

# Peace Teams NEWS

Spring 2002 • Volume 7 Issue 1

By David Miller

## Community Peace Team Faces Rioters

Concerned about the riots that had occurred twice after State College (PA) Arts Fests, I made contact with State College Police Chief Tom King to discuss the concept of a peace team. The idea had begun with a conversation I had with Thom Saffold, a peace team trainer from Ann Arbor, Michigan. Thom shared with me the experience of a peace team that had formed in East Lansing to respond to riots following Michigan State football games. Chief King is an advocate of community policing and was supportive of the idea. He also spoke of contacts he had with other clergy who were also asking if the area churches might have a role in curbing future riots.

In early January 2001, a group of area church leaders gathered to discuss plans for alternate activities for late night following this year's Arts Fest. This event/planning group took on the name, "Bless the Fest". My specific interest was

to work toward the development of a team of persons trained in nonviolent methods of intervention that could prevent a riot and ease tensions.

Our community was then shaken by two events. First, following Penn State's loss to Temple in the NCAA basketball playoffs, another riot occurred. Rumors had circulated in town and on campus during the prior week that there would be a riot, win or lose. Persons came to the scene with "riot" painted on their faces in grease paint, and there were reports of persons saving human excrement to throw off the balconies in "Beaver Canyon". The Canyon is a two block stretch of Beaver Avenue lined with 5-6 story apartment buildings with balconies. This creates a situation of significant danger as people throw bottles and other objects down stories to the street and sidewalks below.

*Community Peace Team, page 4. . .*

### *Principles of the State College, PA Peace Team*

- \* *Our vision and methods are rooted in Jesus' teachings on nonviolence and community.*
- \* *We look to examples of nonviolent action such as Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr. and the struggle against apartheid in South Africa for inspiration and learning.*
- \* *Our goal is rooted in the prophetic call to "seek the peace of the city". This call requires that we prepare ourselves to work toward prevention and de-escalation in potentially violent situations and to foster community conversation and discernment about the sources and causes of such violence.*
- \* *While our vision is rooted in biblical examples, we do not require that persons share a religious faith commitment. We welcome participation by all who are committed to nonviolent action, community building and seeking the peace of the city.*
- \* *We see ourselves as an ongoing group that will continue to learn and test nonviolent methods.*



**FriendsPeaceTeams**

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## From the Editor

By Val Liveoak

This issue has been an experiment for me in many ways. I thought that since this is our first issue written since Sept. 11, we would focus on Friends' involvement in new local peace teams responding to the needs of Muslim neighbors and/or to the "War on Terrorism" that have dominated our national agenda for nearly six months. Here in San Antonio, loosely organized groups of people, some of them Quakers, have formed, to be present as local Muslims worshipped, to increase tri-faith dialogue and to protest the growing militarization of the US response to the attacks. I've been most active in weekly peace vigils. But I wouldn't call these actions Peace Team work, because the people involved formed committees (to get a specific job done), not teams (which have a unique, ongoing identity). These actions have for the most part not continued to muster the response and interest that was shown in September and October. Friends elsewhere surely have organized more actively and (I hope) more effectively. If you know of **ongoing peace team work being done in response to the events of Sept. 11** and the widening war, please let me know.

Meanwhile we have the description of **The Peace Team in State College PA** (page 1) that came in just after we had sent the last issue of Peace Teams News to the printer in early September. It shows how a local group can make a difference in a situation of violence that has already gotten somewhat out of control, and where preparation and planning led to prevention of easily foreseeable violence. It may be hard to know exactly what violence was prevented, but it is clear that The Peace Team and the other groups which worked to de-escalate the situation at the Art Fest were successful.

