



# Newsletter

### Use Your Head for OMNI!

Caps are \$10.00 and come in a variety of colors. E-mail [gladystiffany@yahoo.com](mailto:gladystiffany@yahoo.com)

### FEATURE THEME:

OMNI Wish List Page 1

*OMNI Going Green*

*OMNI Caps for Sale*

PEACE Page 2

*Peace Leadership Forum*

*Costa Rica's Ministry for Peace*

*Historians Against the War*

JUSTICE Page 3

*Hispanic Heritage Month*

*Farm to Consumer Foundation*

*Chipotle: Food with Integrity*

*Banned Books Lunch Club*

*NWA Center for Equality Survey*

ECOLOGY Page 4

*Climate Breakdown Book Forum*

*"Are Humans Going Extinct?"*

SMORGASBORD Page 5

SPECIAL ADDITION Pg 6

*Human Trafficking Report*

*Hispanic Heritage Month*

*OMNI UA Festival 2009*

GROUP SPOTLIGHT Pg 7

*OMNI T.L.C. Program*

## Wish List for OMNI's New Home:

Cleaning supplies

Gardening tools

Kitchen Cookery & Utensils

Flatware/ Plates / Silverware

Indoor Furniture / Lawn Furniture

Office supplies

Bathroom supplies

Sound Equipment



Construction on OMNI's new home is underway. This wall was taken down to make room for larger events such as Open Mic Nights.

## OMNI is Going Green!

### REQUEST FOR DONATION EFFORTS:

As the shingled-roof on Omni's new home is in need of replacing, the Omni Center is taking a green initiative to raise the funds necessary to upgrade our new roof to an Eco-friendly, highly efficient **raised metal roof**.

The timing couldn't be better for a community-led, green building design improvement project. The new roof will virtually eliminate seasonal cooling bill increases and set a tone using a construction model which could be used to refit buildings in low-income communities as well as commercial and government developments.

Meanwhile, the Omni Center will be gaining 100 years worth of solid roof paying out less than 50% more than the 20 year, low-efficiency conventional shingled roof by taking on its own **ecological accountability**.

Had a great visit from Louise Mann today. Her passion for years has been to study the abuse of resources Americans are prone to, and set up systems to recycle. As OMNI gets ready to move into the building, we need Louise's expertise to become waste-free! OMNI leaders take very seriously the idea of modeling ways to live simply, sustainably, justly and peacefully. Although the building is in very good shape, the roof does need to be replaced. After careful consideration, we chose to replace it with a raised metal roof that incorporates green technology in its design. It

involves a venting system that passively moves heated air out of a ridge vent. It's a lifetime roof that may never need to be replaced again.

We want our home to be an example of earth stewardship, and its member's determination to live out our values. Some new windows will be installed to improve winter energy use. Louise is already helping us develop a recycling plan. When you come for potlucks, you can bring your own dinnerware to eliminate waste. We'd love to find an OMNI member with cloth scraps who'd help us make up some cloth napkins. We will use recycled materials when we can. We'd like to have a compost system that could be an example for the neighborhood. You can help us watch for ways to become greener any time you're here. This is the home of a group who wants the world to be better than it is. We want to educate & empower people to build a nonviolent, sustainable and just world; and we envision a peaceful global community with liberty & justice for all, with shared respect for each part of the interdependent web of life. This new home has begun to do that already. Please stop by and see for yourself. ~Gladys Tiffany, OMNI President

**Peace Leadership Forum September 19**  
**6:00 pm, Deep End, United Campus Ministries**  
**902 W. Maple (corner of Maple & Storer Streets)**  
**Join OMNI for a BARNGA-raising!**

BARNGA is a cultural simulation – a game – that will give participants a fun and creative way to discover some interesting things:

1. Assumptions we make because of our cultural learning
2. Interpersonal conflicts that result from our cultural assumptions
3. The kind of effort and creativity it takes to reconcile cultural differences through communication and understanding

After a brief introduction, we will conduct the simulation for 20 minutes, then we will have 30 minutes to debrief and discuss what we've learned and how to apply it in our community.

