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ROCLA UPDATE ON THE AMERICAS

WINTER 2017



A PUBLICATION OF THE ROCHESTER COMMITTEE ON LATIN AMERICA

ROCLA

MISSION STATEMENT

Founded in 1973, the Rochester Committee on Latin America (ROCLA) seeks to build bridges between the Rochester, NY, community and the people of Latin America. Through its monthly presentations, speakers, films, and quarterly newsletters, ROCLA educates local residents about the culture, economics and politics of the countries of Central and South America, Mexico and the Caribbean and the ways globalization, U.S. trade and drug-war policies impact the lives of their people. ROCLA also supports the work of frontline organizations involved in working for justice and democracy in the global south, including the Latin America Solidarity Committee (LASC), Nicanet, Committee in Solidarity with the people of El Salvador (CISPES), Network In Solidarity with the people of Guatemala (NISGUA), Rights Action and the Pastors for Peace Cuba Friendshipment. We also encourage our members and others to advocate for U.S. policies that support human rights and reverse the often oppressive history of U.S. involvement in Latin America. Annually, ROCLA presents its international and local White Dove Awards for outstanding leadership and service in the cause of human rights in Latin America.

Steering Committee

Marilyn Anderson, Paola Betchart, Kathy Goforth, Bob and Marilyn Kaiser, Grania Marcus, Arnie Matlin, Lew Montemaggi, Peter and Gail Mott, Esperanza Roncero, Vic Vinkey, Tom Ward

Publishing Team

Editor: Grania Marcus
Designer: Jim Anderson

2018 ROCLA CELEBRATION & FUNDRAISER



SAVE THE DATE!

The 29th Annual Rice & Beans Dinner & White Dove Awards

Friday, April 6, 2018, 5:15pm

Gates Presbyterian Church, 1049 Wegman Road

ROCLA is excited to honor our 2018 International White Dove Award winner, **Dr. M. Brinton Lykes**, Professor of Community-Cultural Psychology and Co-Director of the Center for Human Rights and International Justice at Boston College. For three decades, Dr. Lykes has worked with survivors of war and gross violations of human rights such as torture, including in Guatemala with Maya women who suffered gender and racial violence during the civil war. *Our Local White Dove Award winner will be announced soon!*

'TIS THE SEASON

TO RENEW YOUR ROCLA MEMBERSHIP

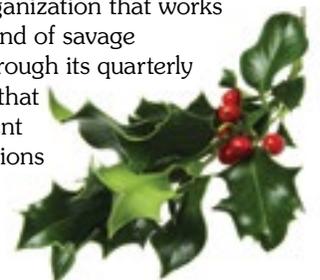
In these difficult times,

the U.S. is ramping up interference in the internal affairs of sovereign nations in the region. From Colombia to Mexico, from Honduras to Venezuela, from Cuba to Nicaragua, the heavy hand of the U.S. government is pushing against the forces of democracy and the hopes of the people.

The situation for the people of the Latin American communities in the U.S. is also dire. We are living in a time of a truly evil campaign against undocumented people in this country. Families are being shattered, long-time residents are losing their jobs and homes, DACA students are facing deportation, and everywhere we look we see pain.

The Rochester Committee on Latin America is the 44-year-old organization that works every day to counteract the terrible policies of the U.S. government and of savage capitalism. ROCLA also keeps its members informed and updated through its quarterly newsletter, urgent action announcements and monthly programs, so that you too can act on behalf of justice. We do not receive any government funding, since much of what we do is to criticize the ongoing oppressions perpetrated by the U.S. So, we need YOU to fund our work!

Please make your check out to MJEF/ROCLA and mail it to:
Kathy Goforth, 45 Lynbrook Drive, Rochester, NY 14609.
If you are not yet a member, please consider joining ROCLA now!



NEWS BRIEFS FROM LATIN AMERICA

Much is happening in several countries in Latin America and the Caribbean as a result of changing U.S. policies and other factors such as elections, hurricane damage and right-wing instigated violence. Here we survey some of those important developments. On page 5, we list some of the Urgent Actions you can take to oppose the U.S. policies fueling these events. [Ed.]



