

# Labor/Community ALLIANCE

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VOLUME 5, ISSUE 8



AUGUST 2000

The Labor/Community Alliance is not printing a regular newsletter this month. We decided to mail an August calendar of events for all of our subscribers and invited groups to give us fliers of their activities to include in this mailing. As an added bonus, we are printing three letters to the editor which we received this month. Let the people speak!

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Like Ray Ensher, I have been a lifelong Democrat, longtime member of the Fresno Democratic Women's Club, active campaigner for candidates. However, I am tired of voting for the lesser of two evils. I can no longer overlook the evils that the Democratic candidates staunchly support. I have written and called Clinton, Feinstein, Boxer and Dooley on these issues and get no responses or insipid justifications for them. The ten years of sanctions against the Iraqi people and the almost daily bombing. \$1 billion to beef up the military forces of Colombia who are conducting a vicious civil war against their own people, instead of putting money towards really combating drug addiction. Continued funding of the Star Wars anti-missile defense system which experts say is unworkable and has in fact proven so, and which will destabilize the nuclear non proliferation treaties and arms reduction treaties already in place. Support of NATO, NAFTA, WTO, IMF and all those other bad initials.

Support gun control? Hah! As long as we are the biggest exporter of weapons and weapons systems in the world, how insignificant are our efforts to put gun locks on handguns. Our economy is controlled by the weapons manufacturers. Will Al Gore or Diane Feinstein speak to that? It is time for somebody to raise the possibility of real changes. A lot of people seem ready for that--witness what has already taken place in Seattle and Washington DC, and there will be plenty of action at the Democratic and Republican conventions. I will happily vote for Ralph Nader and Medea Benjamin this time around.

Ellie Bluestein

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Re: Rych Withers comments regarding the Fresno Free College Foundation (FFCF) Board and the "Crisis at KFCF;"

methinks he protests too much. His response to the crisis is full of half-truths and distortions. The FFCF Board majority continue to use my comments from the 1999 Annual Banquet as their rallying point. They continue to distort my comments, out of context, without reference to the issue I was addressing.

During the Annual Banquet last year, I was called by then-president Doug Noll to host the event in his absence. On my arrival to banquet, Rych, Mark Hernandez, Debra Spears and others were caught placing inflammatory leaflets on each place-setting, trumpeting false information about the (then) FFCF board majority's (untrue) desire to end KPFA broadcasting and eliminate programs like those of Pacifica's Amy Goodman, the evening's guest speaker. Though Rych denied any involvement in undermining the board at the banquet, eyewitnesses identified him as a perpetrator. This was a "breach of trust," as a board member, that warranted his removal from the FFCF board.

In my opening remarks at the banquet, I reported that President Noll had indicated to me, by E-mail, that it was his goal to achieve up to 65% local programming (in the event that KPFA was removed from the air, or sold by Pacifica). The current board majority used my comments, out of context, to unseat me as vice-president of the FFCF board after 9 years of service. Incidentally, Rych and his sycophants conducted a coup d'etat, at the annual meeting by mustering proxy votes of their friends and overthrowing a progressive board that threatened to remove Rych for his actions. Their unparalleled and undemocratic actions led to Doug Noll removing his name from consideration as president.

I would appreciate Rych Withers, and those of his ilk, cease to quote me out of context for their inflammatory purposes of distorting the mission of the Community Radio Coalition. That mission is a community radio station free of private ownership, a board of directors free of conflicts of interest and reprehensible breaches of public faith and trust.

Thank You.  
Stephen Barile

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Just wanted to say that it is good to have a reliable source to look to for info about Fresno. It makes me happy when I read your newsletter each month and see what is going on in Fresno and how stuff is starting to stir a little down there. CLA helps me feel ok with going back to Fresno since I know that there is a wonderful base of committed activists in the community just waiting to explode...or blossom, whatever visual you may choose. I wasn't sure whether you guys would cover the Democratic Convention stuff, in terms of getting the word, but of course you did...and I had heard about the Community Radio stuff a little before and now I get to read about it too. It heartens me to see what you guys are a part of at CLA, and Mike and Pam(along with Yolanda, Gloria, and various others)have inspired me in many ways and influenced my life in ways I may not fully recognize. Thanks for the ongoing influence and inspiration...thanks to my roots and the influence I had from my elders in the movement back home(a la Fresno), I am now working with PCUN this summer and facilitating an outreach effort to California college students to support farmworkers in their quest for justice in the fields. Stuff is really coming along, and it is beautiful to work with a union that is so full of spirit, and pays a lot of attention to the little things that most unions don't. The only saddening thing is that a couple unions up here, which shall remain nameless, are not so supportive(you can guess the 2, yes they relate to the fields and food, and they are not a farmworker union)of PCUN. Justice is on our side though and I am confident that elements with in these unions will lose out and justice will reign... one day, hopefully soon.

