



The Cleveland affiliate of National Peace Action, an organization working for more than 50 years to end all war. Peace Action currently has over 100 regional chapters.

August 2015  
Volume 11 Issue 2

[www.peaceactioncleveland.org](http://www.peaceactioncleveland.org)

# Cleveland Peace Action

## New Ideas, New People, New Actions *Cleveland Peace Action Moving Forward*

*Over the course of the past year, the Board of Cleveland Peace Action has significantly expanded, welcoming new members who have brought new ideas, new experience, new energy, and new goals to our program. Currently our sixteen Board members participate in one or more of eight topical committees. We briefly describe here the goals and activities of these groups, with the objective of encouraging our readers to become active participants.*

***Check to see if anything catches your eye, your passion.** If so, please contact our coordinator, Elizabeth Schiros at 216-231-4245 or [clevelandpeaceaction@gmail.com](mailto:clevelandpeaceaction@gmail.com). She will put you in touch with the right person.*

**Diplomacy with Iran** - *Rosemary Palmer* **Goals:** We oppose imposition of additional sanctions or deadlines and any legislation that threatens the peaceful resolution of conflict with Iran. **Action:** We call on our representatives to support diplomatic approaches which have proven fruitful in the past. See piece on page 2 for more details.

**Police Demilitarization** - *Lillian Sharpley* **Goals:** Conduct research to identify strategies and tactics of other related organizations making efforts to demilitarize police. Encourage the Pentagon & Homeland Security to discontinue providing surplus military-grade equipment to local police departments. Identify activities that will decrease use of excessive force. Work to help change the psychology of the police from a militaristic approach to that of problem solving. **Action:** Meeting with the Cleveland City Council members to determine the amount and type of military grade equipment received through the 1033 Program and Homeland Security and anticipated equipment they plan to acquire for the GOP 2016 Convention. Identified related local groups and looking at ways to work collaboratively toward common goals. Plan to continue collaboration with the ACLU and Code Pink, planning a Peace at the Pub event, which in October.

**CPA Youth Project** - *Chantal Dothey* Offspring of our long active Alternatives to Military Recruitment committee. **Goals:** This project is devoted to the prevention of violence, particularly among our underserved inner city youth. **Action:** Utilizes educational programs and interventions that promote personal responsibility, empowerment and self-sufficiency.; currently working with Peace In the Hood youth program.

**Nuclear Weapons Abolition** - *Bill Fickinger, Francis Chiappa* **Goals:** The US has the largest stockpile of nuclear weapons in the world and they pose a risk even if not deployed. We advocate for reduction of the stockpile and against the President's request for "modernization" of the arsenal which, it is estimated, would cost one trillion dollars. **Action:** letters to the Editor, informal powerpoint talks. we're circulating a petition to Pres Obama (lots signed at PAND concert).

*Continued page 2*

*From page 1*

**Middle East Peace** - *Jeff Kossouf, Jennifer Blakeney* **Goals:** To educate the public about the Palestinian/Israeli conflict and related conflicts, through presentations, editorials, demonstrations and film. To seek a peaceful, just and sustainable solution to the conflicts and end military attacks and occupation through congressional advocacy and activism with coalition partners. **Action:** April 26 - *Jewish Perspectives on Peace with Palestine*. Cleveland Heights. Panel of three Jewish Clevelanders shared their life experiences in Israel. May 31 - *Private* - Palestinian-Israeli film. Psychological docudrama about a Palestinian family confronted with a volatile situation within their own home. June 28th: *Vigil in Support of Palestinian Rights*, Cleveland. Goal was to encourage passage of resolution by UCC General Synod to divest from companies profiting from Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories. (Resolution passed!)

**Military Spending/Move the Money/Fund Our Communities** - *Nina McLellan, Lynne Rustad*. **Goals:** To persuade the Northeast Ohio Congressional delegation to vote for the progressive "People's Budget." This will be done through lobbying to change votes against the budget and encouraging Reps. in favor of Peoples' Budget to take leadership roles in supporting it. To increase public pressure for federal funding to meet local needs through reduced military spending (and fair taxation). Educational materials for the public continue to be developed. The size of our community coalition is being increased. Plan is to enlist the coalition partners in public outreach. The CPA MTM slide show will also be made available to community groups. **Action:** April 14 - Military Spending - Where Your Tax Dollars Go; Peace@ThePub; Tax Day, April 15 - Fund Our Communities Not War, Not Police Militarization; visited Senate offices, called congressional Reps, and marched to City Hall to visit Mayor's Office.

