

March 2013

# PASI NEWS

Newsletter of Peace Action of Staten Island, [www.peacesi.org](http://www.peacesi.org) 718-989-2881

## Calendar:

- SAT., MAR. 9, "Post-Superstorm Sandy Priorities." PASI Meeting (see p. 1)
- WED., MAR. 13, 7 PM, Economist Doug Henwood at CSI Center for the Arts.
- THURS., MAR. 14, 5 – 7 PM, Parent-Teacher Conference Leafleting. (see p. 3)
- SAT., MARCH 16, 2013 Walk for a New Spring from MA to DC will be in Staten Island!  
<http://newenglandpeaceagoda.org/>
- APRIL 26-28. Drone Conference & PANYS Annual Meeting in Syracuse NY (see p. 3)
- SAT., MAY 11, "Iraq: 10 Years After" PASI MEETING.
- SAT., MAY 18, Make Food Not War Dinner. (see p. 1)

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**Saturday, March 9, 5:45 to 8 pm**

## **Post-Superstorm Sandy Priorities**

**Staten Island Museum, 75 Stuyvesant Place**

On October 29, 2012 Hurricane Sandy arrived on Staten Island and left devastation and heartache in its wake. Many Staten Islanders are faced with the dilemma of whether or not to rebuild. Dealing with the insurance companies and FEMA is often confusing and frustrating. Public officials don't seem to have the answers that people need. The good news is that residents of the affected areas and their supporters have become involved in grassroots organizing and they are working together for solutions to their problems.

**Dennis Dellangelo of Peace Action** hopes that this meeting will bring our neighbors together to discuss why money is not available to serve the needs of the people when it is diverted to the costs of war. Join **community activist and journalist Danny Panzella** who will talk about the ongoing efforts of community recovery and rebuilding. We will also be joined by Staci Memmesheimer who is a community activist and a member of the Parish Board of St. Margaret Mary's Church in Midland Beach and she will share her story as a resident who was affected by the hurricane. Katrina-survivor and College of Staten Island Sociology **Professor John (Jay) Arena** will contribute his knowledge of what happened in post-Katrina New Orleans. Also participating will be **Alicia Godsberg, Executive Director of Peace Action New York State**, who has been studying government spending priorities as part of the national Move the Money campaign.

*This talk is free and open to the public. It will take place on Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:45 pm at the Staten Island Museum at 75 Stuyvesant Place, across from the Staten Island Ferry terminal. Light refreshments will be served. At the meeting, the Nominating Committee will also be giving its report for PASI elections.*

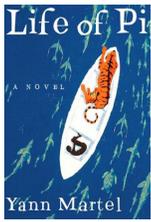
## **MAKE FOOD NOT WAR DINNER**

**Saturday, May 18, 5 to 8 pm**

**Olivet Presbyterian Fellowship Hall -  
97 Myrtle Ave (at Broadway)**



The waiting is over! Our long-awaited Make Food Not War Dinner (originally scheduled for last November 2<sup>nd</sup> and postponed because of Superstorm Sandy) has a **DATE, TIME, & NOW LOCATION!** We are very thankful to Rev. Melodee Bottari and Mt. Olivet Presbyterian Church for making their spacious Fellowship Hall available for the dinner, to Adriane Gresnigt at Lifestyles for the Disabled for hanging in there with us, to our gracious honorees, to our ever-patient supporters who bought tickets months ago and to everyone involved in making this happen!



## On “The Life of Pi” by Sarah Walters

The life of Pi, a story written by Yann Martel and made into a movie by Ang Lee, tells the incredible journey of a young boy named Pi and his interaction with an adult Bengal tiger named Richard Parker. This film is not a mere encounter between man and beast but a look into a much deeper understanding of their crossed lives.