Damage in Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria. Photo: CNN Money

PUERTO RICO: SHOCK AND AWE EXPOSING CAPITALISM'S CRIMINALITY

By Raymond Nat Turner

Water is life...and
even saliva's in short supply...
For drum-tight mouths, sandpaper throats.
Yodeling bellies cave in on spines,
as evil scents of sewage and death float in,
Refashioning an island into a spreadsheet.

Cell towers, power lines collapsed like
legos—electricity's a distant memory—
Refrigerated insulin's useless.
Oxygen tanks ran out eons ago—
Generators and motorboats are
Music where ATMs froze and
Desperation's setting in...
celebrity charity's touching—
But, not the Billions needed...

Cuba's been ready with doctors—
Venezuela offered oil,
Jamaica wants to jump in—
Even earthquake-ravaged
Mexico lined up supplies!
But, an embargo of greed,
masked in maritime law,
Blocks arteries of foreign-
flagged ships, primed to pump
Blood to Puerto Rico's body—
food, fuel, water, medicines—
Once again exposing capitalism's
Bankruptcy

Is there a method to
Boss Tweet's madness, his
Shock and awe? His
0 empathy, victim blaming,
As animals and people perish; his
cruel, callous debt sermons while
His sordid career floats on
Bankruptcy?

Maybe there's a method to
his five day fusillade of
Tweets at NFL kneelers;
NBA War House-no shows?
Maybe fire and fury,
Killing 25 million Koreans, makes better
Business sense than delivering food and
water,
Saving 3 million Puerto Ricans?
Perhaps "it's business, not personal"—
Regime change in Venezuela
Trumps diaper change
for Boricuan babies?

Isn't it elegant,
Gnawing Wall Street's pound of flesh—
Katrina-style—from island bones?
Succulent FEMA cost-sharing;
Juicy Prepa electrical grid;
Tender teacher pensions;
Storm-skewered Commonwealth

Shish kabob for bondholder,
Bankster, disaster capitalist
contractor/sub-contractor jackals—
How refined!
And for dessert:
Puerto Rican pudding—
Minus Puerto Ricans—served on
High-rise luxury hotel, golf course,
post-hurricane playground for the
Rich parasite sponge cake—yum...

Don't Blame Maria—blame
Hurricane IMF; Hurricanes World Bank,
Goldman-Sachs, Citbank... Blame
Hurricane Financial Management Over-
sight Board;
Hurricane Taxation Without Representa-
tion—
Begging the question:
"Is they is, or is they ain't citizens?"
Debt cancellation/Reparation/Self- deter-
mination
Now!

This poem is a scathing condemnation of the U.S. government's handling of the dire situation of Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria. Raymond Nat Turner is a poet with Black Agenda Report. An antiquated law (The Jones Act) was used to block other countries from providing relief while the U.S. failed to do an adequate job.

Funding for hurricane relief is still badly needed in Puerto Rico. Please donate to the Maria Fund, a fund that donates 100% of its proceeds to community relief and rebuilding. <https://connect.clickandpledge.com/w/Form/cb4a3c78-5694-4324-bead-42c8ad94c1bf>

NEWS BRIEFS FROM LATIN AMERICA

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION MEETING IN BUENOS AIRES

This week, many civil society groups are expected to converge outside the venue of the 11th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO), scheduled to take place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from December 10-13.

A large delegation of *La Via Campesina*, a worldwide peasant coalition of over 180 organizations from 79 countries that includes peasants, rural workers, indigenous peoples, women and youth from around the world, will be there. In the past, WTO

Ministerial conferences have drawn opposition from many groups from various countries. This one is shaping up to be equally contentious.

