

## Brushfire! Needs Help!

This month we received ONE submission from out of town! That means all things in this issue except for one submission were written by us here in Orlando! We understand that this is a new project, and that with so many projects in anarchist communities being talked about and never actually getting done - we can't really blame people for being weary about investing their time. Also, hopefully with wider circulation and more people signing up to receive issues in the mail in the mail, we can get more people involved. Luckily, we have gotten a commitment from St. Augustine to put out the February issue! This in addition to Miami putting out the April issue puts us on to a good start! We really just need submissions and commitments to publish, but more submissions! Also, we are moving the submission deadline for each month to the 20th of each month. This is not an Orlando project, it is a Florida project, and we need Florida to help us out on it! Tell us what is going on in your community! Tell us about your trip to Uzbekistan! Send us your favorite poems

and recipes! So sit down! Write something! Send submissions to brushfiresubmissions@gmail.com.

Between dodging alligators, throwing wrenches in Florida Power & Light's pompous power plant plans, and inspiring local ecorevolution, Everglades Earth First! is conspiring something big. Real big. The annual Earth First! Organizer's Conference and Winter Rendezvous, that is!

The first two days will de dedicated to TCOBing (that's takin' care of business) for EF! movement organizers: We'll analyze our campaigns and struggles from the last year, talk about movement strategy and tactics, and

discuss The EF! Journal.

The weekend will be time to teach or learn new skills, hear or tell about campaigns from all over the nation, and scheme on how to bring down that earth-brutalizing machine commonly known as Capitalism. Oh yeah, and make/eat good food, play/listen to good music, and hang with old/new friends.

Monday will be the time to put our energy into ACTION, and stick around for Tuesday's

sure-to-be-a-blast camp cleanup.

If you'd like to give a workshop or lead a discussion, please get in touch. We are also looking for international contacts across the world to invite to the gathering.

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Earth First: 2008
Organizers' Conference
& Winter Rendezvous
February 14-18, Palm
Beach County, Florida

Everglades Earth First!
561-588-9666 evergladesearthfirst@gmail.com
www.earthfirst2008oc.info

Earth

To learn about our fight against the FPL power plants, see www.RiverQfGas.info

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# 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

We roll some cigarettes, play some music, watch the trains fly on by, and talk about random shit. I couldn't fucking sleep...like always. So Turtle drifts off and I can't, so I stay up wandering around the beach and roll cigarette after cigarette.

Finally I get to sleep around sun up (so I'm fucking tired right now.) We complete the camp and head back to the cafe'.

I meet a homeless fella named "?", he plays some good blues (like only a black man can.:)

And now I'm sitting here in this cafe tired and hungry, with no money to my name.

But I wouldn't change a thing.

I've never been one to hold those coins with a smile. I always liked the feeling of dirt sifting between my fingers, watching the southern yuppies flash dollar bills at the broad they've picked up for the night.

Me? Well, I quite like my filth... Me and Turtle say "we..kind of.." and the older guy says "nah..they aint homeless..they too clean". Then he made a comment about my pants being tight. "I thought you was a lady, iz gonna be like 'heeeeeyyyy baby!'.....".

Sooo....on we were.

We were going to check the Krispy Kreme dumspter...but it was Tuesday (trash day). Then we were going to busk for beer and tobacco money, but the lot was empty.

So we just headed on towards the beach.

Strip joints and classy restaurants surrounding us. Our empty stomachs aching for anything we could get our filthy hands on, but the dumpsters on the strip were all empty.

But fuck it, it happens yanno?

We made it to graffiti bridge, climbed the hill to the trussel, and made our way across down towards camp.

We met some hobos named "?", and "?"...

They asked us to sit down so we did, and I played some songs for them ("Wagon Wheel" and some other shit I can't remember). They passed some cheap whiskey around (the warm plastic bottle kind...yumm!)

Like I said, I'm still sketched out by new people so I didn't drink much.

Neither did turtle.

They offer us some food, so we got some MRE packets.(them dried cherries ain't no joke). Then "?" shows us where to get a blanket and some materials to make camp. We get them - they go to bed.(one guy had been living on the beach for 10 years..crazy) So we basically set up this fucking awesome camp. It's huge..kinda. Big for a camp.

brushfiresumbissions@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 total 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

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else needs to be transfered 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: ?	April '08: Miami
May '08: ?	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.