In January, Friends Peace Teams' Coordinating Committee met three members of the team working in the Burundi Trauma Healing and Reconciliation Service (THARS), sponsored by FPT's African Great Lakes Initiative (AGLI) and Burundi Yearly Meeting. Their witness was vibrant and inspiring, and I am glad that some F/friends were able to hear their presentations. FPT/AGLI has just agreed to continue our support of THARS for two more years, and we are **recruiting one or two international members** for the team (see page 6). **Please help announce the position, the Colombia Exploratory Team** (page 3) **and Mid-East delegation** (page 12) as widely as possible, and post copies in newsletters and bulletin boards in your Friends Churches and Meetings. If you would like an electronic copy of the announcements to send by e-mail, please e-mail me at <valliveoak@juno.com>

The Fall 2001 issue was the last one to be published by **Susan Rose**, an extraordinary volunteer, who did layout, coordinated printing and mailing of PTN and managed the database for many years. I am so grateful to her for her many efforts and wish her well in her future efforts. I apologize for any irregularities of layout that have been produced by my own efforts to learn Pagemaker. **Rachel Harrison** of Adelphi Meeting in Maryland has undertaken the print and mailing coordination and database maintenance on a contract basis. We are lucky to have her computer skills and energy.

These changes have brought **new challenges for FPT and PTN**. Among them is an increase in expense as we moved from being produced by a volunteer to contracting for some of the work. Our budget was formulated in October 2001 before we knew of the need to increase our fundraising to cover these costs (and like other non-profits, we discovered that the response to our appeal letter was not quite as much as we'd hoped.). So we continue to ask for your donations, and for your help in getting regular line-item donations for Friends Peace Teams in the annual budgets of your Monthly Meetings, Friends Churches and Yearly Meetings. I have begun a **"Wish List"** of in-kind donations also (see page 11). Another way that you can help is to underwrite in whole or in part the cost of an issue of PTN. Since we are also changing printers, I am not sure exactly how much that would cost, but I believe it will be in excess of \$1,000 per issue. (We expect to mail over 900 copies of this issue to individuals and groups around the world.)

In the midst of the widening wars, the escalating spiral of violence in Palestine/Israel and a multitude of large and small outbreaks of violence and injustice I would like to cite a **hopeful sign** that is of considerable importance to me. Sri Lanka seems to be on the verge of peace after a successful three-month cease-fire (and nearly 20 years of violence). This news is exciting in general and to me in specific since I was there when this round of warfare erupted. There are many people and places to "hold in the Light" and I hope we can remember Sri Lanka among them.

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## FPT Plans Exploratory Team to Colombia

Following the example of the African Great Lakes Initiative, we are planning to send an exploratory team to Colombia in late spring.

Since the beginning of the year, the Colombian government has cancelled peace talks with one of the guerrilla groups, the FARC, and sent the army to invade the large zone (the size of Switzerland) formerly under the FARC's control. The FARC has kidnapped a Senator and a Presidential candidate. Aerial spraying of coca fields continue in the southern province of Putumayo—also destroying peasants' subsistence crops and poisoning the people on the ground. Paramilitary groups operate widely throughout the country, and continue to be responsible for a large number of the 3,000 political murders each year. All of these influences create a growing number of internally displaced people, who settle in festering slums around the large cities. Refugees and military presence is also affecting neighboring countries of Ecuador and Venezuela. And the US is playing an increasing role in all of this, with the Plan Colombia,

which provided funding for a military buildup and the aerial spraying, and now the Andean Regional Initiative which widens the wars—on drugs and on terrorism. (Colombians fear that applying the strategy of the war on terrorism will only increase the violence.)

Our exploratory team will have the opportunity to see this situation first-hand and to meet courageous people seeking to build a culture of peace in the midst of a culture of violence. The team will seek God's will and make recommendations regarding further FPT work in the region. At the invitation of our hosts, we will give back a small amount by offering Alternatives to Violence Project workshops (possibly with former child soldiers), continuing education for teachers in incorporating peace/nonviolence training into curricula, and/or providing resources for the work to get legal recognition of Conscientious Objection. ■

### *JOIN FPT's Exploratory Delegation to Colombia*

*Friends Peace Teams will send a two-week **delegation to Colombia** in late May or June, 2002 to explore and discern opportunities for further work in the country, at the invitation of Justapaz (the Christian Center for Justice, Peace and Nonviolent Action), an agency of the Mennonite Church of Colombia.*

*Delegation members will meet with human rights workers, peace organizations and peace churches, and possibly with representatives of governmental and international bodies to learn about the situation in Colombia and initiatives being taken.*

*Participants will work and worship with a number of peace churches, most of which are Evangelical in character. In addition, delegation members may have the opportunity to offer workshops in conflict resolution for adults, demilitarized child soldiers and schoolteachers; in trauma healing work; and to serve as consultants to Justapaz' efforts to obtain legal recognition of Conscientious Objectors.*

