Dear Friends of Peace Pilgrim

As August settles gently into September, the days are growing shorter and cooler. In the old pastures across the road, delicate Queen Ann’s Lace, bright Golden Rod, crimson Cardinal Flowers, tall spikes of yellow Mullein, and the sweet sky blue of Chicory blossoms dance among the browning grasses of late summer. How wonderful to witness these seasonal transitions and connect deeply with the natural world where Peace Pilgrim often went for inspiration and renewal.

The past few months have been full and busy for Friends of Peace Pilgrim. Our annual board meeting took place in California in May. In June board member Bruce Nichols traveled to Oklahoma City to visit with the volunteers who pack and ship our offerings to friends around the world. And in July, another birthday celebration for Peace Pilgrim was held in Egg Harbor City, NJ, the town of her birth.

It was during our board meeting in California that we made an unexpected discovery that led to a wonderful connection with some new friends in Knox, Indiana.

Among the items in our archives are many hours of video interviews with people who knew Peace Pilgrim. These were shot during the making of the “Spirit of Peace” documentary in the early 90s. It was a timely project since many of those who were interviewed are no longer with us and the memories of their experiences with Peace are both precious and historically important.

On a whim, during our meeting, the board decided to watch the tape that had an interview with Ted Hayes, the radio broadcaster from Knox, Indiana who conducted an interview with Peace Pilgrim on the day before she died. What we did not know was that the tape also contained an interview with Tony Bau who lived across the street from the scene of the accident. Tony’s wife, Terry, witnessed the crash and was the first person on the scene. The chance viewing of that tape led to a reconnection with the Baus and the placing of a Peace Pilgrim Pole on their property right across the road from the place Peace made her “transition to a freer life.” You can find out more about this amazing story by turning the page.

In peace and friendship,
Cheryl Canfield, Jeff Blom, Richard Polese, Mayte Picco-Kline, Barbara Reynolds, Bruce Nichols
The Friends of Peace Pilgrim Board
Peace Pilgrim Pole Placed at the Site of Peace’s Transition to a Freer Life

On July 7, 1981, after twenty-eight years and seven crossings of North America, Peace Pilgrim made her “glorious transition to a freer life” due to injuries received in a head-on car crash that took place on Indiana Route 23 a few miles outside of Knox, Indiana.

While we had seen newspaper reports from that time, it was only recently that the Friends of Peace Pilgrim board learned that the “Spirit of Peace” documentary team had visited and interviewed Tony and Terry Bau, the couple who lived across the road from the accident site. The filmmakers, Clare Townsend, Gigi Orlowski, and David Muller traveled the country in the early 1990s interviewing people who had known Peace Pilgrim.

Terry and Tony had been home at the time of the accident and Terry actually witnessed the crash. She was the first person on the scene and the last person to see Peace Pilgrim alive.

With a phone call or two, a visit was arranged.

Without knowing very much about Peace Pilgrim other than what the had learned from the newspaper stories of the times, the Baus had been deeply moved by their experience and felt a deep connection to her. They were eager to learn more about Peace and how her work and pilgrimage had continued in the world.

As planning for Richard’s visit continued, the idea of placing a Peace Pilgrim Pole on the Bau’s property across the street from the accident site was presented and whole-heartedly welcomed.

On July 14th, 2009, twenty-eight years and a week after the accident that ended the twenty-eight years of walking and speaking that had been Peace Pilgrim’s life since 1953, Richard and Tony placed plaques bearing Peace Pilgrim’s message on a large pole and planted it where it could be seen by those passing the site.

In addition to Richard and the Baus, Ted Hayes, who had been the last radio host to interview Peace Pilgrim on the day before her death, came by for the ceremony. Ted still works at WKVI and did an “on the spot” interview with Richard, Terry, and Tony.

Stories about the event ran in the local newspapers and were also reported on the radio.

The Baus welcome visitors and we have sent them books and Steps booklets to give to people visiting the site. If you are ever passing through the area, you can find the pole along side Indiana Route 23 a bit west of Knox.

