



Peace Brigades International-USA Annual Report 2009-2010

Year in Review November 2009—November 2010

- **Organized and participated in five US Advocacy Speaking Tours featuring:** *Colombian HRD's Delegation* with Alvaro Manzano, ACVC, Bernardo Vivas, CAVIDA, and Fabian Laverde, COS-PACC, November, 2009 (NYC, DC, NC, SC, GA), with participation at the School of Americas Watch vigil; *Human Rights in Nepal* with returning PBI-USA volunteer, Krystal Mason, January 2010 (DC and NYC); *Mexican human rights* with Mike Tamblyn, PBI-Mexico's In-Country Coordinator, March 2010 (DC and NYC); *Indigenous rights and trans-nationals in Guatemala* with Jessica Fujan, returning PBI-USA volunteer, and Sylvia Weber, PBI-Guatemala's In-Country Coordinator, June 2010 (US Social Forum, Detroit, MI, DC and NYC); and *San Jose de Apartado Peace Community* with Jesus Emilio, Founder, October 2010 (DC).
- **Launched the National Lawyer's Committee on Human Rights, NLCHR, a PBI-USA advisory committee**, comprised of 15 US international human rights lawyers (see back). The NLCHR will work to support and increase protection for the HRDs and lawyers at-risk that PBI accompanies and to consolidate resources and expertise in the legal community for Rule of Law initiatives and improved human rights. Activities will include: technical assistance, delegations, lobbying, amicus briefs, training, and arguing cases in court.
- **Held two national Volunteer Orientation Weekends** to recruit, screen, and train volunteers for the field in Chapel Hill, NC, and Washington, DC. 12 volunteers attended and 50% have already applied to Projects and/or been deployed.
- **Developed a new Planned Giving program** for supporters wanting to support the work of PBI with bequests, stock options and investments managed by Friends Fiduciary, Ltd.
- **Developed the PBI-USA National Advisory Board** which includes many long-term PBI supporters, volunteers, and past NCC members and will provide advice and regarding matters of strategic importance to PBI-USA, human rights, and the peace and non-violence movement (see back).
- **Held a number of special events featuring peace education** including in Albuquerque, NM, January 2010, and San Francisco, CA (featuring Michael Nagler & Dana Brown) and presentations by visiting HRDs from Colombia in Washington, DC November 2009 and October 2010 (Jesus Emilio).
- **Actively participated in several PBI International initiatives** including the International Fundraising Working Group, the International Advocacy Working Group, the Volunteer Support Working Group, the Women's Human Rights Defenders International Coalition and Country Group support.
- **Undertook PBI New England tour** in September 2010 involving PBI-USA's Executive Director, Katherine Hughes-Fraitekh, meeting and reconnecting with 15+ long-term supporters and major donors. The tour included university talks, representing PBI at the Peace Abbey's *Courage of Conscience Award Ceremony*, (PBI is a past recipient) and meeting with renowned non-violent strategist Gene Sharp.



Photo: Jacob Blickenov, PBI, Alvaro Manzano, ACVC, Liza Smith, FOR, and Colombian Labor Union Activist, at School of Americas Watch Annual Protest, Ft. Benning, GA, 10/2009

"I take this opportunity to voice my full support to the valuable work of PBI in several regions of the world which is an inspiration to us all."—UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders, Margaret Sekaggya, speech at the European Union Conference, Madrid, Feb. 2010



Photo: Katherine Hughes-Fraitekh, Executive Director, PBI-USA and Margaret Sekaggya, March 2009.

PBI-USA Highlights November 2009– November 2010

Advocacy Speaking Tours: Giving Voice to the Defenders

PBI's global plan places a priority on advocacy in the US as part of our multi-level diplomacy and deterrence strategy to protect human rights defenders and promote human rights and peace with justice worldwide.

The focus on the US is key because of its close ties with the countries where PBI is currently based and also the role it plays internationally in human rights regimes, including new membership in the UN Human Rights Council.

To this end, PBI-USA is expanding its advocacy initiatives, including Speaking Tours featuring returning volunteers and human rights defenders who can give firsthand accounts about their experiences and proposed solutions.

The five PBI-sponsored national tours in 2009– 2010 included high-level meetings with Congressional and State Department staff, UN mission staff, members of the UN Committee on Human Rights and the NLCHR, and national and grassroots NGO's.

