NPT Conference Report Out

Tri-Valley CAREs’ Executive Director Marylia Kelley and long-time member Joanne Dean-Freemire spent the early part of May 2010 at the UN in New York City, participating at the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) review conference (held every 5 years). The NPT remains the “cornerstone” of international disarmament and nonproliferation efforts, and this 2010 conference was particularly important following the widely acknowledged failure to achieve progress toward disarmament goals at the 2005 review.

In the days before the 2010 review conference opened, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from around the world gathered for their own conference to share information and strategies—both for the pending review conference and, more broadly, for global disarmament. Highlights of the NGO conference included amazing plenaries and workshops and a keynote speech by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

On May 1, Marylia Kelley presented at the NGO conference at a panel on “Modernization of Nuclear Weapons Complexes.” Marylia and Christopher Paine of the Natural Resources Defense Council and Jay Coghan of Nuclear Watch New Mexico addressed the contradiction between the Obama Administration’s stated nuclear disarmament goals and its planned build up of the U.S. nuclear weapons budget and weapons production complex. They were joined by French physicist Dominique Lalanne, who outlined the steps France is taking to modernize its weapons complex and arsenal.

On Sunday, May 2, the NGO conference was followed by a spirited rally of 10,000 to 25,000 participants from the U.S. and around the world, including several thousand from Japan. All were united by the theme, “For a Nuclear Free, Peaceful, Just and Sustainable World.” Joanne and Marylia marched with a Tri-Valley CAREs banner to represent all of our members.

Tri-Valley CAREs has NGO accreditation at the UN, and, so, bright and early Monday morning, May 3, Joanne and Marylia received their badges and began their efforts to observe the NPT proceedings, speak with various nations’ delegations, and ultimately, influence the review conference to ensure progress toward disarmament.

It was a whirlwind first week. Each morning, Marylia participated in a roundtable discussion group, hosted by Abolition 2000. The roundtables focused on NPT Article 6 disarmament obligations, the problematic Article 4 (stating an “inalienable

Continued on page 2
right” to nuclear technology for peaceful purposes), getting U.S. nuclear bombs out of Europe, negotiating a Nuclear Weapons Convention with a time-bound framework for eliminating arsenals (missing in Article 6), and more.

Following the roundtables, the Reaching Critical Will project organized 9 AM sessions with diplomats, including from Ireland, Egypt, and the U.S. These sessions provided for an exceptional level of dialogue between diplomats and staff and the NGO community.

Additionally, each day, Maryla and Joanne attended NPT review conference proceedings on the floor of the UN, participated in sessions set up by various countries (including by Russia and the U.S.), and met one-on-one with states parties to the NPT.

In numerous venues, your Tri-Valley CAREs team addressed the incompatibility of revitalizing the U.S. infrastructure to produce new and modified nuclear weapons and NPT compliance. Many countries’ Ambassadors and diplomats were aware of the issue. The non-aligned movement countries addressed it directly, while others said they would discuss it with the U.S. in other venues.

The NPT review conference culminated in a “Final Document” with 2 parts; one a consensus “action plan” (including on implementation of the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East and affirming, with added detail, the 13 practical steps to disarmament agreed to in 2000), and the other a review of the “operation of the treaty.” In our view, the Final Document reflects the positive influence of the NGOs. However, the document also displays the tensions brought by various states parties (including but not limited to the U.S.) that hinder disarmament.

Given that the 2005 review broke down and did not result in any consensus document, this 2010 document is a positive sign. However, whether the agreed to “action plan” will result in concrete action toward nuclear disarmament remains to be seen. Stay tuned!

Print Bites: All the News that Fits to Print

Sick Worker News. Our staff attorney, Scott Yundt, attended 2 “town hall” meetings held by the Dept. of Labor to announce a rule change that expands the number of Livermore Lab workers eligible for compensation under the federal program for atomic workers made ill by on the job exposures. The rule change simplifies the application process and now includes workers whether or not they were issued dosimeters. While this is good news, many bureaucratic hurdles remain. Come to the sick worker support group on Aug. 25 (see page 3), or call Scott at (925) 443-7148.

Thanks Go to Our Reps. Four Members of Congress from the Bay Area recently sent a letter to Dept. of Energy (DOE) Secretary Steven Chu in support of using stimulus funds to accelerate the cleanup of contaminated materials at both Lawrence Livermore Lab and Lawrence Berkeley. Our thanks go out to: John Garamendi (D-Livermore), Jerry Mcnerney (D-Tracy), Barbara Lee (D-Berkeley) and George Miller (D-Concord). Tri-Valley CAREs has long been advocating for the money needed to address the Superfund cleanup at Livermore Lab’s main site and its Site 300 high explosives testing range. No final word back from Secretary Chu yet on whether any stimulus funds will be allocated to these sites. Join us on Sept. 30 for a public meeting (see page 3), and check our website for updates.

