

Peace & Freedom

MAGAZINE OF THE WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

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Sowing the Seeds of Peace



WILPF's New Programs and Possibilities

INSIDE

- Bringing Young Women to the U.N.
- Challenging Military Recruitment
- International WILPF's Program

Action Around the Country See Branch Action, page 21, for more



Catonsville members Phyllis Yingling (left) and Ellen Tharpe (right) at the gate of the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD, where demonstrators gathered during the Israeli-Palestinian Peace Talks on November 17.

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Pledge to WILPF to ensure a bright future!

By pledging a monthly amount to WILPF, rather than just paying our dues annually, we can ensure a more stable organization and a brighter future. Pledges enable WILPF to maintain and build our numbers, a crucial component of our work for peace and freedom. Your dues will be automatically deducted from your pledge — no more renewal notices!

SEE BACK COVER FOR 3 EASY WAYS TO PLEDGE!

Cover: "Sowing the Seeds of Peace" by Eric Drooker

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The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) has been working since 1915 to unite women worldwide who oppose oppression and exploitation. WILPF stands for equality of all people in a world free of racism, sexism, and homophobia; the building of a constructive peace through world disarmament; and the changing of government priorities to meet human needs.

National Program: WILPF envisions a world free of violence, poverty, pollution, and domination — a genuine new world order of peace and justice. WILPF's program stands firm for disarmament and against oppression. The 2005-2008 program cycle has two key campaign areas: Women Challenging U.S. Policy: Building Peace on Justice in the Middle East and Save the Water.

WILPF has sections in 37 countries coordinated by an international office in Geneva. U.S. WILPF carries out its work through grassroots organizing by WILPF branches, coordinated by a national office in Philadelphia. WILPF supports the work of the United Nations and has NGO (non-governmental organization) status.

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Raising Our Political Voice

By C.J. Minster, Program Chair, WILPF U.S.

Welcome to the Spring 2008 issue of *Peace & Freedom*. We hope you enjoy reading about the rich work being done locally, nationally and internationally to create a culture of peace and justice. You might wonder what brings such disparate issues under the same umbrella; after all, most advocacy organizations have one focus — either environmental issues like “water as a human right” or geo-political issues like “U.S. policy on Israel and Palestine.” WILPF is our activist home because we recognize that issues of war and peace are intricately connected to gender, racial, social, environmental and economic justice.

On a national level, we have two campaigns — Save the Water, and Women Challenge U.S. Policy: Building Peace on Justice in the Middle East. Our committees include Disarm: Dismantle the War Economy, Advancing Human Rights/CEDAW, Building the Beloved Community, Corporations v. Democracy, Cuba and Haiti.

WILPF U.S. also has two representatives to the United Nations, and a Rapid Response committee, which responds to issues outside the purview of our campaigns and committees. These groups produce advocacy materials for our local branches that are available on our website. They also issue action alerts, responding to events of immediate concern. You can read more about their activity in the following pages.

The women who lead these entities research and advocate many important areas, from implementing human rights law to challenging U.S. foreign policy. Our former staff members were a tremendous asset to our organization. They helped manage our diverse organization, communicated with members, implemented petition drives and ran the office — among numerous other responsibilities. While we regret that our financial reality necessitated laying off our national staff, this issue of *Peace & Freedom* demonstrates that WILPF’s national program has not stagnated. Indeed, members have stepped up their involvement to ensure that WILPF remains focused on building our membership and political voice to create the paradigm shift needed to dismantle the patriarchal, racist and belligerent power structure we currently live in.

This is the very heart of WILPF: building on each individual member’s passion for social justice. It is the collective, women-led nature of our organization that makes us unique and powerful within the global advocacy community. Some-times, we don’t communicate the underpinnings of our multi-issue organization because we’re busy advocating for a particular issue. We should be mindful about consistently connecting our work for peace with our unique, global women’s membership organization.

Beginning with the 30th Triennial Congress in Des Moines this June, our program structure will be more fluid, allowing us the flexibility to both respond to political realities and continue our work for systemic change.

Recognizing that our members are focused on a multitude of issues, our section’s Program Committee will work to support both national issue committees and local branch activism. More details on this structural change will be presented at the Triennial Congress.

As a student of Peace and Justice Studies at Wellesley College, I learned that a solid structural foundation is the cornerstone to long-term, systemic change. I have enjoyed the opportunity to help WILPF become a stronger organization that supports its members. As program chair, I focused on building links between our program entities and broadcasting their work, both within our membership and beyond. It has been my pleasure to serve on the national board for the last two terms and I’m looking forward to reserving more of my activist time for blogging and local organizing.



**At the very heart of WILPF
is building on each
individual member’s passion
for social justice.**

In addition to being WILPF U.S. Program Chair, C.J. Minster is Co Convener, International WILPF Communications Committee, a YWILPFer and a member of the Los Angeles branch board. She blogs at www.socialupheaval.com.

WILPF Challenges U.S. Army Recruitment Tactics

By Tzili Mor

Remember your first field trip? Typically, when a middle school class plans an excursion to the local art museum, or a high school teacher wants to offer a special lesson on safe sex, a parent or guardian must sign a permission slip allowing the child's participation. But no such adult approval is required for contact between American children and the 22,000 military recruiters who hang out at public middle and high schools, in movie theaters and shopping malls, handing out iPods or other extravagant gifts.

The U.S. Department of Defense spent more than \$1.5 billion on recruitment efforts in 2006 and today offers \$20,000 "quick ship" cash rewards for new recruits. In contrast, the government provides a maximum of a \$4,310 annual tuition grant for the few qualified, college-bound high school students who avoid enlistment.

WILPFers across the country voiced concerns about the omnipresence of military recruiters undermining their community's own norms and subverting the wishes of parents. Recruiters often target immigrant and low-income communities of color. According to the Department of Defense's most recent report on the armed forces, women from racial minority groups are over-represented among the ranks of new recruits. The U.S. government subsidizes military-style programs, such as Middle School Cadets and the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC), where children as young as 8 and 11 can participate. There is neither federal funding, nor suggested curricula, for peaceful resolution of conflict and human rights education. Last year, Chicago opened the first public Marine Military Academy in the country. The Marine Military Math and Science Academy, serving grades 9 through 12, follows the military disciplinary model. Drills are part of the school day.

The militarization of community life affects not only the prospects of those young people who actually enlist for military service, but the educational and employment opportunities available to all youth. It affects family life, and inevitably changes the norms of civil society.

Recruitment efforts that revolve around false and exaggerated promises about educational and employment opportunities for soldiers (and the lack of honest discussion of risks and actual duties of service) prevent young people from making informed, genuinely voluntary decisions about their lives based on accurate, truthful information.

Last summer, WILPF's Advancing Human Rights/CEDAW (AHR) committee drew together members from various states, in addition to nearly 30 national and grass-

roots groups working on "truth in recruitment," to work on this issue. Together, we compiled a report to the U.N. Committee on the Rights of the Child about the reality of improper and abusive U.S. military recruitment tactics.

In 2003, the United States ratified and became legally bound by the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict. On May 22, 2008, the Children's Rights Committee, the U.N. committee of experts that oversees the implementation of this protocol (or treaty), will be reviewing U.S. compliance with international standards on the recruitment and deployment of children (anyone under the age of 18) into the armed forces and participation in military conflict. WILPF, along with multiple endorsing organizations, submitted an alternative report analyzing the shortfalls and gaps in the official report submitted to the U.N. committee by the U.S. government.

Through programs like the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps, military recruitment efforts now target children as young as 8 years old.

Our alternative report submission resulted in the U.N. committee inviting WILPF to Geneva in early February to make an oral presentation and participate in a closed session of questions and answers with a dozen independent international experts. While the session was closed to allow for a frank discussion between NGO reps and committee members, the committee drafted a list of follow up questions for the U.S. government around issues of recruitment and deployment of children. Several of these questions were taken from recommendations and suggested questions outlined in the WILPF report. For example, the committee required that the U.S. government submit information by March 31 about criminal penalties for forced or compulsory recruitment of individuals under 18 years; information on the methods used by military recruiters (and which safeguards are available to prevent misconduct, coercive measures or deception); and the number of cases of recruiter misconduct and sanctions since the Protocol has been in place. The committee also requested disaggregated data (by sex and ethnicity) on the number of voluntary recruits under the age of 18. (For a full list of questions to the U.S. Government, please see:

www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/)

Since these questions by the U.N. expert committee

form part of the treaty review process, the various relevant U.S. government agencies must collect the information requested, or acknowledge gaps in laws and enforcement in its reply. Following the official review of the United States in May, the U.N. Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) will issue “concluding observations” to the U.S. government for better compliance with its legal obligations under this international treaty. (For details on the CRC review of the U.S., please see the CRC official website at www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/crcs48.htm. Just scroll down to the second U.S. flag under the CRC OPAC). This guided dialogue process between the U.S. government and the committee builds a path of legal standards for the United States — and other nations — to follow. It also makes connections between abstract human rights and concrete ways to implement them.

Carol Urner and Ellen Barfield of WILPF’s DISARM! Committee, along with myself (from the AHR committee) took WILPF’s alternative report to Capitol Hill and met with legislative staffers in late February to both inform them of the U.N. treaty review process and of the standards and priorities the Protocol sets around the informed, voluntary consent of children and parents to enlist in the armed forces.

Staffers, in particular those with Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI) and Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), were eager to

During the national conference calls to prepare for the report to the U.N. Committee on the Rights of the Child, numerous WILPFers voiced interest in sharing information and swapping creative ideas about outreach to stop improper and abusive (or any) recruitment of youth in their schools and communities. To facilitate that national exchange, the AHR Committee established a WILPF Counter Recruitment group at Yahoo! Groups. Go to the groups section of Yahoo! and search for WILPF_Counter_Recruitment.