## CPA's Efforts to Support a Reasonable and Effective Agreement with Iran

CPA Boardmember Rosemary Palmer

A deal with Iran on its development of nuclear energy solely for domestic energy use, negotiated by President Obama and Secretary of State Kerry, now goes to Congress, which is expected to vote on the measure in September. News reports indicate that Ohio's Congressional Democrats are still undecided. The deal would loosen economic and military sanctions while keeping the country from constructing nuclear weapons.

Here's where Peace Action members come in. Your calls and letters are needed to Sen. Sherrod Brown and Reps. Marcia Fudge of Warrensville Heights, Marcy Kaptur of Toledo, and Tim Ryan of Niles. (See contact information on page 3 of this newsletter.) Ohio Republicans Sen. Rob Portman and Reps. Jim Renacci of Wadsworth and David Joyce of Twinsburg have already expressed opposition. Call them anyway!

Support for the deal will:

- Avert the possibility of a disastrous war.
- Guarantee that Iran's nuclear activities will remain peaceful.
- Benefit the U.S. economy directly (the US lost \$175 billion in potential exports to Iran between 1995 and 2012).

- Connect Iran more closely to the international community.
- Eliminate sanctions only as Iran complies with its commitments: without the deal, international sanctions would collapse. Kerry says the idea of a "better deal" is a fantasy.
- And, maintain the United States' reputation as a trust-worthy partner in international affairs.

The goal is to keep Congress from developing a veto-proof majority. The legislature has until Sept. 17 to review the deal, and Obama has another 12 days for a veto in case of (the expected) disapproval.

Kerry says the pact would allow the United States and Iran to work together to: defeat extremist groups, such as ISIS and Al-Qaeda, and counter the Taliban in Afghanistan; help stabilize Iraq and Syria, and address human rights issues in Iran.

Saying "no" to the deal, Kerry added, would put Iran within two years of developing a nuclear bomb.

*Anyone interested in helping with this issue is encouraged to contact Rosemary Palmer (edufacts@gmail.com). (More information on this pact on pages 6 and 7 of this newsletter.)*

**INVEST 10 MINUTES FOR PEACE.  
TAKE THIS PAGE OVER TO YOUR DESK AND MAKE  
A PHONE CALL OR TWO. NOW.  
KEEP IT SIMPLE. IT REALLY HELPS.**

**One easy number:** Congressional Switchboard at 202-224-3121 (9-5 EST)

**Senator Sherrod Brown** 202-224-2315; 713 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington D.C. 20510  
216-522-7272; 1301 E. Ninth St., Suite 1710, Cleveland 44114

**Senator Rob Portman** 202-224-3353; 338 Russell Senate Office Bldg., Washington D.C. 20510  
216-522-7095; 1240 E. Ninth St., Rm. 3061, Cleveland 44114

**Rep. Marcia Fudge** Dist. 11 202-225-7032; 2344 Rayburn House Office Bldg, Washington, D.C. 20515  
216-522-4900; 4834 Richmond Rd., Suite 150, Warrensville, OH 44128

**Rep. Jim Renacci** Dist. 16 202-225-3876; 130 Cannon House Office Bldg. Washington D.C. 20515  
330-334-0040; One Park Center Drive, Ste. 302, Wadsworth, OH 44281

**Rep. Marcy Kaptur** Dist. 9 202-225-4146; 2186 Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington D.C. 20515  
219-259-7500 One Maritime Plaza, sixth floor, Toledo, OH 43604

**Rep. David Joyce** Dist. 14 202-225-5731; 1535 Longworth House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515  
440-352-3539; 1 Victoria Place Ste. 320, Painesville, OH 44077  
330-425-9291; 10075 Ravenna Rd., Twinsburg, OH 44087

**Cleveland Peace Action and Cleveland Peace Action Education Fund**

Co-Presidents Francis Chiappa and Nina McLellan Vice-President Randy Schutt  
Secretary Bill Fickinger Treasurer Dena Magoulias Coordinator Elizabeth Schiros

**Check our website for news and events: [www.peaceactioncleveland.org](http://www.peaceactioncleveland.org)**



**I want to be a Peace Action Member/Supporter!**



Peace Action is a true national grassroots movement.

