



April 2018  
Volume 14 Issue 1

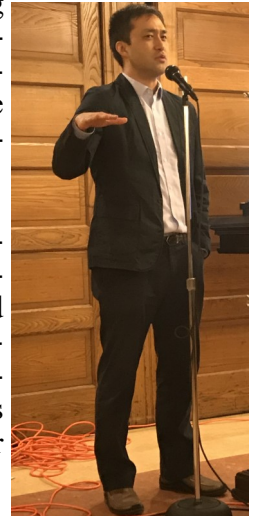
[www.peaceactioncleveland.org](http://www.peaceactioncleveland.org)

## North Korea at a Crossroads

Annual Meeting 2018

Cleveland Peace Action's 2018 Annual Membership Meeting featured Dr. Joonbum Bae, speaking on North Korea's nuclear weapons and the U.S. and South Korea's response to them. Dr. Bae captivated the audience with a detailed, reasoned, and complex perspective that did not put to rest anyone's worries about the potential for conventional or nuclear war on the Korean Peninsula.

A political scientist and South Korean native, Dr. Bae is a Visiting Assistant Professor at Hobart & William Smith Colleges in Geneva, NY. He earned his Ph.D. in political science from UCLA and was a postdoctoral research fellow at the Scowcroft Institute for International Affairs of Texas A&M University. He earned his MA in international relations at Seoul National University, and his research has been funded by the George Marshall Foundation and the Institute for Global Conflict and Cooperation.



Dr. Bae covered the high costs of war, which at this point would be confined to the Korean Peninsula and would likely be the worst conflict since World War II, with deaths of perhaps a million people. The remoteness of this catastrophe makes it too easy for U.S. military planners, because at this point the carnage would not be here. He discussed scenarios of "surgical or bloody nose" strikes, which might sound good, but could convince Kim Jong-un to "use or lose" his nuclear weapons. How would Kim know it is "only" a limited strike? The situation is precarious and that raises the risk of accidental nuclear war, from misperceptions on either side. If this sounds familiar, we need only to think back to the Cold War.



North Korea, in Dr. Bae's estimation, is a rational actor. They will likely have, by mid-2019, ICBM's fitted with warheads that could reach anywhere in the continental U.S. What does North Korea want? "Defense" says South Korea. "Offense" says the U.S. Scholars are divided on this subject. But it is clear that its nuclear weapons have forced the world to take North Korea seriously.

*continued on page 2*

***Peace Action is the country's largest grassroots peace and disarmament organization, with more than 100,000 members. Cleveland Peace Action is one of over 70 autonomous affiliate and chapter organizations.***

*continued from page 1*

Dr. Bae discussed the role of the Winter Olympics and what the peace movement is calling the Olympic Truce. Kim participated in the recent Olympics as part of a quid pro quo with South Korea. He now expects South Korea to participate in the formal celebration of 70 years of North Korean statehood this September, with stabilized relations between the two nations. South Korea has said North Korea is willing to denuclearize and to negotiate with the U.S. The conundrum this presents is that diplomacy and negotiation take time. It's unlikely that agreement would be reached any time soon. And North Korea will soon have the capability to hit the U.S. With questions about the lack of experience and restraint in the Trump Administration, Dr. Bae is concerned that a surgical or bloody nose strike might be seriously considered.

In conclusion, Dr. Bae suggests the U.S. must secure China's cooperation in denuclearizing North Korea. China wants a stable North Korea. It is concerned over eventual North Korean collapse, producing a refugee diaspora into China, and the possibility of South Korean and U.S. troops at the Chinese border. Thus, the U.S. would need to honor the present dividing line of the 38th parallel and would need to work with China, should collapse produce a flood of refugees.



The Annual Meeting also featured **Peace in the Hood's** Raj Ali Samad, co-creator of **Arts4Peace**. She spoke about their weekly children's program of connecting and expressing through the creation of art. Some of their kids' beautiful creations were on display and for sale at the meeting. In vibrant colors, these works spoke of the search for peace and understanding, the fundamental goals of the organization.

About 60 members and others were in attendance. As always at these meetings, good food and conversation reflected Cleveland Peace Action's enduring character. The potluck supper satisfied diverse tastes and drew many satisfied reactions. Dinner conversations were lively and topical. Questions and comments, during and after the talk, gave our guest speaker a taste of the strong opinions and interesting viewpoints that comprise our movement.