Some of these resources, already shared through the WILPF Counter Recruitment listserv, include an anti-recruitment comic book and a resource guide for potential enlistees authored by Veterans for Peace. *Mixed Signals*, a counter-recruitment tool in comic book form, is now available for use in activism, outreach, counseling, education, starting conversations and saving lives. To view and print the comic book, go to <http://antiauthoritarian.net/NLN/current/sabrina.html>. To order copies, contact sabjonze@yahoo.com.

Veterans For Peace published *A Resource Guide for Young People Considering Enlistment*, which contains advice from veterans on military service and recruiting practices. The guide is available at: www.vfp56.org/VEOP_RG_Final.pdf.



At left, above: Author Tzili Mor preparing to make the statement to the Committee in Geneva, with Mr. Dainius Puras, CRC expert from Lithuania, in the background. *Above, from right to left:* Ms. Yanghee Lee, chairperson and CRC expert from the Republic of Korea; Carol Smolenski, executive director, ECPAT-USA, and Lucy Smith, CRC expert from Norway.

think of ways the congresswomen could push the agenda for greater transparency, oversight and accountability over improper and abusive recruitment, which ranges from false promises to sexual assault, yet lacks central Department of Defense oversight with prescribed, mandatory penalties. Sen. Feinstein’s office encouraged California-based WILPFers to call the Senator’s local offices and report incidents of improper recruitment and to strongly voice their distress over the militarization of their schools. Carol Urner was also able to have good meetings with legislative assistants of John Conyers and Eddie Bernice Johnson. Both Representatives are members and sponsors of WILPF, and both staffers indicated strong interest in the report and the U.N. questions. Carol also left packets of documents with about 10 other Representatives and Senators whom we thought branches and the AHR committee might want to contact further.

The alternative report started with local grassroots efforts which brought community views to the United Nations and, following its comments to the U.S. government, it will be again up to us to push the implementation of human rights and non-militarization back on the local level, this time buttressed by the endorsement of an international body of experts and international legal obligations that U.S. government is bound to uphold.

For the full report and the statement made to the UN CRC Committee, please visit www.wilpf.org/counter_recruitment_strategies. AHR committee members involved in producing the report: Corinne Tyriss (coordinating intern), Jody Dodd (staff), Gillian Russell Gilhool, Scotty Michaelsen, Tzili Mor, and Laura Roskos.

Tzili Mor is an Attorney Teaching Fellow with the International Women’s Human Rights Clinic at Georgetown University Law Center. She has coordinated, edited and drafted numerous reports and documents to the United Nations and has worked on international human rights projects in several regions of the world. She is a member of WILPF’s AHR committee.

WILPF Helps Bring Young Women to the U.N.

By Amy Agigian

Each year, the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) draws thousands of people to the United Nations. Participants are affiliated with NGOs from around the world, but this year there was a new group of women on the scene.

Together with the National Women's Studies Association, WILPF brought 16 college students to the CSW (Feb. 23 - March 1). For students interested in the global women's movement as a whole, or in specific contemporary problems as diverse as AIDS, widow's rights, or human trafficking, the U.N. Practicum offered unparalleled opportunities for research and experiential learning.

Program Director Stephanie Fraser said the students gave her hope for the future. "These brilliant women are going to carry the mantle for the women's movements, and they are going to make it their own. Those of us who have been activists owe them our knowledge, our skills and our support. I hope that this practicum evolves into a model for partnerships between women's NGOs and women's studies departments around the world."

The students came from nine different states, representing diverse institutions, including large state universities, community colleges, traditionally Black colleges and elite private schools. Their

backgrounds were also varied, with some coming originally from Russia, China, Burkina Faso and the Caribbean. In addition to undergraduates, there were two graduate students and two women pursuing doctorates. Participants gained membership in WILPF (and Y-WILPF), and combined

online preparation with structured activities on site. Each followed up with a written report and a presentation at her home institution before receiving a certificate of completion.

The CSW is dedicated exclusively to gender equality and the advancement of women, with representatives from most of the 192 U.N. Member States gathering to identify problems and issues affecting women internationally. Alongside the official discussions, the NGOs sponsor hundreds of panels, workshops and performances addressing local and international issues.

Feedback from participating students was overwhelmingly positive, and many said their discussions frequently went late into the night. Below are some quotes from anonymous evaluations the students filled out: "I have had little exposure to the political side of feminist activism and found it extremely valuable to hear about the process of policy-making

and to meet the people who are involved. I learned a lot about where I fit into the world of NGOs and governmental structures and activism, and where I don't fit. It was an



The U.N. Practicum brought 16 college students to the United Nations for opportunities for research and experiential learning. "These brilliant women are going to carry the mantle for the women's movements, and they are going to make it their own," said Program Director Stephanie Fraser. One participant said the practicum was a way to "open people's eyes to other's realities" and called the experience "phenomenal!"

absolutely wonderful experience. I'm so grateful to all of you for inviting us to the United Nations and can't wait to see how the program evolves."

Another student said the experience widened her perspective. "I feel quite competent about discussing gender mainstreaming and gender budgeting, and the problems

"I'm so grateful to all of you for inviting us to the United Nations."

currently facing a successful implementation of various policies aiming at promoting gender equality. I think my understanding of these issues has become significantly deeper and I was definitely provoked to think about the complexity of the problem. While my primary interest is in economic development and gender empowerment in the developing world, I have significantly expanded my understanding of how these problems fit in with other issues such as health, education, and financing at the state and private level."

Said another, "The best part was being in a community of like-minded women. It was amazing to have access to a seemingly unlimited amount of meeting, panels, and workshops; just being able to walk around the United Nations was very exciting. The sheer number of participants was overwhelming and inspiring, and at times I felt very young and naive among all the women who had not only found,

but firmly established, their place in the women's movement. The CSW showed me that feminism does indeed work, which is something I desperately needed to see."

Many participants expressed gratitude that the practicum was designed with young people in mind. Wrote one student: "Thank you so much for putting together something like this to involve college students, because it is so important to start educating people at a young age. I feel that we, as a society, underestimate the power of young people. Young people can make a difference but we first have to know what is going on around us. We are so brain-

"My understanding of these issues has become significantly deeper."

washed with our Internet, iPods, cell phones and mainstream media that we do not step outside of our comfort zone because we don't have to. Once issues are brought to people's attention, change can occur. And an opportunity like this one can open people's eyes to other's realities. Thank you for this experience, it was phenomenal!"

Amy Agigian is a WILPF member who served as academic director for the U.N. Practicum. She is an Associate Professor of Sociology at Suffolk University in Boston.

Support U.S. WILPF with Your Pledges

One way we can make little sums of money count is to pledge a monthly amount to WILPF, rather than just paying our dues annually. We can pledge, for example, \$10 a month, which is fairly painless for many of us and is easy to set up. WILPF will automatically deduct your contribution from a credit card or checking account. Monthly pledges are even better for WILPF's finances than buying a lifetime membership.

Simple as it is, it's important, because pledges enable WILPF to plan for the year, and for the future. Maintaining and building our numbers is crucial to our effectiveness in working for peace and freedom. If most of us switched over to monthly automatic pledges, the National office would have a fairly good idea of their monthly income and be able to plan accordingly.

Predictable income would give us stability and allow us to be more efficient and create less paperwork, and help redefine our commitment to this incredible institution which we all want to see flourish. The issues we're dealing with are so immediately pressing and so vital to the well-being of this and future generations — let's quickly get to the point where we ensure and then take for granted the solvency and organizational competence of our National office, and concentrate on the changes we need to make in this country.

Please see the form on the back page of this magazine. Individual memberships, \$35; household memberships, \$40, low-income memberships, \$15. ❖



WILPF's Financial Health

By Ellen Murtha, Treasurer

Thanks to members like you, U.S. WILPF is becoming financially healthy. Costs are being controlled, income is being generated and systems are being monitored and improved.

The picture looked very different late last year: costs exceeded income, memberships had been allowed to lapse since mid-year without contact, debt was mounting, we had used up our bequest savings by the fall, we had to borrow to meet payroll, and pledges weren't being collected regularly.

Many of you have asked "How could this happen?" Yet it has been happening year after year because our Boards operated on the premise that the advocacy work

was of supreme importance and somehow the money would just come. When I took the position of treasurer, the outgoing treasurer expressed concern about getting the credit card debt down, explained the convoluted finances of WILPF — for example that we received membership dues on average every 18 months yet paid our assessment to International WILPF every 12 months — and her hopes that



Treasurer Ellen Murtha

the new Board would come to grips with a realistic budget. Some of these hopes did materialize during my tenure: the credit card balance was down to zero (for a while), the amount we sent to International was a more realistic reflection of our ever-lower membership numbers, and the Board set a policy to start saving some percentage of each bequest in honor of the donors rather than use it on immediate expenses.

Yet because we ask a lot from ourselves, and others, we continued to overspend. We all know that as WILPF we want to be active, visible and effective on all the issues of peace and justice that are happening in our country. Yet sometimes we forget that many of our activities require administrative support, which costs money.

The Finance Committee, with the executive director, saw the widening difference between shrinking income and consistently high expenses. They monitored monthly profit and loss statements, kept the Board informed and struggled with ways to increase income or cut expenses. We hoped for a significant bequest that might be coming — someday. After the executive director resigned, the Board grappled with the dilemma and finally decided that

they could not in good conscience allow WILPF to go into more than \$100,000 debt. So we had to make very hard decisions to bring us into balance.

