

# w<sup>o</sup>rldwide wamm

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A publication of  
Women Against Military Madness

*We cannot make meaningful statements about, or act to ameliorate, climate change without addressing militarism, specifically the U.S.'s "mad quest of military dominance, wars, and resource grabs."*

*The Department of Defense is the largest institutional oil consumer in the world.*

## Face Reality: Peak Oil, 9 Billion People, and Global Warming

by Carol Masters

"Can we come to a consensus about reality?" asks James Howard Kunstler, author of *World Made by Hand*, and *The Long Emergency*, as part of a video series on "Peak Oil and a Changing Climate."<sup>1</sup> We are coming to the limits of everything, including the energy to run our societies: humanity is running up against the limits of aquifers, soils, fisheries, forests, even our air. "We've got too many people using too much stuff, too fast, in an economy that knows only how to grow!"

according to Richard Heinberg, author and director of the Post Carbon Institute. Alarming data from everywhere, from climate scientists, energy analysts, food producers, and hunger activists—most from outside the United States—paint a dismal picture. Social systems depend on energy—a surplus of energy—and complex economies will go into decline without it.

But Kunstler and others in the series (renowned political analyst Noam Chomsky, political commentator and radio host Thom Hartmann, scientist and author Richard Heinberg) fear that the mass of information may be incoherent—too scattered, at once too varied and too partial—incapable of forcing human beings to take off the blinders and face reality. Responses at U.S. policy levels are inadequate and often disingenuous. Chomsky states that the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the big business lobby, has embarked on a campaign to convince the public that global warming is a "liberal hoax." He postulates that



Photo credit: Tom Bottolene, circlevision.org

On March 19, the eight anniversary of the second U.S. war on Iraq, hundreds marched from the Martin Luther King Center to the State Capitol in St. Paul in protest of wars for control of the world's oil.

business interests and policy makers may indeed know that the situation is desperate, and fear for the future of their grandchildren, but they are enmeshed in their personal, short-term institutional needs and legal requirements to protect the bottom line.

### Peak Oil

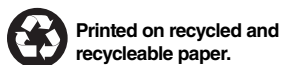
Oil is a finite resource. The peak in oil production, which the U.S. reached in the early '70s, does not mean "running out of oil," but it is the end of inexpensive oil for us and for most economies based on continuous growth. Globally, analysts

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310 East 38th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55409 • 612-827-5364 • wamm@mtn.org • www.worldwidewamm.org



Women Against Military Madness is a nonviolent, feminist organization that works in solidarity with others to create a system of social equality, self-determination and justice through education, action and the empowerment of women. WAMM's purpose is to dismantle systems of militarism, economic exploitation and global oppression.



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The statements and opinions reflected in this newsletter are the views of the author and not necessarily official positions of WAMM. We encourage a diversity of opinion to represent the range of perspectives that coexist under the banner of WAMM's mission statement.

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**WAMM Office Hours**

Mon-Fri: 10:00 am-5:00 pm

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**Face Reality . . . , continued from front cover**

believe that the peak of oil production is upon us. We probably should be talking about post-peak oil, certainly the end of cheap oil. And the decline, as engineer and author Dmitri Orlov points out, will not be the gradual slope that many graphs show, but a "stepwise" decline, with various parts of the globe experiencing disruptions, then permanent cut-offs in fuel needed for transport.

The oil that remains is more difficult and/or expensive to extract: offshore, distant from markets, and lower in quality, requiring more money and energy to refine. All oil fields will reach a point at which, if extraction takes the energy of a barrel to produce a barrel, further drilling is pointless.

Oil companies and policy makers currently put too much dependence in ultra-deep water drilling, of depths up to a mile. And Brazil's touted offshore fields are two or three miles down, with as yet unresolved challenges to technology and danger to the environment. The U.S. Presidential Commission investigating the disastrous Deepwater Horizon oil spill reports that all companies involved were careless and ignored warning signs. But in March, Interior Secretary Salazar issued

new drilling permits without setting tough new standards for operation. The door is open for new, worse disasters.