Human rights issues addressed included indigenous rights, MNCs, megaprojects, and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People; IDPs and reconstitution of paramilitaries in Colombia; child soldiers and demilitarization, minority rights, victim's rights and implementation of the peace process in Nepal; Women Human Rights Defenders; criminalization of HRDs; US military aid to Colombia, Mexico, Nepal and Indonesia; and expulsion of human rights groups in Papua.

These tours are key to reaching policy makers and activists, as well as to engage them in productive dialogue on how to improve the security of the lives and families of the seriously threatened human rights defenders that PBI accompa-



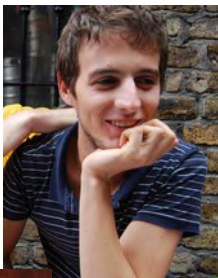
Photo: Katherine Hughes-Fraitekh, PBI-USA and Michael Tambyln, PBI-Mexico on tour in Washington, DC, March 2010.

nies—HRDs that are working in their communities for the environment, indigenous rights, women's rights, economic rights, and a peaceful and sustainable future for all.



Photo: Jessica Fujan, PBI-USA volunteer, Silvia Weber, PBI-Guatemala In-Country Coordinator & Katherine Hughes-Fraitekh, at the US Social Forum June 2010

Photo: Michael Mori, PBI-USA volunteer in Indonesia



PBI-USA Volunteers

PBI-USA volunteers have played key roles in a number of PBI Projects this year. They include Roggie Cale, Frank Tool, Tiffany Ornelas, Michael Aaron and Michael Mori in PBI-Indonesia; Katie Danko, Neil Horning, and Patrick Robbins in Nepal; Dana Brown, Jacob Blicke-nov, Gretchen Begley, Vida James, Evan Storey, and Kristin Donovan in Colombia; Jessica Fujan in Guatemala; and Jennifer Manheimer and Sierra Schraff-Thomas in Mexico.

Their dedication, persistence, patience, and courage, remain an inspiration to us all. We send them our heart-felt appreciation for their determination and hard work to make the world a better place.

PBI's thousands of volunteers over the last 30 years are integral to PBI's mission of defending human rights and protecting human rights defenders. We continue to utilize their skills and in-depth knowledge of the countries they serve in upon their return to the United States through our many advocacy & education initiatives.

“Living and working with PBI here in Papua, is the most amazing and self-transforming experience of my life.”
—Tiffany Ornelas, PBI-USA volunteer in Indonesia 2009-2010



Photo: Katie Danko PBI-USA volunteer in Nepal

Launch of the National Lawyer's Committee on Human Rights, NLCHR, October 29, Washington, DC



Photo: Participants at the NLCHR workshop on Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and Indigenous Rights, American University College of Law featuring David Baluarte and Leo Crippa, NLCHR members.

Over 100 people took part in a full day of events for PBI's NLCHR launch October 29 in Washington, DC. These included high profile, at-risk lawyers that PBI accompanies in Colombia, Guatemala and Mexico (Liliana Uribe, CJL, Agustín Jimenez, Committee in Solidarity with Political Prisoners, Rafael Barrio, CCAJAR, Jorge Molano, Edgar Perez, Jennifer Harbury, Juan Carlos Gutierrez, Mexican Commission for the Defence and Promotion of Human Rights, and Vidulfo Rosales Sierra, Tlachinol-an Lawyers Collective) as well as

NLCHR members from across the country, past PBI volunteers, NCC and NAB members, staff from RFK Center for Justice & Human Rights, Congressional Human Rights Caucus, LAWG, Connect US, the Open Society, and students.

The NLCHR has taken over a year to develop and this launch is just the beginning of several exciting initiatives its members plan to undertake to improve protection for HRDs and at-risk lawyers and the Rule of Law.



Photo: Rafael Barrio, & Agustín Jimenez, Colombia, (speakers) at the NLCHR reception with Katherine Hughes-Fraitekh, PBI-USA

Income

\$52,000 Foundations
 \$104,900 Individuals/Faith-Based
\$3,150 Honorarium/Special Events
\$160,050 Total

Expenses

\$120,500 Program Expenses
 \$19,750 Fundraising
\$16,750 Management/Admin.
\$157,000 Total

Expenses by Activity

77% Programmatic
 12% Fundraising
 11% Management/Admin.