*All participants in the delegation must commit themselves to a clearness and support committee process (non-Quakers should inquire about how to adapt the process to their situation); study and other preparation for the trip; fundraising for the project; traveling in potentially dangerous circumstances; working on a written report and outreach after their return. Spanish language capability is desirable but not required. AVP, HIPP and CCRC facilitators and people with expertise in working in the fields of legal recognition of Conscientious Objection, trauma healing and human rights are encouraged to apply.*

**Deadline for applications is April 5, 2002.** For more information, contact Friends Peace Teams, PO Box 10372 San Antonio TX 78210; tel.: 877-814-6972; e-mail: [fpt@quaker.org](mailto:fpt@quaker.org) Internet: [www.quaker.org/fpt](http://www.quaker.org/fpt)

*Community Peace Team. . .*

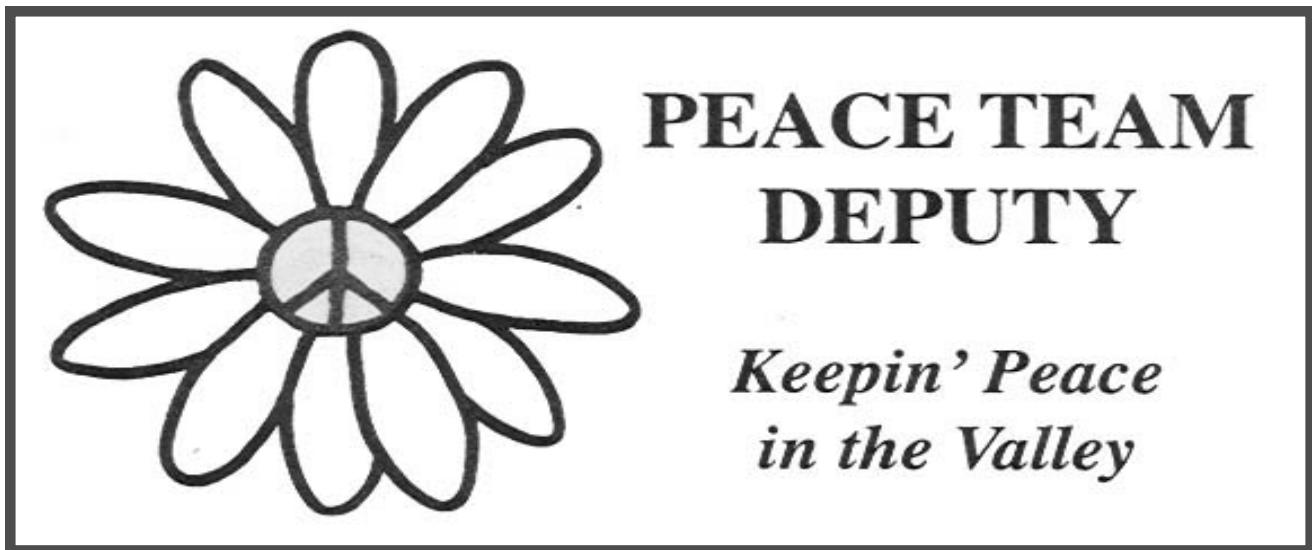
The second event was the eruption of racial tensions particularly (though not solely) at the University. African American students had been targeted through the year with hateful e-mail. Finally a death threat was directed at the president of the Black Caucus. Caucus members and supporters staged a public demonstration at the annual Blue-White inter-squad football scrimmage, briefly occupying the center of the football field. Later in the week the university called for a "No Hate at Penn State" rally and march. This was perceived by the Black caucus as an insincere act and an attempt to gain some positive publicity. So, caucus members took over the rally, demanded a meeting with PSU President Graham

publicity, we were able to gather around 20 people for a discussion of how peace teams work.

A subsequent meeting/training was held in which the group was brought together with Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) strategies to build community, to talk about real fears of facing violence and to rehearse role plays in the event that violence did occur on the streets during our peace actions.

**Arts Fest Strategy**

We recognized that we were not prepared nor would we be welcome (by the police) to attempt intervention with a crowd that had become riotous. Instead, we focused on prevention of violence/rioting by setting a positive tone on the streets



Stick-on Badge

Spanier, and occupied the Hetzel Union Building for 10 days while negotiating with the administration.

