

Across The Lines

A publication of the **SEEDS OF PEACE COLLECTIVE**: supporting nonviolent direct action since 1986

FIGHTING TOGETHER TO WIN TOGETHER



MOVEMENT SUCCESS AND THE SUMMER OF SOLIDARITY

by Nick Stocks

To all those concerned, the environmental justice movement is alive and well. In fact, as the issues of climate change, ecological destruction, and indigenous self-determination come to occupy an increasingly central position within Left-wing discourse and organizing, it seems to be on the verge of a potentially momentous eruption. In light of this, I offer my reflections on the way the situation is changing on the ground, what the future might hold, and how we might be able to make the most of this exciting and important time.

In an article entitled “The Shock of Victory,” anarchist anthropologist and activist David Graeber analyzes the way that our movement defines success. He draws primarily on examples from the anti-globalization and anti-nuke movements, but the central theme and implications are also applicable to the current climate-justice struggle.

Graeber argues that we often define success through our ability to achieve our short term and long term goals only. For example, we shut down meetings X and Y and thereby smash the state to erect in its place a new and glorious world of heirloom tomatoes and worker collectives. If we don’t achieve either of these aims then we perceive our movement to be a failure. We are sometimes able to succeed in shutting down a meeting or a drill site in the short term, but we get about as close to ending capitalism and attacking the root causes of injustice as I am from the moon. We tend to get caught up in infighting and internal ideological or identity struggles before we can achieve the long term goals.

However, and this is from Graeber, we are often extremely successful in achieving our medium term goals. We are extraordinarily good at radically changing a debate and ushering in a new set of political relationships that revolve around our chosen framing. This of course falls short of a total smashing and rebuilding, but goes well beyond a single action. The pertinent example here from the anti-globalization movement is our really quite unbelievable success in shifting the discourse around free trade from one of hegemonic acceptance as the true course forward in the mid 1990’s to an idea that became politically untenable by 2001. We shouldn’t underestimate how much we, as a global movement, actually affected the WTO, the World Bank, and the IMF--how drastically the terms of debate changed and how much that change has shaped global power arrangements and on-the-ground situations in countries around the world. And this only took us a few years. It happened more quickly than anyone could have imagined.

There are lessons here we can outline and apply to the current burgeoning climate-justice movement, which is taking shape as a constellation of anti-extreme energy extraction campaigns. To be successful in shifting power, we need to create a broad, horizontally organized mass movement. We will then have the ability as a movement to be successful in shifting the debate and leveraging a lot of power away from energy corporations. But to be successful in the long term, we must maintain a large, broad-based movement after our midterm goals are achieved. (*Continued on p. 6*)

News and Updates From the SEEDS OF PEACE COLLECTIVE



There are several exciting updates from the past year that we are happy to report on. In addition to an action-packed summer of support work, our collective has grown in several ways.

In February 2012, SOP **consented two new members** (Shelby and Steven) at our annual meeting in Salt Lake City. Long time volunteers and kitchen wizards, they are the first members added in nearly two years.

We are perhaps most excited to report that after months of unsuccessful attempts to find parts and time, our 1996 Dodge flatbed truck **has successfully been converted to run on waste vegetable oil!** SOP members Sarah and Max began the conversion in the late winter of 2012 and nearly finished it, but had to put it on hold while the truck made a cross country journey. After returning from a summer of support work and obtaining a crucial yet elusive component,

it now runs on nearly 100% WVO and offers a more affordable and mostly fossil-fuel free mode of transportation, which you may see this spring/summer hauling around equipment and people.

Third, our **lawsuit stemming from the G8 summit in Pittsburgh has been settled** with the city. The ACLU fought tirelessly (thanks Vic!) to prove our case against flagrant first amendment violations by the police and the city of Pittsburgh. After three years the city begrudgingly agreed to settle the suit and we received a modest settlement.

Fourth, we have a **(relatively) new blog** where we post frequent updates and reports from actions and campaigns. Check it out at seedsofpeacecollective.wordpress.com

Finally, we have a **temporary home base** in Hamilton, MT. Nestled at the feet of the Bitterroot mountains, we have a space to repair vehicles, process WVO and reconnect with the wild. Come visit us sometime!



Peabody, Arch, and Patriot: Hands Off Our Communities!

Residents of Black Mesa Join Appalachian Coalfield Communities in St. Louis to Confront Big Coal

This January, Seeds of Peace members joined an unprecedented alliance of groups working to end coal mining and demand accountability from coal companies for poisoning communities, contributing to climate change, destroying the culture and livelihood of the Dineh people, and denying pensions to miners. Residents of Black Mesa on the Navajo (Dineh) Reservation in Arizona came together with coalfield residents of Appalachia and people of St. Louis to create a three week long intensive anti-coal action camp. There were trainings and workshops on everything from direct action blockades to in-depth community organizing. The camp culminated in three actions targeting two different coal companies and their CEOs. Twenty-one protesters were arrested in all.