“Modernization” Costs Unknown. A new report by the Gov’t Accountability Office, the investigative arm of Congress, concludes that the DOE National Nuclear Security Administration cannot accurately identify the total costs of maintaining and operating the nuclear weapons complex because of differences in sites’ cost accounting practices. Similarly, NNSA cannot, with any specificity, justify the increased funding it has requested from Congress for 2011 to “modernize” the nuclear weapons complex and arsenal. Tri-Valley CAREs to Congress: Just say no to NNSA on weapons complex “modernization.”

New Nuclear Bombs. While it cannot accurately justify its funding, the DOE NNSA is nonetheless not at all embarrassed about asking Congress to “reprogram” $40 million in 2010 money so that the agency can speed up a study of how to “mix and match” designs to come up with a new, “modified” B61-12 nuclear bomb for deployment in Europe (even as more European nations call on the U.S. to withdraw these nukes and NATO debates changing its policy on them). This funding decision will be made by the armed services and appropriations committees. Tri-Valley CAREs recommends here, too: Just say no to NNSA.

Nuclear Numbers Declassified. During the Review Conference on the Non-Proliferation Treaty, the U.S. released newly declassified information on the number of weapons in its nuclear arsenal. The number stands at 5,113 warheads, not counting the 4,400 or so (estimated) that have been retired but not yet dismantled. While the newly declassified government fact sheet does not include the number of retired warheads awaiting dismantlement, it does include a chart of annual dismantlement rates since 1994. As Tri-Valley CAREs had deduced from unclassified sources, those rates topped 1,000 per year for most of the mid to late 1990s then fell to the paltry low hundreds during most of the George W. Bush years. Notable, too, the 2009 dismantlement number is only 356. Tri-Valley CAREs says: Cut the “modernization” of nuclear weapons and spend some of that money on their irreversible dismantlement!
Thursday, July 15

Tri-Valley CAREs meets
7:30 PM, Livermore Library
1188 So. Livermore AVE.
(925) 443-7148 for details

We meet on the third Thursday of the month. Together, we are creating positive change in our community and in our world. Our meetings are a great place to get the latest information on nuclear weapons, waste and cleanup. Our July 15 meeting will include plans for the premiere of “Countdown to Zero,” the August 6 action, our strategic planning retreat and more. And, circle your calendar for our August meeting on 8/19.

Fri., July 30 & Sat., July 31

“Countdown to Zero” premieres
7:30 PM, Embarcadero Center Cinema
One Embarcadero, Promenade, SF
7:30 PM, Shattuck Cinema
2230 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley
(925) 443-7148 for details

We are arranging for DISCOUNT tickets. Contact us to reserve your tickets ASAP. This movie is produced by Lawrence Bender of "An Inconvenient Truth" fame. (See enclosed flier for more information.)

Friday, August 6

“65 Years After Hiroshima: It’s Time to RETIRE the Bomb” Rally and action at Livermore Lab
8 AM, Vasco Rd & Patterson Pass Rd

Program includes spoken word artist Kayla Marin, keynote speaker Norman Solomon, musician Daniel Zwickel, Taiko Drummers, and more. Following the rally will be a short march to the Livermore Lab west gate where those who choose may nonviolently risk arrest. (See enclosed flier for details.)

Thursday, September 30

Toxics, Radiation, Superfund & the Lab Community Meeting and “Field Trip”
7 PM - 8:30 PM, 749 Hazel St., Livermore
(925) 443-7148 for details

Mark the date. This meeting will take place at Janis Kate’s home, near the off-site toxic waste plume emanating from Livermore Lab. The keynote speaker will be environmental scientist Peter Strauss, who serves as Tri-Valley CAREs’ advisor on the Superfund cleanup. Come and learn about the contaminants, the off-site plume, the proposed cleanup options, the Superfund law, and what you can do to help win justice for the people of Livermore and our environment. At the end of the meeting we will offer a short “field trip” to nearby Big Trees Park where you can see one of Livermore Lab’s contaminant pumping wells, several of the Lab’s monitoring wells and two proposed pipeline routes for contaminated groundwater.

Wednesday, August 25

Sick Worker Support Group meets
10 AM - Noon, Livermore main Library
1188 So. Livermore Ave.
(925) 443-7148 for details

This group is for Livermore Lab, Sandia, Livermore and other workers made ill by on the job exposures. It is also for family members. This meeting is open to all, and aims to assist, in particular, those who have filed claims under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act as well as those who are considering filing a claim and those whose claims have been approved or denied. The meetings are a place where workers and their family members can share information and help each other. The meetings are facilitated by staff attorney Scott Yundt.