When I delivered food to the occupying students, I was impressed with their discipline, their commitment to nonviolence, and the community they were able to create. This focused demonstration stood in stark contrast to the three preceding riots that on the surface had little purpose and no discipline.

In June, Thom Saffold agreed to return to State College to do an initial training in nonviolent intervention. With short notice and weak

among an anticipated crowd numbering in the thousands—a good percentage of whom would be intoxicated. The group coordinated and communicated openly with the Bless the Fest planners and the police of State College. The group was aided in public visibility by a strongly supportive editorial in the local paper.

Our group of 33 volunteers donned their Peace Team T-shirts and took to the streets in pairs. These pairs were coupled into affinity groups of four. Each pair had a cell phone to communicate with our office or to call for emergency assistance if we came across someone injured or dangerously drunk.

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(There have been several near deaths from alcohol poisoning, so this was a real possibility.) We were on the streets from around 10:30 PM Saturday night until 3:30 AM Sunday morning.

We made an effort to establish a tone of hospitality and welcome. Two local flower shops supported our efforts by donating over 2500 daisies. These were distributed through the evening. They were a welcome gift, a good ice-breaker, and an item for which Peace Team members were occasionally sought out.

We also enlisted support for our effort and established a visible consensus against rioting. Peace Team members deputized over 1,500 people, mostly student age. Peace Team deputies were “sworn in” with the following commitment statement : “For this night, I commit myself to seek the peace of the city; look out for the welfare of others; and to refrain from any behavior that could injure another or destroy property.” After being “sworn in” persons received a stick-on badge (see page 4.) We began the deputizing with the bartenders and tavern staff. Tavern owners were strong supporters of our efforts, creating a most unusual but essential alliance. As the night progressed Peace Team badges became a familiar sight on the streets. A few people kept coming back for new badges saying they had deputized someone else. There were periodic cheers “We love the peace team!” from supportive albeit often drunken well wishers. There were frequent expressions of “We’re really glad you’re here—what you are doing is important.”

Charles Dumas recounts his experience: “We (Jo and Charles Dumas) were walking our “beat” when I noticed that two young men were in each other’s face. Several of their friends had already backed up and were ready for the action to start. Jo and I walked up to one and handed him a flower. He looked at me as if I had just handed him a pile of manure. Jo said, ‘Let’s keep the peace, brother.’ I handed a flower to the other one and smiled. He stared back. One of the bystanders started to laugh which caused the young men to start laughing and the crisis was lost in laughter.”

In summary, that evening (and the remaining Saturdays through fall) ended without major incident. Some members of the community believe the large police presence prevented problems. Others felt that so many police stirred up tempers and that without the presence of Bless the Fest and the Peace Team, there would likely have been violent confrontation.

We cannot argue from the negative. But we are fairly sure that a different tone was set and that a move was taken toward changing the lens by which the community views university students. On the Monday evening following the Peace Team’s action, State College Mayor Bud Welch appeared at the Borough Council Meeting wearing a Peace Team Deputy Badge!

Ann Ward, an AVP facilitator who worked with the Peace Team, recalls the events following the week of September 11 in State College. “The football game was cancelled immediately after September 11, out of respect and mourning for our nation. The following week, though, we were out on the streets after the game and the difference in the crowd was palpable. State Police were absent because they were called to Somerset county to assist the FBI with the scene of the downed plane from 9-11. Regardless of the absence of law enforcement, students were quiet, had less party energy and the sense of community that seemed to result from 9-11 extended to their subdued revelry. The remaining weeks after September 11 continued without incident on the streets of our town following the games. Unfortunately, fears for our Muslim brothers and sisters and for a local Mosque took the place of our fears of riots. David Miller and many members of the Peace Teams turned their attention to building community among those of many faith entities, Christian and Islamic families and the University. For a time, in those days, it felt as if the Peace Team was just moving from crisis to crisis.”