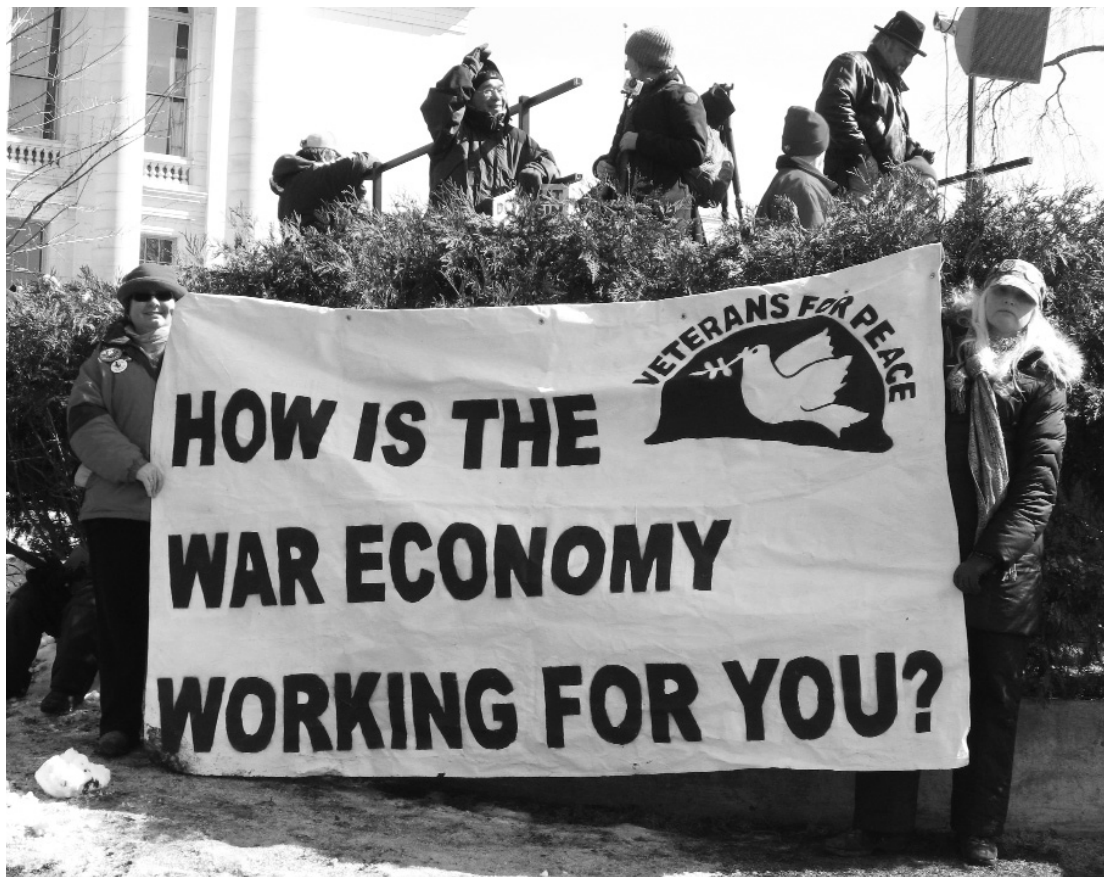
Is there a cover-up about peak oil? Richard Heinberg says there is: in the Department of Energy and in the International Energy Agency, there are people who would like to sound the alarm, but they are being muzzled. It's inevitable in a political and economic system that is tied to growth. We need to take peak oil as a signal to transition to sustainable systems.

**Peak Everything**

Even if decision makers in the U.S. and elsewhere deliberately ignore or sugarcoat reality, change is coming. Ordinary people will no longer be able to deny what is in front of them. As they see or experience climate disasters, as water supplies dwindle, as crop failures destroy livelihoods and create hunger, they will be impelled to act.

Let's look at just a few of the current projections. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) predicted that Earth's average temperature will rise 2.0 - 11.5°F during this century, and the

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WAMM member Ann Galloway and Director Kim Doss-Smith stand in solidarity with public union workers at a March 12 rally at the Wisconsin State Capitol. Taxpayers in the state of Wisconsin, alone, will pay \$1.7 billion for the U.S. war on Afghanistan in the year 2011. The Wisconsin state budget slammed through recently also included more destruction of the commons by enabling no-bid contracts and sales of state-owned power plants.

# Attack on Libya: On the Eighth Anniversary of the U.S. War on Iraq

Excerpts from a speech delivered by Linda Hoover, a member of Iraq Peace Action Coalition and Women Against Military Madness, at the March 19, 2011 "Troops Out Now!" rally in St. Paul. The entire speech can be seen on the WAMM blog at [www.WAMMToday.wordpress.com](http://www.WAMMToday.wordpress.com)

Attacking Libya is part of the broader military agenda in the Middle East and Central Asia that aims to gain control and corporate ownership of over 60 percent of the world's oil and natural gas, as well as the related pipelines. Oil is the trophy of the U.S.-NATO wars. Foreign oil countries operating in Libya are from France, Italy, Britain, Spain, Germany, the U.S., and China.

According to Global Research [website: [www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca)] in Canada, "the military campaign [U.S./NATO] directed against Libya is intent upon excluding China from North Africa . . . The underlying objective is to take possession of Libya's oil reserves, destabilize the National Oil Corporation, and eventually privatize the country's oil industry, moving control and ownership of Libya's oil wealth into foreign hands."