During the week of the conference, *La Via Campesina* (LVC) is planning to mobilize, organize and join social movements and allies to expose the devastating effects that WTO has had on peasant agriculture, and to reiterate its

21-year demand to oust the multilateral trade body from any discussions and decisions regarding agriculture. *La Via Campesina*, a global peasant movement with more than 180 member organizations from 79 countries, has consistently demanded to take agriculture out of the WTO's scope. Instead, it insists on a systemic change that brings about food sovereignty to the world's peoples. Once again the rallying cry from the global peasants' movement is "For Food Sovereignty, WTO Out of Agriculture!"

For more information, see <https://viacampesina.org/en/la-via-campesina-calls-global-week-action-wto-ftas-11th-ministerial-conference-draw-closer/>



Immigration: Statement on Trump Principles

By Latin America Working Group

Washington D.C.—The Latin America Working Group (LAWG) strongly condemns the Trump Administration's anti-immigrant, anti-refugee principles published . . . Sunday, October 8th. In their entirety, these principles prioritize the funding of border militarization and the expansion of a deportation and detention force, block access to protections for asylum seeking Central American families and children, punish sanctuary cities, and attack family reunification for permanent legal residents. LAWG rejects any negotiations that will use the Dreamers as bargaining chips to implement this anti-American agenda.

The principles also promote a completely inappropriate role of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in foreign policy by proposing that DHS provide direct assistance to countries for deterrence and interdiction of those fleeing violence. This language encourages border externalization and ignores government's responsibility to provide international protection to those seeking safety.

"These principles are nothing new—they're part of the same anti-immigrant and anti-refugee agenda that the administration has pushed since taking office. Once again, these principles

don't stand for anything except an affront to American values. They are an attack on the immigrant youth and families that make our communities great and on our neighbors in Latin America from which many of these youth and their parents originate. They're a non-starter for any negotiation on legislative proposals that would even begin to address our broken immigration system and should be rejected immediately," states Daniella Burgi-Palomino, LAWG Senior Associate for Mexico, Migrant Rights and Border Issues.

LAWG urges Congress to oppose this vision for immigration reform that does not recognize the full contributions of all immigrants and refugees to the United States. We urge Congress to pass a clean Dream Act that does not unnecessarily increase funding for border militarization that will harm border communities, including thousands of Dreamers. LAWG also urges an 18-month extension of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for the over 300,000 Haitians, Hondurans, Salvadorans, and Nicaraguans whose status is up for renewal in the next three months. Failure to renew TPS for Central Americans would run contrary to the administration's stated goal of promoting prosperity and security in the Northern Triangle of Central America by potentially increasing internal displacement, cutting off remittances to weak economies, and returning individuals to danger and lack of opportunities.

Excerpt from: Latin America Working Group, October 13, 2017, <http://lawg.org/component/content/article/79/1922>. See Page 5 for a related Urgent Action from LAWG.

NEWS BRIEFS FROM LATIN AMERICA**RECENTLY IN VENEZUELA**

In the midst of a severe depression brought on by a drastic decline in oil prices, shortages of food and medicine, and rampant inflation, last spring and summer the right-wing opposition in Venezuela instigated street riots and other violence in a bid to oust Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro that led to the deaths of more than 120 Venezuelans.