A Hopi Prayer

I am with you still - I do not sleep,
I am the thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glints on snow,
I am the sunlight on ripened grain,
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awaken in the mornings hush,
I am the swift uplifting rush,
of quiet birds in circled flight,
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
So do not think of me as gone -
I am with you still - in each new dawn.

Excerpts from the The Leader
Knox, IN – July 23, 2009
Article by John Reed, editor

KNOX – A modest yellow house, a rural two-lane highway: Not the location you would expect for a national memorial.

Yet this spot on Ind. 23, a few miles west of Knox proper, last week, became the site of a memorial to Peace Pilgrim – that is her name – who died 28 years ago in a two-car accident here on July 7, 1981.

Tony and Terry Bau live in the yellow house and witnessed the accident which happened at lunchtime.

“I came in the house and was sitting at the table. I looked out the window and saw this car in the northbound lane. I ran to the window to look and it had already happened. Terry was on the porch and saw everything,” Tony said.

“Both cars went off the highway. The girl who was driving said she realized she was on the wrong side of the road.”

Peace was on her way to give a talk at Koontz Lake Missionary Church and was riding with Ewell Ward, her local host, said Richard Polese, a Santa Fe, NM resident who is among those who carry on Peace’s work.

Polese was on his way to Detroit last week and decided to pass through Knox with the idea of establishing the monument.

He had never been to Knox, and July 14 was his first contact with the Baus, who quickly embraced the monument. That same day they purchased the simple wooden post, mounted it and attached Peace’s motto, which Polese had brought with him.

“I really felt it would be appropriate to have a monument at the accident site, and there was Tony saying, ‘I’d welcome that,’” Polese said.

Peace started her trek in 1953. “She never accepted money, there was no organization behind her, and she had nothing but the clothes on her back.” Polese said.

Her message is emblazoned on the four sides of the monument: “This is the way of peace: Overcome evil with good, falsehood with truth, and hatred with love.”

Polese said he is one of numerous people – still operating without any formal organization – who still support her precepts.

St. John’s Bread
by Jeff Blom

Those of you who may have had the pleasure of visiting the Peace Pilgrim center when it was in the home of John and Ann Rush in Hemet, California will remember the wonderful lunches enjoyed in the back yard in the cool shade of the apricot tree. The meals were simple but rich with interesting conversation and shared with much joy and friendship. One of the staples in Hemet was St. John’s bread. Our board member, Jeff Blom offers the recipe and some memories of baking in Hemet. Jeff currently resides in Arbuckle, California with former board member Andy Zupko who is one of the compilers of the Peace Pilgrim book. They often refer to their home as “the hermitage.”

During the four years that I lived in Hemet with John and Ann Rush, our standard lunch at the Peace Pilgrim Center was an avocado sandwich on St. John’s bread, with tomato, sprouts, lettuce, mustard, Nayonaise (vegan mayonnaise) etc. -- I never grew tired of it. John and I traded off the job of making the bread, though John made it more than I did.

This bread is simple to make and is my favorite of all time – I still make it regularly. You need a flour mill to grind the wheat berries – it just would not be St. John’s bread if made with commercially purchased flour. Today there are many mills on the market. We use a Blentec Blender (famous for their “will it blend” videos on YouTube). It is similar to the Vita-mix in that it looks like an ordinary blender but does an excellent job of milling grain. It is also great as a juicer that doesn’t waste the pulp – but that is another story). You should have handy a wooden mixing spoon, two bowls, a baking dish for bread, and a breadboard. John always used small coffee cans instead of a baking pan, so the bread always came out round. Here at the hermitage we use standard bread making pans – both metal and glass – both work fine.

Here is the recipe adopted for one loaf, though at the hermitage I make three at a time and at the Peace Pilgrim center we made more than that.

Ingredients: 2 2/3 cups of wheat berries, (or two cups of wheat berries and 2/3rds cup of whatever other grain you are going to use -- such as corn, rye, triticale etc), 1 1/3 cups of water, one tablespoon of yeast, one tablespoon of molasses, honey or sugar (to feed the yeast). That is all – bread at its simplest.

