

PEACEWAYS



Issue # 224

January 2009

The Newsletter of the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice
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International Slow Food Gathering Report Terre Madre 2008—Sustainable Local and Global Food Systems

by Jim Embry

About 20 kindred spirits from Kentucky and 800 from the USA were among the 6300 delegates who attended the third international Terra Madre gathering in Torino, Italy, from October 23-27, 2008.

The event included more than 4000 small-scale farmers, breeders, fishers and artisan producers, 800 cooks, 300 academics, 1000 young people and 200 musicians representing 1652 food communities and 150 countries as well as

hundreds of volunteers and observers.

Terra Madre 2008 brought together people from different climates and cultures to share innovative solutions and time-honored traditions for keeping small-scale agriculture and sustainable food production alive and well.

Terra Madre—meaning Mother Earth—is the largest international gathering of small-scale farmers and food producers. It is a forum for those who produce, purchase, cook, and educate in an effort to promote a more sustainable, local

and global food system, based on the concept of food communities that encompass the long and diverse chains of people involved in bringing our food from field to the table. “Terra Madre is a forum for all who believe that good, clean and fair food should be available at every table,” says Erika Lesser, Director of Slow Food USA.

First organized in 2004 and repeated in 2006, Terra Madre grew even stronger this year.

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Photos by Jim Embry

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The Central Kentucky Council for Peace & Justice

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Peaceways is published ten times a year by the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice, 112 N. Upper St., Lexington KY 40507.

Submissions of articles or items in the Calendar are welcome. Contact the editor, Gail M. Koehler at 859.355.5701 or gmkkentucky@gmail.com. **Deadline: the first Wednesday of the month.**

The views expressed in *Peaceways* are those of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice.

Sharing the Bounty

Local Gleaning Project Underway

by John Walker

Last September, as my garden was recovering from the August heat but before the last flourish of the year, I read an article about gleaning by Patricia Leigh Brown (found at www.commondreams.org/headline/2008/09/14-3). In it, she introduced Natasha Boissier who started the North Berkeley Harvest (see <http://northberkeleyharvest.org>).

That week my neighbors invited me to pick fruit from their gardens. So putting two and two together I was disposed to wander my locale and see if there were any other fruit trees to be gleaned in my neighborhood. I eventually picked fruit from six gardens and my son's school. Over the course of the fall we collected over 300lbs of apples and pears and donated them to various food agencies in Lexington as well as the Primate Rescue Centre in Wilmore.

This year I hope to initiate a Lexington-wide gleaning project. There are a number of us already

busy organizing and developing tools and other aids, but we are also trying to reach out to, recruit and support individuals, schools, churches, scout troops or any other groups who would organize their own local group.

Our plan is that each gleaning group would be autonomous and neighbourhood-based. Interested individuals or groups would survey their neighbourhood for fruit trees or other potential crops and, either by themselves or with others, organize the harvesting of the fruit or vegetables.

These groups would also deliver the harvest to God's Pantry or another agencies who care for the poor. I can provide contact names and phone numbers of agencies that will take food.

Below is an example of a card that encourages growers to allow gleaning. You can give it to anyone who has a fruit tree or who grows a vegetable garden.

If you are interested in being a local organizer, please add your name and contact to mine.

Gleaners Wanted

Do you have fruit trees or a vegetable garden in your yard?
Do you ever have more fruit or produce than you know what to do with?
Would you like to donate this fruit or produce to feed those less fortunate?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then I invite you to join the Gleaning Network. Gleaning is the act of collecting leftover crops from fields after they have been harvested. God's Pantry and other food charities are in need of all the good, fresh local produce that they can get.

For more information about being part of the Gleaning Network, contact: John Walker at igrowfood@insightbb.com; phone 225-3866

When you reap the harvest of your land, moreover, you shall not reap to the very corners of your field nor gather the gleaning of your harvest; you are to leave them for the needy and the alien.

(Leviticus 23:22)



Sam Levin presents at the opening ceremony. (Photos from Jim Embry.)

Report from Terre Madre

....continued from page one

That increased strength was due in part to 1000 youth delegates from around the world who came as college and high school students, culinary students, young farmers, cooks and activists. My impression was that this organization very clearly understood that to strive toward sustainable development means we **MUST** involve our youth!

