

PEACE & FREEDOM

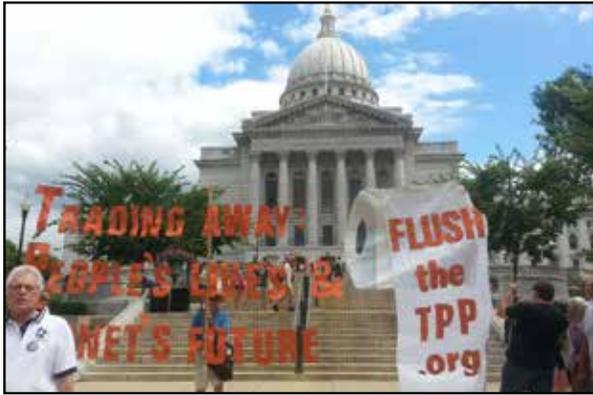
Magazine of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

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In this issue:

Amy Goodman of Democracy Now! on War, Women and the Media
Stopping Nuclear Power • Why Choose Civil Resistance? • Poem by Marge Piercy
Naomi Wolf on Domestic Drones • Middle Eastern Women and the Culture of Violence
Abandoned Uranium Mines in the Northern Great Plains • WILPF and Earth Democracy



WILPF joins with other groups to protest the Trans Pacific Partnership at the State House in Madison, WI during the Democracy Convention. For more coverage of the convention, see Emily Basum's article on page 18. Photo: Emily Basum.

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ON OUR COVER: THE DRONES QUILT PROJECT

The Drones Quilt Project is a work of collective art designed to memorialize the victims of U.S. combat drones. The project also serves as a vehicle to educate the public and raise awareness about the illegality and immorality of the U.S. combat drone program. The idea is to create a piece of artwork that connects the names of activists with those killed. The quilt restores humanity to those killed or maimed and reminds people that for every single victim of a drone there was a real person with loves, desires and a life.

For more information on the Drones Quilt Project go to dronesquiltproject.wordpress.com/. In the United States the project is coordinated by Leah Bolger, a member of WILPF's Ashland, Oregon Branch. Contact her at leahbolger@comcast.net, 541/207-7761 or 3740 SW Western Blvd, Corvallis, OR 97333.

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.

WILPF has sections in 42 countries coordinated by a secretariat in Geneva. WILPF carries out its work through grassroots organizing by WILPF branches. WILPF supports the work of the United Nations and has consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

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WHAT STAKE DO YOU HAVE IN ENDING WAR?

By Laura Roskos, U.S. WILPF President



When was the last time you thought seriously about women's power to stop war? I mean, seriously contemplated the possibilities. Are there enough women in your community, your town, your country, the world who, if united in their intent and values, could indeed stop war . . . by preventing it?

If you haven't thought about women's collective power to stop war recently, now is the time. What are you doing to unite women of all persuasions under WILPF's umbrella to achieve WILPF's original purpose of eradicating the root causes of war? If you aren't doing this unifying work already, we are calling upon you to do it now.

In anticipation of WILPF's centennial in April 2015, WILPF has launched a new campaign to create an international community of courageous women activists, who believe conflicts and wars cannot be stopped without the participation of women – and that it is time that women start to focus on and use their power to stop war.

The aim is not just to stop war on women but rather to stop war on all human beings, who wish to live a life of peace and freedom.

This campaign will gather the signatures of five million women around the world prior to the convening of an international women's peace conference at The Hague on April 27–29, where WILPF and its allies will launch a new agenda for the next century of work towards sustainable peace. The “Women's Power to Stop War” campaign challenges each of us to reach out to groups and individuals in our communities, and build alliances, partnerships and networks at every level of social organization. First and foremost, it means using our voices to engage our neighbors and acquaintances.

WILPF will help you do this, by providing campaign materials, interactive websites, banners and leaflets. But in the end, this campaign will succeed or fail because of what you do. Although your participation is critical to building this movement, the success of this movement will have impact far beyond your immediate circle and your lifespan.