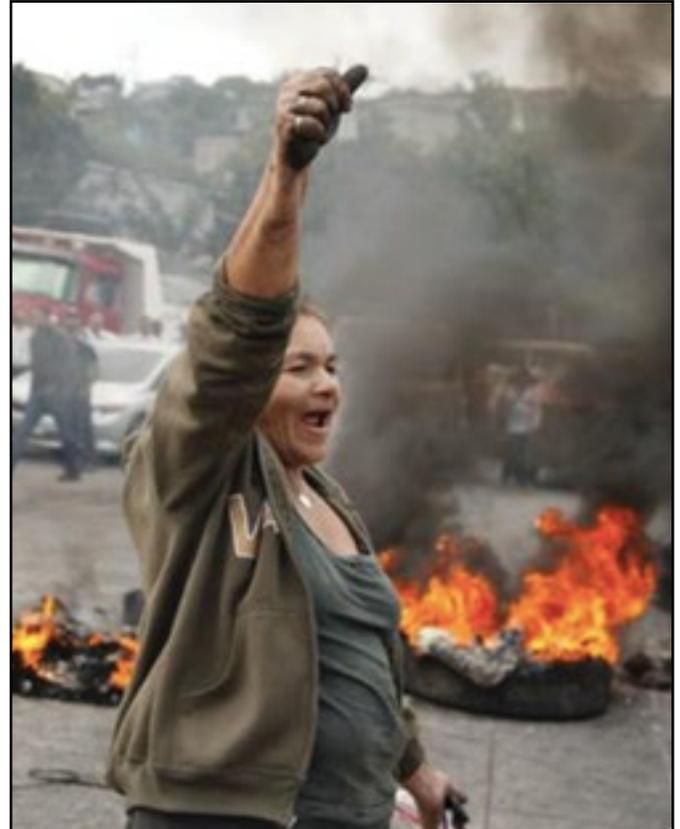
In August 2017, the Trump administration imposed level two sanctions on Venezuela that cut off the Venezuelan state and the state-owned oil company, *Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A (PDVSA)*, from the possibility of refinancing its debt through U.S. companies and financial institutions. The sanctions also restricted PDVSA's U.S. subsidiary, *Citgo*, from sending dividends back to Venezuela and limited trade in government bonds. The U.S. has also threatened further sanctions and military action to beat the Venezuelan government into submission, thereby exacerbating Venezuela's economic difficulties. The sanctions violate the charter of the Organization of American states and other treaties the U.S. has signed.

On October 15, Venezuelans, more than 63% of whom opposed the sanctions, went to the polls to elect regional governors, heavily defeating the opposition *Mesa de la Unidad Democrática (MUD)* parties by winning 18 out of 23 state governorships and throwing the opposition into chaos. A factor in MUD's defeat was its support of the sanctions. Following their October defeat, most of the opposition parties decided to boycott Venezuela's mayoral elections on December 10, which led to a massive government win in more than 90% of the country's municipalities.

The U.S. State Department has continued to support regime change in Venezuela by secretly donating \$900,000 of taxpayer funds to the Atlantic Council, a pro-regime change think tank, to help support the opposition movement. And in November, the Trump administration added to U.S. sanctions against Venezuela by sanctioning ten government officials. In addition, the European Union has imposed its own sanctions against Venezuela, instituting an arms embargo.

Now, hopes for prosperity and peace in Venezuela rest on mediated talks between the government and opposition parties—talks that are supported by 69% of the Venezuelan people. On December 1st, the talks began in the Dominican Republic, with observers from Bolivia, Chile, Mexico, Nicaragua and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, as well as former Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Zapatero. These observers continued on Dec. 15 when the discussions resumed. Negotiators for the Venezuela government hope to reach an agreement to recognize the legitimacy of the freely elected National Constituent Assembly (ANC), in place since August. They also want the opposition to stop working with the U.S. government to enact strict economic and political sanctions against the Venezuelan government.

To keep current with events in Venezuela, see <http://www.venezuelasolidarity.co.uk>.



Protester in the streets of Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Photo: AP

**HONDURAS:
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION
ACCOMPANIED BY FRAUD,
PROTESTS AND VIOLENCE**

On November 26, the incumbent President Juan Orlando Hernández stood for reelection despite that the Honduran Constitution prohibits a second term. The electorate also chose all 128 seats in the unicameral Congress and the mayors of 298 municipalities. After the initial release of official results in the election showed Salvador Nasralla, candidate for the left/center Opposition Alliance Against the Dictatorship, leading by approximately 5 percentage points based on more than half the returns, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal (TSE)—allied with the right-wing government—halted the release of presidential election results for 36 hours.