As an expression of this understanding, the opening ceremony—which included colorful and inspiring cultural performances—also included a speech by Sam Levin, a 15-year-old student at Monument Mountain High School in Massachusetts. Sam rocked the house with such words as these: “What all of you have started is an unbelievable beginning to a powerful revolution. But I know that all of you are wondering if my generation will be able to continue that revolution, and carry it to the extent of its mission.... I’m here today because I want you to know that we get it. We will be the generation that reunites mankind with the earth.”

Terra Madre this year ran concurrently with Salone del Gusto, one of the most important inter-

national fairs dedicated to high quality, sustainably produced artisan food from around the world, also organized by Slow Food International.

The unification of these two events opened discussion to Salone’s 180,000 visitors on topics important to sustainable food production. Slow Food believes that both events will continue to build bridges from the farm to table and inspire solidarity among sustainable producers, supporters and advocates.

For example, in the Salone, Vandana Shiva presented the Manifesto on Climate Change and the Future of Food Security by the International Commission on the Future of Food and Agriculture. This document, co-authored by Wendell Berry, outlined why it is vital to consider agriculture in analyses of climate change and discussions of possible solutions.

Education was a key theme of the entire gathering. It was accomplished through the interplay of 40 Earth Workshops, 28 regional and national meetings, walks through the Journey to the Origins of Taste exhibits, hundreds of daily cultural performances, the captivating international Marketplace, the long bus rides to and dinners back at par-

ticipants’ lodgings, and the many hugs shared between kindred spirits.

The message spread by Terra Madre is gaining momentum on every level—from food producer to global policy maker. In a clear sign of the political strength it has gained, at the Closing Ceremony the Italian government invited a Terra Madre delegation to serve as an interlocutor to the G8 meeting next year in Sardinia, Italy.

This unprecedented invitation will give significant voice to 450 million smallholder farmers of the world who do not typically have the opportunity to influence global policy decision-making.

Terra Madre was without a doubt one of the liveliest and most practical international gatherings that I have ever attended. It is difficult in these few words to describe and for readers to even imagine such a magical and profoundly important event. In those few, short, incredible days, international friendships were developed, exchanges established, our world’s cultures were tasted, listened and danced to, seen and appreciated, hugged and kissed... our lives were vastly enriched and connected.

Terra Madre invites and reminds us to return to the terra – earth, and madre – the earth as mother. ■

Terra Madre presentation Sunday Jan. 25th 6 to 9 PM Downtown Public Library

The 20 delegates from Kentucky are available for speaking engagements about our experience at Terra Madre and the international movement for local foods systems. Please contact us to arrange presentations. E-mail embryjim@gmail.com,

For more info, see
www.slowfoodbluegrass.org
www.terramadre2008.org
www.slowfood.com.

Families Forum dedicated to ending violence

by **Hanna B. Smith**

With so much bad news coming out of the Middle East, it is a relief to hear of something positive, such as the Families Forum.

The group is made up of Israeli and Palestinian families who have lost loved ones in the Intifada. Instead of hating, these families are dedicated to ending the cycle of violence and to find a compromise that will lead to a peaceful coexistence between both peoples. Common ground for all members of the Families Forum is the loss, through violence, of a family member.

The Families Forum is a grassroots organization, founded in 1994 by an Israeli, Yitzhak Frankenthal, after Hamas activists killed his son Arik. While sitting shiva for his son, Yitzhak Frankenthal realized that the cycle of violence between Israelis and their Arab neighbors was damaging everyone. Without reconciliation, leading to peace, there would be no hope for either people.

Yitzhak Frankenthal went to work to find like-minded people. For the next several months he contacted Israeli families who had lost

family members to the Intifada. Out of 350 letters Yitzhak sent, 100 were returned as undeliverable; 44 responded positively.

In 1995 the fledgling group made a trip to Gaza where they met Palestinian families who had lost family members in retaliatory action by the Israeli army. The two groups mourned their dead together and resolved to do whatever they could to prevent further blood-shed.

Today, the Families Forum consists of about 500 member families. The membership is roughly 50 percent Israeli and 50 percent Palestinian. The group reaches out to bereaved families, educates, and creates opportunities for dialogue between the two communities.