The Peace Team members continue to meet every month, or so to, maintain community and preparedness.■

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By David Zarembka

## **African Great Lakes Initiative Report**

### **Trauma Healing and Reconciliation Service (THARS) in Burundi**

The Burundi Team has received a grant from the US Embassy in Burundi to train Burundi Yearly Meeting leaders in trauma healing work. The Team has conducted two three-day workshops where they have introduced the basics of trauma healing work and counseling skills. The twenty-three participants came from all parts (Quarters) of Burundi Yearly Meeting. Participants, both men and women, were visibly moved by telling their own stories of trauma during the seven years of conflict, and by listening to the stories of others. As Adrien Niyongabo said after the first training, "It isn't true that Burundi men can't cry!" Each trainee now has to develop a project in his/her home area with the other trainees. These projects will be encouraged and supported by the Team through the rest of the year with continuing workshops as the trainees have gained some experience.

Three of the Team members, Carolyn Keys, Adrien Niyongabo, and Charles Berahino, visited in the United States in January for a very successful speaking tour. Speaking engagements included New York Yearly Meeting Representative Meeting, Ann Arbor Meeting, UN Association of Montclair (NJ), Hartford Meeting, Cambridge Meeting, lunch with Elise Boulding at Wellesley Meeting, Yale Divinity School, Pendle Hill, the University of Pennsylvania, Sandy Spring Friends School, Sandy Spring Meeting/Friends House, Bethesda Meeting, and Adelphi Meeting with the FPT Coordinating Committee. The Team then participated in an assessment process with Val Liveoak, Cecilia Yocum, and David Zarembka from the AGLI Working Group. The assessment included discussions of the work to date, its

*THARS page 7. . .*

Position Available:

#### **International Team Member of the Trauma Healing and Reconciliation Service**

*The African Great Lakes Initiative (AGLI) of the Friends Peace Teams is recruiting two international peace team members for a 27 month commitment (Sept. 14, 2002 until Dec. 14, 2004) to join the Peace Team developing the Trauma Healing and Reconciliation Service in Burundi. This program is a joint effort of AGLI and Burundi Yearly Meeting of Friends and began its services on April 1, 2001.*

*AGLI is seeking (1) a person with skills and knowledge in trauma healing, mediation, counseling, and/or Alternatives to Violence Project and (2) grant writing and administration and other administrative skills. Applicants should have overseas experience with a preference for sub-Saharan Africa, a willingness to learn Kirundi (the language of Burundi), and clearness to live in a country with ongoing security issues due to a civil war, and to abide with the strict standards of Burundi Yearly Meeting. Fundraising for the program and a commitment to stay involved with AGLI upon return to the home country are expected. Applicants are required to meet with a clearness committee and submit a report by its Clerk and develop a long-term support committee for the time in Africa and after returning to the home country. Preference will be given to members, attenders, and those knowledgeable about the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) and its methods.*

*Travel expenses, a modest stipend, and health benefits are provided. **Applications are due by May 26, 2002** with selection made on June 11 for a departure about September 14, 2002. Additional information and an application form can be obtained from davidzarembka@juno.com or by writing to African Great Lakes Initiative, 7785 Alicia Ct, Maplewood, MO 63143.*

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## AVP in Rwanda and Burundi

In September, AVP-Rwanda completed the first part of facilitating AVP on their own. Two facilitators from Uganda helped them with the initial eight workshops. With the assistance of the Drane Family Fund of the New Hampshire Foundation, AVP-Rwanda has begun a series of eight more workshops done without any outside assistance. They have assigned at least one female facilitator to each workshop, have completed one workshop for women only, and hope to do another with soldiers who have returned from the fighting in the Congo. Peter Yeomans of the original AVP-Rwanda Team will visit Rwanda in May and conduct a consultation with AVP-Rwanda facilitators.

David Niyonzima, the General Secretary of Burundi Yearly Meeting of Friends, observed part of an AVP workshop in Rwanda and made the following comments: "While I was in Kigali, Rwanda, waiting for my USA visa to be processed, I participated in an AVP session organized by David Bucura. The participants were only women from different organizations and denominations

around Kigali. It was so wonderful. The session I participated in was the short plays done by the 4 groups on issues about the Rwandan situation. As a therapist, I noticed that it has a lot of psychotherapy skills and listening that I am studying here [at George Fox University in Oregon]. The women enjoyed it very much and had a good time. Even though I was there for such a short time, I could see that they were being impacted by what they were learning. It indeed is a program that will promote healing for our people. I had never been in such a meeting before and I was glad to be part of it as an observer even for those 30 minutes."

