

THE OLIVE BRANCH

2009 YOUTH WORKSHOP

Can our world's young people make a difference? These young people certainly can!

From July 9th to 11th, the Pugwash Peace Exchange hosted members of International Student/Young Pugwash, Canadian Student/Young Pugwash and Canada Pugwash Group for the workshop "A Strategy for Student/Young Pugwash: How Students and Young People can Influence the Peace Agenda in the Next Ten Years."



International Student/Young Pugwash was represented by delegates hailing from such locales as the U.S., the U.K., South Africa, Egypt, the Netherlands, and Canada. These dynamic and highly accomplished individuals worked diligently over the weekend, discussing the role that youth can

fulfill in the struggle for peace and nuclear disarmament.

Ben Rusek, Chair of International Student/Young Pugwash found that being in Pugwash made a real difference to his work:

"To be in Pugwash, the birthplace of the first Pugwash Confer-

ence on Science and World Affairs, was truly inspiring. My colleagues and I believe very firmly that a world without nuclear weapons is not only possible, but necessary. Being here, and receiving such great support and encouragement from the Pugwash Peace Exchange and from the individual residents of Pugwash who we met, lent additional strength to our goal and our purpose."

The draft statement from the workshop can be read at www.isyp.org, under the heading "Upcoming Activities".

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fulfill in the struggle for peace and nuclear disarmament.

Dinner of Peace Enjoyed by All

On July 11th, the Pugwash Peace Exchange hosted its fourth annual Dinner of Peace. This event was very well-received by everybody in attendance, and by all accounts, a very enjoyable time was had.



Our guest speaker for this event was Talatbek Masadykov, the Chief of the Political Affairs unit for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA). A compelling and riveting speaker, Masadykov spoke frankly and in great detail about the mission in Afghanistan, much to the appreciation and enlightenment of all present.

Another major highlight of the evening was our special musical guest, Barbara Hannigan. The internationally-acclaimed soprano brought down the house with several opera pieces, and brought tears to more than one eye with her beautiful renditions of "The Impossible Dream" and "Danny Boy".

Prior to the dinner, our guests enjoyed our silent auction. Donations of items and services were made by over 60 businesses and individuals, including some marvelous original pieces. A special thank-you goes out to Tom Forrestall, for the donation of his amazing drawing of our original patron, Joseph Rotblat.

The Pugwash Peace Exchange would like to extend a sincere and heartfelt "thank you" to all of those who supported us by attending our dinner, and particularly to our many volunteers who worked tirelessly during the conference and dinner.



Summer 2009



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Be Green!

If you received this newsletter in the mail instead of via e-mail, it means we do not have a current email address for you. If you wish to provide one, please contact us. Thank you!

Local MLA Joins Peace Exchange

Cumberland North MLA, Brian Skabar (NDP), has become the newest member of the Pugwash Peace Exchange. "The Pugwash Peace Exchange is a very promising and vital community initiative in Cumberland North, and I am proud to be a member and supporter, joining such noteworthy members as Premier Darrell Dexter and former federal NDP leader Alexa McDonough." Skabar stated.

As a member, Skabar will be kept abreast of Peace Exchange activities via a quarterly newsletter, and will also receive invitations to several members' events held throughout the year.



PUGWASH LEGION RE-DEDICATES CENOTAPH

One could argue that nobody is more aware of the global need for peace than a veteran. The veterans of Pugwash have made this awareness public and are working to raise that awareness in others.

The Pugwash branch of the Royal Canadian Legion has recently undergone a name change, and is now known as "Royal Canadian Legion Peace Branch #60, Pugwash".

On Saturday, July 11th, a ceremony was held to re-dedicate the Pugwash cenotaph. Speakers included Mike Lester, President of Peace Branch #60, Stephen Leahey, Chair of the Pugwash Peace Exchange and Dr. Walter Dorn, Chair of Canadian Pugwash Group and an Associate Professor at Canadian Forces College.

Dorn remarked "Beneath the glory of the deep blue sky, the bright red and white Canadian flag, and next to the Pugwash cenotaph honouring soldiers who have sacrificed their lives for peace, it is most fitting that you dedicate here the Pugwash Legion to peace. The Legion is doing something very honourable and quite pioneering in not only dedicating itself but renaming itself as a Peace Legion. This is a significant moment in history of peace, which is woven into our lives and written in our hearts."



