military power.

Furthermore, the military does not only act overseas. The trickle-down of military equipment to domestic police has frequently turned law enforcement into something resembling an occupying force, armed to the teeth, terrorizing civilians -- witness incidents of police brutality against people of color, or police repression of protests, or the vicious crackdowns against water protectors at Standing Rock and elsewhere. These are

easily peace issues. Our militarism and violence were never restricted to foreign entanglements.

Resistance under the Trump regime should reckon with these imperative questions: whose lives are worth saving, when the stakes are highest? For whom do we want to build a better, more peaceful world? And in times of crisis, as well as in the day-to-day--whom will we allow to be sacrificed? Peace activism understands the deep danger and immorality of sacrificing faraway countries and demonizing their people, and we have to keep in mind the same vicious story being played out on many levels at home, and how that connects not just to foreign policy but to the overall goal of a peaceful world.

The world will not become more peaceful under Trump, but as we try to build a resistance, we can still struggle to dismantle the dehumanizing ideological beliefs that have fostered and justified war, oppression, and/or violence under every administration, so we can tell a different story, and refuse to accept the lack of progress, or regression, when anyone, Democrat or Republican, sells it to us.

Read more at bit.ly/working-peace

Beyond Boston

Carol Coakley, Millis

The Walpole Peace and Justice Group continues to hold vigils - most recently against the President's executive orders on illegal immigrants, with the next one scheduled for March 3. Dr. Ambarish Karmalkar will address Climate Change at the Walpole Library



at 7pm on March 8th and there will be a talk on Immigration on Mar 15th.

Metrowest Peace Action joined forces

with others to show our support for the mosque in Wayland after it received a threatening letter. We supported the Peace Abbey's anti-inaugural protest and civil disobedience in Sherborn, attended a teachout and vigil concerning recent ICE activities in Framingham, and attended a book talk at Temple Beth El in Sudbury by Dr. Sheila Katz on Israeli-Palestinian peace partnerships. In February we hosted a public meeting with Rep. David Linsky to discuss local government in the post-election era.

In Dedham, St. Susanna's Faith in Action Formation sponsored Sr. Megan Rice, Prof. Elaine Scarry and Dan Zak to discuss nuclear resistance.

Merrimack Valley People for Peace held their annual pot luck at North Parish, screened the video of

"We the People, The Market Basket Effect" and also hosted Rice, Scarry and Zak at St. Michael's Parish in North Andover.

Milton for Peace hosted Dr. Andrew Bacevich and Kade Crockford of ACLU at an event on drones and continue to hold peace vigils in East Milton Square.

Watertown Citizens for Peace, Justice and the Environment sponsored a "Window into Syria" film series, presented Stephen Kinzer's book talk on the origins of U.S. empire, and sponsored a "Watertown Welcomes Immigrants" forum and vigil on February 26.

Berkshires residents have participated in BDS actions against Ben and Jerry's, a company that produces ice cream in illegal West Bank settlements and the Negev.

Protest, Educate, and Skill-Building: Student Peace Clubs Develop

Caitlin Forbes, Student Outreach Coordinator

Compassion. Equality. Social Justice. These are just some of the answers given when Micaela Fracalossi, previous President of Emmanuel Peace Action, asked a group of demonstrators to describe what peace meant to them.

In early December, five Peace Action student chapters, led by Newton South Peace Action, joined with allies to organize in front of the Massachusetts State House. They were protesting against the appointments of Steven Bannon, Jeff Sessions and Michael Flynn, who represent the recent frightening turn in US politics. Yet, as dark as that turn has been, the **students' December demonstration** and subsequent efforts gives us a glimpse into a more hopeful future. Our student leaders continue to promote peace, in all of its interpretations.

Fall 2016 activities included talks by Phyllis Bennis at Brandeis, Tufts, and Emmanuel; Harvard Peace Action's dinner discussion with Martin Malin of the Project on Managing the Atom at the Belfer Center; and workshops led by Fracalossi and Newton North president Jenny Horsburgh at our fall conference, which also attracted various student club members. Brandeis Peace Action achieved official recognition as a club and Boston College launched its club.

In the spring semester, plans include a Tufts Open Mic Night, a brown bag lunch series at Emmanuel, collaborations with Pugwash through Harvard, and an information panel with the ACLU at Newton North. Newton South recently hosted Angela Kelly and Reese Erlich at an on-campus event on Syria that drew over 100 students.