paz y justicia  
 Viva CLA!!  
 Viva la Causa!! -

Chuck McNally

## AUGUST 2000 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Saturday, August 5**  
 Join La Leche League of Fresno outside Border's Cafe in River Park, to celebrate World Breastfeeding Week. This year's theme is "Breastfeeding: It's Your Right!" La Leche League is an international, nonprofit, nonsectarian organization dedicated to providing information, support, encouragement and education to women who want to breastfeed. For more information, call Lauralee Crain Carbone at 299-2148.

**Saturday, August 5 • 9 AM**  
 Kennedy club of the San Joaquin (Trustee Michael O'Hare - local schools and plans for the future). Meeting is held at Margaret Hudson's Barn, 4247 N Thorne. Call 439-8140 for more information.

**Sunday, August 6**  
 Hiroshima Day observance at Lawrence Livermore Laboratories, with march to the labs where the next generation of nuclear weapons is being developed. Quarterly regional meeting of

Abolition [of nuclear weapons] 2000 will immediately follow the demonstration. Carpool will leave from the Fresno Center for Nonviolence, 285 North Van Ness Avenue, at about 5:30 A. M. Information: call Richard Stone at 266-2559.

**Sunday, August 6 • 7 PM**

In accordance with the National Days of Conscience, WILPF and FOR will jointly commemorate Hiroshima Day. Details will be announced later. Call Ellie Bluestein 229-9807 for more information.

**Monday, August 7 • 6 PM**

The Responsible Choices Coalition will meet to plan the next candidate forum which will take place in early October. This group will ask questions of the candidates in three races: Mayoral, Supervisorial and US Congressional 19th District. Join with community groups to pressure the candidates to take progressive positions on the issues. The meeting will be held at 633 N Van Ness. Call Vinh Ngo at 488-4900 for more information.

**Monday, August 7 • 7 PM**

FresCAMP meeting at the home of Jean Hays, 5493 N. Roosevelt (between--we need your help! Call Joan at 227-6134 for more information. FresCAMP is working on the problem of DBCP and pesticide use in our schools. They are organizing a new task force on pesticides and air pollution (particularly cotton defoliant).

**Thursday, August 10 • 7 PM**

The Fresno County Green Party invites you to its County Council meeting at the Fresno Center for Nonviolence, 985 N Van Ness Av (S of Olive). Social Justice, Grassroots Democracy, Nonviolence, and Ecological Wisdom. The Green Party will be preparing for extensive outreach and voter registration during the upcoming summer months. Call 497-1724 for details. Green Party events: <http://www.greens.org/cal/fresno>

**Saturday, August 12 • 9:30 AM**

Fresno Center for Nonviolence monthly meeting at 985 N. Van Ness. For more information about the Fresno Center for Nonviolence, see their web page at: <http://www.fresnoalliance.com/centerfornonviolence/>

**Saturday, August 12**

WILPF planning retreat at the home of Lauralee Crain Carbone, 12627 East Paul Ave. ( Call 299-2148). Paula Tasso, former WILPF Representative to the United Nation will make a presentation.

**August 13, 2000**

Frente Indígena Oaxaqueño Binacional presents LA GUELAGUETZA CALIFORNIA 2000 (Oaxacan Folkloric Dances) in Fresno at the Theodore Roosevelt Auditorium at Roosevelt High School- 4250 E. Tulare Street. The show is from 11:00-2:00 PM. Tickets are \$7.00 and \$10.00 at the door. For more information call Leoncio or Oralía at (559) 499-1178

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### August 14-17

Democratic Party Convention and demonstration in Los Angeles. For more information about local events contact: fresnofnb@yahoo.com or call 452-0277 (ask for Dallas). For information on the demonstration see: <http://www.d2kla.org> & <http://www.peoplesconvention.com>

### Tuesday, August 15

Deadline for submissions to the September issue of the Labor Community Alliance newsletter. Send calendar items and articles to <clr2@igc.org>.

### Thursday, August 17 • 7:30 PM

Death Penalty Focus meeting at the Fresno Center for Nonviolence, 985 N Van Ness. For more information contact Maria Telesco at: <martel0000@aol.com> or visit their web site at: <http://www.fresnoalliance.com/focus/>

### Friday, August 25 • 5 - 6 PM

Street Heat on KFCF 88.1 FM featuring Labor and Community activists.