All of us, united as WILPF members and supporters, are deeply invested in WILPF's future successes. We want to take part in the centennial festivities

at The Hague. We initiate local actions that weave WILPF's illustrious future into the realization of our mission to eradicate the root causes of war. We write letters to our leaders and draft statements for integration into national and international policy and law.

We talk about how WILPF realizes an agenda driven by the volunteer efforts of our members but recognize that our agenda influences the lived reality and consciousness of stakeholders far beyond ourselves. Not only WILPF members are impacted by our efforts. Our work is important as well to our campaign allies and those living in the local communities in which we organize; those whom we seek to persuade in government, industry, and the media; and those who depend on the governments, industries and ecosystems impacted through our work.

For example, as I write this column, WILPF's Secretary General is meeting with Syrian women in Lebanon to see if it could be possible—through a unified agenda—to leverage a moment of crisis to build a sustainable peace.

Over the past 18 months, WILPF has changed the text of the Arms Trade Treaty so that that treaty could protect women from armed conflict in their domiciles. The presentation of UK WILPF at their country's CEDAW review changed

forever the interpretation of Security Council Resolution 1325 (SCR1325) so that SCR1325 will apply domestically as well as internationally. Our section's own civil society consultations on Women, Peace and Security have raised the bar internationally which women around the world are now leveraging to demand greater inclusion in drafting National Action Plans. Here in the U.S., WILPF members' decades of civil disobedience have finally brought about the de-licensing of three nuclear power plants in the past six months. WILPF's combination of grassroots activism and focused advocacy changes history and impacts millions of lives.

The millions of signatures gathered in support of the “Women's Power to Stop War” pledge will make visible to ourselves and to the world how deeply the outcome document from WILPF's founding congress in 1915 has shifted global awareness of the true causes and cures for armed conflict. It will also prepare the ground for implementing the strategies coming out of the international conference: a new agenda for the next century to stop war, promote women's participation, and actualize the principles of permanent peace.

If, over the coming 18 months, everyone reading this column gathers 50 signatures for the pledge, we will have done our share of the work. I think I can do my part. Can you do yours? I'm sure you can, and much, much more.

Please watch your email or visit the webpage at womenstopwar.org for details as the campaign rolls out this winter.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear Editor:

Much praise for your work in *Peace & Freedom* and for that beautiful cover! Marci Mathew's work and her choice of colors are almost hypnotizing.

Best to all,

Lizzy Poole

Editor's Note: The Spring 2013 issue of Peace & Freedom featured our first full-color cover. We were happy to showcase Marci Mathew's painting and look forward to future covers which will display the great range of women's art and creativity.

Dear Editor:

I'm writing about the latest issue of *Peace & Freedom* (Spring 2013). There is an excerpt from *The Missile Next Door* that gives an unfortunate misconception that the U.S. Minuteman missiles were removed after the Soviet Union dismantled. The sentence, on page six, says "None of these groups were successful in getting rid of the Minutemen. That would happen only later, when the Soviet Union crumbled."

Standing alone, this gives the impression that there are no more such missiles in the US. This is certainly not the case, and WILPF U.S. has done a lot of awareness raising and demonstrating in order to get them removed. In the full text of the book, the author does explain that this is not the case. As can be seen through a fuller excerpt at the *Huffington Post*, she writes:

"In fact, of the 1,000 Minuteman missiles deployed in the 1960s, nearly half of them remain. Those are 450 ICBMs still capable of reaching targets around the

world as quickly as you could have a pizza delivered to your door. This represents countless megatons of thermonuclear material— enough to turn the world into what journalist Jonathan Schell once warned would be a 'republic of insects and grass.' This means that thousands of Americans still live next door to Armageddon. We still require billions of dollars to staff and maintain those concrete holes in the ground."

Thanks very much,

Ray Acheson

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Dear Editor:

This spring I was on medical bed rest and to help pass the time I watched the television series "Smallville," a popular show about Superman's teen years. In the episode, "Hidden," the plot hinges on a deranged youth who hacks into the controls of a Minuteman missile silo in a Kansas cornfield, thus endangering the world (so our hero can save it and so on). The protagonists in this fictional entertainment express surprise that there are still missiles in the heartland of the US. The character of John Kent says, "I thought they were all decommissioned at the end of the Cold War."

