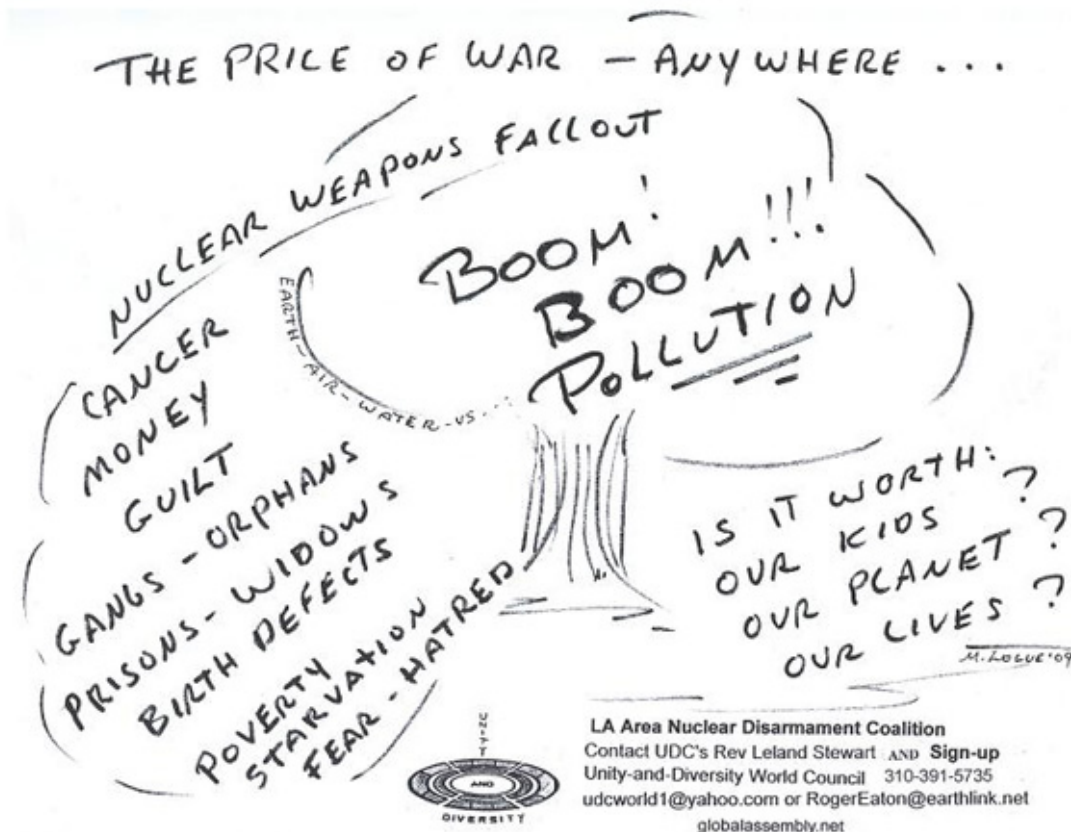


January and February Activist Meetings

We met in January with seven and then in February with four participants. Though small in number we had good meetings each session and came up with a modest action plan to develop and distribute Nuclear Disarmament flyers. Irving Sarnoff of Friends of the United Nations provided text for one of the flyers. Inevitably we had some suggested edits, so he graciously allowed the group to use his flyer as a basis for a coalition flyer. Jeanne Kyle of Global Voices for Justice did a great job of designing the piece for us. Here is the result. Another of our members, Madelon Logue, came up with a spirited cartoon-like flyer, which we think will reach more people. See below. We have printed these flyers together front to back. Our aim is to make something that will reach the citizenry, which we think is not moved enough by the issue. Please let us know what you think about our flyer! -- Roger Eaton, LAANDC Coordinator - 310 390-5220.

Our next meeting will be March 21, 2009 at 10 am, St Andrew's Lutheran Church, 11555 National Blvd, LA, CA 90064.



Los Angeles Area Nuclear Disarmament Coalition Dialog

The LAANDC Dialog uses an innovative voting-on-messages technology called InterMix Group Dialog software. Normally people think of candidates as being people, but in an InterMix Group Dialog, the “candidates” are messages written by participants for our consideration. A Group Dialog proceeds in rounds, with each round having three phases: 1) the writing of candidate messages, 2) discussion of the candidates in a forum, and 3) the rating of the candidates to elect a message for the round.

The dialog will proceed in monthly rounds. Each month, the activists meeting and the conference call will discuss the elected message.

Here is a link to Join or Visit the dialog. For now there is only one active group in the Dialog. Expectations are to bring in at least Global Warming and Social-and-Economic Justice groups to participate in the Dialog along with our Nuclear Disarmament group. This expansion will occur over the next year. Or, there is another way we can go, and that is to bring in more cities, each with its own “collective voice”.

