

We condemn war as the greatest destroyer of civilizations and the major hazard to the continued existence of the human species.

We utterly deny all human wars with outward weapons for any end, neither for the Kingdom of the Divine, nor the kingdoms of this world.

We distinguish between law, as just and orderly procedures against individuals, and war, as the destruction of cities, nations and ethnic groups with which an evil person's acts may have some relationship; or where economic or other advantages may accrue.

Peace Committee of NCYM Peace Exhibit

All entries must use the story/pageant, Civilization & Survival ~ It All Depends on the Students

as a starting point/basis for visual expression about the importance of peace but may reframe for our time remaining true to the theme of the original story.

Open to Middle School Age and Above

Entries should be marked "Peace Story" and each piece labeled with Name, Age, Address, and Phone Number.

All are due in the North Carolina Yearly Meeting Office; 4811 Hilltop Road, Greensboro, NC 26407 no later than January 31, 2012

Multiple view photographs may be sent in lieu of 3-D pieces. All work sent will remain with the Peace Committee until after all exhibits and slides/photographs are taken to be used throughout the Yearly Meeting for various presentations and occasions

Artists of selected work will be notified by February 20, 2012

For more information contact Hugh Spaulding, chair of the Peace and Social Issues Committee (336) 498-2350 or hspaulding@triad.rr.com

Work will be returned to the artists and will be arranged via the Peace Committee

How would YOU visually express this story of PEACE?



Civilization & Survival - It All Depends on the Students

The pageant starts with the esquire in his multicolored garments, on his gaily decorated horse, bearing his gonfalon with a flag of blue letter on a crimson field. The message the gonfalon bore was:

**A Just and Orderly
Healthy World
Free of War.**

As the esquire passed, there was immense joyous cheering from the great crowd and he was followed by jugglers and musicians in their colorful tights.

Then, the second esquire and his fine horse came by with his gonfalon of words of orange on yellow, which said:

**In order to have this
all people everywhere
must have the rights
and obligations
substantially as set out in the
U.S. Constitution
and Bill of Rights.**

Following that, there was again great rejoicing, with pipers piping and fifty virgins, all in white, singing and dancing and strewing flowers.

Then came the third esquire on his great horse, whose gonfalon said, in stark black set out on clear white:

**This will require tremendous
dedication and immense
expense, great and continual effort
and constant and continuous
sacrifice; even, perhaps, in the nature
of what has always been required by
war.**

Following this was complete silence,
no jugglers,
no pipers,
no virgins.

As that esquire passed on, there came a gold plated golf cart bearing a large and clearly set out sign. Following it were eight white, three yellow, and one black C.E.O.s (Chief Executive Officers) of great international corporations.

They walked serenely, calmly, exuding wealth, importance, power and authority.

Their sign said:

**The agencies that control this Earth;
which are the Military, the Religious,
and the Business
(which includes politics)
know fully and completely how
this Earth is run,
and, as it always has, it will continue
to be that the ultimate conditions of
human life are determined by
WAR.**

Then, as they calmly passed on, in their full authority, there came shambling along a little old man with scraggly whiskers. He was holding an old piece of cardboard on which was scrawled:

*If all students everywhere
considered each class and subject,
and their educational career, and
their life careers, constantly in light
of how it contributes to a
just and orderly, healthy world,
free of war,
then perhaps, they can lead us out
of the terrible cycle of death,
destruction and suffering that war
has always brought; so that
civilization may continue and our
species survive.*

This is the purpose of Education.

And, on his old sweat shirt, it said on the front:

**A just and orderly, healthy world,
free of war**

and on the back:

**Civilization and Survival
It All Depends on the Students.**

Then, he shambled on along and a couple of stray dogs came by, looking for scraps.

The pageant was over and everyone went off to trade some stocks on the net.

Written by James Mattocks