



Friends of Peace Pilgrim

A Non-Profit, Tax-Exempt, All Volunteer Organization
7350 Dorado Canyon Rd. ♦ Somerset, CA 95684 ♦ (530) 620-0333
www.peacepilgrim.org ♦ email: friends@peacepilgrim.org

Fall 2003

“Overcome evil with good, falsehood with truth, hatred with love” - Peace Pilgrim

Number 40

Dear Friends of Peace Pilgrim

The rising sun sends light into the living room of the Peace Pilgrim Center as I sit in silence to start the day. Bird song is in the air. Male finches sing from the porch rail protecting the nests filled with newly hatched babies. Blue jays and acorn woodpeckers call from the oak and pine trees surrounding the house. Redwing blackbirds at the nearby pond add their song to the chorus welcoming the morning. A new day dawns.

I am Kathy Miller, a member of our non-profit Friends of Peace Pilgrim board. I have been closely connected to the work of the Peace Pilgrim Center since March of 1998. November 1st, 2000 I joined the full-time volunteer team in Hemet. I was a part of the move to Somerset and have lived on site with John and Ann Rush since April of 2001.

John and Ann, beloved founders of the Peace Pilgrim Center, were feeling the weight of their years. Moving the Center to a new location, after 18 years in Hemet, was the first step in preparing for the transition that would occur when they felt it was time for them to move on.



John and Ann Rush – Fall 2002

Many times, Ann spoke of the little blue house right next to their daughter, Erica’s home in New Hampshire. John and Ann spoke lovingly of Erica, her husband, Albert, their grown children and their organic garden. Vegetarians can be quite passionate about an organic garden.

The last week of June this year, family members, daughter (Erica), son (Heath) granddaughter (Joanna) and one year old great-granddaughter (Isabel), gathered here to give love, support and the necessary physical labor to pack the treasures of a lifetime. A few days later, friends from far and near came to celebrate and honor John and Ann, their friendship and their life’s work for peace and justice. On July 13th, they moved on from California to New Hampshire.

Although they are no longer at the Peace Pilgrim Center, John and Ann plan to stay involved with Friends of Peace Pilgrim through the newsletter and special projects. You can greet them personally at (603) 542-9875 or write to John and Ann Rush, 261 Quaker City Road, Charlestown, NH 03603.

It was a great honor to work with John and Ann as they sent Peace Pilgrim’s message around the world. They have been wonderful teachers sharing their stories of Peace and telling me about their adventures throughout the years.

Friends of Peace Pilgrim is a humble but wide-ranging organization serving the cause of peace all over the world. You are all Friends of Peace Pilgrim. Your letters, email and phone calls are inspiring. We can encourage and uplift each other as we discover that inner peace is an idea whose time has come.

Grace, Peace and Love, Kathy Miller

INSIDE #40

Lessons from Peace Pilgrim by Cheryl Canfield	2
A Time of Change in Stewardship	3
On the Trail of Peace by Bruce Nichols	4
New Offerings: Hebrew and Arabic Steps	5
Letters	6
Offerings	7
Fifty Years Ago	8
Aren’t People Good by John and Ann Rush	8

Lessons from Peace Pilgrim

By Cheryl Canfield

Having just returned from Hawaii, I am reminded of my first experience in that tropical paradise. It was in the summer of 1980, when I went with my beloved friend and mentor, Peace Pilgrim, and 16 others on an inspirational and educational retreat. It was an extraordinary experience of living simply, sleeping outdoors, fixing vegetarian meals over an open fire, and enjoying the beauty of nature.

It wasn't the first time I had joined Peace in such an adventure. The previous summer I had had the great pleasure of traveling with her in another group she led to Alaska. There we also traveled simply, touring in cars, sleeping and cooking our meals outdoors, and listening to Peace talk around the campfire each morning and evening. The memories are like precious snapshots in my mind.