This widespread misconception is not unexpected in a TV show, but I was surprised to find in the pages of my own WILPF Spring 2013 issue of *Peace & Freedom*. The article, "The Missile Next Door," documents the 1970s and 80s peace movement efforts against the Minuteman silos. The article is an excerpt from a book, *The Missile Next Door: The Minuteman in the American Heartland*, by Gretchen Heefner, published in 2012 by Harvard University Press.

At the end of the article, the conclusion states that, "None of these groups were successful in getting rid of the Minutemen. That would happen only later, when the Soviet Union crumbled."

The readers of *Peace & Freedom* need to know that the more modern Minuteman III Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs) are maintained today on hair-trigger alert fully armed with hydrogen bombs. A total of 450 land-based missiles are emplaced at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming (90th Missile Wing), Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota (91st Missile Wing), and Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana (341st

Missile Wing). The bases oversee hardened missile silos throughout the Midwest. The missile is still next door.

The longer book from which this article was excerpted does explain, elsewhere, that some cuts were made at the end of the Cold War. In these reductions the older Minuteman II missiles were removed. However, the *Peace & Freedom* excerpt leaves the impression that the fall of the USSR put an end to the USA's Minuteman missiles. This is not true. The missiles still exist. They are modernized and the nuclear warheads that were associated with Minuteman II system have been "upgraded" to be able to work with the newer Minuteman III ICBM delivery systems or replaced with more modern thermonuclear warheads.

In California, WILPF has helped organize protests of the Minuteman III test (unarmed) launches that occur routinely from California's Vandenberg Air Force Base to the Ronald Reagan Test Site at the Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands. On May 22, 2013, only one month after this misleading article was published in *Peace & Freedom*, Vandenberg Air Force Base (Santa Barbara County) test-fired a Minuteman III ICBM. This high-speed unarmed test flight took only 30 minutes as it passed through near space to Kwajalein, 4,200 miles away. These "test flights" are tests of a hydrogen bomb delivery system and they violate the intent of Article VI of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, of which, of course, the United States of America was an original signatory (July 1, 1968).

It is always a challenge to print an excerpt from a book as a complete article. I expect a higher standard from the editors of *Peace & Freedom* than I expect from the producers of popular entertainment TV shows.

Yours truly,

MacGregor Eddy

Life Member

DISARM Issue Committee

Monterey County (California) Branch

Editor's Note: Thank you Ray Acheson and MacGregor Eddy for calling to our readers' attention the continued existence and threat of the Minuteman missiles. As you noted, The Missile Next Door: The Minuteman in the American Heartland, by Gretchen Heefner, makes clear this threat, but our excerpt did not. We apologize for this error and are grateful for the work being done by WILPF on disarmament.

Letters to the Editor are welcome. Contact the editor at editor@wilpf.org.

WILPF NATIONAL CONGRESS

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

AUG. 1-3, 2014

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The planning committee for the Triennial WILPF U.S. National Congress, working with Michigan branches, is pleased to confirm that the congress will take place Aug. 1-3, 2014 at Wayne State University in Detroit. Convenors are seeking additional members and chair persons to work on congress logistics and program. Contact Ellen Schwartz (logistics) at 916/369-5510, ellen@nicetechnology.com, or Joan Bazar (program) at 408/243-4359, joanbazar@sbcglobal.net.

REGIONAL MEETINGS BEGIN

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As the U.S. Section begins to build momentum toward our 2014 National Congress and the international 100th anniversary celebrations in 2015, branches are joining in regional meetings in the fall of 2013 and the spring of 2014. To find out more about regional meetings, contact Marie-Louise Jackson-Miller at mariejm1961@yahoo.com.

