Amadeu Casellas is Free!!!

Catalan anarchist prisoner Amadeu Casellas Ramon was released from prison on Tuesday, 9 March!!!

The director of the penitentiary center at Girona (Catalunya, Spanish State) finally considered all the complaints and petitions submitted by Casellas‘ lawyers and concluded that Casellas had been imprisoned for 8 years too long, and ordered his immediate release.

Casellas spent 24 years in prison for bank robberies to support workers’ struggles in the 1970s, during periods of strong struggle against the state during the stage-managed transition from dictatorship to democracy. In the 1980s he took part in the strong prisoners‘ resistance movement.

He conducted two extremely long hunger strikes for his release, in 2008 and 2009, and received a great deal of solidarity from the outside. He has vocally protested torture and repression inside the Catalan prisons, and stood in solidarity with all prisoners.

Although the state pretends to find a legal basis for his release, we are sure that without the solidarity actions he would have been left to rot in prison indefinitely.

Much more at: http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10844

Hugh & Tiga Felonies Dropped

Great news! Hugh and Tiga’s felony racketeering charges have been dropped!

We got word on Tuesday that, based on arguments made by their lawyers at their last court appearance, the court granted the defense’s motion to dismiss the RICO charges on statutory grounds. This means that the court recognized that the RICO charges brought against Hugh and Tiga by the Indiana State Police and Pike County Prosecutor Darrin McDonald were not in line with Indiana law.

As the State retreats a bit with its tail between its legs, we are celebrating a small victory against repression. But there is still plenty of work to be done. Hugh and Tiga each still face four misdemeanors—two counts of intimidation and two counts of conversion—and a maximum sentence of four years in jail, and neither can leave the state of Indiana as part of their bond agreements.

Hugh and Tiga are far from the only I-69 opponents tied up in legal trouble. In Gibson County sixteen people are facing a civil suit from Gohmann Asphalt for lost profits allegedly incurred during a civil disobedience action in the summer of 2008.

Hugh and Tiga are scheduled to appear in the Pike County Court on Monday, March 29th, at 3:00 p.m. for another pre-trial hearing.

Thanks to everyone for all of the support throughout this ordeal. As we celebrate this victory, we acknowledge the challenges that still lie ahead.

In solidarity.

(For more information on their case, visit http://www.mostlyeverything.net)

http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10938

Carrie is Out!

From DPGJ

Carrie was released today! The US Attorney unexpectedly filed a motion stating that her testimony was no longer needed, and now she’s out of jail and on her way back home. She’s excited to finally be free, and wants to express her gratitude to everyone for their support throughout this process.

Thanks everyone for having shown so much solidarity over the past four months of Carrie’s incarceration. We’re relieved to finally have her back, and want to invite everyone to the SCSC dinner tomorrow to celebrate her return. Join us in welcoming Carrie home, and to discuss legal updates around Scott’s case.

Joyfully,
the SCSC

http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10901

Bonanno May be Charged with Second Robbery

From Denver ABC

Athens, 25 feb. – Alfredo Bonanno, the Italian anarchist over 70 years old imprisoned last October following an accusation of concourse in robbery of a bank in Trikala, is suspected of being the author of another robbery carried out last July at Argostoli, on the island of Cefalonia. Bonanno’s lawyers contest this accusation.

According to police sources cited by the media, Bonanno, with a false beard and wig, would have been recognised by one of the witnesses on the basis of a CCTV video, while he robbed the Bank of Cyprus, pistol in hand, 6 July in Argostoli. The information has been partially confirmed to Ansa by a spokesman of the central police station, according to which “an old Italian is considered author of the robbery at Argostoli, which rendered 26 000 euros”. The spokesman did not give Bonanno’s name directly but implied that it was him.

more at: http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10800
Lierre Keith Pied at 2010 SF Anarchist Bookfair

Bound Together Books and PM Press continue to try to prop up and foist veg*n antagonist Lierre Keith onto the radical community in the Bay Area. Today, at the 15th Annual San Francisco Anarchist Bookfair, where she was scheduled to be a featured speaker, Keith was served her just deserts for her obnoxious attacks on veg*ns in the Vegetarian Myth. She was pied in the middle of her speech in the main auditorium at the SF County Fair Building in Golden Gate Park.

The myriad logical fallacies and other personal, logical, and factual problems with Lierre Keith’s misanthropic book need not be reiterated here. A thorough debunking of her attack on veg*ns was posted on Indybay last June when Bound Together Books first invited her to speak about her book.