Revenue by Source

32% foundations
 66% Individual/Faith-Based
 2% Other

Thanks to all of our financial donors for November 2009– November 2010

Foundations & Faith-Based

Overbrook Foundation
 Highland Street Foundation
 Tides Foundation
 Tikvah Fund, Tides Foundation
 John & Mary Barrett Foundation
 Sisters of St. Joseph's Social Justice Fund
 Friends Meeting Houses Nationwide
 Unitarian Universalists
 Mennonite Communities
 New Life Presbyterian Church

The Defender's Circle (\$100 & above)

Edmond Abegg
 Gina Amantangelo
 Nancy & Malcolm Ball
 Stan Becker
 Patricia Beetle
 Douglas Bender
 Catherine Bergman
 Celesta & Raoul Birnbaum
 Elise Boulding
 Mary Ann and John Brock
 James Brunke
 Bruce Calkins
 Courtney & Geraldo Chavez
 Noam Chomsky
 Patti Daniels
 Randy Divinski
 Mike Dixon & Susan Newman
 Delight Dodyk
 Susan Dubois
 Roy & Heidi Eastman
 Laura Ferrary & Richard Chapman
 Lee Fich
 Donn Fichter
 Virginia Flagg
 Richard Frazin
 Angie Garling
 Everett & Mary Gendler
 (The Gendler Family Foundation)
 Ellen Gershun
 David & Jan Hartsough
 Henry & Mary Jo Hawk
 Jack Herbert
 Jim Hijiya
 Jacquelin and Carroll Hildebrand
 Michael Hirschhorn & Jimena Martinez
 Steve Homer
 Kara Hooper and Gayle McFarland
 Jeremiah John
 Carl Kline
 Marilyn Krysl

Elizabeth Lamb

John Lamperti
 George Lakey
 George & Elizabeth Lamphere
 Edna Litten
 Cheryl Longinotti
 James Lynch
 Harold & Kyong Lischner
 Robin Lloyd
 Anne Manuel
 Don and Ann Messier
 Gerry & Gail Miiliken
 Andrew Miller
 Audrey Miller
 Carol Miller
 Steve Molnar
 Virgene Moser
 Margaret Morton
 Valerie Mullen
 Harold & Mary Nash
 Pam Nelson
 Frances Nyce
 Sandra Oriel
 Don Parda
 Pat Parkman"
 Charles Powell
 Lilith Quinlan
 Jean & Norm Reynolds
 Stephen Rickard
 Joseph de Rivera
 Kathy Rodriguez
 Debra Riklan Vekstein
 Jennie Roitman
 Gwendolyn Jane &
 Robert Romeril
 Joe Sarti Irungary
 Deb Sawyer
 Madeline Schmitt
 Marion Seymour
 Sue Severin
 Robynne Snow

Monthly Sustainers

Nancy Aldridge
 Benedict Archer
 Mary Bajez
 Gerhard Bedding
 Gloria Bletter
 DA Brechtelsbauer
 Steven Clinckenbeard
 Sam Cole
 Gislin Dagnelie
 Angela Denov
 Roy Devoe
 Joseph Dipierro
 James Dorroh
 John Fournelle
 Jean Gore
 Dorothy Gosting
 Rolf Hahne
 Zwanet Hamming
 Sarah Harper
 George Ann Hartzog
 Rachel Hecksher
 Kathleen Holloway
 Diantha Horton
 Nancy & Herb Hughes
 Bill Houston & Hazel Tulecke
 Mary Lynne Isham
 Ed Kinane & Ann Tiffany
 Timothy Kunz

For Peace

Joe Levinger
 Helen Lindsay
 Angie McCarthy
 Melissa Moriarity
 Matthew Messier
 Michel Moretti
 Joe Morton
 Shirley Novak
 Brian Owensby
 Ilana Ponet
 Don Porter
 John Reed
 Winnie Romeril & Dave Schenk
 Mark Rosenberg
 Steve Rowley
 Breta Savoie
 Christine Schulstad
 Joe Sperry
 Paul Sprecher
 Ruth Stern
 Carol Stuart
 Stephen Ullom
 Gracia Valliant
 Piet Van Lier
 John Von Rosenberg
 Jill Warzer
 Carol Winge
 Ben Winkes

PBI Project Highlights 2010

PBI Guatemala

PBI has continued to stand by the side of human rights defenders struggling against increasing violence and a 99% impunity rate in Guatemala. We began accompanying Lorena Cabnal, lead organizer of the Association of Indigenous Women of Santa María Xalapán, AMISMAXAJ, in 2009. AMISMAXAJ is an indigenous women's association formed to support the human rights of Xinca women in the mountain communities—a region where women are oppressed by societal norms, the economic system, and governmental policies. The group seeks to revitalize the Xinca ethnic identity, which includes the defense of natural assets and the struggle to halt the encroachment of transnationals exploiting the natural resources on their land.

