

# The Debs Foundation Newsletter

P.O. BOX 843, TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA 47808-0843



FALL, 2006

## Brave New Films selected for 2006 Debs Award

Brave New Films is a pioneer of a unique 21st century style of activism. Its films have become the centerpieces for bold new organizing campaigns designed to produce long-term social change. This style utilizes the latest technologies, unique distribution strategies, and a network of dedicated volunteer field producers. Distribution is mainly through house parties. These small group events allow a group of like-minded persons to be informed by viewing the film and then to discuss and explore actions which would be appropriate. It clearly is a people-oriented style, not one promulgated by large national organizations with their own agendas and their professional personnel who carefully design the message and the communication style. Brave New Films' style already has brought us "Wal-Mart, the High Cost of Low Prices," a film which reached millions of viewers and exerted tremendous pressure on a major enemy of working people worldwide.

Brave New Films' newest production "Iraq for Sale," will continue the focus on exposing the price that everyday Americans pay when corporations control our government's policies and agenda. "Iraq for Sale" focuses on the few large corporations that are profiting most from the Iraqi war.

The film will be rolled out across the country the week of October 8, so the October 7 date of the foundation's award banquet will, we hope, be a perfect launching pad from the heartland. We believe Eugene Debs would be proud to be associated with this campaign to put the issues of this unjust and destructive war in living rooms across the country in the month before the November elections.

Present to represent Brave New Films and receive the award will be Rick Jacobs, its co-founder and chair and the executive producer of "Iraq for Sale," Jacobs is a veteran political activist and major spokesperson for progressive causes. He will also be present at 3:00 P.M. for a screening of "Iraq for Sale" as well as for a question and answer session to follow. There will be an opportunity at the afternoon session and at the banquet for the purchase of copies of the movies for your own use.



*Rick Jacobs  
Co-founder of  
Brave New Films*

## Banquet Day Events

The October 7 banquet day offers more than the social hour at 6:00 and dinner at 7:00, in ISU's Hulman Center. There will also be the showing at 3:00 P.M. of the 70-minute documentary "Iraq for Sale" to be followed by a question and answer session. This event, open and free to the public, will be in ISU's Tiry Music Hall. At both events you will have the opportunity to purchase your own copy of "Iraq for Sale" for you to use as you wish, hopefully for showing at your "house party" in a fashion which helps you to spread awareness of the exploitation as well as destructive nature of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. These wars are sure to be a focus for pro and con views during the run-up to the November elections. Our intent is to provide, by showing this film, a factual basis for discussion of the various facets of the situation.

One thing for certain, we should not sit silently by while the Republican party uses its well-worn trump card for identifying their side with our nation's security. Bush has not made the world a safer place!

Your presence October 7 will be well worth the cost. See you there.

See Page 3 for Ticket Order Information

## Frank Zeidler Staunch Debsian Dies

Frank Zeidler (1912-2006) died of congestive heart failure July 7, 2006. Mr. Zeidler was honored with the Debs Award in 1977 and was a regular at foundation banquets until health issues forced him to curtail travel. Zeidler was mayor of Milwaukee for three terms (1948-1960), a period marked by large-scale construction of public housing, creation of the first educational television station in Wisconsin and city beautification programs.

Zeidler's daughter, Jeanne, followed her father into politics and is mayor of Williamsburg, VA. About the Zeidler brothers she said: "They were community leaders, mayors of Milwaukee who thought everyone should have access to plumbing in their homes, but Frank also had a bigger vision than that. He was an activist of world peace, of tolerance, of people working together."

They don't come any better than Frank Zeidler.

### DEBS FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

FALL 2006

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Foundation Officers:

Michael Sullivan, *President*

Noel Beasley, *Executive Vice President*

Charles King, *Secretary*

Paul Burkett, *Treasurer*

The *Debs Foundation Newsletter* is published twice yearly for distribution to members and friends of the Foundation. The Eugene V. Debs Foundation is a non-profit, private organization which maintains the home of Eugene and Kate Debs as a museum and shrine to labor, and carries on educational and informational programs which aim to honor and promote the goals for which Debs struggled: industrial unionism, social justice, and peace. For those wishing to become members, an application form is provided elsewhere in this issue.