Wall Street, the Anglo-American oil giants, and the U.S. and European Union weapons producers are the main beneficiaries of a U.S.-NATO-led military campaign directed against Libya. Global

Research also argues that the U.S. intends to redraw the map of Africa, drawing new neocolonial lines that favor the U.S. Gaddafi's crime is that he used Libyan oil revenues to raise the standard of living of the Libyan people to one of the highest in Africa.

This war has nothing to do with humanitarianism . . .

We stand in solidarity with the Libyan people who are fighting against a U.S. and NATO occupation of their country. We call on the U.S. to end the war now. The Libyans have done nothing against us. No further lives, Libyan, American, or other should be lost so that U.S. oil- and weapons-producing companies can enrich themselves . . . The U.S. has no right to force Libya to privatize its oil industry and to transfer ownership of the Libyan oil industry into foreign hands—namely, the hands of U.S. oil companies . . . To Obama, Franken, Klobuchar, and Ellison, you along with others are responsible for the blood of North African civilians flowing in Libyan streets. It is you who have lost your legitimacy to govern.

Please join me in sending a message to the warmongers: Bombs do not protect civilians! Stop the bombing now!

## Face Reality . . . , continued from page 2

current trajectory is already outpacing the forecasts. Glaciers and ice sheets will melt, causing sea levels to rise. For every 1°C rise in temperature during the growing season, yields of wheat, rice, and corn drop 10 percent. Nineteen countries set high-temperature records last year, including Pakistan, which hit 128.3°F in the same year that saw flooding of the Indus River, affecting nearly 20 million people.<sup>2</sup>

Almost a third of the world's cropland is now losing topsoil faster than it can be re-formed. Many countries are losing the ability to feed themselves. A recent publication of Great Britain's *The Economist* had a special report on feeding the world, pointing out that the global population is expected to reach 7 billion by the end of this year (9 billion by 2050), as food prices have plunged into poverty millions who spend more than half their income on food.<sup>3</sup> Yields are slowing, cars and people compete for crops, and land is being lost to nonfarm uses. Global warming places agriculture—particularly industrial agriculture—as both cause and victim. The thrust of *The Economist's* analysis is toward the view that a new

Green Revolution, with advanced technologies and better practices, offers the best hope of feeding the world. But the magazine gives less attention to the detrimental effects of years of intensive farming and overuse of chemical fertilizers, as well as the still unknown but "profound damage to farming from climate change, which could reduce yields by one-third."

## State Failure

Population pressures and hunger also increase political instability. During the time that increasing food prices have brought about panics, export bans, price controls, and food riots, state failure is both spreading and deepening. Worry over rising bread prices played a part in uprisings throughout the Middle East. "Whatever the outcome of the protests, uprisings, and rebellions now sweeping the Middle East," says peace and security professor and analyst Michael Klare, ". . . everything that's now happening is just the first tremor of an oilquake that will shake our world to its core." He agrees that this is the end of cheap oil, and that we can't count on any new order [read: war on Libya] "to preserve the Petroleum Age."<sup>4</sup>

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## WORD UP!

### Myth of Humanitarian Intervention

Nothing in United States policy indicates the slightest concern for human rights and democracy. Assigning it the prime task of defending these values is strange indeed. Moreover to call on an army to wage a war for human rights implies a naive vision of what armies are and do, as well as a magical belief in short, clean, "surgical" wars.

—Jean Bricmont,  
*Humanitarian Imperialism*

## WAMM ACTION

### PLEDGE TO RESIST FBI, GRAND JURY REPRESSION:

We will carry forward the fight for our right to speak out, organize and to stand in solidarity with those who want freedom.

We will stand up to any escalation of the attacks on anti-war and international solidarity activists.

We will join the national day of protest when anti-war and international solidarity activists are ordered to appear in front of the Chicago Grand Jury or indicted.

### EMERGENCY ACTION:

If the Grand Jury indicts these three resubpoenaed women: Sarah, Tracy and Ahn, or if other activists are re-subpoenaed, there will be an emergency action held at 4:30 p.m. at the U.S. Federal Building, 4th St. & 4th Ave., downtown Minneapolis.

More info: Call the Committee to Stop FBI Repression at 612-379-3585 or the WAMM office at 612-827-5364.  
Web site: [stopfbi.net](http://stopfbi.net)

## WORD UP!

### DU for Libya?

ICBUW is concerned that the current use of US Marine Corps AV-8B Harrier ground attack aircraft could lead to DU [Depleted Uranium] contamination should their cannon be deployed against ground targets. ICBUW is also concerned that the potential for contamination may increase significantly as the conflict develops if U.S. Air Force A-10 Thunderbolt ground attack aircraft are deployed.