Thirty people from around the country all jammed into a three story brick house for the duration of the action camp. We slept side by side, ate delicious food together, and were otherwise constantly engaged in trainings, workshops, or meetings. The dominant message in the media from the event had an anti-coal focus, but behind the public curtain was a larger theme. We came there because of our own individual involvement in various seemingly isolated environmental and social justice campaigns--fighting corporate tax breaks, fracking for natural gas, mountaintop removal, tar sands infrastructure like pipelines and shipping corridors, and relocation on Black Mesa. Despite our different backgrounds and vast geographic distance, a sense of unity was palpable. I saw this camp as further developing and strengthening the ties between these anti-extraction campaigns. We

are in it together. Solidarity, support, and a willingness to stand on the front lines for each other will be essential in halting this dangerous extreme energy craze that is sweeping the world.

Arch Coal participates in large-scale coal strip-mining across the country. They hold leases to large tracts of land in the Powder River Basin in Montana and Wyoming as well as numerous Mountaintop Removal coal mines in Appalachia. Peabody Coal owns the strip mine that operates on Black Mesa of the Navajo Reservation. Mining on the mesa has led

to the largest forced relocation of Indigenous peoples in the US since the Trail of Tears. The relocation has resulted in the loss of traditional ways of life for the Dineh, which amounts to cultural genocide. The Patriot situation is the product of insidious business practices on the part of Arch and Peabody.

Arch and Peabody dumped all of their unionized and unprofitable mines into Patriot (which is now bankrupt), in order to discard toxic assets and shirk financial obligations to the miners. Some of these miners happen to be sick from a lifetime of work in a toxic industry and are now being denied pensions and healthcare because of the Patriot bankruptcy.

The Winter Action Camp was organized by the West Virginia based RAMPS campaign (Radical Action for Mountain Peoples' Survival), Arizona based BMIS (Black Mesa Indigenous Support), and St. Louis based MORE (Missourians Organizing for Reform and Empowerment). For more details about the creative, rambunctious, and pointed actions undertaken during this event, check out www.rampscampaign.org. □



Let 'Em Roam: An Update on the Buffalo Field Campaign

by Rebecca and Stephany of BFC

As we enter our 16th season in the field, the decade and a half has brought some success, though we have a tremendously long way to go. Finally having a strong legal team has made a significant, positive impact.

On the legal front we had one win and one loss. We lost our lawsuit requesting a supplemental EIS for the Interagency Bison Management Plan. The courts say that under "adaptive management" the agencies can do whatever they want to the buffalo without ever doing a new environmental impact analysis. On the flip side, BFC staff and volunteers spent many hours collecting field data on grizzly bear presence in the Hebgen Basin for a lawsuit against helicopter hazing filed by the Alliance for the Wild Rockies. That lawsuit argues that the government can't haze bison with helicopters because it also impacts grizzly bears, a species listed under the Endangered Species Act. Our work paid off in May when a federal judge granted an injunction against helicopter hazing during the 2012 hazing season. The injunction was a temporary protection while the main lawsuit is still ongoing. We also filed a lawsuit against US-DA-APHIS asking for information about a controversial plan to sterilize bison. That lawsuit is ongoing.

BFC continues daily field patrols, monitoring bison migration, and documenting hazing/capture operations, as well as monitoring and state and treaty hunts. Documentation paid off again last spring after a video we compiled on helicopter hazing (available on YouTube) was discussed by both a federal judge in a court hearing and in National Park Service internal agency reports.



In retaliation for the public exposure, one of our volunteers was arrested this summer for attempting to videotape a hazing operation. His criminal charge was quickly dismissed.

Our consistent efforts and methods (for what it's worth) are recognized by government agencies as the most accurate source of data on the hunting season. While we don't want to be game wardens, and are opposed to hunting ecologically extinct wild bison, BFC feels strongly that every buffalo life taken must be accounted for, which the government is not overseeing. So far this season 31 wild buffalo have been gunned down in Montana, across Yellowstone's western boundary. BFC places a strong focus on outreach to hunters, aiming to build a constituency for wild buffalo and their right to roam in Montana. We are happy to say that in May, the Montana-Wyoming Tribal Leaders Council passed a resolution requesting that Montana stop hazing wild buffalo and allow buffalo to use their natural ranges following their natural instincts on their own schedule, and requesting that the government recognize their trust responsibility to Treaty obligations that include providing viable populations of wild, migratory buffalo in their native habitat.

