

PEACE CAUCUS

PC Honored by Soviet Medical Workers

An extraordinary honor was bestowed on the PC at the Annual Meeting. The honor came in the form of the presentation of a replica of the "Let Us Beat Swords Into Ploughshares" statue. The arrangements for the presentation were made by APHA Past President and PC member, Dr. Victor Sidel. The statue was presented to Larry Kushi by Dr. Lydia Novak, President of the seven million member Soviet Medical Workers Union. The statue is a model of the sculpture located on the grounds of the United Nations in New York City.

The original statue is the work of Soviet sculptor Evgeniy Vuchetich. According to a press statement on December 4, 1959, during the presentation of the sculpture, "... the statue represents the figure of a man holding a hammer in one hand and, in the other, a sword which he is making into a ploughshare, symbolizing man's desire to put an end to war and convert the means of destruction into creative tools for the benefit of all mankind."

The PC hopes to put the statue "on tour" and send it to as many APHA State Affiliates as possible during the coming year. Ideally, a display would occur at the annual meetings of the affiliates. The PC leadership has also authorized the development of a drawing of the statue for use as the official logo of the PC. Please let us know, as soon as possible, if you would like to have the statue sent to your affiliate for display purposes. We will try to arrange a tour schedule

to accommodate everyone. The only requirement, of course, is that the affiliate include members who are also members of the PC. Please contact Pat Johnson, in care of the newsletter, and include the dates of your annual meeting.

PC Leadership Continues

The Second Annual Business Meeting of the Peace Caucus (PC) was held in New Orleans on Wednesday evening, October 21, 1987. The current steering committee of the PC was asked to continue in their present positions for the next year. The able and inspired performance of Larry Kushi and Bob Gould resulted in their unanimous endorsement to serve as Co-Chairs for another year. Kathy Fagan, who graciously accepted the accolades of those present, willingly or otherwise, took on the Program Committee Chairperson responsibilities for the next year's annual meeting. Denise Denton, Pat Johnson and Erin Olsen agreed to handle the treasurer and membership responsibilities, as well as serve as editors of the newsletter for another year.

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PSR/PC Booth

A substantial thank you goes once again, and deservedly so, to Larry Egbert and the Dallas Chapter of Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR). They sponsored a booth at the recent APHA Annual Meeting and graciously shared the space with the PC. Larry not only arranged for the Dallas PSR Chapter to sponsor the booth, but also spent considerable time at the booth passing out literature and talking to those who stopped by.

The booth was located near a corner in high traffic area of the exhibition hall. Exact numbers are unavailable but some 1,300 copies of the newsletter were distributed along with a variety of other information. A highlight of the booth was the slide show about the September 30, 1986 demonstration put together by Larry Kushi.



Jesse Jackson:

Enough of Bandaid

The PC proudly joined the Black, Socialist, American Indian, Latino, Lesbian and Gay, Womens', Public Hospitals, and the National Public Health Student Caucuses and the Coalition for a National Health Services in sponsoring the appearance of Presidential Candidate Jesse Jackson. The Reverend Jackson's speech entitled, "Enough of Bandaid: The Need for a National Health Program," was delivered to several thousand APHA members in a packed auditorium. Reverend Jackson's theme of "Health, not Wealth" coupled with a reverberating cry of, "it's time for a new direction", brought the audience to its feet. While the PC has taken no official position in the coming presidential campaign, it is clear that Rev. Jackson said much that agreed with many public health workers in New Orleans.

Booth Residents

The First Annual PC Booth Resident Award (FAPCBRA) is hereby awarded to Patricia Sutton, Bob Gould, Larry Kushi and Larry Egbert. The PSR/PC Booth was continually staffed through the diligent efforts of these individuals who spent a great deal of time at the booth and arranged for others to be there when they could not. In the name of peace, we thank you, one and all.



Ramsey Clark Highlights PC Opening Session

An impassioned plea for peace and an intellectual discourse on the idiocy of our country's defense policy and sense of priorities by Ramsey Clark highlighted the first of five sessions sponsored by the PC at the APHA Annual Meeting in New Orleans. The words of the former Attorney General eloquently laid out the fundamental reasons why we must bring an immediate end to nuclear testing and halt the arms race. It was, one of those rare moments where our minds and hearts were equally awakened by brilliance and compassion. Thank you Ramsey Clark.

