

WAMM Congratulates 2010 Peacemakers

by Sharon Grimes, W A M M

Carol and Ken Masters, 2010 Vincent L. Hawkinson Peace and Justice Award
WAMM members Carol and Ken Masters of Minneapolis are recipients of the 2010 Honorary Award of The Vincent L. Hawkinson Foundation for Peace and Justice. Members of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, Carol and Ken Masters have been peace activists for many years, with a focus on the arms trade and its connections to worldwide violence and poverty. They have taken part in numerous nonviolent protests, marches and vigils as part of the Honeywell Project and Women Against Military Madness (WAMM). As members of the Community of St. Martin, they have participated in vigils at the School of Americas in Fort Benning, Georgia for many years. An author of two books on peace-related topics, Carol is currently co-chair of the board of directors of WAMM. Mary Lou Nelson was a recipient as well this year. Long a WAMM member, she is best known for dedication to the United Nations Association since 1945; she served on the national board 1975-1995. She launched the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers, in which she continues to be active.

Don Irish, Minnesota Fellowship of Reconciliation Peacemaker of the Year
FOR celebrates Latin American specialist and peace advocate Don Irish as a role-model for advocacy. He is awarded for his work in Latin America with FOR, Witness for Peace, SERPAJ, Peace Bridges International, and for efforts to close the School of the Americas, as well as his regular presence at peace and justice events in the Twin Cities and persistence over the long haul in speaking out, writing, and demonstrating on behalf of peace through his long-time column in FOR's publication, North Country Peace Builder; Don Irish has lived his pacifist commitment for three-quarters of a century and is still going strong.

Sharon Grimes Establishes Social and Environmental Funds in Two Universities
More good news! The Sharon Grimes Human Rights and Environmental Issues Scholarship has been established in the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Minnesota and became fully funded this year. The first scholarship was awarded to a student this past fall. Additionally, WAMM member Sharon and her husband established a fund at the University of Wisconsin, Platteville to start a program in Social and Environmental Justice (SEJ). Sharon states, "It has now become a minor program and the new chancellor has made funding for an endowed chair in SEJ one of his top 10 priorities. Our hope is that it will eventually become a major. A key component is a requirement that students spend time in another country working on a project (as opposed to taking classes at a college)."