The regional meeting in Minneapolis asked members, "Where do we want U.S. WILPF to go? What are the issues we must address?" Organizers invited participants to consider the following:

WILPF is facing many challenges. Globally, nationally, and regionally the stakes are high, as world events move quickly! To be effective actors in the political, economic, and social realities, we must address organizational challenges. What is and should be the political direction of WILPF? How can the organizational democratic structure reflect our politics and values? What does it mean to be a member of WILPF in the United States context? There are financial issues, members' rights and responsibilities, respect for dissenting opinions, transparency on discussions and decision-making, effective communication, commitment and obligations of board members.

Reports from the regional meetings will be circulated via email and posted on the website as they become available.

STOPPING NUCLEAR POWER REQUIRES NEW TOOLS AND NEW ALLIES

By Marybeth Gardam

For peace makers and environmentalists the connections between nuclear weapons and nuclear energy are clear and disturbing, with uranium mining at the dangerous and deadly start of the chain. 25,000 years of toxic radioactive waste is environmentally unthinkable and no solution to the toxic waste issue is forthcoming. But not everyone buys into the environmental argument. To be effective, efforts to stop a new nuclear power plant must be as much about numbers as dangers, financial risks as health and environmental ones... if we are to win. We need both the pragmatists and the idealists. In a three-year battle, environmental arguments won the hearts of Iowans, and the financial arguments won their heads and pocketbooks.

NO NEW NUKE FOR IOWA

For each of the last three years, MidAmerican Energy (MidAm) tried to get a new nuclear plant in Iowa. Iowa had only one nuclear plant, recently re-commissioned after its original 20 year proposed life span. And for all three years an untraditional and diverse coalition came together to oppose the second plant. Our take-away message was to think outside the usual box, and look for allies for whom cost increases or competition would be the most painful. Follow the money! Each group played to their strengths and self-interests, not duplicating efforts but communicating strategy, updates and talking points.

Sierra Club laid a legal and historical framework. Iowa Public Interest Research Group (I-PIRG) organized in the cities being suggested for site locations and worked with Des Moines Branch of WILPF and Move To Amend to lobby legislators. DC-based Friends of the Earth (FOE) dedicated enormous resources to pay for television, radio and newspaper ads, and their local consultant, Mike Carberry, orchestrated and nurtured the coalition. Iowa Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR) presented the health and water concerns about nuclear power in a time of great potential drought and the unsustainable amounts of water needed to cool reactors. Interfaith Power & Light engaged their ministers and "Cool Congregations." And AARP used potent resources, getting active members to mount a pitched effort, swamping the legislature's phone lines and emailing messages against the new plant. Robo calls to the public generated more calls to the legislature. AARP's position was that the under-estimated upfront expense would fall hard on their aging members, who would likely not live long enough to see any financial advantage from a nuclear power plant. In the first year, even Walmart joined to oppose the plant, estimating the increased energy costs it would incur at each of its Iowa stores. (To neutralize Walmart, MidAm negotiated a side deal with them to keep their rates low and end their opposition the second year.) Farmer groups weighed in

against site selections being floated by MidAm. Wind power proponents helped us tell our story and provided research figures.

FOLLOW THE MONEY FACTS & STORIES

The coalition was meticulous in documenting the actual proven per kilowatt costs of nuclear compared to the estimates being offered by MidAm and the real experience of building overage costs in other states.

PSR and FOE funded bringing experts to the legislature and the public, with good media coverage. A former legislator from Florida, a state that had already fallen for a nuclear advance pay strategy, stated his regret for backing a similar funding plan. Though the nuclear plant was never completed, Florida residents were left holding the bag with frightfully high energy bills and nothing to show for them.

Electrical and nuclear engineer Arjun Makhijani, president of the Institute for Energy and Environmental Research, offered his analysis of the safety, economics, and efficiency of various energy sources and gave nuclear a low grade for cost-efficiency.