Presentation by **Michael Freeman, Director of the Office of International Students**. He's played Barnnga with many different groups and cultures, and says it's amazing every time, to watch it unfold. Great follow-up to the discussion last month about talking to people who disagree with us.

**Join Historians  
 Against the War  
 (HAW)**

This has never been exclusively for historians, but for *historically minded activists, scholars, students, and teachers*.

*No charge is involved.* HAW's statement can be found at [www.historiansagainstwar.org/statement.html](http://www.historiansagainstwar.org/statement.html).

If you endorse it, you can enter your contact information and become a member. Your name and affiliation will appear online with other like-minded individuals and you will receive a message every 2 weeks with links to articles that provide historical background on HAW-relevant topics.

"Whatever you do will be insignificant, but it is very important that you do it." ~ Mahatma Gandhi

6th annual  
**GANDHI  
 KING**  
 CONFERENCE ON PEACEMAKING  
 community building | nonviolent communication  
 | sustainability | nonviolent education |  
 economic, social, and environmental justice  
[www.GandhiKingConference.org](http://www.GandhiKingConference.org)

*Awakening the Power of  
 Nonviolence*

"All life is interrelated. All... are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. ... I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be, and you can never be what you ought to be until I am what I ought to be. This is the interrelated structure of reality."  
 -Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

October 23 - 25 2009  
 Christian Brothers University | Memphis, TN



**Costa Rica to Establish Ministry for Peace!**  
 Help Send Peace Alliance Representative to Global Summit

Costa Rica has recently passed through their legislative body a bill to establish a Ministry for Justice and Peace! This is encouraging news as momentum continues to grow around the world in favor of establishing structures at the highest levels of government that make peace a priority. We congratulate the hard work of the campaign in Costa Rica! This achievement is timed beautifully with the **Fourth Global Summit for Ministries and Departments of Peace** this upcoming September 13th-21st in Costa Rica, organized by the Global Alliance and hosted by the Costa Rican government. It is important that The Peace Alliance staff have a presence at this global gathering. Aaron Voldman, Peace Alliance staff member and Student Peace Alliance Executive Director, has played a vital role over the last two summits as a U.S. representative and is planning to attend this year once again. Please strongly consider a donation to help support Aaron's travels and the possibility of sending additional representation. Help us continue to be a role model for those that work for peace in the highest levels of our government::  
<http://www.thepeacealliance.org/>

**Banished Book Lunch Club**  
**Monday, September 28 through Friday, October 2**  
**Noon to 1 pm, Fayetteville Public Library's Ann Henry Board Room**

During Banned Books Week, the Banished Book Lunch Club will discuss classic books banned for political, social, sexual and religious reasons. Each session will focus on one of the four themes and will spotlight a title that was banned for that reason. The event is open to the public. Attendees are encouraged to bring a lunch and join in the discussion. For more information, call the Reference Department at 856.7250

- Monday, September 28: *East of Eden* by John Steinbeck
- Tuesday, September 29: *Johnny Got His Gun* by Dalton Trumbo
- Wednesday, September 30: *Ordinary People* by Judith Guest
- Thursday, October 1: *The Giver* by Lois Lowry
- Friday, October 2: *Lolita* by Vladimir Nabokov

**Fund Announces New Affiliate Membership Program  
in Celebration of National Farmer's Market Week**

Even as the USDA commends Farmer's Markets in the week-long National Farmer's Market Week, August 2 - 9, 2009, State and local health and agriculture departments are making participation difficult and expensive by cracking down on participating farmers.

Some Farmer's Markets have become a victim of their own success, as regulators swarm over these events and nit-pick the farmers for fees, licenses and permits.