## Squatting Again

By Dirtypoorbrooks, Pensacola

Squatting again...

was amazing. I forgot how much i miss the dirt on my skin and my face in the wind, the feeling you get from just sitting around a campfire with a guitar and a cigarette between yer vellow fingers.

I can never sleep when I am in a new squat or really when I'm sleeping in any place that's not a house. I guess my philosophy is we waste so much time sleeping when in houses...now we're in this fuckin' amazing place, why waste the experience sleeping?

There's trees to be climbed, chords to be strummed, songs to be sang. The freights came by with so much power i felt tinier than I've ever felt in my life. It's amazing to think that these machines can kill you ...and never stop rolling on down the line. It's not like a car where the person gets out and calls an ambulance.

Trains feel nothing, and ambulances don't carry away remains. Think about that.

So I met up with Turtle at the cafe. I got a ride from my friend Gimlet. We chilled there for a while with Simone, his girlfriend. Then she left so we made our way to hobo beach. we were going to stay at the squat next door, but it was already taken, and after some really fucked up shit happened to me a few weeks ago, I'm sketched out by staying with folks I don't know. (for good reason).

On the way we see this guy who asks us for a cigarette younger guy. He's with an older fella. We give him the cigarette and he asks us if "we're homeless too".



SynQuest Laboratories Inc.
This company supplied (and still may provide) fluoride chemicals for research. Here is their contact information:

SynQuest Laboratories PO Box 309 Alachua, FL 32616 Phone: 386-462-0788

The more companies that we convince to stop doing business with Huntingdon Life Sciences, the closer we come to closing this already struggling and bankrupt company down. So lets get to it!

#### **Animal Tested brands:**

Arm and Hammer, Clairol, Clorox, Colgate – Palmolive Co.(they also now own Toms of Maine!), Cover Girl, Dial Corp., Helen Curtis Industries, Johnson & Johnson, Lever Bros., L'oreal USA, Max Factor, Church & Dwight, Olay Co./Oil of Olay Co., Oral-B, Pantene, Pfizer, Physique, Proctor & Gamble Co., S. C. Johnson, Suave, Unilever

For a more complete list go to www.caringconsumer.com

I found Peter's presentation to be very inspiring, and I left feeling that intense mix of anger and energy to do something about it that so many of us are familiar with. I encourage anyone who can to go see his presentation during the remainder of his tour. I really like the way he gave his presentation; not as an expert in the area, but as a person who simply wanted to share and discuss his experiences with others. There was no "academic" attitude when he spoke, which is also really awesome, and no "I am here to educate you" attitude. He is just a normal guy who has decided to take action when the rewards outweighed the possible risks. Anyone is possible of taking action, and there is nothing special about the people who actually do.

More Information!

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## Orlando Community Report

#### - By Adam, Orlando

We have a new collective house in Orlando that for the moment is known as "Carlton House". It is on Carlton Drive, and we lack creativity. Anyways, 4 people live there, along with 3 cats, 2 dogs, 2 rats, a hamster and about 2 dozen fish! The new house has two kitchens, the back which is now our Food Not Bombs kitchen. There is also a Fish tank room! SWEEET!, and gardens starting to take shape on the side of the house. This is also where a lot of projects are organized from and things are stored

#### **Current Projects**

#### **Orlando Food Not Bombs**

Orlando Food Not Bombs is the nexus of our activist community here in Orlando. Our Food Not Bombs has been sharing every Wednesday since January 2005! Seeing as how so much of our last issue of Brushfire! had to do with FNB, I won't go into this anymore.

#### **Books Not Bombs**

We have also started a new program, Books Not Bombs to distribute free books to the people who come to eat at our FNB sharings. This program still definitely needs some development and organization, but it is off to a good start. People really like getting free books!

#### Orlando Cop Watch

Cop Watch has been going on in Orlando for a few months, but is really limited by a lack of cameras and organization.

### Past Projects

#### Free Grocery Day

This was a program that we had running to distribute free produce to people in Parramore, a poor historically black community in Orlando. We did this every Thursday. We have recently decided to stop doing this because it just became a dreaded, terrible experience (See the article The Death of Free Grocery Day). We now take our leftover produce to a youth center in Parramore, including our leftover soup and rice from our Food Not Bombs sharing the day before.

#### The To-Do List!

#### **Food Distribution Center**

We are currently in the process of trying to organize meetings with some community leaders in Parramore to see about starting up a Food Distribution Center. This would hopefully involve a storefront. The whole thing will be a huge undertaking, but we can do it!