In addition to an Israeli and a Palestinian office there are Friends of the Families Forum offices in London and in New York. Members have met with such notables as Dr. Rowan Williams, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Archbishop Desmond M. Tutu, and Prince Hassan Bin Talal of Jordan.

In September 2005, the Friends of the Families Forum of the United Kingdom sponsored a concert in London with both Jewish and Mus-

lim performers. Sales of a bracelet that is specially designed for the group, and a calendar featuring members and events, raise funds as well. The group has also made trips to the United States.

Creating the Families Forum and maintaining its mission has been a daunting task. Members on both sides hear accusations that they are "consorting with the enemy." Yitzhak Frankenthal, the founder, has received threatening phone messages and even death threats. Nevertheless, the Families Forum continues its work.

For more information, visit www.familiesforum.co.uk for Friends of the Bereaved Families Forum (FBFF) Israeli Palestinian Bereaved Families for Peace, or contact American Friends of Parents Circle—Families Forum P.O. Box 321934, Fort Washington Station, New York gon@parentscircle.org; office@theparentscircle.org (in Israel); 972-2-6275022 (Palestinian office).

This article was first published in the June/July 2008 issue of Shalom, the Newspaper of the Central Kentucky Jewish Federation.



United for Peace and Justice 6th Annual Assembly

Janet Tucker and Mary Ann Ghosal, members of CKCPJ's Peace Action Task Group, attended the 6th Annual Assembly of the national umbrella peace group, United for Peace and Justice, in Chicago, December 12 through 14, 2008.

United for Peace and Justice (UFPJ) was founded in 2002 in response to the launch of the Global War on Terror by U. S. leaders. UFPJ has become a national movement-building coalition of over 1400 member groups united in

opposition to the war and occupation of Iraq. It provided information, analysis, organizing tools, fact sheets, training materials and other resources throughout the last six years.

A highlight of the Assembly was planning around the "Yes We Can" Campaign to run from January 19 (MLK Day) through April 4, 2009, and beyond.

The "Yes We Can" campaign calls for a new set of national priorities rooted in the vision and values

of Dr. Martin Luther King—working toward a world without racism, poverty, or war. The campaign highlights the links between current U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and the resulting associated military budget to current economic, social, and environmental crises in the U.S. and throughout the world.

With thanks to Maryann Ghosal who provided the text from which this brief report was excerpted.



Lexington Peace Rally: Stop the Violence



“To retaliate in kind would do nothing but intensify the existence of hate in the universe. Along the way of life, someone must have sense enough and morality enough, to cut off the chain of hate.”
-Martin Luther King, Jr.

Fatimah Shalash read the words of MLK in the chilly afternoon Sunday, January 18, in front of the courthouse complex at the corner of Limestone and Main where dozens of Lexingtonians joined together in solidarity, calling for peace and an end to the violence on all sides in the Middle East. She said:

“I believe that something like this peace rally is a small step towards cutting off the chain of hate....I know it’s easier to blame and point fingers at who did what first... it could have been easy for me to hate. ...I did not want to go towards that path, knowing it will take me to a place I did not want to be. Instead, I decided peace is something I’m willing to work for. Peace is a word I can understand, though it has yet to fall on the lives of thousands. ...that is why we are here...to speak on their behalf. To come together regardless of race or religion and no longer remain silent. ... Who will take that first step? Why not you and me? Let’s start with ourselves. Let’s break down barriers, talk to others, and learn about one another. Change comes from within and is bound to affect all those around us positively. Together, we have a powerful voice and a means to use our compassion to make a difference.”

Kerby Neill spoke at the rally as a representative of CKCPJ, highlighting the fact that the Council “is a diverse group of wonderful people dedicated to peace. We are Jew and Muslim, Christian and Buddhist, Quaker and agnostic. We are male and female, younger and older, black, white, anglo, latino... we are a slice of Kentucky.”

He, too, quoted MLK: “Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. Hate multiplies hate, violence multiplies violence, and toughness multiplies toughness in a descending spiral of destruction.”

