



One Sunny Day Initiatives

*Promoting peace, hope & reconciliation.
Working toward a world free of nuclear weapons.*

Dear Friends of One Sunny Day Initiatives,

January 2021

2020 will probably be remembered for many things that shook up our world, but the good news is, despite all the challenges, we were able to make some incredible progress on several projects, including marking the 75th anniversary of the Hiroshima-Nagasaki bombings with several media interviews, and attendance (remotely and in person) at more dedications and plantings of the Green Legacy Hiroshima peace trees.



But first, let me tell you about one of the most amazing things that has happened! The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) announced that on October 24, 2020, the United Nations' Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons reached the required 50 ratifications it needed. This means as of January 22nd, the treaty will enter into force, cementing a categorical ban on nuclear weapons, 75 years after their first use! Granted, we have a ways to go, as nine nuclear weapons states have ignored it thus far, but ICAN and others are determinedly working to achieve more ratifications.

In the U.S., Global Zero, Back From the Brink, Physicians for Social Responsibility and many other groups are encouraging individuals, cities and states to endorse the treaty and promote U.S. governmental support. I believe it is only a matter of time before many more nations join, especially with a new US administration that is more inclined to steps toward nuclear disarmament.

Founded in 2007, ICAN built on long-time efforts by hibakusha, Mayors for Peace, the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, and many others, to focus on developing the legal foundation for legislation, and creating the political will to end this scourge. ICAN was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017. The campaign has been supported by such luminaries as: Desmond Tutu, the Dalai Lama and the UN Secretary-Generals.

To celebrate this milestone, Oregon and Washington chapters of Physicians for Social Responsibility will host an online event from 5-6 pm January 21. I feel deeply honored to be among the speakers. Please join us! [More information and RSVP here.](#)



With my visit to the Enola Gay last year to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the bombing of my home, and with the signing of this TPNW treaty, I feel that I have in many ways come full circle, fulfilling a major part of my life's purpose. As I have witnessed great destruction, I have also witnessed and been a part of efforts to promote great healing, in Japan and in the US. And I have encountered many good organizations and people, such as you, dedicated to making sure these brutal weapons are never used again. It has been an amazing journey so far, but I have even more good things to share with you!

Commemorating 75th anniversary of Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings

Speaking of the 75th anniversary – in spite of the pandemic, I was able to participate in a number of ceremonies, in person and remotely, and was interviewed by a number of media sources, including Amy Goodman of [Democracy Now!](#), Geoffrey Riley of [JPR's Jefferson Exchange](#), and Chris Wallace of [Fox News](#) as well as Newsweek. Also included were local television stations [KDRV](#) and [KOBI](#), along with [Ashland's Daily Tidings](#) and Medford's Mail Tribune.



To commemorate the 75th bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, board member Estelle Voeller joined Peace House and South Mountain Friends Meeting to offer the annual Rogue Valley Hiroshima-Nagasaki Vigil, as in years past. A safely-distanced crowd gathered in Ashland's Lithia Park with United Church of Christ minister Reverend Paula Sohl officiating. She began by acknowledging the Indigenous peoples of the area, and thanking Ashland's Mayor for Peace John Stromberg, and artist Betty LaDuke for her artwork honoring this day. Attendees ended with a Global Peace Wave, joining thousands of similar greetings from around the world.

Rev. Sohl opened with these moving words: "Let's breathe deeply together in the quiet, as we commemorate those killed and injured 75 years ago today in Hiroshima, and three days later in Nagasaki; let us also honor those negatively affected by the full cycle of the nuclear military industry: through testing, mining, processing, and manufacturing. ... We bring our attention to the ongoing climate and nuclear threats. And we hold on for dear life to our undying hope for co-creating a world committed to peace." Links to this moving [ceremony](#) can be found on OSDI's YouTube channel and Rev. Sohl's remarks are on the [Peace House](#) website.