Rosemary Palmer, Nina McLellan  
and Francis Chiappa.

Annual meetings are held in part to elect board members. We re-added Mark Weber to the board. We also marked the end of terms for Nina McLellan and Lynn Rustad.

Francis Chiappa offered a tribute to former Co-President Nina McLellan, for decades of dedicated and determined peace activism. She was presented a backpack she can use in her upcoming travels to Europe, with Code Pink. Nina encouraged all those attending to keep up the struggle and remain involved in the work of Peace Action.

## Kudos for Cleveland Peace Action's Advocacy Trailblazer, Nina McLellan

On March tenth, Cleveland Peace Action's long-time leader, Nina McLellan, was honored by Women Speak Out for Peace and Justice who selected her as this year's winner of the Ione Biggs Human Rights Award. In her acceptance speech, Nina shared some of her memories of demonstrations for peace over the years. Here are some fascinating highlights:

Back in the Nuclear Freeze Days in the 1980s, we started commemorating the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki by floating lanterns on various bodies of water around Cleveland. I think it was the first year we decided to do this somewhere downtown on the Cuyahoga River. Walt and I had canoes so we were recruited to pull the strung-together lanterns out into the current. This was when our river was still in danger of burning so we didn't want to tip over.

We made it back to the bank and safely disembarked when a policeman walked up. Of course we thought we'd violated some law about peaceniks on the river and were about to get arrested. But it turned out that Alan's canoe license had expired so the policeman handed him a citation for which he had to pay a fine.

The peace movement brought Walter Nicholes and me together. This was the time of Cleveland's Nuclear Freeze Campaign led by Francis Chiappa, Daisy Ford, Helen Sideman, the Berensons, Roma Foldy, and so many others. Once we were at Public Square for a noon nuclear freeze demo including a die-in. I remember large black inflated "bombs". Walter and I both had downtown jobs and were professionally dressed. But of course we "died-in". We were lying on the sidewalk when General

McLaughlin, Walt's boss happened to walk by. The General stopped, look down and said, "Walter, what are you doing down there?"

Perhaps the most intense years were 2002 - 2003 when we tried to stop the Iraq invasion. Led by our incredible Greg Coleridge and the Northeast Ohio Anti-War Coalition, our first march was from Market Square over the Detroit Superior Bridge to Public Square. Who was there? No Blood for Oil! We were out on the streets all through that bitter winter. Rev. Marvin McMickle of Antioch Baptist Church was one of our speakers. We worked with Antioch's Mylion Waite to form the Inter-Community, Inter-religious Push for Peace. That January, Antioch was filled to the rafters for Voices Against the War and, like many of our events then, made the front page of the Plain Dealer. The media started calling the peace protesters around the world "the 3rd force".

Just before the invasion of Iraq, we returned to Public Square for Lighting The Way To Peace with luminaries all over the Square and everyone holding a candle or flashlight. Tim Smith and I went to the Square ahead of time and figured out how we would have people form a peace sign. After the speeches, Khalid Samad and I led the peace sign walk and we actually formed a giant illuminated peace sign. Bush invaded Iraq on March 20th — and we know the blowback — but we persisted.

We can't forget Tax Day demonstrations. Women Speak Out, AFSC, IRTF and Cleveland Peace Action launched Tax Day 2011. Remember?: Save our Communities: Books Not Bombs; Jobs Not Jails; Families Not Foreclosures; Bring Our War Dollars Home! That first Tax Day was a two-day event. Inspired by the new "flash Mob" phenomenon, we decided to have some street theater. Who remembers the umbrellas? Chantal Doherty and I printed strips of yellow cloth with BRING WAR \$ HOME. Demonstrators pinned these on their umbrellas which, at Public Square, we raised together. Flanked by the umbrella carriers, everyone else crowded into a "boat". Umbrella carriers and We're All in The Same Boat demonstrators walked to 4th Street, trying to keep the boat's "mast" from bringing down overhead wires.

The next year, Mike Fagan and Walter constructed a "Pentagon" which they finally put together at the Square. It had to be carried on at least four shoulders.