No, we don’t use salt. At the Peace Pilgrim center John and Ann never used table salt for cooking or putting on their food. In its place we used Braggs Liquid Aminos. This has a soy sauce/Tamari look and similar taste but is made with only soybeans and water.

John used to buy 50 pound bags of wheat berries and corn. We do this at the hermitage also, as well as buying five pound bags of yeast. This makes the cost of the bread very economical.

Grind two cups of wheat berries into flour, put it in one bowl, then grind the other 2/3rds and put it in another bowl.

Heat the water to slightly more than luke warm, so that it is almost but not quite hot to the touch. Add yeast and sweetener and stir. Let stand for about 15 minutes.

Now take the flour from the two cups of wheat berries and mix them with the water/yeast, slowly stirring the flour with the wooden spoon in a circular motion until fully mixed. Now take some of the flour from the 2/3-cup wheat berry flour and make a bed with it on the breadboard. Take the ball of flour from the bowl and put it on the bed. Take some more flour from the bowl and sprinkle it on the top of the dough. Now, knead the bread for about ten minutes, adding the rest of the flour, little by little as you knead. (If we have some flour left over at the end, you can put it in a container and refrigerate for use as a thickener in soups etc.). Take some oil and coat the bread pans (or as John used to do, the inside of the coffee cans).

Now put the dough in the bread pan (or coffee can) and shape to the container. Here at the hermitage we use a flexible plastic spatula and run it around the edge of the pan to part the bread from the sides and to shape the top. Let the dough rise for about half an hour to an hour.

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees and bake the bread for fifty minutes to an hour.

John let the dough rise a second time and gave it additional kneading – though here at the hermitage we only let the dough rise once as this takes less time. John also was a believer in using low heat so as not to destroy the enzymes in food. He would cook the bread at 250 degrees for several hours. Here at the hermitage we cook it at 350 degrees.

And there you have – St. John’s bread. For my taste, the best bread there is.

A Recipe from Peace Pilgrim’s Tunic

Among the contents of Peace Pilgrim’s tunic at the time of her death, was this recipe, typed by Peace onto a 3x5 card. Perhaps it was a favorite shared with her hosts.
Translating Peace Pilgrim into Italian
By Mayte Picco-Kline

Great News! Claudia Biacchi in Sorbolo, Italy has completed the translation of Peace Pilgrim: Her Life and Work in Her Own Words into Italian. Thank you, Claudia, for your magnificent work.

Claudia shares here impressions and story with us. "I must have found Peace Pilgrim’s website while browsing peace movements in general, and her story fascinated me. How come that a single person has done so much for peace by just walking across a country? It must have been this kind of simple curiosity, mixed with the fact that I would have liked to work translating materials (a subject I like very much is alternative medicine). Exploring jobs I did some that I disliked a lot, so much that I became ill (and Peace Pilgrim has an answer to that!). In the summer-autumn of 2007, while considering to leave a job that did not suit me and searching for another job, I saw that Steps toward Inner Peace could be translated into Italian, so I thought, "Ok, I like doing translations, I like this kind of subject, I feel sad and depressed, so why not just do it for pleasure?" And, while translating "Steps", a new perspective opened to me: those who belong to the French Mouvement de la Paix have a slogan, "De mon quartier à ma planète" ("From my neighborhood to planet earth") and this resonated with Peace Pilgrim’s vision that everything must start from the nearest part of yourself, that is, within you. Mouvement de la Paix is more grounded in political actions, while Peace Pilgrim’s roots are more spiritual. This inner, spiritual perspective made me feel so little in comparison with her, and while translating I reflected on everything she said... When I discovered this year that my translation of the "Steps" had been published on the Friends of Peace Pilgrim’s website I felt the need and pleasure to continue with the translation of the book. I thought, perhaps all this isn’t an accident at all; perhaps I really need to put into practice Peace Pilgrim’s teachings... And while translating the book, I have felt serene inside, and have found some help in cutting caffeine and eating better. It is already a good step forward for me! I now feel more at peace with myself by the fact that I decided to accept myself as I am.”

"I hope that the translation will do well and I thank you again, Mayte, for your encouragement!! I have had and still have opportunities for meditating and transforming myself through Peace Pilgrim’s message.”