—statement regarding US/NATO attack on Libya issued March 21, 2011 by International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons

Since air operations began on March 19, the coalition had carried out 1,802 sorties on Libya. 500-pound bombs were being dropped. Thunderbolt aircraft have been deployed.. Cannons are in use. The U.S. flew 370 attack missions, dropped 455 munitions, and fired 193 Tomahawk cruise missiles.

—News reports including from *Agence France Presse*, *Associated Press*, *New York Times*, March 28-29

## Too Many Weapons

In his prophetic speech at Riverside Church in New York in 1967, Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. warned that a nation that spends more money on the military than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death.

The current annual military budget of the U.S. is about \$750 billion, approximately equal to that of all other nations on earth combined. Our Navy of almost 300 ships, including 11 aircraft carrier battle groups, is 20 times as powerful as the next strongest navy. Our Air Force is acquiring 187 F-22 Raptor jets at a cost of about \$300 million each, and a total of 2,400 F-35 Joint Strike fighters, which cost about \$100 million each, is being proposed.

We have almost half a million ground forces in about 800 military installations in more than 100 countries around the globe. And we have more than 5,000 nuclear weapons on active alert, including about 1,500 on eight Trident submarines that prowl the seas. Each of these subs could unleash 500 Hiroshimas on millions of victims. Alliant Techsystems (ATK), headquartered in Eden Prairie, makes the rocket motors for these subs. In addition, Alliant is the largest Minnesota-based weapons manufacturer and the primary supplier of depleted uranium munitions, cluster bombs, land mines and nuclear missile rocket motors to the U.S. Department of Defense. ATK also markets its deadly products through more than 50 international sales offices.<sup>1</sup> Other states manufacture and sell weapons and weapons parts, too.

Despite this awesome arsenal, we have gotten bogged down in costly, protracted occupations in Iraq and Afghanistan. In a recent speech at West Point, Defense Secretary Robert Gates as much as admitted that he views our military interventions in recent decades as mostly failures.<sup>2</sup>

by Jay Kvale

The U.S. is also by far the world leader in arms exports. A \$60 billion deal for jets and helicopters was recently signed with Saudi Arabia, \$40 billion is being allocated for other Middle East countries, a \$4 billion arms pact with India was finalized, and \$3 billion in annual military aid to Israel continues. In addition, the Obama administration is proposing to spend \$85 billion over the next decade to upgrade and modernize our nuclear arsenal.

Meanwhile our country has been hit with a triple economic whammy in the last few years—a multitrillion dollar housing bubble, a multitrillion dollar robbery by Wall Street banksters, and the Great Recession, which has cost millions of Americans their jobs and their pensions. Facing huge deficits, many states are slashing basic services and laying off thousands of workers.

While even U.S. policymakers proclaim that they view only a small number of nations and al Qaeda-type groups to be threats, it makes no sense for them to rationalize weapons expenditures for the country's defense. There is no nation-state that can challenge the U.S. in conventional warfare. The amount spent on military expenditures by the usual candidate, China, is less than 8 percent per capita of that spent by the U.S.

Millions of Americans are finally beginning to question the need for our expensive military empire as our country continues to struggle with chronic unemployment, rising health care costs, and a deteriorating infrastructure, while the national debt has climbed past \$14 trillion and the annual federal deficit is approaching \$1.5 trillion.

Yet our newly ordained debt and deficit hawks in Congress are mostly engaged in proposing cuts in community service grants, heating assistance to low-income people, health insurance coverage for children, and popular, well-administered programs such as Social Security and Medicare, while the sacred cow of military spending goes mostly untouched.

It is encouraging to see some members of Congress finally paying attention to the work of experts who have proposed reasonable cuts in military spending. The report "Debt, Deficits, & Defense," released in June 2010 by the Sustainable Defense Task Force, recommends cuts totaling about \$1.1 trillion over the next decade. These include missile defense (Reagan's Star Wars), unnecessary weapons systems such as the Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft, and the Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle. Recommendations also include bringing home more than 100,000 troops from Germany, Okinawa, and the Middle East and cutting the nuclear arsenal to 1,000 warheads.

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Source: ATK

U.S. military contractors account for over 60% of world weapons sales. Minnesota-based Alliant Techsystems (ATK) markets its products through over 50 international sales offices indicated by the dots on the map.



# Women Against Military Madness 4th Annual Walk Against Weapons

## Saturday June 4 2011

Participate in the WAMM Walk Against Weapons, a highly visible, three-mile walk encircling Eden Prairie Center and ending at Alliant Techsystems. Sign up as many sponsors as you can — ask family, friends and co-workers to sponsor your walk for peace and justice.