#### Community Gardens and Parks

In the neighborhood where our collective house is there are several empty abandoned lots that we have had our eyes on for a while. We are going to start community gardens in at least one of these lots in the spring! We have also found several properties in the downtown area that are abandoned that we are looking at into making parks!

#### **Community Free Market**

This idea is kind of a take off the failed Free Grocery Day. There is a park down the street from our collective house where we wanted to start organizing monthly free markets, with us bring down tons of free produce and veggies. The idea is that we could put flyers in people's doors and signs up around the neighborhood inviting people to come down with things for the free market. We figured that it would be good to start organizing on our own communities as well as in other people's. Also, being part of the community you are organizing in also has huge advantages.



At the end of Peter's presentation there was a screening of the film Behind the Mask, about the A.L.F., animal testing, and the animal rights movement in general. This film really had an effect on me. I have now started a campaign to purge our collective house here in Orlando of all animal-tested products. Below you will find a list of the most common products that we found in our house so you can look out for them in yours. I want nothing to do with the terrible things I saw done to animals in that and other videos. I am planning on getting a lot more involved in animal rights groups here in Orlando. I am also planning on getting involved in the SHAC campaign, a campaign that is currently in the process of closing down Huntingdon Life Sciences, a British based animal testing company that kills hundreds animals a day. Those animals that do survive the testing are killed in the end (the beagle puppies have their throats slit.) I am not going to get into a list of the terrible things done to animals there, you can look into that yourself, but let's just say imagine the most disgusting horrible things you can possibly imagine doing to any living thing, and that's what happens at HLS. They also have a testing facility in New Jersey. In Florida there are 2 companies that currently do or have supplied equipment to Huntingdon Life Sciences that have still not agreed to stop doing business with the company. They are...(drumroll please!)

Mainstream Engineering Corp.

This company has supplied lab equipment to HLS in the past. They supply things such as refrigerators, generators, and environmental control systems. Here is their contact information:

Mainstream Engineering Corp. 200 Yellow Place Pines Industrial Center Rockledge, FL 32955 Phone: 321-631-3550

Fax: 321-631-3552

Many people who are being prosecuted during the current "Green Scare" are being charged with participating in ALF and ELF arsons and actions that took place in the mid-90s. The statue of limitations for prosecuting people supposedly involved in these actions is about up, so the FBI decided to make a move now while they still could. Aboveground activists are being targeted by the FBI because of their effectiveness in their work for ecological and social justice, or whatever their struggle may be. The FBI is simply using these charges to take out above ground activists by charging them with things they had nothing to do with. Peter's presentation made me more aware of the importance of supporting prisoners in the struggle. He talked about how he would not have had access to vegan food without outside pressure and support, how the huge amounts of mail he received in prison meant so much to him (and annoyed the prison staff equally as much). For prisoners, support is very important, and I must admit that I personally have never written a letter, or done anything to support political prisoners. I feel bad about this, and plan on getting involved in prisoner support. I have also been talking with some friends here in Orlando about setting up a few benefit shows to help prisoners and/or people at risk of being prisoners with their legal fees. I encourage people who read this to also get involved in these areas. Imagine if you were in prison and how important these things would be to you!

A New Interest in Animal Rights

I have never really been that interested in animal rights before. All the work I'm involved in here in Orlando focuses on building community autonomy and working with people. I have been vegan for about 2 years, but I made this decision mostly for environmental, social, and health reasons. The animal rights issue was always at the bottom of the reasons for me, but not anymore. I recognize that animal and human oppression are both products of the same global system; but I have always been more focused on the exploitation and oppression of human beings other than animals. I left UCF that night with a new interest in animal rights, and a deeper commitment to being vegan, and a decision to be more strict about being vegan. In other words, dropping the "freegan" attitude about things, like bagels from Panera (which have L-Cysteine a.k.a. – duck feather extract), and those muffins that

# The End of our Free Grocery Day

- By Adam, Orlando.

We started Free Grocery Day last December, and it was going really well at first. We just put out boxes of produce and juice, and people would meander by, browse the produce, pick out what they needed, then go away with a smile and a couple bags of groceries. After an hour or two, everything would be gone and we'd go home. However, the entire experience generally devolved into a bum rush Black Friday style fight for the produce. The main problem was that some people would literally just pick up entire boxes, put them in shopping carts, and then leave, taking a 25 pound bag of onions all for themselves. Also when we brought out clothes, people would literally pick up the entire jumbo size black garbage bag and walk off, not even looking to see what was inside! We have asked people what they take so much for, and they say that they give it to family and neighbors. We also got reports from other people that they actually just took it down the street and sold it.