However, state, federal and tribal governments involved with the Interagency Bison Management Plan (IBMP) have publicly stated that they intend to kill at least 400 wild buffalo this season, targeting females. They aim to "even out" the sex ratio, and state the reason is that their years of slaughter has harmed the balance. We shall not stand by idly, and we will need your help. Visit www.buffalofieldcampaign.org for more information. □



Expose ALEC!

by Shelby

In December of 2011 SOP spent a week in Phoenix, AZ, along with hundreds of activists and various groups mobilizing against the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). ALEC functions as a voice for corporate special interests in state legislatures across the country. In other words, corporate executives, lawyers, lobbyists, and member legislators draft, lobby for, and secure passage of an extensive array of bills intended to promote corporate interests. Some of the major donors include Exxon Mobile, Bp America Inc., eBay, FedEx, Gieco, Koch Industries, and Northwestern Energy to name a few. These for-profit corporations support anti-immigration and anti-workers rights legislation; the privatization of prisons, public education and healthcare; and bills intended to curb environmental protection.

We spent our time commuting around Phoenix and preparing action food in our kitchen beneath a handful of palm trees. The mobilization consisted of two days of decentralized actions around Phoenix, the main focus being an attempt to march to the meetings. That march saw excessive pepper spraying, unintentional arrests, and intimidating tactics from hundreds of riot police. The weekend culminated in a non-violent direct action at the headquarters of Salt River Power, a company that contributes to the displacement of Navajo/Dineh families by using Black Mesa coal in their power generating stations. After days of planning, networking, rallying, cooking and a last minute fundraiser we left feeling part of a strong and emerging movement aimed at exposing ALEC's corporate agenda. In the past year there have been more than 50 individual resignations. In addition, more than 100 ALEC member legislators lost their seats in the 2012 elections. □

Confronting the War and Poverty Agenda

Seeds of Peace Spends a Month Supporting the “Chicago Spring”

by Flicker

When the news broke that Chicago would be hosting a joint G8/NATO conference in May of 2012 our collective eagerness to confront it was instantaneous. Before anyone began organizing to protest the summit, many of us believed that it was going to be the mobilization of the year--the one where a fledgling Occupy movement would prove it's potential, and shut down this rare gathering of two of the most powerful and unjust institutions in the world.

From early on, Seeds of Peace committed to playing a role in organizing and supporting the mobilizations. Then the G8 pulled out of the Chicago talks. Even though this meant that the protests would very likely see an attenuated participation, two SOP members traveled to Chicago a month early to work on a refocused mobilization against NATO. Working with Chicago Food Not Bombs we established the Food Not NATO coalition and committed to feeding a series of actions and events collectively referred to as the “Chicago Spring,” which began with an immigrants’ rights march on May Day and continued through the month leading up to the summit.

The mobilization against NATO was organized by Iraq Veterans Against the War, Occupy Chicago, the Coalition Against NATO and G8 (CANG8), and other local and national organizations. Seeds of Peace, Occupy Chicago and Chicago Action Medical provided the bulk of the infrastructure. Themed days of actions and rallies led up to a mass protest march on the last day of the summit where we served lunch to thousands of participants. After learning that there was a severe shortage of water along the march route, Seeds of Peace and Chicago Action Medical braved the insanity of Chicago’s militarized zone (formerly known as downtown) for 3 hours, picking up and delivering a pallet and a half of bottled water to the marchers en route.

The organizers in Chicago did some amazing work throughout the course of the Chicago Spring, especially in trying to focus the energy of hundreds of protesters who had been recently radicalized by Occupy Wall Street. But even after a string of well attended rallies, highly publicized actions and a broad base of support it was apparent by Sunday evening that the effort to “Shut down NATO!” had been certifiably unsuccessful.

For those who attended it was an inspiring and successful mobilization in many ways. Participants gained critical skills in networking and coalition building, medical aid, food support and independent media work. The medical infrastructure, organized by Chicago Action Medical, was well staffed and offered an array of free health services throughout the week. Similarly, Chicago Indy Media and the National Lawyers Guild were on the ground 24/7 providing legal and media support.

In the kitchen we worked around the clock to provide food for the seemingly endless actions and marches over the course of a three week period. When the last dinner bell rang we tallied about 10,000 free meals --from May Day, Spreading the Health Medic Conference, The Peoples Summit, #Ochi foreclosure march, Rising Tide tar sands march, National Nurses United rally, Chicago Health Care march and rally, IVAW march, as well as the Health and Wellness medic center, the convergence center and finally an action at the headquarters of Boeing on Monday, May 21st.

One of the more salient aspects of our Chicago experience was the unusual lack of police harassment directed at our kitchen. There was the usual monitoring, both seen and unseen, and one unsuccessful attempt by the police to enter a house where Seeds members were staying, but we made it through unscathed, suffering only strained wrists and limited sleep. (continued on page 10)



Fighting Together to Win Together

(continued from page 1)

There is, as we speak, a move in this vein toward bringing together the disparate elements of our environmental justice activism under the same banner in the form of an anti-extreme energy extraction movement. This has mainly taken place in three industrial arenas: natural gas fracking, tar sands, and coal. This past summer saw one of the first public attempts to link all three industries through the media and narrative framing of the “Summer of Solidarity.” There have been major actions on each of these fronts in the past year and the Summer of Solidarity was a way to knit them together thematically even if not through common targets.

