



PEACEMAKERS INCORPORATED



UPCOMING EVENTS

June 14th

DFW International
Alliance Annual
Mayors' Dinner

July 18th-21st

BePeace Educators
Workshop

September 21st

3rd Annual
Peacemakers
Luncheon

"I pledge to continue, in partnership with all of you, to do what I can to promote human rights and peace in our world and to aid in bringing forth human security, harmony and an undisturbed state of mind."

-Lauren Embrey

Another Peace Patron Honored



On May 31, 2011, Peacemakers hosted a Peace Patron Luncheon to honor Lauren Embrey for her work for peace and human rights in the DFW community. The Luncheon also provided a forum to celebrate Ms. Embrey's recent recognition by Women's eNews as one of the "21 Leaders of the 21st Century." The ballroom at Maggiano's Restaurant was filled to capacity with approximately 100 persons in attendance.

Rick Halperin, Director of the SMU Embrey Human Rights Program, introduced Ms. Embrey and described her essential role in establishing that Program. In her remarks, Ms. Embrey explained her passion for her work for human rights and recognized the work of the Human Rights Program, the UNT Castleberry Peace Institute, Peacemakers Incorporated, and Peacemakers founder Vivian Castleberry.

Peacemakers President Norma Matthews presented Lauren Embrey with an original dove sculpture, created by local sculptor Art Wells. Throughout the Luncheon, a PowerPoint presentation was displayed, depicting photographs of programs made possible by the Embrey Family Foundation. Such programs include the MasterPEACE classes at the Irma Rangel Young Women's Leadership School co-hosted by Peacemakers Incorporated and Today Marks the Beginning; the "Truth in Translation" dramatization, which was performed at the International Women's Peace Conference hosted by Peacemakers; and the SMU Embrey Human Rights Program.

Lauren Embrey, individually and as President of the Embrey Family Foundation continues to make our community a better place. If you would like to make a donation to Peacemakers Incorporated in honor of Lauren Embrey, please send your check payable to "Peacemakers" to 5910 Cedar Springs Road, Dallas, Texas 75235. Alternatively, honorariums can be made online at www.PeacemakersIncorporated.org.



**“Blessed are
the
peacemakers”**

Peacemaker of the Month

This month we want to recognize more than one Peacemaker; in fact we want to give huge thanks to, and give thanks for, five of our very own neighbors at the Cathedral of Hope and Peace House Dallas:

Coy James, Director of Stewardship & Communications at the Cathedral of Hope;
Mary Jo Kaska, Director of Programming for Hope for Peace and Justice;
Bill Matthews, President of the Texas Division of the United Nations Association (UNA);
Nelda and David Reid, Co-presidents of the Dallas UNA.

Their outreach to us from their own organizations has blessed Peacemakers Incorporated with a special gift. It came about like this. Noticing a vacant office in Peace House Dallas down the hall from Peacemakers corner office, Carol Donovan, Executive Director, wrote a request for much-needed extra space for Peacemakers' staff and volunteers. Not only was the request granted in record time through Mary Jo and Coy, but also our loyal friend and supporter Bill, in consultation with Nelda and David, agreed to exchange the UNA office next door to us with the vacant office down the hall so that Peacemakers could have two offices next to each other. Bill, assisted by daughter Mary Beth, has already moved the UNA office into their new space. Now our new administrator and new summer intern can work without climbing over each other.

Thank you all, not only for your good work in your official capacities, but also for being such generous peace partners.

Welcome to Peacemakers, Inc.

This month, Peacemakers welcomes two new staff members: UNT Intern Erica Mahoney; and Administrator Rosann Naim, succeeding former Administrator Melissa Smith, who is about to be a full-time mom after working for Peacemakers since 2008.

