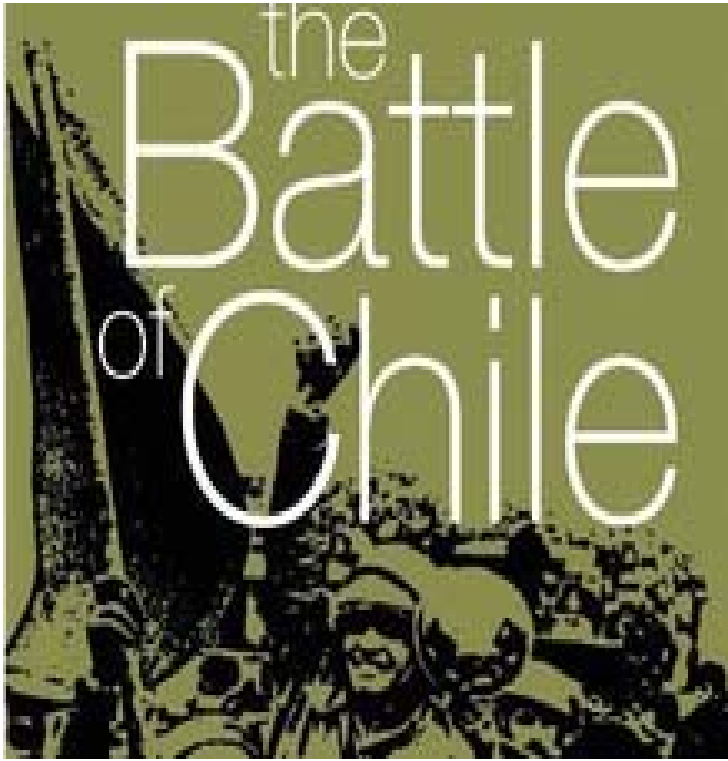


GRAY PANTHERS OF SAN FRANCISCO



"The Battle of Chile" a historical documentary filmed in the '70s and '80s as the events took place. Director Patricio Guzman worked with a crew in the middle of the events. Salvador Allende begins a program of social and political transformations. From day one, the right organizes wildcat strikes against him. "Battle of Chile" is a fresco which shows, step by step, these acts that shook the world.

Tuesday, June 18, 2013, 12:30 PM

**The Battle of Chile
Unitarian Universalist Center
1187 Franklin @ Geary**

Bring a Snack to Share

GRAY PANTHERS COMMITTEE MEETINGS & EVENTS

All meetings after June 15 are in our new office! 2940 16th Street (Mission) Room 200-3/4

**Board Meeting Wednesday, June 5 12:30 PM
July 3 In our New Office!**

**Newsletter Committee Thursday, June 6
12:00 PM**

Book Club Monday, 10:30 AM, June 24

Reminder: After June 15, we will be in our new office.



Our New Office is in the Redstone Building 2940 16th St (Mission)

We Have A Home!



After a long search and a short list of affordable, available places to relocate, we settled on an office in the Redstone Building, 2940 16th Street (near Mission Street) room 200-3-4. With its long labor history, we will feel right at home. Hear more at our new home June general membership meeting.

“The mission of the Redstone Labor Temple Association (RLTA) is to promote, preserve and protect the Redstone Building, historically and currently, as a place for diverse, community-based, cultural, labor and social service organizations, individual artists and small businesses which serve the Mission District and the larger community of San Francisco.” *from their mission statement.*

A Bit of History

On July 15th 1910, over 20 unions met at the location of 2940 16th. In June 1911, the Hall Assoc. came to terms with owners, the Spreckels family’ and completed a mortgage agreement. Ground was broken for construction of the building on June 1st, 1914, and the Redstone was dedicated on Labor Day morning September 7th, 1914.

See more about the Redstone <http://www.rlta.org>

Our May Goodbye Party

On May 21, an upbeat bunch of Gray Panthers crowded into our old office at 1182 Market for a final goodbye to our home of 25 years. Up for grabs was all the things we won’t be taking with us. Our members took many items, but there are some things left: a large Panasonic TV/VCR with remote, a desk phone, books, card tables, metal folding chairs, small tables, desk trays, two desks, two file cabinets, an antique table and more!

We reminisced about all the history made and recorded here in our old office. Folks talked about their memories of actions, like our 2004 Stop Privatization of Social Security, the May Day 2005 huge march in which our banner was prominent, and the visits here with Maggie Kuhn and Lynne Stewart. We are sending a box of SF GP history to the GP Archives at Temple University including our famous cookbook.