But instead of simply delving into a litany of summer actions, let’s take a quick survey of the scene. The world of fossil fuels extraction is changing dramatically and quickly. We are winning the war on domestic coal consumption (we burn less and less coal in the US every year), but we export more coal from the US now than we have since the late 1970’s (mostly to Chinese markets and mostly from the Powder River Basin). Tar Sands production in Alberta continues to boom and the resultant infrastructure needed to get that oil to market is creeping west from Alberta to British Columbia and south into Texas (Enbridge and Keystone pipelines). And, to add something new to the mix, the specter of fracking looms large and is drastically altering the oil and natural gas economies of the United States. Fracking allows cheap natural gas to replace coal, hence less domestic coal consumption. As for oil development, fracking has increased the domestic output of oil in the US by 25%. Because of this, the US is poised to become one of the world’s largest oil exporters.

We are now starting to actively realize that the future of any one of these fights is connected to the future of all the others. People in the climate-justice movement are beginning to talk, strategize, and take steps not as single organizations with single issues, but together.

In the last year in West Virginia, the Mountain-top Mobilization shut down the largest mountaintop removal site in the state, Hobet, owned by Patriot Coal. Six months later Patriot Coal decided to begin to phase out mountaintop removal (victory for MTR activists, not so good for the Union, as Patriot was one of the last union

mines left in Appalachia). In Texas, the Tar Sands Blockade is revamping the field of contemporary environmental direct action in the fight against the Keystone XL pipeline while working with conservative landowners. In Pennsylvania and Ohio, where we see the most drastic effects of fracking, people have been taking action for years through literally hundreds of locally based grassroots organizations. On all fronts there has been a swell of action and community-based organizing.

It was during the Summer of Solidarity that we began to look for ways to connect these disparate elements and practically conceive of them as part of the same general movement. There was a detonation of action

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across the country mainly against industrial targets, pipelines, fracking wells, and coal mines. But in addition to the increasing use of direct action as a central campaign tactic, there was also a swell of collaborative projects that brought

young environmental organizers into step with conservative landowners and rural folk. This is really an amazing thing if we remember how many times it seems like environmental work has come into direct conflict with local, and especially rural, interests. During the course of the Summer of Solidarity the community members facing the industrial onslaught were a major factor in drawing links between their local anti-extraction fights and the need to grow beyond just that focus. People from all backgrounds were articulating a need to do cohesive, broad movement building, and to create campaigns that would engender unified momentum beyond a single industry.

So, this brings us back to the original point. We are poised to really expand the ways in which we are fighting these battles, to draw together many of the different fights around the country and make a push to leverage serious



Coal Export Actions at the capitol building in Helena, MT as part of the 2012 Summer of Solidarity

change in the near future. We have, I think, been talking about this for the last few years, but now it's becoming a reality through projects like the Summer of Solidarity. Slated for the near future are many camps and gatherings devoted to talking about how this movement can grow nationally. Many strands of conversation on the same topic will eventually beget a breakthrough. It's already happening. In my estimation, a true movement is growing, one that only requires a concrete vision of itself to really explode.

And, if we can then remember David Graeber's analysis of past movements we may stand a fairly good chance at achieving some fairly drastic successes in the near future. Then the real work will be to hold steady, and to begin shooting for the big, long-term goals that we desperately need to realize. As always, it is up to us to not let the energy die. We have to continue to build on what we have with an eye toward inclusion and liberation. □



Texas Tar Sands Blockade against the Keystone XL pipeline. More info at www.tarsandsblockade.org

• Summer of Solidarity Highlights: • Earth First! Round River Rendezvous and • Ohio Fracktion Camp

• *by Bird of Bray*

• **I**n July of 2012, Marcellus Shale Earth First! invited activists from around the nation to converge in the Alleghany National Forest of Pennsylvania for the annual Earth First! Round River Rendezvous. The week was jam-packed with direct action trainings, strategizing, network building, and presentations about environmental struggles around the country. Seeds of Peace provided food and trainings throughout the event. The Rendezvous culminated in an unprecedented action organized by people from the region heavily impacted by the natural gas industry. Upwards of 75 people blocked an access road in the Moshannon State Forest, forcing a hydrofracking drill rig to suspend operations for the first time in US history. The blockade was held for 12 hours and included a tree sitter hung above the access road, a second person in a tree as support, many large debris piles across the road, and a group of protesters blocking the entrance to the road. The tree sitter was removed with a ladder truck after the debris piles were bulldozed. Three arrests were made for disorderly conduct.

• Following the EF! RRR, Seeds members traveled to Youngstown, OH for the first ever Ohio Fracktion Camp. A three day action camp geared towards locals and Fracktivists (as they are known), participants learned the basics of non-violent direct action, blockading, rural organizing and social media. During the camp, Seeds of Peace experienced a refreshing change of pace by facilitating workshops and trainings, while managing to stay out of the kitchen entirely. The camp culminated in an action targeting a wastewater injection site outside of Youngstown, where a participant of the camp locked down to the gate and stopped operations for nearly 3 hours. One arrest was made that day.