Also with financial support from the Drane Family Fund and organization by the Trauma Healing and Reconciliation Service, AVP will be introduced into Burundi in April/May. Peter Yeomans and George Walumoli will be the international facilitators who will work with Carolyn Keys, an AVP facilitator. The Burundi Team will set up seven workshops over a five week period. Charles, Adrien, and Felicity will participate to become AVP facilitators.■

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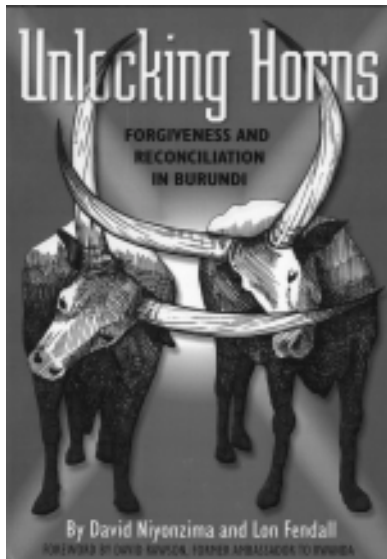
### THARS. .

successes and shortcomings, future direction and plans, questions on decision-making, and AGLI and FPT future involvement in the Trauma Healing and Reconciliation Service.

The recommendations of the combined THARS/AGLI assessment team were then brought to Friends Peace Teams Coordinating Committee. They approved in principle continuing with the development of the Trauma Healing and Reconciliation Service for approximately the next two years. As Carolyn Keys's placement with the Team will end on October 31, 2002, AGLI will find a replacement for her and perhaps add an additional international

team member if sufficient funding is secured. (See box for information on finding a new international Team Member.)

While in the past, fundraising for AGLI has been sufficient to cover our projects, the downturn in the economy and stock market followed by the attacks on Sept. 11 have left our income for THARS less than the prior year. As a result AGLI has had to cut back by \$7000 the amount sent per year to support the Service. Any assistance to cover this gap—with funding sources, monthly meetings, or names for our mailing list—would be much appreciated.■



Unlocking Horns  
Forgiveness and Reconciliation in Burundi  
David Niyonzima and Lon Fendall  
Barclay Press, Newberg, Oregon 2001  
(www.barclay press.com, 800 962 4014)

*David Niyonzima*, superintendent (legal representative) of Burundi Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, is currently working on a graduate degree in counseling at George Fox University in Newberg Oregon.

*Lon Fendall* is dean of undergraduate studies at George Fox University and chair of the advisory committee of the Great Lakes School of Theology, located in Burund Yearly Meeting.

These Friends, whose life-long concern for Burundi and the work of God in the midst of its suffering have cooperated in a helpful account of the tragic violence in the country and of signs of hope in the midst of that tragedy. Written for the people of Burundi—the book will soon be translated into Kirundi, the language of Burundi—“Unlocking Horns” ministers also to the people of the United States, who have come to understand the tragedy of violence more deeply this year.

Much of the form of the book is a dialogue, traditional in Burundi, between David Niyonzima and a young Friend in Burundi, Emmauel Ndikumana. Witness to God’s work in Burundi’s political and church history, past and present, is well articulated along with moving accounts of David Niyonzima’s personal spiritual journey.

The quotations chosen for each chapter illumine the power of forgiveness in trauma, healing and reconciliation. “Forgiveness means abandoning your right to pay back the perpetrator in his own coin, but it is a loss that liberates the victim.” (Desmond Tutu) “To be a Christian means to forgive the inexcusable, because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you.” (CS Lewis) “Forgiveness is the fragrance the violet shed on the heel that has crushed it.” (Mark Twain).

The title of the book, “Unlocking Horns” refers to a Burundian saying “Ntazibana zidaku-bitana amahembe” meaning “The cows that live together will lock their horns.” Cows in Burundi are the traditional signs of wealth and status. They have very large heavy horns and when they enter the narrow gate to their pen they must turn their necks and as they join other cows inside, their horns inevitably became locked. “The cattle did not fight because the place was usually too small for that. What the owner would hear before the cows lay down to sleep would be the sound of the locking and unlocking of their horns.”

One sign of hope articulated by David Niyonzima is in the historical cooperation between the several Christian denominations in Burundi. Another sign of hope is in the peace education curriculum being offered by Friends schools which is being adopted by government schools.

