

Harbinger

Swords into Plowshares Peace Center and Gallery

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Bristah Bequest Benefits Peace Center

Here at the Peace Center we are deeply grateful for a generous bequest from the estate of Jo Bristah, co-founder of SIP who died last October. (See more on p.2.)

We are keeping in mind the generosity and kindness of Jo and Jim and will work with the family to assure that what is done will please them. A well-attended

The SIP Steering Committee is still in the process of deciding exactly how best to allocate this money, but that is, as we optimists say, a good problem to have.

We're considering a number of options, e.g., resuscitating our antique air-conditioner to enable us to have exhibits and events during the summer, creating a handicap-accessible bathroom, or providing a scholarship. Or...ideas still to be decided.

The Bristah daughters, Cheryl, Gayle, Pam and Chris have agreed to stay in the loop to help us identify options for use of the bequest.



Peace Center supporters at Shop for a Cause Holiday Mart, 2011

Director's Corner

You probably have already heard of the death of Jo Bristah, who along with her husband Jim, founded the Peace Center and Gallery in 1985. Although Jo had not been active here in some while, her indomitable spirit remained a part of all that we do here. Again, we offer our heartfelt sympathy to her daughters and other family members.

On behalf of the Steering Committee and all the volunteers, I am honored to thank everyone who sent in a year-end donation. We are humbled by your support and will continue to be good stewards of your donations.

There are several upcoming events that I am excited to let you know about. I hope you will mark your calendars and be able to attend:

Wayne State University Art Student

Sale: On Friday evening April 27th from 6 to 8 pm, and Saturday April 28th from 10 am to 3 pm, we are hosting our first ever WSU art student multi-media art sale. By invitation of their art professors, talented students will offer their work(s). This is a great opportunity to add to your collection and help launch the careers of students.

Visions of Peace 2012 will open on Saturday, April 14th from 10 am to noon. Always uplifting and inspiring, this year's exhibit of children's art reflecting on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child will include even more

organizations and individual youth. There is always room for everyone - all submissions are installed. If you know of any group or individual youth that would like to participate, please contact Maggie Davenport at EX2241@Wayne.edu. Please put Visions of Peace in your subject line so she knows why you're emailing her.

The date for the 2012 **Shop for a Cause Holiday Mart** is Saturday, November 10th. 2012 from 10:00am to 3:00pm. There are already new groups expressing an interest in participating. Remember, this is guilt free shopping. All the talented vendors donate their proceeds to area non-profit groups. In this time of need, what better way to support good works and get a start on your Holiday shopping?

Rental of our space has been increasing this year. It is a great space for weddings, birthday and anniversary parties, meetings, group fundraisers, whatever purpose a group may have in mind. Our rates are reasonable.

Expanding our presence in the community has been a priority for the past few years. What are your thoughts on how we might accomplish this? As always, we value your suggestions. Thank you.

Wendy

Donations instead of Gifts?

My siblings and I have decided that rather than give each other more stuff for birthdays, anniversaries and major holidays – thus adding to our already existing piles of things we don't need -- we will, instead, make donations to organizations we support, in honor of each other. It has been a lovely way for me to increase my contributions to the Peace Center and Gallery, and enable my sisters and brother to become a part of the work SIP does for peace and justice. At the same time, I have been able to participate in helping organizations in the Seattle area, the San Francisco Bay Area and San Diego.

Perhaps, you might find that you can do likewise?

Marti Alston

The Gift Shop

The SIP Gift Shop staff wishes to extend a special thanks and recognition to the generous people who have donated handmade and other items for sale in the Gift Shop. It is pieces like this that make our Gift Shop a one-of-a-kind.

Marti Alston: Paul Robeson posters and books;
Pauline Feltner: handcrafted note cards;
Wendy Hamilton: framed needle-point and

The Treasure Sale is Back!

Circle this date on your calendar, Saturday, September 29, and help raise funds for SIP. Please consider donating items that you no longer want--they might be "treasures" for someone else.

We will announce the dates for you to drop off items in a future newsletter. (Please make sure your donations are clean and in working order. No clothes or furniture will be accepted.) If you have donation questions call us at (313) 342-8143.

Audrey and Jack Chase

hand-knitted scarves;
Shirley Magder: hand-painted note-cards;
Joyce Mason: ceramics;
Lois Rutt: DVD's and greeting cards;

...and many other people over the years.

In addition to hand-crafts, we feature many peace and justice items. Check out a recently published book on the life and accomplishments of American icon and activist, Pete Seeger. Seeger informed the author Alec Wilkinson, that he would agree to the interview for the book if it could be read in one sitting. At 151 pages Wilkinson honored Seeger's dictum.

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