Our New Board Member
Barbara Reynolds

We are happy to announce the addition of Barbara Reynolds of Smithville, NJ to the board of directors of Friends of Peace Pilgrim.

Barbara has been a great champion of Peace Pilgrim in the New Jersey region that was Peace’s childhood home.

We first met Barbara in 2000 when she accompanied Helen Young, Peace Pilgrim’s sister to Costa Rica for the dedication of the Peace Pilgrim statue at the United Nations University of Peace.

It may have been that experience that motivated Barbara to lobby for a statue of Peace Pilgrim in her hometown of Egg Harbor City, NJ. This dream became a reality in 2005 when a statue and park were dedicated there. The park continues to flourish and now includes many additional flowers and plantings, a mailbox containing "Steps Toward Inner Peace” booklets, a peace pole, and informational signage about Peace Pilgrim and her message.

Some of Barbara’s additional involvements and accomplishments in New Jersey include:

- Being a prime motivator and organizing force in the original Peace Pilgrim 100 celebration.
- Years of connecting with and inspiring local people in government, education, and media to a greater awareness of Peace Pilgrim, her message, and her local origins.
- Helping generate a great deal of publicity, newspaper articles, and interest in Peace and her message in her home region.
- Barbara created copies of the Peace Pilgrim scrapbook, one of which is in our archives.
- Barbara is a Quaker and has a long and strong connection to peace activities in her local area.

We are very happy to welcome Barbara to the Friends of Peace Pilgrim board.
Letters and Email

From Nancy in Pennsylvania:

I am sooooooo anonymous! My life is in many ways smaller than ordinary. I have very little in this world, but inside is the life force that provides inexhaustible, invisible wealth. Having little in this world has allowed me to sense or have a greater consciousness of that inner life, the real life. But finding a confirmation of that from outside myself, that was a long, hard road! Peace Pilgrim has been like finding Mom, apple pie, and a good used car, and I mean that with all affection and respect! That she lived and wrote as a woman gives an entire new freshness to the whole concept, as well as the literature, of spirituality. That she took no money and accepted only what she was given proves her value, for how many men have tried to live the life (few) or write of it (many, many, many, many, many!) and where do they rest in the balance.

Peace Pilgrim’s life validates her words, and her words are truth. All my life I have studied scriptures and philosophies from around the world, attempted to learn how to live from people whose lives were living truth. Of them all Peace Pilgrim has touched my life most gently and deeply, and validated my conviction that the inner life is the real one, and that the individual is the key to peace. Peace Pilgrim validates and renders value to the unsung and undervalued acts of love a pilgrim makes when the world isn’t looking.

While Peace Pilgrim’s message is for all the world, yet she is additionally special to me because she was an American and traversed the same lands I too have seen and loved. The Quran says that every nation is given a prophet; in Peace Pilgrim I saw a light for this country today. It is a light that your work helps to bring to people who need it.

As I first began reading her book, I sensed that unlike other books, hers contained a great challenge. It carried more than the companionship of a biography, or facts that help fill in the puzzle of history. It was free of a scripture faded and divorced from practical life; it was in no way a piece of fiction that seeks to entertain with literary devices. It’s what they used to call “dangerous!”

I admit I had to open myself to the possibility that despite differences in age, health, etc., this was the work of a life I would desire to emulate, even to leave all behind and take to the road like Peace Pilgrim did! But as I continued to read, her wisdom prevailed. As Peace Pilgrim taught, her friends express her message in the lives they have been given. She proves that my small life is big enough to learn and pass on her message, and yet if fate should put me on an open road with nothing but a toothbrush, which it sometimes has, Peace Pilgrim confirms that even this path is traveled in joy.

Again, thank you for granting me the resources of the booklets (as well as a new copy of her book) to continue the work. Thank you also for a copy of the newsletter. Please keep me on the mailing list.