Her stories and her inspiration have had an enormous impact on my life. Most especially, her courage and conviction were backed by her living example. I remember getting up one early morning in a remote campground in Alaska and heading for the rustic bathroom. When I got there the entrance was blocked by a pack of wild dogs, who emitted low growls as the hair on their backs stood up. I backed away and returned to the security of the group. Peace saw me coming and said, "That was quick!" I told her about the dogs. "Don't be afraid," she said, and beckoned me to follow. She walked to the bathroom with firm steps while I followed tentatively behind. When we got there Peace looked at the dogs and pointed into the woods. "Go on," she commanded. "Be gone now!" and off the dogs went, tails between their legs.

I never imagined that those extraordinary times with Peace, someone so vital and alive and vibrant, would come to such an abrupt end. But they did. And in time I realized that she had left behind a great gift. It was the reminder to look within. "Don't look to me. Look to your own inner teacher," she would say. I had understood intellectually, but it wasn't until she was gone that I really began to understand this important lesson. She had helped me gain the courage to see life through my own eyes, and to trust my inner voice.

This lesson has served me well, and never more so than when I was diagnosed with advanced cancer eight years after Peace's death. It was devastating news. Doctors told me I might not live long enough to see the child my daughter was pregnant with. They also told

me that my only chance for survival was a very radical surgery, so delicate that only a handful of doctors were qualified to perform it. But a thought popped into my awareness like a red neon light: If I had the surgery I would die on the operating table. It came with such certainty that I opted to trust it. It was the same kind of certainty I had heard Peace talk about. The journey that followed was scary sometimes but it was also exhilarating. I connected with something inside of me that was very strong. I knew I might die. I also knew it wasn't inevitable. The outcome was in higher hands.

Peace's death had taught me that nothing in this material world can be taken for granted. Life is transient and even though we know that, on some level the sudden imminent possibility of leaving the body is shocking. How can this be happening? I had so much yet to learn and so many stories to tell. I hoped I would have time. Fourteen years have ensued since that diagnosis and my body is now healthy and strong. I've learned so much and still there is so much more to learn. The stories never end. Life is precious. I treasure the short time that my path crossed Peace's in this life and for all of the experiences that have opened my eyes to the beauty around me.



(Cheryl Canfield is one of the compilers of *Peace Pilgrim: Her Life and Work in Her Own Words*, and author of *Peace Pilgrim's Wisdom* and the recently published, *Profound Healing: the Power of Acceptance on the Path to Wellness*, a book about Cheryl's stories that includes her meeting and experiences with Peace Pilgrim.)

A Time of Change in Peace Pilgrim Stewardship

Richard Polese
Secretary, Friends of Peace Pilgrim

A dedicated group of friends of Peace Pilgrim gathered again at the Peace Pilgrim Center in June, a tradition and responsibility repeated every year since Friends of Peace Pilgrim was formed in 1985. We came to Somerset knowing that this was an especially important time for us, the people who serve as directors of the Friends of Peace Pilgrim non-profit organization. John and Ann were preparing to depart a few weeks later for their new home in New Hampshire. We saw that many responsibilities that had been largely theirs were about to pass to our collective hands. We all gladly accept our roles as humble stewards of the activities that continue Peace's message, as well as stewards of the work done by John and Ann over the past two decades.

Cheryl Canfield, one of the five compilers of the *Peace Pilgrim* book and author of a guide to living with Peace's wisdom, was chosen as new president of Friends of Peace Pilgrim. Ann received our honor as President Emeritus, in recognition of her special role over the past two decades. Bruce Nichols became treasurer of our group a few months earlier, having taken on a role ably carried by John for many years.

Looking for a way to continue Peace's work in the world, the five compilers of *Peace Pilgrim: Her Life and Work in Her Own Words*, had come together in California eighteen years ago to create our small non-profit group of helpers. The compilers (Cheryl Canfield, John and Ann, Andy Zubko, and myself) became the board of directors, a requirement of California law. Jeff Blom, a long-time volunteer at the Peace Pilgrim Center in Hemet, replaced Andy on the board when Andy moved on to new activities. Two years ago we decided to expand our group to seven, bringing in both Kathy Miller and Bruce.