Once the updates resumed, Hernández had gained ground at a surprising rate and, as of November 29, had passed Nasralla, albeit by only 1.6%, according to the Tribunal's numbers. The long delay, and the dramatic shift in the ten-

(Continued on page 5)

NEWS BRIEFS FROM LATIN AMERICA*(Continued from page 4)*

State of emergency in Honduras over protests following election fraud. Credit: Reuters

dency of the vote count reported before and after that delay, raised serious doubts about the integrity of this election.

The vote has been marred by electoral fraud and violence at the polls, sparking protests, a 10-day state of emergency, a widespread curfew and a growing chorus of international concern over the situation in Honduras, which has one of the world's highest murder rates. Fourteen people have been killed as of December 10, and dozens more injured as security forces have used violence and detentions to quell the protests. The Organization of American States and European Union election observation missions have cast doubt on the results due to rampant irregularities, heightening pressure on the beleaguered TSE to open the ballot boxes for a more thorough review.

As of December 9, both the Opposition Alliance and the Liberal Party, which placed third, have filed formal requests to annul the results of the still-unresolved election because of the President's interference in the election. The opposition coalition demands a full recount of the more than 18,000 ballot boxes.

For more information, see: <http://lawg.org/action-center/lawg-blog/69-general/1961-repression-in-honduras-as-citizens-protest-disputed-election>

See page 5 to take action regarding the Honduras election.

URGENT ACTION URGENT ACTION URGENT ACTION

SUPPORT FAIR ELECTIONS IN HONDURAS

Stand with Hondurans as they seek to determine their future!

In the wake of Honduran elections marred by apparent fraud (See page 4 of this newsletter), thousands of Hondurans have taken to the streets (in 16 of 18 departments) to protest. Police and security forces have tear gassed and shot at protesters, leaving dozens wounded and at least 14 dead. Many are calling this Honduras' worst political crisis since the 2009 coup.

We need you to CALL your Congressional representatives (1-888-496-3502 and Senators (1-888-410-0619) to demand:

- A full and transparent recount of the electoral votes in the presence of members of civil society, party representatives, and international observers;
- That Honduran authorities respect the rights of all to freely express their opinions and peacefully protest;
- Suspension of U.S. military and police aid, and withholding all U.S. funds to the Honduran government unless they are tied to human rights conditions in Honduras;
- Passage of H.R. 1299, the Berta Cáceres Human Rights in Honduras Act – and companion legislation in the Senate – which would suspend U.S. security aid to Honduras until human rights defenders are protected and serious human rights abusers are brought to justice.

For more information and an on-line option for contacting your representative: <http://www.lawg.org/action-center>



Demonstrators on December 6 hold up balloons during an immigration rally in support of the Dream Act and Temporary Protected Status programs, near the U.S. Capitol. Credit: Jose Luis Magana/AP

SUPPORT A CLEAN DREAM ACT AND SAVE TPS!

On July 20, 2017, Senators Lindsey Graham (R-SC), Dick Durbin (D-IL), Jeff Flake (R-AZ), and Chuck Schumer (D-NY) introduced the Dream Act of 2017. It is a bipartisan bill that would provide a direct path to U.S. citizenship for people who are either undocumented, have DACA or Temporary Protected Status (TPS), and who graduate from U.S. high schools and attend college, enter the workforce, or enlist in the military. "Clean" means the bill should not have harmful enforcement provisions attached to it.

Meanwhile, on September 5, 2017, the Trump administration announced that it is ending the DACA program and that October 5, 2017, would be the last day that U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services would accept applications for DACA. This has left some 800,000 young people who either still have DACA or whose DACA has expired in limbo with respect to their future. Although DACA never provided a path to permanent residence (a "green card") or to citizenship, and had to be renewed every

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

two years to be valid, DACA did protect recipients from detention and deportation. It was designed to be a temporary solution until comprehensive immigration reform or Dream Act legislation could be passed.