"We are seeing farmers quit the markets because they are besieged with burdensome regulations and overlapping licensing

requirements that make doing business at the farmer's market too costly," said Fund President Pete Kennedy, Esq. The Fund seeks to support Farmer's Markets and other direct-to-consumer food outlets with a new Affiliate Membership program that provides affordable, accessible legal guidance for these organizations.

"When Farmer's Markets are open early in the morning or on the weekend, their Market Manager can call our Emergency Hotline to talk directly with legal counsel about a market problem" says Kennedy.

Farmer's Markets are the flagship of the innovative and rapidly expanding direct-to-consumer food trend fueled by the public demand for fresher, more nutritious food that is produced closer to home. Millions of food-savvy consumers are bypassing the grocery stores and flocking to innovative outlets like Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), Cow-Share Programs, Private Buyers Clubs and Food Co-ops to access food for their families which is not available elsewhere in their communities. Because of the many recent food recalls, the draw to these outlets is fresh, safe, nutritious and non-toxic foods from known sources - local sustainable farmers.

The Farm-to-Consumer Legal Defense Fund defends the rights and broadens the freedoms of sustainable farmers, and protects consumer access to raw milk and local, nutrient-dense foods.

Concerned citizens can support the Fund by joining at [www.farmtoconsumer.org](http://www.farmtoconsumer.org) or by contacting Fund at 703-208-FARM (3276).

## Chipotle Improves Wages for Farm Workers

At Chipotle, we have a decade-long track record of working to improve the nation's food supply by choosing like-minded suppliers who share our belief in raising animals and growing vegetables in ways that demonstrate respect for people, animals and the environment. This led us to negotiate a pact with East Coast Farms, one of Florida's largest and most reputable tomato growers, in order to pay a penny a pound more for the tomatoes we buy. This additional money will be paid directly to the workers who pick our tomatoes. That might not seem like much, but it is substantial. Workers are paid a set amount for every pound of tomatoes they pick. Over just one hour, a worker typically gathers several hundred pounds of tomatoes, such that this price difference effectively amounts to a wage hike of nearly 70% for the average worker who picks our tomatoes. Today, Chipotle serves more naturally raised meat (from animals that are raised in a humane way, never given antibiotics or added hormones, and fed a pure vegetarian diet) than any other restaurant company. We are also the only national restaurant company to commit to serving significant amounts of organic or locally grown produce, and the first to move to dairy products made with milk from cows that are not treated with the synthetic hormone rBGH. These decisions have come at a price. In fact, Chipotle has the highest food cost in the industry because of our commitment to serving food made with ingredients from more sustainable sources.

### CLIMATE BREAKDOWN BOOK FORUM

SEPTEMBER 18<sup>th</sup>, FRIDAY

6:00 PM at NIGHTBIRD BOOKS

Sponsored by OMNI Center for Peace, Justice, and ECOLOGY  
OMNI NWACC, and the OMNI Carbon Caps Task Force

#### PANELISTS

Ryan Bancroft: Chris Mooney, *Unscientific America*  
Jonathan Gibbs: Mark Lynas, *Six Degrees*  
Steve Boss: David Archer, *The Long Thaw*  
Joanna Pollock: James Speth. *The Bridge at the Edge of the World: Capitalism, the Environment, and Crossing from Crisis to Sustainability.*

Climate Breakdown Book Forum discusses the latest science-based scholarship explaining how the climate is collapsing with accelerating speed. *Six Degrees* describes the Earth, warm enough to melt all polar ice by 2040 under current emissions averages, with many states ravaged by mega-droughts and widespread wildfires, and a 30 ft rise in sea level. Most Americans and many policy makers and journalists still don't understand how global warming will ruin America for the next fifty generations if we don't act quickly