Cheryl first met Peace Pilgrim when Peace was hosted by the Theosophical Society in Wheaton, Illinois where Cheryl was working in the mid-1970s. She helped Peace with her "inspirational and educational tours" of Alaska in 1979 and Hawaii in 1980. After Peace's transition, Cheryl joined with two other friends to organize the Prayer for Peace Pilgrimage, a cross-country walk that left San Francisco on Easter Sunday in 1982 and arrived in Washington DC six months later, where she and other walkers held a vigil in front of the White House for 36

hours. In following years, she led the programs for Peace Pilgrim retreats on the Green River and Lake Powell in Utah. In 1996, *Peace Pilgrim's Wisdom: A Very Simple Guide*, Cheryl's compilation of 365 of Peace Pilgrim thoughts for use as a path of spiritual growth, was published by Blue Dove Press and Ocean Tree Books. Cheryl recently authored *Profound Healing: The Power of Acceptance on the Path to Wellness*. A wellness and life counselor today, Cheryl says of our board, "I'm very happy with the collective effort and the way we are all contributing in Peace Pilgrim fashion."

Bruce Nichols developed and maintains our now fully integrated Peace Pilgrim website that can be viewed at <www.peacepilgrim.org>. He also has been helping John and Kathy with technical and record-keeping tasks. You may read more about his interesting life in this issue. Cheryl lives in Groveland, in the Sierra foothills not far from Somerset. Bruce lives in Shelton, Connecticut. Jeff is in San Diego where he operates Blue Dove Press and the Blue Dove Foundation. I'm Richard Polese, secretary for our group. I take the meeting notes and manage production of our printed materials throughout the year. I live in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where the Friends of Peace Pilgrim journey began and where the *Peace Pilgrim* book was compiled. Kathy, of course, oversees daily activities at the Peace Pilgrim Center in Somerset, including supervising volunteers and handling inquiries and requests from all over the world.

Being a non-profit group helps our common mission in several ways, including reduced rate postal service and providing for tax-deductible contributions.

Friends of Peace Pilgrim exists for the following purposes, according to our bylaws: "to produce and send out to those who ask, books, pamphlets and tapes conveying the message of Peace Pilgrim; to offer talks about Peace Pilgrim and show videos of her speaking; to operate a Peace Pilgrim Center where visitors may come to study her message; and to explore other ways (such as writing articles and facilitating the making of a film) of spreading her message." The board members cooperate on the preparation of the newsletter and make decisions concerning the books and media we offer and the operation of the Center.

In newsletters to come, you will learn more about our board people and their interesting lives of service. As Peace Pilgrim believed, we are all called to serve the cause of peace and truth in unique ways. While everyone must listen to his or her own "still, small voice within," we also receive inspiration and encouragement from one another, and always from you!

On the Trail of Peace – Notes on an Appalachian Trail Journey

By Bruce Nichols – Peace Pilgrim webmaster

“From May to October of 1952, before the pilgrimage, I walked the 2,000 miles of the Appalachian Trail, from Georgia to Maine...” (Peace Pilgrim: Her Life and Works in Her Own Words, page 54.)

On May 1 of 2002, almost 50 years to the day since Peace Pilgrim started her historic Appalachian Trail walk, I hiked the seven miles of trail from Amicalola Falls State Park to the top of Springer Mountain in Georgia to begin my own journey on the AT. I would also finish in October and walk the trail in much the same fashion, hiking north to Harpers Ferry then jumping to Mt. Katahdin in Maine to complete my journey of 2,168 miles by walking south back to West Virginia.



Bruce on the trail in Pennsylvania

Many people do not know that Peace Pilgrim, in 1952, the year before beginning her pilgrimage, became the first woman to walk the entire Appalachian Trail in one season. Only four years before, in 1948, Earl Shaffer became the first person ever to walk the trail in a single year.