Since implementing those decisions, we have slowly regained financial health. Board members started calling lapsed members to renew, the interim executive director took on the pledge and accounting systems, loyal members helped the board, and one member — Cynda Collins Arsenault — made a challenge grant to match every donation up to \$10,000 to implement the strategic plan!

Then, at the beginning of 2008, the big bequest came in. Rose Mukerji-Bergenson left 45 percent of her life's savings to WILPF entities: U.S. WILPF, the New York Metro Branch, JAPA and International WILPF. Her family's hope is that the money will be used prudently over a long time period in memory of Mukerji-Bergenson, who won an award from WILPF in 1961 for bringing the most members into a branch. We are still in the midst of working out the details of this bequest.

U.S. WILPF received \$228,994, enabling us to pay off our credit card debt, the loan from JAPA, the debt to the City of Philadelphia, several other long-standing debts — and still save the majority of the gift to start a fund to honor Rose Mukerji-Bergenson.

**Together, we can make WILPF
completely vibrant and
financially fit again.**

The 2007 Audit is nearly complete. Please look for it on the website soon. In addition, there will be one membership drive this year, rather than asking members for money over and over again. We will also have a better system for recording and acknowledging memberships and donations.

Please be reassured to know that policies, practices and procedures have been put into place to keep last year's fiscal crisis from happening again. One policy is that U.S. WILPF will not go more than \$25,000 (or 5 percent of its operating budget) into debt; another is the bequest policy, which saves a percentage of each gift in honor of the life-long savings of the donor.

It has been an honor to serve you as your treasurer. A new treasurer will take over in just a few months. She will need your continued support, membership renewals, pledges, special donations and best efforts to make U.S. WILPF completely vibrant and financially fit again. Thank you very much. ❖

The Future of WILPF's Philadelphia Building

In early 2008, the WILPF Board asked the Past Presidents Committee to explore the possibility of selling the national office building at 1213 Race Street in Philadelphia. We were asked to make a recommendation about the building and, if the recommendation was to sell, to come up with options for future office space. We understand that the Jane Addams Peace Association (JAPA) owns the building and has indicated on numerous occasions that they would not sell the building unless encouraged to do so by U.S. WILPF.

Over the past several months the Past Presidents Committee has taken on this task with great seriousness. We have researched and discussed these questions in-depth. Below is a summary of our recommendations. There is also a full report with supporting documents and the many considerations that went into our decisions, available on WILPF's website, www.wilpf.org/US_WILPF.

RECOMMENDATIONS

We strongly advise the current Board to ask JAPA to sell the Race Street building. The reasons for selling the building clearly outweigh the reasons for keeping it. While no one on the committee professes to have exact knowledge of the current commercial real estate market in

Philadelphia, all of us know that it could take months to find a buyer. Therefore we urge that the recommendation to JAPA to sell the building be made now. Among the many reasons to sell are:

- Expansion of the nearby Convention Center makes the building attractive to either the city or private developers.
- If we wait too long, the building might be condemned and we'd have to sell at a lower price.
- It is inaccessible to physically challenged and older people.
- It has poor work spaces; the five previous staff members were scattered over four separate floors and often used the telephone to talk to one another.
- We do not need such a large space.
- The large Board meeting room is not needed for meetings that are only held twice a year.
- It is an old building with a high cost of maintenance.
- Inefficient use of energy leads to very high utility costs (and global warming!).
- Subletting has not always been successful.
- There are security problems associated with subletting.
- Neither JAPA nor U.S. WILPF wants to become a

Continued on next page ➤

Congress 2008 Preview

Our Congress 2008 program will be packed with many exciting activities. Here is just a sampling: There will be a variety of workshops, a scheduled rally in Des Moines with WILPF Raging Grannies from across the U.S., International WILPF guests, a day of "give and take" with the outgoing Board, and a welcoming of the incoming Board.

We will also have an opportunity to get background on the relationship between International and U.S. WILPF, with time for reports from our issue committees.

One night we will be entertained by the world famous Des Moines Opera, performing Gaetano Donizetti's comedic opera, *The Elixir of Love*.

As we go to press, we have just received confirmation that **Amy Goodman** will address Congress on Friday, June 27. Goodman is best known as the principal host of Pacifica Radio's Democracy Now! program, where she has been described by the *Los Angeles Times* as "radio's voice of the disenfranchised left." As many of you know, she has written widely and has published a number of books.

On the night that we will be honoring our strong, feisty women — Tribute Night — we will also be chal-



WILPF National Congress site committee

Photo: Marilyn Johnson

lenged by another strong feisty woman, **Fran Korten**, publisher of *Yes! Magazine*. It has been said of Korten that she "helped bring about substantial policy and institutional reform by creating common agendas among visionary leaders from the governmental, nongovernmental, and academic sectors." Korten has edited several books, including *Transforming a Bureaucracy*, and written numerous articles on people's participation, community management of water and forests, organizational change, and the problems with international loans as a form of aid.

Don't Forget: If you are planning to come to the opera, please RSVP to Mary Hanson Harrison (harrison0607@msn.com). Don't forget to bring your best goodies for our auction! — *Mary Hanson Harrison*

property manager.

- Unlike past years, there are fewer members in the nearby area to work at the office.
- There was a general feeling among members of the committee that it was time to consider both relocating our office and finding flexible ways to locate staff, such as creating a “virtual office.” There will be a new incoming Board and a planned reconfiguration of new staff positions. We can consider moving anywhere.
- Demographics of WILPF membership show that more than half of our members are located on the West Coast.

MOVING FORWARD

A number of past boards have explored selling without following through, however we believe the time is right in terms of the real estate market and WILPF’s situation of transition. To pass our recommendation on to the next board is not only to delay the decision but to take their valuable time to examine the recommendation.

Buying another building at this time is premature. The Board should look into interim office arrangements to cover the time between the sale and whatever decision is made for a long-term office location. (As a point of reference on office space, one consultant advised us that as a rule of thumb space needs can be calculated by planning on 200 to 250-square-feet per person, plus 500 square feet for other office needs. Our present building has 6,000 square feet.)

The Board should form a committee to look into interim office arrangements for up to the next year, particularly in preparation for the time between the sale of the building and the decision on obtaining a long-term office location, while plans for staff stabilize.

The Board should form another committee to research options for a long-term office location using the criteria agreed upon by the Board. We suggest that at least one member of the current board be on these two committees, with additional members made up by the next board since the work will necessarily carry over.

We hope that when the property at 1213 Race Street is sold, the revenue generated by the sale could be used toward rental of office space for WILPF. It seems

Building at 1213 Race



quite natural that as a 93-year-old organization, we have had to learn to deal with a number of changes, including several attempts at “restructuring” our staff and Board over the past four decades. In order to be resilient and effective as a peace and justice organization, we have to be both creative and flexible.

We wish to thank the Board for bringing us together as past presidents, to provide counsel for your deliberations. As stated in the report’s concluding remarks, many of us did not know one another before taking on this project together. It has been an experience that we all have enjoyed immensely.

We hope to be of service to WILPF again.

Marii Hasegawa	1971-1975
Naomi Marcus	1975-1977
Marjorie Boehm	1977-1981
Yvonne Logan	1981-1985
Anne Ivey	1985-1989
Mary Zepernick	1989-1993
Jean Gore	1993-1996
Betty Burkes	1996-1999
Phyllis Yingling	1999-2002
Darien De Lu	2002-2004
Sandy Silver	2002-2005
Tamara James	2005-2007

Editor’s note: The committee’s full report was submitted to WILPF’s National Board on April 3, 2008 for consideration at the spring meeting.

Build WILPF — Join the Development Team

The 2008-2011 National Board convenes in June after Congress, as will all the Board committees. Some committee members will continue, but there will be several openings that members are welcome to fill.

The Development Committee’s charge, newly revised in the by-laws, states: The Development Committee is responsible for ensuring the integrity and effectiveness of WILPF’s financial resource and support base, including initiating national fundraising events. It is comprised of the Development Chair; relevant WILPF and JAPA staff; WILPF members who have some experience and interest in fundraising, appointed by the Development Chair with Board agreement.

The Development Committee is committed to making WILPF a viable 21st century organization through fundraising and strategies that can gain recognition for our grassroots work as a feminist, antimilitarist peace organization.

The new Development Chair, Laura Santina, is presently formulating development strategies and would appreciate hearing about any fundraising ideas or personal contacts members may want to share. In particular, members who have online fundraising experience, grant-writing skills, foundation and/or major donor relationships are encouraged to apply. Please email Laura at Lsantina@sbcglobal.net with any suggestions. All

Historic Timeline: Why Philadelphia?

When the Past Presidents Committee was charged with examining whether or not WILPF's building at 1213 Race Street should be sold, the question of why the National office is located in Philadelphia was raised. Among the many responses given were:

- Because there used to be a lot of branches with a large pool of volunteers in the area.
- Many Quakers lived in Philadelphia and they were supportive of our mission and generous with their funds.
- There was robust support from members of the Center City Branch.
- Because Mildred Scott Olmsted was there!

During the course of their work, the Past Presidents Committee compiled a timeline of WILPF's office history, largely drawn from the book, *One Woman's Passion for Peace and Freedom: The Life of Mildred Scott Olmsted*, by Margaret Hope Bacon. An excerpt of that timeline follows.

In 1919, Pennsylvania WILPF had a small office in Philadelphia when Mildred Scott Olmsted became the Branch's executive director. By 1925, Olmsted had raised enough money to hire a field secretary to help with the development of new branches. Around 1929, having outgrown several offices, new headquarters were found at 1525 Locust Street on the second floor of a building owned by the League of Girls' Clubs. With space to spare, WILPF began to sublet offices to sister organizations involved with peace and justice.