## Why Peace? Or, A Debsian Stance for Today

Those of us whose cultural roots are in the Judeo-Christian tradition know the emphasis on peace in our roots. It is in the Jewish *shalom*, which we translate simply as "peace," a salutatory expression equivalent to *good-bye*, *auf wiedersehen*, or *váya con Dios*. Actually, the Hebrew *shalom* has a broader meaning of peace which combines images of brotherhood in a peaceable kingdom in which peace spills over from individual hearts into all interpersonal relations.

The prophets of Old Testament prophecy called out for peace and justice. Amos calls us to live for God, that justice may "roll down like water, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream" (Amos 5:24). Isaiah offers a description of what he called the "peaceable kingdom" where the lion can lie down with the lamb and no one will "hurt or destroy" (Isaiah 11: 6-9). Micah calls us to give up violence and war. We are to beat our swords into plowshares, and our spears into pruning hooks" (Micah 4:3), transforming the weapons of war into implements for growing food that will sustain life rather than take it away.

When Jesus began his public ministry, he harked back to Isaiah when he described his mission as "to bring good news to the poor..., to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free" (Luke 4:18). Each of us can build communities of peace by exhibiting in our daily lives the behaviors called for in all the above-mentioned exhortations.

These traits have been emphasized for more than a century by many sacred and secular institutions, but sad it is to see today the diverse and even polar opposite tendencies within the Christian religion and also in other great world religions such as Islam. There recently is a divide between the moderates and liberals and the increasingly active extreme conservatives. In the United States there are on one side the so-called "evangelicals" who stand firmly behind Bush administration initiatives and on the other the so-called moderates and liberals who hold opposing views. We Debsians stand firmly in the opposition, and this is the time to make that stand in every way possible.

C.K.

### Halliburton: A "unique kind of company"

Dick Cheney - 2003

Total value of contracts given to Halliburton for work in the Bush-Cheney "War on Terror" since 2001:  
**More than \$15 billion**

Amount that Halliburton pays to the Third World laborers it imports into Iraq to do the work in its dining facilities, laundries, etc.:.....**\$6 per 12-hour day**  
(50 cents an hour)

Amount that Halliburton bills us taxpayers for each of these workers: .....**\$50 a day**

Amount that Halliburton bills U.S. taxpayers for:

a case of sodas: .....**\$45**

Washing a bag of laundry: .....**\$100**

Halliburton's campaign contributions in Bush-Cheney election years:

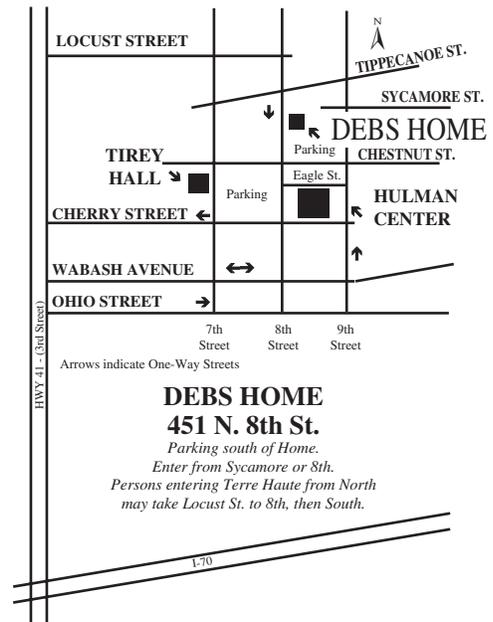
In 2000: **\$285,252** (96% to Republicans)

In 2004: **\$145.500** (89% to Republicans)

Plus, \$365,065 from members of its board of directors (99% to Republicans)

Increase in Halliburton's profits since Bush-Cheney took office in 2000: .....**379%**