The widespread confusion about our climate crisis is no accident. For several decades, corporate and conservative religious deniers that climate change is an urgent problem have run a well-financed propaganda campaign to spread myths that misinform debate. The U. S. has never had an efficient energy system. The Bush administration muzzled government climate scientists. The highest ranks of the National Hurricane Center and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration have misinformed the public. Media failed to explain science and the science of CO2 and warming (special sections in newspapers every week on Religion, with rare, small reports on science). Many environmentalists have been unfocused and timid. But the science is clear and has been clear for over three decades: We humans are the primary cause of global warming, and we face a bleak future if we fail to act quickly. We have cost-effective technologies today that can sharply reduce global-warming pollution. California, for example, has embraced critical clean-energy strategies that if adopted nationwide would deliver vast benefits—California's renewable energy plan "will boost household incomes by \$48 billion and create as many as 403,000 jobs over the next 12 years" according to professor David Roland-Holst. From the San Francisco Gate.

#### It's on YouTube!

Watch the 5-minute overview of the *Thinking Toward Survival* series by Coralie Koonce.

Just go to [www.blackle.com](http://www.blackle.com) (the energy-saving version of Google) and type in YouTube. Then search for "Are Humans Going Extinct?"



A portion of the proceeds from Earth Dance Peace Festival will go to the Omni Center!

**September 25th-27th**

Clifty, Arkansas (just south of Eureka Springs)

\$10 pre-sales, \$15 @ the door.

**To buy tickets, go online to:**

<http://www.earthdancenetwork.com/group/earthdanceozarks>

**Directions:** From I-540 take hwy 412 east (#72) to 45 north. Take 45 north, to hwy 12.. Turn right on hwy 12 and go east through Clifty. You will come to a sharp curve in the road, turn left at the curve onto hwy 127. Follow hwy 127 for 2 miles. Turn right onto county road 50. The venue is 1/2 mile on the right.

## EFFECTIVE AND COMPASSIONATE COMMUNICATION

*Taught by Lilian Bern, MFCT, Holistic Psychotherapist*

**TEL. (479) 387-2108**

Beginner's Class is Tuesdays, 7:00 to 8:30 pm,

Sept. 22, 29, Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27.

Cost: Priceless /fee \$75

Practice group for former students is Tuesdays at 5:30, Sept. 22, Oct. 6 and 20

Cost: invaluable/ fee \$40

In case of financial hardship or multiple family members, fee adjustments are possible.

**Omni Center for Peace, Justice and Ecology, 902 W. Maple St., Fayetteville**

**Please CALL Lilian for RESERVATIONS**

### GIFT BOOKS TO OMNI'S LIBRARY

**From Mary Fyles:**

Gore, *Earth in the Balance*

Schweitzer, *Peace or Atomic War?*

AFSC, *In Place of War: Nonviolent National Defense*

Phillip Berryman, *Our Unfinished Business: The U.S. Catholic Bishops' Letters on Peace and the Economy*

Sissela Bok, *A Strategy for Peace*

From Carole Westby:

Keyes, *The Hundredth Monkey* (vs. nuclear war)

Orwell, *Nineteen Eight-Four*

Adams and Cullen, *The Final Epidemic: Physicians and Scientists on Nuclear War*

Willens, *The Trintab Factor: How Business Executives Can Help Solve the Nuclear Weapons Crisis*

## Be A Friendship Family Host!

The University of Arkansas Friendship Family Program is looking for host families in Northwest Arkansas. The program has been bringing people together for friendships from around the world for close to 30 years! This program connects international students, families, exchange students, and visiting students and scholars with American singles and families in the Northwest Arkansas area.

Hosts and students get together at least once a month over the school year. Hosts should invite students to cultural events such as birthday parties, sports events, holidays, etc. Hosts should see themselves as "cultural coaches" helping internationals navigate their new culture. The internationals should see themselves as ambassadors of their countries, teaching their hosts about their country.

#### To be a Friendship Family Host:

1. Attend an orientation
2. Fill out a Friendship Family Application

If you are interested in an application please e-mail:

[ifriend@uark.edu](mailto:ifriend@uark.edu).