Request payment by check to Women Against Military Madness (WAMM). Ask sponsors to **PAY WHEN THEY COMMIT**, saving you from having to collect after the event.

### 10:30 AM

#### Volunteer/Walker Check-In

Bakers Square Restaurant  
928 Prairie Center Drive  
Eden Prairie  
(parking lot)

#### RAIN or SHINE!

#### DIRECTIONS to BAKERS

- From either direction on I-494 take Highway 5 WEST.
- Take the first exit - Prairie Center Drive and **continue forward at the stop light.**
- Turn left into Bakers Square.



#### You might be asked why Alliant Techsystems?

Alliant Techsystems (ATK) is the largest Minnesota-based weapons manufacturer and has been the primary supplier of depleted uranium munitions, cluster bombs, landmines and nuclear missile rocket motors to the U.S. Department of Defense. ATK markets their products through 60+ international sales offices.

Since 1996, AlliantACTION has held a weekly Wednesday morning vigil outside the company's headquarters. We ask *Who Profit\$? Who Dies?* All are welcome.

more information about ATK and the weekly vigil online

**AlliantACTION.org**

WAIVER: I certify that all the information provided on this form is true and complete to my knowledge and that I will abide by the rules and instruction of event officials and management. In consideration of my participation in the WAMM Walk Against Weapons, I, on behalf of myself, my heirs, personal representatives and all those claiming by or through me, consent to herby discharge and forever hold harmless Women Against Military Madness (WAMM) and all other participating sponsors, organizations, municipalities and individuals from responsibility for any injuries or damages I may suffer as a result of my participation in this event. I certify that I am physically able to participate in this event and that I shall voluntarily collect and submit any and all sponsorship money collected for the Walk Against Weapons to Women Against Military Madness (WAMM). I have read this waiver and certify my compliance by my signature below (under 18 requires Guardian signature):

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

#### WALK SCHEDULE

10:30 AM Check-In

(see above)

11 AM

Walk Begins

3 mile stroll encircling  
Eden Prairie Shopping Center

12:30 PM

Walk Ends/Rally at ATK

7480 Flying Cloud Drive  
(shuttles back to Bakers)

#### I WISH I WAS WALKIN' TOO!

I can't walk this year, but will support *anyone* who can!  
Please thank them for me...

Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your *I Wish I Was Walkin'* donation to WAMM, 310 East 38th St, Suite 222, Minneapolis, MN 55409.

## Walkin' with WAMM. Walkin' for PEACE.

directions and maps online: [www.worldwidewamm.org](http://www.worldwidewamm.org)



**W.A.M.M. Fourth Annual**

# Walk Against Weapons

## Saturday, June 4, 2011

### 928 Prairie Center Drive, Eden Prairie to 7480 Flying Cloud Drive, Eden Prairie

Please have sponsors pre-pay with checks payable to WAMM and bring this form along with all contributions to the Walk Against Weapons on Saturday, June 4, 2011 when you register. Can't make it to the event on June 4? Mail collected pledges and this form to: WAMM, 310 E 38th Street, Suite 222, Minneapolis, MN 55409

WALKER'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

	SPONSOR'S NAME	ADDRESS/CITY	ZIP	PHONE	AMOUNT
1					
2					
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12					

Women Against Military Madness (WAMM) is a tax exempt, 501(c)3 organization and all contributions are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. In accordance with the IRS definition, no goods or services were provided in exchange for contributions to the Walk Against Weapons. Receipts will not be issued for donations to WAMM for the Walk Against Weapons unless requested by the sponsor. Cancelled checks may be used as receipts for tax purposes.

TOTAL \$

**need additional sponsor forms or info? online at [www.worldwidewamm.org](http://www.worldwidewamm.org)**

# April 2011 WAMM Calendar

Please note that WAMM's provision of information on other group's events is not meant to convey or endorse any action contrary to public policy that would be inconsistent with exempt purposes under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) i.e., charitable purposes.

## Ongoing WAMM Vigils for Peace

### Vigil to End the War on Iraq:

Every Wednesday, 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. on the Lake Street/Marshall Avenue Bridge spanning the Mississippi River between Minneapolis and St. Paul. FFI: Call WAMM, 612-827-5364.

### Vigil Outside of Weapons Merchant Alliant Techsystems:

Every Wednesday, 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. at 7480 Flying Cloud Drive, Eden Prairie. "Who Profit\$? Who Dies?" Sponsored by: Alliant ACTION. FFI and directions: call 612-701-6963 or visit [www.alliantaction.org](http://www.alliantaction.org).

