

The Peace Booth at the 2009 North Carolina State Fair July 28, 2009

Dear Peacemakers,

Barack Obama's election last year has been a sign of hope after seven years of endless war. Still, he is merely moving troops from Iraq to Afghanistan, so war goes on ... and on. More than 5,000 US soldiers and tens of thousands of civilians have died in Iraq and Afghanistan. We must challenge our leaders to seek alternatives to violence and war and inform citizens of the failure of war to win a lasting peace. There is no war to end all wars. Wars must end.

In recent years, those of us working in the Peace Booth have seen a steady change in people's attitudes toward the so-called War(s) on Terror. Americans are growing tired of the suffering and death resulting from those wars. We must continue winning the hearts and minds of Americans by declaring "War isn't working". Thus, "**Imagine Peace**," is this year's Peace Booth theme.

In addition to opposing war, the Peace Booth has embraced a plethora of peace and justice issues through the years. We have offered petitions supporting immigrants' rights, opposing torture, opposing the Navy's Outlying Landing Field, and for the abolition of capital punishment. We have taken on issues such as domestic violence, military recruitment and various environmental topics.

The State Fair runs October 15-25, lasting 10½ days. The Peace Booth will be open Thursday, Oct. 15 from 3 p.m. to 9:45 p.m., and from 9 a.m. to 9:45 p.m. the other 10 days. We need 126 volunteers working in pairs to staff the Peace Booth. The Peace Booth is a big, expensive undertaking and we need your help. Here's what you can do:

- Please send a personal donation and/or ask your church or group to contribute. Booth rental, design, materials and insurance will cost more than \$2,700 this year.
- Volunteer as an individual to work a two-hour shift at the Peace Booth, or coordinate a day or half day. We need a daily coordinator and 12 volunteers each day of the Fair (six on Oct. 15).
- Join the Peace Booth steering committee and share your creativity and ideas.

On October 6 and 7 at 7:00 p.m., we will offer orientation meetings (attend only one) for all volunteers, at Community United Church of Christ, 814 Dixie Tr., Raleigh. We will present this year's Peace Booth petitions and other materials, and volunteers receive a free State Fair admission ticket (a \$7 value).

In a world overwhelmed by violence and fear, we must strive for peace and justice; we must "**Imagine Peace**." If you can help, please return the form below as soon as possible.

Shalom,

Carolyn King
Carolyn King

Cy King
Cyrus King

✂----- ✂----- ✂----- ✂-----

- Yes, I would like to help continue this great work. Enclosed is my donation of \$____. Please list my/my group's name on the donor list as follows: _____
- My church/peace group would like to staff the Peace Booth for a day. Please contact me, _____ to make arrangements. Phone number(s): _____ - _____, _____ - _____.
- I, _____, can personally volunteer to staff the Peace Booth for two hours on the following date(s) in October 2009: 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25. I understand a free pass to the fair will be available. Phone number(s): _____ - _____.
- I, _____, can be available for: Set up on Wednesday, October 14 (evening)
 Take down on Sunday, October 25 (10:00 PM). Phone number(s): _____ - _____.

To learn more about the Peace Booth go to www.ncpeacebooth.org
Please return to: **The Peace Booth**, 3325 Bentwillow Dr. Fuquay-Varina NC 27526