At the start of my walk I carried a few *Steps* booklets to share and a copy of the *Peace Pilgrim* book that was given away early in the walk. I also carried a supply of small foil wrappers from Hershey’s chocolates which I folded into origami cranes and pasted into trail registers. Around the delicate little birds I would write, “May Peace Prevail on the Appalachian Trail.” My trail name became “Bird

Man” and folding and sharing those bright little messengers of peace became an important part of my trail experience.

Early in the walk I thought I would focus a lot on Peace Pilgrim and her message but quickly discovered that, as much as I would honor Peace on my journey and as often as I would feel her presence along the trail, it was really “my own walk” that I was doing and not just a repeat of hers. Peace Pilgrim always encouraged people to find their own place in the scheme of things and I realized the journey I was making had to be my own. And it certainly was.

The trail became not only a journey through space and time but also a deeply spiritual journey. Without having any preliminary intention, I found myself beginning a wonderful spiritual practice that became a daily fixture as I started down the trail in the early morning. For anywhere from a half hour to an hour and a half I walked peacefully and receptively. The experience was spontaneous and almost organic and included my walking, prayer, singing, enjoying the great beauty and silence of the wilderness, breathing, and much more. Surrounded by the beauties of nature and settled into a more human pace of about two miles per hour, I experienced great peace and joy as I journeyed.

There are two short Peace Pilgrim related stories I’d like to share:

While hiking in central Virginia, I discovered a *Peace Pilgrim* book left in a shelter by another hiker. I passed this along to a trail friend who had been moving north at about the same pace I had. Two months later I discovered the same book deposited in another shelter in Pennsylvania where my friend had left it when he finished reading. He had written some comments about Peace’s profound message and the references to the trail that she makes on page 54. Others had also penned comments both in the book and in the trail register about the incredibly inspiring story of the first woman to walk the entire AT in one season.

My last night on the trail was spent in an old log lean-to about 15 miles north of Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. It had been built in the early 1940’s and had sheltered hikers for most of the trail’s existence. I had taken almost five million steps since leaving Springer Mountain in Georgia; many along the same old wilderness paths that Peace had walked 50 years before. As I lay on the warped and weathered boards surrounded by the damp cool darkness of a rainy October night, I felt very strongly that Peace Pilgrim had also stopped at this location while on the

Appalachian Trail - continued

trail in 1952. I was filled with an incredible sense of gratitude for the great gifts that the Appalachian Trail had given me, for the deep influence and inspiration that Peace has brought into my life, and for her enduring legacy – a gift to us all.

There are more experiences and insights from the trail than I could possibly share in this newsletter. My journals and some photographs can be found at this web address: <www.shinealight.com/trail/>.

“If you are free, I recommend a hiking trip on a wilderness footpath. How inspiring it is to walk all day in the sunshine and sleep all night under the stars. What a wonderful experience in simple, natural living. ...You soon put material things in their proper place, realizing that they are there for use, but relinquishing them when they are not useful. You soon experience and learn to appreciate the great freedom of simplicity.” (Peace Pilgrim: Her Life and Works in Her Own Words, page 54.)

More information on Peace Pilgrim’s 1952 Appalachian Trail Hike can be found on the Peace Pilgrim website at: <www.peacepilgrim.org/ap_trail.htm>.

New Offerings from Friends of Peace Pilgrim

Steps in Arabic and Hebrew



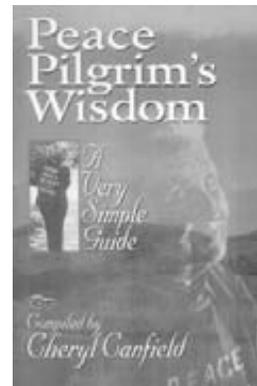
Hebrew

Arabic

It is a crucial time for peacemaking in the Holy Land between the war-weary Israelis and Palestinians. The courageous people working for peace in that area need to know that Peace's *Steps Toward Inner Peace* in Arabic and in Hebrew are available now and in quantity! The Arabic *Steps* is 48 pages and the Hebrew edition is 32 pages, but they contain the same text as the original English language editions. Both measure 3-1/2 by 6, the same as the familiar English edition, and can be easily packaged and mailed in a standard envelope. Friends of Peace Pilgrim produced these editions. Both are in stock here and can be ordered through the Peace Pilgrim Center.