A donation in any amount qualifies you as a Member/Supporter of Cleveland Peace Action *and* National Peace Action for the calendar year.  
Recommended donation levels: Patron \$100+ • Family \$50 • Individual \$40 • Student \$20 • Limited Income \$10

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 new member  renewing member

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Make checks payable to  
**"Cleveland Peace Action"**

or, to be tax-deductible, to  
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and mail to: **TREASURER, Cleveland Peace Action,  
10916 Magnolia Drive, Cleveland, Ohio 44106**

**or**

Donate via credit card using PayPal  
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**[www.peaceactioncleveland.org](http://www.peaceactioncleveland.org)**



**Cleveland Peace Action and PAND join in remembering the destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki - 70 years ago. Thanks to Diane Mather, cellist and a leader of PAND, for her efforts to educate Americans on the danger and inhumanity of nuclear weapons and for the thoughtful review which follows.**

Thanks to Diana McNees for the photos.



We gathered at the Pilgrim Church in Tremont on the evening of August 6th to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The unusual and moving program was arranged by Emma Shook, a member of the PAND Committee and of the Cleveland Orchestra.

The performance began with "Blossoming" by Toshio Hosokawa for string quartet, which set the somber mood appropriate for the occasion using many special effects such as slides and tremolo, with nearly inaudible notes coming from nowhere, blooming gradually, and then returning to nowhere. Henry Duitman conducted the quartet with Emma Shook and Elayna Duitman violins, Lisa Boyko viola, and Erica Snowden cello.



Next the Sanctuary was filled with the radiant voice of Anna Jungeun Rathbun singing Poulenc's "La Courte Paille", with Julia Russ at the piano. The seven short songs ranged from magical and exquisite through playful and fun to melancholy and sorrowful. The singer's voice and presence perfectly conveyed the meaning in each french song, leaving us enthralled. After intermission came "the Poetry of Robert Walters" which turned out to be a startling compilation of information about the Enola Gay, from its manufacture in Nebraska, its cost, its

completion on May 18, 1945, the choice of that exact B-29 by the pilot, the origin of the name (the pilot's mother's) to the explosion of August 6 over Hiroshima and the death last year of the last crew member. Hearing these bare facts and figures left one stunned.

Two haunting works followed played by Mary Kay Fink on flute and piccolo and Rebekah Efthimiou on harp. The first, "Mei", by Kazuo Fukushima for solo flute went from eerie calm to extreme agitation. "My Pleas Were Never Heard" by Shawn Head for harp and piccolo used both instruments in unconventional ways, telling of pain and helplessness, and was spellbinding. The players who started the program ended it with the lovely, comforting and beautifully played Quartet in F by Maurice Ravel, leaving us calm and reassured as the music filled the church.

The evening included two speakers. Diane Mather for PAND spoke of the connection between music and peace. Nina McLellan spoke of the history of the anti-nuclear movement and the actions to be taken NOW-- petitioning President Obama about nuclear weapons, and urging Congress to consent to the agreement with Iran. She closed with the rallying cry "Let's raise our voices for nuclear weapons abolition".

Many people contributed to the success of this program, but special thanks go to Emma Shook of PAND and Elizabeth Schiros of Peace Action. Take the rest of the summer off, ladies!

## 70 Years of Nuclear Weapons: Abolish Them NOW

Nina McLellan, co-president of Cleveland Peace Action Cleveland Plain Dealer 6 August 2015

I was 9 years old on Aug. 6, 1945, when America used its new atomic bomb on Hiroshima and, three days later, on Nagasaki, Japanese cities of little military significance. Thus began the Cold War and the nuclear arms race.

The fireball over Hiroshima, by some accounts, equaled the sun's heat. In the first second, every person in a two-mile radius was exposed to a deadly radioactive wave. The following blast wave destroyed nearly every building in the city. Finally, a heat wave ignited fires across the city. At least 70,000 died immediately. Within a year, more than 100,000 people had died, with many more suffering long-term radiation effects.

I grew up amid widespread fear of nuclear holocaust as the United States and the Soviet Union raced toward "mutually assured destruction." Systems were on hair-trigger alert. Many ordinary Americans built fallout shelters and stocked them with survival equipment and food. Schoolchildren practiced "duck and cover" drills, crouching under our desks. Above-ground test explosions spewed radioactivity, poisoning downwind towns and soldiers deliberately exposed at the Nevada Test Site.

At the peak of the Cold War, in the early 1980s, the United States and the Soviet Union possessed more than 60,000 nuclear warheads and multiple delivery systems.