#### You are invited to participate in a survey

NWA Center for Equality invites you to participate in a survey concerning identity development and parental relationships. The survey will take approximately 10 minutes and your participation in this study is completely voluntary and anonymous.

<http://atustudy.lgbt.questionpro.com/>

This Sunday, Sept 13 at 1:00 p.m. at Unity of Fayetteville (4880 W. Wedington Dr.),

**John Ray and Christi Daniels**

are presenting a workshop called:

**How to Get What You Want**

**Effective Tools to Identify and Achieve Your Goals**



### Report on Human Trafficking Conference: Modern Day Slavery in the United States and Around the World

“It is estimated that there are approximately 27 million slaves around the world. There are more slaves today than at any other time in history.”

At the conference, OMNI members learned that we can help stop slavery in Arkansas and around the world. The best ways to help are:

- 1.) Support organizations who rescue enslaved children & adults, help at-risk populations obtain an education, and work to stop trafficking.
- 2.) Be a conscious consumer. Don't buy products made with forced labor. This will take some research, which is far better than buying a product which was made by a four-year-old chained to a cement floor for 12 hours every day.
- 3.) Be alert. Human trafficking victims rely on watchful citizens to notify police of suspicious activity in businesses where they are enslaved.

For more information, visit:

- [www.slaverymap.org](http://www.slaverymap.org)
- [www.notforsalecampaign.org](http://www.notforsalecampaign.org)
- [www.free2work.org](http://www.free2work.org)
- [www.dosomething.org](http://www.dosomething.org)
- [www.sharedhope.org](http://www.sharedhope.org)

The University of Arkansas student groups have officially begun, the early birds that they are. **OmniFest** is officially set for **Friday October 9 at noon**, going all day and into the night at the **Greek Theater**, with *Kindling Spirits* fire twirlers to perform after dark.

The students are seeking assistance, funding and business vendors, donations, and coupons, which can be used for work trade with the talent.

The theme for this year, the fourth annual Omni Fest, is “Sustainability.”



Several groups have teamed up with **OmniUA** including the **Green Groups Guild, GroGreen** and **Pride**.

The students are seeking to build a manpower generator for the event, so attendees can help power the event by pedaling. Bicycle frames, alternators, and car/boat batteries are needed, aside from funds. The concert generator will be useful for future events.

Sound equipment would also be useful, as Omni UA is saving money by using people-owned sound equipment. The challenge this year is manpower. The decorations committee is also in need of assistance.

Anyone interested to help in any way can contact **Jon Bame** [jbame@uark.edu](mailto:jbame@uark.edu)



**Hispanic Heritage Month 2009**  
**University of Arkansas**  
 Proclamation by Fayetteville Mayor Lionel Jordan  
 Followed by:

**Kick-off Event**

Panel Discussion:  
**Minorities and Civil Rights; a history of struggle**

Join us as University staff and community leaders discuss the challenges and the history behind the continuous journey for equality.

Panelist include:  
 Reverend Lowell E. Grisham  
 Jose Gomez – LULAC council 754  
 Randi Romo – Center for Artistic Revolution  
 Wilberd R. Collier Sr. – Office of Affirmative Action  
 Bill Kopsky – Arkansas Public Policy Panel  
 Moderator: Alejandro Aviles – LULAC

**Tuesday September 15, 2009**  
**11:30am**  
**Multicultural Center – Student Union**

Sponsored by:

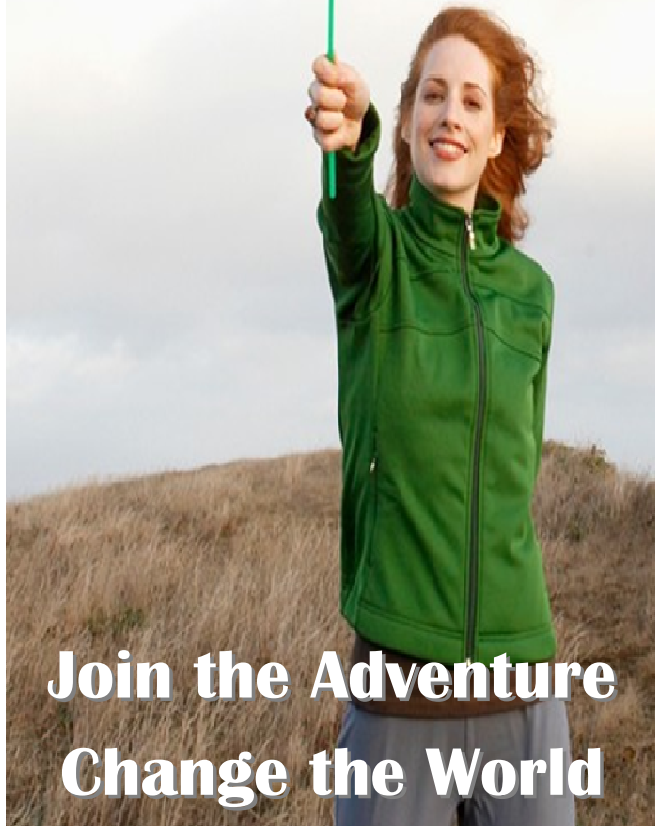
The Alpha Lambda chapter of Phi Iota Alpha Fraternity Inc.,  
 Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.,  
 LULAC 761, the Office of the Vice Provost for Diversity  
 And the 2009 Hispanic Heritage Month Committee

## Group Spotlight!

OMNI Center for Peace, Justice & Ecology

presents

# TEENS LEADING the COMMUNITY TLC



**Join the Adventure  
Change the World**

**OMNI TLC is about leadership training, service-learning, and travel for high school students.**

Every month there will be one training session on grassroots organizing skills, leadership 101, and social action issues such as hunger, conservation, peace, homelessness, education, health, and youth representation. The program connects local students to teen leaders from around the US and world, by inviting communication between students and sponsoring guest speakers. College students, many from OMNI UA, will teach TLC teens using movies, discussion, and hands-on activities such as building a solar cooker.

Each month, TLC will travel to reinforce what was learned during trainings. Trips are fully supervised by adults and our college-aged trainers. The first trip is **September 25-27 at Green Mountain Eco Fest:** [www.greenmountainecofest.org](http://www.greenmountainecofest.org) Upcoming trips include Heifer International and Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge, as well as local sites.

To be part of TLC, students are asked to use their training to formulate and implement a service-learning project and connect to a local mentor or organization that supports their project. On **October 8th at 4:30**, the Fayetteville Public Library will host a book discussion on [The Teen Guide to Global Action](#), the manual for TLC. Students are strongly encouraged to attend or to read the book on their own. Other discussion dates may become available if the Oct. 8 date fills up.

### Support TLC!

OMNI TLC teens are raising money by making a difference with cell phones. Yes, that's right—cell phones! CREDO Mobile is America's greenest cell phone company. They donate millions to non-profits, plant as many trees as they need to use for paper, use soy-based ink on 100% recycled paper, offer solar powered cell phone chargers and phone cases made from recycled rubber & fair trade cloth. What's better than that? For every ONE person who signs up to use a CREDO phone, they will donate ONE HUNDRED dollars to the OMNI Center TLC program!

To learn more, go to: [www.credomobile.com](http://www.credomobile.com) For OMNI to receive the \$100 donation, you MUST first e-mail Ryan at: [rpbancroft@gmail.com](mailto:rpbancroft@gmail.com) so that he can tell CREDO Mobile you're an OMNI supporter!

***Sign Up Now for the 2009—2010 TLC Program: IT'S FREE!***

Amanda Bancroft, OMNI AmeriCorps\*VISTA

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