

THE HUMAN RIGHTS COALITION OF NORTH CAROLINA (HRCNC)

International Human Rights Award: On the back of this page is a Call for Nominations for this year's International Human Rights Award. The deadline for receipt of nominations is **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**. We welcome your nomination(s). Please, also, bring this to the attention of others, both individuals and groups, and encourage groups with which you are affiliated to place the announcement in their newsletter. The Award will be presented at a dinner to be held on Tuesday, December 8, at the NC State University Club.

Thank You: We acknowledge with thanks the financial contributions received since early December from Joe and Linda Burton (Raleigh), Julia Elsee (Smithfield), Page Hudson (Marshall), David Jones (Rocky Mount), Amnesty International Group 213 (Raleigh), Pullen Memorial Baptist Church (Raleigh) and the West Triangle chapter of UNA-USA.

CALENDAR

August 26	Women's Equality Day
September 22	Nomination Deadline - IHR Award
October 24	United Nations Day
October 28	UNA-USA (Wake County chapter) Dinner
November 12	W.W. Finlator Dinner (ACLU of Wake County)
December 8	International Human Rights Award Dinner
December 10-16	Human Rights Week
December 10	Human Rights Day
December 15	Bill of Rights Day

Financial Support: Each year we request members of our Coalition, HRCNC, to contribute \$50 to help us with expenses. Several groups do. In addition, we receive contributions from a number of individuals. We are now making the same request for this year. We are pleased to receive any amount from groups and individuals. Please make checks payable to HUMAN RIGHTS COALITION OF NORTH CAROLINA and send them to Joyce Scapicchio at the address below. We hasten to add that membership in HRCNC does NOT require a financial contribution.

2008 Final Report: The white pages of this mailing include our final report for 2008 and a list of supporting groups. Comments and questions are welcome.

Best wishes! Cordially, Joyce and Slater
Slater Newman 315 Shepherd Street Raleigh, 27607 (919) 821-2014
Joyce Scapicchio 5400 Neuse Forest Road Raleigh, 27616 (919) 876-0501

Postscript: Our website address is www.hrcnc.org.

**INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD
Call for Nominations**

The Human Rights Coalition of North Carolina invites you to submit nominations for the fourteenth annual International Human Rights Award. The nominee must be a resident of North Carolina who has made a significant contribution to international human rights. The previous recipients have been

**1996 Gail Phares of Raleigh
1997 Joe Straley of Chapel Hill
1998 Evelyn Mattern of Wake Forest
1999 Rania Masri of Raleigh
2000 Lonna and Richard Harkrader of Durham
2002 Mary-Lou Leiser Smith of Chapel Hill
2003 David Potorti of Cary
2004 Ray Buchanan of Raleigh
2005 Ann Ross of Raleigh
2006 Mark Gibney of Asheville
2007 Paul Luebke of Durham
2008 Margaret Misch of Carrboro**

Nominations must be received on or before Tuesday, September 22, 2009. The Nomination should include the following: (1) Nominee's work and activities in support of international human rights, (2) Impact of nominee's human-rights activities, (3) Biographical information about the nominee including any previous awards (4) Nominator's relationship to nominee, (5) Supporting letters (1-3) and any other supporting documentation, (6) Name, address, phone # and e-mail address of the nominee and of the nominator. (Some information about prior recipients is available at our website - www.hrcnc.org).

Nominations and inquiries should be directed to the Human Rights Coalition of North Carolina, c/o Joyce Scapicchio, 5400 Neuse Forest Road, Raleigh, 27616; e-mail jmscapicchio@yahoo.com; Phone (919) 876-0501; FAX - same as phone.

**THE HUMAN RIGHTS COALITION OF NORTH CAROLINA (HRCNC)
2008 Annual Report**

A. December 10, Human Rights Day, and December 10-16, Human Rights Week, mark the adoption by the United Nations in 1948 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). December 15, Bill of Rights Day, first declared in 1941 by President Franklin Roosevelt, commemorates the 1791 ratification of the Bill of Rights by the requisite number of states. Activities last year in our state are listed below.

