

THE ORGANIZER

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY USA NATIONAL OFFICE

JANUARY 2008

HONOR MLK JR. & BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Martin Luther King Jr. recognized that war, racism, and poverty all have roots in the economic system of capitalism. This system — where the few who have the most wealth make the economic decisions — would have to be replaced by a more democratic political framework. He was also aware of the intertwined history of Socialism and the civil rights movement.

- During the Depression, Socialists were active in founding the multiracial Tenant-Farmers Union, at a time when multi-racial organizations were unheard of in the South.
- SP member A. Phillip Randolph scheduled the first Civil Rights March on Washington.
- Activists like SP member Walter Bernann risked their lives on the early Freedom Rides.

The Socialist Party honors MLK Jr. this winter as we continue to struggle to fight racism, war and poverty. The Socialist Party wants to democratically transform our society into the kind of world Dr. King envisioned.

As we celebrate the life of Dr. King, we must remember that the struggle continues, as Dr. King said “The dispossessed of this country — the poor, the white and Negro — live in a cruelly unjust society. They must organize a revolution against that injustice, not against the lives of the persons who are their fellow citizens, but against the structures through which society is refusing to take means which have been called for, and which are at hand, to lift the load of poverty.”

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.

SHUT DOWN GUANTANIMO!

Friday, January 11, 2008 is the 6-year anniversary of the first prisoners being brought to Guantánamo, and on January 11th, the Socialist Party will continue our support of the campaign to shut it down.



On January 11th, Witness to Torture will be holding a mass rally in Washington DC and helping to coordinate local actions across the US.

For info. on the Washington DC event or the local actions check out: www.witnesstorture.org

Join us on January 11th and help us to continue the work to shut down Guantanamo and free immigration detainees.

Become a Founding Member of the SPUSA Sustainers Club

The Socialist Party USA depends first and foremost on the grassroots activity of its membership. As we grow, however, our ability to coordinate activity and meet the needs of a more active membership is becoming strained.



Without voluntary contributions beyond membership dues, our operating budget will remain strapped to the bare essentials. To help us maintain

a database of regular contributors, the Party has created the “Sustainers Club”

The Sustainers club is open to anyone who can donate at least \$30 a year above dues and is willing to have their name added to our regular contributors database. It is also open to non-members who contribute at least \$30 a year and ask to be added to the Sustainers Club list. You will receive a unique membership card, a subscription to The Socialist, and a "Founding Member" lapel pin to show your solidarity. You can join on-line at the following website:

www.socialistparty-usa.org/joinus/supporterform.html or by sending your check and info. to SPUSA Sustainers Club c/o 339 Lafayette St. #303 NY, NY 10012



HEALTHCARE FOR ALL!

The Socialist Party stands for a socialized health care system. A system based on universal coverage, salaried doctors and health care workers, and

revenues derived from a steeply graduated income tax.

A national health program with full standard and alternative medical, dental, vision, and mental health coverage for all, publicly funded through progressive taxation and controlled by democratically elected assemblies of health care workers and patients. The National Health Program should extend, and replace, Medicare and Medicaid.

For more info. on the campaign contact campaign chair Matthew Andrews at peopleunite@verizon.net or write the National Office at 339 Lafayette St. #303 NY, NY 10012

SOCIALIST PARTY SUPPORTS STRIKING SCREENWRITERS

On Monday November 5th, 12,000 members of the Writers Guild of America (WGA) took a bold strike action to sew up some of the loopholes which have allowed the entertainment industry to make exorbitant profits from their labor.

The Socialist Party USA (SP-USA) stands with the WGA and calls upon the Association of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP) to concede to the WGA's demands for a just contract.

The SP-USA calls on its members to provide solidarity to all WGA picket lines. We also call on television viewers to boycott the so-called "reality-based" television shows which studios have used as a way to avoid the unionized writers of the WGA. Finally, we hope that workers engaged in all sectors of the "new economy" – particularly the service and white-collar professions – draw strength from the example of the WGA workers and make similar efforts to collectively reclaim the fruits of their labor.

The full SPUSA Labor Commission Statement on the WGA strike can be found at:
www.socialistparty-usa.org/statements/wga1107.html

The Labor Commission is one of the focal points of the Socialist Party's efforts to become rooted in grassroots struggles. Please support its work.

To get involved, write to the Labor Commission Chair on dan.jakopovich@yahoo.com.

SUPPORT MOORE/ALEXANDER 2008!



www.votebrianmoore.com

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- ___ Rebel Lives: Helen Keller (soft/89 pgs) \$6.00
- ___ Rebel Lives: Sacco & Vanzetti (soft/121 pgs) \$6.00
- ___ DMZ Magazine (counter recruitment) \$3.00

Pamphlets

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- ___ E.V. Debs "A Letter on Immigration" \$1.00

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