

Coalition For Prisoners' Rights Newsletter

Vol. 40-iv, No. 9

PO Box 1911, Santa Fe NM

September 2015

HELPING EACH OTHER OUT

As we are sure our readers and correspondents have noticed, we are not keeping up with our mail and the requests for information each of the 300 or so envelopes we receive from people locked up all over the country send us monthly. We are undergoing a period of having very few crew members--all of us are volunteer--and this continues to be reflected in our lower productivity. We deeply regret this and are working hard on recruitment.

In the meantime, we are trying to develop some coping strategies. One is how to provide as complete and accurate up-to-date resource information as we possibly can. To that end, what follows is some cheerful news about several new versions of well-established sources for a great variety of information. We are confident that there are more and will pass on what we continue to learn.

The current Prison Activist Resource Center (PARC, PO Box 70447, Oakland CA 94612, 510-893-4648) 24 page free Prisoner Resource Directory is dated September 2015. Its categories are: Nationwide Organizations & Resources, Women's Organizations & Resources, LGBT Organizations & Resources, Nationwide & Regional Book Programs, Book Venders - Reduced Prisoner Rates, Death Penalty Resources, Health Care/AIDS/HIV Resources, Newsletters & Magazines, Paralegal Schools, Prison-Based Newsletters, Prisoner Magazine Services, Rehabilitation/ Nonviolence Programs, Religious Programs/ Spiritual Resources, & State Based Organizations & Resources.

Also, there are two pages of PARC Recommended Prison Books - Legal & Educational (All are Paperbound), a page on the (Selected) Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners by the United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, and a two page insert of a Summary of Settlement Terms in the Ashker v. Governor federal class action suit on solitary confinement in California's Pelican Bay State Prison.

The Sero Project (PO Box 1233, Milford PA 18337) has just put out a One Time Only, 35 page highly informative publication titled TURN IT UP!, dated Fall 2015/Winter 2016, with stories, information, and fact sheets for health and wellness all for people in prison. Twelve pages of resources are included.

The resource guide segment categories are: Health Resources--including Asthma, Arthritis, Cancer, Diabetes, Hepatitis C & HIV/ AIDS, High Blood Pressure/ Stroke and Women's Health headings; Legal Resources/ Publications; Solitary Confinement; Death Penalty Resources; Sexual Assault; Sex Offender Resources; Art, Writing & Education Programs; Only on the Internet; Advocacy & Activism; Resources for Incarcerated Parents; Advocacy/ Support for LGBT People in Prison; Resources for Women; Pen Pals--Free to People in Prison and Paying Customers Only headings; Free Prison Book Programs, and Other Resource Lists (All Free).

The other resource lists given are: National Prisoner Resource List--Prison Books Program, c/o Lucy Parsons Center & Bookstore, 1306 Hancock St #10, Quincy MA 02169; Inside Books Project Resource Guide, 12 Street Books, 827 W 12th St, Austin TX 78701; Prison Activist Resource Center (PARC), PO Box 70447, Oakland CA 94648, 510-893-4648; Sylvia Rivera Law Project, 147 W 24th St, 5th Fl, New York NY 10011; Black & Pink Prison Resource List, 614 Columbia Rd, Dorchester MA 02125 and PA Prison Directory Action, c/o Book 'Em, PO Box 71357, Pittsburgh PA 15213.

The Inside Books Project (c/o 12th Street Books, 827 West 12th St, Austin TX 78701) has updated their 32 page Resource Guide as of September 2015. The Inside Books Project works to promote reading, literacy, and education among incarcerated individuals and to educate the general public on issues of incarceration. It is the only books-to-prisoners program in Texas, where over 140,000 people are incarcerated.

La guerra contra las drogas

Si bien durante el segundo debate republicano, los candidatos mantuvieron posturas unánimes en temas como la planificación familiar, tuvieron desacuerdos feroces con respecto a la legalización de la marihuana y la llamada guerra contra las drogas. En el centro de este debate estuvieron el senador de Kentucky, Rand Paul, y el ex gobernador de Florida, Jeb Bush.

Paul acusó a Bush de tener una postura hipócrita sobre la legalización de la marihuana, diciendo: "Si estás en contra del uso medicinal de la marihuana, entonces solos nos queda poner a ese gente en la cárcel. Los chicos que crecen en un entorno privilegiado, como tú, no van a la cárcel, pero los chicos pobres, de zonas marginadas, terminan presos". La ex directora ejecutiva de Hewlett-Packard, Carly Fiorina, también intervino en el intercambio compartiendo su propia historia familiar, de haber perdido un hijo por la drogadicción.

To receive your Newsletter by postal mail monthly, send us self-addressed, stamped envelopes (with the CPR return address -- up to 12 at one time.

Keep sending us address changes and renewal requests to get the yearly holiday card/ new calendar in January.

Also, note that the only address to use to be sure to reach us is: PO Box 1911, Santa Fe NM 87504. Despite what some other resource listings might say.

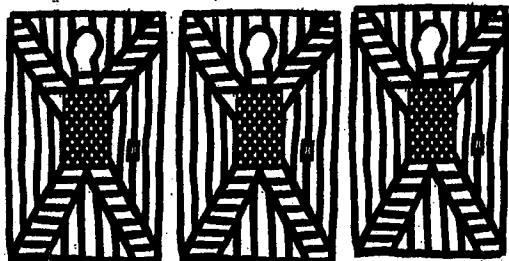
NONE OF US ARE LAWYERS OR LEGAL WORKERS, so, for our protection, please do not mark your envelopes to as as "legal mail."

Many, many thanks to the Real Cost of Prisons Project for making our Newsletter available on-line for free downloading and distribution. It is at: <http://www.realcostofprisonsproject.org/coalition.html> -- this is a GREAT site!

We depend on our readers' donations & thank you for your support! ¡Mil gracias! *****

Architects/Designers/Planners for Social Responsibility

A social action group, its mailing address is now: (ADPSR), PO Box 9126, Berkeley CA 94709, 510-845-1000.



VOICES FROM INSIDE

San Diego CA

April 2, 2015

Senate bill 224 has been making its way through the California senate: "Elderly Parole Program". When originally introduced in February 2015, it specified that all those who are at least 50 years old and have done a minimum of 15 years of their sentences would qualify to appear before the Board of Parole Hearings for consideration under SB224, the Elderly Parole Program. This was amended and "This section does not apply to prisoners sentenced to death or to imprisonment for life without the possibility of parole" was added. On June 4, 2015, at the request for Carol Liu, SB224 be ordered to the inactive file. Her address is State Capitol, Room 5097, Sacramento CA 95814. Let her hear from you.

Delano CA

April 3, 2015

Gender Anarchy: is an autonomous collective of trans women in U.S. prisons who act defensively and offensively to protect and defend... hostile acts against them... We know nothing of sacrifice. We have nothing. We only know survival, without which society would obliterate us. And now in prison we continue in the same way, the only way, with our kind, united by the same experience, the same traumas... the same burning passion... PO Box 3133, Bloomington IN 47402.

VOTING RIGHTS

On August 4, 2015, California restored voting rights to tens of thousands of people convicted and doing time under community supervision. This reversed an earlier decision that they could not participate in elections. Secretary of state Alex Padilla announced the settlement between the state and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of California, which sued on behalf of nearly 60,000 people who became ineligible to vote when the 2014 secretary of state determined that community supervision was equivalent to parole.

Beatings by Guards Reported

In August, some prisoners in New York State's Clinton Correctional Facility reported beatings before being transferred, by guards trying to find the location of the two prisoners who had recently escaped from that facility.