



Mt. Diablo Peace & Justice Center
and Friendly Favors *present*

GEORGIA KELLY:

Mondragon Cooperatives and the alternative of worker-owned businesses

Tuesday, July 27, 6:00 PM Potluck, 7:00 PM Talk

Mt. Diablo Peace & Justice Center
55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek, CA 94596



After WWII, despite hostile conditions, the workers of the Mondragon area in the North of Spain organized successfully in a creative way by gathering their resources and starting the businesses that employed them, thus becoming their own bosses.

Today the Mondragon Cooperatives are the largest and brightest example of collaborative thinking in the world. They include 120 businesses and employ nearly 100,000 worker-owners. Their companies include the largest supermarket chain in Europe, manufacturers of microchips, windmills, fast trains and the new generation of energy efficient cars. Mondragon has established research centers, bank and credit unions, a university, youth cooperatives, and small to large businesses. Presently, their solid financial position allows them to acquire stressed companies in the rest of Europe, Africa and the Americas, where their challenge is not only to make them profitable, but also to establish a culture of cooperative thinking, working and living with their new international coworkers, who have only known confrontation and competition. The winner of the Buckminster Fuller 2009 Challenge, Ryan Chin of the MIT Smart Cities Group, announced that his foldable electric car will be produced in the Basque region of Spain within three years.

Georgia Kelly is the founder of the Praxis Peace institute in Sonoma, and she successfully took the first US delegation of entrepreneurs and activists to Mondragon in 2008. The experience was so rewarding that she is heading a second delegation for Sep 12-18, 2010. Georgia Kelly is also a classically trained harpist and composer who began her music studies at the age of three. She gained considerable attention for her albums of spiritual harp performances. Her 1978 [Seapeace](#), recorded with Tony Selvage on electric violin, remains a classic with sales of over 250,000 copies. The relaxing and inspirational qualities of her music attracted the attention of hospitals, cancer clinics and drug-abuse programs who use her recordings for therapeutic purposes.

Cost: A dish to share and a \$20 suggested donation to the Mt. Diablo Peace Center. Those wishing to pay in-kind for their donation, may login at www.Favors.org and choose to give Thankyous when they RSVP for this event. If this is your first time at www.Favors.org - please Register first to obtain your login. Please make checks to the Mt. Diablo Peace and Justice Center.