POWERFUL IMAGES – SLOGANS & TALKING POINTS REPEATED

PIRG organized a Radioactive Zombie March to the Capitol from Des Moines' Zombie Burger restaurant, with young people photographed in zombie makeup. A large interactive map was created by Move To Amend which allowed the public to move a "50-mile radius" orange circle around the map of Iowa, showing how much valuable farm land would be irradiated if there was a disaster. Farm soil conservationists addressed concerns about the economic impact of potentially poisoning the nation's most productive croplands. All the arguments were enhanced by the breaking news about the Fukushima plant disaster in 2011. One repeated meme that caught the attention of media and the public was that MidAmerican had "no dog in the race." Instead, Iowa ratepayers would be on the hook for the entire cost—not only the construction costs, but also the planning and regulatory approval costs. At any time MidAm was free to simply walk away with no penalty. We framed MidAm as a corporate welfare recipient, reminding folks how MUCH tax subsidy money nuclear has received. Our oft-repeated Talking Points insisted that Iowans would be taking on a financial risk that *no insurance company or bank would agree to assume.*

ECONOMIC JUSTICE & UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The bill that kept coming back to the legislature each session would have directed the Iowa Utilities Board to create unprecedented rate-making rules that would result in the most lopsided and unfair arrangement, allowing any future utility company to build a plant with almost no investment of its own, recovering any upfront costs from rate payers' monthly bills and federal subsidies that might better go to green energy alternatives.

THE POWERFUL OPPOSITION

MidAmerican, whose parent company, Berkshire Hathaway is owned by billionaire Warren Buffet, engaged in a huge and expensive public relations campaign complete with television and newspaper ads and touring pro-nuclear scientists.

MidAmerican's smooth-talking CEO Bill Fuhrman romanced the state, speaking to attendees at business roundtables, Chamber of Commerce meetings and stockholder meetings for regional electric coops. We attended as many as we could and raised questions and talking points. As a large contributor to both parties, MidAmerican got access and a microphone at the legislature too. Fuhrman insisted that MidAmerican simply had no other options than nuclear to replace the old coal plants the EPA was forcing them to close down because of new air pollution regulations. He didn't explain he could have chosen to add the pollution-reducing improvements and kept those old plants going, or that MidAmerican produces so much wind power in Iowa that it actually sells excess energy to nearby Illinois. Our wind power allies helped identify those points, which we raised repeatedly in Utility Board and legislative hearings.

Fuhrman dangled the promise of many jobs and insisted that such additional energy would be necessary for Iowa in coming years. We countered with a reality check of just how many long term jobs were created at other plants. And we reported the real demands for energy in Iowa compared to the estimated demands MidAmerican was projecting. Coalition partners hammered home our talking points at every opportunity with legislators and the public.

CREATING DELAYS PUT TIME ON OUR SIDE

For three exhausting years, we tenaciously questioned the project, and legislators dragged their feet on the controversial proposal, hesitant to grant permission for clearly unpopular advance rate charges. The delay allowed time for more horrific stories of Fukushima to surface as the situation there deteriorated. The cost benefits of natural gas as opposed to nuclear emerged and played into MidAm's final analysis. In the end, MidAmerican withdrew its proposal, defeated as much by their own financial consideration as by the coalition of activists and

environmentalists who came together to delay and oppose the new nuke.

Marybeth Gardam is Chair of U.S. WILPF's Corporations v Democracy Issue Committee. Contact her at mbgardam@gmail.com or 515/210-7928 to find out what you can do to help shut down a nuclear power plant in your neighborhood!

ONE OF THE EXPENDABLES

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By Marge Piercy

Cape Cod is wed to the mainland by two bridges, on mild week ends and all summer fed by miles of backed up cars.

Right across Massachusetts Bay, one of the worst nuclear power plants, clone of Fukushima leaks into the bay. On its roof

three thousand spent rods fester. Vulnerable to tsunami, flooding, attack from the air or land it squats menacing us, polluting.

We who live here all year, our hundred thousands of summer visitors, we have been deemed expendable since we cannot

by any means be evacuated. "Shelter in place" means breathe in, absorb through your skin, drink, swallow, eat radiation.

Your home will be uninhabitable should you happen to survive at least a while before cancer dissolves your organs. The fragile

land, the pure water we cherish will be tainted for decades. Fish, birds, your dog and cats, raccoons, squirrels, coywolves expendable

too. We count for nothing compared to profits for a utility housed in New Orleans where you'd imagine they know floods.

