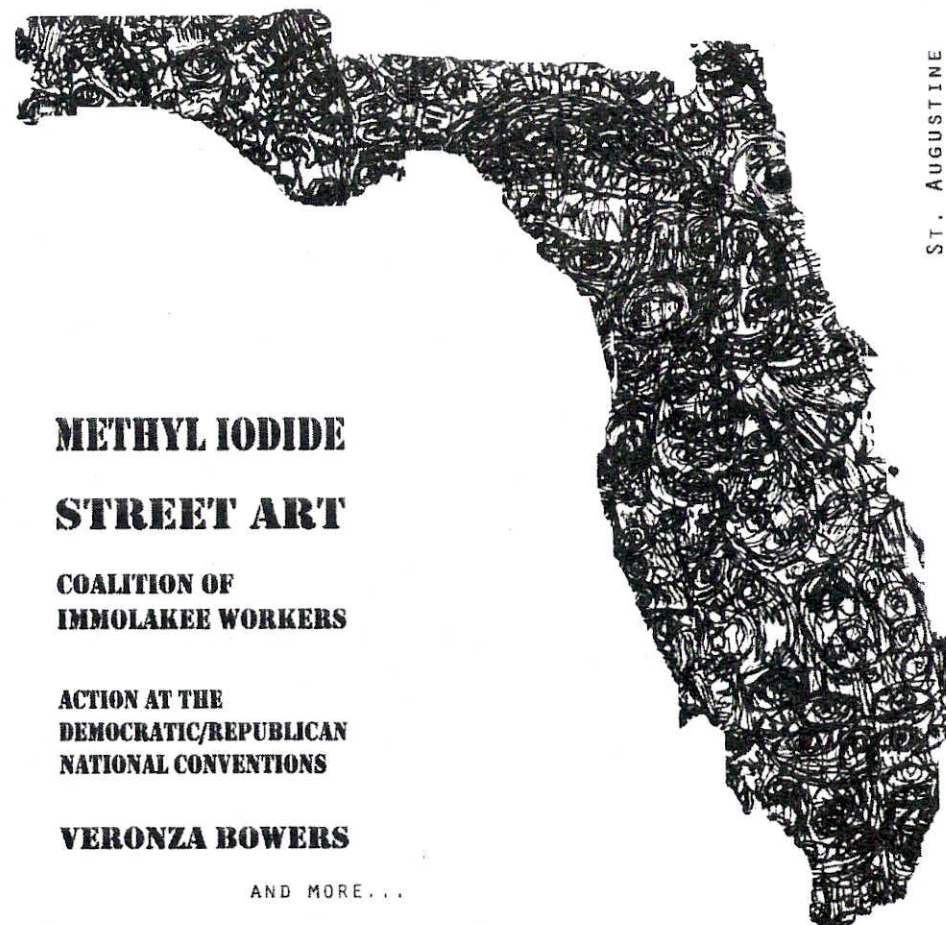


\$ FREE 

FLORIDA RADICAL/ANARCHIST
NETWORKING AND NEWS ZINE

BRUSHFIRE FEB. '08



ST. AUGUSTINE

“And now, what has Anarchism to say to all this, this bankruptcy of republicanism, this modern empire that has grown up on the ruins of our early freedom? We say this, that the sin our fathers sinned was that they did not trust liberty wholly. They thought it possible to compromise between liberty and government, believing the latter to be a ‘necessary evil,’ and the moment the compromise was made, the whole misbegotten monster of our present tyranny began to grow.”

—Voltairine de Cleyre

METHYL IODIDE

STREET ART

**COALITION OF
IMMOLAKEE WORKERS**

**ACTION AT THE
DEMOCRATIC/REPUBLICAN
NATIONAL CONVENTIONS**

VERONZA BOWERS

AND MORE...

LOCAL HISTORY MIXTAPE EXCHANGE

SOUNDS OF THE REAL FLORIDA

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A month ago I took part in a field recordings exchange. I compiled a collection of about two years worth of micro-tape recordings to send to folks who had signed up for the project.

It was awesome going through and reliving the memories associated with each of the recordings. There were recordings of dreams, music, and silly antics with friends who live far away. All the things on the tapes are now far away, whether in miles or in time, but hearing the recordings transported me quickly through these imagined distances.

The recordings that I received were great. I got a compilation of children's songs, a series of interviews and excerpts on the topic of "love", a collection of recordings and interviews from the US/Mexico border, audio from someone's 100th birthday, and other interesting rarities.

I'd like to instigate a similar exchange, this one focusing on local history and the memories of our elders. Of course if you choose to participate and want to take a different direction, that would be great too.

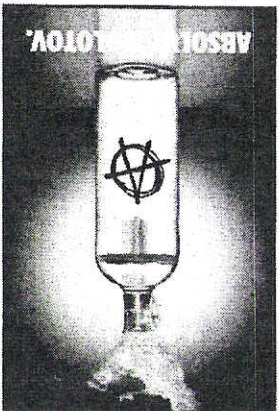
EMAIL ME AT: ASTROBLACK66@HOTMAIL.COM

WITH THE SUBJECT "MIXTAPE."

Send me your name and address by March First and I will compile a list of participants and we will take it from there. I think this will be an interesting project...we will get to ask folks we might not usually speak with questions and we'll also get to share some first-hand accounts of experiences that might otherwise be forgotten.

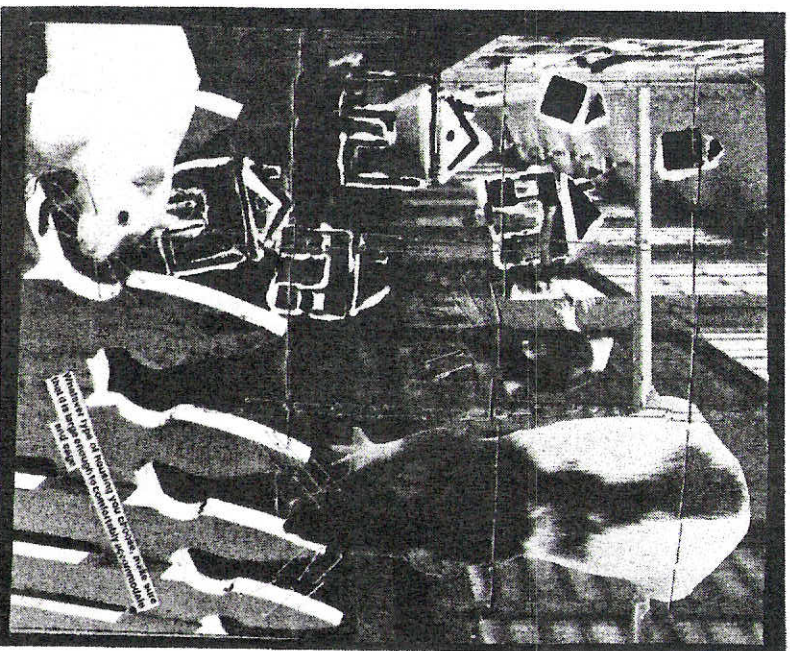
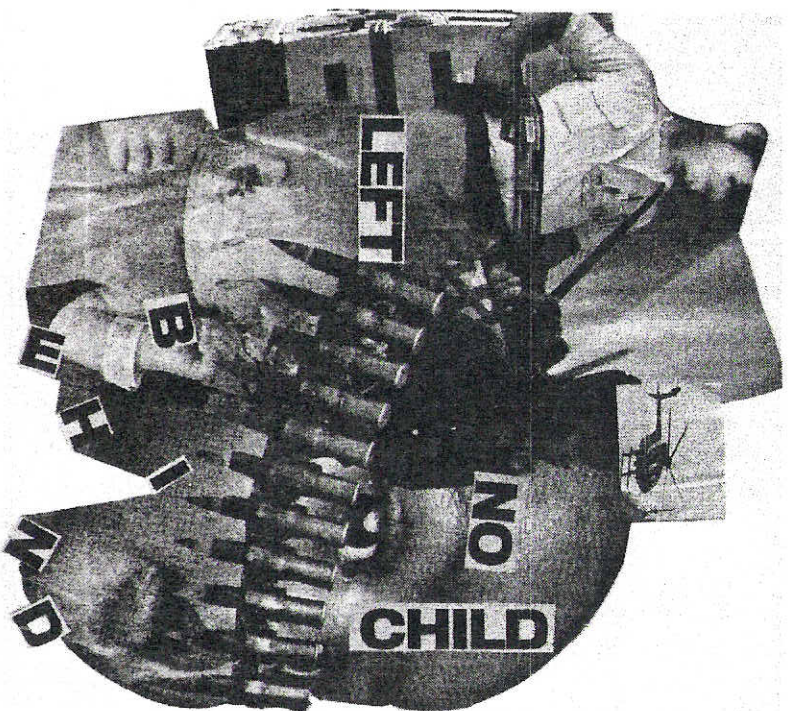
STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<p>Anarchy might be imaginary — meaning that we don't know and may never have a society without coercive rulers — but anarchism is a value-set, like pacifism or Christian love, or Buddhist compassion. It is not a description of the world, but a standard for judging situations within the world.</p> <p>bkMarcus, Isn't Anarchism Unrealistic?</p>	<p>We see that not only is the emperor naked—the is a murderer, tyrant, brigand, liar, and bungler.</p> <p>James W. Harris</p>	<p>The measure of the state's success is that the word anarchy frightens people, while the word state does not.</p> <p>Joseph Sobran, Anarchy without Fear</p>	<p>Show me the government that does not infringe upon anyone's rights, and I will no longer call myself an anarchist.</p> <p>Jacob Halbrooks</p>	<p>St. Pete, 5:30 pm Critical Mass Bike Ride Starts at Williams Park</p> <p>LEAP DAY!!!</p>		



FOOD NOT BOMBS 51. AUGUSTINE SERVES (ALMOST) EVERY NIGHT AT THE DOWN-TOWN PLAZA AT 6:30 PM - CALL LOOSE SCREENS TO FIND OUT WHICH DAY WE NEED HELP MOST... (994) 824-5565

BRUSHFIRE! FEBRUARY 2008





BRUSHFIRE!