Hoping that my deeds may at least meet the measure of my words, Nancy

From Judi in Colorado:

Hello all - when visiting Costa Rica a few weeks back, one of the highlights of my trip was an unexpected stop at the University of Peace outside of Colon. We were staying at a resort called Ama Tierra, and one of the owners was talking about her daughter’s work at University of Peace. I thought, “That place sounds so familiar.” That evening, my husband was reading about the University in a travel guide, and it mentioned that Peace Pilgrim’s statue is there, dedicating her for her work toward world peace. I became so excited, because I’ve been a long-time friend of Friends of Peace Pilgrim (ever since 1997 when my daughter and I managed a hostel called Bears Den, on the Appalachian Trail, Bluemont, Virginia). Visiting the University was not on our planned itinerary, but we asked our driver, German (pronounced Herman), if he could take us to the campus. “Herman” didn’t speak much English at all, but we managed to communicate where we wanted to go, and he said, “no problema.” He delivered us, and we walked around the park until we found Peace Pilgrim’s statue. The visit to the campus and park, the pictures, the energy - it was all because of a series of synchronicities. I love it when I’m open and ready to let the universe provide. This was one of those times. I am so thankful, and wanted to share the memories with you.

Much love. Judi

From an inmate in Florida:

I am currently incarcerated at Wakulla Correctional Institution, the largest faith-based prison in the country. The institution is full of inmates who volunteered to come here to improve their character, many through spirituality. I am one.

Before I came here a fellow inmate told me the story of Peace Pilgrim – a woman that walked the streets of America for more than twenty years spreading love and a message of peace. He told me there is a book about her or by her that I must read. Could you please send me such a book? After I extract all I can from it, I will proudly donate it to either the general library or the religious department library. My understanding is that the Peace Pilgrim does not preach or endorse any religious doctrine per se, which, I admit, excites me. Many religions are represented here. Christianity has the majority, but I believe one ideal they all strive for is peace. So, in this book people with different beliefs may be able to find some common ground.

Please send the book and any other literature you feel may be beneficial to this institution.

Thank you in advance, Bill

“If you give your life as a prayer, you intensify the prayer beyond all measure.” Peace Pilgrim
More Letters and Email

From Dalton in China:

Dear sir/madam,

It's an honor writing to you from Asia. I found this book "peace pilgrimage" so spiritual, inspiring and so encouraging. This book has really inspired me in so many ways. It has not only changed my way of thinking but my entire life. Every day I have the hunger of reading it more and more, even though I have gone over it again and again, I had to tell some friends of mine who love reading. They borrowed it, and read it. Now we have a hundred waiting for some other friends to go through. Sadly there is only one copy available. Can have another copy, please?

Thank you. Yours sincerely,
Dalton - Guangxi China

From Elsa in Belize:

The Friends of Peace Pilgrim will be delighted to know that come September the American Sage DVD will be presented publicly at the George Price Centre for Peace and Development here in Belmopan. Am hoping and praying that she catches-on like wildfire in this place where the "sleeping giant" is just awakening to the concept of what can I do instead of always what can I get out of it???

Keep up your great work. I know that you people are helping many people and keeping Peace Pilgrim's gracious work alive everywhere.

Your peace sister, Elsa

We receive many letters. This one, though addressed to us, seems to have a message that we can all benefit from. Please read it as if it were being sent to you.

From a friend in California:

Most beloved friends of Peace,

Your dedication to Peace is so very appreciated. Your selfless service, continual prayer and firm faith are so very important in this world. Please remember that there are so many people working and praying for PEACE. You are not alone. Should you ever feel sad or discouraged, I urge you to simply imagine all of us Peace Pilgrims sending our Golden Light – what a glorious radiant web we are all creating. Indeed, Peace is Possible!!! There are so many Angels watching over you. Thank you, thank you, thank you for all that you do. Peace is with you.

Anonymous

"There are only two ways to live your life: as though nothing is a miracle, or as though everything is a miracle." Albert Einstein

From John in Iowa,

Dear Folks,

Greetings and Thank You for the continuing INSPIRATION you are providing to all of us. I was on the Great Peace march for Global Nuclear Disarmament in 1986. I met Richard Polese there, that's where I first learned about Peace pilgrim and her Inspiration and the wonderful work surrounding her and her Message.