### Saturday, August 26 • 10:30 AM

MARCH FOR AMNESTY. Demand dignity-Amnesty now! Join the religious community, Bay Area labor unions, the Labor Immigrant Organizing Network (LION), Services Immigrant Rights and Education Network (SIREN), and other immigrant rights groups to march for: Amnesty for undocumented workers, the repeal of employer sanctions, and the right of all workers to organize. Meet in front of our Lady of Guadalupe Church at 2020 East San Antonio St in San Jose Ca. March will begin at 11 AM. For more information call Roger Rivera at (408) 998-3790.

### SAVE THAT DATE

Stylish Seconds Fashion Show and Silent Auction will be Saturday, September 16th at the College Community Congregational church.

### ONGOING ACTIVITIES/PROGRAMS

#### Every Saturday • 1-2 PM

Food Not Bombs feeds the hungry near the Olive Avenue entrance to Roeding Park. Volunteers are needed to help cook food Saturday mornings, 9:30 AM at Sierra Vista United Methodist Church, corner of Maple and Illinois. Donations of good or almost good produce can be dropped off also. They are always in need of servers at the park. For more information call 266-5305 Or 452-0277 (ask for Dallas).

#### Every 4th Saturday • 8 PM

Cultural Coffee House at The Gaia House, 1009 N Wilson.

#### Sunday • 1 PM

Food Not Bombs feeds the hungry near the Olive entrance at Roeding Park. They cook at 9:30am at the Gaia House 1009 N. Wilson, for more info: 266-5305.

### Monday - Friday • 9 AM

Democracy Now! on radio KFCF 88.1 FM. Amy Goodman, award-winning veteran journalist, appropriately subtitled this show "The Exception to the Rulers" as the program covers news of the nation and world from a progressive viewpoint, with focus on the history and economics of workers, women and people of color around the world.

### Every Tuesday • 8:30 PM

"El Despertar Indígena" is a half hour television show of the Frente Indígena Oaxaqueño Binacional in collaboration with KNXT channel 49. Discussion and information of a variety of issues that impact the lives of the general public, and in particular the indigenous farm worker communities in the Central Valley. The show is on every Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. on KNXT channel 49 and repeats on Sundays at 6:30 a.m.

### Every Tuesday • 9 PM

"La voz de la gente" on KNXT, Chan. 49. The program features interviews with farmworkers who share their hopes, dreams, difficulties, and other aspects of their lives through their own voices. The program is funded by the Irvine Foundation and is mostly student run, with help from friends at Proyecto Campesino. The program is expected to run for about 12 episodes (or until the funding runs out).

### Every Wednesday • 3:30 PM

Stir it Up radio show on KFCF 88.1 FM. This show is hosted by a different progressive community group each week of the month. Listen for the community calendar, interviews with community activists and more.

### Every Wednesday • 7:30 PM

David Bacon's Labor Journal on KFCF 88.1 FM. David Bacon's experience as a union organizer and his world-wide contacts in the labor community make him uniquely qualified as a journalist specializing in issues and concerns of working people. He covers a broad range of labor news and issues locally, nationally and globally.

### Every Friday • 1 PM

Radio Grito / La voz del pueblo: Los viernes a la una hasta las tres de la tarde en 900AM, KBIF. El único programa que se trata de los temas muy importantes y pertenentes a los campesinos, a las campesinas y a sus familias. El programa ofrece información acerca de la salud, vivienda, labor, educación e inmigración. Para hacer preguntas y comentarios en vivo durante el programa, llame al número 1-800-98-GRITO / 734-7486.

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15222 El Mar Lane  
Kerman Ca 93630

**A partial listing of Progressive community groups active in the Fresno area:**

**Community Radio Coalition**  
PO Box 4555  
Fresno, CA 93744  
Cathsoup@aol.com

**Critical Mass**  
c/o Mark Stout  
706 North Fulton Street  
Fresno, CA 93728  
(559) 497-1724  
Fax: (559) 495-0641  
marks@igc.org  
<http://gvalley.fresnobee.com/262/>

**Death Penalty Focus**  
c/o Maria Telesco  
111 W 9th St #234  
Clovis Ca 93612  
(559) 323-4871  
martel0000@aol.com  
<http://www.fresnoalliance.com/focus/>