At the same time that it is ending DACA, the current administration is also letting Temporary Protected Status (TPS) expire for several countries, including Haiti, El Salvador, and Honduras. TPS has been customarily provided to countries suffering a natural disaster, war or other calamity, whose nationals cannot safely return to their countries of origin. TPS gives their undocumented nationals in the U.S. temporary protection from deportation so that they can work, go to school and provide for their families here, often for many years.

Failure to renew TPS for Central Americans would also run contrary to the administration's stated goal of promoting prosperity and security in the Northern Triangle of Central America by potentially increasing internal displacement, cutting off remittances to weak economies, and returning individuals to danger and lack of opportunities. Demand an 18-month extension of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for the over 300,000 Haitians, Hondurans, Salvadorans, and Nicaraguans whose status is up for renewal in the next three months.

Many of our undocumented and DACAmented immigrant neighbors and friends have either DACA or TPS, often in the same family!

Now is the time to pressure both Republicans and Democrats to pass a clean Dream Act and Save TPS before this legislative year ends. Call your representatives and Senators and tell them you support the Dream Act of 2017 (S. 1615 and H.R. 3440) and want to protect TPS.

To sign a petition: <http://action.nilc.org/page/s/urge-congress-to-pass-the-dream-act>



WINTER PROGRAMS

Wednesday, January 3, 7pm:

Marilyn Anderson, author of "Guardians of the Arts," will present a Power-Point program based on her recently published book, with special emphasis on traditional weaving and crafts of Guatemala, and how they have been affected over the years by political events and economic changes.

Wednesday, February 7, 7pm:

Film Showing: "Maya Faces in a Smoking Mirror" is a feature-length documentary shot in Chiapas over the past five years about Maya cultural and community identity confronting contemporary development, exploitation, and commodification in Mexico. Director Bill Jungels will discuss the making of the film and the issues it raises.

Wednesday, March 7, 7pm:

Alexander Main, Senior Associate for International Policy at the Center for Economic and Policy Research in Washington, DC., will discuss "Venezuela Today." He will incorporate his knowledge and experiences with civil society groups and policy makers around Latin America and the Caribbean.

* All programs are held at Downtown Presbyterian Church, 121 N. Fitzhugh St., Rochester, NY.

A NOTE ON ROCLA'S DONATIONS

By the ROCLA Steering Committee

In the past, ROCLA has annually donated to as many 27 organizations, some of which received quite small amounts. For 2017, the Steering Committee decided to donate to fewer organizations, but in larger amounts, to enhance the impact of ROCLA's support for these vital programs. To facilitate the Steering Committee's selection, ROCLA's Treasurer Kathy Goforth updated information about each of ROCLA's previous organizational recipients, and members of the Steering Committee voted for their top 10. The organizations that received funding in 2017 are:

SOLIDARITY/ADVOCACY:

- **Alliance for Global Justice** (AfGJ): We support locally-based grassroots organizing by sharing political analysis, mobilizing for direct action, monitoring the centers of corporate and government power, expanding channels of communication, and sharing skills and infrastructure.

- **Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador:** CISPES is a grassroots organization dedicated to supporting the Salvadoran people's struggle for self-determination and social and economic justice.

- **Network in Solidarity with the People of Guatemala:** NISGUA links people in the U.S. and Guatemala in the grassroots global struggle for justice, human dignity, and respect for the Earth.

- **Rights Action:** Rights Action funds grassroots human rights, environmental and development organizations in Guatemala and Honduras. It exposes and holds accountable the U.S. and Canadian governments, companies and investors, and other international actors (World Bank, etc.) that help cause and profit from repression, environmental harms and human rights violations.

(Continued on page 7)

DEVELOPMENT:

• **IFCO/Pastors for Peace** (Cuba): Supports the disenfranchised in developing and sustaining community organizations to fight human and civil rights injustices. In pursuit of this mission, IFCO promotes funds and coordinates domestic and international community development efforts – programs designed to improve people’s own communities.

• **Friends of Borgne** (Haiti): Supports the efforts of the community of Borgne, Haiti, to improve their living environment.