Dr. Walter Dorn

Canada's Brightest Visit Pugwash

Once again this year, Pugwash was honoured to receive a visit from some of the brightest young minds in Canada.

Participants of the Shad Valley program (www.shadvalley.ca) visited Pugwash during this year's International Student/Young Pugwash workshop, and took part in many of the events therein.

On Friday night, the group attended an open forum discussion at the Northumberland Community Curling Club. This panel discussion featured Ben Rusek, Chair of International Student/Young Pugwash, Dr. Walter Dorn, Chair of Canadian Pugwash Group, Dr. Adele Buckley, Council member of the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs, and Alexa McDonough, Pugwash Peace Exchange Advisor and Co-President of the Parliamentary Network for Nuclear Disarmament.

A highlight of the evening was when the group made a presentation to the Pugwash Peace Exchange of the "Shad Valley Dalhousie, 2009 Declaration", which reads as follows:

"As a collective voice of Shad Valley Dalhousie 2009, we declare our embracement of peace. We believe that through the use of peace, not force, we will empower the values of diversity, equality, love and respect. We pledge to use our knowledge for the security and quality of all life. Through our actions, we hope to achieve a better future for our generation and for those to come. 'Remember your humanity, and forget the rest.'"

The Pugwash Peace Exchange was delighted to host the Shad Valley group, and looks forward to hopefully seeing them next summer!



Roche Honoured

The Honourable Douglas Roche, O.C., a former Senator and Member of Parliament who represented Edmonton, Alberta, was honoured on Monday, June 1, 2009 with the *Distinguished Service Award* in recognition for his years of Parliamentary service, for his contribution to and respect for the institution of Parliament and for his continued interest and activity in the promotion of human welfare, human rights and parliamentary democracy in Canada and abroad. The award was presented by the Hon. Noël Kinsella, Speaker of the Senate of Canada, and the Hon. Peter Milliken, M.P., Speaker of the House of Commons. The presentation followed the unveiling of the Commemorative Plaques for Senators and Members of the House of Commons who served during the 39th Parliament.

The Hon. Douglas Roche, O.C. has specialized in peace and human security issues throughout his 35-year public career. He is the author of 19 books, including his latest, *Creative Dissent: A Politician's Struggle for Peace* (Novalis, 2008). He was a Senator and Member of Parliament, as well as Canadian Ambassador for Disarmament, Chairman of the United Nations Disarmament Committee, Visiting Professor at the University of Alberta and Chairman of the Middle Powers Initiative. He was also a member of the Pugwash Council, which won the 1995 Nobel Peace Prize for its work for nuclear disarmament, and is the former Advisory Council Chair of the Pugwash Peace Exchange. Mr. Roche holds seven honorary doctorates from Canadian and American universities and has received numerous awards for his work for peace and non-violence. He is an Officer of the Order of Canada.



The *Distinguished Service Award* is a peer-nominated award presented annually by the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians to a former parliamentarian. Previous recipients are the Hon. Sheila Finestone, P.C.; the Hon. Jacques Hébert, O.C.; Mr. Wilton Littlechild, Q.C.; Mr. J. Roland Comtois; Dr. Bruce Halliday; Ms. Aideen Nicholson; the Hon. John M. Reid; Mr. Douglas M. Fisher; Mr. Stan Darling and the Hon. John Ross Matheson.

The Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians (CAFP) was created in 1987 and is composed of former parliamentarians who served in either the Senate or the House of Commons. An Act of Parliament (Bill C-275) established the association in 1996. For more information about the Association, please visit www.exparl.ca.

DID YOU KNOW???