I have been on many Peace Walks since from coast to Coast and West to East, always informed and inspired in visible and invisible, silent ways by Inner Steps.

Recently we had a Nagasaki–Hiroshima Commemoration August 7th, 2009 at the Paul Engle Center (he and his wife created the International Writer's Workshop here in Iowa City). We showed the Peace Pilgrim film which Darryl Purpose (his song is on the film) gave to me in the Spirit of Peace Pilgrim when we were on the road.

Many People absolutely loved the film. At first when we began our potluck we wondered if anyone would come, we got out our cell phones and started calling and little by little folks started arriving, by the end of our potluck we had an overflowing group and folks still kept on coming, the largest turnout for any event we’ve had at Paul Engle Center yet.

After the film we had a discussion that went until almost one in the morning (we showed the film at 8P).

Folks were so inspired, I asked them if they were interested in the Peace Pilgrim book. About two dozen came forward to request book.

Again THANK YOU for your Inspiring work and the Message of Peace that is CONTINUING to Bless us All.

In the Spirit of Peace, John

From Swami Baba in California:

I met/saw Peace Pilgrim on the Boston Common in Massachusetts (1956) where she was surrounded by numerous newspapermen. She was being interviewed and answering their numerous questions.

I saw her again toward the end of her traveling on foot, before the fatal car accident. We, both “wanderers,” passed each other on the highway, walking on foot as we were both accustomed. She was immediately recognized by her appearance and the words “Peace Pilgrim” written on her jersey. She subsequently “passed on” in the car accident.

Dearest Peace Pilgrim, I love and respect you, wherever you are.

Profound love, Swami Baba

“We when love fills your life all limitations are gone. The medicine this sick world needs so badly is love.” Peace Pilgrim
Dear Friends of Peace Pilgrim:

Here are publications we offer freely to all who ask. Many of our friends inquire about sending a donation. These are always welcome but are not necessary to receive our offerings. Friends of Peace Pilgrim is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations and bequests are tax-deductible. All money goes directly to our work, helping us to continue producing and distributing materials to all who ask.

**PUBLICATIONS**

**PEACE PILGRIM: Her Life and Work in Her Own Words** (Standard Edition), 224 pages. Compiled by five of her friends after her transition in 1981.

**PEACE PILGRIM** (Compact Edition), 224 pages. This book is the same as the Standard Edition except smaller.

**PEREGRINA DE PAZ: Su Vida Y Obra en Sus Propias Palabras** 216 pages. (Spanish edition of Peace Pilgrim)

**STEPS TOWARD INNER PEACE** 32 pages. Peace Pilgrim relates her own steps toward inner peace and gives ideas for working for world peace.

(Steps Toward Inner Peace is also available in Spanish, Chinese, Arabic, and Hebrew. It is also available on audio cassette. Please call or write for information.)

**PEACE PILGRIM, An Extraordinary Life** by Ann Rush, 16 pages. Peace Pilgrim’s life is traced from her ordinary beginnings through a transformation to a life of unusual commitment.

**AUDIO CASSETTES**

**CAMPBELL HOUSE, 1959** (90 minutes). A talk that is representative of her message. It also has a brief radio interview the day before she died.

**SALT LAKE CITY, 1955** (60 minutes). Recorded two years after her pilgrimage began. A gentle talk to a small group in a friend’s home. Sue Millard, sings a song composed by Peace Pilgrim.

**DALLAS CHURCHES, 1979** (60 minutes). Two talks representative of her vigor, joy, and audience rapport. It also has a song composed by Peace Pilgrim, sung by Don Wittig, and Peace Pilgrim’s energizing song, “The Fountain of Love.”

**PEACE PILGRIM’S SPIRITUAL GROWTH** (67 minutes). The sound track of the first hour of the “Speaking to a College Class” video. At the end of Side B, Peace Pilgrim relates one of her prison experiences.