Our June Meeting

Come to our meeting at the Unitarian Center to see the movie, Battle for Chile. It will be a prelude to our July meeting presentation by Earl Gilman who was in Chile just before the coup and murder of Salvador Allende. Earl will also talk in July of his trip to Argentina.



Update On Lynne Stewart

Last month’s newsletter reported that the warden at FMC Carswell Prison in Ft. Worth, Texas, where Lynne Stewart is incarcerated, recommended her immediate compassionate release. This was based not only on her critical physical condition, but also the deluge of petitions for her release that he received. Hooray, our article concluded; we rejoice in this victory. As of the end of May, there is no joy and the victory is hollow. As Lynne says “Today the papers are still on a desk in Washington, D.C., even though the terminal cancer that I have contracted requires expeditious action. Although I requested immediate action by the Bureau of Prisons, I find it necessary to again request immediate action from you, my friends, comrades and supporters.” On My 30, these action calls were made on Lynne’s behalf.

*Att. General Eric Holder 1 202 514 2001
President Obama 1 202 456 1414
Bureau of Prisons Director Charles Samuels
1 202.307.3250*

Keep Calling until Lynne is Free

Could You Use an Extra \$800 a Year?

A bill introduced Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA) called “The Strengthening Social Security Act of 2013,” (S.567) would put as much as an extra \$800 in your pocket every year. Sen. Harkin addressed over 4,000 Alliance members in a Telephone Town Hall. The bill also increases the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to better reflect the cost of goods and services typically used by older Americans; strengthens the Social Security Trust Fund; and ensures the program is solvent for decades to come. Read more: Strengthening Social Security Act Petition right now at <http://tinyurl.com/ohhdzy6>

Ban All Fracking in California

Fracking uses millions of gallons of water mixed with undisclosed toxic chemicals, pumped deep underground at high pressure to release trapped pockets of oil or gas. The process has contaminated groundwater across the country. Since 1990 more than 90 percent of the natural gas wells in the country have used the fracking process.

In April, a precedent-setting victory against fracking by a federal judge ruled that the Obama administration violated the law when it issued oil leases in Monterey County without considering the environmental impacts of hydraulic fracturing. "This important decision recognizes that fracking poses new, unique risks to California's air, water and wildlife that government agencies can't ignore," said Brendan Cummings, senior counsel at the Center for Biological Diversity, who argued the case for the plaintiffs.

A number of fracking bills have been introduced in the Legislature and state regulators have proposed an overhaul of the state's oil and gas regulations. AB1323 and AB649 call for an advisory committee to review health, environmental, economic, and other factors. Two other bills call for state officials to decide by January 2019 if fracking should be in California at all. We can protect California temporarily with AB 1301, introduced by Assembly member Richard Bloom, which will impose a moratorium on fracking until more legislation outlines how fracking can occur safely. But progressive coalitions will have to continue fighting, educating the public and countering the oil & gas corporations' propaganda. California was the third largest producer of these fossil fuels last year. *See our Sept 2012 and Jan 2013 articles for more*



World-Wide Marches Against Monsanto

May 25 "March Against Monsanto Day" protests were held in 52 countries and 436 cities, including SF with over 1,000 in Union Square. Protests took place in cities of Argentina, where Monsanto's genetically modified soy and grains now command nearly 100 percent of the market.

Bradley Manning Speaks For Us All

Gay Liberation Front activists of the '70s, with our clarion call "Come out of the closets and into the streets", marched every June also to end all wars and all forms of oppression. In intervening years, the June "Pride March" has become a "Pride Parade" sold out to corporate sponsors, BofA, Wells Fargo, Clear Channel. This year progressive LGBTQ activists are outraged that the Pride Committee rescinded the nomination of Bradley Manning as a Grand Marshall in the annual event. The Pride Committee vilified Manning stating that he was not a hero and even a "hint" of support for Manning would not be tolerated!



Rick Gerharter photo

Community members held demonstrations demanding Bradley be honored as a Grand Marshal and that Daniel Ellsberg stand in for him. In the June 30 Pride March, Ellsberg attended rallies stating it was not Bradley who put troops in harm's way, but Bush and Cheney. Daniel Ellsberg, show here, will march, June 30th, in support PFC Bradley Manning contingent.