In early April, all of our student clubs will join together for a training day led by Mass Alliance. There, they will spend time learning about power mapping and campaign planning, and



Tufts Peace Action members Ashton Stephens, Haleigh Copley, and Daniel Dinjian with U.S. Rep Paul Tonko and New York State students in Albany

then apply these tactics to the issues on which they focus. We want to empower our students by providing them with a range of tools; this way, they can pursue the issues that impassion them.

Our Boston College and Tufts chapters attended a student peace conference

hosted by Peace Action New York State on Feb. 17-19. The Albany conference drew 100 students and 9 partner organizations. Students were educated and trained about various issues, from humanitarian medical efforts to de-escalation instruction. From meeting with Congressman Tonko, the keynote speaker, to collaborating with fellow peace-minded students, the trip inspired our students, and is sure to energize their efforts now that they are back in Boston.

Help us keep growing our student chapters by donating to **MAPA's Education Fund** and by sending interested Student Organizer candidates in my direction. We can guarantee a strong peace movement tomorrow by supporting our student organizers today.

Intern's Corner

Thomas Horn, UMass Boston



I encountered MAPA for the first time when I attended the conference "Reviving Federal Investment in Public Transit: Build Subways, Not Submarines", in December 2016. I was impressed by the energy and decisiveness which the conference evinced and was sure that MAPA is the right place for me to advance my dreams of a loving and caring world.

For my Internship I am working with **MAPA's Economic and Social Justice group** to develop a "People's Budget"

for Massachusetts. When I saw the federal budget for the first time I was shocked by the fact that more than half of it is spent on the military. Our goal is it to develop a progressive alternative for MA, away from military expenditure towards housing, education and public transport - for the benefit of the people.

As an exchange student from Europe, and with the current xenophobic drift, and increased military budgets in the US and Europe in mind, we need strong local but also global networks to protect and advocate peace and justice! The internship with MAPA offers me the opportunity to get a better understanding of and new perspectives on the political and social situation in the US, and also to contribute based on my European experience and background.

Climate & Peace

Rosalie Anders, Cambridge

How do we bring the climate and peace action closer together? What values, often implicit, do these movements share, and how can we articulate them and act on them most effectively in this time of crisis? Many groups standing against President Trump share a strong desire to build a more unified movement; how do we unite while carrying on our own campaigns?

Making connections between peace and climate issues is an ongoing project of MAPA's peace and climate working group. The issues are complex and the connections run deep. We are reaching out to community groups to increase our understanding of these complexities and the common grounds for action.

In October we had a successful event with Robert Pollin, author of *Greening the Global Economy*, who described how we can work toward a less militarized, less fossil fuel dependent, more just economy. In December, the film *Age of Consequences* drew a large audience and lively discussion. As the film demonstrated, the Pentagon is worried about climate change as a "threat multiplier". The war in Syria is widely seen as having been caused in large part by a drought that drove many people off the land and into the cities.

Do we need to worry about the uses that the military can make of this perception? Some commentators argue that describing the climate crisis as a security issue could lead to more military involvement in our development assistance. Arguing that scarcity of food and water resources because of drought and other climate disruption inevitably fosters conflict may mask the possibility of other options for adaptation, such as more equitable land distribution or shifts to biodiverse, water-retaining agricultural practices.

We will continue to hold events and talk with others about the issues. The need for a clearly articulated positive agenda has never been greater. As we protest the outrages of the present administration we need to articulate values, policies, and actions that would, in fact, work. We welcome people interested in delving into these issues.

Prasannan Parthasarathi

MAPA's board member, leader, cheerleader, strategist, and inspirer, John Maher, passed away November 3 after a tough battle with cancer. He was a life-long activist for peace, justice, the environment and the working class at home and abroad.

Born in 1938 and raised in Houston Texas, at a young age John developed a strong moral compass and commitment to social and economic justice. He brought these concerns with him when he moved to Cambridge in 1956 to attend Harvard University, where he also earned an MA in Political Science. His work on the H. Stuart Hughes campaign for U.S. senate, which focused on nuclear disarmament, then led to an engagement with the student movement.

In the 1960s and 1970s he was active in Students for a Democratic Society, the Boston Draft Resistance Group, worked in a Cambridge factory (where he organized workers), taught in Boston and Somerville public schools, and became active in Oxfam America, becoming Director of Education and Outreach in 1982.

