

Sholom TR

Therapeutic Recreation Update for Sholom Home West



Celebrating February

Women Inventors Month

Black History Month

**Chinese New Year:
Year of the Tiger**
February 1

Groundhog Day
February 2

Winter Olympics Begin
February 4

World Day for Social Justice
February 20

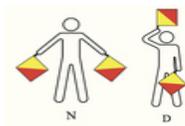
Presidents' Day (U.S.)
February 21

February Birthdays!

Carolyn R / 3N	Feb 9
Peter S / 3S	Feb 10
Sybil F / 2N	Feb 14
Amy H / 2N	Feb 16
Vera B / 3N	Feb 18
Bonnie M / 2N	Feb 24

A Picture of Peace

The threat of nuclear war was very real during the Cold War of the 1950s. Protestors against Britain's testing of hydrogen bombs formed the Direct Action Committee (DAC) Against Nuclear War. Adopting the nonviolent protest principles of Gandhi, the DAC conducted many forms of civil disobedience, including a 52-mile march from London to the atomic weapons research center in Aldermaston. Participants in the Aldermaston march carried signs bearing a unique symbol, a nuclear disarmament (ND) logo that is now known around the world as the peace sign.



The DAC enlisted artist Gerald Holtom to design a recognizable logo for the march, which he completed on February 21, 1958. Holtom incorporated letters from the flag

semaphore alphabet, combining the downward diagonals of the *N* and the straight vertical line of the *D* within a circle representing the globe. Holtom was also inspired by Francisco Goya's painting *The Third of May 1808*, which depicts a peasant with his arms upraised before a firing squad. Holtom admitted that the threat of nuclear war had caused him "deep despair. I drew myself... with hands palm outstretched outwards and downwards in the manner of Goya's peasant." Holtom's design was a success, and it soon became the symbol of the United Kingdom's campaign for nuclear disarmament.

In 1960, the logo came to represent something more universal. An American student from the University of Chicago named Phillip Altbach traveled to England to meet with British peace groups as a representative of the Student Peace Union (SPU). When Altbach saw Holtom's logo, he decided to use it as the symbol of the SPU. During America's tumultuous cultural upheaval during the '60s and '70s, Holtom's logo was transformed into a universally recognized sign of peace. Holtom never trademarked his design, allowing it to be used freely by anyone. His one regret, however, was its connotation of despair. Holtom wanted to invert the symbol and point the diagonal lines upward to represent the tree of life and inspire eternal optimism