I found this book to be a blessing.

Rosa Packard, NYYM Representative to Friends Peace Teams Coordinating Committee.

## Peace Teams as a Corporate Ministry

By Val Liveoak

In this article, I hope to begin a dialogue with our readers and supporters about the distinct aspects of FPT and to highlight some of the things we've learned, are rediscovering about Quaker practice, or can offer to the peace team movement and to peace workers in general.

Friends Peace Teams labors to bring the Quaker tradition of ministers traveling together to the field of peace work. How many Quakers consider their peace work to be a ministry? How many of their Meetings recognize or support this ministry?

Like many Quakers, I have done peace work individually or in ecumenical or mixed groups. In much of this work, I didn't have the benefits of the corporate discernment process which grounds the work in the leadings of the Spirit. Even Friends who represent their Meetings in work, who have Minutes of support or who receive nurture from their Meeting for their work, may feel that their passion is not of much effect or importance to the Meeting.

By emphasizing corporate rather than the individual leading, FPT seeks to assist Friends in finding a spiritual center in a working group. FPT has restated the model of a pair (or group) of ministers working to bring their message to others as a kind of a team process. (Using the secular word, "team", may obscure the spiritual power of the process and the model, but it also makes the model accessible to non-Friends.)

Friends have a tradition of offering traveling ministers a companion, called an "elder", not only

for help in logistical arrangements, but also to worship together and to have a deeper experience of God's presence and leadings. While travel in the ministry is quite different today than in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, enabling ministers to be accompanied by another member of the Meeting serves the same purpose of nurturing the spiritual seed, preventing isolation, connecting the Meeting to the work of its ministers and providing an opportunity for discernment.

Friends who can keep a clear and lively sense of God's presence can help the work of a peace team to remain centered. They can live "in that life and power that takes away the occasion for all war." They can even ground the group process in Love and Unity when it veers into contention, anger or impatience. I think that nonviolent action needs that center and grounding. More and more it is clear to me that we need to **be** peace and not just seek to make it.

Whether physically accompanied or not, Friends who work with their Meetings using the peace team model extend the benefits of their ministry beyond the people with whom the minister works. Indeed, the benefits to the Meeting itself are often at least as obvious as the effects of the minister's project. There is a lively connection to a people and place that is in crisis, and where its very need may make God's presence more manifest. The miracles of mercy in the midst of violence, of sharing in the midst of need, of "that of God" appearing in unexpected people—these

*Corporate Ministry page 10. . .*

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### *Some Queries for Meetings with Peace Teams*

❖ *How does our Meeting help us support, clarify and oversee our leadings to do peace team work or to support a peace team member?*

❖ *How do we stay spiritually and practically connected with our Meeting when we travel or work under such a concern in the wider world?*

❖ *What about coming home? How do we continue our mutual ministry as a particular phase of work comes to a close or bears new fruit?*

*by Rosa Packard*

## RESOURCES

**Public Conversations Project**, begun in 1989, promotes constructive conversations and relationships among those who have differing values, world views, and positions related to divisive public issues

PCP has convened, conducted, and evaluated dialogues on abortion, the environment, sexual orientation and religion, social class, and population and women's health. We have consulted on a wide range of issues and have shared the fruits of our learning through workshops and trainings, offered nationally and internationally, and publications in the popular press and scholarly journals.

Currently PCP offers extensive dialogue guides on "Constructive Conversations about Challenging Times" with guides for both Community and Family dialogues.

Public Conversations Project, E-mail: [info@publicconversations.org](mailto:info@publicconversations.org) Internet: [www.publicconversations.org](http://www.publicconversations.org)  
46 Kondazian St., Watertown MA 02472-2832, Tel. 617-923-1216

**Campus Action** offers information and resources for organizing that focus on youth, but are useful for anyone seeking to organize meetings, protests, lobbying of government officials, etc.

Their "Activist Toolbox" includes simple and clear information on running meetings, media and publicity, fundraising, organizing tactics and so forth.

Campus Action, E-mail: [info@campusaction.net](mailto:info@campusaction.net) Internet: [www.campusaction.net](http://www.campusaction.net)  
33 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12210, Tel. 518-434-3856

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### Corporate Ministry. . .

may be more easily recognized in difficult situations. And if the Meeting is accompanying the minister, they witness them as well.

