

Chelsea Stands Up Against the War!

5/5/09

(Standup Week 208)

Tuesday, 6pm–7pm

Why are we in Iraq?

Not because of weapons of mass destruction.

Not because Iraq was involved in 9/11.

Not because Iraq was a threat to our national security.

What have we gotten?

US military dead: 4,284 US military wounded: 31,230

Iraqi civilians killed: 100,086* Money spent on war: \$620 billion

Who are we?

Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War has pledged to “Stand Up” until the war ends and the troops come home safely.

Every Tuesday evening at 6 pm (rain or shine), **Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War** assembles on the northwest corner of 8th Avenue and 24th Street to facilitate “**Chelsea Stands Up Against the War,**” a community protest against the war in Iraq.

We carry banners, signs, and candles as we gather for one hour each week to protest the war in Iraq. We distribute this newsletter, peace buttons, collect signatures on petitions and speak with our neighbors about the need to end war in Iraq. The **Stand Up** make a dramatic statement to passing vehicular traffic on 8th avenue.

Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War is an all-volunteer organization that wants to build the broadest possible neighborhood consensus. With that goal in mind, the organization is open to all and functions by consensus.

Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War is not formally affiliated with any other organization but is willing to work with all groups and individuals who are committed to ending this illegal and immoral war fought by our fellow citizens, paid for with our tax dollars, and prosecuted in our name.

*The recent Johns Hopkins/Lancet report places the figure at 655,000+



Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War

212.726.1385/chelseaneighborsunited@yahoo.com/www.chelseaneighborsunited.org

Standing Up to Be Counted For Peace, Against War

By Kate Abell and Bob Martin

Today marks the 4th Anniversary of the Chelsea Stand Up against the war. In these last four years, hundreds of neighbors, and those just passing by, took the opportunity to stand with CNU adding their presence to the rising tide against the war and occupation of Iraq. Tens of thousands more saw the signature banner, “We the People Oppose the War: Bring the Troops Home Now,” as they walked or drove past, and read the leaflets written by dozens of Chelsea neighbors.

When the Stand Up began, 1,635 US soldiers had already died, along with 17,000 Iraqi civilians. \$160 billion of our tax money had already gone into the coffers of Halliburton, Bechtel, Blackwater, and the oil companies.

Over the course of the Stand Up’s four years, public opinion changed. As time passed, more and more people honked when they saw our signs, eagerly took the opportunity to talk with us, and read our leaflets, and understood that the invasion of Iraq was based on deliberate lies and manipulation. By Election Day 2008, the reversal was complete.

Meanwhile, nearly 3,000 more US soldiers have lost their lives, 83,000 more Iraqi civilians are dead, and \$460 billion dollars more has been spent on destruction.

Today there is great hope inspired by the election of a young, multi-racial African-American president who seeks to lead by moral courage and reconciliation instead of bullying and fear. But there are still US troops and US bases in Iraq, and now a widening US military presence in Afghanistan. Banking and other financial cabals wield great power, creating an economic crisis and then continuing to profit from it. Millions in the United States and around the world have lost their jobs, their homes and their future.

And so the Stand Up continues.