We're the throwaway people, not as real as corporations. Chop off the crooked arm of Cape Cod and let us bleed.

Copyright 2013 Marge Piercy Box 1473, Wellfleet MA 02667 hagolem@c4.net.

Marge Piercy, noted feminist writer and social activist, recited this poem on May 19, 2013 at the "Rally at the Reactor," a demonstration held in Plymouth, MA to protest the continued operation of the Pilgrim nuclear power plant. She lives in Wellfleet, MA on Cape Cod.

WHY CHOOSE CIVIL RESISTANCE?

By Hattie Nestel



Nuclear security guard cutting the chain from Hattie Nestel at Vermont Yankee, photo by Marcia Gagliardi

Somewhere along the way, we have been taught that we should obey the law. We have also learned to respect "Private Property." Should we always obey laws that protect private property?

We must distinguish between just and unjust laws and valid or invalid property rights. While most property rights are valid, no individual or corporation has the right to use property to endanger people, the environment and the

future. Profits must not trump public safety. Each of us must scrutinize, analyze, and consider the implications of protecting life-threatening enterprises. If laws cause harm or protect harmful endeavors, those laws are pernicious and unjust. We MUST break those laws.

The greater the possible or probable harm, the greater the mandate to disobey laws that foster danger.

Nuclear power presents a danger so great that John Gofman says, "Manufacture of Plutonium-239 and its widespread use in nuclear electric power may represent humanity's most immoral act." (See *Poisoned Power* by Gofman and Tamplin.)

Should a "No Trespassing" sign stop us from entering the "private property" of a nuclear facility in order to shut it down? No.

Our Shut it Down women's affinity group engages in a non-violent direct action campaign that began in 2005. We have been arrested at the Vermont Yankee plant in Vernon, VT or the Brattleboro headquarters of Entergy, the corporate owner of Vermont Yankee, more than thirty times in our efforts to close a dangerous nuclear power plant.

Some thirty women have participated in this campaign. When we position ourselves in the driveway at Entergy headquarters or its reactor, Entergy representatives call the police to arrest us for trespassing on Entergy's "private property." The police act on the request from Entergy and arrest us.

One might ask what good it does to keep going

back to defy Entergy's boundaries? My answer is, "What good does any right action do?" We may never know, but maybe we need to ask ourselves, "What good does it do not to put our bodies on the line of such dangerous facilities?"

I sincerely hope that many of you will choose civil resistance and break unjust laws that protect deadly enterprises.

Hattie Nestel is an at-large member of WILPF and active on the DISARM/End Wars Issue Committee. She lives in Athol, MA. A longtime activist in the successful fight to shut down the Vermont Yankee nuclear power station, she and others continue their protests as issues of clean up and storage of nuclear waste remain unresolved. She can be reached at hattieshalom@verizon.net.

WILPF envisions a transformed world at peace, where there is racial, social, and economic justice for all people everywhere—a world in which:

- The needs of all people are met in a fair and equitable manner
- All people equally participate in making the decisions that affect them
- The interconnected web of life is acknowledged and celebrated in diverse ways and communities
- Human societies are designed and organized for sustainable existence

Become part of the movement to halt nuclear disaster. Join WILPF today. Go to wilpfus.org and click on "Join or Renew Membership."



THE COMING DRONE ATTACK ON AMERICA

By Naomi Wolf

Author, social critic, and political activist Naomi Wolf raises awareness of the pervasive inequities that exist in society and politics. She is a frequent contributor to The Guardian, where the following article appeared in December 2012.

People often ask me, in terms of my argument about “ten steps” that mark the descent to a police state or closed society, at what stage we are. I am sorry to say that with the importation of what will be tens of thousands of drones, by both U.S. military and by commercial interests, into U.S. airspace, with a specific mandate to engage in surveillance and with the capacity for weaponization – which is due to begin in earnest at the start of the new year – it means that the police state is now officially here.