A Florida Anarchist Newsletter

We are members of Orlando Food Not Bombs and we want to tell you about an exciting new project that has originated with our collective. We have decided to start a monthly newsletter for the Florida anarchist movement. It will be called BRUSHFIRE!, and we would like your community to be part of it. Our hope is that this newsletter will promote information sharing between anarchists across the state of Florida, helping our movement grow and create the connections that will make it possible for us to work collectively on other regional and statewide projects. Hopefully, BRUSHFIRE! will fill the void left by the demise of the newsletter published by FRAN (the Florida Radical Activist Network) in the late '90s. It would be the responsibility not of one city, but of comrades around the state, with production of each issue shifting to a different city. This is a project that would require cooperation between all the anti-authoritarian communities in Florida, which would help us get to know each other better and gain experience working with other groups.

Here is how it would work:

We here in Orlando hope to put out the first issue on November 1. After that, we would shift responsibility for publishing the next issue to another community in the state. The idea is to have each issue published by a different community in Florida. We are trying to get a publishing schedule set up for the next year or so. Would you all like to sign up for a month or two?

Every month communities and individuals from around the state would submit material to be published in BRUSHFIRE! Submissions will be sent to the e-mail address

STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
I build no system. I ask an end to privilege, the abolition of slavery, equality of rights, and the reign of law. Justice, nothing else. That is the alpha and omega of my argument.	In existing States a fresh law is looked upon as a remedy for evil. Instead of themselves altering what is bad, people begin by demanding a law to alter it.	Every vote for a governing office is an instrument for enslaving me.	Palm Beach County Everglades Uprising Winter Rendezvous + Earth First! Organizer's Conference http://earthfirst2008oc.info	Everglades Uprising	PENSACOLA SLUGGOS Anti-Valentines Dance/Roller Derby Benefit Everglades Uprising	Everglades Uprising
Pierre-Joseph Proudhon, the first self-labeled anarchist	Peter Kropotkin, "Law and Authority"	Dr. M.E. Lazarus, 119	Ocala Rainbow Gathering starts +/-	TALLAHASSEE The Cat House The Canisters 521 Conradi Street Gainesville	7th Annual Compassion for Animals Symposium St. Pete, 8:30 - 10 pm Protest at Baywalk against U.S. war http://www.SI/telefor-peace.org	7th Annual Compassion for Animals Symposium
Everglades Uprising	ST AUGUSTINE 7 pm PUSH - People United to Stop Homelessness Meeting at Willie Gallimore Center www.push.solidarityandpeace.org Zolite Goodman-Iraq Veterans Against the War	Voting is "merely a labor-saving device for ascertaining on which side force lies and bowing to the inevitable.... It is neither more nor less than a paper representative of the bayonet, the bully, and the bullet."	ANARCHISM: The philosophy of a new social order based on liberty unrestricted by man-made law; the theory that all forms of government rest on violence, and are therefore wrong and harmful, as well as unnecessary.	Holiday Inn, University Center (1250 W. University Ave.) Orlando, 5:30 pm Critical Mass Bike Ride Starts at Loch Haven Park	Tampa, 11:00 am - 4 pm Pride in the Park (GLBT pride event) Al Lopez Park	
		Benjamin R. Tucker, 1889				

FOOD NOT BOMBS ST. AUGUSTINE SERVES (ALMOST) EVERY NIGHT AT THE DOWNTOWN PLAZA AT 6:30 PM - CALL LOOSE SCREWS TO FIND OUT WHICH DAY WE NEED HELP MOST... (904) 824-5565

STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

	<p>Veronza Bowers' Birthday! SEND HIM A CARD!</p>	<p>The political arena leaves one no alternative, one must either be a dunce or a rogue. Enma Goldman, "What is Anarchy?"</p>
<p>MELBOURNE 5-8 pm Mission Of Peace Art Show, Demoiselle's Art Gallery 514 Ocean Ave.</p>	<p>MELBOURNE 5-6:30 pm Candle Light Vigil / Peace Protest 1700 West New Haven Blvd. For FB info: jade@spacecoastfmb.org</p>	<p>Government is an association of men who do violence to the rest of us." Leo Tolstoy, Russian Novelist and Christian Anarchist</p>
<p>ST. PETE, 8:30 - 10 pm Protest at Baywalk against U.S. war http://www.StPeteForPeace.org</p>	<p>Orlando, 12:00 pm KFC Protest Demonstration Animal Rights Florida 6217 S. International Drive http://animal-rights.meetup.com/218/?gt=95</p>	<p>JAX BEACH Benefit Art Show Rehabilitate Child Soldiers MIAMI United Students Against Sweatshops USAS Winter Conference http://studentsunitedagainst-sweatshops.org</p>
<p>MELBOURNE 5-8 pm Mission Of Peace Art Show, Demoiselle's Art Gallery 514 Ocean Ave.</p>	<p>ST. AUGUSTINE 8 pm Monster Walk!! Starts at Loose Screws</p>	<p>MIAMI 6:30 at the Firefly Tin Tree Factory, Dirty Fists, Bill, Lil Rob, and more TBA</p>
<p>MELBOURNE 5-8 pm Mission Of Peace Art Show, Demoiselle's Art Gallery 514 Ocean Ave.</p>	<p>ST. PETE, 8:30 - 10 pm Protest at Baywalk against U.S. war http://www.StPeteForPeace.org</p>	<p>MIAMI Alley Cat Race USAS Winter Conference</p>
<p>TALLAHASSEE The Oak House ALL QUEER SHOW! 521 Comrad! St.</p>	<p>PENSACOLA 9 pm Dirty Fist/ Tin Tree Factory 4115 Barrancas Ave USAS Winter Conference</p>	

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brushfiresubmissions@gmail.com. Control of this e-mail will be transferred to the publishing community each month and the password changed. We have also set up this website for BRUSHFIRE! so that people have a main site to go to for information about the newsletter. This website will have a link to a messageboard we have set up as well. This messageboard will be used for general discussion and organization among the people organizing the newsletter, and also as a forum to field general questions. For example, if Tallahassee signed up to put out the January issue, but they aren't going to be able to do it, they would post to the messageboard to work out the problem. Also, if someone wants to ask a question, it also can be posted to the messageboard.

For distribution we are hoping to find a person in each community to whom the publishing community can send a master copy through the mail. This person would then be responsible for scamming or "acquiring" copies and distributing them to the other members of the community.

The submission deadline for material to be published would be the 20th of the previous month. This means that items submitted on Dec. 8th would be published in the January issue of BRUSHFIRE!, which would have a deadline of being in the mail by the 1st of January. What to publish and what to turn down would be up to the discretion of the publishing community for that month. We are thinking that things to be submitted could include announcements for events (like the South Florida Radical Activist Conference), community reports (very awesome), poetry, stories, interesting news articles, action reports, etc., etc...

The first of each month the publishing community would transfer responsibility to the next community that is publishing and pass on the contacts for the distributors in each community, the password to the email address and whatever

else needs to be transferred to allow the next community to put out the next issue.

Therefore, if you can, would you all like to sign up for one of the empty spots on the following schedule? (If you could at least sign up for one for the upcoming months that would be the best) Also please provide us with a phone number and email for your community. We do plan to publish the e-mail of the contact for each community in each issue and also on the main Brushfire! website.

Which community is going to publish which month:

We are currently looking for host cities, contact us to sign up

November '07 Orlando	December '07 Orlando	January '08 Orlando
February '08 St. Augustine	March '08 Broward/Impact Collective	April '08 Miami
May '08 Gainesville	June '08 ???	July '08 ???
August '08 ???	September '08 ???	October '08 ???

Also, if you are interested in being a part of this project, could you please give us the name, e-mail and physical address of someone in your community who will be responsible for receiving the master copy in the mail and distributing copies. This information will of course be kept confidential and only used by those sending the master copies.

squats", which is most common. Meaning...you sneak in and out of the building with the intent of hiding that they live there. Then there are "front door squats". I prefer to call these houses. That means you make little or no effort to conceal that you are there. Many squats start out as one or the other and change back and forth over time. Sometimes you may be in a community where you can discuss the idea with neighbors.

In NYC, there are people squatting underground in spaces such as Freedom Tunnel and have come to be known as the Mole People. You can check up more on this by watching the Dark Days documentary. In 2002 eleven squats out of the twelve remaining on the L.E.S. signed a deal with the city council brokered by the Urban Homesteading Assistance Board in which they bought the buildings for \$1 and agreed to undertake essential renovation work.

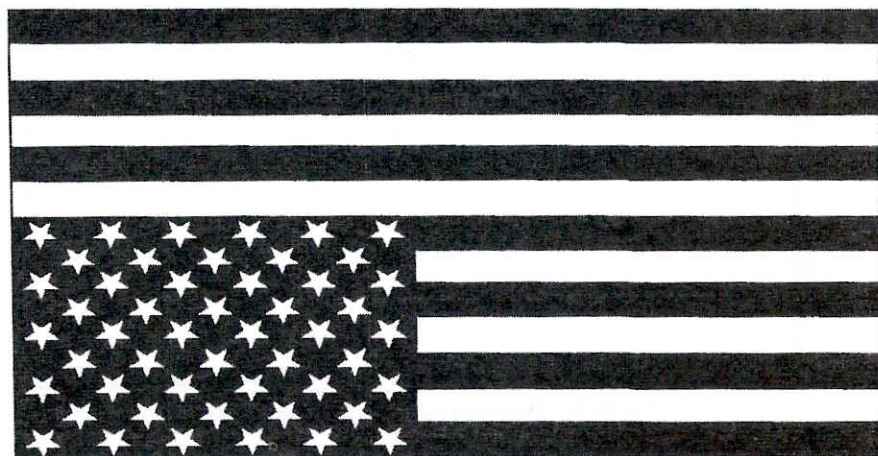
For more info on squatting and squatters' rights, visit the following websites:

SQUAT.NET
<http://www.squat.net>

Blog by writer Robert Neuwirth who lived in squatter communities across the developing world:
<http://squattercity.blogspot.com/>

Survival Without Rent - A how-to guide from NYC originally printed in 1986
http://www.habiter-autrement.org/07.squat/02_sq.htm

So folks, SQUAT THE WORLD!



SQUATTING IN AMERIKKKA

-WRITTEN BY MADISIN JUUL

(SOME INFO DERIVED FROM WIKIPEDIA)

Squatting is the act of a person/group occupying an abandoned or unoccupied building or space that the person/group doesn't own, rent, or have permission to use. It is much easier to get away with squatting in an urban area than rural, especially when there is urban decay.