### Vigil to End U.S. Involvement in Torture:

Every Wednesday, 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. Federal Courthouse Plaza, 300 4th St., Minneapolis. WAMM Tackling Torture at the Top (T3). FFI: 612-822-9520 or e-mail: [tacklingtorture@gmail.com](mailto:tacklingtorture@gmail.com)

### Vigil to End the Occupation of Palestine:

Every Friday, 4:15 to 5:30 p.m. at Summit and Snelling Avenues, St. Paul. FFI: Call WAMM, 612-827-5364.

For information on additional peace vigils in Minnesota and Wisconsin, call the WAMM office at 612-827-5364 or visit [www.worldwidewamm.org](http://www.worldwidewamm.org).

## Ongoing WAMM Committee Meetings

**Board Meeting:** Third Tuesday of each month, 6:00 p.m. at the Sabathani Community Center, 310 East 38th Street, Minneapolis. FFI: Call WAMM, 612-827-5364.

**Book Club:** Second Saturday of each month, 10:00 a.m. FFI and Location: Contact Suzy, 651-451-8627 or [suzykoch@comcast.net](mailto:suzykoch@comcast.net).

**Iraq Committee:** First Monday of each month, 5:30 p.m. FFI: Call Marie, 612-522-1861.

**Middle East Committee:** Second Monday of each month, 9:30 a.m. at the Sabathani Community Center, 310 East 38th Street, Minneapolis. FFI: Call WAMM, 612-827-5364.

**Media Committee:** FFI: Email the committee, [wammmedia@gmail.com](mailto:wammmedia@gmail.com).

**St. Joan of Arc/WAMM Peacemakers:** Note change: now meeting on the fourth Tuesday of each month, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. at St. Joan of Arc Church, Parish Center, 4537 Third Avenue South, Minneapolis. FFI: Barbara, 612-722-4444

### Tackling Torture at the Top (T3):

Second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, 10:00 a.m. at (Note change of location) Afro Deli and Coffee, 1939 5th Street South (Riverside and 20th Avenue), Minneapolis.

## Ongoing Events

### People of Faith Peacemakers

**Breakfast:** Second and fourth Wednesdays, 8:00 to 9:30 a.m., new location: African Development Center, on 20th Avenue, across from St. Martin's Table. A resource and support group for those concerned about peace with justice from a faith perspective. FFI: [www.justviewpoint.org](http://www.justviewpoint.org) or call 763-784-5177

### Grandmothers for Peace:

First Wednesday 12:45 p.m., Edina Public Library, 5280 Grandview Square, Edina. Program around justice issue that helps us to understand our role in changing unjust systems. FFI: 952-929-1566

### Tea Time Conversational Salons:

Most Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Mad Hatter's Teahouse, 943 West Seventh St., St. Paul. Salons are open to all. Suggested donations \$3-\$5 include tea, treats. FFI: 651-227-2511 or 651-227-3228.

### Third Thursday Global Issues

**Forum:** 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., Hennepin Ave. United Methodist Church, Groveland at Lyndale Ave., Minneapolis. FFI: [globalsolutionsmn.org](http://globalsolutionsmn.org)

### Middle East Peace Now:

Usually 2nd or 3rd Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. Refreshments, 10:00 a.m. Program. Location may vary. FFI: Call 651-696-1642 or see [www.mepn.org](http://www.mepn.org)

**MN 9/11 Truth:** Second Tuesday of each month, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Rondo Community Outreach Library, 461 North Dale Street, St. Paul. MN 9/11 Truth meets to educate and discuss the events of 9/11/2001. FFI: Visit [www.mn911truth.org](http://www.mn911truth.org).

**Active Nonviolence Training:** Train in the principles and practice of active nonviolence. An interactive session (non-lecture and non-reading) in social change analysis, community-building and project planning to strengthen our group for action. Certificates for participants. Trainers from Creating a Culture of Peace (CCP) which moved its national headquarters to Minnesota. Sponsored by: CCP. FFI and to Register: Visit [www.creatingacultureofpeace.org](http://www.creatingacultureofpeace.org).

## Special Events

### Proposed WAMM By-Law

**Changes** Tuesday, April 19, 6:00 p.m. Sabathani Community Center, 310 E. 38th St., Minneapolis. WAMM Board of Directors proposes amending organization by-laws to raise the max. number of board members from 15 to 16 (Article V: Section 2A). All WAMM members invited to a Board meeting to participate in the process. WAMM by-laws. FFI: Call WAMM, 612-827-5364.

### Walk for a Nuclear-Free Future

Saturday, April 23, noon to 4:00 p.m. Walk between Kewaunee and Point Beach on Lake Michigan. Join others as they say no to new reactors, power increases and license extensions. Nuclear power causes cancer, birth defects, environmental destruction and worsens climate change. Walk the seven miles between reactor sites at Kewaunee and Point beach on Lake Michigan and walk for a nuclear-free future. Sponsored by: Nukewatch. FFI: Call 715-472-4185 or email [nukewatch1@lake-land.ws](mailto:nukewatch1@lake-land.ws).