We contemplated solutions for the problem. Organize Lines? We tried that one, but someone would always jump the gun and "Can't I just grab this one orange?", then the shit would fly and everyone figured that the line was off and it was every man for himself and go at it. How about a bag limit? The problem we saw with this one was that we didn't know if people were taking food for just themselves, or food for their wife and 4 kids. You can't expect people to bring out all their family members to get the corresponding amount of groceries. Hmmm...Could we put food in people's bags for them, kind of like at FNB, but with produce? We didn't like this idea either because of the whole control/power structure. Also, again, we wouldn't know how many people they are providing for. Could we pre-pack the bags and hand them out. That is a lot of work and also doesn't solve any of the above mentioned problems.

We figured that no matter what happened to the food once we brought it out, no matter if it was sold or really given to neighbors and family members, that in the end it was making someone's life easier, and giving a second chance to food that had already been left for waste. However, the stress and yelling of the people who came out just made us really dread going down to that empty lot to hand out food every Thursday. This project definitely raised the issue of how you can organize in a community that is not your own in a non-hierarchical manner, and not have people go ape shit? I understand that people are in desperate situations and that definitely has something to do with them bum rushing things. In the end, after doing Free Grocery Day for about 11 months, we decided to start giving things to a youth center in Parramore instead. The bickering and fighting between people finally got to us. We still definitely want to be involved in some type of food liberation and distribution type thing, but something more VEGAN GUERLLA PEANUT BUTTER & BANANA FRANCIS Serves about 16

You will need:

- 1 cup of flour
- 1/2 tsp of baking soda
- 1/2 tsp of baking powder
- 1/2 tsp of salt
- 1 cup of sugar
- 2 ripe mashed bananas
- ½ cup of peanut butter at room temperature
- 1 ounce of melted baking chocolate
- 1/4 cup soy milk
- Mix all the dry things in a bowl, but leave out the bananas, peanut butter and sugar.
- In a separate container mix the bananas, peanut butter, and sugar.
- Mix flour into the sugar, peanut butter, banana mix.
- Now mix everything together, adding the soymilk a little at a time.
- Once the batter is ready, cook in the oven at 375 degrees for 25 to 30 minutes until done.

November 8, 2005: Peter Young entered the Madsion County courtroom for sentencing and he was greeted with a roar of cheers and applause. Over 50 people from across the country had converged to show their support! The courtroom was so packed supporters sat on one anothers laps just to have a seat.

Peter recieved a sentence of: Two years in federal prison, with the final two months to be served in a halfway house with work release privileges; 360 hours of community service at a charity to benefit "humans and no other species", \$254,000 restitution, and one year probation.

December 22, 2005: After a defiant speech to the court at Peter's sentencing, Codington County, South Dakota files new charges against Peter for an 8 year old mink release at the Turbak Mink Ranch. He was expected to stand trial during Summer 2006.

January 26, 2007: Just 6 days before his release from federal custody, South Dakota authorities announce they will be dismissing the year old charges against him. The terms of the deferred prosecution are full compliance with the terms of his federal plea agreement, and not returning to South Dakota for any reason.

Febuary 1st, 2007: PETER YOUNG RELEASED!!!!

September 4, 1999: Justin Samuel was arrested in Belgium and eventually extradited to the U.S. to face criminal charges.

August 30, 2000: Despite an enormous outpouring of support from the activist community Justin Samuel entered into a plea agreement with federal prosecutors in exchange for a lighter sentence. Justin Samuel implicated Peter Young (his codefendant) and Justin Samuel promised to "make a full, complete, truthful statement regarding his involvement in violations of federal criminal statutes charged in the original Indictment, as well as the involvement of all other individuals known to him regarding the crimes charged in that Indictment. And the defendant agrees to testify fully and truthfully at any trials or hearings."

March 31, 2005: Peter Young was arrested after 7 years of being wanted by the FBI. Peter faced 82 years of prison under the Animal Enterprise Protection Act and the Hobbs Act.

May 10, 2005: Peter was extradited from San Jose CA to Wisconsin to face trial in federal court.