50 FACTS ABOUT NUCLEAR WEAPONS (PART 4 OF 5)

31. Estimated amount spent between October 1, 1992 and October 1, 1995 on nuclear testing activities: **\$1,200,000,000** (0 tests)
32. Cost of 1946 [Operation Crossroads](#) weapons tests ("Able" and "Baker") at Bikini Atoll: **\$1,300,000,000**
33. Largest U.S. explosion/date: **15 Megatons/March 1, 1954 ("[Bravo](#)")**
34. Number of islands in Enewetak atoll [vaporized](#) by the November 1, 1952 "[Mike](#)" H-bomb test: **1**
35. Number of nuclear tests in the Pacific: **106**
36. Number of U.S. nuclear tests in Nevada: **911**
37. Number of nuclear weapons tests in Alaska, Colorado, [Mississippi](#) and New Mexico: **10**
38. Operational naval nuclear propulsion reactors vs. operational commercial power reactors (in 1999): **129 vs. 108**
39. Number of attack ([SSN](#)) and ballistic missile ([SSBN](#)) submarines (2002): **53 SSNs and 18 SSBNs**
40. Number of [high level radioactive waste tanks](#) in [Washington](#), [Idaho](#) and [South Carolina](#): **239**

Sources: U.S. Nuclear Weapons Cost Study Project; Weisgall, *Operation Crossroads*, pp. 294, 371; Chuck Hansen, *U.S. Nuclear Weapons: The Secret History*, Orion Books, 1988, pp. 58-59, 95; Natural Resources Defense Council, Nuclear Weapons Databook Project; Adm. Bruce DeMars, Deputy Assistant Director for Naval Reactors, U.S. Navy; Nuclear Regulatory Commission; Adm. Bruce DeMars, Deputy Assistant Director for Naval Reactors, U.S. Navy; U.S. Department of Energy

Congratulations to Mary and Ron!

The Pugwash Peace Exchange would like to extend its most heartfelt and sincere congratulations to long-time members and dedicated volunteers, Ron and Mary Maron, on recently becoming Canadian citizens!

Ron and Mary have given back an enormous amount of time and effort to their adopted country and community, having volunteered with the Pugwash Peace Exchange, and with other community organizations, for several years and in multiple capacities.

In Mary's own words, "The ceremony in Halifax was very nice, warm and welcoming. The handshakes from politicians and immigration officials were sincere each reflecting interest in the new citizens...Ron and I are very happy to be here!"

We are very lucky to have people like Ron and Mary moving here and contributing to making their community a better place.



Peace Café a Great Success

Where can you get a great lobster roll in Pugwash? If it's July 1st, just follow the large crowd of people making their way to the Eaton Dining Hall!

For the third year, the Pugwash Peace Exchange hosted and operated their "Peace Café", where we sold heaping lobster rolls, other sandwiches, coffee, tea and sweets. This event was part of Pugwash's annual "Gathering of the Clans" July 1st celebrations.

With line-ups going right out the door, it was a busy day for our many, many volunteers, who managed to feed a lot of hungry visitors and still keep smiling!

This event could not have taken place without the hard work of the (NUMBER) volunteers who did everything from bussing tables to serving up food, to strolling the streets wearing sandwich boards advertising the café. Special thanks go to Mary Maron and Isabelle Mullaley for their fantastic job organizing and running this event.



Volunteers Lillian Ripley and Ethel Blatch

Special thanks go out to our members at Contributing level and above:

Contributing:

Pamela Williams

Sharon Madill

Michael Dworkind

Doris Robbins

Sustaining:

Stephen & Dianne Beaufoy

Advisory Board Chair Authors Blog

Ernie Regehr, O.C., the Chair of the Pugwash Peace Exchange's Advisory Council, now has his own blog on the website of the Centre for International Governance Innovation.

Ernie's recent entries cover such topics as the role of the U.N. in nuclear disarmament and his recommendations for how the world should respond to North Korea's nuclear aspirations.



This blog is an excellent resource for anybody who is looking for a clear and well-informed voice on nuclear disarmament and international relations, and we encourage all of our members and readers to check it out!

The website is <http://www.cigionline.org/publications/blogs/disarmingconflict>

Special congratulations to Krista & Keith on the birth of their new baby boy!

~ Samuel Elliott~



Pugwash Peace Exchange

PO Box 38, 236 Water Street

Pugwash, NS B0K 1L0

(902) 243-2328

mail@pugwashpeaceexchange.org

www.pugwashpeaceexchange.org

Are your member fees for the 2010 calendar year due? Watch for your notice in the mail or via email.

Thank you to our 2009 Event Supporters!