Pi was born and grew up in Pondicherry, a former French colony in Southwest India. Although Pi comes from a Hindu background, he becomes curious about other religions and comes to seek greater spiritual awareness by embracing Christianity and also taking an interest in Islam as well. In Pi's thinking, he comes to realize that there is a place for all beliefs. Pi's father is a rationalist and as a zookeeper in the local botanical gardens finds a better opportunity in Canada and so decides to move his family and animals there. As they reach the Marianna trench in the Pacific, their freighter is swallowed up in a huge storm and sinks leaving Pi and eventually the tiger as the lone survivors in a lifeboat which they now have to share.

This situation is not about a story of man versus nature. It is about respecting nature and learning to live along side of it. Pi comes to understand this truth very well as he is exposed to nature's raw power and awesome beauty. The movie reminds us that we must live within nature's boundaries and not outside of them as we do, making our own rules as we destroy and upset Earth's delicate balance sowing the seeds of our own destruction.



## ILLEGAL? Excuse Me? *Commentary by Richard Florentino*

I have heard enough about immigrants being “ILLEGAL”. Essentially, an un-enforced law is not a law. Everyone drives faster than posted speed limits. Are all of us now, at this late date, to be retroactively defined as illegal drivers - and have our licenses taken away? Immigration laws have been largely disregarded for decades - not only because businesses have benefited from cheap labor - but consumers – all of us – from lower prices – for food particularly. Many immigrants have worked for decades and paid taxes (if not income taxes - on meager wages, then certainly sales taxes and, through rents, property taxes). Consider also that without immigrants our population would be decreasing - quite a daunting prospect in itself. So it seems rather late to decide now that they are “Illegals”. Especially troubling is that some Americans (in name only?) insist on calling for the “sins” of the parents to be paid by their children.

Hunkering down with an “us vs. them” attitude belittles our highest ideals. Defining unwanted people as illegal has been a tactic of undemocratic governments throughout history. What makes America exceptional is our openness and diversity that enables all new arrivals to become Americans soon enough. We are all immigrants, even the Founding Fathers. Was it “legal” taking land that was occupied for thousands of years by Native Americans? Not really, was it? Yet most Americans believe good did come from it. Certainly there have been serious and destructive problems and missteps and missed opportunities, but we have, after all, maintained, the longest existing constitutional democracy the world has ever known. A good part of our longevity and strength has been the result of our prevailing openness and diversity – the adaptation to new people and new ideas. Today's “illegal” immigrants have to be considered a resource just like every other wave of immigrants to this country has proven to be. This wave is no less ambitious and energetic than any other. The guiding lights of openness and diversity should apply not only to our treatment of immigrants within our borders but also to our relationships with people around the world.

Does this sound like fuzzy-headed and dangerous, liberalism? Well it certainly is Liberalism (with a capital “L”) but it is also a common sense approach to peace and security. Good will and openness bring friends and security. Rigidity, defensiveness, and aggressiveness make enemies which end up breeding more insecurity. The former is a virtuous circle. The latter is a vicious cycle.



## The Organizer Notebook:

Notes from the National PA Organizers Meeting in DC by *Richard Greve*

From February 5-6, Peace Action organizers met in Washington, DC, to discuss PA goals and to meet with and listen to other chapter and affiliate members from around the nation. It was the first time this member attended a PA organizers' meeting, and it was a positive experience. Just getting to meet the people one communicates with over time through conference calls and emails is helpful in making a stronger connection to Peace Action. The New York State delegation consisted of five members, two from upstate (one was a college student from an upstate SUNY Branch), Eileen Bardel, the PASI chairperson, myself, and the Executive Director of PANYS, Alicia Godsberg. Altogether, there were about forty people in attendance.

Many topics for action were discussed. One of the most prominent was the "Move the Money Campaign", which has been a major theme for Peace Action this past year. It focuses on building awareness to the general public that our government needs to spend money on human needs, as opposed to wars that cause so much damage and cost the American tax payer enormous sums of money. Peace Action chapters will continue this outreach, and we need to try and meet with our congress people on a regular basis and be persistent in lobbying them for these efforts.