Carl Sagan and Helen Caldicott, among many, warned us of the effects of radiation and the cataclysmic consequences of nuclear war. "Imagine a room awash in gasoline, and there are two implacable enemies in that room," Sagan famously said in 1983, a quote that has entered the popular imagination in truncated and paraphrased form. "One of them has nine thousand matches. The other has seven thousand matches. Each of them is concerned about who's ahead, who's stronger. Well that's the kind of situation we are actually in. The amount of weapons that are available to the United States and the Soviet Union are so bloated, so grossly in excess of what's needed to dissuade the other, that if it weren't so tragic, it would be laughable. What is necessary is to reduce the matches and to clean up the gasoline."

Today we should celebrate that in the last 70 years, we've not had a nuclear war — despite some close calls, notably the 1962 Cuban missile crisis.

The peace movement played a major role in preventing nuclear war. The National Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy or SANE, founded in 1957, demanded an immediate halt to nuclear testing. Within a year, SANE

became the largest peace group in the United States, and its most famous ad featured Cleveland's world-famous pediatrician, Dr. Benjamin Spock, looking at a child and stating his concern with nuclear radiation effects.

The first arms-control treaty, completed in 1963, limited nuclear testing to underground. In the 1980s, the Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign's call to halt testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons gained widespread support. A 1982 anti-nuclear rally in New York City to "Freeze the Arms Race" drew more than 1 million people.

Dr. Spock was not Cleveland's only contribution to the anti-nuclear movement. Cleveland was home to one of the nation's most active Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaigns. Many Clevelanders protested at the Nevada Test Site and walked in the 1986 Great Peace March, from California to Washington, D.C., via Cleveland. The Northeast Ohio Sierra Club identified five Ohio nuclear weapons production facilities and called attention to environmental and worker contamination. Performers and Artists for Nuclear Disarmament (PAND) continues to hold annual concerts in remembrance of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings.

Nations signed treaties: the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban and Nuclear Non-Proliferation treaties. Eventually, the Cold War ended and worldwide nuclear arsenals were reduced to the current 16,400 warheads. Americans' concerns went elsewhere.

Yet today we face a new nuclear arms race, despite President Barack Obama's call for a world free of nuclear weapons. The United States, Russia, England, France, China, North Korea, India, Pakistan and Israel all have nuclear arsenals. While preaching abstinence to the nonnuclear states, all of those nations have disregarded their treaty obligations and are undertaking significant modernization programs.

Congress and the Obama administration propose to spend \$350 billion in the next 10 years and up to \$1 trillion over 30 years to modernize production facilities as well as each delivery system: submarines, missiles and bombers. Russian President Vladimir Putin says Russia, in response to a NATO military build-up in Eastern Europe, will bring more than 40 new intercontinental ballistic missiles into service in 2015 as part of Russia's modernization.

On Hiroshima's 70th anniversary, PAND and Cleveland Peace Action renew the call to keep the peace and work for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

**Have you checked out  
our website?**

[peaceactioncleveland.org](http://peaceactioncleveland.org)

On the main page you will find links to current news and opinion pieces; use the **ABOUT US** button to read past issues of our newsletter; check for volunteering opportunities; under **CALENDAR** look for up-coming events: talks, suppers, demonstrations, tabling, etc.

## Nuclear Scientists Support Deal with Iran

New York Times 8 Aug 2015

Twenty-nine of the nation's top scientists — including Nobel laureates, veteran makers of nuclear arms and former White House science advisers — wrote to President Obama on Saturday to praise the Iran deal, calling it innovative and stringent.

The letter, from some of the world's most knowledgeable experts in the fields of nuclear weapons and arms control, arrives as Mr. Obama is lobbying Congress, the American public and the nation's allies to support the agreement.

The first signature on the letter is from Richard L. Garwin, a physicist who helped design the world's first hydrogen bomb and has long advised Washington on nuclear weapons and arms control. He is among the last living physicists who helped usher in the nuclear age. *(Cleveland-born Dick Garwin began his physics studies as an undergrad at Case Institute of Technology.)*

**Here is the first paragraph:**

Dear Mr. President,

As scientists and engineers with understanding of the physics and technology of nuclear power and of nuclear weapons, we congratulate you and your team on the successful completion of the negotiations in Vienna. We consider that the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) the United States and its partners negotiated with Iran will advance the cause of peace and security in the Middle East and can serve as a guidepost for future non--proliferation agreements. This is an innovative agreement, with much more stringent constraints than any previously negotiated non--proliferation framework. It limits the level of enrichment of the uranium that Iran can produce, the amount of enriched uranium it can stockpile, and the number and kinds of centrifuges it can develop and operate. The agreement bans reconversion and reprocessing of reactor fuel, it requires Iran to redesign its Arak research reactor to produce far less plutonium than the original design, and specifies that spent fuel must be shipped out of the country without the plutonium being separated and before any significant quantity can be accumulated.