PBI confronted an unusual tragedy in its Indonesia Project this year when a human rights defender that PBI accompanied was killed. On July 30, 2010, Ardiansyah Matra, an investigative reporter and member of FOKER LSM, was found tortured and drown in the Gudang Arang River in the Merauke sub-district of Papua Province. He had been reporting on a number of government projects with financial irregularities, including a bridge, electrical plant, and stadium, but threats seemed to increase following a report on illegal logging operations in Keeron District. PBI was unable to

PBI also recently begun accompanying Edgar Perez Archila, a high profile lawyer who is at risk due to the large number of emblematic cases that he represents in Guatemala, including the Bamaca case (Jennifer Harbury), Rio Negro and Dos Erres massacre cases, and the Rios Montt Genocide Case, among others. Mr. Perez participated in the briefing sessions with PBI-USA's NLCHR on October 29 and the Committee agreed to support his requests for assistance in these major cases.

Trans-nationals continue to be a major challenge for human rights in Guatemala, as megaprojects, extractive industries such as petroleum, hydroelectric dams, and mining and cement companies take over indigenous lands. In September 2010, PBI intensified its accompaniment of CONAVIGUA after

death threats against its director and other members. The threats came in the context of their work organizing community consultations on natural resource extraction projects in the municipalities of Uspantán (El Quiché) and Lanquín (Alta Verapaz).

PBI continues to accompany the communities of San Juan Sacatepéquez to monitor the organization, its members, and the communities who are demanding that the results of their consultations against an unsafe cement factory be taken into account. Threats made before and after the visit of UN Special Rapporteur James Anaya continue to be of concern.

PBI also continues to closely monitor the security situation of UDEFEGUA members after serious security incidents over the last year.

PBI Indonesia

physically accompany Matra" after the increased threats, due to our limited presence in Papua over the last several months. Government restrictions on travel to Papua have impacted the functioning of our teams' ability to provide ongoing accompaniment in Papua. The International Red Cross was forced out of the region in 2009 and PBI is the only international human rights group with a presence in Papua. PBI created an international emergency response taskforce that is deter-

mining effective responses, including international pressure for an investigation into the crime, analyzing future deterrence strategies in Papua and discussing the ongoing challenges to our work.

Meanwhile, PBI continues to provide participatory peace education and support for a number of environmental and indigenous groups fighting exploitation of their resources, as well as accompanying Suciwati, the wife of Munir bin Thalib, one of Indonesia's best known human rights activists assassinated in 2004.



Photo: No to Polluting Mother Earth ; Members of AMISMAXAJ during a protest march in Guatemala, 2009

"PBI's accompaniment has been fundamental for us, especially in our political work. It is not just the accompaniment itself, but the potential in creating a strategic alliances that enables us to confront our challenges with a greater strength and clarity." — Lorena Cabnal, AMISMAXAJ. 2010

PBI Mexico

PBI-Mexico has had a very intense year. There have been a number of important victories and a number of serious challenges to the human rights defenders that PBI accompanies. Tita Radilla, VP of AFADEM, Association for the Detained and Disappeared in Mexico, took the case of her father, Rosendo Radilla, to the Inter-American Court for Human Rights (IAC). Mr. Radilla was a prominent activist mayor in the state of Guerrero, and was disappeared in 1974 by the military during the "Dirty War". 1200 other persons were disappeared or assassinated in Mexico during this time the vast majority in Guerrero—and none have

received justice. The IAC came out with a major decision in the Radilla case in December 2009, charging the Mexican government with responsibility for Rosendo's disappearance, ordering reparation for his family, an investigation into his presumed death, and for the Mexican government to restrict the use of military tribunals in cases of human rights violations against civilians. The additional case of Inez Fernandez and Valentino Rosendo Cantu, two indigenous women connected to the human rights group OPIM, who were raped by the military in 2002



Photo: Tita Radillo, fourth from left, with members of AFADEM

was also heard in the IAC this year. In Sept. 2010, the court found the State of Mexico guilty for violating their human rights. PBI has accompanied these individuals for several years, since they have been at great risk for their work.

