

# beyondwar northwest

March 2015

## Ongoing Discussion

### How do you want your taxes spent?

This April 15th, let someone in government know how you want your tax money spent. Choose the issue of your choice, but take the time to write the letter.

**Costs of nuclear arsenal.** In Eugene, we have invited nonviolent activists Dr. David Hall and Rev. Anne Hall to spend the weekend of April 10th with us. His article, "Trident Rebuild Meets the Definition of Insanity," is available in the January 2015 Newsletter of Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action. The U.S. Congress is on track to spend more than \$1 trillion by the end of this century to rebuild and deploy a new fleet of Trident nuclear armed submarine warships, and yet our government says that the updated nuclear arsenal will create conditions under which nuclear weapons are never again used. To learn more about people's nonviolent resistance to this build up, click [here](#).

**Reason for optimism.** Non-nuclear countries and nuclear disarmament: the Third Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), under the theme "Building Together," was held in San José, Costa Rica on the 28th-29th of January 2015. At the summit, leaders of the 33 nations of the region reaffirmed the principles of the U.N. charter and international law, their commitment to dialogue between countries and peaceful resolution of conflicts, sustainable development, democracy and respect for human rights, sovereignty and territorial integrity, no interference in internal affairs, respect for independence and self-determination of people, eradication of hunger and poverty,

## BWNW People



**Nicholas Ohlsen-Johnson**

Nicholas Ohlsen-Johnson is currently a senior at Churchill High School in Eugene and a member of the International High School program. In his free time (if he has any) he enjoys reading, writing, and playing Ultimate Frisbee or strategy games of various kinds (board, video, card, etc.). He has worked with Beyond War Northwest and a fellow student, Hailey Peterson, to get a mural depicting images of peace and environmental sustainability painted at their school. He also helped participate in and plan the 50th anniversary event of Senator Wayne Morse's refusal to sign the Tonkin Resolution. Next year he will most likely be going to school away from Eugene, focused on conservation. He believes it's very important that we preserve our world for future generations to enjoy. Wherever he goes for college, he's hoping to find the same connection that he does here and, fingers crossed, find a group of people as accepting, unique, and motivated to action as he has discovered with Beyond War Northwest. To see the mural, click [here](#).

the fight against inequality and all forms of racism, united action on climate change, and other issues of importance for the region.

They issued a declaration fully supporting the outcomes of the Third International Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons in Vienna last December and formally endorsed the Austrian Pledge. The final paragraph of the pledge is “Austria pledges to cooperate with all relevant stakeholders, States, International Organizations, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movements, parliamentarians and civil society, in efforts to stigmatize, prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons in light of their unacceptable humanitarian consequences and associated risks.” Click [here](#) to see Austria’s pledge.

## Beyond War Legatee News

**The Peace Alliance: The Global Resolution for the Establishment of Infrastructures to Support the Culture of Peace—Sign the PeaceNow petition which will be presented to the UN:**

We, ONE BILLION+ signatories from the 196 Nations of Earth, respectfully in one voice, call upon the United Nations (U.N.) and all countries, both nationally and in collaboration with the community of nations, to create infrastructures in their governments and in civil society to develop and implement policies, programs, and practices that:

1. Promote, establish, and maintain human and environmental security and justice in the social, economic, political, educational, and legal spheres, and thus generally the **Culture of Peace**
2. Effect the “economic conversion” from military to civilian production and more generally create **Economies of Peace** so as to “beat our swords into ploughshares and spears into pruning hooks”
3. Are accepted and supported by and have legitimacy with the people they serve, whether at the local, regional, national, or international level
4. Are sustainable, adaptive, and resilient
5. May be in the form of, but not limited to, government ministries or departments of peace as well as peace academies, institutes, and councils:

## Upcoming Events

If you have events you would like to see announced here, local or global, email [annemill@beyondwarnw.org](mailto:annemill@beyondwarnw.org). Newsletter deadline: April 15th.

## National Events

**Author and Nonviolent Activist Rivera Sun Spreads the Seeds of Change on a national book tour in Spring 2015.**

This is not your ordinary author tour! Rivera Sun, author of [The Dandelion Insurrection](#) – a powerful novel on nonviolent change – is sweeping the U.S. in Spring 2015. In her wake, she’s leaving seeds of courage and strategies for change. Check [here](#) for a date near you.

## Local Events

**Email [annemill@beyondwarnw.org](mailto:annemill@beyondwarnw.org) for specifics:**

**April 1 or 8 (TBA): Book Group, 7:00 pm**

Discussion of the fiction book *The Dandelion Insurrection: Love and Revolution* by Rivera Sun. Nonviolent action for societal change in a near-future world.

**April 9: Board meeting, 8 am, Outreach Committee meeting, 9 am**

**April 10-12: Dr. David Hall and Rev. Anne Hall speaking about nonviolent action for nuclear disarmament.**

**Saturday, April 11, 2:00-3:30 pm**

U of O EMU River Room: informal workshop

**Saturday, April 11, 7:00 pm**

Eugene Hotel, 222 E. Broadway

**Sunday, April 12, 1 pm**

Potluck - email for specifics

**Sunday, April 12, 7:00 pm**

United Lutheran Church, 2230 Washington St.

To read more, click [here](#).

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## Good Reading

### Suggestions from the Eugene Book Group: ***Waging Peace* by David Hartsough**

David Hartsough was only fifteen when the FBI began a file on him. At that age, he organized a demonstration of kids at the Nike Missile site. If it is so that racism and bigotry are passed along to children with their pabulum, Hartsough's story shows that compassion and empathy can also be imprinted. His mother was a teacher who spent her summer vacations picketing a germ warfare plant. His father worked for the Quakers as the American Friends Service Committee's college secretary. Following his parents' model, David decided very early that he needed to do something with his life to challenge and change the terrible injustices in society. To continue reading, click [here](#).

Also, a beautiful film about reconciliation and forgiveness, available free online: ***Beyond Right & Wrong: Stories of Justice and Forgiveness***.

Click [here](#) to see the film.

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**April 19: Rivera Sun. 1-5 pm** Seeds of Change workshop, [click here](#). **7 pm** reading at Tsunami Books.

**April 21: Film Group, 7 pm** Discussion of the film *Freedom Riders*. Nonviolent activism that risked lives but created societal change.

#### Quote from *The Dandelion Insurrection* by Rivera Sun:

*When we stop blaming Them and take responsibility for our actions...when we consciously withdraw our cooperation from injustice...that is when real change begins to occur (page 260).*

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