<b>ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET</b>		
<b>TERRE HAUTE</b>		
<b>October 7</b>		<b>2006</b>
<b>Honoring BRAVE NEW FILMS</b>		
<b>SCHEDULE OF EVENTS</b>		
<b>Afternoon</b>		
1:00 to 4:30 p.m.: Debs Home Open		
3:00 p.m.: Screening of "Iraq for Sale" and Q&A with Rick Jacobs		
<b>Evening</b>		
6:00 p.m.: Social Hour and Reception (cash bar), Hulman Center, ISU		
7:00 p.m.: Banquet Honoring Brave New Films		
The fall business meeting will be Sunday, October 8, at 9:00 a.m. at the Debs Home		



*Parking is free in ISU lot south of Debs Home. There occasionally is a charge for parking in the Hulman Center lot.*

## Individual Greetings

You have the opportunity to participate in sending greetings in either of two forms. For a listing of your name (one or two persons), send \$20. For a listing which includes your personal greeting not to exceed 20 words, send \$30. Indicate if not attending the banquet in order that a copy of the souvenir program can be mailed. This order must be received by October 15. Use space at bottom-right to provide name, \$20 or \$30 listing (include message) and if attending the banquet. Your greeting honors this year's Award Recipient and the Debs Foundation as well.

## Dinner Ticket Order

**\$30 per ticket, Table of 8 is \$210**  
**Students K-College - 1/2 price**

### NOTE

We offer a choice of entrees. Please **indicate your choice when you order tickets and again at the door.**

Chicken Dijonnaise \_\_\_\_\_  
Number

Vegetable Marinara \_\_\_\_\_  
Number

Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ X \$30 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 number of tickets                      amount enclosed

Tickets must be paid in advance, checks payable to The Debs Foundation, P.O. Box 843, Terre Haute, IN 47808. Please check one of the following options.

Hold tickets at the door, in the name of \_\_\_\_\_  
 (actually the preferred way)

Mail my tickets to the following address:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Inquiries may be directed to Charles King, 812-237-3443.

Program Listing	\$20.00 _____
	\$30.00 _____
Name or Names: _____ _____ _____	
(If not attending banquet, provide mailing address across left).	

**For Your Consideration...**

Annual salary of Stuart Baker, hired by the Bushites to be the White House "Director for Lessons Learned": .....**\$106,641**

Number of lessons that Bush appears to have learned: .....**0**  
\*\*\*\*\*

The official White House claim before the invasion of what the war and occupation would cost U.S. taxpayers: .....**\$50 billion**

As of July 2006, the total amount appropriated by Congress for Bush's ongoing war and occupation: .....**\$296 billion**

Current Pentagon spending per month in Iraq: .....**\$8 billion**  
(or \$185,185.19 per minute)  
\*\*\*\*\*

Increase in the number of government documents marked "secret" between 2001 and 2004: .....**81%**

Number of government documents stamped "secret" in 2001: .....**8.6 million**

Number of government documents stamped "secret" in 2004: .....**15.6 million**  
(a new record)

Cost to taxpayers of classifying and securing documents in 2004: .....**\$7.2 billion**  
(*\$460 per document*)  
\*\*\*\*\*

**In 1966**, a young Republican congressman stood against his party elders to cosponsor the original **Freedom of Information Act**, valiantly declaring that public records "are public property." He said that FOIA "will make it considerably **more difficult** for secrecy-minded bureaucrats to decide arbitrarily that the people should be denied access to information on the conduct of government."

Who was that virtuous law maker? .....**Donald Rumsfeld!**

This form is provided for new members or for late payment of 2006 dues. The 2007 Dues Notice will be included in the December Membership mailing.

NOTE: Please check here if this is a:

RENEWAL

NEW MEMBERSHIP

ADDRESS CHANGE

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



**Membership Dues: The Eugene V. Debs Foundation**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ 5.00 Student Member      \_\_\_\_\_ \$100.00 Sustaining Member

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 Regular Member      \_\_\_\_\_ \$250.00 Life Members

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 Supporting Member      \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Enclose remittance. Make checks payable to the Debs Foundation.  
The Debs Foundation • P.O. Box 843 • Terre Haute, IN 47808-0843

We are a not-for-profit organization, so your dues and contributions are tax deductible. The Foundation owns and maintains the Debs Home and offers several educational and cultural programs.

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