

The New Jersey PEACE Maker

Publication of NJ Peace Action and NJ Peace Action Education Fund



Founded 1957—54 Years of Citizen Action

Volume 16 Issue 2, Summer 2011

New Jersey Peace Action Helps Kick Off “Move the Money” Initiative



The national Move the Money campaign came to New Jersey on June 4th with a conference organized by NJ Peace Action and the August 9th Saving Lives Task Force in conjunction with several other like-minded groups. The purpose of the conference was to promote moving federal funding from military spending, particularly nuclear weapons and research, to humanitarian, social and environmental needs.

Move the Money: Turn Swords into Plowshares was hosted by the Jam-e-Masjid Islamic Center in Boonton and featured keynote speaker Jonathan Granoff, president of the Global Security Institute, along with 6 other speakers from such organizations as Passing the Peace, National Peace Action, People’s Organization for Progress, and NJ United Students.

NJ Peace Action’s Blog Has New Writers!

Be sure to click on the NJPeaceBlog logo on our website, www.njpeaceaction.org. and join the conversation! Two new writers, college students Jewel Daniels and Denickel Braithwaite, have joined Ted Guggenheim and posted pieces such as *Have We Learned Anything?*, *The Faith Club*, *Thoughts for Memorial Day 2011* and *On Forgiveness*. Please check out the new postings and add your comments to the conversation on peace and justice issues in our world today. If you would like to be a blogger, please email nj_peaceaction@yahoo.com.

Cole Speaks on Historic Changes in the Middle East

Two hundred people heard Professor Juan R. I. Cole give the keynote presentation at NJ Peace Action’s 54th Annual Dinner on May 1. Cole, author of *Engaging the Muslim World*, spoke on U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East, in light of the Arab Spring. Cole affirmed that “the people who are advising Obama that the Arab Spring is a reason to stay in Iraq can say exactly the opposite. The Arab Spring is a reason that we don’t need to stay. Because what is the Arab Spring saying? It’s saying that Bush was wrong that the Arabs needed the U.S. to do this for them. Nobody imagined that Hosni Mubarek, who came into power in 1981, could be gotten rid of by peaceful crowds in the streets.” His talk focused on significant change in a number of Middle Eastern countries, in particular Egypt, Tunisia, and Bahrain, as well as Iraq and Iran.

To set the tone for Cole’s talk, Middle Eastern music was provided by Fawzia Afzal-Khan, a trained vocalist in the North Indian Classical tradition. Jerry Stillman, founding member and current Board member was honored as Peace Action Person of the Year and the Islamic Center of Morris County was presented with the Sylvia and Oscar Ackelsberg Peace Award. DVDs of Cole’s talk can be obtained from NJ Peace Action for \$12.

Join Our Peace Site Network!

A peace site is any place where people congregate and dedicate themselves to working for world peace.



Contact us to find out how to become an NJ Peace Action Peace Site.

New Jersey Peace Action and the New Jersey Peace Action Education Fund—founded in 1957—are committed to working through grassroots citizen action to abolish nuclear weapons, promote a more peaceful economy, support non-military solutions to international conflict, and end weapons trafficking.



Officers and Staff

President NJPA—Anna Nelson

President NJPAEF—Ed Lewinson

Vice Presidents—Trish Jarecke, Jerry Stillman

Secretary—Howard Lipoff

Treasurer—Kit Marlowe

Director—Madelyn Hoffman

Office Manager—Ron DeStefano