• Hydrofracking is a process whereby fresh water is mixed with chemicals and injected deep into the earth creating intense pressure buildup that fractures rock layers and releases natural gas. The wastewater, also known as "brine," is then removed and injected into old wells or put into evaporation ponds. The chemical constituents of the brine are never revealed or tested for safety. People are reporting intense illnesses associated with fracking chemicals found in the air and ground water around all of these sites. □

Escalating the Fight Against Mountain Top Removal: Ramps and Mountain Justice Expand the Struggle Against MTR Strip Mining

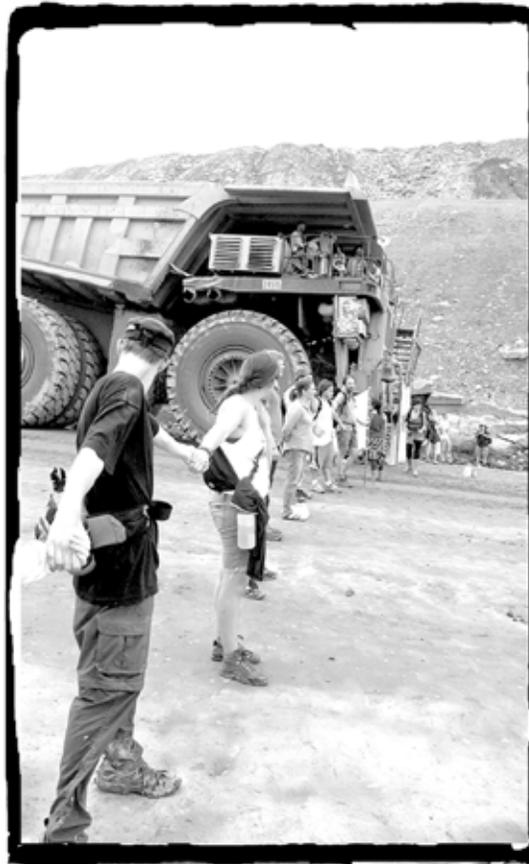
by Flicker

On Saturday, July 28th, in the humid hollers of Southern West Virginia activists took a courageous stand against the surface mining practice known as mountain top removal (MTR). Approximately 100 climate activists walked on to the Hobet Mine in Central West Virginia, the largest surface mine in the state, and shut down mining operations for the day with a series of technical lock downs, banner drops and tree sits. This first-of-its-kind mass action at a West Virginia coal mine was organized by the folks with Radical Action for Mountain Peoples Survival (RAMPS) and Mountain Justice. Known as the Mountain Mobilization, a week of workshops and tireless organizing resulted in a truly massive direct action.

A rally at the Kanawha State Forest outside of Charleston was held in conjunction with the mine walk-on. By all accounts the actions went as planned, resulting in twenty arrests and a plethora of inspiring stories. We also witnessed an equally emphatic response by pro-coal counter-demonstrators. West Virginia state troopers were quick to crack down on protesters and offered no protection from the violent instigations of the pro-coal lackeys. Those who walked on to the site were refused access to rescue vehicles and had to make a grueling 12 mile hike down from the site, all the while being verbally assaulted, spit on, hit with sticks and rocks, as well as being driven at by ATVs and trucks. Even amidst all of this, activists put their bodies on the line and delivered an unwavering message that MTR is obsolete and must end before it destroys the last threads of life in Appalachia.

There was a moment of sweet irony, however, when the Friends of Coal counter-demonstrators formed a soft blockade to stop protesters from leaving once on the mine site. Their attempts at a hard blockade, however, were unsuccessful.

Seeds of Peace was there from day one, along with the amazing folks from Everybody's Kitchen, providing



food and logistical support. One exciting aspect of the mobilization was that we were able to work on a larger collective goal of branching out from our usual support roles to provide crucial organizing support as well.

The Mountain Mobilization was a defining moment of the Summer of Solidarity (see page 1). For MTR activists it was an escalation of the on-going direct action campaign being waged by RAMPS and Mountain Justice. Building on numerous other actions and campaigns from this summer, the Mountain Mobilization had a larger theme of connecting climate related struggles around the country against an increasingly desperate fossil fuel industry. And it did just that. Linking the efforts to end the practice of MTR to stopping fracking be-

fore it begins to stopping toxic pipelines before they are built--this mobilization made it evident that you can't pigeonhole any single part of the fight against climate change. It highlighted the steps that industry and capitalist power structures are willing to take to suppress activists and campaigns, through astronomically high bonds, kidnappings, threats and violence. While the struggle in Appalachia is certainly unique, it provides an extremely useful example of how direct action can be applied to other local struggles.

