

## RAZA PRESS AND MEDIA ASSOCIATION UPDATE

**¡THROUGH JOURNALISM, ART, PHOTOGRAPHY, FILM-VIDEO, GRAPHICS/DESIGN, AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH, THE RPMA CONTINUES TO BUILD A NETWORK OF PROGRESSIVE AND REVOLUTIONARY MEDIA WORKERS!**

*NOTE: The following is summation of membership reports and key issues discussed at the last general meeting of the Raza Press and Media Association (RPMA) which took place on August 29, 2009, at the Centro Francisco Villa, located in South Central Los Angeles, Califas.*

### REPORTS FROM GENERAL MEMBERS

Adrian Alvarez and Hector Alvarez, video/graphic artists. Currently working with Comite Civico de Valle doing design/propaganda in the struggle for environmental justice in the Imperial Valley. They have committed themselves to doing any kind of graphic design needed by the RPMA.

Ben Prado. Editor of *La Verdad*, newspaper of Unión del Barrio. He handed out copies of *La Verdad*. Compa Ben summed-up the workshops organized by *La Verdad* on how to write different types of articles. The next issue of *La Verdad* will come out in mid September of 2009.

Harry Simon. Past editor of *Voz Fronteriza* and *La Verdad*. Has worked on movimiento media for the last 20 years. He recently produced a video on the struggle over a park at the border (Border State Park).

Oscar Michel. Works with photography. Most recently he has contributed photos of events organized by the Association of Raza Educators (A.R.E.), the teacher hunger strike in Los Angeles, and is working on a catalogue of movement posters. The compa made himself available to work with members of the RPMA in the area of photography.

Antonio Velazquez. Antonio is the editor/writer for *Clavo En El Corazon*. He produces timely organized a workshop for youth in the Santa Barbara area on the question of police brutality and how the system uses propaganda against La Raza. Antonio's commentaries are e-mailed and posted on the RPMA web page.

Luis Moreno. Compa Luis is in charge of maintaining the RPMA's web page. He is also the editor/layout person for our journal, *Guerrillera/os de La Pluma*. A hard copy of the *La Pluma* was handed out to everyone. Luis also is the editor of *Pueblo Unido*, a publication of the Committee For Raza Rights, active in Oxnard, CA. (report was e-mailed)

Jose Moreno. Jose is currently working on a conference on "Neocolonialism and Globalization" to be held in Michigan State University on Nov. 6-7, 2009. Compa Jose also submitted an article on the recent NACCS (National Association of Chicano/a Studies) conference held in New Brunswick, NJ. for publication in *La Pluma*. (report was e-mailed)



Centro Francisco Villa/South Centro L.A.



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Ernesto Bustillos. Ernesto is the coordinator RPMA. He reported that his main work at this time is with *Las Calles y La Torcida*, a newsletter of the Chicano Mexicano Prison Project (CMPP). Compa Ernesto explained that a recent statement by the CMPP exposing the real causes of the riot and violence between Mexican and African prisoners at Chino State Prison has been circulated, posted, and printed widely. He handed out copies of *Las Calles* and the CMPP statement. A report from the Coordinator will be

### KEY/IMPORTANT ISSUES RAISED AND DISCUSSED AT THE RPMA GENERAL MEETING

- “Working committees” (local or regional) of the RPMA can be formed as needed. The committees must support and adhere to the objectives and leadership of the RPMA.



RPMA Meeting/Aug. 29, 2009

- All members must pay their dues. Organizations/Publications dues are \$60 per year, and individuals \$10.
- Our (the movement’s) work must be of a lot better quality and creativity if we are to compete with the imperialist/capitalist press. Much of our work is not read, seen, or heard, because of its poor artistic quality.
- Must create a “folder” in our web page with graphics, images, and photos that all RPMA and progressive forces can use.
- We need to write/go into a deeper analysis

of issues, organizations, and those who claim to be representing aspects of our movement. Too many young people have no idea of what our struggle has been, or is, about.

- Need to create our “own experts”. All to often we find ourselves inviting people as speakers to our events who have no connection to our work or real liberation struggle
- Through our work, we have to challenge the system’s (the establishment) process of “dumbing down” our youth. The mainstream media is creating a society of non-writers/readers/critical thinkers.
- Everyone thought the latest issue *Guerrillera/os de La Pluma* was excellent. The goal is to have the Winter Issue out by November 2009. Deadline for articles/photos/art will be Oct. 15, 2009.
- The Book Festival was move to April of 2010. Instead, in November of this year, we will organized forum on **“Media Terror: What It Is and How Do We Fight Back”**.
- Teachers 4 Social Justice will organize a conference in San Francisco on Oct. 10, 2009.
- Everyone at the meeting is to attend the 39th Commemoration of the August 29th Chicano Moratorium. The commemoration was organized by the National Chicano Moratorium Committee (NCMC) and will be held at Salazar Park (East Los Angeles)

**BE ACCOUNTABLE. BE ORGANIZED. JOIN THE RAZA PRESS AND MEDIA ASSOCIATION**