### WAMM Plant and Bulb Sale

Monday, April 25 order deadline. Bulbs, cornflowers, hostas, herb and strawberry kits. WAMM receives 50% of every order. FFI: See back of this newsletter.

### Save the Date: WAMM Walk Against Weapons! (Open to All)

Saturday, June 4, 10:30 a.m. Meet at Bakers Square, 928 Prairie Center Drive, Eden Prairie. Participate in the third annual WAMM Walk Against Weapons, a three-mile walk from Bakers Square to Alliant Techsystems (ATK) in Eden Prairie. The Walk Against Weapons is a protest and fundraiser for WAMM and is in collaboration with Alliant ACTION, a local group that holds weekly vigils at ATK, the largest Minnesota-based military contractor. Use the pledge form in this newsletter and start raising funds today! Organized by: WAMM. FFI and pledge forms: Call 612-827-5364 or visit [www.worldwidewamm.org](http://www.worldwidewamm.org).

### STOP WITCH HUNT: EMERGENCY ACTION

If the Grand Jury indicts these three resubpoenaed women: Sarah Martin, Tracy Molm and Ahn Pham, or if other activists are re-subpoenaed, there will be an emergency action held at 4:30 p.m. at the U.S. Federal Building, 4th St. & 4th Ave., downtown Minneapolis. FFI: the Committee to Stop FBI Repression at 612-379-3585 or the WAMM office at 612-827-5364. Website: [stopfbi.net](http://stopfbi.net)

*Additional upcoming events are listed at [www.worldwidewamm.org](http://www.worldwidewamm.org), or you may call the WAMM office for more information: 612-827-5364. Other peace and justice events can be found on Minnesota Alliance for Peacemakers at [www.mapm.org](http://www.mapm.org).*



### Walk Against Weapons

Join WAMM and AlliantAction in a walk against weapons on Saturday, June 4. Can't walk? Sponsor a walker. See flyer and form this issue of the WAMM newsletter.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### Not a Nursing Home

Sheridan House provides 24-hour care for five elderly in a home setting. Private rooms, loveable dog, fellowship and community. Licensed. Operated by WAMM member Sally Kunderdt. Dementia and general care. County funds or private. 612-866-4637.

### Marla Kennedy, M.A., L.M.F.T.

Licensed marriage and family therapist, parent educator, speaker on parenting for peace and justice. Call 651-645-3303

### Not a Group Home

I've had 30 years experience providing long-term, loving care for severely developmentally disabled people in my own family home. I now have an opening for an individual 18+. Must be ambulatory and not aggressive. My family includes: myself, Nancy Hauer, a WAMM member for over 20 years; Joyce, my partner for 12 years; our 9 year old daughter, whom we adopted together; and my adult foster daughter, who has been with me for 30 years. I am licensed for adult foster care and DD wavered services. Nancy Hauer 651-426-4917.

Face Reality . . . , continued from page 3

## U.S. Militarism and Climate Change

We cannot make meaningful statements about, or act to ameliorate, climate change without addressing militarism, specifically the U.S.'s "mad quest of military dominance, wars, and resource grabs."<sup>5</sup> The U.S. spends well over \$1 trillion a year on military-related expenses (including for past wars). U.S. taxpayers will pay \$553 billion for the Department of Defense in FY2012, dominating the federal budget and draining the economy, at the same time that it prevents meaningful climate action. Minnesota's share is \$13.3 billion for the DOD. See the National Priorities website for current budget numbers and interactive tools that allow people to assess the societal impacts of federal spending.<sup>6</sup>

The Department of Defense is the largest institutional oil consumer in the world. Wars to control access to oil and other energy resources cause untold misery; the inadequate attention to environmental devastation is approaching "extinction scale." Our wars and military are significant contributors to the ongoing environmental devastation that impoverishes millions. The U.S. military is the world's largest institutional source of greenhouse gases. A UN environmental report about the first Gulf War points to the damage done by tanks and weapons to the fragile desert soil and ecosystem, along with chemical and radioactive contamination, leaving a legacy of disease, poverty, hunger, and death. At home, one of every 10 Americans lives within 10 miles of a military site listed as a Superfund priority cleanup site.