Strategic Planning Retreat

Date: Saturday, August 14

Time: 10 AM to 4 PM. Bring something to share for a potluck lunch.

Place: United Christian Church, 1886 College Ave., Livermore

Who Should Participate? If you are a Tri-Valley CAREs member, supporter, volunteer, staff or board member, the answer is “you.” If you want to give peace a strategy — and work with us to carry it out — we welcome your participation.

What Do You Need To Do? First, RSVP. We will send you a packet with guidance on how to do strategic planning, the agenda for the retreat, and other relevant information.

The Setting: UCC is a relaxing place in which to contemplate a “green vision” for Livermore Lab and a nuclear weapons Free World for future generations. Come nurture your activist spirit and help plan the best possible path for Tri-Valley CAREs in the coming year.

RSVP required ❖ Space is limited ❖ Call or email (925) 443-7148, marylia@trivalleycares.org

Tri-Valley CAREs Citizen’s Watch..........................................................3
The Power of Your Presence August 6

65 years ago, at 8:15 AM local time on August 6, the U.S. dropped a one-stage uranium bomb on the people of Hiroshima, unleashing unimaginable horror in the form of heat, blast, intense light that illuminated one’s bones and radiation. Three days later, on August 9, a crude plutonium bomb was dropped on Nagasaki with the same result.

An estimated 220,000 men, women and children died in those two cities by the end of 1945. And, the atomic bombs continued to kill as thousands more succumbed to the lingering effects of radiation damage in the years that followed.

This August 6, 2010, we invite all people who cherish peace and justice to come to the Livermore Lab for a solemn remembrance of the past — and a joyous re-dedication to the task of achieving a nuclear weapons-free future for all.

We will honor the suffering of those who have died, and those who have lived with debilitating illness and terrible scars, visible and invisible. We will give voice to the cry of the Hibakusha (survivors): “Never Again.”

We choose to do this at Livermore Lab, one of two locations that has designed every nuclear weapon in the U.S. arsenal, and where the weapons budget is increasing to enable future “improvements” to nuclear bombs. Livermore Lab is one of the sites for which the Administration is requesting a 14% increase in money in 2011 for nuclear weapons.

We will use the power of our presence at Livermore and lift our voices to demand that the U.S. implement its nuclear disarmament obligations under the Non-Proliferation Treaty. We will call on Congress to cut the funding for “new and modified” nuclear bombs, and to fund, instead, the irreversible dismantlement of U.S. nuclear warheads and the immediate cleanup of toxic and radioactive wastes at Livermore Lab and other locations contaminated by nuclear weapons.

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This year we have chosen the theme: “65 Years After Hiroshima: It’s Time to RETIRE the Bomb.” The program will begin at 8 AM at the corner of Vasco Road and Patterson Pass Road (the northwest corner of Livermore Lab) with musicians and speakers, including keynote speaker, Norman Solomon. At 8:15 AM, we will observe a moment of silence when the bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. Following the program, at about 9 AM, we will march the short distance to the Livermore Lab west gate where those who choose will nonviolently risk arrest. (See enclosed flier.)
Tri-Valley CAREs
Communities Against a Radioactive Environment
2582 Old First Street, Livermore, CA 94551 • (925) 443-7148 • www.trivalleycares.org

Dear Tri-Valley CAREs supporter,

I know you recognize that Tri-Valley CAREs is remarkably effective in stopping nuclear weapons and addressing the health and environmental damage they cause. Your support has helped make these successes possible.

Now, I am thrilled to tell you that one of our contributors will match your gift to us this summer!

This means that your donation of $25 will be worth $50 to Tri-Valley CAREs. Your $1,000 gift will become $2,000. Your contribution in any amount will be doubled -- up to a total of $15,000.

By offering us this "challenge grant" (as they are called), our friends at the Colombe Foundation are showing their support for Tri-Valley CAREs' programs to achieve a nuclear weapons-free and healthy world -- and, simultaneously, challenging us to deepen and expand our support from individual members and friends. Can I count on you?

I hope that you are as excited as I am by this chance to see your gift do double duty for Tri-Valley CAREs. And, I thank you for giving as generously as you can to help us meet this challenge.

Let me tell you about the important work that your donation (doubled!) will make possible.

Your contribution will help shrink the U.S. nuclear weapons budget. As you have read, the 2011 budget request for nuclear weapons is the largest in our Nation’s history. Congress has scheduled votes on nuclear weapons funding during the next few months. We will put your gift toward our effective advocacy to cut the funding for new bomb plants and weapons. We will also advocate for increased funding to irreversibly dismantle retired nuclear warheads.

Your gift promotes disarmament. Tri-Valley CAREs was a significant presence at the Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference, offering special materials to increase international leaders’ understanding of U.S. nuclear weapons and policy. And, we are building support in the U.S. for ratification of the New START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty), while acting to counter proposed "conditions" that would undermine the disarmament value of this modest, but important, treaty.