However, “We are not without hope. Long standing disputes have found reconciliation in South Africa, in Northern Ireland, and elsewhere. We are here today because we agonize over this multigenerational dispute between Palestinian and Israeli. Many of us may feel allied with one side or the other. If we cannot work together for peace here, what dare we expect from those over there suffering the deaths, destruction, and fears so intense in the present conflict.

...What can we do? We must let our elected officials know:

- that this conflict is a priority;
- that Israelis and Palestinians are brothers and sisters of a diverse America;
- that their lives and livelihoods must be valued and secured;
- that there is much work to be done;
- that only light drives out darkness.”



Kerby Neill addresses the peace rally.
 Photo by Dr. Umar Murad.

Two Spring film series enrich Lexington

All films are free and open to the public

University of Kentucky Gender and Women Studies Program Transgressions and Transformations

Wednesday, February 4, 7:00 pm: Daughter from DaNang. In this 2002 Sundance Film Festival "Grand Jury Prize Best Documentary," Heidi seems the proverbial "all-American girl" from small-town Pulaski, Tennessee. But she was born Mai Thi Hiep in Danang, Vietnam, the daughter of an American serviceman and a Vietnamese woman. At the war's end, her mother, hearing rumors that racially mixed children would be persecuted, placed the 7-year-old girl on an "Operation Babylift" plane to the United States. Mother and daughter would know nothing about each other for 22 years. Commentary and discussion led by Janet El-dred, Professor of English and essayist who writes about cross-cultural adoption.

Monday, February 23, 7:00 pm: Double Exposure. A Chinese American woman explores the "cultural statelessness" experienced by first generation immigrants through a series of first-person reflections and observations examining her passage from young Chinese girl to middle-aged American woman. An acclaimed environmental artist and first-time filmmaker, Kit-Yin Snyder uses double-exposed imagery to convey the duality of immigrant identity—a notion that she has been living out ever since she left China as a teenager. "When you get to be my age, you're not supposed to care how people look at you. If you saw me on the street, you'd think of me as a little old Chinese lady. And that's OK. But keep in mind—not every little old Chinese lady would ever make a film like this." Commentary and discussion led by Liang Luo, Assistant Professor in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages, Literatures, and Culture, whose areas of expertise include gender and cultural politics in modern Chinese film, literature, and drama.

Location for both films: Gaines Center's Bingham-Davis House, 218 E. Maxwell Street.

For more information: www.as.uky.edu/news_events/events/Pages/2008-09GWSEvents.aspx.

One World Film Festival

Sunday, Feb. 15, 2:00 pm: Autism: The Musical. This winner of the 2008 Emmy Award for Nonfiction Special tells the story of several autistic children who—with the help of their parents and teachers—write and produce a musical, developing social skills as they learn to work with each other. The local Autism Society Chapter sponsors a panel discussion, and reception following. **Location: Central Branch Library Theater, 140 E. Main St., Lexington.**

Thursday, February 19, 7:00 pm: Pete Seeger: Power of Song. Archival footage, interviews, and home movies are combined in this portrait of folk singer and political activist, Pete Seeger. One of our country's greatest singers/songwriters, Seeger was the architect of the folk revival. Michael Johnathon, of WoodSongs Old Time Radio and a friend of Pete Seeger, will introduce the film. WoodSongs volunteers host a reception after the film. **Location: Kentucky Theatre, 214 E. Main St., Lexington.**

Sunday, February 22, 2:00 pm: Moving Midway. When a descendent of the man who built the plantation, Midway, in North Carolina, decides to move the 155 year-old mansion to another location, he unearths some interesting facts about the inhabitants of the plantation. The Human Rights Commission hosts a reception after the film. **Location: Central Branch Library Theater, 140 E. Main St., Lexington.**

Thursday, February 26, 5:00 and 7:30 pm: A Walk to Beautiful is a documentary featuring the story of three Ethiopian women, rejected by their husbands and ostracized in their communities, who leave their homes in search of medical treatment for obstetric fistula, a condition caused by obstructed labor during childbirth. The women walked for hours to the nearest road, search out public transportation to the capital, Addis Ababa, to find a hospital for treatment. **Location: Kentucky Theatre, 214 E. Main St., Lexington.**

For more information: www.oneworldfilmfestival.org.

These two series run through the spring—be sure to check their websites for full listings or consult next month's *Peaceways* for their March screenings.