As climate refugees become more numerous, the social costs, again, will be devastating: bloody conflicts over resources, deeper fascism, oppression towards immigrants, and ecosystem decimation as people desperately seek water and sustenance.<sup>7</sup>

## What to Do: Plan B

Renowned environmentalist Lester Brown's *Plan B* lays out in broad strokes the actions and policies needed to mitigate or slow social collapse and perhaps save civilization:

- Stabilize population
- Eradicate poverty
- Restore the Earth's natural support systems (protect topsoil, restore rangelands and fisheries, stabilize water tables, plant trees)
- Stabilize climate

Local governments such as cities emphasizing underground rail, light rail, and bus rapid transit would save energy and make walking and cycling

safer. Intercity rail can reduce air and car travel. Electrified transport systems will curb oil dependence and reap efficiency gains. Plug-in hybrid electric cars would allow low-carbon commuting.

Individuals can participate in raising energy efficiency and restructuring transportation; replacing fossil fuels with renewables; and ending deforestation and planting trees to sequester carbon. Restructuring taxes and eliminating fossil fuel subsidies would drive the transition to a more honest economy.

These actions will require institutional and government leadership. The best action we can take as individuals may be to exert pressure from the grass roots, as we also strive to reduce our personal addictions to disappearing resources. Lifestyle changes such as using more efficient light bulbs are important, but not nearly enough. Preventing environmental and economic collapse requires political action from all of us.

1 Video series, "Peak Oil and a Changing Climate," <http://www.thenation.org>

2 Lester Brown, Earth Policy news, slide show, "World on the Edge," <http://www.earth-policy.org>. Brown is an American environmentalist, founder of the Worldwatch Institute, and founder and president of the Earth Policy Institute. His most recent book is *World on the Edge: How to Prevent Environmental and Economic Collapse* (2011).

3 *The Economist*, February 26-March 4, 2011

4 Michael Klare, "The Collapse of the Old Oil Order: How the Petroleum Age Will End," 3 March 2011, [Countercurrents.org](http://Countercurrents.org)

5 "Militarism as Cause and Consequence of Climate Change," [www.climatesos.org](http://www.climatesos.org)

6 <http://nationalpriorities.org/en/tools/tradeoffs/>

7 "US Imperial Militarism, Climate Change, and Extinction," [www.climatesos.org](http://www.climatesos.org)

*Carol Masters is the author of two books, several articles, and many poems on peace and justice. She is a longtime activist and a current member of the WAMM board.*



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- \$15-39 Low Income/Student membership  
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(WAMM will send a coupon book)

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I want to volunteer for WAMM

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- Tackling Torture at the Top

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- Personnel
- Program/New Issues
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## Too Many Weapons, *continued from page 4*

One of the most trenchant critics of our military empire-building is Boston College political science professor and historian Andrew Bacevich. He speaks with authority, since he spent almost a quarter century in the Army, retiring with the rank of colonel. In his book *The Limits of Power*, Bacevich asserts that our failed attempts to dominate and control large areas of the globe have produced a political, economic, and military crisis for our country. His latest book, *Washington Rules*, warns that we may be heading for a crash of epic proportions if we don't change our priorities of global military presence, power projection, and continual intervention.

The recent devastating earthquake-tsunami disaster in Japan has elicited vast amounts of humanitarian aid from the U.S. and scores of other nations. This tragedy has caused the whole world to reflect on the vulnerability and mortality we all share as we reach out in sympathy to the afflicted people of Japan. Let us hope this spirit of humanitarian cooperation will grow among nations and spur us to set aside our warlike attitudes in a world of too many weapons.

**We can begin here by joining WAMM and AlliantAction in the Walk Against Weapons on Saturday, June 4.** See flyer enclosed in this newsletter. 

1 For specific facts on Alliant Techsystems (ATK), see: [alliantaction.org](http://alliantaction.org). The WAMM office also has literature.

2 <http://www.defense.gov/speeches/speech.aspx?speechid=1539>

*Jay Kvale is an active member of the peace and justice community, often providing research on issues of militarization. He is a member of Twin Cities Peace Campaign and WAMM, and is a regular at AlliantAction vigils.*

## WAMM THANKS

- Nancy Chisholm in memory of Sam Ross.
- C. J. Gerken in memory of Sam Ross.
- Brigid McDonald in memory of Sam Ross.
- Polly Mann in memory of Sam Ross.
- Carol Walker in memory of Sam Ross.
- Virginia Corrick in memory of Sam Ross.
- Ellen Spiegel in memory of Sam Ross.
- Keith and Lisa Kupcho in memory of Sam Ross.
- John and Mary Phillips in memory of Sam Ross.



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**Call the WAMM office at 612-827-5364 for more details and prices.**

## **DONATIONS NEEDED.**

**Clean Out Your Closet and Drawers  
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This is a call for:

- dressy clothing and accessories such as hats, gloves, belts, bags, jewelry
- vintage clothing fashions, at least fifteen years old
- broken gold, and pure silver jewelry, even old gold fillings

**Call the WAMM office at 61-827-5364 to schedule a pick up, or drop-off time.**