Issuance of proclamations by Governor Easley, by the Mayors of Asheville, Burlington, Carrboro, Cary, Chapel Hill, Durham, Greenville, Hendersonville, Louisburg, Marion, Morrisville, Pittsboro, Raleigh, Reidsville, Selma, Thomasville, Winston-Salem and Zebulon, by the Boards of Commissioners of Durham, Henderson and Orange Counties and by the Chancellor of North Carolina State University.

Wake County

The thirteenth annual International Human Rights Award Dinner was held at the NC State University Club. Margaret (Peggy) Misch of Carrboro was honored for her contributions to the advancement of international human rights. Her talk was titled "Whither Go Human Rights in 2009?" She was introduced by Senator Eleanor Kinnaird.

Eighth-graders from Exploris Middle School (Raleigh) read the UDHR and presented current illustrative examples from around the world. Beth Dehghan then spoke on "The Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Women." This event was held at the House Chamber of the Capitol and was sponsored by the UNA-USA of Wake County and HRCNC.

A joint celebration of the anniversaries of the UDHR and the Bill of Rights was held at the Capitol, and featured the reading of the Governor's proclamation and short talks by Jennifer Rudinger and Robert Lamb. This event was sponsored by the ACLU of North Carolina, Amnesty International (Group 213), UNA-USA of Wake County and HRCNC.

A ceremony during which NCSU Chancellor Oblinger's Human Rights Day proclamation was presented to the University and the community was held during the Miami-NC State football game.

Community United Church of Christ (Raleigh) sponsored a Forum talk by Slater Newman titled "The Universal Declaration of Human Rights: 1948-2008".

A display (with handouts) focusing on the UDHR and the Bill of Rights was presented at seven Wake County libraries. The main library on the NCSU campus featured a similar display.

A several-week exhibit created by artists in 25 countries to illustrate the articles of the UDHR and an opening-day reception were sponsored by NC State University.

In addition, during United Nations Week in October, an event was held at the Capitol at which Theresa El-Amin discussed the work of the Southern Anti-Racism Network, of which she is Executive Director. UNA-USA of Wake County and HRCNC were the co-sponsors.

Outside Wake County

In June in Charlotte, the first annual human-rights weekend occurred, featuring the screening of a documentary, a benefit concert, some human-rights-related testimonials, a worship service, a community potluck, and presentation of a human-rights award. The weekend was sponsored by the New Life Metropolitan Community Church and the Charlotte chapter of Amnesty International.

The UNA-USA of Western North Carolina sponsored two events — a talk at Warren Wilson College by Paul Magnarella titled “The Universal Declaration of Human Rights — Its Origins, Its Evolution, Its Promise,” and a performance by Asheville Playback Theater of “Stories of Freedom: Our Traditions/Our Future.”

Chapel Hill and Carrboro sponsored a series of events during its Human Rights Week in which there was at least one forum on each day of that week.

Chapel Hill and Carrboro also initiated a Human Rights Cities program, among the first in the United States. Recently established is the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Human Rights Center, a 501c(3) organization, to promote human- rights learning and programs in the area.

There were three events in Winston-Salem: A Festival of Light in recognition of the Festivals of the Season and of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and UDHR Article 27 Roundtables sponsored by Winston-Salem’s arts-based elementary school and by Salem College and the North Carolina School for the Arts.

Public reading of the Bill of Rights, UDHR and/or proclamations occurred in Carrboro, Chapel Hill, Durham and Hillsborough.

The Bill of Rights and the UDHR were featured in a display at one of the libraries in Johnston County during the month of December.

Some of the events listed above were covered in the *Chapel Hill Herald*, *Chapel Hill News*, *Durham Herald-Sun*, *The Independent*, *Raleigh News & Observer* and *The Technician*.