Peace Pilgrim’s Wisdom: A Very Simple Guide

Compiled by Cheryl Canfield



Cheryl’s book is now available through Friends of Peace Pilgrim. The book contains 365 of Peace’s thoughts – one for every day of the year – with space provided for your own insights. Designed to help you integrate simple spiritual truths into your own life, *Peace Pilgrim’s Wisdom* is a powerful companion for spiritual growth.

“Steps Toward Inner Peace” Audio

Over the past twenty years we have sent out almost one and a half million of the little *Steps* booklets. Now, for the first time, it is available as a “stand alone” audio. Narrated by Ann Rush, this spiritual classic is the transcript of a radio talk Peace Pilgrim gave in Los Angeles. She would often share the booklet with her hosts as she traveled the country during her pilgrimage. She relates her own steps toward inner peace and gives ideas about developing personal inner peace and working toward peace in the world. Order from the Friends of Peace Pilgrim Center.

Letters

FROM A PRISONER

Thanks so much for continuing to see that Peace's book stays circulating. The impact it has had on me and others is profound. I'm finishing up a three-year prison term and requested a copy almost a year ago. After reading it, I began passing it on to other men that were on their own paths to healing. I finally gave it to my cellmate and he's taking it with him to the streets. Who knows how many other souls will see it?

In the last two years I have had the opportunity to read countless spiritual, philosophical, and psychological books as well as the Bible. Peace's practical approach to inner peace and service was one of my most prized publications. Can you please send me another copy with a few *Steps Toward Inner Peace* so I can have a copy? In the interest of brevity, I'll close, but I could prattle on singing the praises of her life's work. Keep up the good work!

God bless you all. J.C.E.

FROM RUSSIA

I feel so deeply overjoyed every time I receive a newsletter from you. Words fail me miserably to convey my joy at knowing that so many people worldwide are conscientiously trying to fortify and strengthen one another, to help and lift one another, to give encouragement and build faith, to strengthen relationships, to revitalize neighborhoods, to unify nations and even to bring peace to a troubled world.

I am so ever grateful to you for having so drastically changed my life for the better, making it meaningful, keeping it bright and filled with beautiful things. As much as opportunity permits I share this marvelous message of peace with people in conversation, through mail, and via internet. This is a rich and rewarding correspondence to me, wherein I am blessed to have found my special friends who are a wonderful part of my life. I have learnt that being different as we may be, but in the heart –where it really counts – we are a lot alike.

Thank you so much for the peace you bring in our hearts and homes. Thank you for that influence for good you have in this world. Thank you for encouragement and reaching out to all mankind.

*Sincerely yours, Dima Ianov
142116, MO, Podolsk RTS
Pokrovskaya St. 5-1 Russia
Email - ianovdima@hotmail.com*

And E-mail

Dear Friends,

I want to warmly thank you for publishing free of charge on your Internet site Peace Pilgrim's book, *Peace Pilgrim: Her Life and Work in Her Own Words*, which I have printed and read daily. It is a spiritual road map that has brought great blessing and direction to my life.

Thank you for your work in sharing Peace Pilgrim's life with the world. Your site is visually and spiritually very beautiful.

Sincerely, Margaret Tlustos

Thankyou, Thankyou, Thankyou, Thankyou, ...