**MORE AUDIO**

**STEPS TOWARD INNER PEACE.** Our little booklet in its entirety on audiotape! Narrated by Ann Rush.

**DVD VIDEO**

**PEACE PILGRIM INTERVIEWS DVD** – Includes a short TV program from PM Magazine, a 25-minute interview for WIFR-TV in Rockford, Illinois, a 30-minute interview at Pensacola Junior College, and our 24-minute Highlights video. This DVD is subtitled in English, Spanish, Chinese, Russian, Portuguese, and French. It also includes a wealth of DVD-ROM extras in PDF format and in several languages.

**PEACE PILGRIM LECTURES DVD** – This disk contains over three hours of video including talks given to students at California State University, a question and answer session with students at the University of Georgia, the Pensacola Junior College Interview, and the PM Magazine profile.

**PEACE PILGRIM DOCUMENTARIES DVD** – All of our documentaries are now bundled onto one DVD disk. Included are: both English and Spanish versions of PEACE PILGRIM: An American Sage Who Walked Her Talk (one hour). A professional quality documentary film, about Peace Pilgrim’s life with much new historical footage and interviews, introductions to the “Sage” documentary in English and Spanish, and THE SPIRIT OF PEACE, (71 minutes) an earlier documentary featuring interviews with those who knew Peace Pilgrim and those who were inspired by her message.

We have discontinued our VHS videos but will continue to make them available until supplies are exhausted. Please contact us about availability. The “American Sage” VHS is out of stock.

**OUR NEWSLETTER** – To be added or removed from our newsletter mailing list, please contact us at the address below. All of our past newsletters as well as the Peace Pilgrim’s Progress newsletters sent by Peace Pilgrim during the years of her pilgrimage, and the newsletter Travesía en Paz (Peaceful Journey) in Spanish and English are available on our website. You can access them at:


Send Requests to:
Friends of Peace Pilgrim, PO Box 2207, Shelton, CT 06484
or call (203) 926-1581 or email: friends@peacepilgrim.org
“As I looked about the world, so much of it impoverished, I became increasingly uncomfortable about having so much while my brothers and sisters were starving. Finally I had to find another way. The turning point came when, in desperation and out of a very deep seeking for a meaningful way of life, I walked all one night through the woods. I came to a moonlit glade and prayed. I felt a complete willingness, without any reservations, to give my life—to dedicate my life—to service. "Please use me!" I prayed to God. And a great peace came over me."

Peace Pilgrim: Her Life and Works in Her Own Words - Page 7

Peace Pilgrim dies in crash
Valparaiso, Indiana newspaper – July 9, 1981

A two-car collision in northern Indiana has killed a Knox man and a traveling evangelist know as the “Peace Pilgrim.”

Killed on Indiana 23 near Knox Tuesday were Euwell Ward, driver of one car, and his passenger, Mildred Norman, a native of Cologne, NJ. Officials said they were traveling to a religious service.

Know only as “Peace Pilgrim” to persons she met, Miss Norman had criss-crossed the nation on foot seven times. Her travels included a visit to Valparaiso last weekend.

She wore a navy blue tunic emblazoned with “25,000 Miles on Foot for Peace” in white letters on the back and “Peace Pilgrim” on the front, and navy blue slacks. The tunic had pockets around it that she kept her worldly possessions in. She said she carried no money and would not accept money. Instead, people would open their homes to her and she said this gesture “shows that people are good.”

Her journey began on Jan. 1, 1953. “All of my friends and associates tried desperately to talk me out of it,” said Peace Pilgrim when she was in Valparaiso by invitation of the First United Methodist Church. “But I knew this is what I had to do.”

She devoted all her retirement years to the pilgrimage for peace. When she first stared her journey, Peace Pilgrim walked along the highways so she could use a road map to keep track of her miles.

“When I first started, I wanted to see how many miles I could travel. Some days I walked as many as 50 miles and I completed 5000 miles in the first year. But I discovered I could not talk to as many people that way.”

When John D. Wolf, minister at First United Methodist Church, received word of Peace Pilgrim’s death he said. “She left a profound impression on the individuals and congregation during her stay here. She was a genuine God-centered person who was dedicated to peace within and between people. You meet only one person like this in a generation.”

Dr. Wolf said that his church would hold a memorial service during the worship service sometime in the next couple of weeks.