Pennsylvania WILPF grew under Olmsted's leadership until its membership made up about one-third of the whole U.S. Section, and its budget equaled that of the national organization. In the early 1930s, the Branch again moved to another office in downtown Philadelphia.

Economic depression began to cut heavily into revenues, and it was necessary to reduce office staff. The national office in Washington, D.C. had asked the Pennsylvania Branch to serve as national headquarters for literature, and to take a turn in getting out the national newsletter, the *Dovetail*.

In 1934, Jane Addams asked Mildred Olmsted if she would be willing to work in the national office as one of three secretaries on an equal basis, with Dorothy Detzer and Mabel Vernon. Jane Addams then suggested that the national headquarters be moved to Philadelphia.

In 1935 Olmsted agreed to spend half her time in Washington and half in Philadelphia. During the next two years Olmsted traveled across the United States setting up new branches. The membership increased to 14,000 from less than 10,000. The war years, however, were difficult times and membership eventually shrank in 1944 to 4,708 members.

In 1945 Detzer, who did not like the divided headquarters, proposed consolidating the WILPF office in Washington. At the same time, Pennsylvania WILPF was offered the chance to own its own headquarters when the husband of member Helen Rea spoke of his willingness to purchase a building

and rent it to WILPF. Detzer realized there was not much hope of consolidation. Olmsted felt the headquarters should be in Philadelphia, especially since Pennsylvania WILPF was by far the strongest in the nation, and Philadelphia itself was a national center of peace activity because of the presence of the American Friends Service Committee and other Quaker-related peace groups.

In 1946, The Jane Addams Peace Association (JAPA) purchased a building at 2006 Walnut Street to house WILPF, dubbing it the "Jane Addams House." It accommodated many smaller peace organizations and permitted WILPF to play a nurturing role to the peace movement as it recovered from the stress of war. Olmsted's title was now national administrative secretary, a position she held until 1963.

In 1955 Olmsted commissioned a survey of WILPF. The final report suggested that the board was far too large, that there were too many overlapping committees, and that the administration be centralized in the Philadelphia office, putting Olmsted in charge of the Washington Program.

In 1970 a fire "of suspicious origin" broke out in the basement of The Jane Addams House. In the words of past president Naomi Marcus: "On an early March morning I received a phone call from Mildred Scott Olmsted, telling me that Jane Addams House was on fire. I hopped into my car and drove downtown. Mildred and I stood together on the sidewalk opposite 2006 Walnut while firemen finished their sorry task. The fire was out by then but the acrid smell of burnt wood filled the air . . . I still remember the scene vividly. We sensed that it was the end of an era."

To redo the building would cost far more than the limited fire insurance WILPF had been carrying. As in the past, the WILPF Board debated whether it would be better to consolidate its offices by moving to Washington.

Olmsted insisted that WILPF should remain in Philadelphia. She helped look for new headquarters, which she found. In 1972, WILPF moved to its present location at 1213 Race Street. ❖



The view from inside 1213 Race Street.

Save the Water — Now!

By Linda Park and Nancy Price

It's been a busy three years since WILPF selected Save the Water as one of its priority campaigns. Such an essential subject as water for people, for our communities and for nature led us to create a range of initiatives reflective of our ambitious, idealistic goals and the diversity of interests among members and branches.

There have been many successes both for the campaign nationally and for branches, especially on bottled water. We are enormously satisfied that more than 250 study guides were sold, and more than 25 branches were engaged in one way or another directly with the campaign, some working consistently on education leading to specific action.

We thank members and branches for making the campaign visible in their communities through their commitment to table at events with our literature, co-sponsor events with other like-minded groups, write letters to the editor, speak at public meetings, and raise their voice in song with the Raging Grannies.

The many actions and materials we created are available on the website. Here are some highlights of what we set out to accomplish.

1. Educate on corporate globalization and free trade agreements that facilitate trading away water rights and cross-border trade in bulk water, and impact access to safe, affordable and sufficient water for people and communities. A particular threat came when Presidential Trade Promotion Authority (Fast Track) was up for renewal in 2007, after passing in 2005 by just one vote. We developed and distributed a post card to send our legislators to stop Fast Track renewal, and team members and staff gave talks on trade and Fast Track. No doubt, grassroots opposition contributed to President Bush's decision to avoid a fight with Congress and let Fast Track expire.

2. Educate the public about privatization, issues of public/private partnerships and government public duty to provide water and wastewater services. Copies of the films "Thirst" and "In the Light of Reverence" were purchased to loan branches, many of which hosted showings that generated discussion and inspired groups to further action; team members also made presentations on privatization to branches. Nancy Munger spoke at a three-day conference on water privatization in Amherst in the winter of 2006, where Cape Cod WILPF tabled.

3. Educate on the "U.N. Convention on the Right to Water." We created a petition to present to the United

Nations in support of General Comment No. 15, adopted in 2002 by the U.N. Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recognizing that the "right to water" is a prerequisite for realizing all other human rights and leading a life in dignity. Supported by global civil society, General Comment 15 is an important step toward an enforceable treaty that U.N.-sanctioned human rights will prevail over corporate rights and effective remedies will be spelled out for individuals and communities denied their right to water. Our petition has been circulating for close to a year at meetings, street fairs and other public events. In reaction, water corporations are setting up the "CEO Water Mandate" at the United Nations to influence water policy and access public funds for private projects. WILPF will sign on to a letter to the U.N. General Secretary opposing this corporate influence. Team Member Nancy Munger participated in a panel organized by U.S. WILPF on "Water as a Human Right" at the U.N. Commission on Sustainable Development Conference (March 2007).

4. Educate about issues of bottled water and the environmental/health impacts of its use. Team member Nancy Price collaborated with the Winnemem Wintu Tribe in their struggle against Nestlé's plan for a huge bottled water operation on tribal land at Mt. Shasta in northern CA. Tribal members spoke at three events, along with showings of "In the Light of Reverence." Some 150 people turned out in Ashland at Southern Oregon University where the WILPF Branch was a co-sponsor. Nancy made presentations at Bay Area, Monterey, Carmel, and Fresno Branches, often with repeat visits. We also presented a workshop on a "Bottled Water Boycott" at the National Conference on Organized Resistance (2006). Team member Olivia Zink gave a presentation at Goucher College to students working to get Coke and bottled water off the campus; Nancy Price spoke at the University of Pennsylvania School of Social Work. A "Pledge Form" to not drink bottled water was developed for tabling at events, available at the website.

A future action is to create "Bottled Water Free Zones" in schools, restaurants and public spaces. WILPF co-sponsored a workshop at the U.S. Social Forum titled "Our Bodies, Our Water" on the health effects of water contamination and plastic production.

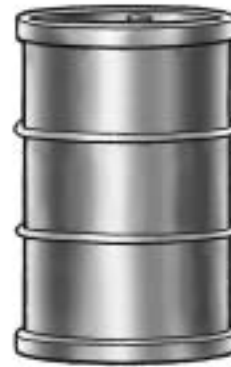
5. Encourage and support branches to pursue local democratic control of water services and resources. Team member Olivia Zink collaborated with community members in Barnstead, NH to pass a "right to self-gover-



EVEN THOUGH WE HAVE SOME OF THE **BEST** AND **SAFEST** TAP WATER IN THE WORLD...



AMERICANS STILL BUY UPWARD OF **28 BILLION** BOTTLES OF WATER A YEAR.

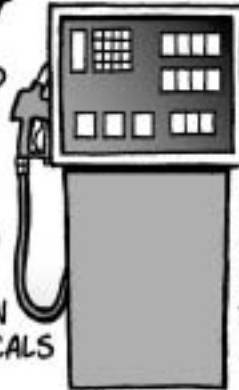


MANUFACTURING THIS USES AS MUCH AS **45 TO 50 MILLION** BARRELS OF OIL AND PRODUCES UP TO **3 TONS** OF CO₂ A YEAR.



80 PERCENT OF THE USED BOTTLES WIND UP IN LAND-FILLS, NOT IN RECYCLING.

PLASTIC BOTTLES HEATED IN THE SUN CAN LEACH CHEMICALS INTO THE WATER.



AND ON A PER-OUNCE BASIS, BOTTLED WATER COSTS TWICE OR MORE WHAT **GASOLINE** DOES, AND CAN BE UP TO **1,000 TIMES** THE COST OF TAP WATER.



BUT ISN'T IT WORTH IT, SINCE THEY NO DOUBT BOTTLE IT FROM SOME PRISTINE, MYSTERIOUS SOURCE?

nance” ordinance to prevent groundwater from being exported out of the community and denying corporate rights of personhood (2006), which was followed by a similar ordinance in Atkinson, NH (2007). Barnstead recently amended their ordinance to include the “Rights of Nature.” She is supporting this community rights-based approach in other New Hampshire towns and working to pass state protection for groundwater — also an attractive initiative for Maine WILPFers. The Maine Branch co-sponsored the “Maine Water Symposium” with Maude Barlow at Bates College in Lewiston this March. Great Lakes members have been working to prevent diversion of Great Lakes water out of the watershed basin and for final approval of the Great Lakes Compact.

6. Assist WILPF and branches to develop partnerships with like-minded environmental and social justice organizations. In March 2006, WILPF had a table display in the Democracy Tent, organized by Nancy Price, at UFPJ’s Anti-war March and Democracy Rally in New York. Team members were instrumental in creating a water track at the U.S. Social Forum in Atlanta (summer 2007). WILPF team members presented four workshops, tabled, and decorated the Water Tent with the beautiful art piece “living river” created by Team Member Terry Futvoye-Micus. Members have tabled at Bioneers conferences in several regions, and a list of “tablings” and co-sponsored

local events would be long, indeed. In keeping with our global connections, Nancy Price and Olivia Zink participated in the first Peoples Water Forum at the 4th World Water Forum in Mexico City, in the spring of 2006 (a tri-annual international gathering of government and corporate executives who want to privatize water services and water resources). They proudly held the WILPF banner in the opening-day march. Team member Yoshiko Ikuta attended the 2007 WILPF International Congress in Bolivia where she reported on the work of the U.S. Section on water.