HRCNC (other activities)

In addition to sponsorship and/or involvement in several of the activities listed above, our Coalition (a) distributed approximately 700 copies of the UDHR and the Bill of Rights (plus related amendments and articles in the Constitution), (b) sent each of our four newsletters (a total of 14 pages) to the approximately 550 individuals and groups on our mailing list, (c) endorsed or co-sponsored activities in support of collective bargaining for public employees, shutting down the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay and habeas corpus for a former “disappeared” person, (d) and in September our website, www.hrcnc.org, was established. Exhibits are planned for 10 Wake County libraries this year and for three in Johnston County.

B. THANK YOU VERY MUCH

1. To the following, who provided financial support this past year:

Judith Blau (Chapel Hill), Isabelle Buckley (Raleigh). Joe & Linda Burton (Raleigh). David Drooz (Raleigh), Elsie Eads (Raleigh), Marge Eckels (Raleigh), Julia Elsee (Smithfield), Bertha Holt (Burlington), Bruce Hamilton & Jennifer Weiss (Cary), Page Hudson (Marshall), David Jones (Rocky Mount), Carolyn & Cy King (Raleigh), I. T. Littleton (Raleigh), Johanna Ridgeway (Raleigh), Reid Russell (Raleigh), Mary-Lou Leiser Smith (Chapel Hill), Norman Smith (Geensboro), Polly Williams (Raleigh), ACLU of North Carolina Legal Foundation, ACLU of Wake County, Amnesty International Group 213 (Raleigh), Coalition for Peace with Justice (Chapel Hill), Community United Church of Christ (Raleigh), Israeli Committee against House Demolitions-USA (Chapel Hill), North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence (Durham), Pullen Memorial Baptist Church (Raleigh), UNA-USA - West Triangle Chapter (Chapel Hill).

2. To the following, who provided help in other ways;

ACLU of North Carolina and its Wake County and Western North Carolina chapters, Amnesty International chapters at Charlotte, NC State University and Raleigh - Goup 213, Asheville Playback Theater, Bahai's of Henderson County, Cameron Village Regional Library, Cary Public Library, Chapel Hill Herald, Chapel Hill-Carrboro Human Rights Center, Chapel Hill News, Community United Church of Christ (Raleigh), Duncan-Parnell (Raleigh), Durham Bill of Rights Defense Committee, Durham County Board of Commissioners, East Regional Library, Eva Perry Regional Library, Exploris Middle School (Raleigh), Fed-Ex Kinkos (Raleigh), Henderson County Human Relations Council, Independent, Johnston County Library System, Lighthouse Restaurant (Raleigh), New Life Metropolitan Community Church (Charlotte), News and Observer, North Carolina Council of Churches, North Carolina Human Relations Council, North Carolina Museum of History, North Carolina Peace Action, North Carolina School for the Arts (Winston-Salem), North Carolina State University, North Carolina State University Club, North Regional Library, Orange County Bill of Rights Defense Committee, Orange County Board of Commissioners, Project HOPE (Raleigh), Pullen Memorial Baptist Church: Peace and Justice Mission Group (Raleigh), Richard B. Harrison Library, Salem College (Winston-Salem), Southeast Regional Library, Southern Anti-Racism Network (Durham), State Capitol Administration, Stop Torture Now (Raleigh), The Technician (Raleigh), United Nations Association - UNA (Wake County, West Triangle and Western North Carolina chapters), Wake County Library System, Winston-Salem's Arts-based Elementary School.