Other topics for discussion and action were the push for zero troops and zero contractors to be left in Afghanistan when the US finally does leave, and the push for an earlier date of departure. We should lobby our Representatives to sign on to Rep. Barbara Lee's bill HR 200, which addresses this issue.

The issue of drones was addressed, and the dangerous road our government has taken regarding the abandonment of due process, the use of targeted assassinations, and the killing of civilian bystanders in the process. These actions of our government must be challenged with letters and calls to President Obama, as well as informing the public through outreach such as letters to the editor of local newspapers.

Peace Action members also need to lobby against war with Iran and for diplomacy and the restoration of diplomatic relations. This lobbying should become heavy a week prior to AIPAC's conference, which occurs the March 3-5 in Washington, DC. It is important to give members of Congress the leverage to deal with AIPAC calls for more threats of war with Iran. The most effective method of protecting all countries in the Middle East, is not war with Iran, but a nuclear free zone in the whole Middle East.

On the last day of the conference, organizers went to Capitol Hill to lobby Senators and Representatives on Peace Action's priorities and gain experience with the process.

The conference helped to motivate this Peace Action member to engage in persistent political action for progressive issues and to try and promote government policies that oppose war and militarism, and call for tax dollars to be spent on the human needs of our population.

Heads  
up!

### A Heads Up on Upcoming Events

Heads  
up!

- On **Wednesday, March 13 at 7 pm**, editor of *Left Business Observer* and contributing editor *The Nation* **Doug Henwood**, will be speaking at the **College of Staten Island** in the Center for the Arts. For many years, Mr. Henwood had an excellent program on WBAI called "Behind the News" helping listeners understand economic news.
- On **Thursday, March 14, from 5 to 7 pm**, join Peace Action of Staten Island for **Parent Teacher Conference Night leafleting** to distribute information to parents and their students on Non-Military Options After High School. Email: [bharris21@nyc.rr.com](mailto:bharris21@nyc.rr.com).
- On **Saturday, March 16**, join the Peace Walkers in the **12th Annual "Walk for a New Spring"** that passes through Staten Island on its way from Seabrook Nuclear Reactor in New Hampshire to Washington DC. For more information: [www.peacesi.org](http://www.peacesi.org)
- On **April 26-28**, a **DRONE CONFERENCE** and the **ANNUAL MEETING** of Peace Action NYS will be held at New York State. Local of action to protest drone killing are also being planned. Stay tuned for details to [www.peacesi.org](http://www.peacesi.org).

## **Toward a Marshall Plan for the World:**

to Rescue the Planet, Reconstruct Our World, Lift Up the Poor Around the Globe, and Improve Relations Between Nations *by Richard Schwartz*

Radical new ideas are needed to improve conditions for the world's many desperately hungry people, to improve relations between peoples and nations, and to decrease the dangers of terrorism and war. One possible approach is for the United States, along with other developed nations, to lead a global campaign to greatly reduce poverty, hunger, illiteracy, illness, pollution, and climate change. This might be done by enacting on a worldwide scale a plan based on the Marshall Plan, suggested and led by General George Marshall, under which the United States rebuilt post-World War II Europe, rescuing millions from starvation and reconstructing entire cities and countries, thereby winning friends and allies, reducing strife and violence, and even creating customers and markets for US industries. Such a proposal has been made by Rabbi Michael Lerner, Tikkun magazine, which he edits, and the interfaith Network of Spiritual Progressives (NSP), which he directs.

