



Newsletter September 2014

→ Ongoing discussion

Dr. Judith Hand discusses Peace Systems:

There are myriad reasons—psychological, proximate, and ultimate (biological)—for why we make war. We've indulged in this deeply embedded, very bad cultural habit for a very long time, so skeptics are on solid ground to believe that ending it may not be, most likely isn't, possible. But in ***Shift: The Beginning of War, The Ending of War*** I explore how we CAN end war, if we choose to. No biological barrier prevents us from breaking this habit; as with all bad habits, including one as deeply engrained as war, breaking free is a matter of will.

Once we resolve to act, two kinds of efforts will be required for success, admittedly more simply said than done. We must:

- Stop doing or tolerating things that engender wars (like picking warmongers as our leaders or tolerating poverty). And,
- Do things that would prevent wars (like empowering women so we have parity governing, or establishing and fostering liberal democracies that include such characteristics as freedom of speech, freedom of the press, separation of church and state, and most especially, promotion of human rights and dignity).

We'd be engaged in a titanic struggle with an ancient monster having many tentacles: in our history, our mythologies, our economics, and our daily lives. To prevail we need a blueprint for how to subdue the beast. How can we consistently resolve serious disputes between nations or between ethnic groups and so on without killing each other? How do we move hearts and minds into a future culture



→ BWNW

People

Tie-dye, chai tea, peace advocating and Birkenstocks are among her favorite things, so yes, Negina is a Eugenic circa 1996. She will begin her third year of undergraduate studies at the University of Oregon where she studies Journalism and International studies, with Western Europe and the Middle East as her geographic focuses.

where the idea of slaughtering people in another group for any reason has become absolutely unthinkable? As it turns out, we don't have to invent that blueprint from scratch. There are known basics that can guide our planning. Throughout history some people—led by visionary individuals in close touch with their innate moral compass, and arguably, also in touch with good sense—some people have found ways to achieve the goal of peace. People who created “**peace systems.**”

To continue reading, click [here](#).

→ Beyond War Legatee News

Nuclear Age Peace Foundation 2014 Hiroshima Peace Declaration

by Kazumi Matsui

Summer, 69 years later. The burning sun takes us back to “that day.” August 6, 1945. A single atomic bomb renders Hiroshima a burnt plain. From infants to the elderly, tens of thousands of innocent civilians lose their lives in a single day. By the end of the year, 140,000 have died. To avoid forgetting that sacred sacrifice and to prevent a repetition of that tragedy, please listen to the voices of the survivors.

To continue reading click [here](#).

→ Good Reading

Suggestions from the Eugene Book Group:

***Martin Luther King, Jr., I have a Dream* *Writings and Speeches* Edited by James M. Washington**

After Martin Luther King, Jr., was called on to lead the bus boycott in Montgomery, Alabama, he came into the

Negina is also a member of UO's Beyond War chapter where she serves as the publicity and outreach coordinator. Her work with Beyond War extended this past June when she took on the role as the Beyond War Northwest newsletter assistant editor.

Note: Negina is photographed above in UOBW's 2014-15 official club t-shirt, which reads "Oregon Beyond War."

→ Upcoming Events

If you have events you would like to see announced here, local or global, email annemill@beyondwarnw.org. Newsletter deadline: November 1st.

September 21: The International Day of Peace

Minute of silence at noon, moment of peace, wherever you are.

**September 10:
Discussion Series, 7:30
p.m., First Christian
Church, 1166 Oak St.,
Eugene.**

national spotlight. There were death threats and attempts to kill him. Bombs were thrown onto the front porch of his home, and in September 1958, he was stabbed as he was signing his recently-published Montgomery story. Severely wounded, King was rushed to Harlem Hospital. The next day the *New York Times* reported that the blade had been on the edge of his aorta. Ten years later, King recalled a letter that had been sent to him as he recovered from the stabbing. A ninth grader, a young white girl, wrote: "I read that if you had sneezed, you would have died. And I'm simply writing you to say that I'm so happy that you didn't sneeze." We should all be happy that he didn't sneeze. In the remaining ten years of his life, King changed America. Through his leadership in nonviolent direct action, institutional racism was made illegal.

To continue reading, click [here](#).

September 14 - 21: Peace Week in Eugene

The history, status and trends of peace-building have been ignored for too long and need to be lifted into awareness now, as the history of war and violence really teaches us only what NOT to do, it does not teach us the way forward. Our mission during Peace Week 2014 is to inspire, inform, mobilize and support year-round activities promoting security, prosperity, and quality of life, the foundations of a culture of peace.

From September 14 to September 21, 2014 — dubbed "Peace Week" by the organizers — there will be a series of inspiring and informative events that are free and appropriate for all ages, sponsored by a rapidly-growing number of over 60 organizations here in Eugene and Springfield, leading to the official International Day of Peace which occurs on Sunday, September 21, 2014. A special, youth-driven event on Saturday, September 20 will inspire, inform, mobilize and support everyone to accelerate the evolution of the culture of peace that most people desire, but many mistakenly believe to be impossible. Each year, millions of people around the world participate in activities, events, concerts and festivals to celebrate the International Day of Peace. Beyond War Northwest will have a table at this event and was part of the organizing committee.

[For more information, click here.](#)

Seeing Systems: Peace, Justice and Sustainability opening discussion of six-week series.

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 or to sign up to participate, email annemill@BeyondWarNW.org.

September 14 - 21: Peace Week in Eugene

A whole week devoted to peace. Think about it! What will you do?

September 18:
- Board meeting, 8 a.m.
- Outreach Committee meeting, 9 a.m.

**September 22:
Book discussion, 7 p.m.**
Conscience by Louisa Thomas.
From book cover: "Two soldiers, two pacifists, one family—a test of will and faith in World War I."