Latest writeup - Jan 11, 2009 Overview

1. For immediate action
2. Introduction to the new LA Area Nuclear Disarmament Coalition with global aims (LAANDC).
3. notice of next LAANDC meeting in Mar Vista, Saturday Jan 17, 10 am
4. notice of upcoming LAANDC online dialog using innovative InterMix Group Dialog software
5. notice of upcoming LAANDC telephone conference call, Wednesday, Feb 25 at 7:30 pm
6. notice of wonderful Peace Sunday event in Venice, Sunday Jan 18, 3 pm
7. notice of next Westside Progressives events
8. Opt Out and Invite a Friend links at the bottom

For Immediate Action

The website Change.org is holding a contest to choose the ten best ideas for change in America. Out of more than 7,500 proposals and more than 250,000 votes, an idea for “US Leadership to Abolish Nuclear Weapons Globally” has made it to the final round with some 90 other ideas. People from throughout America and around the world will be voting in the final round to choose the top ten ideas from January 5th until 5:00 p.m. EST on January 15th. Please click in now, join up change.org if you have not already, and vote.

Introduction to the LAANDC

The new Los Angeles Area Nuclear Disarmament Coalition with global aims (LAANDC) comes out of a successful Nuclear Disarmament conference that was held on Sep 6, 2008 under the auspices of the Unity-and-Diversity World Council and the Westside Progressives. Both organizations are continuing their interest in the nuclear disarmament issue by promoting the Coalition. As a group, the LAANDC will come under the Unity-and-Diversity World Council thereby inheriting a 501(c)(3) status.

In general terms, the purpose of the Coalition will be to activate the Los Angeles area to push for full nuclear disarmament. The “with global aims” coda to the name of the Coalition is meant to remind us that we can only succeed by connecting globally as well as organizing locally.

The Coalition will have a monthly meeting, a monthly conference call and an innovative online dialog. The meeting will be for nuclear disarmament proponents who are looking for a way to get active here in the LA area. One of the main tasks for meeting participants will be to recruit new organizations to the Coalition, most definitely including mainstream organizations. The conference call will have one active participant from each LA area organization that has joined the Coalition, plus as many others who want to listen in. The online dialog will allow everyone to raise and discuss issues and initiatives. The dialog will take place in monthly "rounds", where each month participants will write "candidate" messages to be voted on and discussed in a "forum" by other participants, electing one message to be discussed in both the meeting and the conference call.

For more information about the LAANDC, we have a web page at <http://udcworld.org/laandc.htm>.

next LAANDC meeting in Mar Vista, Saturday Jan 17, 10 am - 11 am

At St Andrew's Lutheran Church, 11555 National Blvd, LA, CA 90064. On the north east corner, one block east of Barrington on National. Near the Whole Foods at Barrington and National. Ten dollar donation requested - no one turned away. Free parking, light refreshments.

The meeting will be held as a breakout session of the monthly Unity-and-Diversity General Assembly, which runs from 9am to noon. Also breaking out from 10 am to 11 am will be Global Warming and Social-and-Economic Justice sessions. LAANDC meeting attendees are welcome to come for the entire UDC General Assembly. The first hour from 9 am to 10 will consist of opening rituals and a presentation by Eric Anderson about Global Climate Change followed by discussion. At 11 am, there will be a half hour General Assembly business meeting followed by light refreshments and a post card writing session until noon.

Upcoming LAANDC online dialog using innovative InterMix Group Dialog software

To participate in the dialog, just stay tuned - you will be notified and can click in to write your message for consideration by fellow dialogers. The software is going through final alpha testing now and should be ready in about a week. For more information see <http://globalassembly.net>. As a participant, you will have the option of writing on any nuclear disarmament topic of your own choosing, or you may wish to write on one of the three preset topics:

- * Send a message to Obama about the need for world nuclear disarmament.
- * Do nuclear disarmament coalitions at the city level make sense? What can the organizations that make up a citywide coalition do better together than separately? The February meeting of the LAANDC will discuss the top rated message under this topic.
- * Global zero is our primary goal. No nuclear weapons anywhere on earth. Are we agreed?

Participants from outside the Los Angeles area are welcome.

The process has three stages. First we write "candidate" messages, then we discuss the candidates in an online forum and finally we vote. If there are too many messages to read and vote on them all, then we will have two rounds of voting. From the preliminary round the top eight finalists will go out to everyone for a final selection.

Peace Sunday event in Venice, Sunday Jan 18, 3 pm

Hosted by Unity-and-Diversity World Council. Doors open at 2pm. More info at <http://udcworld.org>. If the past is any guide, this will be a wonderful event, well worth attending. Come a little early to find parking.

Two Westside Progressives Events not to be missed

Monday, February 2 Strategy Meeting will be at Westside Pavilion, Community Room A, behind the food court. 7:00 - 9:00 PM - this is where you can make a difference.

Saturday, February 21 Westside Progressives annual fundraiser at the Jazz Bakery, 3233 Helms Ave, LA 90034 (adjacent to Helms Bakery complex) 1-3 PM. Flyer will be coming. Join the throng at \$35 in a good cause for a good show with comedy and song.

Please do not reply directly to this email. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Roger Eaton at rogerweaton@gmail.com, or by phone in the USA at 310 390 5220. Feedback about problems with the Inter-Mix Group Dialog software that we are using is especially appreciated.

Three key nuclear disarmament websites:

<http://www.wagingpeace.org/>

<http://www.nuclearweaponsfree.org/>

<http://www.globalzero.org/>

Let's get moving! -- All the best,

Roger Eaton

rogerweaton@gmail.com

310 390 5220