If her book had been written as a good faith effort to start a discussion about the topics of vegetarianism and industrial agriculture, it certainly would not have evoked such a visceral reaction from veg*ns. But that’s not how Keith addressed the subject. She instead chose to rebuke her own former vegan self by verbally assaulting all veg*ns, calling them ignorant and child-like, sometimes based on nothing more than dishonest accounts of anonymous online comment threads or her own self-loathing.

More at: http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10869

Bay Area Anarchist Book Fair Statement on Lierre Keith

The Bay Area Anarchist Book Fair organizers wish to publicly condemn the violent assault committed against author Lierre Keith at the Book Fair on Saturday, March 13. We wish to extend our apologies to her for not taking more rigorous measures to assure her safety at our event. We urge the Anarchist community and our allies to let the perpetrators of this ugly assault and their supporters know that we will not stand for this kind of violent bullying at our events or in our community.

... We are asking anyone with information on the identities of the assailants, photos or additional video of the attack to contact us at abookfair@yahoo.com. We will make the information available to Ms. Keith.

More at: http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10934

Dissenting Members of Bound Together re: Pie Statement from “Book Fair Organizing Group”

We are active members of Bound Together Anarchist Bookstore collective, most of whom have devoted time to help with the 2010 Bay Area Anarchist Book Fair as well as previous Book Fairs. While we are in general agreement with most of the statement recently put out by the "Bay Area Anarchist Book Fair Organizing Group," we want to state that we neither wrote nor approved of the final sentences, which read:

"We are asking anyone with information on the identities of the assailants, photos or additional video of the attack to contact us...We will make the information available to Ms. Keith."

We certainly wish we had been aware of the threats prior to the incident, and that better arrangements could have been made to protect Lierre Keith. However, we believe that the attack on Ms. Keith, her decision to file a police report, and the actions (and non-actions) of the community present (including Bound Together and the Bay Area Anarchist Book Fair Organizing Group) provided an extremely poor example of what anarchists taking care of their own business could look like. We cannot support Ms. Keith in her decision to go to the police. If anyone wishes to pass information along to Ms. Keith, her contact information is available on the internet, but we do not wish Bound Together to be involved in making "the information available" to her.

More at: http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10964

Portland Anarchists Take the Streets against the Police Again

Distrust and anger towards the police is at an all-time high in Portland. The civil trial for the 2006 police murder of James Chasse, another unarmed man in a mental health crisis, begins in two months. In February, Black community leaders stormed city hall and refused to leave, demanding justice for Aaron Campbell. In a recent poll, only 56% of the population of Portland said that they trust the police. Divided demographically, 67% of African Americans and 82% of Hispanics do not trust the police. The black weekly, The Skanner, has published articles telling people not to call the police if they are having a mental health crisis.

More at: http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10962

Portland Events

Anarchists Respond to Police with Vengeance

“We don’t give a fuck, the time is now.”

When word spread that the Portland police had just shot a man to death at the Hoyt Arboretum, we knew we had to make a choice: to allow ourselves to be human, or to participate in our own murders, to hide away in sleep and the unfolding of a routine that ends, for all of us, in death. It’s a choice that has been made for us so many times before: by the media, by community leaders, professional activists, bosses, teachers, parents, friends who do not push us to confront this fear with them. We are killing ourselves with so much swallowed rage.

More at: http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10921

Police union HQ Ransacked

From KGW - by David Krough

PORTLAND, Ore. -- Someone vandalized the Portland Police union headquarters doing thousands of dollars in damage early Tuesday.

Spackman Scott Westerman said just before 1 a.m., bricks and rocks were thrown through their windows, doing about $20,000 worth of damage to the outside of the building.

... Westerman said computers and other items were damaged inside the office.

No suspects have been named in the case.

More at: http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10965
Pushed by the Violence of Our Desires

Over the past few days, dozens of communiqués, letters, and statements have been circulating regarding issues of race, gender, and disrespect on M4. We have no intentions of addressing or disputing particular accusations or narratives regarding M4 in this statement; these things will inevitably be argued about elsewhere. Here, we attempt to discuss the language and politics that have been used in framing these issues.

