

Peace Day to feature speakers, entertainment

by Anita Hecht and Nathan Anderson

This Saturday, a coalition of campus activist groups will present Peace Day: A Celebration of Life, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on central campus.

Peace Day creates a perfect excuse to blow off studies and catch some rays. But more importantly, Peace Day aims to inform the students of the "happenings" in campus activist groups and provide a forum for important issues to be discussed by informed lecturers and interested students.

The Super-Committee on Peace Day is seeking to define peace as more than just the absence of armed conflict, but rather as a dynamic striving for tolerance and world improvement. It is an attempt to expose interested people to the particular groups which have each chosen their own way of promoting peace here at Grinnell and in the world.

Each campus activist group has planned events to inform you about their group and their subject of concern. Stimulating speakers will enrapture you, campus bands, singers, and dancers will entertain you, and each group will be present to answer your every question and to discuss concerns. Marimba band, Dance Troupe, Sacred Harp, and special guest Alma Iowana will all perform. Check the schedule and be there — Peace!

Participating in Peace Day will be:

Freeze and Disarm

Freeze and Disarm was born and incorporated last year. From its inception it has been primarily concerned with providing information on the nuclear issue to the campus community.

The group has sponsored films, panel discussions, and speakers throughout the last two years, including the "What about the Russians?" week last year. Members of the group practiced civil disobedience at the Strategic Air Command base in Omaha, Neb., last semester, and worked as a group in the Iowa Caucuses.

Freeze and Disarm will be sponsoring Timothy Button of the Iowa freeze campaign who will discuss the political future of the freeze.



South African Support Group

SASG, in its current incarnation, began in the autumn of 1981 for the purpose of effecting total withdrawal of Grinnell's funds from companies operating in South Africa.

The group feels that American financial interest in that country helps support the racist policies of the white minority government of South Africa, and its inhumane system of apartheid.

Our speaker, Sello Rasethaba is a South African citizen and is currently a business student at the University of Iowa. He has been politically active in both countries as a strong opponent of apartheid.

Central American Study Group
CASG was founded last fall as a response to the U.S. invasion of Grenada. The group's objective is to provide information on Central American and Caribbean issues to the campus community and to aid individuals in making decisions on political action.

Activities so far include establishing an information file in the library and bringing Verne Lyon to speak. On Monday, April 30, Sister Gwin Hennessey, head of the Des Moines Catholic Ministry, will be speaking on Human Rights in Nicaragua and Honduras.

For Peace Day, CASG is sponsoring a talk by a refugee from El Salvador who now lives in Des Moines.



Amnesty International
Amnesty International, a worldwide human rights organization, works to eliminate the inhumane treatment of all prisoners.

It opposes torture and the death penalty without reservation. In addition, Amnesty works for the eventual release of prisoners of conscience — men and women anywhere who are imprisoned for their beliefs, color, sex or religion (provided that they have not used or advocated the use of violence).

Although the Grinnell College network group has existed for only the last year, during this period it has sponsored several activities. These include letter-writing sessions, presentations by former prisoners of conscience, the movie "Your Neighbor's Son," and generally increasing awareness of the human rights violations throughout the world.

In the future the Grinnell group will co-adopt a prisoner of conscience with the Des Moines group. This involves a constant application of pressure through letters and publicity to the government holding the prisoner until s/he is freed.

In addition, the Grinnell group will participate in the Campaign Against Torture and thus utilize specific steps to bring torture closer to extinction. Amnesty will have a booth with more information at Peace Day.

Grinnell College Gay Community
GCGC exists to provide support for lesbian and gay members of the college community. The function of the organization is both political and social; it provides both a non-threatening atmosphere for gay students to get together, and a forum to explore political and personal issues affecting lesbians and gays.

Peace Day speakers will be Mary Jane Constant and Matthew Adams, speaking on Gay issues.

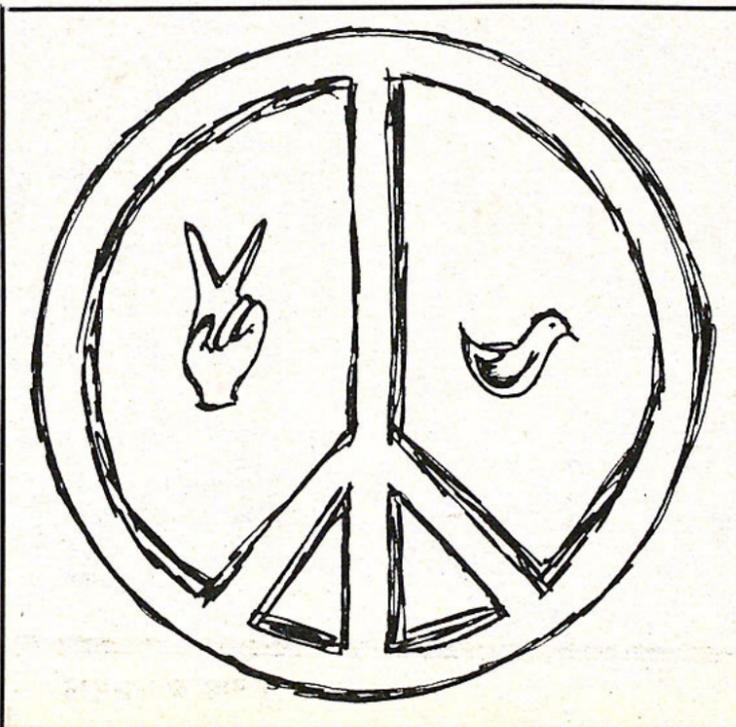
Environmental Group
Environmental Group is a small group of students who are deeply concerned about the tragic state of the natural environment.

