

## A VISION OF 'A WORLD BEYOND WAR'

At a conference at Ben Lomond from February 10 to 12, 1989, participants from the "Waterfall" lodge worked to develop a vision of what a "world beyond war" should be and what we felt Beyond War needed to do to reach that vision.

Members of our group were: Martie and Harlow Rothert, leaders; Elly and Murry Wagner, coordinators; Ginger and Dieter Rollins; Virginia and Bob Unruhe; Hope and Bob Holcomb; Dave Almoslino; Parusha Hickson; and Michael Lindemann.

We started with a retrospective look at the past of Beyond War presented by Michael Lindemann, who is Director of the Peace Resources Center at Santa Barbara but not actually a member of Beyond War.

He stated that, as he observed it, the genius of Beyond War during the last six years, which led it to attract people to the movement who had not previously been attracted to peace movements' was its genius in articulating the threat that existed in 1982. e stated, further, that since Beyond War is a principles-oriented group and not an issues-oriented, it should be able to continue our strength. We aim our principles against the issues and thus can continue as the issues change.

What we have to do now, however, is redefine the issues at which we will aim our principles and articulate the present threats to our world as effectively as we articulated the threat of nuclear war.

He illustrated this by picturing a "stick-man" with a huge nuclear mushroom cloud directly in front of him and so large that he could not possibly see beyond it. This, he said was the situation in 1982 when Beyond War started and the group realized that if this threat to our world was not eliminated, it would not matter what other dangers the world faced. This was effectively articulated with our demonstration of the "bee-bees" and our principles embodies in "We are One."

Next he pictured a 1989 "stick-man" and drew in front of him a much smaller nuclear cloud. This illustrated that, although the nuclear threat still exists, it appears to be smaller. Now the "stick-man" can see beyond the mushroom cloud. And, behold, behind it is a whole large "pile" of threats to the world, such as dangers to the environment, regional conflicts, world hunger, etc.

The Waterfall Group felt that this was an accurate characterization of our present dilemma and decided that our next step should be to create a new Beyond War Vision. After much discussion, the group reached a consensus on Beyond War as:

### "A NEW WAY OF THINKING AND ACTING TOWARD GLOBAL SECURITY"

We next decided that we should envision our future world through two environments-- the human environment and the physical environment. This is how we pictured them:

#### The Human Environment

- o Peace with justice
- o Unity in diversity
- o A hospitable world for children
- o Institutions and procedures for non-violent conflict resolution at all levels

- the human spiri

## The Natural Environment

- o Clean air and water
- o Non-polluting renewable energy sources
- o Ecological balance and wilderness protection
- o Safe elimination of nuclear waste
- o Conversion and recycling of wastes and toxins

The next task we set for ourselves was to devise "how-to's." Although we devise specific ways that we thought groups could work to achieve our vision of the future, we also developed an overall theme of our approach. This we articulated as:

## THINK GLOBALLY--ACT LOCALLY

The specific tasks we developed were:

- o Educate ourselves and others to this new way of thinking and acting
- o Use the media to help educate others to this new way of thinking about global security
- o Discover, encourage and support organizations, such as the United Nations, which are working toward global security
- o Work within our own groups to develop ideas, and take direct action to achieve our goals.
- o Work to place responsible leaders who share our goals, in crucial positions
- o Network with other like-minded organizations
- o Live Beyond War principles as best we can

One of our group, Elly Wagner, developed an overall expression of our vision

"The Vision will surely become a reality when we acknowledge and demonstrate that "We are One." and that, together, we will build a secure, caring World Beyond War."

Another of our group, Jean Harris, developed a rallying round song, based on the tune, "Row, Row, Row Your Boat:"

Verses:

	Row, row, row yourself gently up the stream
	the team
	the world

Chorus: Globally, globally, globally, globally security is our dream



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**"UNDERSTANDING CONFLICT" WORKSHOP BY TOM  
RUSCH SET FOR APRIL 15**

Professor Tom Rusch has agreed to provide a workshop on April 15 for our group. It will be held at St. Paul's United Methodist Church at 1800 South "C" Street in Oxnard from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 15. Participants should bring their own sack lunch, with coffee and soft drinks being provided.

The agenda will be as follows:

Morning Session--8:30 a.m. to 12:00

Introduction to conflicts and their resolutions.

Survey of personal conflicts and attitudes toward them

Role playing in personal conflict resolution

Group meetings to discuss implications.

Lunch--12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

Afternoon Session--1:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Analysis and comparison of conflict resolution within our culture and among different cultures

Videotape of "Alternatives" by Johann Galtong

Simulated role playing with participants representing the side of different countries

Implications

It is essential that everyone attending must read the book, International Conflict for Beginners, by Roger Fisher before the workshop.

**MARCH 9 SET FOR NEXT MEETING.**

The next meeting of the Oxnard-Pt. Hueneme Beyond War ~~group~~ will be held on Thursday, March 9 at 7:30 p.m. at the Colony Clubhouse at 2101 Vina Del Mar. There is a security gate at the Colony, so those planning to attend should notify Bob or Hope Holcomb at 985-7403.

**This will be an important meeting because we hope to collectively reach a consensus on the activities we wish to pursue during 1989.**

There will be a review of the seminar at Ben Lomond which some of our group attended a couple of weeks ago and a report on a county-wide meeting of Beyond War team leaders to work out a system for improving communication and cooperation among the county teams of Camarillo, Conejo, Ojai, Oxnard, and Ventura.

In preparation for the workshop in April on "Understanding Conflict" by Professor Tom Rusch, we also hope to have a book review of Getting to Yes, by Roger Fisher and William Ury for our March meeting.

**Now, doesn't that sound like a meeting you can't miss? Jot the date on your calendar now so you won't miss it.**

\* \*

The book is now out of print, but Tom has received permission to make copies of it for this purpose. The cost of the book, rental of the videotape, and other materials will be \$12 for each person.

Those wishing to attend should call Bob or Hope Holcomb at 985-7403 since reservations will be on a "first come, first serve" basis.

## BEYOND WAR GETS OFF TO A GOOD START FOR 1989

An enthusiastic group attended the first meeting of 1989 and, responding to the challenge to explore new ways to work with global issues within the framework of Beyond War principles, brainstormed possible activities our group could undertake.

Broad areas included continuing a study of USA-USSR relations, economic conversion, conflict resolution, and environmental concerns. Suggestions for practical actions that might be taken included:

Developing correspondence between U.S. and Soviet citizens

Citizen exchanges, including students, "citizen diplomats," and host family arrangements for Soviet visitors

Developing "sister city" ties with a USSR city

Starting a study of how to apply the concepts of economic conversion to our area

Conduct an all-day workshop on Conflict Resolution with Professor Tom Rusch.

Subsequently, four members of our team attended a seminar for the whole central coast territory of Beyond War which was also concerned with the BW direction. Jean Harris and Bob and Hope Holcomb worked with a group which came up with a new "Vision of a World Beyond War". Their vision is included in this newsletter so the suggestions can be considered along with our own group's ideas as we work toward deciding on what activity we want to concentrate upon this year.

The group Norm Dodge worked with developed a new statement to describe what "We are one." means to them. This statement is

I am responsible, and I make a difference.

I maintain an attitude of good will.

I deal with conflict. I find value in the opposing point of view. I do not use violence.

I take initiative. I work with others to build a world that sustains everyone and enhances the quality of life.

I celebrate life!