We've demonstrated every Tax Day since. Who was at last April's at the Free Stamp? We were nearly blown away by the sudden storm as we set off to march to CSU led by our banner: Taxes For People Peace and Planet: Meet People's Needs Not Corporate Greed!

People, Peace and Planet — this is a commitment for the future. Together this wonderful Cleveland activist community will persist and help keep hope alive!

Thank you!





### Reach Out to Congress:

**One easy number:** Congressional Switchboard at 202-224-3121 (9-5 EST)

**Senator Sherrod Brown** 202-224-2315; 713 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington D.C. 20510 ;  
216-522-7272; 801 West Superior, Cleveland 44115 Suite 1400,

**Senator Rob Portman** 202-224-3353; 338 Russell Senate Office Bldg., Washington D.C. 20510  
216-522-7095; 1240 E. Ninth St., Rm. 3061, Cleveland 44114

**Rep. Marcia Fudge** Dist. 11 202-225-7032; 2344 Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515  
216-522-4900; 4834 Richmond Rd., Suite 150, Warrensville, OH 44128

**Rep. Jim Renacci** Dist. 16 202-225-3876; 130 Cannon House Office Bldg. Washington D.C. 20515  
330-334-0040; One Park Center Drive, Ste. 302, Wadsworth, OH 44281

**Rep. Marcy Kaptur** Dist. 9 202-225-4146; 2186 Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington D.C. 20515  
219-259-7500 One Maritime Plaza, sixth floor, Toledo, OH 43604

**Rep. David Joyce** Dist. 14 202-225-5731; 1535 Longworth House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515  
440-352-3539; 1 Victoria Place Ste. 320, Painesville, OH 44077  
330-425-9291; 10075 Ravenna Rd., Twinsburg, OH 44087

### Cleveland Peace Action and Cleveland Peace Action Education Fund

President Rosemary Palmer Secretary Bill Fickinger Treasurer Dena Magoulas  
Operations Manager Elizzabeth Schiros

Check our website for news and events: <http://peaceactioncleveland.org>

**We need your membership for 2018. You can donate to Cleveland Peace Action Education Fund via our secure PayPal link:**  
<http://peaceactioncleveland.org/join-donate/>

**You can donate via PayPal using a debit or credit card—or by check payable to Cleveland Peace Action Education Fund using the enclosed envelope.**



A unique film:

## My Enemy My Brother

Cleveland Peace Action is proud to sponsor this film  
at the Cleveland International Film Festival, at Tower City,  
with screenings on  
April 13 at 11:50 AM  
and April 14 at 5:40 PM

In the midst of the 1980s Iran-Iraq War, a remarkably beautiful thing happened: an Iranian soldier risked his life to save a wounded man who was supposed to be his enemy. As if that wasn't amazing enough, the two would meet again by sheer coincidence in Vancouver, Canada 25 years later.

Their incredible reunion is captured in MY ENEMY, MY BROTHER, a documentary that grew out of an award-winning short film of the same name. Director Ann Shin follows the pair on a journey back to the region, which has now been devastated by the stronghold of ISIS. The conflict in which they miraculously met spawned a friendship, but it also tore apart their families. It's been ages since they've seen their loved ones and, sadly, some are no longer alive. The emotional reunions (and a few surprises) are a testament to the power of love and its ability to withstand the test of time. This beautiful film is also a reminder we're all on the same human side. With that in mind, love and friendship can be born under the most unexpected circumstances.



A representative from Cleveland Peace Action will give a short talk about our work toward peace, seeking new members.

Your Unique Ticket **Discount** Code for \$2.00 off  
CIFF42 ticket purchase is: **PEACE**.

This discount is good for **any** standard Festival film screening.

Online: Use the code PEACE when purchasing tickets at  
[www.clevelandfilm.org](http://www.clevelandfilm.org) (available 24 hours a day).

Phone: Use the code PEACE when calling the Film Festival Box Office at  
877.304.FILM (3456).

In-person: Use the code PEACE at the Film Festival Box Office in the Tower City Cinemas lobby.

Here are two important actions currently being considered in Washington:

*(The first opens with a **fascinating and shocking** history of how the 9/11 attacks resulted in inappropriate legislation.)*

**REPEAL THE 2001 AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE (AUMF)**

Resolution Calling Upon the Democratic Members of the 115th Congress to Reassert their Constitutional Authority to Repeal the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF) and to Debate and Vote on a new AUMF.