In the 1980s, John joined Neighbor to Neighbor, a national network fighting U.S. policy in Central America. In the early 1990s he founded the Massachusetts chapter, eventually becoming its executive director, and turned its focus to domestic issues, including single payer health care. Over time he helped develop the Neighbor to Neighbor Massachusetts organizing

John Maher, Presente!

model, still in place today: working people advocating for their own interests, from the grassroots up, integrating issue-based and electoral advocacy. He stepped down as director in 2001, but continued as a volunteer, going door-to-door with a clipboard until his illness and continued as an adviser to the organization until he died.



In 2001 he was awarded a lifetime achievement award from the Democratic Socialists of America for his contributions to the struggle for social and economic justice." He was the author of *Learning from the Sixties*, setting down the story of his lifetime of social engagement and reflecting on the course of activism over that

fifty-year span. He was an inspiration to a new generation of young organizers.

John co-founded the 25% Solution with Mike Prokosch, me and others, which organized to cut the military budget by 25% and use the funds for jobs, housing, education, and the environment. Our campaign merged with Massachusetts Peace Action in 2011 and he served on the board of MAPA from then until his death.

I worked closely with John for fifteen years on issues of peace and justice, and fighting the US Empire, as he liked to put it. He possessed a brilliant political mind and I learned an enormous amount from him. I, and MAPA, miss him very much.

Peace and Justice Calendar

Spring 2017 masspeaceaction.org/events

- Mar 12-Apr 8 Walk for a New Spring: Sanctuary World
Amherst to Boston to Washington, DC
- Mar 21 The Occupation of the American Mind (film)
6:30 pm **Ch. of Good Shepherd, 8 Russell Ave, W'town**
- Mar 23 Circle Up: on the Academic Achievement Gap
7pm Hibernian Hall, 184 Dudley St, Roxbury
- Mar 30 Blessed are the Peacemakers: Speak Out
7pm **St. Bart's, 239 Harvard St., Cambridge**
- Apr 1 Pursuing Justice, Building Peace
12-5pm Annual Meeting. First Ch in Bos, 66 Marlboro St
- Apr 8 2pm Nuclear Free/Carbon Free Future
- Apr 10 No to Missile Defense in Korea
7pm Boston College
- Apr 29 **People's Climate March** in Washington
- Apr 29 Music for Peace: The Ultimate Prodigy
7:30pm Harvard-Epworth Ch, 1555 Mass. Ave., Camb.
- May 6 Reducing the Danger of Nuclear War
9a-5p All day conference - MIT

Mass. Peace Action board of directors: Rosalie Anders, James Babson, Carol Coakley (vice chair), Haleigh Copley, Shelagh Foreman (chair), Bonnie Gorman, Micaela Fraccalossi, Salman Habib, Jenny Horsburgh, Rosemary Kean, Jeff Klein, Maryellen Kurkulos, Eva Moseley, Guntram Mueller, Prasannan Parthasarathi, Remy Pontes, John Ratliff, Pat Salomon, Denise Simmons, Kimia Tabatabaei

Education Fund board: Rosalie Anders (chair), Christie Dennis, Shelagh Foreman, Gary Goldstein, Eva Moseley

Staff: Cole Harrison, executive director; Carol Coakley, office coordinator; Caitlin Forbes, student outreach coordinator; Michelle Cunha, membership outreach. **Interns:** Abdurraheem Albokhari, Rachel Alexander, Thomas Horn, Kripa Solanki

Join us!

Massachusetts Peace Action (MAPA) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit membership organization working to develop the sustained political power to foster a more just and peaceful U.S. foreign policy.

We are an affiliate of Peace Action, the nation's largest grassroots peace and disarmament membership organization, with more than 18,000 members and 30 state affiliates across the country.

Our work is funded entirely by donations from our members. Member levels (per calendar year):

- \$65 Family membership
- \$40 Individual membership
- \$10 Limited income or student

Make tax-deductible donations in any amount to the Massachusetts Peace Action Education Fund. Mail check to 11 Garden St, Cambridge, MA 02138 or go to masspeaceaction.org/donate.

Thank you for your support!

What We Do

- Mobilize and educate our members to become active advocates for peace and justice issues with their elected officials and within their communities.
- Organize events to educate the public on issues of peace, war, disarmament, and military spending.
- Address specific issue areas in our working groups
- Make peace a priority in all elections at all levels by educating voters and candidates on just and peaceful foreign policy options.

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