As queer women of color, we feel as if we are trapped in the middle of all of this talk about identities. We have had, for some time, our own frustrations with and critiques of a number of white men with whom we have worked. At the same time, we are uncomfortable with the way in which the identities of "people of color" and "women" are being used to critique and condemn the events of M4, because we – as queer women of color – don’t agree with how these critiques and condemnations are being framed. In fact, we’re not just uncomfortable; we’re actually really angry about the way in which the majority of the naïve students that will cry out across the country tomorrow on March 4th will be clamoring for space within the realm of the material; referential points to which they can attach their multifaceted flags of demands and eagerness for concessions. The majority of the students will fulfill their reactionary roles – demand that access to “education” is a fundamental human “right” – demand that the state reconcile their grievances and accordingly adjust and restructure the fiscal constraints upon the decaying institution.

"Lower tuition and fees!" The unimaginative ones will say.

"A free university!" The mildly creative ones will exclaim.

It is to these that I offer my sincerest and most respectful: FUCK OFF.

Much more at:
http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10853

On the eve of March 4th...

The Dawn of the Crisis Generation

From Indybay by Crisis Generation

March 4th is over, but we’ve only just begun

"Why the hell did you get on that highway?" asked the cops, our cell mates, our coworkers, our classmates. There are many responses that could be given that have been outlined by banners, occupation demands, student leaders, or budget statistics, but none of them really connect to why one would take over a highway. The funding for schools isn’t going to be found on any one of those lanes of oncoming traffic. And, in fact, a lot of people who were arrested on the highway were not students or teachers. This is because the highway takeover is an action against a power structure that is much larger than this year’s budget crisis.

That morning we awakened to newspaper headlines stating the governor’s support for sanctioned student protests. We weren’t the least bit impressed by this patronizing rhetoric.

Much more at:
http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10851

Spring Break the Bourgeoisie!

While occupations and protests at university campuses have died down since the March 4th Day of Action, in the Modesto area, students, teachers, and community members have launched a series of actions largely independent of any formal group or organization.

In the Spring, local school districts announced the possible closure of various schools in the area. California teachers also discovered that thousands of them would be laid off as the state issued pink slips. Meanwhile, in the local area, administrators with the district continue to in many cases, more than $200,000 a year and receive kick downs in the form of things like travel allowances. ... The recent budget crisis has exposed class lines and old antagonisms that have always existed, but are now much more pronounced. The actions of students in particular are showing the way forward for the rest of the working and poor population that must respond to ongoing attacks against it.

More at:
http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10931

Updates from The Evergreen State College

This communiqué was written for students at Evergreen and people in the Olympia community and posted here for those outside these circumstances to understand where the struggle against budget cuts and capitalism stands in this community.

"What goes on between bodies in an occupation is more interesting than the occupation itself”

Tonight (the 2nd and 3rd of March) there was a study-in at the computer lab of the library building. As the clock struck midnight eighty eight students cheered as the administrators said the space was closed and walked off into the dark. This action was made possible by a concerted effort of student outreach to the workers of the space which helped achieve a common understanding about why this action was needed. Throughout the night people partook in finishing their homework, participating in workshops, and enjoying the feeling of a liberated (for the night) space.

More at:
http://anarchistnews.org/?q-node/10808

D-FUNK Says, ‘It’s on! to AZ SU’

From SoWhatIfAlltheCollegesBurnDown

... The Problems...

Universities resemble capitalist dystopias filled with unapologetic apathy. It is thus no wonder that radical student movements do not arise. Existant student movements and activist groups are hierarchical and filled with the worst kind of leaders, lackeys, and politicians(…). They take socially and politically reformist stances on gender, race, class discrimination; animal rights; environmental degradation; war and refuse to recognize the limits of their actions. Reform is not the capital T truth as they want you to believe. In fact, it is the enemy. Thus we obviously cannot participate with these groups: trust us, we’ve tried.

Much more at:
http://anarchistnews.org/?q-node/10811
### Anarchist Murdered by Athens Police

35 year-old comrade Lambros Foundas was murdered by cops on Wednesday morning in the suburb of Dafni (south Athens).

The police claims that he was a “terrorist” and that he was shot while trying to steal a car, and that was carrying firearms. Fountas was one of the over 500 anarchists arrested at the Polytechnic riots of 1995, in Athens.

http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10855

### Why is There Popular Protest in Venezuela?

For the benefit of those who find themselves surprised or disconcerted by the generalised decline of conditions in Venezuela, as well as the increase in popular struggle (2,893 street demonstrations between October 2008-September 2009; compared with 1,763 in the same period in 2007-08) – either because they are unaware of the situation here, they are based abroad, or because they always accept the official version of events – we expound below on some factors which contribute to social conflicts here.