We believe that without some radical changes in society's views of treatment of the environment, this planet will soon be a wasteland. To achieve such changes, Environmental Group sponsors letter-writing campaigns, brings educational films and speakers to campus, and is closely affiliated with the campus Audubon chapter.

At Peace Day, Environmental Group will sponsor State Representative David Osterberg. Osterberg has long been active in the environmental movement and has always been a strong supporter of peace issues. His topic Saturday will be the issue of toxic wastes.

Draft/Registration/CO Group
The Draft/Registration/Co group started in the Vietnam era. Now primarily concerned with the current registration of males in the country, it provides information on conscientious objector issues to the campus community.

Members have also formed another group which tried to convince the trustees to create a loan fund for non-registrants who have lost their federal financial aid through the Solomon Amendment. This latter group succeeded in obtaining campus jobs for those affected and also raised money to help defray the loss.



PEACE DAY SCHEDULE

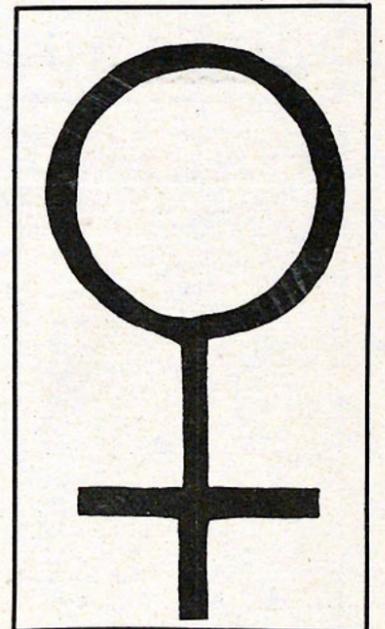
- 11:00 — Keynote Address: Samuel Day, Progressive Magazine.
- 11:40 — Celestial Sacred Harp.
- 12:00 — SASG: Sello Rasethaba, South African citizen.
- 12:30 — Environmental Group: David Osterberg, State Representative, District 43.
- 1:00 — Freeze and Disarm: Tim Buttons, Iowa freeze movement.
- 1:30 — Women's Group: Skit "Law" Or "Ladies Against Women".
- 1:40 — GCGC: Mary Jane Constant and Matthew Adams, Grinnell GCGC.
- 2:00 — Alma Iowans, special musical guests from Stone City.
- 3:00 — CASG: Grinnell Marimba Band (set I)
- 3:30 — CASG: Jesus Campus, El Salvadoran refugee.
- 3:50 — CASG: Grinnell Marimba Band (set II)
- 4:15 — WRL: Bill Douglas, National Committee member of WRL.
- 4:35 — Dance Troupe.

The CO group will be providing information at Peace Day for both students and prospectives.

Black Student Council
Black Student Council has been active on campus, most recently having planned Black History Month which took as its theme "Blacks in the Political Process." The group will sponsor an information booth at the Peace Day. Formerly the aged Concerned Black Students (CBS) the group has been the means of black Grinnellians articulating and effectuating policy/institutional considerations.

War Resisters League
WRL makes its campus debut at Peace Day, although it has been a nationally prestigious peace organization for decades. Bill Douglas, National Committee member, will speak at Peace Day.

Women's Group
The Grinnell College Women's Group has been around for a number of years and is primarily



concerned with women's issues on the college campus and in the world at large.

The group has arranged a number of faculty/student informal lecture and discussion sessions throughout the year. Speakers have included Ken Christiansen on socio-biological sex roles, Dan Magursahk on abortion, Sally Griffith on Women in the Social Sciences, and Linda Johnsrud on women and careers. These discussions have been quite successful in providing an informal educational forum for students and teachers to interact.

Women's Group also raised and sent money to the Seneca Peace Encampment in New York state. They coordinated Escort Service this past year and were also responsible for compiling the campus health booklets distributed last semester.

During Peace Day we will have a table set up for those of you interested in women's issues and the current activities of the group. The hilarious skit "LAW" or "Ladies Against Women!" will also be performed in central campus. Don't miss it, or the baked goodies that are sure to put your tummies at peace.