Lawyers from the Tlachinollan Human Rights Center in Guerrero have been under serious threat for their work representing members of OPIM, several members of whom were charged in 2009 with fallacious charges and

imprisoned in a Mexican jail. PBI used its international network and to ensure that Tlachinollan's risk level fell, that they were able to continue their work, and that the OPIM members were all released from prison. Work continues to expand in Oaxaca protecting Alba Cruz. November 25 Committee, CEDHAPI and Father Solalinde running a migrant center.

PBI Project Highlights 2010

PBI Nepal

PBI-Nepal continued to grow with its addition of a sub-team based in Bardiya, in the Terai region of Nepal. The political situation in Nepal has continued to worsen as the Peace Process stalled. Maoists and other groups unhappy with the slow progress of the peace agreement, including integration of the armed forces, have called for an increasing numbers of band-das "strikes" which paralyze the nation.

PBI Nepal has a strong focus on women's human rights defenders, many of whom face unique threats and challenges. PBI continues to accompany members of Advocacy Forum, the largest human rights lawyer's association in the country (many of whom are women), as they travel to isolated regions to help document and file claims for victims of enforced disappeared and torture. Most of the violations occurred during Nepal's ten year civil conflict in which tens of thousands of serious human

rights violations occurred, still with a 100% impunity rate. Members of the Conflict Victims Organization (CVC), founded by victim's families seeking justice, are accompanied by PBI.

PBI accompanies several additional organizations working for minority and women's rights, including the Dalit Uplift Feminist Organization (DAFUO), the Women's Rehabilitation Center (WOREC) and women journalist associations. We continue to monitor protest marches in Kathmandu by Tibetan refugees refused legal status and fighting oppression.

PBI accompanied the courageous human rights defender, Jai Kishor Labh, as he strove for justice in the case of his student son, Sanjeev Kumar Karna, and four friends, who were forcibly disappeared, tortured, and presumed murdered by govern-

ment forces in 2003. He and his surviving teenage son were under extreme threat due to his efforts and PBI was accompanying them 24/7, before he tragically died of a heart attack April 18, 2010.

PBI has recently begun accompanying Devi Sunuwar, the mother of Maina Sunuwar, who was murdered in her teens by military forces during the civil conflict. Her case has become an emblematic one in Nepal in which several high level military personnel are being charged.

Devi Sunuwar continues to be under great threat, but continues to fight on to procure justice for her daughter and to set a precedent for the many other civilians with similar cases since Rule of Law guards against repetition.



Photo: Jai Kishor Labh and PBI volunteer, February, 2010



Photo: PBI accompanies Members of WOREC in Janakpur, Nepal, March 2010

PBI-Colombia, our largest Project with four sub-teams throughout Colombia including: Medellin, Bogota, Uraba, and Barrancabermeja has seen increased violence and threats to human rights defenders during the past year and during the recent presidential election. Government forces, re-constituted paramilitaries, drug cartels, and guerilla groups continue to vie for power, terrorizing marginalized communities such as the Afro-Colombians, campesinos, and indigenous groups. Trans-nationals are also expanding in Colombia, rarely following international laws related to indigenous and community rights to prior consultation regarding exploitation of their land.

PBI Colombia



Photo: Jainimby Domnico, an indigneous Embera Leader, Colombia

In recent months, incidents include credible reports of two separate plots to assassinate or attack members of the Jose Alvear Restreppo Lawyer's Collective and the Inter-Church Justice and Peace Commission. Female human rights defenders from the Luiz

Carlos Perez Collective have been beaten, threatened, attacked and repeatedly robbed of sensitive case materials. A leading human rights defender, David Ravelo, of the Regional Corporation for the Defense of Human Rights in Barrancabermeja, was detained on baseless charges after being threatened by paramilitary groups.