REFLECTIONS AND FUTURE WORK

Clearly, the above summary shows the wide-range of themes that can be covered under “Save the Water.” a reflection of the diverse interests and experiences of leadership team members, as well as how the team reacted to opportunities and issues that arose. The many actions and materials we developed allowed for a kind of strength in diversity — that is, there were choices for members and branches that might fit local interest, hot topics, and capacity. However, the lack of a single, more tightly focused framing or message meant we did not set WILPF apart from other national groups working on water, though this may not have been true for local branches.

Continued on page 23 ➤



Peace Education

International Co-President Tours the U.S.

WILPF had a joyful gathering of local and international members at the United Nations this winter. US WILPF, NY Metro WILPF and the Jane Addams Peace Association joined in hosting a reception for our newly-elected International Officers and our Secretary General, Susi Snyder. The evening was also a kick-off for the cross-country tour of Kerstin Grebäck, International co-president.



Kerstin Grebäck in

Kerstin has worked as a peace activist and feminist since the 1960s. She has been a WILPF member since 1985, when she participated in the Great Peace Journey — an initiative of WILPF Sweden that posed five questions on peace and disarmament issues to 130 of the world's governments.

She was the Secretary-General of WILPF Sweden from 1990 - 1995 and was involved in the creation of the Standing Committee on the Middle East. She's worked on fundraising and supporting the work of the women's peace initiative "Jerusalem Link," as well as arranging the first meeting in East Jerusalem with the Palestinian and Israeli WILPF sections. In 1993 she led WILPF Sweden in building support for the women in former Yugoslavia and together with many representatives from the Swedish peace and women's movement started the network *Kvinna*



As part of her U.S. tour, Kerstin Grebäck, who serves on the Board of WILPF Sweden, toured Michigan to speak on U.N. Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. Here she addresses the Detroit branch.

Thank You Rose

In early 2008 The Jane Addams Peace Association received a large bequest from the estate of Rose Mukerji-Bergeson. Rose's love of WILPF is demonstrated through this most generous gift. Her bequest allowed JAPA to inform U.S. and International WILPF we will not require administration fees from donations during the next two to three years. We are delighted to announce that individual donations to US/International WILPF administered through JAPA will be transferred 100 percent for WILPF program work. I know you each join the celebration of Rose's life and in blessing her memory.

- Linda Belle and JAPA Board of Directors

till Kvinna (which means "Woman to Woman") of which she was President and Secretary-General at different periods. Kerstin is on the Board of WILPF Sweden.

After a week in New York, which included facilitating panels for the Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations, three days of officer meetings and interviewing a candidate for the position of NY U.N. office director, Kerstin embarked on a three-week tour of U.S. WILPF.



Vinie Burrows, WILPF sponsor

Beginning in Cape Cod and ending in California, Kerstin visited more than 15 U.S. branches before flying home to Sweden.

— Linda Belle and Theta Pavis



Top: Annelise Ebbe, (Denmark) International Co-President

Above: Linda Belle,

This Peace Education section is funded by the Jane Addams Peace Association.

WILPF at Work Around the World

International Standing Committees and Working Groups

For the most part, the difference between an International WILPF Standing Committee and Working Group is that the former are focused on structural issues, while the latter are focused on programmatic issues. U.S. Section members interested in getting involved in these entities are encouraged to contact the conveners via our International website:

www.wilpf.int.ch/AboutUs/involvement.html (Note: Wherever an email address says “at,” substitute the @ sign.)

Communications Committee: devoted to creating policies and protocol that enhance our communication between sections and with the global community.

Constitution Committee: drafts proposed amendments to the International Constitution, which are discussed and ratified by delegates to each International Congress.

Standing Finance Committee: oversees international financial policy and budget.



International Secretary
General Susi Snyder
Theta Pavis Photo

Organizational Development Committee: seeks to strengthen WILPF through enhanced organizational skills.

Personnel Committee: handles relations with staff and interns.

100th Anniversary Committee: oversees implementation of the Manifesto Project and other activities related to WILPF’s 100th anniversary in 2015.

Middle East Committee: devoted to supporting our sections in the Middle East and working globally for peace and justice in the region.

Working Group on Peace and Security: develops and promotes a holistic approach to demilitarization and disarmament issues.

Working Group on Environment: focuses on ecological aspects of our program work.

Working Group on Racism: promotes racial justice within WILPF and our larger communities.

Working Group on Security Council Resolution 1325: promotes the use of this U.N. resolution as a path towards

Corporations v. Democracy Issue Committee

Since following the Challenge Corporate Power, Assert the People’s Rights study guide, members of the Cape Cod branch have engaged in projects that express our sovereign right to make decisions about important matters that affect our lives. We created a group called We the People v. Corporate Rule, which has put on workshops on the democratic arts and on the constitutional mechanisms of the illegitimate corporate authority to govern. We the People was a key partner in creating the Cape Care resolution campaign, and many WILPF members continue to provide organizing energy and leadership for this effort to create the first single payer system in the nation — and for the creation two years ago of the Barnstable County Human Rights Commission.

In Indiana, members of the Bloomington branch conducted a series of study sessions (open to the public) that made use of the revised study guide. As usual, this opportunity for a critical examination of corporate power attracted not only our own branch members — some of whom had already taken the course but wanted a refresher — but also total strangers who came out of curiosity and decided to stay for more. We look forward to the conference in Des Moines, where we expect to learn some valuable lessons about how to spread the word about a one-day course of study.

Perhaps we will have more news by then about a local initiative, suggested by Bloomington activists and inspired by the imminent departure of a local GE refrigerator plant. The basic notion is that the workers left behind use eminent domain to continue the operation of the plant under worker management. — *Mary Zepernik, Jim and Tomi Allison*

Remembering Lorena

A longtime WILPF member (of more than one branch) and lifetime peace activist, Lorena Jeanne Tinker passed away on Feb. 28, 2008. Throughout her life Lorena Jeanne belonged to at least the Iowa branch, St.



Standing, left to right: Cathy Callaway, Therese Folsom, Julie Midkiff, Evanell Craven. Seated, left to right: Lorena Jeanne and Wanita

Louis, MO branch and Mid-Missouri branch. She and her children were involved in a case that went to the U.S. Supreme Court — Tinker vs. DesMoines School District. Her children wore black armbands to school during the Vietnam War. They were either told to remove them or told to go home from school. They won their four-year case in 1969 and it still stands as a landmark for free speech in public school, student expression and the First Amendment.

— *Therese Folsom, Mid-Missouri Branch*

Confronting U.S. Policy in the Middle East

By Tura Campanella Cook

The Women Challenge U.S. Policy: Building Peace on Justice in the Middle East campaign (WCUSP) fears that today's tragic situation in Gaza may worsen unless the U.S. exerts its considerable influence on Israel to halt the bombing and end the siege.

Our country has laws that call for the suspension of military aid when a civilian population is suffering from human rights violations such as those occurring in Gaza today. Yet, U.S. aid to Israel, including military aid, averaged more than \$6.8 million per day in 2007.* Our campaign believes that the suspension of U.S. aid would bring all parties to the table. At present, the deaths are a ratio of 40-to-1, Palestinians to Israelis, and each new death only fuels the desperate resistance and ongoing cycle of violence.

Many groups have been involved in organizing and protesting, notably the U.S. Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation, to which WILPF belongs. Check for updates at www.endtheoccupation.org.

WCUSP actions have included a letter to Secretary of State Rice calling on the U.S. administration to intercede by urging that peace talks resume between Israel and the Palestinian leadership. Some 25 WILPF branches from Alaska to Texas signed the letter. In January, we printed 1,500 postcards calling for an end to the conflict and urging our congressional representatives to demand that the administration take action to relieve the siege of Gaza. These were distributed to all the branches that signed the Rice letter and to additional branches and individuals. Cards were signed and taken to local congressional offices. (Contact Tura Campanella Cook at turacc@earthlink.net if you would like cards.)

Hanan Awwad, President of WILPF's Palestine section, will visit the U.S. two weeks before our National WILPF Congress. If your branch wishes to host her and arrange for her to speak to local audiences, please contact Odile Hugonot Haber, chair of WCUSP, at odilehh@gmail.com or (734) 761-7967.

In addition to actions planned by the campaign leadership team, many branches have also been busy. In Washington, D.C., members participated in a cultural event, "Hunger at Home and Abroad," to benefit the local food bank and the United Palestinian Appeal. This event featured a panel discussion and sales of traditional embroi-

dered crafts made in Gaza.

Six members of the Philadelphia branch Middle East Committee have worked for a year on a glossary of Middle Eastern people, places, conflicts, peace agreements and peace organizations, and general terms related to the Arab world. The glossary focuses on Iran, Israel, Lebanon and Palestine, providing a short history and demographics of each. The committee is seeking funding to publish this valuable resource. For details, con-

tact Libby Frank at LMFrank1@verizon.net.

The Greater Phoenix branch started a Middle East study group this spring. At a local teach-in titled "Turning Walls into Bridges," the branch led a workshop called "Rejection, Separation and Alienation: Lessons of Israel's Separation Wall," which was well-received. (*For more branch activities, see Branch Action News on pages 21-23.*)

WCUSP's three-year campaign will draw to a close at this summer's Congress. Although the situation is not improved, and in many ways suffering has increased, we are proud of the creative efforts of WILPF branches and community allies to challenge U.S. policy.