Our LGBTQ whistleblower, PFC Bradley Manning, spent his 2012 25th and third birthday in a military prison. Bradley was arrested in May 2010 in Iraq on suspicion of having passed classified material to the Wikileaks website. Wikileaks founder Julian Assange praised Bradley Manning as a hero who revealed to the world the 2007 Baghdad air strike by an American helicopter killing innocent civilians. Bradley spent his first 9 months of pre-trial incarceration in a 6x8 ft cell in solitary conditions described as "degrading and inhuman" by the United Nations. Bradley has been tortured, humiliated, isolated and faces a court marshal. He struggles in an environment hostile to him for his gender identity. Because of Bradley's bravery, the world witnessed the true horrors of war. Bradley remains strong and like many youth talks of his future, to be free to go to college. "I want to make a difference. I want to make a difference in this world." You have made a difference. All of us thank you, PFC Bradley Manning

March in the Bradley Manning contingent!

Stop The Drones

San Francisco Democratic Party County Central Committee Resolution to End Unlawful Drone Strikes, Extrajudicial Executions, And Restrict Domestic Drone Surveillance:

BE IT RESOLVED,

that the California Democratic Party stands in opposition to the extrajudicial killings and use of drones as described herein, both foreign and domestic, and urges that our policies be structured within the framework of international law, Constitutional checks and balances, due process, judicial review, and transparency; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

that we call upon the Congressional delegation and the White House to: Make public all claimed legal justifications of present policies and practices; Conduct a fundamental reevaluation and overhaul of current practices by reforming the policies authorizing the use of American military force, both foreign and domestic; and reinstitute Congressional authority and oversight with regard to war making powers and federal law enforcement.

This Resolution proposed by Hene Kelly and Denise D'Anne, Co-sponsored by: Karen Bernal, Margarita Lacabe, John Burton, Peter Leinau, Rick Tuttle. The Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club and Gray Panthers of SF also passed resolutions against drones.

City College

The California Federation of Teachers filed a formal complaint with the Accrediting Commission of Community and Junior Colleges in Novato and the US Department of Education , which oversees the Commission, accusing the Commission of violating state and federal laws and of engaging in conflicts of interest when it put SF City College under its most severe sanctions called "show cause" and threatened to revoke its accreditation. Such a revocation would close City College. The Commission's ruling is due in late June or July.

The Domestic Workers Bill of Rights

The Domestic Workers Bill of Rights (AB 241, Ammiano, SF) has been approved by the Assembly Appropriations Committee and now goes to the full Assembly for approval.

UPDATES

Oakland Police Reform

We have been reporting regularly on the Oakland Police Department (OPD) because it is the prime local example of a department that abuses its powers, threatens every progressive demonstration, protects its rogue officers, resists every effort to reform, and epitomizes the mentality that says the police exist to protect the establishment not the citizenry. Oakland, of course, is not alone in its attitudes; how about SF police and Occupy?

The OPD has been under federal court-ordered supervision for over ten years. The court-appointed compliance director, Thomas Frazier, filed a report last month that said the OPD top brass doesn't punish officers' misconduct, does a poor job of investigating citizen's complaints, and consistently finds every action taken by an officer was taken appropriately, even though those actions included use of excessive force, concealing of names and badge numbers, turning off cameras during crowd control to prevent a record of what they were doing, and pointing weapons unnecessarily at suspects. Frazier's report blamed top management and the prevailing culture in the department for blocking effective reform.

On May 9 OPD Police Chief Howard Jordan suddenly resigned because of medical problems "I was never forced out" he said. In 2011 former chief Anthony Betts resigned after a similar critical evaluation from a court-appointed monitor. On May 10 the Oakland mayor and city administrator replaced most of the department's leading commanders. It remains to be seen how effective these actions will be this time around.

Corporate Tax Avoidance

We have been reporting in the Newsletter (June, 2012, Feb., 2013) about the tricks multinational corporations employ parking their incomes overseas to avoid paying US taxes. Periodically Congress holds hearings on these shenanigans, generating indignant headlines and no action. In April a New York Times story highlighted Apple and its machinations that reputedly saved it \$9 billion in 2012. Apple retorted indignantly and accurately that everything they did was legal. What they didn't say was that it was legal because the multinationals' lobbyists and money persuaded Congress to write tax laws full of loopholes.

California Coastal Commission Decision

On Thursday, May 9, The California Coastal Commission allowed the SF Recreation Department to go ahead with its plans for an artificial turf for the Golden Gate Park Beach Chalet soccer field.

The majority of the speakers during the hearing were proponents of the soccer field. Only a few spoke against the proposal since most came late and were refused speaker cards. However, one Gray Panther member, Lynn Gavin, who is partially disabled and one of a few black people in attendance, using the threat of ADA, demanded to be heard and spoke eloquently.

Only one commissioner spoke in favor of the staff report that opposed the proposed soccer field. That commissioner argued that the Commission's mission is to protect the coast and that it should not be swayed by any arguments put forth by the proponents or SF City officials..