"There may be as many as one billion squatters globally or about one of every seven people."

-Robert Neuwirth.

In some countries, squatting itself is a crime; in others it is only seen as a civil conflict between the owner and the occupants. The property owner is mostly favored. However, there have been many cases where squatters can claim de-facto ownership by virtue of occupation instead of through ownership, thus making squatting similar to adverse posses-

sion, not to mention a potentially necessary condition.

In the United States, squatting laws vary from state to state and from city to city. Depending where you are, it is usually not well tolerated within the community. Laws based on a "contract ownership" interpretation of property make it easy for deed holders to evict squatters under loitering or trespassing laws. These laws even apply to legal residents who have failed to pay rents or mortgage payments.

Being ninja about squatting is key unless you are in a community that is ok with what you are doing. Most of the squatting in Amerikkka is dependent on the pigs and the legal property owner remaining unaware of you. In states where there is a shortage of housing, they sometimes tolerate squatters in property awaiting redevelopment until they are ready to begin work. Then the laws are enforced. The U.S. Homestead Act legally recognized the concept of homesteading and separated it from squatting since it gave homesteaders permission to occupy unclaimed lands.

There are two types of squats, although they are obviously not absolute. There are "black ninja

UPDATE FROM CDCC

-RYAN FROM DELAND/ORLANDO

The legal progress for the remaining five defendants arrested as part of the 'Cruddy Dyer Drum Corps' has been proceeding in our favor since the last coverage in the November issue of Brushfire!

A motion to dismiss was filed on three strong points: (a) The ordinance we're charged with violating applies only in residential areas - whereas the location at which we were arrested was formally zoned MXD2; or mixed use. (b) The ordinance we're charged with violating uses only qualitative language and implies that ANY noise that is offensive in volume or content to ANYONE is arrestable, and (c) As part of a protest (the arrest affidavits mention nothing of it), drums can be considered constitutionally protected free speech.

The city's prosecutor happens to be none other than Mrs. Kim Laskoff, the same prosecutor who, very publicly, lost her first jury trial for the city with our friend and co-defendant - Eric Montanez's - large group feeding ordinance violation trial. Perhaps to save herself from more embarrassment, she has specifically not

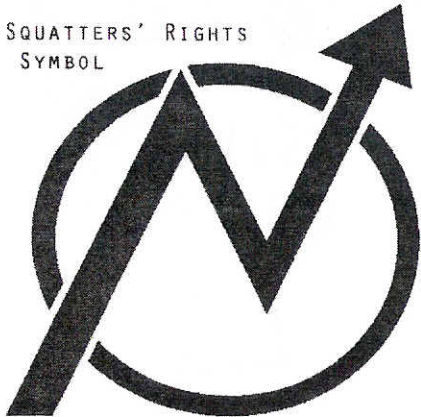
pushed for the potential of jail time to evade the possibility of having a jury present at the trial. Additionally, she has specifically stated that the prosecution is not looking for an adjudication of guilt - or in other words - not looking for a formal declaration or judgment of guilt. The judge reacted to these by wondering, given these conditions, why the prosecution is even continuing with the charges: "why are we here?"

The motion to dismiss was denied, so the trial has been set for February 28th-29th, 2008. So far preliminary plans for a "March of Mimes" have been in the works. Some ideas that have come up were blank signs, silent, pantomimed marching bands, mime interpreters and the like. The mime theme is to highlight the cities continued efforts to silence political voices that challenge their very existence.

Watch Brushfire! for more information.



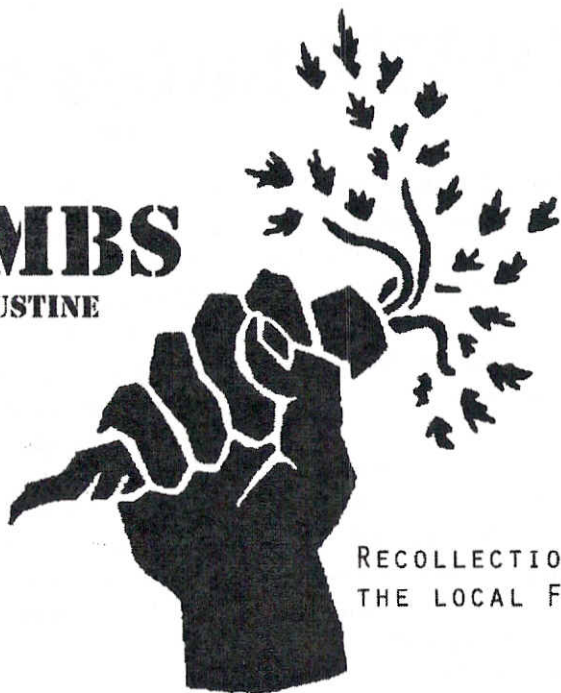
SQUATTERS' RIGHTS
SYMBOL



BRUSHFIRE! FEBRUARY 2008

BRUSHFIRE! FEBRUARY 2008

**FOOD NOT
BOMBS
ST. AUGUSTINE**



RECOLLECTIONS FROM
THE LOCAL FNB CREW

**History of the Current
Food Not Bombs**

I guess it started a few days after Thanksgiving in 2003. My roommate and I had just moved into an apartment in Lincolnville, that past September. In just a few weeks it had become a hangout for all types of bored local kids.

One night my roommate let some traveling punk girl crash at our house until her boyfriend got out of jail. This girl, who later became our good friend, told us about a really cool group that had fed her in many cities and towns all over the country.

We later found out that Food Not Bombs was a global movement against militarism and food waste. We concurred that in a country that spends billions of dollars on new ways to hurt and to kill people and that also wastes millions of pounds of food each year, something had to be done.

So we all got together and formed a chapter in our town. After asking our friends at Loose Screws- a local independent video store and info shop- if we could set up shop in front of their store, we eagerly set up our food n' stuff. That year we had our own vegetarian thanks

numbed and forced to the wayside in the necessary acquisition of this life-consuming myth. People are inactive, then, because money matters. Because government matters. Because power matters. Most tragic is the reality that all of these mean nothing in the grand scheme of humanity, yet they rule our lives like gods on earth and we worship them accordingly.

How do we reach this ideal of a society driven not by government but by nature's law? Once we have been placed in a competitive capitalist society, we cannot simply go back to the state of nature, for our entire worldview has been shaped, perverted, by the regulation of government from birth.

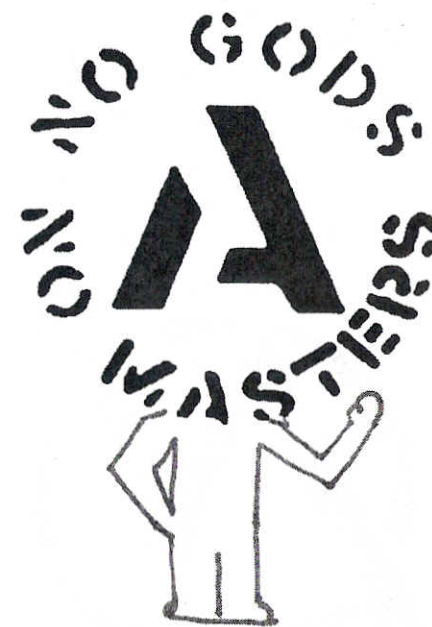
In light of this, I believe Paine's vision will never appear before our eyes, nor did it his. No human being, can remove themselves from this context in which

we've been placed. So, we require something wholly new...

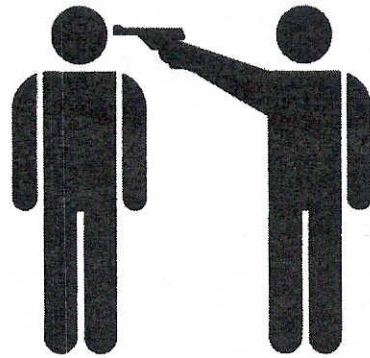
While working against an unnatural system, and using direct action to retrieve the goods that slip between the cracks whilst ensnared within its confines

may be attacked as merely reactionary, to this I will propose a question of my own:

What, in the stimulus-response course of human actions, is not reactionary?



specific appendages. Our muscles and bones may toil forever with the work required to fatten our collective bellies, but in suffocation our lungs will collapse; labor-weary and misused, our hearts and minds will cease to function, and in the resultant disintegration of this body, these temporary riches will all mean nothing.



CAPITALISM

Thomas Paine declares in his Rights of Man that humans do not necessarily need government, for the origins of government lie in a higher driving force of humanity – that of the State of Nature, composed of the principles of society and the natural constitution of man.

He argues that people's inherent nature is good, and that because all parts of civilized community share a mutual dependence and reciprocal interest which binds us together even in the absence of authority, government is mere imposition to the diversity of man's wants and talents.

However they are disguised, excess and inequality of taxation inevitably show their ugly faces, and the consequence is

that a great part of the community is pushed into poverty and discontent. Constantly on the brink of upheaval and deprived of resources, this government-orchestrated lower class is easily outraged and led to riot, indicating that something is wrong in the system of government that destroys the universal good by which society is to be preserved.

It has been argued that because money matters, people are inactive, but I believe the opposite is true. The demands of a system wherein commerce is regulated by an arbitrarily defined system, such as currency, and worth is determined by quantity of this false goal, serve only to hinder natural human progression. Passion and participation are

giving. We later learned that we were not the first FNB group in St. Augustine...there was a previous chapter in the mid 90's.

Many things have changed in our chapter over the years - volunteers have come and gone, kitchens have moved, but after four years our chapter has stayed true to its roots. We're just a small group of caring people (from all walks of life) getting together to have fun, exchange ideas, and to cook good food for those who need it. Having an active chapter of FNB is also a way to bring attention to the problems of poverty and homelessness in our community.

-BH

When I returned home from my travels this time last year I vowed to help my friends amp up our chapter of FNB. Since then we've received mad support, we now get donations from major health food distributors, our beloved discount grocery store, the Emergency Services Homeless Coalition, and regular folks. Our sharings have become a lot more jovial and interesting. Sometimes there is even live music!!! How sweet.

- Lanturn

4th Anniversary Picnic!