Mark your calendar for the next

Peace@thePub

## CURIOUS ABOUT CUBA?



U.S. - Cuba relations are changing. More Americans are going to Cuba. Business is interested. Can socialist Cuba survive?

Board member Toni Rozsahegyi and Cuban-born economist, Nelson Reinoso, who have recently been to Cuba, and will discuss Cuba today, how the US relationship has changed and the economic model of Cuba. Bring your questions, Cuba stories, and a friend.

**Tuesday, September 15 @ 7:00 P.M.**  
**Market Garden Brewery 1947 West 25th Street.**

**Opinion piece from National Peace Action's Kevin Martin concerning the "Iran Deal"**

Critics have legitimate reasons to question the nuclear weapons deal the Obama administration and its five partners worked out with Iran, not the least of which is that the agreement doesn't end the possibility Iran will get a bomb, but at best blocks the path for the next 10 or 15 years. Any reasoned consideration of the deal, however, has to consider the "compared with what" question.

If you don't like this agreement, what are the alternatives for preventing Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons? There are basically two. One is to bomb Iran's nuclear facilities. That would set back its program, at least for a few years. But it also would embroil the United States in yet another Middle East war with unpredictable consequences, would rally the Iranian people around their unpopular regime, and would not erase Iran's scientific know-how.



The other alternative, promoted by Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu and other opponents, is a "better deal." But those who insist there's a better deal to be had, if only Congress rejects this one, are gambling that an international coalition, which joined the U.S. to place tough economic sanctions on Iran, can be reassembled. The odds of that happening are about the same as winning the lottery.

As President Obama put it, "Those who say we can just walk away from this deal and maintain sanctions are selling a fantasy." The fact is, the deal on the table took a decade of painstaking work. As harmful as U.S. sanctions were, Iran really felt pressure only after Europe, Russia, China and other nations joined in, limiting sales of Iranian oil and backing other measures that greatly damaged the Iranian economy, and created huge popular demand for relief. Even under that immense pressure, Iran pushed ahead with its nuclear weapons program, agreeing to restrictions only after nearly two years of talks.

None of this seems to matter to some critics, who appear to think that the U.S. can simply impose its will and that negotiations are for wimps. This attitude was exemplified at a recent congressional hearing by Rep. Scott Perry, R-Pa., who said the U.S. should insist on a better deal, "and if the ayatollah doesn't like it and doesn't want to negotiate it, oh, boo-hoo! We're here for America." So what will happen if Congress overrides Obama and rejects a deal that Britain, China, France, Germany and Russia have all agreed to? Will those nations and Iran simply restart talks, chastened by angry U.S. lawmakers?

Don't count on it. Ambassadors from Britain and Germany warned in May that if the deal collapsed because Congress killed it, international support for sanctions would most likely unravel. Countries that have refrained from buying Iranian oil or doing other business with Iran would resume, and the pressure so carefully built over the past 10 years would drop sharply. U.S. sanctions might remain in place, but without reinforcement from other nations, the effect would be much less severe.

Critics who say more pressure would force Iran to make a better deal will have to explain where that pressure would come from. U.S. rejection would also empower Iranian hard-liners, who have long believed that the United States wants only regime-change and would never bargain in good faith.

Like their U.S. counterparts, Iranian hard-liners say that their side gave up way too much, and that the agreement is a bad one that should be abandoned. Freed from the deal's commitments — to mothball centrifuges, eliminate 98% of its enriched uranium, and shut down any pathway to a plutonium bomb — Iran would be able to intensify its nuclear program and resume its march toward a weapon.

***The agreement with Iran deserves thorough scrutiny before Congress votes next month. But the onus is on the critics to lay out a credible alternative. So far, they have not.***

FYI, Populations in millions:

- Iran 78
- France 66
- UK 65
- Iraq 36
- Saudi 31
- Israel 8

Teheran



Cleveland Peace Action Education Fund  
Peace House  
10916 Magnolia Drive  
Cleveland, OH 44106



[www.peaceactioncleveland.org](http://www.peaceactioncleveland.org)

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*In this August Newsletter from Cleveland Peace Action  
you will find information about  
peace related  
activities in Cleveland, about our advocacy efforts,  
and, most importantly, how you can participate.*