Events at a Glance

<i>Date/Time</i>	<i>Event Description</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Wednesday meetings: Jan 14, Feb 18 and March 11	The Edible Garden Series meets at the Dorothea Smith Oatts Visitor Center of UK's Arboretum, 500 Alumni Drive, Lexington.	for more information: John Walker at igrowfood@insightbb.com or phone 225-3866
Thursday, Feb 19, 7:30 pm Lexington History Museum 215 West Main Street Lexington, Kentucky	The Lexington History Museum observes Black History Month with its regular "Evening with Our History" program featuring "The Women of Camp Nelson" presented by Shirley Hayden. The presentation will be in the Original 1900 Courtroom on the Third Floor.	see: www.lexingtonhistorymuseum.org for more info and complete listings of events
Save the date: Transylvania University Fair Trade Week events from March 30 to April 3 — Focus on Central/Latin America. Planned activities include info booth day, panel discussion; community art project, movies, and fashion show/expo. Info: Sara Marie Thompson at smthompson09@transy.edu .		
Save the date: March 2-5: Gender and War Series , co-sponsored by Transylvania Women's Studies and UK Gender and Women's Studies Program. For complete listings and more information see www.as.uky.edu/news_events/events/Pages/2008-09GWSEvents.aspx .		
1 st Wednesday 7:00 pm	CKCPJ Board Meeting , in our offices at 112 N. Upper St. All are welcome.	Nabeel Jawahir, Co-chair 859.619.3369
Every Thursday 5:30 - 6:00 pm	Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Peace , Triangle Park in downtown Lexington.	
1 st Monday 12:00 noon - 1:30 pm	Kentucky Migrant Network , Cardinal Valley Center 1306 Versailles Road	Miguel Rodriguez, Chair miguelugr929@yahoo.com
2 nd Tuesday 7:30 pm	Bluegrass Fairness of Central Kentucky , KCCJ office, 112 N Upper St.	Paul Brown, Chair, heme1588@yahoo.com
4 th Tuesday 5:30 pm	Lexington Living Wage Campaign Meeting Community Action Council, 710 W. High Street	Richard Mitchell 859.277.6106
1 st Wednesday 4:00-6:30	Franciscan Peace Center , 3389 Squire Oak. FranciscanVision.org	Pat Griffin 859.230.1986
2 nd Wednesday 7:00 - 8:30 pm	Humanist Forum of Central Kentucky (AHA) , Unitarian Universalist Church, 3564 Clays Mill Rd.	Dick Renfro 859.255.7029
3 rd Thursday 7:00 pm	Kentuckians for the Commonwealth (KFTC) , Episcopal Diocese Mission House, 4th St. and Martin Luther King	Ondine Quinn 859.276.0563
Every Sunday 2:30-4:00pm	NAMI Lexington Support Groups -- Faye Morton Center, Eastern State Hospital, Lexington, Wendall Building basement	call 859.272.7891 or go to lexington.nami.org for



The Central Kentucky Council
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Lexington KY 40507

We men and women are all in the same
boat, upon a stormy sea. We owe to each
other a terrible and tragic loyalty.
—G.K. Chesterton

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Issue #224 January 2009

Bits and Peaces

Tibetan Monks help Lexington celebrate Human Rights Day

In honor of Human Rights Day (December 10) and the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Lexington hosted a group of Tibetan monks. Shown below at Bluegrass Community and Technical College where they sold Tibetan crafts to support their tour are (from left to right): tour translator Namgyal Tsondu; and monks Lobsang Sangye; Ngawang Jigdral; Thubten Soepa; Ngawang Phuntsok; Sangyal Gyatso. These monks live in southern India in the state of Karnataka at the Drepung Gomang Monastic College. Many of them fled Tibet through the Himalayas.

From BCTC the monks went to the UK campus, where they joined a candlelit procession for human rights that progressed



Photo from Kentucky Kernel



from the Singletary Center for the Arts to the W.T. Young Library.

At the library the audience listened attentively to a short presentation on Tibet and a chant by the monks, then viewed the film *Iron Jawed Angels*, a documentary about the women's suffrage movement in the United States.

If you'd like learn more about the monks or the monastery, go to www.gomang.org.