To celebrate four years of providing great (mostly) vegetarian meals all for free in St. Augustine, Food Not Bombs volunteers hosted the 4th Anniversary Picnic in the Plaza. Dumpster-diving and donations were at an all-time high throughout the week to ensure there would be enough food stocked to feed a massive group.

The whole crew pitched in efforts in different camps at three separate kitchens all around town to make everything come together, with bike messengers running food and other supplies back and forth between the houses when necessary.

At my kitchen, we cooked a huge pot of rice and beans with buckwheat groats (funny name, huh?), a large pot of pasta with tomato sauce and parmesan, a gallon of home-made hearty trail mix, a big box full of peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, cakes, pies, fresh apples and orange slices, chips and salsa, and all the fixings for burritos, including beans, chickpeas, diced tomatoes, guacamole, and jalapenos. We also had drinks galore, with gallons of lemonade, juice, tea, and coffee. At the other kitchen, they whipped up even

more food than we did! The variety was pretty incredible.

The cost of the entire gigantic meal - absolutely FREE.

The Plaza was packed with hungry people and servers, with a chow line trailing down the gazebo stairs and into the sidewalk. We set up a fold-out table to accommodate the huge amount of food. The coffeepot dropped and shattered on the concrete, but luckily, there happened to be another one ready. I manned the burrito station throughout serving time, taking a break only to eat one myself.

Everyone seemed sufficiently stuffed after all the food was cleared out. It was a remarkable picnic, with nearly everyone who volunteered in the past or present there celebrating with their children and friends, not to mention one of the largest crowds served in St. Augustine FNB history.

We put Thanksgiving to shame!

A few police officers nervously eyed the event, but surprisingly, none of them motioned to stop any of the proceedings. Only one cop even walked close to the gazebo. It was kinda like Christmas had come early for a

lot of hungry people.

It was such a gratifying sensation to experience a tangible sense of true community involvement at the anniversary picnic. There was no hierarchy, no classism, no governance of one over another, no hidden agenda. There was no profit and no expense. There was instead a feeling of true togetherness and solidarity, rare in a world restricted by its own arbitrary laws and rigid social order.

And, ya know...a fuckton of full bellies.

-Anne R. Kiss



SOCIAL CAPITAL, PARTICIPATION, AND REGIME CHANGE

POLITICAL LIFE IN AMERIKKKA
-ANNE R. KISS

Civic virtue determines whether free institutions prosper or fail, a republican sentiment that did not carry over into the Founding Fathers' classically liberal/isolationist framing of the Constitution, which served "precisely to make democracy safe for the un-virtuous."

This foundation, combined with the advent of an almost purely capitalist state, methodically emphasized self-interest. Goods consumers are good citizens.

The more we consume, the further we position ourselves apart from each other. Thus, the way we have been hard-wired from the inception of American political thought is to deny the prospect of collectivism ever truly taking a foothold in our nation,



at least not from the top down.

One of my favorite quotes on the topic comes from John Winthrop's eloquent passage to citizens on his "city set upon a hill":

"We must delight in each other, make others' conditions our own, rejoice together, mourn together, labor and suffer together, always having before our eyes our community as members of the same body."

It is this attitude exactly that drives me towards endeavors like Food Not Bombs. I do not view the work as charity, but rather as an extension of myself in a society where everyone is part of a cohesive whole. Food, for example, is a right, not a privilege, and should be treated as such. Society's ills ARE necessarily our own.

Because community is a body in itself, it follows that we keep the entire body healthy, not merely

AN OPEN LETTER

Dear Havana,

I like your curves. You hold me up, exalted like a trophy wife, you've taught me how to be mean, how to scowl like a wolf with tender shoulders. You've taught me how to walk; with the sun in my eyes I sashay down your spine, my arms swaying slowly like magnolia stems. At cheap bars with small talk filling the air like car exhaust and cigarette smoke, I taste your blood between my teeth, sugarsweet and sour with lime. Sometimes I carry myself home in plastic shopping bags, limbs falling out on the sidewalk; the streetdogs gnaw on my bits through bone into darkchocolate marrow. My highwayveins lead nowhere but back to the beginning, I'm a race without a finishline, a jigsaw puzzle of a landscape missing all its clouds.

Havana you've taught me patience. I pull my pants down around my ankles and sit on the toilet for hours waiting to shit out your leftovers, stacked in my stomach like pyramids of my body's greatest architect. You've taught me absence, the dirty bloodsucker that claws on skin and knows all the right buttons to push, plants itself in the most vulnerable places. My joints bendandtwist backwardssideways, I walk like a stringless marionette, god where are my shoes?

Havana, you've taught me if I keep my mouth shut long enough maybe I'll forget how to speak, the sounds of the streets filling my head like a citywide symphony. You don't need words as long as you've got your hands. You've given me calused heels; the gravel below my feet rubs my toes rugged and brown, I pick at my skin like a farmer with a plow until I'm red and sore, bloody and open.

I watch the sun fall slowly into a bed of shadows and uneven rooftops. The paint cracks into legends on your forehead. When I read your palm it speaks to me in undiscovered languages about the color of your children's skin, the unshakable ceiba blossoming with secrets and the love triangle between the toothless man, the woman with the fat cigar and the longbearded caballero who roamed the streets of habana vieja asking for a cigarette in exchange for a poem. Your palm tells me about its roots, your fingers the seams that hold the city together. You tell me about the men with crooked pride showering their patriotism into the first extranjera mouth they get close enough to touch. You tell me about the streetcorners and parks full of domino games and politics, "is the music on?" be careful you never know who's listening.

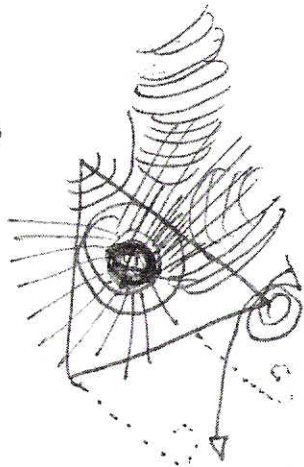
Havana, your edges lined with glass, your eyes tattooed with slogans, I'll wash the graffiti off your arms, rearrange all your dates to confuse history. When I wear your glasses, bifocals the old cat design from the fifties, everything's blurry. I close my eyes and when I open them I'm somewhere else, somewhere not in your bed and all I can remember is how you feel in the dark, my skin against yours like two ghosts making love in a death that doesn't exist yet.

SHOUT OUTS

fuck bombs & R
Love ur boss
4 ur self
A
th
Dreams Dreams
always Dreams

First they come
Second we show
what all awaits
in the center.

Julie Haux



VEGAN RECIPES!

FRANKIE RAMPAGE'S PB COOKIES

¼ CUP VEGAN MARGARINE
 ¼ CUP O SUGAR
 ½ CUP O PB
 1 CUP OF OATS

ON MEDIUM LOW HEAT:
 MELT DA BUDDA
 MIX WELL DA SHUGA
 MIX THE PB

ON FIRST SIGHT OF BUBBLE
 THROW IN THE OATS!

STIR AND REMOVE FROM
 HEAT

FORM INTO DESIRED SHAPES
 AND LET COOL IN THE
 FREEZER FOR A WHILE

EAT EM'!



CURRIED SOFU PATE

(YOU WILL NEED A FOOD
 PROCESSOR OR BLENDA)

½ CUP ALMONDS-PULVERIZED

ADD 1 BOX O SOFT TOFU

1 BUNCH O SCALLIONS
 (ROUGH CHOP PUREE)

THEN ADD 1 TBS CURRY

1 TBLSPON OF HON-
 EY, AGAVE NECTAR
 OR YOUR CHOICE OF
 MARMALADE(SUMPIN SWEET)

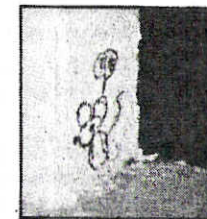
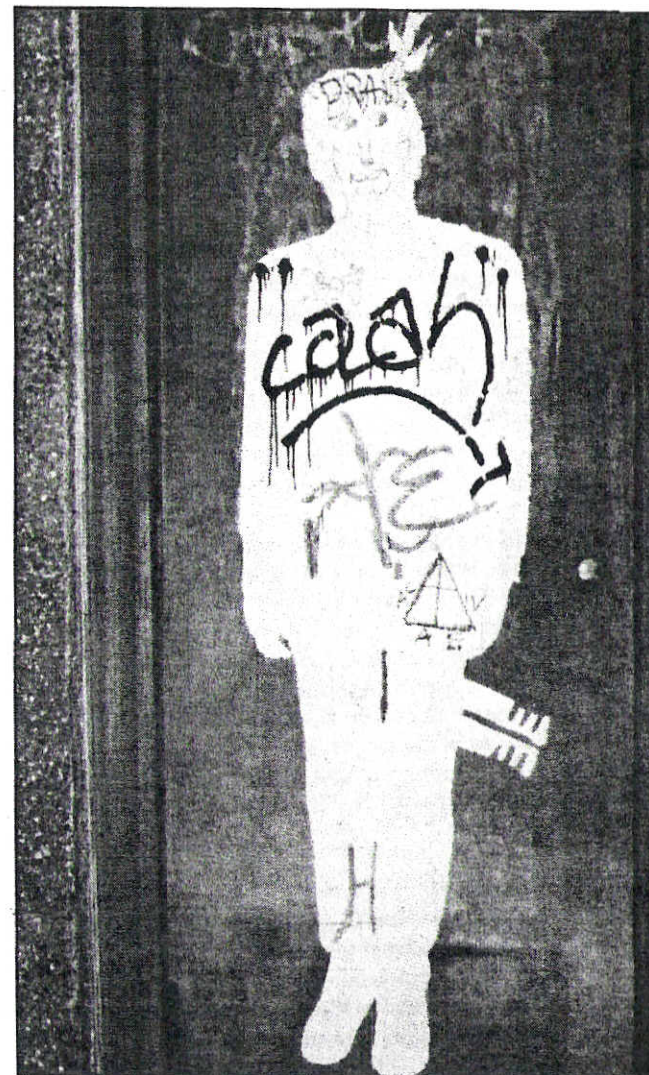
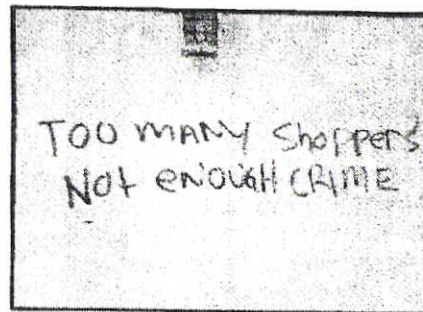
½ PACKAGE OF CREAM
 CHEESE OR TOFUTI

SALT+BLACK PEPPER TO
 TASTE
 PUREE UNTIL CREAMY

GREAT FOR DIP
 OR SANDWICHES!