June, 2005 If found guilty, federal sentencing guidelines called for a sentence of 10 to 12 years with possible enhancements. Prosecutors offered two plea deals for a reduced sentence of 2 to 3 years in exchange for returning to the animal rights movement as an infiltrator, or giving investigators the names of those he had known during his 7 years on the FBI wanted list. These were of course rejected.

**July, 2005:** After a motion was filed by his attorney challenging the felony portions of his indictment, the 4 felony charges against him were dropped.

August, 2005: After rejecting a third offer to cooperate with authorities in exchange for a 1 year sentence, Peter entered into a plea agreement to plead guilty to the remaining AET charges and serve two years.

## & Abuelita's Mexican Rice



This recipe serves 100.

This is Eric's grandmother's recipe for Mexican rice and it is really awesome. This is the Food Not Bombs recipe for a huge 20 inch rice pot.

You will need:

- -20 inch rice cooking pot
- -Large metal spoon or spatula
- Cooking oil
- -1 1/2 gallons of rice
- -salt
- -12 diced ripe tomatoes
- 3 cans of organic tomato sauce
- 3 diced onions

You are probably going to have the put the pan on 2 burners because they are so big.

- -Add 1/4 to 1/2 inch of oil on bottom of pan.
- -Add rice once the oil is hot. Toast is until it is golden brown.
- -Stir so all rice is coated in oil. Rotate pan as you cook to maintain even heat. The pan will be on two burners at the same time.
- -Once golden add 3 onions until you can smell them.
- -Next add 12 very ripe tomatoes and cook them until you smell them
- -Add one big palm full of garlic
- -Add 2 big handfuls of salt
- -Add the 3 cans of organic tomato sauce
- -Saute' everything until it is well mixed.
- -Once everything is mixed, add 2 ½ gallons of water
- -Stir on high until it is boiling.
- -Make sure to keep rotating the pot ½ turns and stir until it comes to a full boil. Keep stirring so it doesn't stick.
- -Cover pan with foil, and then the lid.
- -Every 5 minutes start on one end and turn rice. Make sure not to pack the rice!
- -After 10 to 15 minutes on high, turn the heat down to low.
- -Check every 10 minutes to turn and rotate pan.
- -DO NOT PACK THE RICE!! KEEP FLUFFY UNTIL DONE! SWEET!

#### Stuffing that is the Shie

Serves: 50-75 You will need:

- -A large roasting pan
- -A big pot!
- 5 loaves of bread
- a tub of vegan margarine
- rosemary, thyme, garlic, sage, celery seed and pepper
- vegetable broth
- Break 5 loaves of bread into small peices
- In a large pot melt one big tub of butter (about 5 or 6 cups)
- Add rosemary, thyme, garlic, sage, celery seed, and pepper.
- Add bread once the butter is melted
- Next add 3 quarts of veggie broth, mix well
- Add stuffing to your big roasting pan.
- cook in the oven at 350 degrees for 45 minutes
- Eat and enjoy!!

Please Send in Some of your favorite. recipes For us to put in the next issue.!!



Peter Young is an animal rights activist who was arrested for liberating between 8,000 and 12,000 mink from fur farms around the Midwestern US. He was released on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007, and is currently on a speaking tour around the country sharing his experiences with others. I went to his presentation at The University of Central Florida on November 7<sup>th</sup> with some friends after the Food Not Bombs sharing. When we got to the room where the presentation was taking place I was really stoked to see a full house. We had to sit on the floor or stand along the back wall! Very awesome. So anyways, I just wanted to go through some of the main themes that were discussed at the presentation. But first, here is the background information about Peter's case copied from <a href="https://www.supportpeter.com">www.supportpeter.com</a>. Why reinvent the wheel right?

October, 1997: A 2 week wave of mink releases sweeps the Midwest. In 12 days, 5 mink farms are visited and the animals released. Police reports state each raid followed the same model: fences were cut, breeding records destroyed, and cages opened. At the end of the 2 weeks, between 8,000 and 12,000 mink are released into their native habitat.

October 28, 1997: In Sheboygan County, Wisconsin deputies pull over Peter Young and Justin Samuel in response to a call from fur farmers who suspected they were watching their mink sheds.

**September 1998:** A Federal Grand Jury indicted the duo on charges of animal enterprise terrorism and unlawful interference with interstate commerce. Both Samuel and Young were nowhere to be found.