On August 9, 2020 I joined Ellen Thomas, co-chair of the Disarm/End Wars Committee of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom online, to tell my story of the happy civilian life I was leading with my family, until my world was torn apart on August 6, 1945. I told Ms. Thomas of four signs that led me to reasons to live in those days: discovering I still had a capacity to love, finding some four and five-leaf clovers which beckoned and encouraged me to keep going, befriending an American teacher who took me under her wing and mentored me, and falling in love with the resilient messages present in African American spirituals. The interview can be found on YouTube under "[Hiroshima Survivor, Hideko Tamura Snider, August 9, 2020.](#)" I was even able to read my poem "One Sunny Day."

Over 100 OSDI – Green Legacy Hiroshima Peace Trees Planted in U.S.

I feel such joy seeing the eagerness of the many communities who have embraced the Green Legacy Hiroshima project – expressing the shared aspirations for peace and hope these living ambassadors represent. Although most public dedications were postponed because of the pandemic, we look forward to them happening in the near future.



One highlight for me was the planting of a ginkgo at Thalden Peace Pavilion in Ashland on August 6th, the 75th anniversary. Michael Oxendine, whose crucial role in helping OSDI obtain, germinate, nurture and distribute the precious seedlings, was able to plant the tree in its new home, despite the last-minute postponing of the dedication, due to the pandemic. He hopes to hold a ceremony in late spring or summer of 2021; we'll keep you informed of plans. [KRDV news coverage](#).

Another special planting on August 6th took place in Fresno at the California Health Sciences University College of Osteopathic Medicine, especially meaningful for former WWII internees and family members in the area. They held a virtual dedication, including online messages from me and my daughter/board member Miko Rose. One of Miko's CHSUCOM colleagues arranged for distribution of 35 camphors in central California! They sent us a remarkable scroll showing the planting, visible on their website, along with their [video](#).



Of the 50 camphors we sent to California, some were also planted at the renowned [Shinzen Japanese Garden](#) outside Fresno.

A dedication ceremony also took place at the Gladstone Nature Park in Gladstone, Oregon. A big thank you goes out to Nancy Eichsteadt, park president, for sponsoring the event.



I am happy to report that the first GLH tree planted in Oregon in 2019 at Oregon State University in Corvallis is really thriving.

When you want a dose of inspiration, you might view the wonderful photos, videos, news articles of plantings and dedications on the [OSDI website](#). Also, our partner Oregon Community Trees, which helped immensely with tree distribution in Oregon, has created a terrific webpage hosted on the state forestry website, including an [interactive map](#) showing where all of our GLH peace trees are planted in Oregon.



One of the most meaningful plantings that Estelle and I attended, took place in Talent, Oregon on October 10th at Chuck Robert's Park. This was mere days after the September Almeda Fire destroyed many surrounding homes and businesses. How ironic that



seedlings of trees that survived the worst bombing in history, were planted among Talent's ashes, which recently had one of the most devastating fires in southern Oregon history. These living trees symbolize resilience and hope for the future. [KDRV](#) did a wonderful extended news story with the Urban Forestry Committee

Chairperson saying “we can watch these trees grow as our community rebuilds.” It was very, very moving, especially as we started the morning with quenching rain, and then the sun magically came out.

Help finding homes for Chinese translation of *When a Peace Tree Blooms*

Before closing, I would like to remind you that we have over 900 copies of *When A Peace Tree Blooms* in Chinese. We would love for them to be distributed to individuals, schools, libraries and communities, and we can offer them at a discount. Please let us know if you have contacts.



Finally, if you would like to make a donation to our ongoing efforts to sow peace in a world that needs it now more than at any time in history, you can find a donate button on our website: OSDInitiatives.com. Contributions may also be mailed to OSDI, 1402 Andrew Drive, Medford, Oregon 97501. We are a 501(3)c organization, so gifts may be tax deductible and are greatly appreciated.

From all of us at OSDI, best wishes for good health, lots of joy, and peace in 2021. May each of you thrive in the coming year, just like the Green Legacy Hiroshima progeny living amongst us in their new homes on a new continent.

Sincerely,

Hideko Tamura Snider

and OSDI Board Members: Stuart Raub,
Miko Rose, Lucie Scheuer, and Estelle Voeller