The plan seeks a new strategy for the U.S., one based on "generosity, not domination in its foreign policy." To help end centuries of war, violence, and attempts to dominate others, the Network of Spiritual Progressives is calling for "a fundamentally new approach that emphasizes that generosity and genuine caring for others can be a much more effective and morally coherent approach to human security, peace, and development." NSP is calling for a new paradigm, a "Strategy of Generosity," that aims to "reestablish trust and hope among the peoples of the world" in order to reduce world poverty and save the global environment from climate change and the many additional current environmental threats. They want to shift a foreign policy based on self-interest to one that considers "what best serves all the people on this planet and best serves the survival of the planet itself." They argue that because of the interconnectedness of all people on the planet, "the best interests of America and the best interests of our children and grandchildren are best served by considering the best interests of everyone else, and the best interests of the planet ..." rather than to frame things in terms of narrow self interest, as is generally done today. They believe that the plan will only work if it is supported for the right reasons, with the "Strategy of Generosity" at the core, and global common good as the primary goal.

Essentials of the plan developed by the Network of Spiritual Progressives include:

- "Providing enough funding to greatly reduce global poverty, homelessness, hunger, inadequate education and inadequate health care, plus restore the global environment..."
- Creating an unbiased, international nongovernmental mechanism for receiving and properly distributing the funds.
- Funding the plan in a way that is "environmentally sensitive, respectful of native cultures, safeguarded against corruption, protected from manipulation to serve corporate profit motives or the interests of elites, and empowering of the people in each region."
- Governing the funding agency or mechanism "by a board of ethicists, religious leaders, poets, writers, social theorists, philosophers, economists, scientists, and social change activists all of whom have demonstrated that they give higher priority to the well-being of others than to the well-being of corporations or wealthy elites."

Creating a Marshall Plan for the world may seem utopian, but it may be the most practical and reasonable idea to deal with the grave crises we face today. In the words of the title of a book by Buckminster Fuller, we confront *Utopia or Oblivion*. We can continue on the present path, based on greed, nationalism, domination, hatred, and bigotry, with increasingly worsening economic, ecological, and social conditions, or we can strive for a more generous, tolerant, just, peaceful, humane, and environmentally sustainable world. The choice between a far better future and a far worse future is in our hands, and the stakes are very great, so we must not fail.

Even if we never accomplish a complete Marshall Plan for the planet, we should explore ways in which the U.S. and other governments, and also millions of individuals joining together in Non-Governmental Organizations, can significantly increase economic and humanitarian aid, and reduce the societal ills that afflict so many people. This would bring much more stability, cooperation, and unity than would increased spending on weapons and security.

I strongly believe that PASI and other peace and progressive groups should strongly support the promotion of this initiative. Further information about it can be found at

[http://spiritualprogressives.org/news/02page\\_id\\_114](http://spiritualprogressives.org/news/02page_id_114)



## Suicide: A Serious Military Service Problem *by Barbara Walker*

In 2012 there were 349 U.S. military suicides, more than the 295 reported U.S. military deaths in the war in Afghanistan.<sup>1</sup> A Department of Veterans Affairs study has reported that an average of 22 veterans per day committed suicide in 2010.<sup>2</sup> Forty-seven percent of those who committed suicide were under the age of 25. (Thirty-six percent of the military is under the age of 25.)<sup>3</sup> The addition of more than 1,000 mental health professionals and 200 support staff has been ordered by the Department to meet the returning veterans' needs.<sup>4</sup>

On February 6, 2013, the *New York Times* reported that this administration has yet to work out with Afghan officials what, if any, force is to remain in Afghanistan after the mission ends in 2014. However, President Obama in his State of the Union address on February 12, 2013, indicated that after the departure of 33,000 U.S. military by the end of 2013 and 34,000 military by the end of 2014, training and equipping of Afghan forces and counter-terrorism against remnants of Al Qaeda will continue. One estimate by the Pentagon assumes the continued presence of the U.S. military until 2024. The latest National Priorities Project Cost of War rounded figure for the cost of war in Afghanistan so far is \$612 billion.<sup>5</sup> The [AntiWar.com](http://AntiWar.com) count for U.S. military deaths in Afghanistan is 2,177.