Apparently none of the remaining commissioners agreed. They did argue for some kind of mitigation. One was to restore 4 acres contiguous to the 7 -acre soccer field to its natural state. SF Ocean Edge and The Golden Gate Park Preservation Alliance successfully rallied against using this land for a treatment plant. A fact apparently unknown to – or ignored by the commissioners – is that Rec and Park was proposing to restore this land to “habitat”. Kathy Howard, a leader of the fight against despoiling the grassy soccer field, said “What kind of habitat would this be, right next to 50,000 watts of stadium light that will be turned on until 10:00 pm every night.” Possible health issues were not even discussed.

In the Month of Junes Past

1876—Sioux defeat Custer at Little Big Horn
1905—IWW (Wobblies) founded
1924—Native Americans declared *citizens* by an act of Congress
1950— Korean War Begins
1967—Thurgood Marshall appointed first African American Supreme Court Justice
1972—Watergate Break-in

Save CEQA

CEQA - the California Environmental Quality Act - was passed 43 years ago to help keep California clean and green. Now efforts are being made state-wide and locally to weaken the Act by reducing the amount of time citizens have to review and appeal environmental impact of proposed projects and by restricting lawsuits meant to protect the environment. These efforts are made in the name of expediting development and making it easier. CEQA gives the public a say in development projects that would have a significant effect on their surroundings, like 8 Washington and the proposed Warriors waterfront sports arena.

Genetically Modified Food

The Genetically Engineered Food Right to Know Act was introduced in Congress last month by CA Senator Boxer and Oregon Rep. De Fazio, requiring the FDA to label genetically-modified food ingredients, including 70-80% of processed foods sold in the US like corn, soybeans, sugar beets and cottonseed oil. It is similar to Prop. 37. Eight EU countries have banned Monsanto's GMO crops, and China has destroyed at least 3 GMO corn shipments from the United States. Hungary destroyed acres of Monsanto's GMO corn fields.

Chained CPI and Social Security

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) determines cost-of-living-adjustments (COLA) that are supposed to protect Social Security benefits from inflation based on a typical market basket of all consumer purchases. Some senior groups think it should be based on a market basket of senior/disability expenses, medical costs and caretakers. Instead the Obama administration proposes Chained CPI(C-CPI). that says when market basket purchases get too expensive, consumers will shift to cheaper substitutes, like Fords instead of Cadillac's! With C-CPI your COLA and Social Security benefits will be less forever!.

Rep. Cicilline (D-RI) introduced HR 34 opposing CPI supported by over 81co-sponsors! Senators Harkin (D-IA), Sanders (I-VT) and Whitehouse (D-RI) introduced SR 15 also opposing C-CPI.

Sign on line at <http://tinyurl.com/bsd8hfj>.

Call our congress members. say No C- CPI!

Gray Panthers of SF

1182 Market Street, Room 203
San Francisco, CA 94102-4916
415-552-8800
<http://graypantherssf.igc.org/>
graypanther-sf@sonic.net

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We believe ALL people are entitled to certain fundamental rights:

- meaningful employment
- economic security
- decent and affordable housing
- quality health care
- a life of dignity from birth to death free from fear and abuse
- a world in peace



Age and Youth in Action

Call the office for membership information.

Printed in House June 2013

Actions and Events

May 30-June 5, 2013 San Francisco Green Film Festival, films urgent environmental issues, including clean energy, green chemistry, food, housing, water, trash. <http://sfgreenfilmfest.org>.

Thursday, June 6, 7PM, Green Arcade bookstore, 1680 Market Street (at Gough St), history of resistance to gentrification in San Francisco. Open discussion. free and wheelchair accessible.

Wednesday June 12, HAT meeting, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Bayanihan Center, 1010 Mission/6th St., #14 bus

Thursday, June 13 SDA, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Senior and Disability Action Meeting, Unitarian Universalist Center, 1182 Franklin Street @ Geary Lunch at Noon.

Thursday, June 13, 1 PM California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA) SF CAT meeting ILWU headquarters 1188 Franklin (Geary)

Saturday, June 22, 10 AM "Status of Occupy" SF OWL Meeting, Flood Building, 870 Market St., Rm. 1185 (Market near Powell).

Sunday, June 30, 10AM Join the Bradley Manning contingent in the 2013 Pride March, Howard & Beale Streets. Wear your Gray Panther hats, shirts

July 2 SAVE THE DAY! National Day of Action on Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. Form human chains to break the chained-CPI. Stay tuned! Read more at <http://tinyurl.com/b756mqz>