Mr. Clark's speech and the balance of the first session are available on cassette tape. Tapes may be obtained from AVW Audio and Visual, 2254 Valdina, Suite 100, Dallas, TX 75207. (214) 638-0024. The cost of each tape is \$8.00 plus \$3.50 for shipping and handling. Ask for tape number PH-1135, Nuclear Testing on Trial: The Desert Defense Experience.

Peace Caucus in 1988

The 116th Annual Meeting of APHA will be in Boston on November of 1988. The PC will be there too with another excellent program. Numerous ideas for sessions and speakers for next year's meeting were offered at the business meeting. They include:

- Low Intensity Conflict
- Economic Issues of War
- National Platform for Peace
- Central America Refugees
- Annihilation Without Representation
- Public Health Affects of Biological Warfare
- Health and Peace Education
- Medical Consequences of Nuclear War
- Noncombatant Injuries
- Effects of Radiation

Of particular note is the fact that Boston is the home of the US office of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW). 1988 is also a presidential election year. Both circumstances afford a unique opportunity to interface with the President-elect and IPPNW> PC members attending the business meeting also felt that we needed to reach out to other groups in APHA and carry the message of peace to them.



So, What Did You Think?

The PC sponsored five sessions at the recent APHA Annual Meeting. We would like to know what those of you who attended thought about them. Your comments will help us prepare for next year and plan other activities that the PC may wish to undertake. Please send your comments and suggestions to Kathy Fagan, our Program Chairperson.

Dues Due

If it has been about a year since you joined or last paid the Peace Caucus, please consider doing so. Your dues are used to offset the cost of the newsletter and for activities at the APHA Annual Meeting. Send your \$10 to Pat Johnson or Denise Denton.

New Members

Several new members have joined the Peace Caucus (PC) since the APHA Annual Meeting. Many of the new members stopped by the PSR/PC booth and picked up copies of the newsletter and other information. It was exciting and comforting to meet so many additional people dedicated to the cause of peace. We welcome you new members of the Peace Caucus. Your commitment, energy and concern will help bring peace to the world that much sooner.

Letters to the Editors

It's a stretch to say that I'm in a health related profession. I'm currently employed in a non-profit real estate development company -we create housing and commercial projects in low and moderate income neighborhoods. However, I like your newsletter and would like very much to receive it. I shall eagerly await your next mailing.

Sincerely,
Ann Roberts

Enclosed is \$10 to renew my membership in the Peace Caucus. Much of benefit and enrichment was achieved this past week in New Orleans. The Caucus' vitality is a tribute to your efforts and achievements, as well as those of other members. In a short period of time the Peace Caucus has shown a viability and comraderie, producing a strong foundation on which to develop.

Fraternally,
Bill White

Candidates Respond to Nuclear Testing Questions

The APHA Government Relations staff mailed questionnaires to all the announced 1988 Democratic and Republican presidential contenders. They were questioned on issues from national health insurance to gun control, from AIDS to abortion. The responses to a question on nuclear testing and Star Wars are reported below.

Q: Do you support a halt to nuclear testing? What is your position on Star Wars?

Babbit:

I strongly support a comprehensive ban on the testing of nuclear weapons, and I would support an immediate and mutual moratorium on nuclear tests during its negotiation.

I support a mutual moratorium - by agreement with the Soviets - on the development, testing and deployment of strategic defense. You don't stop one arms race by starting another, and strategic defense will inevitably begin a cycle of measure and countermeasure that detracts from our security at exorbitant economic cost. As President I would pursue a substantial research program into strategic defense, as a hedge against technological surprise. But I would shift the emphasis of our research to basic physical principles and computational problems - away from engineering and development.

Dukakis:

I support a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty. I am opposed to Star Wars development, testing or deployment. I would cut research back to its level before President Reagan announced the SDI initiative in 1983.