Why continue this war? According to Malou Innocent, a foreign policy analyst at Cato Institute in *A Costly Mistake*, "The mistake made in Vietnam - as in Afghanistan - is the erroneous assumption proffered by our political and military elite that these countries constitute a vital U.S. national security interest."<sup>6</sup> And in consideration of the inordinate U.S. human and financial costs of this misbegotten military pursuit and the physical destruction, social trauma, and human losses we have brought to the Afghans, should not the focus of our government be on complete withdrawal from Afghanistan and a focus on diplomacy?

Certainly one of the more devastating losses to American families has been the extraordinary level of U.S. military suicides described above. Secretary of Defense Panetta considers this an epidemic and the Pentagon has called for more attention and investigation for a greater understanding of the problem.<sup>7</sup> In a particularly telling speech at Duke University on September 9, 2010, former Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, pointed to the consequences of repeated military deployment in on-going engagements.<sup>8</sup> He compared the 18 to 24 age range of students at Texas A&M, where he had once been president, to his responsibility for the well-being of a larger number of young people in the same age group who "instead of carrying book bags...carry assault rifles...[A] number of them, far too many, will not come home to their parents." The following excerpts from his speech are particularly relevant:

These young men and women ... represent the tip of the spear of a military that has been at war for nearly a decade, the longest sustained combat in American history. The Iraq and Afghanistan campaigns represent the first protracted large-scale conflicts since our Revolutionary War fought entirely by volunteers....There are a number of consequences that stem from the pressure of repeated deployments, especially when a service member returns home often permanently changed by their experience. These consequences include more anxiety and disruption inflicted on children; increased domestic strife and a corresponding rising divorce rate, which in the case of Army enlisted has nearly doubled since the wars began; and most tragically, a growing number of suicides.

Secretary Gates went on...

...increasing what we call 'dwell time' at home, drawing down in Iraq, and beginning a gradual transition next year in Afghanistan should reduce stress over time. Properly funded support programs to help troops and families under duress ...can also make a difference. But in reality, the demands on a good part of our military will continue for years to come. And it begs the question: How long can these brave and broad shoulders carry the burden that we as a military, as a government, as a society, continue to place on them?"

Have we tacitly accepted the situation described by Secretary Gates and all its implications? Are "properly funded support programs" enough? Given the kinds of acute and chronic mental stresses not uncommon in military service, how do enlistees themselves feel about seeking professional advice? A study of Army National Guard soldiers returning from deployment to Iraq "reported more perceived stigma from self and from military others than from civilian others...(both for admitting an illness and seeking treatment)."<sup>9</sup>

Young people continue to seek training and study opportunities in the U.S. military, mindful of future careers

**Suicide: A Serious Military Service Problem** (continued)

and constrained by limited financial resources. Hoping to obtain training and skills transferable to the civilian sector and for post-service scholarships, how many are aware that many military non-combat functions are often filled by contractors and that scholarship eligibility is not guaranteed at the time of enlistment. The aspiring enlistee is usually recruited for basic military training in combat and combat support skills where they will be marching to the old familiar cadence "Red red blood makes the green grass grow."

Anyone considering military service today should take time to read Secretary Gates speech at Duke University and look at the other options before making a final decision. Code Pink and the Granny Peace Brigade have compiled information on non-military "Options for Life after High School."<sup>10</sup> There are many other paths to follow. Let us help show the way.