Rosann Naim is certainly not new to Peacemakers. She began her association with Peacemakers from its inception and served as the administrator/director of the first International Women's Peace Conference hosted by Peacemakers in 1988 under the leadership of Peacemakers founder Vivian Castleberry, chairwoman of the conference. Rosann and Vivian worked together again as administrator and chairwoman for The Power of Positive Parenting, a national conference in 1998 of the American Mothers Association. Rosann has served on the Board of Directors of Peacemakers in various capacities including president. Currently she is co-chair of the Program Committee for Peacemakers and she has been involved with the ESL component in Peacemakers' "Good Neighbor" Program. Professionally, she has an MA in applied linguistics and taught, coordinated, and directed ESL programs for over 25 years in the U.S. and abroad. Other experience includes church administration, non-profit fund raising, and mediation training. She was founding executive director of the Pre-GED School at the Cathedral (St. Matthews Episcopal) and retired from there in 2007. She has had a life-long interest in peace efforts influenced very early on by her church and sharpened by experiences during volatile times in the Middle East, by a citizen diplomacy trip to the USSR in 1987, by a trip with Pastors for Peace to Cuba and by many years of work with Peacemakers. We are lucky to have someone as experienced as Rosann serving as our Administrator.

Erica, a native of Texas, graduated from Corsicana High School, where she started the Council of International Affairs, a student organization which raised funds for international organizations and community needs. She has studied at UNT for three years with a major in International Studies and is already a graduating senior as of August because of all the summer courses she has taken. In between her beginning year and sophomore year, she spent the summer in London at the University of Westminster, where she studied Political Islam, a timely subject for that course since she was there on the anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the London underground. She currently runs UNT's America Reads program which arranges for tutoring at-risk children at two Denton elementary schools (one of which, Newton Rayzor, will be the site this summer for the BePeace Foundation Course presented by Rita Marie Johnson and the Rasur Foundation). After graduation, Erica will study in the graduate school of political science at UNT for a year and then plans to pursue a masters degree in human rights preferably in Europe. (She speaks fluent French and has studied several other languages.) How fortunate we are to have such a capable young woman working with us this summer!



Save the Date

Celebrate the United Nations International Day of Peace at the 3rd Annual Peacemakers Luncheon on Wednesday, September 21, 2011. The luncheon will be held at the Tower Club on the 48th floor of Thanksgiving Tower at 1601 Elm Street in downtown Dallas. Doors will open for the Exhibit Hall at 10:30 am. The luncheon will begin at 11:30 am.

The keynote speaker is Patricia Smith Melton, the founder of the international peace organization Peace X Peace, which is based in Washington, D.C. Ms. Smith Melton is a poet, playwright, and photographer with more than 30 years of experience in the arts. Her book, *Sixty Years, Sixty Voices*, celebrating the diversity and power of the women of Israel and Palestine, was published in November 2008. She produced and co-directed the award-winning 2003 documentary "PEACE BY PEACE: Women on the Frontlines," which highlights the often invisible work of women around the world in building the components of sustainable peace. She is co-founder of the Melton International Education Foundation, the recipient of the The Rumi Foundation's 2008 Peace Award, and one of OneWorld's 2008 People of the Year.



Take advantage of the "early bird" discounts: Through July 31, 2011, member tickets are only \$65 and non-member tickets are \$90, a savings of \$10. Save \$100 on a table for 10. With the "early bird" discount, a table hosted by a Peacemakers member is \$650 and a table hosted by a non-member is \$900. Annual membership is \$35. Advertise your organization or company by hosting a booth and/or placing an ad in the luncheon programs. For cost details, go to www.PeacemakersIncorporated.org.

Civility Corner

This month, in the year 1950, Senator Margaret Chase Smith (R.ME), the first woman to be elected to both the U.S. House and the Senate, delivered her courageous "Declaration of Conscience" speech on the floor of the United States Senate. In her Declaration, which was later dramatized by actress Patricia Neal in the 1978 television movie, "Tail Gunner Joe," she spoke out against the "hate and character assassination" of McCarthyism. As a result, Senator Joseph McCarthy and his staff nicknamed her "Moscow Maggie." In the next election, McCarthy backed her opponent and campaigned against her. Despite his opposition, Senator Smith was re-elected by the voters of Maine. When she left office in 1973, Smith held the record as the longest-serving female senator in United States history, ranking 11th in seniority among the members of the Senate. Not until January 5, 2011, was this record broken, when Senator Barbara Mikulski was sworn-in for a fifth term.

Last month former Texas State Representative Sarah Weddington was informed that her contract as an adjunct professor at the University of Texas at Austin would not be renewed. Students, faculty and alumni wrote letters and circulated petitions to express their views. Many were concerned that the decision was political, since Weddington is well known as the lead counsel on the landmark reproductive rights case of *Roe v. Wade*. Others wondered why someone of Weddington's caliber could be so easily discarded after teaching 23 years at the University. In addition to being the recipient of numerous state and national leadership awards, Sarah Weddington was the first woman elected from Austin to serve in the Texas Legislature, the first woman to hold the title of General Counsel to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and a White House adviser to President Jimmy Carter. As a result of the groundswell of support, the University reversed its position and rehired Sarah Weddington.