Tura Campanella Cook is a member of WILPF's WCUSP campaign.

How WCUSP Formed

A few years ago, after Dolores Taller left her position as chair, some of us reconstituted the U.S. WILPF Middle East Committee, and created a new national statement. We were functional, but found that conference calls were often difficult, as some members were more pro-Palestinian (and focused on human rights) while others were more protective of Israel.

With many branches already working on Middle East issues, our strong committee — Tura Campanella Cook, Katharina Harlow, Marlene Santoyo, Yvonne Simmons, Pat Hollingsworth, Barbara Taft and Odile Hugonot Haber — decided to propose a national campaign. Joined by C.J. Minster and Libby Frank (longtime Middle East Committee member) the final proposal was selected by vote of the WILPF membership. We hoped to make some progress on our issue, inform and educate our membership, unite more branches and make our work more visible. ❖

* Source: If Americans Knew: What every American needs to know about Israel/Palestine, online at: www.ifamericansknew.org.

The WCUSP Process: What We Learned

By Odile Hugonot Haber and Barbara Taft

The first priority of the Women Challenge U.S. Policy: Building Peace on Justice in the Middle East (WCUSP) campaign was to challenge U.S. policy. We hoped this would lead to peace anchored in justice.

We wrote statements and position papers, started preparing letters, and planned workshops for our members at the San Francisco Congress. We developed a Feminist Guide on the Middle East and encouraged branches to study the issues.

For most of us, the Middle East was our primary issue. We were already set in our beliefs. It took awhile to harmonize our convictions, explain them and come up with a cohesive program. We focused on Israel/Palestine, but the war in Iraq was intensifying, and we couldn't ignore it. So, like the U.S. Campaign to End the Occupation, we developed the concept of "dual occupations."

Focusing on U.S. policy was difficult. Some tended to be more critical of what Israel was doing, rather than focus on U.S. policies. This divided us for a while and paralyzed us. Particularly, some members insisted on Israel's responsibility, while others focused on the effects of the occupation on Israel itself (the poverty, increased militarization of society and resulting violence).

We established a Speakers' Bureau, and several members of our Leadership Team went to speak at branches, attempting to help them organize. We also let branches know about other speakers who would be in their area, and some branches hosted special events. We had some success with this effort, but we lost some of our momentum because organizing speakers was time-consuming.

At the same time, WCUSP was working in tandem with a number of like-minded groups. All of us were putting on programs, panels, etc., about the Middle East, and we encouraged branches to do the same. The level of activity was high where we had members of the leadership team, but we were never able to set up subcommittees within WILPF's general membership, which would have increased the number of committed members and the level of activity. We don't know if people were afraid of the amount of work involved or whether we didn't approach them correctly.

HUMAN RIGHTS FIRST

Recently, we demanded restoration of aid to Palestine by the U.S. and European governments, after it was cut off due to the election of Hamas. We began looking more closely at U.S. aid and determined that most of it is based

on weapons sales.

One of our campaign's aims has been to reframe WILPF's position on the Middle East first as a human rights issue, and then as an issue of disarmament. We had hoped to raise the idea of a peace culture, a feminist analysis of the situation, and to carry out national and international actions. Our workload was large for a team of volunteers, but we were well-supported by our staff member, Kate Zaidan. We had successes and failures. For instance, we each agreed to contact certain branches, but found it difficult to do so, as contacts were often not available, and this task was more time-consuming than anticipated. We never managed to establish the branch networking we had hoped for.

Middle East issues are notoriously complex, with changing events making it difficult to focus on a single theme that would unite us and improve our visibility. We often were controlled by news events, which had a distracting tendency due to their urgency.

By the third year, we were more focused and successful in reaching branches, first through our letter to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, then with our Gaza postcard campaign, which is ongoing. We still hope to make our vision of an unbiased U.S. foreign policy in the region more visible. We also believe that weapons sales to the region negate any efforts at diplomacy and that everyone benefits from true efforts to achieve peace and justice.

Our leadership team underwent many personal problems and tragedies during these three years, but we persevered. The loss of Kate and other staff support during this year is a further blow. But we've learned from our mistakes and now know a lot about functioning as a team. There is room for a diversity of opinion on such a complex subject, as long as we remain focused on our primary goal. We advise others who undertake a campaign or committee work to respect diversity of opinion and work on things you agree on. Agreement may be reached on the other parts later.

We urge you to include a U.S. foreign policy challenge regarding the region during the upcoming presidential and congressional campaigns. We also hope many branches will invite Hanan Awwad, president of WILPF Palestine, to speak during her upcoming visit to the U.S. (The Israeli section president toured early in our campaign.) An articulate speaker and poet, she talks from her heart about the conditions of Palestinian life under occupation. ❖

There is room for a diversity of opinion . . . as long as we remain focused on our primary goal. We advise others who undertake a campaign or committee work to respect diversity of opinion and work on things you agree on.

Empowerment and Peace: WILPF's International Program

By Audley Green

The aim of WILPF's new International Program is to “empower women, eliminate war and militarism and build a strong United Nations system through which international law, cooperation among peoples and environmentally sustainable development can be achieved.”

The plan for the next three years of this crucial work was set after the International WILPF Congress in Bolivia last summer where we were reminded that: “Nearly 100 years ago, women from a diversity of cultures and languages came together to study, make known and eliminate the causes of war. They resolved, acted and organized; they worked for peace and freedom by asserting the right and the responsibility of women to participate in decision-making on all aspects of peace and security.”

While our sisters did not succeed in stopping “the Great War,” we are still working to achieve the goals they set in 1915.

There are four pillars to the 2008-2010 International WILPF Program.

1. Challenge militarism: Challenge security concepts, end conflicts and promote disarmament.
2. Invest in peace: Divert military resources to economic justice and environmental sustainability.
3. Strengthen the United Nations: Increase awareness and engagement with our global peace organization.
4. Build WILPF: Invest in the next generation of WILPF activities toward our 100th year.

In late February, I spent several days at the United Nations attending meetings at the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW.) Much of the focus was on Security Council Resolution (SCR) 1325, which the council passed unanimously Oct. 31, 2000. It marked a big victory for women. It is the first resolution ever passed by the council that specifically addresses the impact of war on women, and especially, the value of women in the work of conflict resolution and peace building. It calls for women to be involved at all decision-making levels for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and to have a seat at all peace tables.

The biggest problem now is to secure funds to put women into these positions. SCR 1325 is pertinent to all aspects of our organization of women working for peace. You can read about the resolution and ways to use it by going to www.peacewomen.org.

Here is a summary of work in progress on the four basic pillars of the 2008-2010 International WILPF

Program.

1. CHALLENGING MILITARISM

The WILPF U.S. DISARM! (Dismantle the War Economy) committee is already doing this. Chris Morin, our U.S. section president, has said: “Since U.S. foreign policy actions are at the center of the violence in the world, U.S.-WILPF is constantly challenging these actions.” We are already working on challenging militarism in many of our branches, and in this work we can connect with sections around the world.

There are so many injustices in the world and to make a dent in the situation it would help, as Morin has said, if we “all yell at the same time, on the same subject.”

What kind of a peaceful revolution could we have with a boycott? Carol Urner, the co-chairwoman of DISARM!, has pointed out that the worst of the war profiteers have deliberately shed their consumer products. So there isn't much we can boycott.

Urner suggests divestment as another strategy. I remember a day nearly 50 years ago when my husband and I joined other seminary students marching up to 125th Street in New York — after taking our worldly wealth (\$100) from The First National City Bank downtown — to deposit in an African-American bank in Harlem. This was in support of the South African anti-Apartheid movement.

Divesting would involve taking our money from banks that profit from wars and making sure that any investments we have are involved in economic justice and environmental sustainability. The Norwegian government has been good at this, and some U.S. churches are doing it, too. Our Reaching Critical Will project at the U.N. office in New York has good information on banks and war profiteering. Go to www.reachingcriticalwill.org/corporate/corporateindex.html and scroll to the bottom to see work our European sections have done on divestment.

Another way WILPF U.S. challenges militaristic assumptions is through the work of the Advancing Human Rights Committee. By promoting an alternative paradigm of human security — as the fulfillment of human rights — WILPF asserts a different set of priorities that put individual freedom, dignity and bodily integrity (rather than state sovereignty) at the center of international policy debates. For example, WILPF's recent report on the recruitment of child soldiers argues that from the perspective of promoting global peace, protecting the rights and interests of children and their families is more important than protecting the U.S. gov-

ernment's interest in repopulating its armed forces. Promoting the alternative paradigm of human security challenges the root assumptions of militarism and links this pillar to the next one.

2. INVESTING IN PEACE

The second pillar focuses on: building a society using economic cooperation rather than competition; on human rights, not exploitation of human and financial resources; and on responsible use of our finite environment. Consider the international Environment Working Group and the Economic Justice Working Group, to which our sisters here and in other countries can be connected with the help of the Internet. The Water Campaign, which many of our branches have been studying, fits into this second part of the program, as does the whole question of conflicts around the world about water, and the connection between "women, water and war." Environmental sustainability issues, climate change and the question of nuclear energy can be addressed as part of this work.

Urner also has talked about the Peace Economy Project, with which U.S. WILPF is involved. The project brought a dozen national and international organizations together last October to launch a cooperative movement which could be the twin of Bite the Bullet (a previous DISARM program). Some of our sections in other countries are way ahead on this, for example European countries and new social democratic countries in Latin America, including Costa Rica.

