



# RED & ANARCHIST ACTION NETWORK

## NETWORK NEWS #4 - WINTER 2004

### **Prisoner Support Group Creates "Marie Fund" to Ensure Abortion Access**

RAAN members in the DC area were involved this past September in raising a large sum of money to help the D.C. Prisoners' Legal Services Project make an abortion available to an incarcerated woman. The urgency of the cause later led to the Project's creation of a new "Marie Fund" to help with future cases. RAAN is publicising this in the hope that it draws support for the fund in the city and inspires projects like it elsewhere. What follows is an excerpt from the DC-PLSP's press release:

Marie was a client of D.C. Prisoners' Legal Services Project. She had been gang-raped a few weeks before she became incarcerated for a short sentence for a non-violent crime. At the intake examination, she was told she was pregnant. A guard told her there were no abortions allowed in the D.C. Jail. She was put in touch with D.C.

Prisoners' Legal Services Project by another prisoner. Her situation was not kept confidential, and she suffered taunts by guards both for being a victim of rape and for choosing abortion. After we took up her case, she was allowed to have an abortion, but no funds were made available for the procedure. D.C. Prisoners' Legal Services Project paid for it out of our limited resources. We don't know what would have happened if D.C. Prisoners' Legal Services Project wasn't available to help. In honor of her strength, The Marie Fund was established.

If you would like to donate to the fund or otherwise get involved with the project, please contact:  
D.C. Prisoners' Legal Services  
2639 Connecticut Ave., NE #225  
Washington, DC 20008  
(202) 775-0323  
[www.dcprisonerhelp.org](http://www.dcprisonerhelp.org)

### **Wild Oats struggle heating up in Cincinnati**

Despite the unfair firing of IWW organizer Tom Kappas, the union drive and push for better working conditions at the Norwood Wild Oats is going strong. Management continues to insist that Tom was fired for discounting 19 cents of fruit, but nobody is fooled! On September 25th, local Wobblies as well as RAAN affiliates, friends, and workers in the SEIU held an informational picket outside Wild Oats. Wobblies throughout the country organized solidarity pickets. Conditions at Wild Oats are not getting better and plans are being made for more action in the future.

You can contact the Local IWW 660 Branch through their email at [cincyiww@iww.org](mailto:cincyiww@iww.org) or through the web at <http://www.cincyiww.org>

### **Summer Report from the DAAA**

DAAA Collective of Modesto CA, has had a busy summer. After the wake of the FBI's "eco-terrorism" scare, the collective has stayed strong and active by carrying out numerous actions and events, as well as adding Ceres Food Not Bombs as a new subcollective.

In August, Collective members put on Reclaim the Parks in Modesto, in which roughly 100 homeless persons attended. Participants watched documentaries on organizations such as Copwatch and the Ontario Coalition Against Poverty (OCAP). Large quantities of food was provided to attendees, as well as a Know Your Rights training course. Later in the day 30 anarchists and anti-authoritarians took to the streets and marched unopposed. Marchers blocked traffic and shouted anti-police, pro-homeless slogans.

In Ceres in October, activists repeated the same event, but with heavy police harassment and surveillance. Both events were executed to bring attention to the police harassment of homeless people, as well as their forced expulsion from public parks.

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

## RAAN Report From the RNC

With an estimated 500,000 people from all over the country descending on New York City to protest the Republican National Convention (RNC), many were whispering about the possibility of "another Seattle". However, from our own observation, it was anything but the conflict escalation as seen in the streets of Seattle in 1999.

Don't be fooled by the high arrest numbers. There was very little direct action at the RNC, and the actions that did occur were short-lived and isolated. During the main march on the 29th, an anonymous anarchist set the large Don't Just Vote puppet on fire. Following this, there was a small confrontation with police, as well as another confrontation the following day at the Still We Rise march in which one police officer was hospitalized. Aside from these incidents, no other direct confrontation with the state was seen. The 2000 protestors who were arrested were almost all arrested on trumped up charges. Even during these unlawful arrests, there were no acts of civil disobedience observed, nor any attempts to fight back against these officers.

While it was nice to be in NYC and occasionally verbally abuse republican delegates, the protests were plagued with redundancy and an uncreative atmosphere. Much of the slogans were dominated by liberal and Stalinist rhetoric. However, anarchist marching bands and radical cheerleaders were present to provide a libertarian opposition to the RNC.

## Helping Build Community in DC

Following the organizational decentralization of DC's Kazm Collective, former members have been exploring varied ways of making the network's activity more effective and immediately relevant to the community. One of the more interesting ways that this has come about has been through the participation of former collective members in the maintenance of a collectively-run storefront/venue in Takoma Park, MD - The Electric Maid.

While varying numbers of RAAN activists have been involved on and off with the space for over a year now, until the recent reopening of the venue this was usually as volunteer labor for the construction projects needed to get the space up to code. Now that events are once again being held at The Maid, our concentration has shifted to reliably providing the collective with services such as security at shows and a cleanup/lockup crew. While the majority of bands that play the space are punk, RAAN has stayed away from the booking process except to introduce DJ and Jazz groups to the mix. Coupled with emerging electronic, folk, hip-hop and indie acts, The Maid has recently become a very interesting place for music.

RAAN's involvement with the space is in keeping with a new set of goals set out by its local affiliates, namely to temper "actually-effective" direct action with tangible participation in neighborhood projects. To us, the most important thing about The Maid is not the music that comes through, but the people - specifically the young adults - who use it as a safe space for social interaction and the exchange of ideas in a time when all-ages gatherings are becoming more and more uncommon. That the space officially charges nothing for entry, (though \$5 donations are recommended due to rent considerations) is even more important.

## The Global 3 Conference: Reclaiming Community and Environment

Plans are coming together for the Global3 Conference, happening at the University of Cincinnati April 8th-10th 2005. Speakers will include Derrick Jensen and John Zerzan, and there will be workshops on everything from self-publishing to DIY women's health. The conference will also host the 2005 national Crimethinc. convergence, among other caucuses. Global3 will be free to attend, housing will be available for all who need it. Every evening is going to be loaded with live music and film screenings.

For more information about the conference, visit <http://www.geocities.com/cincyglobal>.



*The Electric Maid is on the web at <http://www.maidspace.org>*