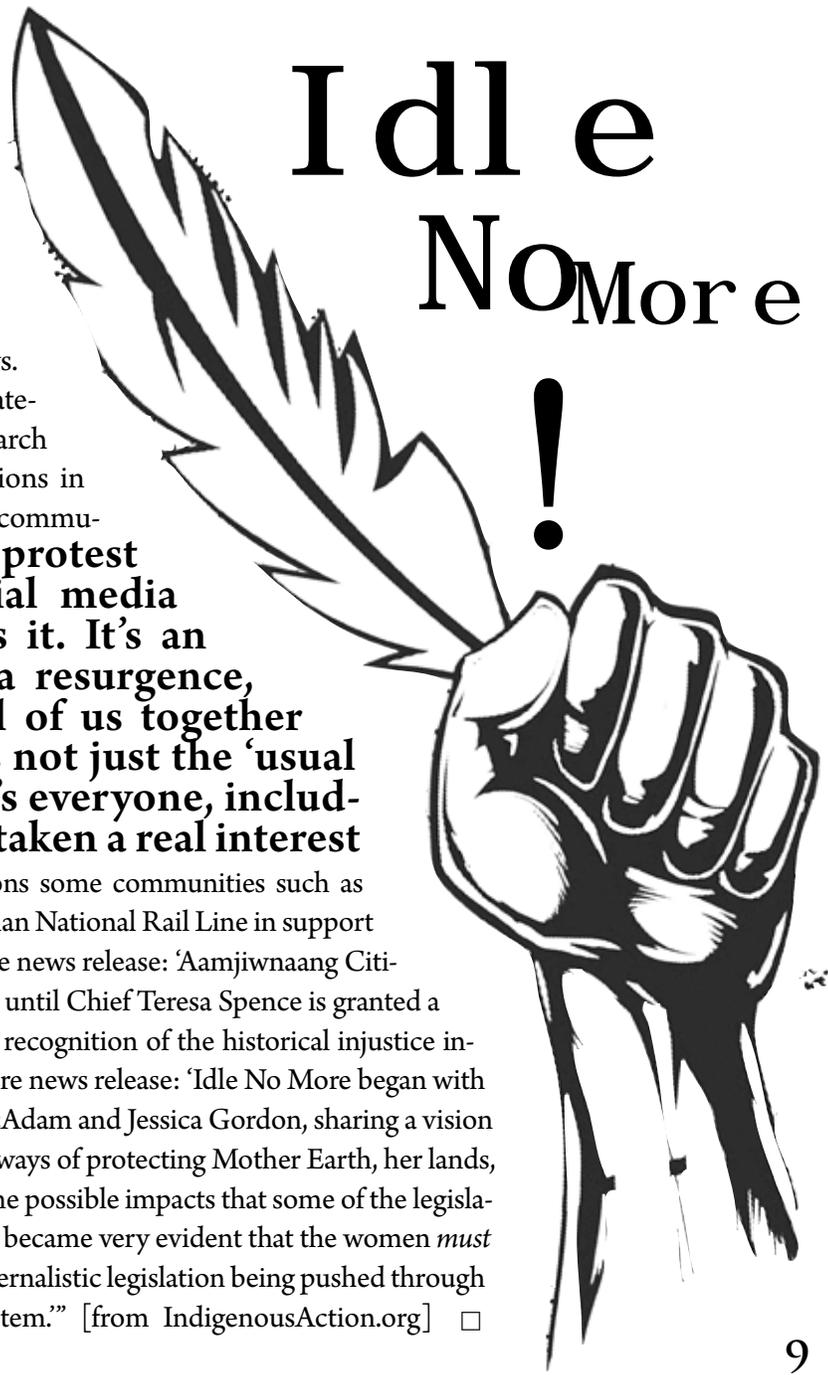
It also demonstrates, rather beautifully, how these struggles are garnering an increasingly broad and powerful base of support among impacted communities and grassroots organizations.

There seems to be an amazing amount of momentum that is emerging as a result of these actions, both in the local campaigns and the increasingly cohesive climate justice movement. Seeds of Peace is in full support of those that are dedicating their lives to protecting this amazing ecosystem and these resilient communities. For more information and updates visit www.rampscampaign.org □

Since November of 2012 an historic movement for indigenous sovereignty has been sweeping across Canada and the United States. In response to a proposed series of austere and outright racist omnibus bills aimed at limiting First Nations influence on infrastructure projects on tribal lands, IDLE NO MORE has focused the world's attention on the Canadian government's long standing blatant disregard for the treaty rights of the country's original residents. As the fossil fuels industry and the Canadian government continue to escalate the reckless exploitation of tar sands and other natural resources with or without First Nations approval, the Idle No More movement becomes more and more powerful every day. Seeds of Peace stands in solidarity with Idle No More and First Nations communities struggling for environmental justice and indigenous self-determination.

