

Veterans for Peace Sheboygan

2014 Speaker Series



Veterans for Peace Sheboygan, Chapter #114 opened its 2014 Speaker Series at Mead Library on August 6th. To inform and stimulate discussion, the series will bring interesting and knowledgeable people to Sheboygan to address historic and current topics of interest to the peace and justice community.

The first speaker was Ms. Mary Diamond, educator, army veteran, world traveler and human rights advocate. Her topic; "The Influx of Child Refugees to the US, Causes, Effects, and Possible Solutions" was well received and followed with breakout action discussion groups.

In September Rev. Joseph Ellwanger, author of *Strength for the Struggle* will present "Courage for the Struggle"; speaking on his years of human rights activism in Birmingham Alabama in the early 1960's with his wife Joyce, their work in civil rights issues in Milwaukee, and more recently the Sanctuary Movement. Mrs. Ellwanger will provide highlights of her involvement with Father Roy Bourgeois and the School of the Americas Watch, an annual protest of what many see as our government's domestic terrorist training base at Ft. Benning, Georgia, and the price she paid for her convictions. Join them Wednesday September 24th, at 6pm in the Rocca Room at Mead Public Library.

This October, Navy veteran Ms. Alyssa Holschbach offers: "Burn Pits: What are they? What are the risks? What should be done?" She will briefly discuss her recent tour of duty in Afghanistan and then the very real effect these burn pits had on her while deployed there. Learn what burn pits are, the potential health risks, the environmental effects, and the politics behind the Dept. of Veterans Affairs' Open Burn Pit Registry; along with research into and current recognition of deployment-related diseases. At the Rocca Room at Mead Public Library, Thursday October 23, at 6pm.

For more information on the series or individual events, please check our website vetsforpeacesheboygan.org, contact Craig Wayh at lakefire@gmail.com, or Tom Contrestan at 920-208-9427.