Your donation wins environmental justice and cleanup in our communities. The Livermore Lab main site and its Site 300 high explosives testing range are both massively polluted by nuclear weapons activities. At the main site, pollution has migrated off-site into the community’s drinking water aquifer. With your assistance, we will involve the people who are affected and improve the quality of the cleanup of contaminants that are oozing into our neighborhoods.

Giving now helps us stop plutonium at Livermore Lab. Our goal is to end all plutonium work at the Lab and expedite the removal of weapons-usable quantities of this deadly nuclear material within the coming year. With your help, victory is in sight. Our activities have forced the government

(turn page)
to admit that the Lab's plutonium (enough for 300 nuclear bombs) is vulnerable to catastrophic release. Our successes here will impact nuclear weapons policy, limit Livermore Lab's role in weapons design, and protect the community.

**Your assistance shines a light on bio-warfare agents.** As you know, we are actively litigating in federal court to compel Livermore Lab to examine the hazards of experimenting with (and genetically modifying) bio-warfare agents like anthrax and plague. With your support, we have fully briefed the court on the bio-lab's National Environmental Policy Act violations and we expect a ruling on our summary judgement motion in the coming months.

**Your gift will also help us build a strong grassroots movement for change.** For example:

- **On July 26,** we will hold an all-day meeting on the Superfund cleanup of radioactive and toxic pollution at Livermore Lab.
- **Starting July 30,** Tri-Valley CAREs and friends will host a series of public discussions following the release of the new movie, "Countdown to Zero."
- **On August 6,** Tri-Valley CAREs and allied groups will act to "Retire the Bomb," 65 years after the U.S. atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan.

I want you to know that your financial support makes a big difference to us. And, now, we have a new and different kind of challenge -- **the offer to match your gift dollar for dollar, but only if we can reach that $15,000 threshold.**

Is Tri-Valley CAREs up to this challenge? **I'm counting on your support!** I trust you will give as generously as you can. Then, log onto our website at www.trivalleycares.org, where we are putting up a new graphic so that you can see the difference you've made and track our progress toward the $15k goal. (You can also contribute on-line using your credit card.)

Your donation is tax-deductible, and **I promise you it will be put to immediate good use.**

For peace, justice and a healthy environment,

Marylia Kelley,
Executive Director

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Please mail to:
**Tri-Valley CAREs**  
2582 Old First St.  
Livermore, CA 94550

YES! I'm thrilled to know my tax-deductible gift will be **DOUBLED.** Here is my contribution in the amount of

___$10  ___$25  ___$50  ___$100  ___$500  ___$1000  ___Other

Name  
Phone

Address  

City  
State  
Zip

Email address
FRIDAY, AUGUST 6

65 YEARS AFTER HIROSHIMA:
IT’S TIME TO RETIRE THE BOMB

Join Norman Solomon
Kaylah Marin
Daniel Zwickel
Taiko drummers
and more at the
Livermore Lab.

8AM Program begins at
Livermore Lab, corner
of Vasco Rd. &
Patterson Pass Rd.

8:15AM Moment of silence
when atomic bomb
was dropped.

9AM Short march and
nonviolent direct
action to the gate.


Local contact: Tri-Valley CAREs trivalleycares.org (925) 443-7148
You are invited to the local premiere of:

**COUNTDOWN TO ZERO**
A documentary film by Lucy Walker

Fri., July 30 & Sat., July 31

**Embarcadero Center Cinema**
7:30 pm, Friday & Saturday
One Embarcadero Center - Promenade Level
San Francisco, CA 94111

and

**Shattuck Cinema**
7:30 pm, Friday & Saturday
2230 Shattuck Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94704

Tri-Valley CAREs is arranging for discount tickets! Call our office to reserve yours today.
(925) 443-7148 or email marylia@trivalleycares.org

COUNTDOWN TO ZERO is a stunning documentary about the escalating global nuclear arms crisis that recently premiered at Sundance Film Festival. It was produced by Academy Award winner Lawrence Bender (*An Inconvenient Truth, Inglourious Basterds*) and written and directed by Lucy Walker (*The Devil’s Playground, Blind Sight*).

COUNTDOWN TO ZERO traces the history of the atomic bomb from its origins to the present state of global affairs: nine nations possess nuclear weapons capabilities with others racing to join them, with the world held in a delicate balance that could be shattered by an act of failed diplomacy, terrorism, or a simple accident. *Countdown to Zero* makes a compelling case for worldwide nuclear disarmament and creates an opportunity to bring this issue to kitchen tables in households around the country. Don’t miss it, and bring your friends!

*Tri-Valley CAREs thanks Ploughshares Fund for making the discount tickets possible. Call us to reserve yours today!*