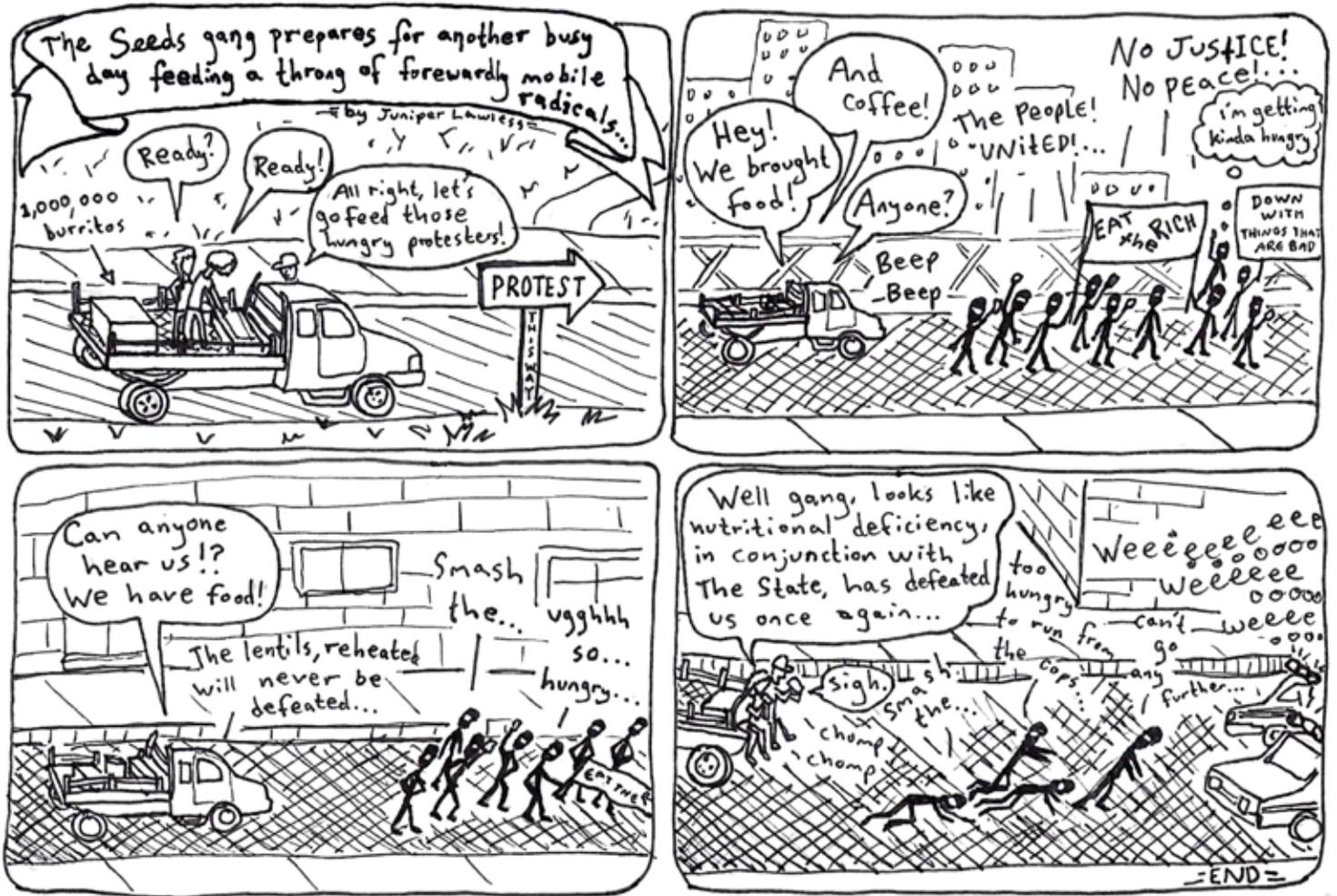
“Idle No More calls on all people to join in a revolution which honors and fulfills Indigenous sovereignty which protects the land and water. Colonization continues through attacks to Indigenous rights and damage to the land and water. We must repair these violations, live the spirit and intent of the treaty relationship, work towards justice in action, and protect Mother Earth.”

“What started as a First Nations movement in occupied territories of Canada, has quickly spread across colonial borders. More than 1,300 Natives have answered the Idle No More call to action in a Round Dance Flash Mob in Seattle on December, 22, 2012, and hundreds at similar actions in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Shiprock, Phoenix, Flagstaff and many more cities across the so-called U.S. in recent days. Social Media has been emphasized as a strategic vehicle for decentralized mobilizations. Search #idlenomore for more info and upcoming actions in your area or better yet, organize one in your community! **‘...#idlenomore isn’t just a protest movement or some silly social media trend as the government calls it. It’s an awakening of consciousness, a resurgence, a platform that is bringing all of us together against a common foe. And it’s not just the ‘usual suspects’ leading the charge, it’s everyone, including those of us who have never taken a real interest in politics.’** Beyond flash mob styled actions some communities such as Aamjiwnaang have established a blockade of Canadian National Rail Line in support of the Idle No More movement. From the blockade news release: ‘Aamjiwnaang Citizens are indicating they will continue the blockade until Chief Teresa Spence is granted a meeting with Prime Minister Harper, and there is recognition of the historical injustice inflicted upon the community.’ From the Idle No More news release: ‘Idle No More began with 4 women, Nina Wilson, Sheelah Mclean, Sylvia McAdam and Jessica Gordon, sharing a vision of bringing together all people to ensure we create ways of protecting Mother Earth, her lands, waters and people. The women began discussing the possible impacts that some of the legislation would carry if people do not do something. It became very evident that the women *must* do something about the colonial, unilateral and paternalistic legislation being pushed through the Government of Canada’s parliamentary system.’ [from IndigenousAction.org] □