Gephardt:

As President, I would halt all testing of US nuclear weapons over one kiloton, and challenge the Soviets to make good on their pledge to join us in doing so. I would eliminate funding for production and deployment of Star Wars.

Gore:

I oppose absolutely any plan for development or deployment of SDI. Research on SDI should be confined to a strict interpretation of the ABM treaty. The focus of this research should be to assure that we have state-of-the-art understanding of the basic science and technology that could be relevant to defense.

As for nuclear weapons testing, I would support a moratorium on testing for a limited time. My longer term objective would be an agreement which very sharply limits testing but still permits the minimum number of tests needed to ensure that the existing weapons on which we still rely for deterrence work.

Simon:

As one of my first acts in office, I will challenge the Soviets to immediately end all nuclear testing. I pledge to negotiate a permanent verifiable end to all nuclear testing. This is essential if we are to reverse the arms race and stop the introduction of new, destabilizing weapons.

Star Wars is built on a dangerous illusion that there are weapons of peace that can eliminate weapons of war. The only way to eliminate nuclear weapons is to negotiate them away. As a new member of the Senate in 1985, I sponsored an amendment to the defense bill that would have frozen Star Wars spending at the fiscal year 1985 level. Earlier this year I introduced a resolution saying "no" to an early deployment of Star Wars.

Book Review

Daniel Axelrod and Michio Kaku have written a well-documented, if chilling, account of the history of U.S. nuclear weapons policy, To Win a Nuclear War: The Pentagon's Secret War Plans. (South End Press, Boston, \$11) The authors build a convincing case that US policy from 1945 to the present has been to threaten, fight, survive and even "win" a nuclear war.

Newsletter News

The Peace Caucus Newsletter is published semi-annually. We welcome submissions and suggestions from all our readers. We want to thank all of you who submitted articles and information for this edition.

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Note: While peace is an inexhaustable topic, our space is not. We therefore may do some editing, albeit judiciously. Also, please contact us if you'd like additional information on any of the articles appearing herein.

Peace Caucus

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----- PEACE CAUCUS MEMBERSHIP FORM -----

Membership in the APHA Peace Caucus is open to all individuals in health related professions. While it is not necessary to be a member of APHA in order to be a member of the Peace Caucus, we encourage you to join both organizations. Membership is constituted on an annual basis. We do ask for a \$10 membership contribution to help defray expenses. The primary benefit of membership is an opportunity to work together with other concerned individuals to bring peace to the world. As a member of the Peace Caucus you will receive periodic newsletters, information about Peace Caucus activities at the annual APHA meetings and the support of the Peace Caucus for peace related activities that you may wish to undertake. We welcome your involvement, your ideas, your support and your compassion and concern for the people of the world. Please join with us in helping to make the dream of peace a reality.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Enclosed is \$10 for membership in the APHA Peace Caucus.
(Make checks payable to APHA Peace Caucus.)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____ New Member _____ Renewal _____

APHA MEMBER? yes _____ no _____ New Address _____

RETURN TO: PEACE CAUCUS, 2644 SHERWOOD DR., SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84108

WAR BEGINS IN THE MINDS OF HUMAN BEINGS. SINCE THIS IS SO, THE MINDS OF HUMAN BEINGS MUST BE CAPABLE OF ENDING WAR.

- PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF UNESCO

Slide Set Available _____

Larry Kushi has put together a set of 75 slides of the September 30, 1986 demonstration that many of us participated in. The slides include a number of beautiful desert scenes and excellent pictures of the demonstrators. Larry has also prepared a written narrative to accompany the slide set. The slides and narrative are available for \$25 and can be obtained by contacting Larry.

Needed:

PC Membership Support

Two important upcoming events need the support of the PC. The first is the International Scientific Symposium on a Nuclear Test Ban which will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada on January 15-16, 1988. The symposium will include a tour of the Nuclear Test Site north of Las Vegas for a limited number of participants.

The second event will occur on March 11-20, 1988 and involves a sustained action at the Nevada Test Site over a period of several days. The demonstration will be coordinated by the American Peace Test (APT). A large number of participants is needed to make the demonstration successful.

Please refer to the attachments for additional details about both of these important events.

APHA PEACE CAUCUS

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