**Resources to help returning soldiers from U.S. Department of Defense**<sup>11</sup>:

1. Soldiers and families in need of crisis assistance, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (24 hours-7 days a week) 1-800-273-TALK (8255) - <http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org>
2. The Army's comprehensive list of Suicide Prevention Program information is located at <http://www.preventsuicide.army.mil>.
3. Suicide prevention training resources for Army families can be accessed at [http://www.armyg1.army.mil/hr/suicide/training\\_sub.asp?sub\\_cat=20](http://www.armyg1.army.mil/hr/suicide/training_sub.asp?sub_cat=20) (requires Army Knowledge Online access to download material)
4. Information about Military One Source is located at <http://www.militaryonesource.com> or by dialing the toll-free number 1-800-342-9647 for those residing in the continental United States. Overseas personnel should refer to the Military One Source website for dialing instructions for their specific location
5. Information about the Army's Comprehensive Soldier Fitness Program is located at <http://www.army.mil/csf/>
6. The Defense Center for Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DC.E) Outreach Center can be contacted at 1-866-966-1020, via electronic mail at [Resources@DC.Eoutreach.org](mailto:Resources@DC.Eoutreach.org) and at <http://www.dcoe.health.mil>
7. The website for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention is <http://www.afsp.org> and the Suicide Prevention Research Council is found at <http://www.sprc.org/index.asp>
8. Army suicide prevention [www.armyg1.army.mil/hr/suicide](http://www.armyg1.army.mil/hr/suicide)
9. Real Warriors suicide-prevention website [www.realwarriors.net/family/support/preventsuicide.php](http://www.realwarriors.net/family/support/preventsuicide.php)
10. Department of Veterans Affairs suicide-prevention website [www.mentalhealth.va.gov/suicide\\_prevention](http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/suicide_prevention)

**Footnotes:**

<sup>1</sup> NPR "U.S. Military Suicide Rate Surpasses Combat Deaths in 2012," by Bill Chappell, January 14, 2013.

<sup>2</sup> "Suicide Data Report, 2012," Department of Veterans Affairs, Mental Health Services, Suicide Prevention Program - Janet Kemp, RN PhD and Robert Bossarte, PhD.

<sup>3</sup> "The Insidious Enemy: Military Suicide." Mark Thompson and Nancy Gibbs, *Time Magazine*, July 23, 2012.

<sup>4</sup> Associated Press via Yahoo! News - February 11, 2013.

<sup>5</sup> [www.costofwar.com](http://www.costofwar.com)

<sup>6</sup> Cato Institute - Commentary, "A Costly Mistake," by Malou Innocent - article appeared in the Huffington Post, December 2, 2009.

<sup>7</sup> *Army Times*, Robert Burns, Associated Press, January 14, 2013.

<sup>8</sup> Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates, Lecture (All-Volunteer Force), Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, September 29, 2010; [www.defense.gov/landing/comment.aspx](http://www.defense.gov/landing/comment.aspx)

<sup>9</sup> Bein, Laura, "Military Mental Health: Problem Recognition, Treatment-Seeking, and Barriers" (2011), Dissertations (2009), p.147.

<sup>10</sup> "Options for Life after High School," compiled by Code Pink and the Granny Peace Brigade; [www.codepinknyc.org](http://www.codepinknyc.org) and [www.grannypeacebrigade.org](http://www.grannypeacebrigade.org).

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Department of Defense, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs) News Release. Army Releases November Suicide Data, No. 978-12, Dec. 13, 2012, [www.defense.gov/releases/release.aspx?releaseid=15741](http://www.defense.gov/releases/release.aspx?releaseid=15741)

## Economic Democracy: The Foundation of a Good Society

by John Lawrence and Richard Florentino



In capitalism, there is an inherent conflict between capitalists, those who own businesses, and workers, those who do the day-to-day labor of businesses. Capitalists want to maximize profit. They do this, in part, by paying workers as little as possible and getting them to work as hard as possible. Capitalists are also motivated to control the work process. They want to be able to tell workers what to do in minute detail. The more decision-making power workers have over work the more bargaining power they have with capitalists. From a capitalist perspective, the ideal worker is docile, obedient, replaceable, and paid as little as possible. On the other hand, workers in a capitalist enterprise are motivated to work as little as possible and get paid as much as possible. It is in their interest to have unique skills in the work process and have as much decision-making power over the work as possible. This makes the workers hard to replace and thus gives them more bargaining power. Many of the political controversies of our day are based on this inherent conflict between capitalists and workers playing itself out at the societal level. For example, “globalization” is driven in large part by the capitalist imperative to find the cheapest, most obedient work force possible.

