

beyondwar northwest

January 2015

Ongoing Discussion

Authentic Hope

What gives you authentic hope for the future?

Eugene and Corvallis members gathered together for a holiday pot luck dinner. Here are paraphrases of their 23 answers. There is no order to their comments, only going around the circle.

I have changed. I now see the connectedness that underlies everything around the world. We all have the same needs.

Change has been happening in the business community—classes in conflict resolution, more collaboration and less competition.

As I meet people and get to know them, there is more good than bad.

After standing on a street corner for 14 years waving a peace flag, comments are more

BWNW People



Dorothy Sampson

Raised in a small rural town in Kansas, Dorothy went to the University of Kansas on scholarship, graduated with honors in history, and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. She moved to California with her husband, Jim, when he was recruited as an engineer in the new aerospace industry. After their two sons were

positive.

We filled a theater to watch the film *The Power of Forgiveness* and shared the mutual respect and forgiveness advocated for in the film.

There are fewer hungry people in the world now.

When I see people take collective action, taking to the streets, feeling one another's energy, I am energized.

To read more click [here](#).

A Letter from the Board

Dear Friend of Beyond War Northwest,

In the 20th century, nonviolent means have overcome oppression and violence—war is not inevitable. The cause of peace rests in the hearts and minds of people like you who have a vision of a world beyond war. We all make a difference. We hope you will choose to financially support and join with us in our collaborative work building the peace infrastructure.

In our first year as Beyond War Northwest, we have collaborated with the Northwest Earth Institute to create a new self-facilitated curriculum called *Seeing Systems: Peace, Justice and Sustainability*. We are also collaborating with the Peace Center at Lane Community College to make this curriculum available to students.

We have active student Beyond War groups that are leading the way with the creation of public art and meaningful dialogue events.

grown, she worked at Orange Coast College. She and Jim retired in Oregon, where Dorothy heard a presentation about *Beyond War*.

For the past five years, Dorothy has hosted the *Beyond War Book Discussion Group*. There have been stories about wars and what war does to a person's soul and stories about the courage of workers for peace and justice. Having friends to share thoughts and reactions to the books makes the activity more meaningful. The discourse goes beyond the events to what is valued and what is wanted as we discover common humanity in suffering and in triumphs. The group has read over fifty books, and Dorothy's reviews of books read this past year are posted on our [website](#).

Upcoming Events

If you have events you would like to see announced here, local or global, email annemill@beyondwarnw.org.
Newsletter deadline: February 15th.

Global Events

Scheduling now: "Seeing Systems: Peace, Justice & Sustainability"

Esteban Camacho Steffensen installed a Beyond War mural at Churchill High School created in collaboration with the student group.

The University of Oregon Beyond War group has co-hosted the well-attended film event, "Dirty Wars" with Community Alliance of Lane County. They also hosted a series of "Breaking the Silence" conversations between immigrants, veterans, and people formerly incarcerated with others in the community.

We have chosen four books from our Library Project and created a self-facilitated discussion guide to distribute to libraries, Rotary groups, and the general public. We have received support from the Jubitz Foundation and the War Prevention Initiative to assist us in the distribution of these materials.

Of the four books, the Nonviolence Handbook by Nagler was judged the most concise and powerful book of the hundreds of books that our book group has read. We highly recommend this book and if you would like to share it with others please download the discussion guide.

Being involved with Beyond War NW is exciting; we are a community of learners in conversation with each other and the larger community. We are maturing and blossoming in many ways and this keeps our work meaningful, dynamic, and impactful.

Our next project is to publish a self-facilitated workbook based on the Beyond War core values that are now permeating world culture: We are all one interdependent whole; the means are the ends in the making; war is not inevitable. We have the commitment to resolve conflicts and to maintain an attitude of goodwill.

May the glow of hope live in your heart. May we all use our gifts and resources to serve this

We live in an interconnected world. Each of us is part of a complex global system, and our daily actions—big or small— influence the system in both healthy and unhealthy ways. *Seeing Systems: Peace, Justice and Sustainability* helps participants recognize and respond to the interconnected systems of our world. This self-led discussion course is designed to spark shared learning, shared stories, and shared action. Together, participants expand their people power and begin to make a real difference for good. To learn more, click [here](#).

To participate in Eugene, email annemill@BeyondWarNW.org

Local Events

New Documentary Film Group

Inspired by the film bibliography in David Hartsough's book *Waging Peace*, our Eugene Film Group will restart on the **third Tuesday** of each month at **7 pm** at **Anne's house**. Contact us for details. We have also posted a list of the films we have viewed in the past that reflect the ideas of

great vision of justice and peace and break through despair. Please give to Beyond War NW for a tax-deductible contribution or sign up for making automatic monthly contributions on our [website](#). We all thank you!

Warmly,

Ann Cole, President

Beyond War Northwest

Beyond War Northwest is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization based in Oregon, USA. Our Federal EIN is: 20-0912219.

Good Reading

Suggestions from the Eugene Book Group: ***The Terrorist's Son* by Zak Ebrahim**

Years after his father was imprisoned for life, Zak Ebrahim, as an advocate for peace, gave a speech in front of a couple hundred federal agents at the FBI headquarters in Philadelphia. After the talk, some agents formed a line to shake his hand. One agent, a woman, who had been crying, took his hand. She had worked on his father's case. "I always wondered what happened to the children of El-Sayyid Nosair," she said.

This brief book is the answer to that question. To continue reading, click [here](#).

being *Beyond War*. To see the list, click [here](#).

January 5:

Book Group, 7 p.m.

Discussion of the fiction book *The Quiet American* by Graham Greene. The Vietnam War and the best of intentions.

January 15:

Board meeting, 8 a.m.

Outreach Committee meeting, 9 a.m.

January 20:

Film Group, 7 p.m.

Discussion of 2001 documentary film *Bringing Down a Dictator*.

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