Street art is a voice singing
 and screaming from the foul
 trenches of the class war, un-
 willing and unable to be si-
 lenced.

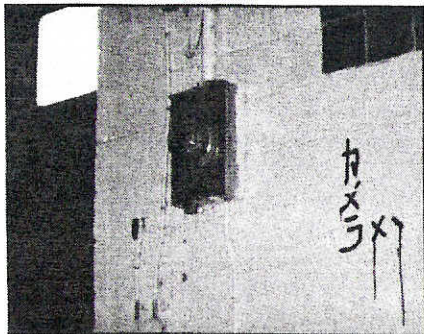
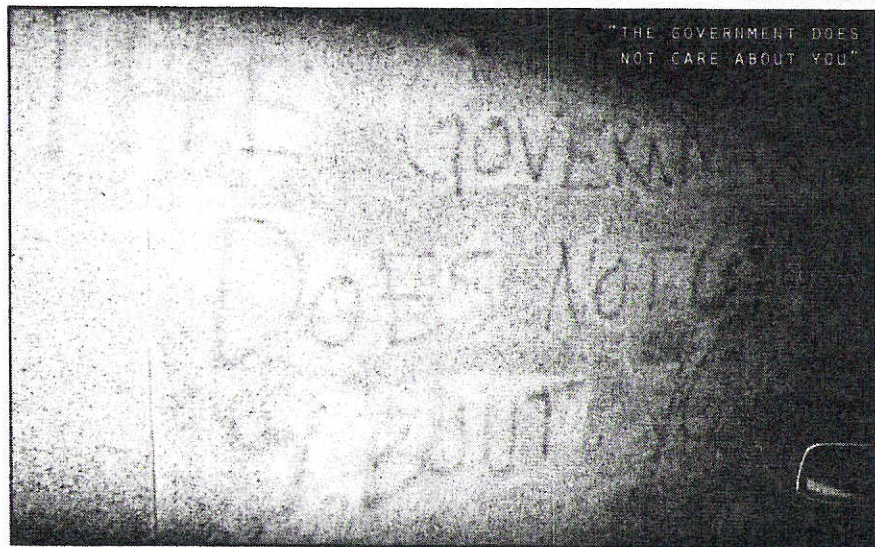
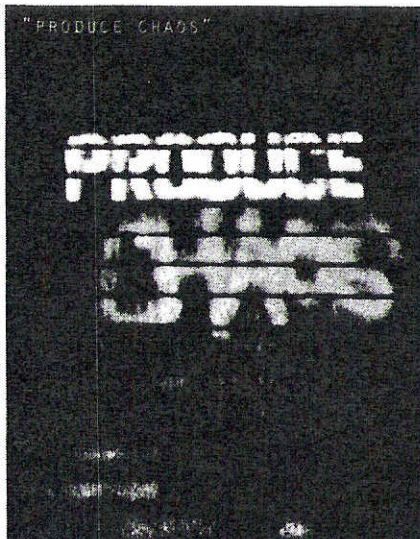
The world is your canvas.
 May life imitate art.



ALL ART
 PHOTOGRAPHED
 LOCALLY
 IN DOWNTOWN
 ST. AUGUSTINE

than shaking down kids' backpacks for paint after midnight.

Within the mores of a capitalist regime, everything is a consumer commodity, including art. Procured, repackaged, and then sold back to the populace with the appropriate editing and ratings systems encoded, art is to be viewed by social elites in a gallery or purchased at a record store; marked up in a pop culture magazine or shoved into your virtual shopping cart.

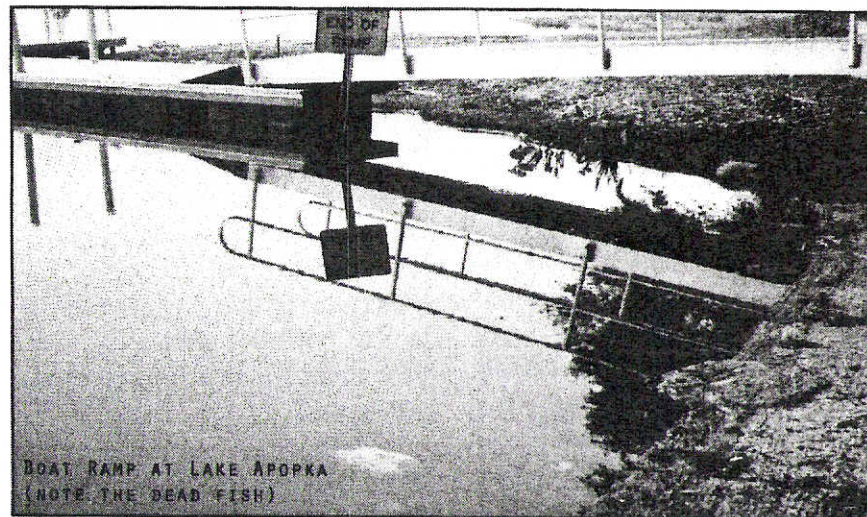


The idea that art can be raw, free, and accessible to everyone endangers the commercial interests that have constructed creativity (an intrinsic human ability) as an industry.

FLORIDA'S POISONOUS LANDSCAPE

PESTICIDES, FARM WORKERS, AND THE ENVIRONMENT

-LARIZA GARZON



In 1962, Rachel Carson wrote the book "Silent Spring", wherein she questioned the effects of pesticides on humans and the environment. She stated that the right to a safe environment was a human right and that people should know about the toxic chemicals released into the environment as well as ways in which they could protect themselves from these harmful substances.

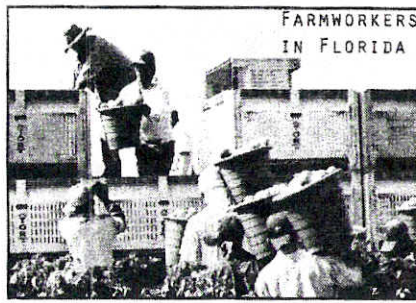
More than forty years after Carson wrote "Silent Spring", the average American knows little about the pesticides used in the fields and the dangerous effects that they can have on farm workers, rural communities, consumers and the environment. The

fact that environmental disasters have occurred around the United States and the world have not brought enough media attention to provoke a public outcry in our country.

Even though there are laws that are supposed to protect farm workers and the environment, these pesticides continue to affect human health and to degrade our environment. They remain in human and animal tissues and in the natural world for hundreds of years.

In Florida, the enforcement of laws related to pesticide use and the monitoring of the fields is deficient, since one single inspector is responsible for nu-

farms that he or she can hardly ever visit. This lack of enforcement results in constant violation of the law and in numerous health issues for the farm workers who are exposed to pesticides. They work without training, protection or knowledge about these chemicals.



If you ever visit a rural community in Florida and speak to the farm workers, you will hear horror stories about rashes, respiratory problems, birth defects, cancer and other illnesses that are linked to their constant contact with pesticides. Compensation for the victims of pesticide exposure is rare, since without enforcement and documentation, lack of doctors in rural areas, and misdiagnosis, it is hard to prove the misuse of pesticides in the fields and their direct effect on the health of farm workers.

The environment also suffers the consequences of the use of pesticides, since pesticides end up in the air, water, soil, food and non-target organisms (including humans). Environmental disasters caused by pesticides are numerous and have affected many communities, including some in Florida. The reckless use of DDT in Apopka, resulted in the destruction of Lake Apopka and

in severe health problems to the African American and Hispanic farm worker population of the area (who to this day are having to live with the effects of pesticide without any help or compensation).

The profuse use of Methyl Bromide, a fumigant used to control pests in the fields, homes and food-processing facilities in Florida (and around the world), also resulted in an environmental disaster.

In 1987, thirty-six nations met and developed the Montreal Protocol, an international treaty whose mission was to cut emissions of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), which in a gaseous form harm the ozone layer when they rise into the stratosphere. After 1989, scientists discovered a hole in the ozone layer and decided to develop a new international agreement to prevent further damage to the ozone layer. The renewed Montreal Protocol was designed to regulate and phase

CAN I HIT THAT?

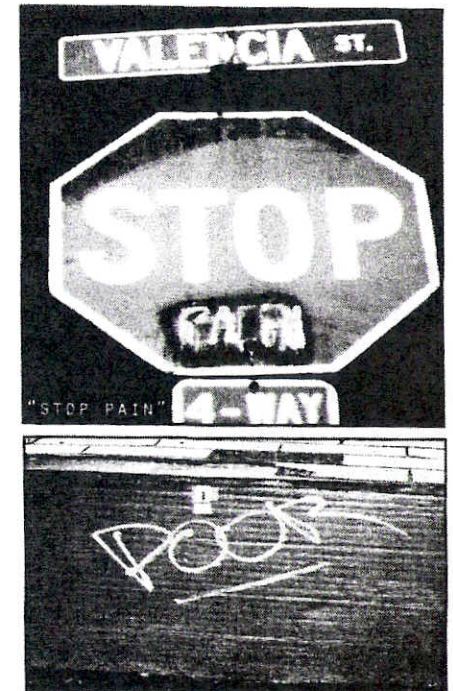
ST. AUGUSTINE STREET ART

-ANNE R. KISS



The City of St. Augustine has taken great strides to stifle the freedom of self-expression, from its banishment of once-ubiquitous street performers in historical downtown's main commercial tourist strip, St. George Street, to the current legislation against local artisans selling their pieces in the nearby downtown Plaza. Recently, a special police taskforce targeting graffiti writers has taken effect in response to the freshest paint in the oldest city.