There is also the ongoing international effort Keep Space for Peace. This directly targets war profiteers in the aerospace industry (many of them are also involved with nukes) and emphasizes building peace economies. WILPF is already the co-sponsor of the annual Keep Space for Peace Week, and works closely with Global Network throughout the year. We are committed to working with this project for the next three years. The Geneva office, Reaching Critical Will, as well as Australian, Norwegian, German, U.S. and (to a lesser extent) British WILPF sections were all involved in 2007.

3. STRENGTHENING THE UNITED NATIONS

From its earliest days, WILPF called for an "organization of the society of nations" and in 1919 welcomed the establishment of the League of Nations and actively followed its work. In 1948 WILPF was in the first group of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to receive consultative status with the U.N. through the Economic and Social Council under Article 71 of the U.N. Charter, the entry point for NGOs. Since its establishment, WILPF has monitored and supported the United Nations, but also has been critical when those governments, that comprise the United



International Board members Kozue Akibayashi (Japan) and Amparo Guerrero (Colombia) at the U.N.

Theta Pavis Photo

Nations, fail to uphold the spirit and letter of the U.N. Charter. We need to keep pressure on the U.S. government to comply with international treaties, for example, in ratifying the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), and to pay our dues promptly. We also can support U.S. domestic adoption of international standards and best practices through legislation, such as H.R. 146, introduced by WILPF sponsor Eddie Bernice Johnson, which would codify the application of SCR 1325 in U.S. operations. Our U.N. office in New York focuses on giving information and coordinating lobbying around these efforts.

4. BUILDING WILPF

It's a project that we all must work at, as we approach our 100th anniversary in 2015. The international officers have supplied us with 10 days on which to celebrate WILPF and I suggest we use these days to celebrate, to raise funds and to have fun!

March 8	International Women's Day
April 28	WILPF's Birthday
May 24	Women's Peace and Disarmament Day
June 20	International Refugee Day
July 31	African Women's Day
September 21	International Day of Peace
October 24	United Nations Day
November 15	Palestinian Declaration of Independence
November 25	16 Days / End Violence Against Women
December 10	Human Rights Day

Special thanks to Carol Urner, Laura Roskos and Chris Morin for their input. If you have any suggestions about developing the international program, and our connection to it, or would like to be connected to the international working groups, please email me at: audleyjean4391@aol.com.

International WILPF board member Audley Green founded the Hartford branch and is working on forming a WILPF section in Grenada.

Undoing the Silence: Tools for Social Change Writing

By Pat O'Brien

From her experience teaching in a variety of settings, longtime WILPF member Louise Dunlap has created a toolkit and manual for citizen activists, scholars and professionals who want to write to promote social change. Empowering tools include free writing and audience analysis, along with ways to organize ideas and the writing process. A favorite tool is a process for feedback that deactivates self-censorship.

"I took a fabulous workshop taught by Louise at the University of Massachusetts-Boston," says Joan Ecklein of the Boston WILPF Branch. "She's a wonderful teacher and her techniques really work. Louise says everyone who works for peace and justice needs to write, and she shows everyone how."

Drawn from many traditions and piloted in classes and workshops over the past 40 years, Dunlap's tools build self-confidence and skills, especially in writing for contemporary audiences. They are intended to inspire stories by people at all levels of education, deconstructing their reluctance to write and producing letters, memos, op-ed articles, and proposals with the power to inform, influence, shift attitudes and change policies.

The opening chapter suggests six tools to undo the silence by illustrating how to suspend self-judgment, release fear, and tap into our common heritage as powerful thinkers. Dunlap refers to grassroots educator Paulo Freire, who sees "silencing" as part of our culture. She explores what keeps us from writing and shows people overcoming their silence and using the written word to play a more powerful role in building a democratic society. The book presents exercises that begin to unearth the powerful voices we all have inside and energize our writing.

Listening and gaining a feel for audience are just as important to social transformation as the outspoken words shouted at protest demonstrations and antiwar rallies. "Free speech is a first step, but real communication matches speech with listening and understanding. That is when thinking shifts and change happens."

Experiences about Dunlap's travels, her adventures and what she knows about the culture of silence — how gender, race, education, class and family work to suppress dissent — are interwoven in the book, with practical meth-

ods for people to put their most challenging ideas into words.

Along with outlining traditional mechanics for effective writing, Dunlap includes a chapter called: "The THINKING Tool: Organizing ideas and framing your message," that is of primary importance for our writing to have influence on contemporary issues. Dunlap illustrates how experienced writers organize ideas more powerfully with a set of techniques not taught in most schools. Stories,

examples and exercises boost your ability to think critically. Examples of sections include: What Makes Thinking Powerful?; Generate and Deepen Ideas; Organize and Connect; Sharpen Your Argument; Back to the Roots; Your Message and the Legacy of Thinking

Dunlap asks "Who's going to read it?" and goes on to outline the process of analyzing the audience which will be an advantage to every writer seeking to advance ideas about social justice. Then she shows how to receive real support from a group method that sidesteps traditional critiques to help develop ideas more fully and build democracy at the same time. Stories and exercises help one give and receive empowering feedback with or without a group.

The book helps readers find subjects they're passionate about, balance urgency and joy, seek small and large ways to go public with writing, and find a supportive community.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Louise Dunlap is a longtime WILPF member and contributor to *Peace & Freedom* who draws material for her book from her own activism, dating back to the Berkeley Free Speech Movement in 1964. She has taught writing to city workers, foundation staff, environmental professionals and adult education students. She offers workshops for citizen activists in the labor, women's, peace, racial justice and environmental movements around the United States and in South Africa. Louise is currently a lecturer in Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning at Tufts University in addition to teaching yoga and Buddhist meditation in the tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh.



Learn more about *Undoing the Silence: Six Tools for Social Change Writing* at www.undoingsilence.org; purchase online for \$20 at www.newvillagepress.net.

Boston WILPF Branch member Pat O'Brien currently serves as chair of the Development Committee on the 2005-2008 Board and serves on the Cambridge Peace Commission with Louise Dunlap.



BranchAction News

Edited by Georgia Pinkel, National Membership Chair

Branches Reporting: Ashland, Baltimore, Cape Cod, Central Vermont, Cleveland, Des Moines, Los Angeles, Madison, Minnesota Metro, Monterey, Peninsula, Philadelphia, Portland, Santa Cruz, St. Louis, Triangle, Tucson, West Palm Beach.

Greetings, WILPFers. It has been a delight to take up Leslie Reindl's (Minnesota Metro) task of putting this report together. Reading all the branch newsletters is a feast for the eyes — the variety of colors, shapes and sizes — so much like the infinite variety of all of us in WILPF. I delight in the many varied newsletter and branch names, such as: "The Undaunted Dove" from Santa Cruz; Cleveland's "Women Speak Out for Peace and Justice;" the "Peace Weavers" by Monterey; and "Listen to Women for a Change" out of Minnesota.

— Georgia Pinkel

GREAT IDEAS

Into the 21st Century and the Digital Age: **Triangle's** local WILPF radio show has gone live, joining their established weekly TV show; **Central Vermont** also provides videos of local events to their own public access TV show. The **Madison** branch is launching the MadWILPFReads with a demo of progressive books on audio, enlisting the authors to allow them to sell the copies. **Des Moines** publishes an outstanding reading list/bibliography, printing member reviews. **Tucson** provides child-care at all meetings.

FUNDRAISERS

Santa Cruz presented "My Name is Rachel Corrie" for two performances, inviting all the Northern California branches to come. Following the performances, they offered lunch from the UNA's International Soup Kitchen as a benefit for HERO (Help Educate At-Risk Orphans) along with a silent auction. This same play will also be presented by **Cape Cod** and **Des Moines**. **Central Vermont** will hold a plant sale to benefit maintenance for the local Peace Park; **Peninsula's** annual Christmas auction was another great success. **Cleveland's** annual bazaar had 21 local artists, 18 progressive organizations, and a silent auction raising over \$5,000 in one evening.

CALENDAR EVENTS

From marking the Declaration of Human Rights, Black & Women's History months, Susan B. Anthony and Jane

Addams' birthdays, WILPF is often in the public eye with events on these notable dates. **MLK, Jr. Day** found **Los Angeles** presenting a program with Dr. Wilma Ellis on "Human Rights and Religious Freedom," followed by a Community Involvement Fair. **Santa Cruz** participated in a day long Reconciliation with Dr. Vincent Harding. Two-time Emmy winner and radio-show host Lila Garrett celebrated International Women's Day with **Los Angeles** at their traditional luncheon.

GAGGLES OF GRANNIES IN ACTION

The **Santa Cruz** gaggle entertained at a presentation by Col. Ann Wright, author of *Dissent, Voices of Conscience*. **Central Vermont** grannies were again invited by Montpelier Middle School students to entertain for MLK celebrations; the **Peninsula, San Jose** and Action League grannies joined to sing at the San Jose Peace Fair and again at Wal-Mart protesting War Toys — tempting some shoppers to stop and join in. **Madison** creatively reported their activities in the newsletter article "Diary of a Raging Granny."



At a rally on August 6 outside Bechtel, manufacturer of weapons and nuclear materials in West Mifflin, near Pittsburgh, The Raging Grannies sang at a picnic and then marched to the site and sang some more. *From left to right: Mimi Yahn, Nancy Luek, MA Hackett, Edith Bell, Nancy Leff, Scilla Wahrhaftig, Eva Havlicsek.*

Photo thanks to Edith Bell

VIGILS AND DEMONSTRATIONS

Those reporting weekly and/or monthly vigils: **Portland, Cleveland, Triangle, West Palm Beach** and **Monterey**. **Tucson**, is at several different locations, depending on the focus: local recruiter offices for counter-recruiting, the Federal building regarding U.S. interventions globally, Raytheon Missiles Factory and the Davis Monthan Air Force Base. **Cape Cod** also continues to be visible at Labor Day and Memorial Day events.