Thank you for holding up the Peace Pilgrim torch long enough for me to find it! I have been stumbling along the wandering path towards inner peace and enlightenment for many years and was simply awestruck when I happened to encounter your www.peacepilgrim.org web site (thanks to a link from www.eatveg.com). WOW! A real-life Buddha in my lifetime! As I read the online version of her message that you have selflessly provided (first *Steps* then *Her Life and Work*), each line rang true as a bell in my mind and my heart. I was brought to tears of joy as I realized that I had finally found a pure, unadulterated source of the truth and the way to inner Peace and Love! I sure wish that I could have met her in person, but I am heartened (and literally jumping for joy!) that her message was recorded verbatim and is being lovingly distributed by y'all. Right now I wish to study her message as deeply as possible (and pass on her message to my close friends and relatives). Once again, THANK YOU!

Jeff Roberson, Utah

We love hearing from friends of Peace Pilgrim all over the world. Write to us at:

Friends of Peace Pilgrim
7350 Dorado Canyon Road
Somerset, CA, 95684 USA
Email – friends@peacepilgrim.org

Needed: Volunteer with Volkswagen skills to make our "Spirit of Peace" 1977 VW van again roadworthy. It stalls and needs to be made ready for smog inspection, but otherwise is in very good condition--with a fine history serving the cause of peace! It is at the Center in Somerset.

OFFERINGS FROM FRIENDS OF PEACE PILGRIM

Dear Friends of Peace Pilgrim: Here are the publications we offer. Since many inquire about sending donations, we are listing the approximate cost for materials and postage after each item. This does not include our operating expenses. Friends of Peace Pilgrim is an all volunteer 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Donations and bequests are welcomed and tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. All money goes directly to our work, helping us to continue producing and distributing materials to anyone including those who choose not to make donations.

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. Our printing and postage costs: \$3 for one book. \$2.25 for each additional book. Full Carton (currently 40 books) \$80.

PEACE PILGRIM (Compact Edition), 224 pages. This book is the same as the Standard Edition except it is smaller. Our costs: \$2.25 for one book, \$1.50 for each additional book. Full Carton (currently 48 books) \$60.

PEREGRINA DE PAZ: Su Vida Y Obra en Sus Propias Palabras, 216 pages. (Spanish edition of the *Peace Pilgrim* book) Our costs: \$3.50 for one book, \$3 for each additional book.

STEPS TOWARD INNER PEACE, 32 pages. Peace Pilgrim relates her own steps toward inner peace and gives ideas about working for world peace. Our costs: 1-4 copies, 50 cents each. Each additional copy, 30 cents. Box of 100, \$27. Box of 500, \$125.

(*Steps Toward Inner Peace* is also available from the Center in Spanish, Chinese, Arabic and Hebrew. Please call or write for further information.)

PEACE PILGRIM'S WISDOM: A Very Simple Guide by Cheryl Canfield, 224 pages. Includes 365 quotes from Peace Pilgrim – one for every day – and a study guide by Cheryl offering suggestions to help integrate these simple spiritual truths into your life. Our costs: \$5 each.

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. Our costs: \$1.50 each.

THE PEACE PILGRIM COLORING BOOK. 26 large pages by our two volunteers, Barbara Werner and Gary Guthrie. Our costs: \$3 each.

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. Our duplicating and postage costs: \$3 each.

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. Another friend, Sue Millard, sings a song composed by Peace Pilgrim. Our costs: \$3 each.

DALLAS CHURCHES, 1979 (60 minutes). Two talks which are 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." Our costs: \$3 each.

PEACE PILGRIM'S SPIRITUAL GROWTH (67 minutes). The sound track of the first hour of the "Speaking to a College Class" video (*described under Videos Cassetts*). At the end of Side B, Peace Pilgrim relates one of her prison experiences. Our costs: \$3 each.

STEPS TOWARD INNER PEACE. Available for the first time as a separate audio tape! Narrated by Ann Rush. Our costs \$3 each

PEACE PILGRIM BOOK AND STEPS ALBUM. Eight audio cassette series narrated by Ann Rush. Our costs: \$18.