• **Ecumenical Project for International Cooperation:** Promotes locally-led projects in Women & Youth, Regenerative Organic Agriculture, Human Rights, Indigenous Culture, Peace, Environmental Protection and Health & Nutrition in Latin America

WORKING WITH FARM-WORKER COMMUNITIES/ U.S.:

• **Finger Lakes and Western Coalitions of Farmworker Serving Agencies:** facilitates information exchange, advocacy and collaboration among agencies that serve migrant and seasonal farmworkers, and to assist them in identifying and overcoming barriers to accessing services.

• **Kids for College Program:** Provides the children of migrant farmworkers in New York State assistance for achieving a college education through mentoring and other supports.

• **La Casa Hospitality House:** La Casa is a transitional housing program for migrant farm workers in Wayne County, N.Y.



Donate your treasures for the Rice & Beans auctions!

ROCLA’s 30th Annual Rice & Beans Dinner with our **Live and Silent Auctions is coming up Friday, April 6, 2018!** After the Holidays is a great time to begin that New Year’s resolution to declutter and part with items you no longer need—they might find their way into someone else’s heart via ROCLA’s auctions. All items must be in good condition. Suggested items to donate include paintings, art prints, quality posters, books, toys, side tables, chairs, jewelry, candelabras, pottery, good picture frames, skates, sports gear and other such items in good condition, textiles, etc. You can also donate a service such as knitting lessons, babysitting, help with taxes, etc. If you want to donate an item that you value at over \$100, it will be included in the Live Auction. Please don’t contribute clothing or shoes. In the next edition of the ROCLA newsletter, we will provide details about who to contact and where to drop your items. All auction proceeds support ROCLA’s programs and organizations working in Latin America.

IN MEMORY OF BARBARA B. COAPMAN WHITMAN

By Caron Coapman

Barbara Coapman Whitman was a longtime member of ROCLA who passed away in Rochester, N.Y., at the age of 95.

Barbara was born July 29, 1922, in Briarcliff Manor, N.Y. She graduated from Smith College with a degree in teaching and social work. In 1984, at the age of 62, she earned a Masters degree from Syracuse University in Psychology. As a lifelong educator, she taught students from nursery school through university, including at the Rochester Institute of Technology.

Barbara’s passions were learning, social justice, writing and videography. She joined ROCLA early in its history and became interested in fact finding. This led her to travel to Nicaragua during the prolonged Contra war against the Sandinista Revolution. She brought back her first hand knowledge to ROCLA. Barbara excelled at writing as she did at storytelling, and she became an active member of Writers and Books, a Rochester literary center. In 1994, Barbara married Robert Whitman, with whom she travelled to many Elder Hostel study experiences, an exciting and eventful time for them. Barbara leaves her husband, Bob, 4 children, 5 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild and many loving friends. She will be missed by all. Her ROCLA colleagues will especially miss her many contributions to ROCLA’s work and collective knowledge.



March in memory of martyrs and victims, defenders of nature and life. We express our firm opposition to the presence of the military and we demand that they leave our territory. Photo: NISGUA

METRO JUSTICE EDUCATION FUND
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ROCLA UPDATE ON THE
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HELP KEEP ROCLA'S WEBSITE CURRENT!

ROCLA has an informative website (see: <http://rocla.us/>) where webmaster Jim Bearden posts current information about Latin America on an ongoing basis, as well as announcements of programs and other news. If you have information, articles or action opportunities about Latin America that you believe may be of interest to ROCLA members, please email the link or content to Jim at: jeb.bearden@gmail.com. ■

SIGN UP FOR ROCLA'S EMAIL LISTSERVE!

When you sign up for ROCLA's email list, you will receive your newsletter earlier than the print version and in color, and ROCLA will save the cost of paper and postage. To sign up for the ROCLA e-mail list, please go to www.rocla.us and **click on "Subscribe to ROCLA Email."** Then enter your name and email address and click on **"Subscribe."** Stay informed about ROCLA programs, upcoming events and urgent actions! ■