Confronting the War and Poverty Agenda *(continued from page 5)*

As a first true test of the Occupy movement the mobilization against NATO presented a challenging learning curve. Seeing only 5,000 people at a march where there should have been 500,000 was evidence of the protracted fear campaign being waged by the City of Chicago, local media and the police. In some ways it was also a symptom of Occupy's growing pains--trying to find a common voice amidst a sea of issues. For a city with such a radical history and a seemingly vibrant anarchist and social justice undercurrent, the mobilization against NATO fell short of the visions that many of us had going into it. Regardless, thousands of up and coming activists received practical, first hand experience in mass organizing, and even the experienced activists learned a few new things. It is fairly evident, as witnessed by the historical teacher strikes this past September, that the Chicago Spring gave a much needed boost to new and ongoing social, economic and environmental justice campaigns in the city that never sleeps. □



Thank You! To all of the groups, organizations, spaces, and individuals who helped us make 2012 an awesome and inspiring year--your support and solidarity has allowed us to do the work we do. A huge THANKS to R.A.M.P.S, Black Mesa Indigenous Support, Earth First!, Chicago Action Medical, the Grand Manor, Sushi Hana, Chicago Food Not Bombs, Mill Crick Farm, Tar Sands Blockade, Free Speech Zone, Occupy Chicago, Iraq Veterans Against the War, Movement Resource Group, Ohio Fraction, M.O.R.E, Rising Tide North America, Rainforest Action Network, Locked Out Collective, Iraq Veterans Against the War, American Civil Liberties Union, Canyon Country Rising Tide, Buffalo Field Campaign, AZ Resist ALEC

Upcoming Events, Action Camps & Mobilizations

- 2013 Earth First! Organizers Conference** **Feb 14-18**
Athens County, OH www.appalachiare sist.wordpress.com
- Mountain Justice Spring Break** **March 1-17**
Northern WV and Wherewise, County, VA www.mountainjustice.org
- Spring Mobilizations Against Mountain Top Removal** **March-May, 2013**
R.A.M.P.S headquarters in WV www.rampscampaign.org
 Ongoing direct actions and community organizing against mountain top removal coal mining.
- Mountain Justice Summer Action Camp** **May 18-25**
Location TBA www.mountainjustice.org
- Black Mesa Spring Caravan** **June 2013**
Black Mesa/Big Mountain, Northern, AZ www.blackmesais.org
 Sheep shearing, tree planting, continuing direct support for the communities living in resistance to Peabody Coal. Also a meeting of regional organizers working on a diversity of social and environmental justice issues focused on land-based struggles and decolonization.
- U.S. Tar Sands Action Camp** **June 2013**
Southern UT www.beforeitstarts.org
 Action camp in the deserts of Utah, education and taking action against proposed tar sands mining in Southern Utah.
- Earth First! Round River Rendezvous** **July 2013**
Piedmont Region, NC www.croatanearthfirst.com
- West Coast Climate Convergence** **August 2013**
In or around Portland, OR
 Details TBA - Action camp and convergence targeting coal export terminal expansions in Western WA. Updates coming soon!

Wish List!

We have a number of exciting projects and travel plans lined up for this year that require money, of which we have little. Please consider sending us a donation (even a small one) to help us with these endeavors and to allow us to support the events listed above.

- *Nonprofit Application Fee (~\$800)
- *Covered Utility Trailer For hauling kitchen gear (~\$3000-\$5000)
- *New Office Computer (~\$1500)
- *Fuel Centrifuge For processing waste vegetable oil (~\$2000)
- *Kitchen Equipment New triple burner, Cambros, kitchen equip, etc.
- *Health Insurance for SOP Members
- *New Collective Members! Ever considered joining?
- *Money for Travel Expenses We still use diesel, even with a veggie oil truck!

Order a T-shirt! Just fill out the donation slip on the back page of this newsletter and send it to us with a \$10-30 donation. Please indicate which size, color and design (a or b) you want.

(a)



(b)



Seeds of Peace Collective
PO Box 7852
Missoula, MT 59807



We are a small grassroots organization which relies on your individual donations. Please consider sending us \$5, \$10, \$50 or more to help us continue our important work!

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The Seeds of Peace Collective does not currently have 501(c)3 nonprofit status, so we cannot accomodate tax-deductible donations at this time. We are working on applying for this status, and we appologize for the inconvenience.