**El Comité No Nos Vamos**  
1048 E Street  
Fresno Ca 93706  
(559) 498-6033  
IWAPGH@aol.com

**Food Not Bombs**  
2925 N Jackson  
Fresno Ca 93703  
(559) 266-5305 or 452-0277 (ask for Dallas)  
fresnofnb@yahoo.com

**Frente Indigena Oaxaqueno Binacional**  
P. O. 106  
Fresno Ca 93707  
(559) 499-1178\*51

**Fresno Folklore Society**  
P.O. Box 4617  
Fresno Ca 93744  
(559) 229-8808  
ckj12@csufresno.edu  
<http://www.fresno.com/~ckj12>

**Fresno Center for Nonviolence**  
985 N Van Ness  
Fresno Ca 93728  
(559) 237-3223  
<http://www.fresnoalliance.com/centerfornonviolence/>

**Fresno County Green Party**  
PO Box 4501  
Fresno, CA 93744  
(559) 497-1724  
Fax: (559) 495-0641  
fresno@greens.org  
<http://www.greens.org/cal/fresno>

**Fresno/Telpaneca Sister City Association (Nicaragua)**  
P.O. Box 4496  
Fresno Ca 93744  
(559) 233-3978  
clr2@igc.apc.org  
<http://www.geocities.com/Hearthland/Lake/1441/index.htm>

**Fresno Metro Ministry**  
1055 N Van Ness Suite H  
Fresno Ca 93728  
(559) 485-1416  
(559) 485-9109 Fax

**Fresno Free College Foundation/Radio station KFCE**  
P.O. Box 4364  
Fresno Ca 93744  
(559) 233-2221  
(559) 233-5776 Fax  
Studio Call-in Line: (559) 225-8888  
E-Mail: office@kfce.org  
<http://www.kfce.org>

**Fresno NAACP**  
P.O. Box 11811  
Fresno Ca 93775-1811

**Health Care for All**  
c/o Bill Young  
P.O. Box 515  
Auberry Ca 93602  
(559) 855-2438  
whyoung@netpic.net

**Labor/Community Alliance**  
P.O. Box 5077  
Fresno Ca 93755  
(559) 233-3978  
(559) 226-3962 fax  
clr2@igc.apc.org  
<http://www.fresnoalliance.com/home/>

**National Organization for Women (NOW)**  
PO Box 4675  
Fresno Ca 93744-4675  
(559) 221-7229  
<http://www.now.org/>

**Northern California Coalition for Immigrant Rights**  
Central Valley Office  
2014 Tulare #716  
Fresno Ca 93721  
(559) 490-1087  
Fax (559) 490-1089  
nccircv@jps.net  
[www.nccir.org](http://www.nccir.org)

**Pan-Valley Institute**  
1436 We Shaw Ave Suite A  
Fresno Ca 93711  
(559) 222-7678  
Fax (559) 222-7682  
mnaleras@afsc-pmr.org

**Parents & Friends of Lesbians/Gays**  
1343 E Barstow  
Fresno Ca 93710-6399  
(559) 434-6540

**Planned Parenthood Mar Monte**  
633 N. Van Ness  
Fresno, CA 93728  
(559) 488-4913  
(559) 488-4940 (fax)  
vinh-ngo@ppmarmonite.org

**Proyecto Campesino**  
111 NW Third Ave  
Visalia Ca 93291  
(559) 733-4844  
Fax (559) 733-2360  
Cbrito@afsc.org  
<http://www.afsc.org/pdesc/pd297.htm>

**Radio Bilingue**  
KSJV 91.5  
5005 E. Belmont Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93727  
(559) 455-5777  
etorresrb@aol.com  
<http://www.radiobilingue.org/>

**St. Benedict Catholic Workers**  
4022 N Cheryl  
Fresno Ca 93705  
(559) 229-6410  
PaxOSB@aol.com

**Sun Mountain**  
35751 Oak Springs Dr  
Tollhouse Ca 93667  
(559) 855-3710  
sunmt@psnw.com  
<http://www.psnw.com/~sunmt/chronicles.html>

**Tehipite Chapter Sierra Club**  
P.O. Box 5396  
Fresno Ca 93755  
<http://www.sierraclub.org/>

**The Wheelchair Project**  
5205 E Washington  
Fresno Ca 93727  
(559) 251-3814  
wheelchairbusproject@juno.com

**Women's International League for Peace and Freedom**  
P.O. Box 5114  
Fresno Ca 93755  
(559) 229-9807  
geneb@csufresno.edu  
<http://www.wilpf.org/>