3. And to those listed below (we hope we haven't missed any) for help, support, encouragement and inspiration:

Wake County: Duane Adkinson, George Allison, Jerry Andersen, Shirley Andersen, James Andrews, Lynne Baker-Ward, Cynthia Ball, Devon Banks, Liz Bartlett, Ann Berry, Charles Blanchard, Vandy Bradow, Gladys Bredenberg, Paul Bredenberg, Elena Briere, Emily-Mary Brown, Juanita Bryant, Ray Buchanan, Isabelle Buckley, Sally Buckner, Joe Burton, Linda Burton, Virginia Cardenas, Jean Carroll, Sue Cottle, State Treasurer Janet Cowell, Christina Cowger, Wanda Cox, Jimmy Creech, Judge William Creech, Diana Davis, Robin Davis, Beth Dehghan, Rukiya Dillahunt, Governor Mike Easley, Marge Eckels, Steve Edelstein, Helene Elliston, Mayor Jan Faulkner (Morrisville), Maggie Falcon, Dan Figgins, W. W. Finlator, Mark Freskos, Michael Fuchs, Cynthia Gallion, Tish Gay, Judge Martha Geer, Rob Gelblum, Marcia Gumpertz, Anthony Hall, Steve Halsted, Marshall Hardy, Robin Hendrick, Dale Hoover, Charles Howe, Kathy Howell, Jane Hunt, Jim Hunt, Deane Irving, Sandy Irving, Barbara Kamy, Mary Kilburn, Carolyn King, Cy King, Ed Klemmer, Ruth Klemmer, Leo Klohr, Betty Ann Knudsen, Robert Lamb, Melinda Lawrence, Dick Leuba, Cindy Levine, Leah Levine, Bruce Lightner, Quentin Lindsey, Barbara Litwack, I.T. Littleton

AND

Ian Mance, Mayor Robert Matheny (Zebulon), Evelyn Mattern, Sally McCloskey, Josh McIntyre, Frank McKay, Jack McKinney, Angie McMillan, Mary Be McMillan, Mayor Charles Meeker (Raleigh), Loretta Mershon, Representative Brad Miller, Pat Newman, Everett Noland, Chancellor James Oblinger, Judy Occhetti-Klohr, Rod O'Connor, Patrick O'Neill, John Paar, Ian Palmquist, Katy Parker, Adaline Pasour, Gail Phares, Kevin Piacenza, Jose Picart, Susan Pollitt, David Potorti, Sarah Preston, Miriam Pritchard, Karen Rectanus, George Reed, Mary

Rider, Johanna Ridgeway, Ann Ross, Representative Deborah Ross, Bill Rowe, Jennifer Rudinger, Reid Russell, Jon Sasser, Jeanne Scherer, Anne Schiller, Marita Schlessler, Rob Schofield, Sue Scott, Nancy Shoemaker, Steve Smith, Clay Stalnaker, Jackie Stalnaker, Jo Anne Stephens, Jutta Street, Betsy Towe, Bill Towe, Marianne Wason, Mayor Harold Weinbrecht (Cary), Representative Jennifer Weiss, Bert Westbrook, Polly Williams, Lauren Wishon, Paula Wolf, Lynn Wolfram, Mary Wyer, Dianna Wynn, Khodr Zaarour.

Outside Wake County

David Barber (Fort Worth), Lynn Barber (Fort Worth), William Barber (Goldsboro), Mayor William Bell (Durham), Mayor Terry Bellamy (Asheville), Mayor Joe Bennett (Thomasville), Judith Blau Chapel Hill), John Boddie (Greensboro), Roy Bourgeois (Washington), Spencer Bradford (Durham), Alex Briber (Hendersonville), Alyson Caison (Selma), Walt Caison (Selma), Jim Cavener (Asheville), Zach Chen (Durham), Robert Cherniak (Chapel Hill), Mayor Mark Chilton (Carrboro) Mayor A. Everette Clark (Marion), Seth Cohen (Elon College), Stephen Dear (Carrboro), Maria de Bruyn (Chapel Hill), Patt Derian (Chapel Hill), Bonnie Dixon (Franklinton), Jim Dixon (Haverford), Mayor Patricia Dunn (Greenville), Teresa El-Amin (Durham), Hoppy Eliot (Winston-Salem), Brue Elmore (Asheville), Chuck Fager (Fayetteville), Cindy Farris (Reidsville), Jim Ferguson (Charlotte), Mayor James Festerman (Reidsville), Al Forsyth (Millersville), Peggy Forsyth (Millersville), Mayor Kevin Foy (Chapel Hill), Commissioner Valerie Foushee (Orange County), Sylvia Gelblum (Chapel Hill), Lennie Gerber (High Point), Mark Gibney (Asheville), Frank Goldsmith (Marion), Charles Green (Pittsboro), Amy Halbersdtadt (Durham), Lonna Harkrader (Durham), Richard Harkrader (Durham), Billie Heller (Beverly Hills), Susan Herman (New York City), Joe Herzenberg (Chapel Hill), Mayor Charler Hester (Selma), Paul Hoffman (Los Angeles), B. Holt (Burlington), Mayor Allen Jones (Winston-Salem), Sue Jones (Wilmington), Peter Juviler (New York City), Collins Kilburn (Chapel Hill), Mark Kleinschmidt (Chapel Hill), Senator Ellie Kinnaird (Carrboro), Bill Knox (Greensboro), Tim Koch (Charlotte), Charles Lambeth (Thomasville), Jennifer Lorenz (Pittsboro), Representative Paul Luebke (Durham)