So, what's the big fuckin deal? Surely the cops could be handling something more urgent



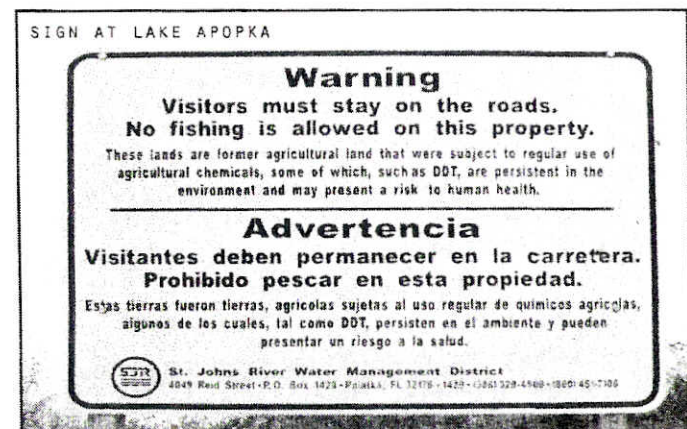
THAT IS A PART OF EVERY MESSAGE.
THE PATRIOT ACT ALSO ALLOWS AGENTS TO ~~MONITOR~~
MONITOR "NON-CONTENT", AS LONG AS THEY
GET A COURT ORDER (WHICH DOESN'T TAKE MUCH EFFORT)
THIS ALSO ALLOWS THE GOVERNMENT TO ACQUIRE
ALL YOUR "NON-CONTENT" INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR
ON-LINE COMMUNICATIONS (EX: BANKING INFO
EMAIL, ETC...) "NON-CONTENT" HAS BEEN ~~REPEATED~~ ^{REFERRED TO MANY} TIMES
IN THE PATRIOT ACT, BUT THIS TERM ~~REMAINS~~ REMAINS
UNDEFINED. THIS IS JUST A LITTLE BIT OF INFO
I HAVE LEARNED ABOUT SURVEILLANCE. THE MAJORITY
OF THESE RESOURCES ~~ARE~~ ^{ARE} ~~FROM~~ FROM
"BEAT THE HEAT" HOW TO HANDLE LAW ENFORCEMENT
BY KATYA KOMISARUK / ~~AL~~ PRESS
● SORRY ABOUT THE SCRIBBLED OUT WORDS ALL
OVER THE ~~PLACE~~ PLACE ●

out many substances that depleted the ozone layer, including the pesticide, Methyl Bromide, considered responsible of global ozone depletion. The treaty was considered a success when 170 countries signed this new protocol.

The countries decided to eliminate the use of Methyl Bromide in developed countries by 2005. This would be done gradually, eliminating 25% by 1999, 50% by 2001 and 70% by 2003. Today, the pesticide is still widely used in the United States, especially in the tomato and strawberry fields of Florida, where farm workers suffer from skin, respiratory and nervous health problems, cancer and birth defects associated with the use of this pesticide.

A new threat: Methyl Iodide

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) started looking for a replacement to Methyl Bromide and found a deadly pesticide that doesn't deplete the ozone layer, but is more dangerous for human health and other aspects of the environment. In October 5th, 2007, the EPA registered another soil fumigant: Methyl Iodide. The pesticide was registered for one year despite a letter written by distinguished chemists (4 Nobel Laureates included) that were in shock by the EPA's decision to even consider releasing into the environment "one of the more toxic chemicals used in manufacturing". Over 10,000 individuals and organizations also signed the letter asking the EPA to keep this pesticide from the fields and rural communities of the United States.



ACCORDING TO THE PESTICIDE ACTION NETWORK OF NORTH AMERICA, METHYL IODIDE IS DANGEROUS FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

- Since this pesticide is a fumigant, gas concentrations will build up over the fields and drift into rural communities, threatening public health.
- Methyl Iodide is chemically reactive. It can alter the structure of DNA and lead to mutations. This is very threatening for farm worker's health.
- There is a high risk that Methyl Iodide will contaminate the air and the water. This is very dangerous for Florida because the pesticide moves into the soil and leaches into groundwater... our most important water source.
- Because Methyl Iodide is acutely toxic it can affect the nervous system, the lungs, liver and kidneys and lead to birth defects. It is 6 times more toxic than Methyl Bromide.
- Methyl Iodide is a carcinogen that induces DNA damage and that is commonly used to create mutant mammalian cell lines in the laboratory.
- Finally, Methyl Iodide interferes with Metabolic Processes.

In Florida, many groups have worked together to keep the Department of Agriculture from approving the use of Methyl Iodide in the state. Young people from all over Florida, affiliated to the Youth and Young Adult Network of the National Farm Worker Ministry, organized to support a Letter Campaign (started by the Farm Worker Association of Florida) against this chemical. In a few weeks they sent about 400 letters to the Florida Department of Agriculture, requesting a ban to Methyl Iodide.

icide Review Council (PRC), which took place on January 15th, 2008 at the University of Florida. During this meeting government officials, scientists, a representative of the Arysta Company (maker of MIDAS, the commercial name for a dangerous combination of Methyl Iodide and chloropicrin), farm workers, farm worker organizations and students heard presentations regarding the benefits and disadvantages of approving the pesticide in Florida and had the opportunity to make public comments.

Receipt of these letters was acknowledged during the Pes-

It was shocking to hear the Arysta representative say that

OK SO THATS A LITTLE BIT ON VISUAL WHAT ABOUT THE REST LIKE GARBAGE.

YOUR TRASH IS FAIR GAME ONCE IT HITS THE CURB OR DUMPSTER. TRASH IS ~~NOT~~ NOT PROTECTED BY THE 4TH AMENDMENT ~~BECAUSE~~ BECAUSE YOU'RE CONSIDERED TO HAVE ABANDONED CLAIM TO IT, THEREFORE ~~IT'S~~ IT'S NO LONGER YOUR PROPERTY. THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS ACCOUNTS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENTS GATHERING INFORMATION ~~AGAINST~~ AGAINST ACTIVIST OR ANYONE ELSE THEY ARE AFTER BY DIGGING THROUGH TRASH..... AHH DUMPSTER DIVERS AT HEART.

MAIL CANNOT BE OPENED WITHOUT PROBABLE CAUSE, BUT CAN BE SNIPPED OUT BY DRUG DOGS WITH NO AUTHORIZATION. MAIL GROWS ~~UP~~ ACROSS THE BORDER, OR BEING ~~RECEIVED~~ RECEIVED, CAN BE SEARCHED IF THERE IS REASONABLE CAUSE. MAIL SENT TO OR FROM A ~~PRISONER~~ PRISONER IN JAIL, PRISON, OR IMMIGRATION DETENTION CENTER CAN BE OPENED AND READ BY AUTHORITIES. ~~THE~~ THE INTERNET IS ~~MONITORED~~ MONITORED TO A HIGH DEGREE MADE POSSIBLE BY THE PATRIOT ACT'S IDEA OF PEN REGISTERS AND ~~TRAP~~ TRAP/TRACE DEVICES TO EMAILS WHICH CAN GATHER AN ADDRESS AND ROUTING INFORMATION

WATCHING FROM THE SHADOWS IN HOPE THAT YOU SLEEP UP

HERES ~~LOOKING AT~~ YOU KID BY: MAX BANKSY

GOVERNMENT SURVEILLANCE TAKES MANY FORMS,
SUCH AS VISUAL, TELEPHONE, GARBAGE, MAIL
AND THANKS TO THE USA PATRIOT ACT, INTERNET.
MOST OF THESE REQUIRE WARRANTS OR COURT ORDERS,
ie: A WIRETAP FOR YOUR PHONE HAS SIX (6)
~~REQUIREMENTS~~ REQUIREMENTS*, BUT SOME
REQUIRE NO AUTHORIZATION AT ALL.

LETS CHECK OUT VISUAL SURVEILLANCE, SHALL WE.....
IF YOU ARE IN AN OPEN PLACE, OR IN BETTER WORDS,
OPEN TO PUBLIC VIEW, YOU CAN BE WATCHED,
VIDEO TAPED, OR PHOTOGRAPHED ~~WITH~~ WITHOUT
PERMISSION. YOU DONT EVEN HAVE TO BE IN A
PUBLIC PLACE, IF YOU ARE VISIBLE THROUGH A
WINDOW OF YOUR OWN HOUSE YOU CAN BE ^{VIDEO} RECORDED
OR PHOTOGRAPHED. LAW ENFORCEMENT CAN ALSO
FLY OVER YOUR PROPERTY IN A PLANE, HELICOPTER,
OR A FUCKIN HOVER BOARD, AS LOW AS 400FT,
LOOKING FOR ILLEGAL ACTIVITY. THERE ARE, HOWEVER,
PRIVATE SPOTS IN PUBLIC PLACES, GENERALLY
WHEN YOU ARE IN A ~~PRIVATE~~ PLACE PASSERSBY CANT
SEE YOU, (REASONABLE EXPECTATION OF PRIVACY) THE
GOVERNMENT IS NOT ALLOWED TO OBSERVE YOU.
SO DO YOUR CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES IN THE BATHROOM

MIDAS can be used "without adversely impacting the environment or the health of workers and bystanders", while at the same time the company requires air-purifying respirators for the applicators, a doctor's examination to ensure physical ability to safely wear the respirator, a buffer zone around the fields, to keep all pets and animals out of the treated area for 5 days, the presence of two trained employees to be present during the tarp removal, etc. It is obvious that if this was a safe pesticide that poses no risks, so many cautions would not be necessary on its label. If this pesticide is approved, farm workers will suffer tremendous damage. Enforcement and inspections will not increase and violations of these strict requirements will more than likely be abundant.

Join Florida's youth in the struggle to protect our environment and the health of farm workers and rural communities! We are asking the government to have independent testing, done by neutral parties, to prove the real impact that the use of Methyl Iodide could have in Florida. We are also asking them to consider more environmentally friendly alternatives and the protection of farm worker's health.

We are asking for justice in the fields!

Is it going to take another 50 years to realize the importance of Rachel Carson's words? Our negligence to take action could result in an environmental tragedy that will affect every resident of Florida and the future of upcoming generations.