VIDEO CASSETTES ABOUT PEACE PILGRIM

INTERVIEWS OF PEACE PILGRIM (62 minutes). Includes a short TV program, from *PM Magazine*, an interview for FUSION on WIFR-TV in Rockford, Illinois, and a 30-minute interview conducted at Pensacola Junior College in Florida. Our costs: \$6 each.

ANSWERING QUESTIONS (55 minutes). Peace Pilgrim in an interesting question and answer session with students in Applied Psychology at the University of Georgia, 1977. Our costs: \$6 each.

SPEAKING TO A COLLEGE CLASS (2 hours). Peace Pilgrim speaking at California State University in Los Angeles. A good tape for those who want to make a more in-depth study of Peace Pilgrim's message. Our costs: \$8 each.

SPECIAL 30 MINUTE VIDEO. Highlights of other videos selected for showing to new audiences. Peace Pilgrim tells a few of her most interesting experiences. Our costs: \$5 each.

THE SPIRIT OF PEACE. (71 minute documentary). Interviews of those who knew Peace Pilgrim and those who were inspired by her message. Our costs: \$8 each.

PEACE PILGRIM: An American Sage Who Walked Her Talk (approximately one hour). A recent professional quality documentary film on video, about Peace Pilgrim. Includes much new historical footage and important new interviews. Our costs: \$8 each.

PAL SYSTEM. All videos are available in the PAL system, which is compatible with European television. Our duplicating and postage costs: 62 minute and 55 minute videos \$11; two hour video \$12; 30-minute video \$10; documentaries \$10.

BACK ISSUES OF OUR NEWSLETTER. Printing and postage costs per issue, 50 cents. Inquire about availability.

Send Requests to: Friends of Peace Pilgrim, 7350 Dorado Canyon Road, Somerset, CA 95684, USA
Or call (530) 620-0333 or Email: friends@peacepilgrim.org

Fifty Years Ago – August 1953



HIKING FOR PEACE

MYSTERY WOMAN

**Nameless ‘Peace pilgrim’
Walking Toward Detroit**

KALAMAZOO, Aug. 26. -- (UP) -- An anonymous lady “peace pilgrim,” who plans to wander the earth afoot “until mankind learns the way to peace” was headed for Detroit today.

The graying, middle-aged woman, who refused to say who she was or from whence she came, is walking to New York from Los Angeles.

She started her trip last New Year’s Day, and carries neither baggage, blankets nor food. She said she “walks until given shelter, fasts until given food.”

Painted on her tunic are the words “Peace Pilgrim” and “walking from coast to coast for peace.”

“Who I am is unimportant,” she said. “Just call me peace pilgrim. I have no family. Until mankind learns the way to peace I shall remain a wanderer on the face of the earth.”

The slim, 115-pound woman accepts no rides, “but anyone interested in my cause may walk with me,” she said.

She averages 25 miles a day and plans to be in New York by Christmas, after a stop in Washington to leave a petition at the White House calling for a world peace department.

She has encountered no trouble so far in her 5,000 mile hike.

“I have no fear. I have discovered that if you love everyone, you are in no danger. If you smile, you get a smile in return.”

AREN'T PEOPLE GOOD...

...said Peace Pilgrim when telling about the kindness of people she met on her pilgrimage. Many good people have helped us move to New Hampshire. To list them would take a lot of space. Our daughter and son-in-law invited us to move into a small house on their property near their home. They continue to help us get settled.

We have experienced many good people during the last 20 years who have helped us spread Peace Pilgrim's message. Now is the time to let others take over the work we have been doing.

We feel a certain sadness in leaving the work we have been involved with for the last 20 years. We now need to give more attention to our health. The volunteers at the Center are doing good work with the help of the board members.

It has been a joy to spread Peace Pilgrim's message. We welcome visitors to our new home at:

*John and Ann Rush
261 Quaker City Road
Charlestown, NH 03603
Phone (603) 542-9875
Email – johnrush85@yahoo.com*



**Friends of Peace Pilgrim
7350 Dorado Canyon Road
Somerset, CA 95684**

Change Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SOMERSET, CA 95684
PERMIT #22