I am aware that some Quaker ministers traveled unaccompanied. John Woolman did on his trip to England. I believe that when his Meeting confirmed his leading for the trip, it undertook not only to release him from his responsibilities at home, but also to uphold him in prayer. In the same fashion, Friends whose leadings are to join peace teams as individuals are encouraged by FPT to receive spiritual, financial and logistical support from their home Meeting. FPT has developed processes for organizing this support, and has resources for assisting Meetings in their tasks. We go so far as to consider the support group at home a peace team too, and we offer support and resources for these teams as well.

Quakers are famous for their traditional peace witness and I believe that creating spiritually centered peace teams in the field and within our Meetings is best way to keep the ministry alive. ■

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### From our Partner Groups

#### **Christian Peacemaker Teams**

##### **Delegations:**

Mexico—March 20-April 2

Middle East—April 2-15; May 24-June 5;  
July 25-August 6; Sept 13-26.

Peacemaker Corps **Training:** July 17-Aug. 13  
in Chicago (deadlines for applications: April 15.

For more information: CPT, Box 6508, Chicago, IL 60680-6508, Tel. 312 455-1199, Fax. 312 432-1213, e-mail: [cpt@igc.org](mailto:cpt@igc.org) Internet: [www.cpt.org](http://www.cpt.org)

#### **Peace Brigades International**

##### **Trainings:**

Indonesia Project training, Seattle, WA from  
11 - 21 July 2002.

Colombia Project training, Summer 2002.  
Dates and location TBA.

Mexico Project training, likely fall of 2002.

For more information: PBI/USA, 428 8<sup>th</sup> St  
SE, Washington DC 20003, tel: 202-544-3765;  
fax: 202-544-3765; e-mail: [pbiusa@igc.apc.org](mailto:pbiusa@igc.apc.org)  
Internet: <http://www.peacebrigades.org>

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## WISH LIST

- ❖ *PC compatible laptop and desktop computers*  
*We need one desktop and four laptops. If you are able to get nearly new computers, we could upgrade 2 other laptops and 2 desktops.*
- ❖ *Other office equipment—especially in the BYM area.*
- ❖ *Digital cameras*
- ❖ *Airline miles/free tickets*  
*Staff and Coordinating Committee members attend a number of out-of-town meetings annually. If you can donate a roundtrip ticket, it would save \$300-500.*
- ❖ *Representatives to Friends Churches and Monthly Meetings*  
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- ❖ *At-Large members of the Coordinating Committee and others to serve on FPT 's working committees.*
- ❖ *Underwriters for Peace Teams News*

For more information, contact Val in the FPT office.

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*Fred Dettmer, Treasurer  
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## CALL TO JOIN QUAKER DELEGATION TO THE MIDDLE EAST

July 25 - August 8

A small delegation of Quakers, sponsored by Christian Peacemaker Teams, will travel to the Middle East July 25 to August 6, 2002 to act as independent international observers, meet and work with Israeli and Palestinian Peace and Justice groups, meet and hear the stories of Palestinians living under Israeli Occupation, and engage in public witness or nonviolent direct action on behalf of lasting peace in the region. The delegation will divide its time between Ramallah at the Ramallah Friends Schools and Hebron where the permanent CPT presence is established, with visits to Jerusalem and Bethlehem.

Mustafa Barghouthi, President of the Palestinian Medical Relief Committees and Director of the Health, Development, Information and Policy Institute in Ramallah, says: "Palestinians have been asking for an international protection force to monitor events in the region for months. The US has twice vetoed a United Nations resolution asking for this. Ten months ago, Palestinians began their own grassroots movement of international protection. Since then, delegations from a number of European countries, as well as Canada and the United States, have witnessed to and monitored the situation on the ground reporting the reality to their home countries."

*Be a part of this urgent work on behalf of Middle East peace!*

Please respond by June 1, 2002

*For information and applications:* Bill and Genie Durland, E-mail: bgdryland@activematrix.net, tel. 719-846-7480 or Christian Peacemaker Teams, Box 6508, Chicago, IL 60680-6508, Tel. 312-455-1199, Fax. 312-432-1213, e-mail: cpt@igc.org Internet: www.cpt.org



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