For more information:

Join the YAYA network
http://www.myspace.com/yaya_nfwm

National Farm Worker Ministry
www.nfwm.org

Farm Worker Association
of Florida
<http://www.farmworkers.org/fwafpage.html>

Pesticide Action Network
of North America
<http://www.panna.org/>



*Being in jail and receiving
NO MAIL
Is like Being in Hell and getting
No water*

--- VERONZA BOWERS 10.6.74



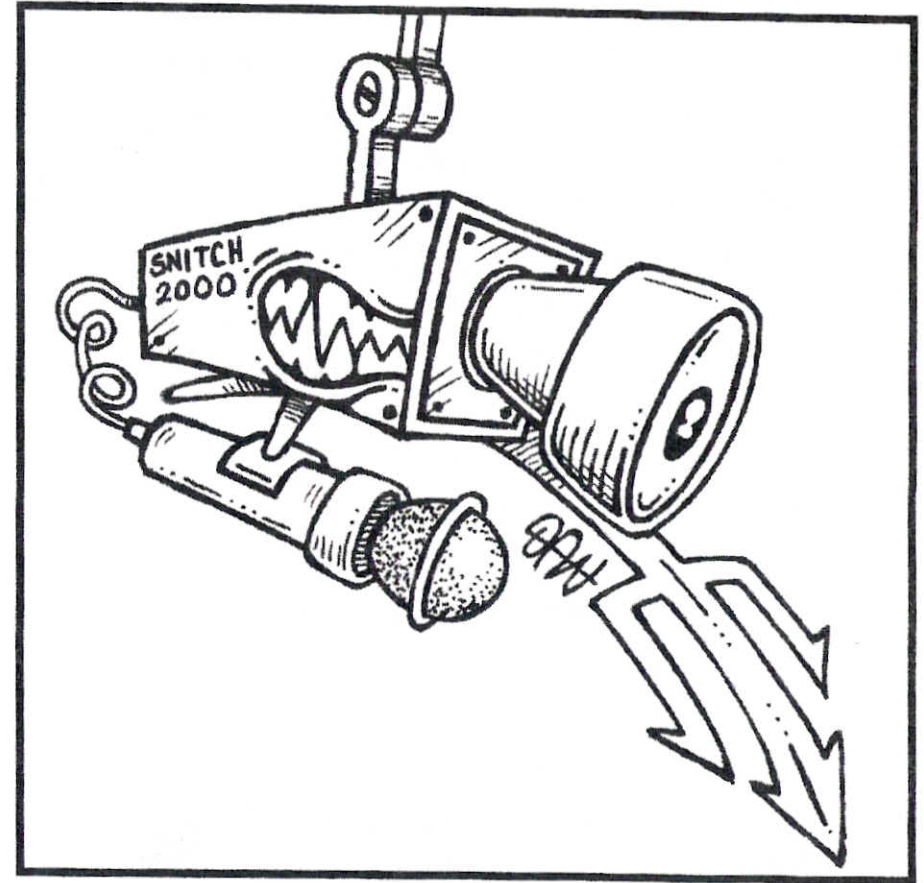
PRISONER MOVED FROM COLEMAN, FL

Just a quick update on Veronza Bowers...He has been moved to Bennettsville, South Carolina. Please take a quick moment to write him at his new address:

Veronza Bowers #35316-136
FCI Bennettsville
Federal Correctional Institution
P.O. Box 52020
Bennettsville, SC 29512

Friends in Saint Augustine have started a postcard campaign to let Veronza know that he has not been forgotten and to let the prison know the same.

For more info visit:
www.collectivepress.org
www.veronza.org



role in those files, in addition to organizing numerous anti-war, anti-racism, anti-imperialism rallies actions and protest including the G-8 protest in Denver!

We believe that actions can best be coordinated by local grassroots efforts. We encourage national organizations' efforts during the convention, but we ask that you please respect the proud and rich history of organized resistance that exists in Colorado.

Out-of-state assistance is needed for a mass showing of the people's power. We view the 2008 convention in Denver as the last stand for progressives in the attempt to remove the veil and expose the bankruptcy of this political system that serves only the elite powerholders.


DO IT IN DENVER!
 DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION
 Aug. 25-28, 2008

FREE food
FREE music
FREE thought
FREE political education
FREEDOM!

Join us for the Festival of Life and other events at the Democratic National Convention!

The Elephants and Asses have been screwing the masses for too long!

for more info go to :
www.recreate68.org



it's more than
W
 take it all down.

august 25-28th | denver, CO | september 1-4th | st. paul, MN | 2008
recreate68.org | infostop.org | nemo.org

We intend to ignite passion for the politics of the people through ending this self-imposed materialistic pacification.

We are asking that you start an R-68 group in your community, school, campus, etc. and start making your plans to join us in Denver. By the way, please let us know how we can assist you.

Good luck and remember, "Do it in Denver!" See you there.

For information and updates on anti-DNC events, visit

<http://www.recreate68.org/>

RECOLLECTIONS FROM THE C.I.W. MARCH IN MIAMI

DEFEATING THE EXPLOITATION KING

- LANTURN

The Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) is an organization of farm workers from Southwest Florida. They have organized themselves into a powerful force that has brought attention to the slavery conditions in the fields where they work. Huge fast food corporations like McDonalds and Yum Brands (the mother company of Taco Bell, Pizza Hut, and also the largest restaurant company in the world!) have adhered to the simple demands of the CIW: a living wage and an end to indentured servitude in the fields where they work.

A couple months ago I traveled to Miami to take part in the CIW's nine-mile march to Burger King's corporate headquarters. Here is what I remember:

By the morning of the march I was already delirious from lack of sleep. A couple of us had stayed up all night preparing a vegan mash to feed the crowd. After several shots of Cuban coffee, I roasted my companions and we ventured downtown where the march was beginning. All enjoyed the food; even a crowd of homeless folks picketing



The next target on the CIW's campaign for fair food is Burger King, a corporation that has yet to acknowledge the modest demands for one cent more per pound of tomatoes.

at a business across the street. Other people came with juice and fruit and we all shared a tasty breakfast for the long day ahead of us.

When the march started I began to think the obvious; I was in for a long walk. The sun was shining hard over our heads and the air was thick. Everything was bright and heavy on my senses.

As these negative realizations voiced themselves in my mind, a jolt of energy suddenly raced up my spine. I heard an incredible music coming from behind me. I flinched in awe as a group of men began blowing on simply crafted homemade horns and tapping rolling rhythms on snare drums hanging by their waists.

This was my first encounter with rara music, a Haitian carnival tradition. This music affected me in a powerful way- my head became clear and I felt exalted and united with the people around me. I felt like holding my head up high. The band's message was clear: we're here, now let's do this.

I was propelled with the procession. Marching in a joyful trance and feeling like I was in a New Orleans second line, I remember narrowly observing my surroundings. There were construction workers atop skyscrapers who had paused to



BRUSHFIRE! FEBRUARY 2008

watch the flow of our yellow shirts. In the streets below we waved as the band carried us on.

"TAKE THOSE
SHOES!"
THE CROWD
SHOUTED...
AND THE KING
OBLIGED.

After a few miles we were greeted by a group of folks dolling out refreshments. I later learned that these people were from the Power U Center for Social Change, a community organization fighting gentrification in the historic black neighborhood of Overtown. We exchanged greetings and thanked each other for support. I recently read that the Power U Center helped actualize the reclamation of some property in Overtown. What an honor to be cheered on by folks organizing and fighting in their own communities.

It was inspiring to see people from Miami supporting the workers from Immokalee. Their encouragement and expressed solidarity was further incentive to keep up the pace of the march.

Also uplifting were the cheers and manic gestures from the children on the passing school busses. We saw them many times and they never failed to put the smile back home on my face.



Sometimes we need to look back to move forward.

In 1968 there existed a spirit of change, the Paris Rebellion, Prague, Chicago, Vietnam, etc. People believed, around the world, that they were capable of taking over the institutions that controlled their lives. The smell of revolution was in the air. Over 1 million college students openly identified as revolutionist. People believed that through mass participation in the movement, it was possible to wrestle control from the elite power-holders. They were not willing to accept the loss of their human and civil rights.

Recreate 68 is not a throwback group trying to relieve some vision of glory days long gone. We are predominantly a youthful group who has realized that, 40 years later, we have only produced apathy in our communities towards making effective and lasting change.

We intend to recreate that need for change and mass participation in the events that shape and control our lives. We intend to recreate that revolutionary feeling and pick-up where our predecessors left off. It

is time to reclaim the ideals that we have forgotten and leap forward by stepping back and using that voice inside of us that has been telling us something is seriously wrong, a voice that is shouting for change, a voice that has realized we live in a police state and we have stopped moving forward 40 years ago.

When we recreate positives and discard negatives from our collective memories of the past and realize the true power that the people possess, we will have the ability to make 2008 a very special year. This is the true meaning of Recreate 68. Don't let this historic moment pass you by. Join us on this journey and have your energies and voices heard in the streets of Denver, as we demand change during the DNC in 2008!

The "R-68" Alliance is made up of activists locally known as the All Nations Alliance. The All Nations Alliance sponsored the Denver City Council resolution that made Denver the first major city in the country to take a stand in opposition to the Patriot Act and was also instrumental in exposing the Denver Spy Files and the J.T.T.F.'s and F.B.I.'s

BRUSHFIRE! FEBRUARY 2008

that they have devised and the capacity to carry them through.

2. Lead up actions - Practice makes perfect. Use this entire year leading up to the RNC to develop and practice your own tactics and strategies that step things up a notch and build true alternatives. Resistance doesn't start and end at 'the next big protest'; it is a way of life.

3. Fundraising - We're not saying to let your community projects flounder, but we're going to need some serious cash to help arrange legal support (we're still looking for a lawyer dumpster), a convergence space, and a thousand other logistical puzzles. Pass the hat at every regional consulta and meeting you attend, hold fundraisers, and send a chunk of it in our direction!

4. Communicate - Maintain strong security-culture values, but let us know your capacities and what you will need. If you want a single point person to communicate with, we can arrange it. What you say you can do and will need shapes the course that we take.

5. Come to the Twin Cities - Come early and come often! Take advantage of that "Minnesota Nice" and come long before the convention to help make things happen. Also, put May Day weekend (May 1st - 4th 2008) on your calendars to send a representative or two from your group to the Twin Cities for our next networking and strategizing event (more info TBA).