The cornerstone of economic democracy is worker-owned, worker-controlled businesses, in other words, worker cooperatives. In worker cooperatives, the worker-owners democratically decide how to run the business. They run the business without bosses. If there are managers, the managers are hired by and accountable to the workers. Worker cooperatives eliminate the inherent conflict between capitalist and workers because in democratic workplaces the owners and the workers are the same people.

In the US today, there are approximately 300 worker cooperatives with 3500 worker-owners. These businesses do about \$400 million in business annually. Worker cooperatives exist in many different sectors. For example, **Equal Exchange** is a fair trade coffee and chocolate distributor. **Union Cab** is a taxi cab co-op in Madison, Wisconsin. In the Bronx, NY, **Cooperative Home Care Associates** is a worker-owned home healthcare agency that provides high-quality home health care services to individuals who are elderly, chronically ill, or living with disabilities.

Some may ask, “If co-ops don’t have a boss, how do things get done? How are worker cooperatives organized?” When co-ops are founded, the members write bylaws. The bylaws establish the rights and responsibilities of worker-owners. In small co-ops, decisions can be made through direct democracy. Larger co-ops are often divided into departments. Generally, each department is run democratically and elects a member to serve on the board of the co-op which runs the business. Big decisions in the co-op can be made at co-op wide member meetings.

Work in co-ops is often organized differently than corporate work. In general, co-op workers have more responsibility and less supervision. Co-ops often practice job rotation in which jobs are balanced between grunt work and more stimulating work. This gives workers a wider range of experiences and a better understanding of the business. Compared to workers in capitalist businesses in the same sector, worker-owners tend to make more money. This is because profits are not going to outside shareholders and managers are not getting paid exorbitant salaries. Co-ops usually practice wage solidarity, limiting the discrepancy between the lowest and highest paid employee to about 1 to 6.

The root cause of every major social and political problem we face in the 21<sup>st</sup> century is an unaccountable power elite that calls the shots. Capitalists’ power is rooted in their control over work. Corporations are not people. They are more like governments. And like governments, they need to be democratically administered. The political challenge of the 21<sup>st</sup> century is to democratize our economy. The pioneers in democratic workplaces have demonstrated it is doable. Now we need to bring democratic economics to scale. For more information see:

Grassroots Economic News Letter ([www.geo.coop](http://www.geo.coop))

U.S. Federation of Worker Cooperatives ([www.usworker.coop](http://www.usworker.coop))

American Worker Cooperative ([www.american.coop](http://www.american.coop))

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**Thank You for Joining or Renewing Your PASI Membership.**

*If you aren't a member yet or still need to renew, it's easy.*

**Membership form**

We have a sliding scale membership. No member turned away.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

**I can help with**

Actions  
 Lobbying  
 Membership  
 Speakers Bureau  
 Fundraising  
 Communication/Publicity

**Contribution**

\$26 (regular)  
 \$40 (family)  
 \$10 (senior, student, fixed)  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

*Make check out to PASI and  
mail to address at left.*

***Pssst... You can save a stamp  
by joining online at  
[www.peacesi.org](http://www.peacesi.org)***

**PASI 2013 Meeting  
Schedule**

March 9, 2013  
May 11, 2013  
June 8, 2013

IN MEMORIAM

**DONALD SHAFFER**  
(1929 -2013)

Treasurer, Peace Action Fund of New York State

PASI is saddened by the death of a great friend, mentor, advisor,  
fundraiser, promoter, and "godfather" to Peace Action NYS.

**Post-Superstorm  
Sandy Priorities**

**Saturday**

**March 9, 5:45 PM**

PASI Meeting  
Staten Island Museum,  
75 Stuyvesant Pl, SI, NY

*Peace Action of Staten Island, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-partisan, non-profit organizations. Peace Action is dedicated to promoting the non-violent resolution of conflict, the abolition of nuclear weapons, halting the global spread of conventional arms, building a human rights culture and supporting human needs instead of militarism.*