These historical vignettes show, not only that it is possible to voice one's positions with both passion and civility, but that one can be both courageous and victorious in doing so. These past, and other, successes inspire others to take a stand. Recently a Saudi Arabian woman, Manal al-Sherif, was arrested for driving. Though clerics are vehemently opposed to women driving, there are reports that the general public is sympathetic to Manal's cause, and the Saudi Prince Waleed has called the ban a "demeaning" tribal custom. We wish her well, and pray for a successful, peaceful resolution for her campaign. Granted, not all acts of civility are persuasive. However, taking the "high road" to a "happy ending" is especially sweet.

Carol Crabtree Donovan, Executive Director

UN REPORT: EDUCATING GIRLS, A DIVIDEND THAT PAYS WELL



On April 1st, the Department of Public Information/NGO Briefing for the United Nations focused on the effects of increased rates of primary education of girls and the problems associated with the implementation of education for girls. The panel entitled “Girls’ Education: An End to Poverty?” argued that the financial requirements for educating girls remains the major obstacle to making primary education of girls a universal opportunity. The UNESCO estimates that an additional \$16 billion is needed annually to achieve this goal; however, the United Nations argues that the education of girls is a cost that pays off.

Currently, 122 million girls in sub-Saharan Africa live on less than \$1 a day, enforcing a cycle of poverty, malnutrition, gender inequalities, sexual and physical abuse, HIV/AIDS infection, and high infant-mortality rates. The United Nations explains that girls who attend secondary schools make an average of 25% more than those who do not. This increase in capital creates

more female economic activity that not only creates economic growth, but also aids in the development and health of women and families. Furthermore, the 2008 “Girls Count: A Global Investment and Action Agenda” study shows that a secondary education results in a higher percent increase of income in girls than it does in boys, which is currently at 14%.

President’s Corner

June represents the halfway mark through the calendar year, which also means halfway through my term as president of Peacemakers, Inc. It’s been a successful half-year, I think. Proof of that statement can be seen in the exciting events that Peacemakers has held in the last five months.

We held our first **Peace Patron Luncheon** at Maggiano’s in NorthPark on **International Women’s Day, March 8**. There we honored Anita Martinez, the founder of Ballet Folklorico and the first Hispanic member elected to the Dallas City Council! Vivian Castleberry, Anita Martinez, and Robin Minnick all spoke at the luncheon. All were received warmly by the attendees who numbered about eighty.

Later in March, the first **Founders Tea and Members Tea** was held at Executive Director Carol Donovan’s home on March 27. We honored the Founders of Peacemakers and also celebrated Vivian’s birthday. An enthusiastic crowd attended.

In **April** we witnessed the inaugural meeting of the **DFW Peace Education Coalition** at a dinner meeting, again at Carol’s home. Laura Seipp is the Chair of this group comprised of representatives from about forty organizations. A second meeting has already been held and plans for the future are being discussed. Congratulations to Laura for her work as coordinator of this coalition.

May 31 brought our second **Peace Patron Luncheon** at Maggiano’s, honoring Lauren Embrey of The Embrey Family Foundation. More than 100 people turned out for this provocative, meaningful event with Dr. Rick Halperin leading the way with his powerful introduction of Lauren. The work on human rights is alive and well! Peacemakers, Inc. is indebted to Lauren Embrey for her generosity in supporting the work of peace education at the Irma Rangel School through MasterPEACE art program directed by Karen Blessen.

At all of these exciting events, we have **gained new members and raised funds** for our work in peace education. These were two of my main goals for this year – growth in membership and increasing funds for our work. Thanks to all of my board members, staff and committee chairs who have helped us achieve this mark in the first five months!

Enjoy your summer as we look forward to and prepare for the next two big events in the life of Peacemakers – the **Third Annual International Day of Peace Luncheon** at the Tower Club on September 21, and the third **Peace Patron Luncheon** coming later in the fall. Tickets will be available online at www.peacemakersincorporated.org for both events.

Join us as we work to empower women who desire a more peaceful world!

Norma Matthews, President