September 1st, 2008, we, the RNC Welcoming Committee, invite all anarchists and anti-authoritarians, all radicals and rabble-rousers, all those who are fed up with government lies and spectacles to show up ready for action and ensure that we leave no place for these expired politicians. What we create here will send the convention crashing off course into insignificance.

From the occupied territories of Minnesota,

The RNC Welcoming Committee

[nornc.org](http://www.nornc.org)
<http://www.myspace.com/rnc2008welcomingcommittee>



BRUSHFIRE! FEBRUARY 2008

With sore legs and nine miles behind us, we finally arrived at the corporate headquarters. As we passed through the gates the weary crowd was revitalized.

Members of the CIW presented BK representatives with a stack of dirty work boots, symbolically challenging BK CEO John Chidsey to walk a mile in their shoes. Chidsey, who earlier made remarks trivializing the poverty of farm workers, made 11.7 million dollars last year.

"TAKE THOSE SHOES!" the crowd shouted. And the King obliged.

After this initial confrontation, there were speakers from the CIW and other supporting groups, local and national. Community leaders, expressing the universality of the struggle of working class people, made several moving speeches. Later, the musical groups Rebel Diaz and Las Krudas performed. Both were impressive with their articulate lyrics and powerful presence. It was a much-needed relief to hear this music and be united by it. I saw five year olds dancing and grandmas nodding their heads to the beat.

After all was said and after many uncomfortable and awkward moments watching BK employees drive away from their jobs (only one honked in support), I hopped on a bus that was heading back downtown.

I believe the CIW and their supporters won a small battle that day.

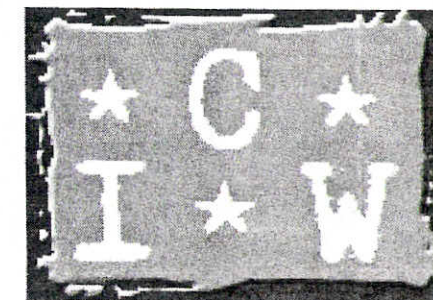
They showed Burger King strength in numbers. I realize the war is far from over. BK has still not met the modest demands of the CIW and as people we need to stand up with our friends in Immokalee.

We need to get the word out:
Burger King Exploits Farmworkers!

Help the CIW disseminate information about this issue and stage creative actions against a Burger King restaurant in your community.

For more info visit:

<http://www.ciw-online.org>

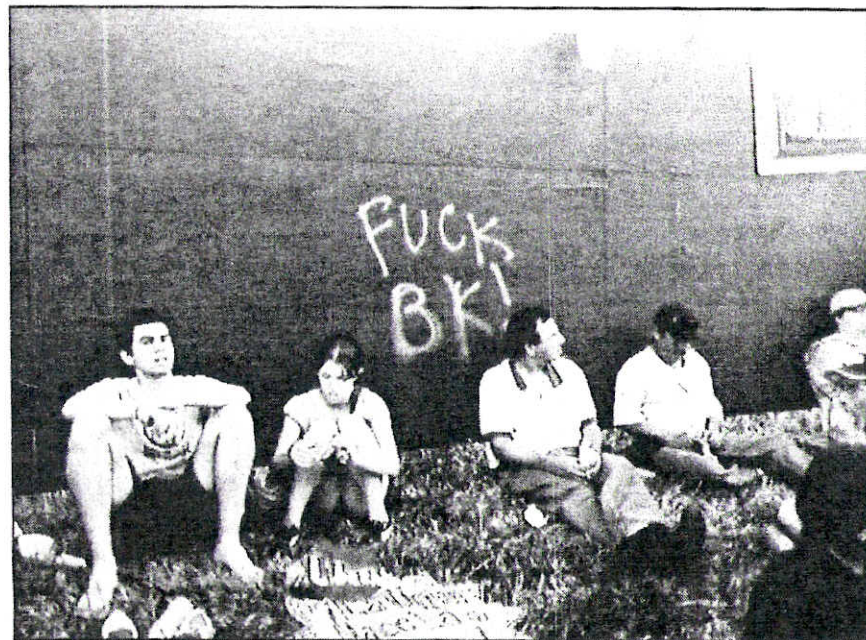


BRUSHFIRE! FEBRUARY 2008

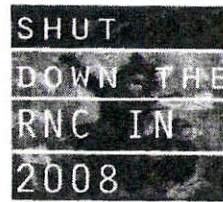


CIW MARCH IN MIAMI

ABOVE: FOOD NOT BOMBS ST. AUGUSTINE REPRESENTIN'
BELOW: THE WRITING ON THE WALL



many goals. Together, we can derail the purely ceremonial show of this repressive system and remake it with our own hands and according to our own visions.



How we get there :

1. Start Strong - Throw all of our energy into the first day. We'll kick this off right and stretch the militarized police state out so far that it can no longer contain and suppress our voices and desires.

2. Transportation Troubles - This includes blockades downtown (at key intersections), on bridges (10 bridges over the Mississippi River in the metro area), and other sporadic and strategic targets (busses, hotel and airport shuttles etc).

3. Respect, defend, and be prepared for autonomous self-sustaining alternatives - Lasting projects and spaces will be born out of our actions and will need to be protected. We also won't knowingly bring the hammer down on existing long-term community projects. It doesn't matter if we win the RNC battle, if the war for our lives is lost.

4. Be inclusive of local communities and respect alliances - We are all on the same side of the barricades and

are trying to build lasting bonds for future mutual aid. We may not agree with each other on all of our tactics, but that doesn't mean there aren't venues for us to work together and build on the trust and community that already exists.

What the Welcoming Committee is doing:

1. Logistical support - We will organize legal support, housing, food, transportation, and a convergence space as well as anything else you may need to make our collective actions successful.

2. Framework coordinating - We will map out key points and layouts and gather intelligence to help you plug into the bigger picture. Let us know your needs, desires, and capacities.

3. Local outreach - We are building alliances with local groups and communities to help build our collective support. We encourage you to do the same.

4. Networking - We're hooking y'all up with each-other so that you can work with people you might not already know, strategize, and share a glass of some good old mutual aid.

What we are calling for:

1. Get it together - Have regional consultas, organize in your communities, and form your affinity groups. We are expecting people to come with concrete plans for actions



On September 1-4 of 2008, the Republican Party is coming to Minnesota to celebrate their latest conquests in global domination and exploitation. We of the RNC Welcoming Committee want to make sure that this time the fear-mongers will be met with their own biggest fear: people mobilized, organized, and taking the future back into their own hands.

For those of you who abhor the rapid growth of racist militarized borders across stolen lands, the raids and deportations, destruction and commodification of our shared and living earth, police brutality and prison industry, fear propaganda and subjugation, exploitation and robbery of peoples worldwide, and all forms of injustice and oppression - we ask you to be prepared for 2008. This will require new alliances, strong networks, the awakening of those who've given up, as well as the mobilization of those who've never before taken action.

Let's use this opportunity to make the changes we thirst for manifest and take root before us, making the Republicans/Democrats (whatever you want to call them) obsolete.

Labor Day weekend of 2007, anarchists and anti-authoritarians from across the country gathered in the Twin Cities to develop goals and plans for the RNC 2008. This is what we've come up with:

What we want (the goals):

1. Build Our Capacity - A new reality will not emerge by simply stopping the 4 day spectacle of the RNC. We need folks with an alternative vision to come to the Twin Cities and turn their dreams into reality. Start something new, be creative, and come ready to build sustainable alternatives worth fighting for and defending. The new skills that we teach, learn, and put into practice here will allow us to return to our communities stronger, smarter, and more empowered.

2. Crash the Convention - We didn't get an invitation, but we're showing up anyway. This party will be what we make of it. We don't want to confine our potential by imposing a single vision of what success will look like. We recognize that there will be a lot of people coming with their own agendas and carefully laid plans and want to be open to the diverse tactics that will be necessary to accomplish our

ROCKS IN THE TREETOP

- AM

It's not the rocks that's the problem, dime a dozen... less than that even, I know this guy sellin em for thirty cents a pound and if you can't fish that much change out the wishing well... well, they got rocks all over the place. Planters and parking lots for example, but sometimes I fear mulch is takin over. Getting em is easy, that's why I say "it's not the rocks that's the problem." It hit me in the sixth grade - when Kyle Goss threw a rock at my head but I have no time for puns.

See, my folks were always yellin about money and how there wasn't enough of it. Dad didn't take me fishing enough. Spatula fights in the den and my mom's jugular vein quiverin every syllable in liquid Braille. Never enough money, always some... but never enough. They used to stash it away, every time they got some money. So I start stashin rocks that I see on the side of I-95. Hidin in Bob's Barricade buckets hopin some car would slam into me. I am not a self destructive person. At some point it hit me... even inside the barricade it would hurt.

But, anyway they always had rocks all over the place - little pebbles mixed in with the smashed glass but it's not the rocks that's the problem. My brother just got back from the lava tubes... something to do

with church and brought me a rock, this was last year though, I might have told you about it. I just threw it in my trunk, don't mean nothin. See, at first it was just me and my rusted out Corolla, shot alternator on Oneida, couple liquor store boxes in the trunk packed full of coral and coquina, tons of pebbles. Just like my folks and the money. Only they had this drawer, see, where they socked away their money. Right next to the underwear... same drawer actually. Underwear and socked money, together at last, glory hallelujah. But mostly I remember my mom's neck when she yelled, went on forever... the neck did - a white cedar tree turned elephant swayin in the spring breeze with that smell like after you mow the grass and your dad makes you run in front of the mower and throw rocks out of the way. But it's not the rocks that's the problem, just everything else. The Corolla's long gone... if we're talkin distance, length I mean, but these things need to established before hand to avoid confusion.

Do you understand what I'm talking about?
Are you getting this all down?

Organizer's Conference
& Winter Rendezvous

FEB 14 15 16 17 18

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BRUSHFIRE! FEBRUARY 2008



Ready, amerikkka? 2008 is an election year and you know what that means...time to whip up the nation's political fervor with big exclusive parties championing the virtues of warfare, exploitation, discrimination, and injustice!

It sometimes seems pointless to recycle when it just ends up in the dump anyway, but hey, some people vote. Exercise some REAL political efficacy and help Florida REPRESENT at the Democratic and Republican National Conventions!

(The following information comes from The RNC Welcoming Committee and Recreate68).

BRUSHFIRE! FEBRUARY 2008