

Merrimack Valley People for Peace  
P.O. Box 573  
North Andover, MA 01845



To:

Stone Soup Supper Tue. Nov. 24, 6:30 PM  
North Parish Church, North Andover  
Please bring a cooked vegetable to add to the soup

#### MERRIMACK VALLEY PEOPLE FOR PEACE year in review 2014-2015

**May 2014** Several of us attended the Veterans for Peace Memorial Day event, which got some good press.

**June** MVPP celebrated its thirtieth anniversary. It was great to see artifacts and hear previous members.

**July** Our table at the Lowell Folk Festival was well attended.

**August** We held a vigil in Andover to commemorate the bombing of Hiroshima and joined one in Reading for Nagasaki.

**September** Again, our table at Lawrence's Bread and Roses Festival was next to the Bread and Puppet stage.

9/16: MVPP member, Arthur Brien's speech for the Merrimack Valley Project helped them get an ordinance passed in Lawrence City Council that there can be no eviction from foreclosed property until there is actually a buyer for the property.

9/20: Some of us saw Helen Caldicott and others speak at Newton, MA City Hall about continuing dangers of nuclear war and energy. By invitation from the organizers, MVPP had a table at the event.

9/21: The MVPP regular vigil joined with Pace e Bene this day, in Shawsheen Square, Andover.

**October** Two of us attended the North Shore group's event: Waging Peace: David Hartsough spoke about creative and courageous ways he has worked for peace.

**November** At our annual Stone Soup Supper, Brayton Shanley described the Agape Community in Western Mass and living at peace with Earth. Lively discussion followed.

**December** Vigils continued.

**January 9, 2015** At our annual potluck, we remembered founding member and long time president, Ed Meagher.

**February** Snow postponed meetings and activities for a few weeks.

Three of us attended Mass Peace Action's Annual meeting and workshops. MVPP had a table at the event.

**March** Walk For a New Spring did not come through Lawrence this year but John, Barbara and Niki supported them from Amesbury to Ipswich.

Dues: Because we have not sent out a newsletter, many are behind on dues. If your mailing label has a date earlier than 2016, please send your dues to our return address.

Circle one:

\$20.00 Individual      \$30.00 Family      \$50.00 Supporting  
\$10.00 Students/Seniors      \$75.00 Sustaining      \$100.00 Peacemaker

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to** P.O. Box 573  
North Andover, MA 01845

MVPP is registered with the IRS as a 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions to MVPP are tax deductible. **Check here**  **if you prefer to receive your newsletter via e-mail.**

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**April, 2015** Some of us attended Reading's Good Friday vigil against the Death Penalty, and reported a good turnout and that it was well received (Awareness was high as Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, the marathon bomber, was facing sentencing.).

Masood reported that activities by ISIS and the Taliban are making life difficult in Pakistan. US drones are questionable too.

Boryana reported on the launch of Arredondo Family Foundation providing help to military, veterans and military families experiencing tragedy, and working to prevent suicide.

Newburyport had a good turnout for a global warming awareness vigil.

**May** The Veterans for Peace Memorial Day service in Boston kept our issues in public awareness.

**June** Annual meeting: Despite tornado warnings, Winslow Meyers drove from Maine to speak about his activities with Beyond War.

**July** Two of us rushed to the state capital and shared the celebration after the Supreme Court's ruling to legalize same-sex marriage.

We had our table at the Lowell Folk Festival and had many interesting exchanges.

**August** We hosted and attended vigils for Hiroshima/Nagasaki, and Black Lives Matter,

On the same night, some of us watched the Lawrence City council approve letting undocumented aliens get drivers licenses, and others saw Dracut citizens and town leaders speaking against the proposed gas pipeline.

**September** Bread and Roses was held in the hottest weather remembered.

At Andover Days we shared a table with Amnesty International. Our fundraiser concert featured Dean Stevens, David Dodson and Mary Kate, Oen Kennedy, Eric Wasileski, and June Ruth Canonico

**October** We held a vigil at Raytheon during the international Keep Space for Peace week. Bobbie walked in Maine's Walk for Peace.

Some of us brought counter recruitment fliers to Sen. Tsongas reception for students considering military academies.

MVPP was one of the sponsors of Alice Rothchild's talk in Gloucester "Eyewitness Gaza: From Disaster to Resilience."

Witness for Peace shared a speaker from Cuba at Merrimack College. Three of us attended