AND

Cathy Markatos (Pittsboro), Jerry Markatos (Pittsboro), Rania Masri (El Koura), Arlene McKay (Durham), Peggy Misch (Carrboro), Ilu Moses (Clayton), Howard Miller (Issaquah), Commissioner William Moyer (Henderson County), Mayor Greg Newman (Hendersonville), Gene Nichol (Chapel Hill), Commissioner Michael Page (Durham County), Diana Palmer (Durham), Mayor Karl Pernell (Louisburg), Dan Pollitt (Chapel Hill). Representative David Price (Chapel Hill), Dick Prohock (Reidsville), Cally Rogers-Witte (Phoenix), Kermit Rohde (Omaha), Anthony Romero (New York City), Marty Rosenbluth(Durham), Ken Roth (New York City), Jane Rothstein (New York City), Jim Roush (Asheville) Lao Rubert (Durham), John Russell (Pine Knoll Shores), Bob Seymour (Chapel Hill), Azadeh Shashahani (Atlanta), Mary-Lou Leiser Smith (Chapel Hill),Norman Smith (Greensboro), Wilda Spalding (Advance), James Spivey (Chapel Hill), Niklaus Steiner (Chapel Hill), Joe Straley (Chapel Hill), Nadine Strossen (New York City), Gerry Surh (Carrboro), Sharon Thompson (Durham), Lloyd Tyler (Cockeysville), Phyllis Tyler (Cockeysville), Mayor Randolph Voller (Pittsboro), Mayor Ronnie Wall (Burlington), Joan Walsh (Durham), Carroll Webber (Greenville), Jackie White (Greensboro), Frank Wilkinson (Los Angeles), Victoria Wilson (Durham), Nahal Zamani (New York City).

Again, thank you very much! Best wishes! Cordially, Slater and Joyce

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From Eleanor Roosevelt - “Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home - so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any maps of the world. Yet they are the world of the individual person, the neighborhood he lives in, the school or college he attends, the factory, farm or office where he works. Such are the places where every man, woman and child seeks equal justice, equal opportunity, equal dignity without discrimination. Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere. Without concerned citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in the larger world.”

The first fifty years of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

“In a period of fifty years the world witnessed a veritable revolution in the process of transforming visions of international human rights into reality. Never before in history had there been so many achievements in extending rights, setting standards, protecting rights through binding treaties and conventions, promoting rights through education and the media, enhancing rights through advisory services in the field for those who suffered and expanding activities to break the former culture of impunity. Together they helped millions of people gain their independence and assisted unknown numbers of others by preventing abuses, securing freedom from torture or prison, acquiring access to monitoring bodies of humanitarian aid, and obtaining national and international protection for their rights. In addition, they inspired national constitutions, regional intergovernmental organizations, and states to use the observance or violation of human rights by others as a criterion for their policies. In almost every one of these endeavors, reference was made to the Universal Declaration of Human rights as customary international law and the power of its vision to change the world. Indeed its impact led the British Broadcasting Corporation news to describe the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as nothing short of ‘our century’s greatest achievement’.” (From Lauren, P.G. - 2003, *The Evolution of International Human Rights: Visions Seen*, 2nd edition, pages 269-270, Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania Press).