

# THE ORGANIZER

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY USA NATIONAL OFFICE

JUNE 2008

## WELCOME TO SOCIALIST SUMMER 2008!

### ANTI-WAR/ ANTI-IMPERIALISM



Ending the war and occupation in Iraq and Afghanistan, slashing our bloated military budget and stopping future interventions and occupations remain top priorities for the Party through this summer.

As part of that work, the Party has endorsed and encourages members to attend the **Open National Conference to Stop the War in Iraq and Bring the Troops Home Now**, which will be held from June 28-29 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cleveland, OH. To learn more about the conference check out [www.natassembly.org](http://www.natassembly.org).

To join the Party's contingent there, drop us a note at [natsec@socialistparty-usa.org](mailto:natsec@socialistparty-usa.org).



### Iraq Moratorium

The Party has also endorsed the on-going Iraq Moratorium campaign.

The campaign calls for local anti-war actions on the third Friday of every month, and we encourage all members to take part or organize local actions. To find local actions check out [www.iraqmoratorium.org](http://www.iraqmoratorium.org).

Finally, to better coordinate our anti-war work the Party has created an Anti-Imperialism Committee. We ask that each state and local party select a representative to attend committee phone conferences and join the committee e-mail list. These names should be sent to the National Office.

More anti-war news and events can be found at [www.socialistparty-usa.org/campaigns/anti-war.html](http://www.socialistparty-usa.org/campaigns/anti-war.html).

*The Organizer is the newsletter of the Socialist Party USA National Office. Subscriptions are free to members and sustainers. For bulk copies contact the SPUSA National Office at 339 Lafayette St. #303 New York, NY 10012. The Editor is Greg Pason, National Secretary.*

### 2008 SOCIALIST PARTY NATIONAL ORGANIZING CONFERENCE

Join Socialist Party activists from across the country at the Socialist Party's 2008 National Organizing Conference.

Our biennial conference is a great place to meet other Socialist Party members from across the US, learn new skills, share ideas and learn some party & movement building skills.

**When:** July 11-13, 2008

**Where:** ICC Education Center 1522 Hill St. Ann Arbor, MI

**Who's invited:** All SPUSA members and supporters.

**Registration Costs:**

Before June 22nd \$15 and up (self-defined sliding scale)

June 22<sup>nd</sup> and after \$25 and up (self-defined sliding scale)

To register, fill out the attached form or register on-line at: [www.socialistparty-usa.org/natconf2008/](http://www.socialistparty-usa.org/natconf2008/)

We hope to see you there!



**SOCIALIST PARTY**  
**National Organizing Conference**  
July 11-13, 2008 \* Ann Arbor Michigan

### SUPPORT MOORE/ALEXANDER 2008!



The Moore/ Alexander campaign is working hard to qualify for as many state ballot lines as possible. In March, Brian won the nomination of the Liberty Union Party in Vermont and will run with

Stewart on that Party's line this November.

The slate is also ballot qualified in Florida and working in various other states. Updates on the campaign can be found on [www.votesocialist2008.org](http://www.votesocialist2008.org)

## MAY DAY REPORTS

**Boston, MA:** For the third consecutive year, May Day 2008 in Boston mixed anti-capitalist militancy with celebration and unity for a day of protest that is becoming a tradition. Throughout the year the Boston Socialist Party has been breaking down sectarian barriers on the anti-capitalist left by building working relationships with both anarchists and Trotskyists. For May Day we joined the Industrial Workers of the World and the Northeast Anarchist Network in a spirited feeder march from Kenmore Square to the Boston Common, singing traditional labor songs and waving a mix of red and black flags. On the Boston Common we joined with a broader range of radicals and progressives brought together by the Boston May Day Coalition. Solidarity with immigrant workers and the global south headlined the rally's message. Then we marched and rallied again at Copley Square as has become the tradition for May Day. Our own Chris Persampieri drew applause from the crowd by calling for immigrant rights, union organizing, and left unity. Afterwards, our red and black block regrouped one more time for a spontaneous march through the bourgeois playground known as Newbury Street.

**New York, NY:** The NYC Local took part in a lively celebration of May Day. We participated in a side mobilization organized primarily by the Chinese Staff Workers Association as part of the Break the Chains Coalition. The main demand was for an end to employer sanctions laws (Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986) which are used by the Immigration police and the bosses as a pretext for enforcing workplace discipline through raids. More than 1,000 people took part in this rally with speeches translated into Chinese, English and Spanish.

We the marched up to Union Square (14th street), past our national office where War Resisters League Staff prepared a banner with the inscription "No War." I have to admit though, that there were many incredulous passers-by who asked what we were marching for and upon being greeted with "Happy May Day" had no idea what I was talking about. Regardless of historical amnesia they could not help but recognize that workers who are mostly socially invisible on a daily basis were now quite vocal and present.

We arrived at Union Square and joined several other feeder marches. Most immigrant rights groups participated as well as all sectors of the left. Many people spoke excitedly about the shut down of the ports on the West Coast. One highlight was meeting up again with Victor Toro. In the late 60s and 70s Victor was a militant in the MIR in Chile and a leader of shantytown communities around Santiago. After the government of Salvador Allende was overthrown, Victor was jailed and then forced into exile. He is currently fighting deportation charges.

We ended the night with a showing of the documentary "Wobblies." We had about 20 people turn up at the movie and, even after a long day of marching, the conversation was quite lively.

**Northern NJ:** Northern New Jersey members joined the NYC Local on May 1<sup>st</sup> for the New York City May Day march and rally.

On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Local helped organized an immigrant rights action in Bergenfield, NJ where immigrant workers gather and where local "minutemen" protest. The Local is helping hold regular actions at this location.

## FALL ACTIONS AROUND THE RNC & DNC

**August 24-28<sup>th</sup> - Re-create '68** in Denver outside the DNC. **More info:** [www.recreate68.org](http://www.recreate68.org)

**September 1-4<sup>th</sup> - Protest the RNC** in Minneapolis. **More info:** [www.protestrnc2008.org](http://www.protestrnc2008.org)

If you are taking part in either of these actions and want to help coordinate a SPUSA contingent, contact us at [natsec@socialistparty-usa.org](mailto:natsec@socialistparty-usa.org)

**Sign up for our Members-Only E-Mail List:** All Party members in good standing are encouraged to join the SP Members e-mail list. You can join the list by sending your full name, address and e-mail address to: [list-admin@socialistparty-usa.org](mailto:list-admin@socialistparty-usa.org)

### RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP OR MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TOWARD THE WORK OF THE SPUSA!

[ ] I'd like to contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_ toward the work of the Socialist Party USA.

[ ] I'd like to renew my membership in the Socialist Party USA. Enclosed is my dues payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Dues rates (based on annual net income & scale is self-defined)**

**Under \$20,000/yr.:** \$30 - \$75 (sliding scale) \* **\$20 - \$35,000/ yr.:** \$75 - \$150 (sliding scale) \* **\$35 - \$50,000/ yr.:** \$150 - \$270 (sliding scale) \* **\$50 - \$65,000/yr.:** \$270 - \$420 \* **over \$65,000/yr.** \$420 + 2% of net income over \$65,000

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to "Socialist Party USA" or pay by credit card by filling in the info. below:

**Credit card #** \_\_\_\_\_ **Circle one:** Visa/ Master Card **Exp Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Card code** (3 digit code on back of card) \_\_\_\_\_ **Name on card** (if different than one above): \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to:** SPUSA 339 Lafayette St. #303 New York, NY 10012