Global Areas of Concern: Middle East Region

Philadelphia has created a glossary of Middle East terms which includes leaders, organizations, treaties, peace talks and places. It covers Iran, Israel, Lebanon and Palestine; now 18 pages plus bibliography. **St. Louis** presented an educational program "About Iran" and took a trip to Chicago to join in the protest march there. **Des Moines**

Continued on next page ➤



Jeanne Devine, holding copies of *Peace & Freedom*, and Barb Taft of Greater Phoenix WILPF tabled at a teach-in, "Tearing Down Walls/Building Bridges," at Arizona State University. Taft also led a WSUSP campaign workshop.

► BRANCH ACTION *from previous page*

descended on the local office of Sen. Grassley as part of the Occupation Project, some risking jail, until their demands for an appointment with him to discuss the Iraq war and Iran were met. **Cleveland** featured the film "Poison Dust: Radioactive depleted Uranium Weapons in Iran," while **Minnesota Metro** featured "Frank Wright: A Journalist Discusses Coverage of the Middle East, Here and There" for a different perspective. Ashland is participating in the collateral repair project: see www.collateral-repairproject.org. **Santa Cruz**, working with the Palestine/Israel Action Committee, presented a Palestinian Film Fest; **Portland** sponsored a four-day stopover for the Wheels of Justice Bus Tour: Focus on the Middle East; Tucson held discussions led by an Israeli-American and a Palestinian-American around the role of U.S. Policy and current conflicts, as well as forming a discussion group on the history of U.S and the Middle East from 1914 to 9/11. **Minnesota Metro** hosts Saturday coffee programs and will begin with "The Role of Water in Mid-East Conflicts."

CENTRAL/SOUTH AMERICA

Santa Cruz presented Dr. Helen Shapiro (UCSC) on Latin American Political Changes and also did its annual yard sale to benefit the Cuba Committee. The **Triangle** meeting featured a speaker on his recent trip to Venezuela. **Portland** will support Yvonne Simmons in her trip to Peru to assist the newest WILPF branch there, and the Las Lomas project.

ISSUES: WATER

West Palm Beach presented a workshop on local water quality threats; **Philadelphia** branch will celebrate World Water Day by partnering with other groups to raise money for a water project overseas while they also launched a petition drive to get the mayor to "cancel contracts for bottled water for municipal buildings." The **Cape Cod** Water women were everywhere this past year — fairs, parades and educational opportunities. **Madison** presented a forum

on "Water — Use More, Pay Less!" **Tucson** presented a panel on "Water: Arizona's Endangered Resource and What We Can Do About It." **Santa Cruz** sold metal water bottles at an alternative gift fair.

DISARM

St. Louis invited WILPF's own Carol Uerner to present at a conference on the topic "Define Security" in conjunction with the Peace Economy Project.

OTHER ISSUES

The **Baltimore** branch co-sponsored a panel and public discussion around the issues of "Executive Power and Human Rights: Torture, Secrecy and the Rule of Law" in December at Goucher College. **Santa Cruz** presented a program about "Imprisoned Battered Women." **Monterey** presented a teach-in and vigil on the topic of Anti-Torture. **Philadelphia** launched an educational program from the Building the Beloved Community issue committee with the video "Making Witness Visible" and a discussion. **Peninsula's** pot luck's speaker Roberta Alquist (returning from a Fulbright semester in Finland) spoke on topics as they affect U.S. schools: Who is behind the hyper-accountability movement, segregation, unions and the role of corporations. **Des Moines** calls for a new trade policy — see www.iowafairtrade.org and education around changing priorities by participating in a Community Values workshop. **Tucson** is planning many activities around a Challenging Corporate Personhood project and starting their sixth study group and a free film series. **Triangle's** book club is reading Randall Robinson's *The Debt* and a dissertation by Yonni Chapman on the history of racism in North Carolina.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

Santa Cruz arranged for education around local ballot initiatives, while **Triangle** participated in a march to present the "Peoples 14 Point Agenda" to their state legislature. **Peninsula** is working on educating around the California Health Care bill; Dr. Paul Wise, professor of Child Health at Stanford University's School of Medicine and author of the UNICEF Report on Child Well-Being will be a featured speaker. **Cleveland** lists action calls to Congress in their newsletter as a reminder on the various issues and positions of concern.

MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Tucson is circulating petitions to the local newspaper requesting coverage of progressive issues versus the usual fluff. **Des Moines** provides a brief biography in the newsletter as an introduction of new members. They also held a chili supper in February with a prize for the WILPFer who brought the most guests/prospective members. **Cleveland** scheduled a theatre party to see "Bourbon at the Border" on the subject of Freedom Summer and its



Edith Bell reads during a performance of "Most Dangerous Women," written by Jan Maher and Nikki Nojima Louis, in March, 2007 at Chatham College in Pittsburgh. Many WILPF members and Raging Grannies attended and were involved in the play about the women who worked for peace, starting with the 1915 gathering in The Hague and ending today, from Jane Addams to Cindy Sheehan. WILPF/Pittsburgh also performed the play two times in Pittsburgh. A videotape is planned.

Central Vermont honored Lucy Nichol for her 25 years of WILPF activism at the IWD celebration and **Tucson** honored Alice Ritter for establishing a gift of \$500 to the High School Essay contest winner. **Portland** will have a plaque of 16 members as part of the Walk of the Heroines on the PSU campus to honor women — peace women, mothers and pioneers of all types. Go to www.who.pdx.edu to arrange to honor a woman, whatever the relationship. WILPF should look to honoring our foremothers, including our Nobel Prize winners!



On four very cold Saturday afternoons, members and friends of the Delaware County (PA) branch lined busy streets near shopping centers to call attention to the war and its costs, and to remind holiday shoppers of the need for nation-building here at home. Their efforts were "warmed" by a steady stream of drivers honking their agreement and a passerby who returned with coffee and donuts for the group of 22 demonstrators. These easy-to-plan demonstrations energized the branch and attracted media attention.

Photo thanks to Joan Reivich

impact on participants. **Minnesota Metro** shared a tour of their local museum. Two **Portland** WILPFers are taking the lead in creating WISH (Women's Interfaith Shelter & Housing) to address the needs of women over 55 or with disabilities.

HONORS

Portland members Ursula Le Guin and Elisabeth Linder participated in a celebration of the life and work of Grace Paley, while Althea Halvorson received a lifetime achievement award at the MLK celebration. Celebrating their own,

▶ SAVE THE WATER

from page 13

The "Save the Water" campaign will continue as an issue committee. We see great potential in developing more cross-cutting analysis and strengthening our efforts through increased collaboration with existing issue committees, such as Challenge Corporate Power/Assert the People's Rights, WCUSP, DISARM! and Building the Beloved Community. This kind of synergy can enrich our work together.

As WILPF restructures, we see a need to create a clear national framing of issues to strengthen the national presence, while supporting the diverse interests and capacities of the local. Such framing might more precisely articulate peace and freedom with women's issues of today as linked to an analysis of democracy, sovereignty and community rights, and sustainable development and the rights of nature.

There is opportunity to work more closely with International WILPF on the U.N. Water as a Human Right Convention and to include water in the international work for sustainable peace and development.

Water is fundamental to the rights of women, their families, children and communities to live in dignity and security.

It is extremely difficult to carry out an ambitious (as it should be) national campaign with an all-volunteer leadership team. We were frustrated by our inability to get grants written that would support our work, in particular, for more systematic "field support" of branches engaged with the campaign. Such field support will need to be carefully thought out as energy costs of travel increase, especially compared with the type of well-directed and effective support a staff person in the office might provide.

We especially thank the inspired members of the Cape Cod Branch who created the "Save the Water" Study Guide and the unique "bottle-shaped" water brochure (soon to be available in Spanish, thanks to the Santa Cruz Branch). We thank Yoshiko Ikuta and Linda Park for the T-shirt design. We are enormously grateful to Kate Zaidan, WILPF's former program coordinator, who helped create, design, produce and mail all the materials we created, including water bottles and T-shirts, helped maintain the campaign website, set up branch conference calls, assembled branch mailings materials, and sent out "email news." Most importantly she pushed us to stay on task and meet deadlines.

Linda Park and Nancy Price are Water Leadership Team Members with the Save the Water Campaign. Special thanks, too, to the rest of the Water Campaign team.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO WILPF! MAKE A MONTHLY PLEDGE!

One way we can make little sums of money count is to pledge a monthly amount to WILPF, rather than just paying our dues annually. Simple as it is, it's important, because pledges enable us to plan for the year, and for the future. When you pledge to WILPF, your membership status remains current as long as you continue your pledge. No more renewals!



Three Ways to Make a Monthly Pledge

• **PLEDGE ONLINE AT THE WILPF U.S. WEBSITE, www.wilpf.org/pledge**

• **DEBIT OR CREDIT CARD CHARGE**

Print, fill out and send the form below to the U.S. WILPF, 1213 Race St., Philadelphia, PA 19107. Available through WILPF; also through Jane Addams Peace Association, should you wish a tax deduction. Minimum monthly pledge is \$5.00.

• **AUTOMATIC DEDUCTION FROM YOUR BANK ACCOUNT**

Send us a voided personal check and we will set up the process for the amount you indicate to be deducted automatically. Available only through WILPF; see address below.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Monthly Pledge: ___\$100 ___\$50 ___\$25 ___\$15 ___\$10 ___\$5 ___Other

VISA/MC# _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

WILPF JAPA _____ (Please check one) (Pledges include a subscription to *Peace & Freedom*)

Mail to: U.S. WILPF, 1213 Race St., Philadelphia, PA 19107

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(See page 7)