Additionally, The San Jose de Apartado peace community which PBI has accompanied since 1997, had their 2005 massacre case heard in court in Medellin with the officers charged released. Jorge Molano, the communities' attorney remains under severe threat

"During many years of high risk work, we have chosen the unarmed, international presence of PBI over armed bodyguards to protect us, because we believe they are more effective. And this has proven to be true." Rafael Barrio, Member, Jose Alvear Restreppo Lawyer's Collective, Colombia, in a speech at the PBI NLCHR launch, Washington, DC, Oct., 2010

and PBI accompanied him 24-7 during the trial. PBI continues to utilize its extensive network and multi-level diplomacy to bear in Colombia, as well as North America, Europe and the world community to bring international pressure and support to increase protection for the many severely threatened human rights defenders in Colombia.



Photo: Members of the Association Against the Detained and Enforced Disappeared in Colombia (ASFADDES), grieve their loved ones during International Solidarity Day, 2009.

Peace Brigades International-USA's National Coordinating Committee and Advisory Boards



Left Photo: National Lawyer's Committee members receive briefing and request for assistance from Guatemalan Human Rights Lawyer, Edgar Perez, during private sessions attended by a number of at-risk lawyers that PBI accompanies in Mexico, Guatemala & Colombia. Oct. 29 Pictured: Jacob Blickenov, translator, Kay Bridger-Riley, Chair, David Baluarte NLCHR member, Sean O'Brien, NLCHR member, Dana Brown (facilitator), Edgar Perez, Silvia Weber, PBI Guatemala, Ashley Grant, NLCHR member. Photo: Katherine Hughes-Fraitekh



Above Photo: NCC Face to Face Meeting in San Francisco, CA, September 12, 2010. Pictured: Efica Askin, Robin Fazio, Katherine Hughes-Fraitekh, Angie McCarthy, Sarah Manning, Amelia Parker, Matt Messier & Alex Hildebrand

PBI-USA National Coordinating Committee Members 2009-2010

Erica Askin, Portland, OR
Robin Fazio, Chattanooga, TN
Alex Hildebrand, San Francisco, CA
Angie McCarthy, Washington, DC
Matt Messier, Burlington, VT
Amelia Parker, Knoxville, TN
Sarah Manning, Chicago, IL

PBI-USA Staff 2009-2010

Katherine Hughes-Fraitekh,
Executive Director
Carly Skidmore, Program Assistant
Ariel Magno, Program Assistant
Paul Magno, Bookkeeper/Finances



PBI-USA National Lawyer's Committee on Human Rights, NLCHR

Wendy Adelson, Florida State University, Center for Human Rights, Tallahassee, FL
David Baluarte, American Univ. Washington College of Law, Washington, DC
Kay Bridger-Riley, Attorney & ABA Center for Human Rights, Tulsa, OK
Leonardo Crippa, Indian Law Resource Center, Washington, DC
Ashley Grant, Attorney & Former PBI-USA Colombia Volunteer, NYC, NY
Charles Hale, University of Texas at Austin, Teresa Lozano Long Institute
Peter Henner, Attorney, Clarksville, NY
Sital Kalantry, Cornell Law School and Human Rights Clinic, Ithaca NY
Jennifer Moore, University of New Mexico School of Law, Albuquerque, NM
Muna Ndula, Cornell Law School & Institute for African Develop., Ithaca, NY
Sean O'Brien, Notre Dame Law School Notre Dame, Indiana
Katya Salazar, Due Process of Law Foundation, Washington, DC
Meg Satterthwaite, New York University Law School & Human Rights Clinic, NYC
Christina Xenides, UNHCR, Cyprus



Above Photo: John-Lindsay Poland, FOR, & PBI-USA National Advisory Board member and Salvador Sarmiento, RFK Center for Justice & Human Rights, at the NLCHR launch reception, Oct. 29

PBI-USA National Advisory Board Founding Members 2010

Randy Divinski, Natick, MA
Ed Kinane, Syracuse, NY
Carl Kline, Brookings, SD
John Lindsay-Poland San Francisco, CA
Liam Mahony, Brewster, MA
Krystal Mason, Baltimore, MD
Andrew Miller, Washington, DC
Steve Molnar, Canton, NY
Winnie Romeril, Prattsburgh, NY
Joe Sperry, Seattle, WA
Gracia Valliant, Bloomington, ID
Jonathan Woodbridge, Amherst, MA

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