1. The collapse of the food crop is demonstrated by the increase in imports within the sector, from US$1.6bn in 1999 to $7.4bn in 2008. Last year, the government was forced to purchase abroad some 57.9% of the foodstuffs required for its subsidy programmes. The cost of imported food per head per annum has risen from $75 in the 1990s to $267 today.

However, there’s more to it than us solely having become more dependent on abroad for our food. We also suffer from the constant inflation of food prices: 46.7% in 2008, and more than 36% in 2009. This escalation is nowhere near compensated for; neither by the nominal raises in the minimum wage, nor by the distribution of subsidised food via Mercal, which currently finds itself in a state of veritable agony due to underfunding and corruption.

Much more at:
http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10923

### Greece on the Brink of Social Insurrection

Mass strikes with only hours prior warning are unfolding in Greece after the government announced new crippling measures for workers

The government’s announcements of the new austerity measures dictated by the EU have rendered the Greek PM’s talk of a "state of war" concrete. The new measures include a 30% cut in public workers’ 13th and 14th salary, as well as 12% cut in all salary subsidies, which in reality amounts to a sum of more than 1/12 of the total annual salary. In addition the government has announced new taxes for alcohol and cigarettes, as well as a universal VAT of 21% that is considered crippling by shop-owners and small free-lance entrepreneurs. Not one measure is however targeted towards the construction-banking-press-shipping trusts that plague the country.

The reaction to the measures has been immediate and acute: Just hours after the announcement of the new measures, layed-off workers of Olympic Airways attacked riot police lines guarding the State General Accountancy and have occupied the building, in what they call a open-ended occupation. The action has led to the closing of Athens’ main commercial street, Panepistimiou, for long hours.

On Thursday morning, workers under the Communist Party union umbrella PAME occupied the Ministry of Finance on Syntagma square (which remains under occupation) as well as the county headquarters of the city of Trikala. Later, PAME also occupied 4 TV station in the city in Patras, and the state TV station of Salonica, forcing the news broadcasters to play a DVD against government measures.

On Thursday afternoon, two protest marches took to the streets of Athens. The first, called by PAME, and the second by OLME, the teachers union and supported by ADEY. The latter gathered around 10,000 people despite less than 24h notice, and during its course limited clashes developed with the riot police which was pilled with rocks outside the EU Commission building.

Much more at:
http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10820

### Urban Guerrilla Offensive in Athens

An urban guerrilla offensive seems to be underway in Athens with two major bomb attacks within the last 48 hours, one against the headquarters of the neo-nazi party Golden Dawn, and one against the Police Directorship for Immigrants.

In less than 48 hours two major bombs have hit Athens, marking what seems to be an urban guerrilla spring offensive in the greek capital.

The first bomb exploded a little after 8:00 a.m. on Friday 19 March at the headquarters of Chrisi Avgi (Golden Dawn) the neo-nazi party of greece, an organisation responsible for countless murder attempts, arson attacks and pogroms against immigrants, leftists and anarchists. The group is led by Mr Mihaloliakos a convicted bomber who founded the Golden Dawn in the early 1980s under the direct orders of the imprisoned head of the colonels junta, Georgios Papadopoulos. The daily Eleftherotypia has published documents of Mr Mihaloliakos salary details in the service of EYP, the greek secret services. The bomb that hit the offices on Sokratous street had been pre-announced to the daily Eleftherotypia, giving 20 minutes to evacuate the building and the near by hotel.

The bomb, which has been estimated by the police as “very strong” but with a slow diffusion as to minimise the blast wave that could damage near-by buildings, has demolished the officers, creating a crater through the concrete floor and leaving none but cement columns standing. To this moment no urban guerrilla group has claimed responsibility for the attack which the anti-terrorist bureau has coined “a classic divergence tactic” in relation to the investigations on Lambros Foundas, the 35 year old anarchist shot dead during a gun battle with the police earlier this week. The man is proclaimed by the anti-terrorist bureau as “a key member of one of the big new generation terrorist groups” of greece.

Anarchist have launched an extended campaign in honour of Lambros Foundas with thousands of posters and a one thousand strong protest march to the spot of his assassination today noon.

Much more at:
http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/10910