WHEREAS, the Constitution gives Congress the **sole** power to declare war; and

WHEREAS, the framers of the Constitution understood that the monumental decision to go to war, which can result in massive death and the destruction of civilized society, must be made by the representatives of the people and **not by a single person**; and

WHEREAS, the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF) was passed **three days** after the attacks of September 11, 2001 in order to target those who committed or assisted with the attacks; and

WHEREAS, the 2001 AUMF is an overly broad piece of legislation that has been used as an **open-ended authorization** for the use of military force; and

WHEREAS, according to a 2018 Congressional Research Service report, the 2001 AUMF has been used to conduct at least **41 military actions in 18 different countries**; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Barbara Lee's amendment to the 2018 Department of Defense appropriations bill to repeal the 2001 AUMF passed with bipartisan support on June 29, 2017 **but was stripped** from the appropriations bill by Speaker **Paul Ryan**; and

WHEREAS, it is **long past time** for Congress to reclaim its constitutionally-designated authority by setting clear parameters around where and when our nation uses military force; and

WHEREAS, the Congressional Progressive Caucus and the House Liberty Caucus held an Ad-Hoc Hearing on the 2001 AUMF on February 27, 2018 that focused on the need to repeal the 2001 AUMF; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Democratic National Committee strongly encourages Democratic lawmakers to join bipartisan efforts to assert Congress' proper role and oversight responsibilities in determining when and where the United States uses military force by supporting efforts to **repeal the 2001 AUMF and debate and vote on a new AUMF**.

*The second action is to quickly pass bills in both the Senate and the House, which will prevent any inappropriate attack on North Korea:*

**No Unconstitutional Strike Against North Korea Act of 2017**,  
which would prevent the President from launching a preemptive attack.  
This would reduce tensions as talks begin.

**Call** Senators Brown and Portman to support the Markey bill S.2016.

**Call** your Representative to support the Khanna Bill H.R. 4837.  
Capitol Switchboard—202-224-3121

## Two More Upcoming Events

A talk: **"DEADLY EXCHANGE"**

Tuesday, April 10th @ 7 PM

Market Garden Brewery 1947 W. 25th St.

Law enforcement officers from the US are being trained by the Israeli military in the tactics used against the Palestinians in the West Bank & Gaza. Tensions and mistrust are high between law enforcement and the people they serve. Are extreme military tactics the answer?

**Eric Resnick**, author and member of Jewish Voices for Peace, explores this Deadly Exchange and the direct, unsettling impact it will have on the communities of America.

Join Cleveland Peace Action and the CPA Middle East Committee  
for the screening of the short documentary  
**"Palestinian Children Under Fire"**

Pilgrim Church on Thursday, April 19th, 7:00-8:45PM.

**Mark Weber** of Jewish Voice for Peace Cleveland and Cleveland Peace Action will speak about his delegation's trip to Palestine in May, 2017, where he visited refugee camps and met with young Palestinians, aged 12 - 18, who had been detained and tortured by Israeli Occupation Forces.





**Cleveland Peace Action Education Fund**  
**Suite 109**  
**2592 West 14th Street**  
**Cleveland, OH 44113**

[www.peaceactioncleveland.org](http://www.peaceactioncleveland.org)

---

Non-Profit Org  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Cleveland, OH  
Permit No. 2566

---

**Return Service Requested**



---

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please call 216-231-4245 or email [clevelandpeaceaction@gmail.com](mailto:clevelandpeaceaction@gmail.com) and request to be removed from our mailing list. Thank you.

- ◆ **Here is your April 2018 Cleveland Peace Action Newsletter**
- ◆ **READ what CPA is working on**
- ◆ **JOIN US - bring us your ideas**
- ◆ **CHECK our website: [www.peaceactioncleveland.org](http://www.peaceactioncleveland.org)**

We need your membership for 2018. You can donate to Cleveland Peace Action Education Fund via our secure PayPal link: <http://peaceactioncleveland.org/join-donate/> by using a debit or credit card—or by check payable to Cleveland Peace Action or Cleveland Peace Action Education Fund