In February of this year, Congress passed the FAA Reauthorization Act, with its provision to deploy fleets of drones domestically. Jennifer Lynch, an attorney at the Electronic Frontier Foundation, notes that this followed a major lobbying effort, “a huge push by [...] the defense sector” to promote the use of drones in American skies: 30,000 of them are expected to be in use by 2020, some as small as hummingbirds – meaning that you won’t necessarily see them, tracking your meeting with your fellow-activists, with your accountant or your congressman, or filming your cruising the bars or your assignation with your lover, as its video-gathering whirs.

Others will be as big as passenger planes. Business-friendly media stress their planned abundant use by corporations: police in Seattle have already deployed them.

An unclassified U.S. Air Force document reported by CBS news expands on this unprecedented and unconstitutional step – one that formally brings the military into the role of controlling domestic populations on U.S. soil, which is the bright line that separates a democracy from a military oligarchy. (The U.S. constitution allows for the deployment of National Guard units by governors, who are answerable to the people; but this system is intended, as is Posse Comitatus, to prevent the military from taking action aimed at U.S. citizens domestically.)

The Air Force document explains that the Air Force will be overseeing the deployment of its own military surveillance drones within the borders of the U.S.; that it may keep video and other data it collects with these drones for 90 days without a warrant – and will then, retroactively, determine if the material can be retained – which does away for good with the Fourth Amendment in these cases. While the drones are not supposed to specifically “conduct non-consensual surveillance on specifically identified U.S. persons,” according to the document, the wording allows for domestic military surveillance of non- “specifically identified” people (that is, a group of activists or protesters) and it comes with the important caveat, also seemingly wholly unconstitutional, that it may not target individuals “unless expressly approved by the Secretary of Defense.”

In other words, the Pentagon can now send a domestic drone to hover outside your apartment window, collecting footage of you and your family, if the Secretary of Defense approves it. Or it may track you and your friends and pick up audio of your conversations, on your way, say, to protest or vote or talk to your representative, if you are not “specifically identified,” a determination

that is so vague as to be meaningless.

What happens to those images, that audio? “Distribution of domestic imagery” can go to various other government agencies

without your consent, and that imagery can, in that case, be distributed to various government agencies; it may also include your most private moments and most personal activities. The authorized “collected information may incidentally include U.S. persons or private property without consent.” Jennifer Lynch of the Electronic Frontier Foundation told CBS:

“In some records that were released by the Air Force recently ... under their rules, they are allowed to fly drones in public areas and record information on domestic situations.”

This document accompanies a major federal push for drone deployment this year in the United States, accompanied by federal policies to encourage law enforcement agencies to obtain and use them locally, as well as by federal support for their commercial deployment. That is to say: now HSBC, Chase, Halliburton, etc. can have their very own fleets of domestic surveillance drones. The FAA recently established a more efficient process for local police

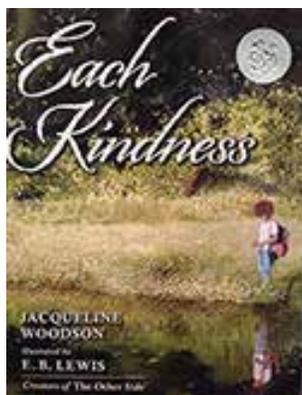
[T]he Pentagon can now send a domestic drone to hover outside your apartment window, collecting footage of you and your family, if the Secretary of Defense approves it.

Continued on page 22

60TH ANNUAL JANE ADDAMS CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARDS

By Jan Corderman and Susan Freiss

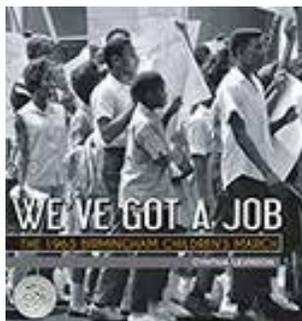
The authors and illustrators of the 2013 Jane Addams Children's Book Awards were honored at a reception this fall in New York City. Since 1953, the Jane Addams Children's Book Award annually acknowledges books published in the U.S. during the previous year. Books commended by the award address themes or topics that engage children in thinking about peace, justice, world community and/or equality of the sexes and all races. The books also must meet conventional standards of literacy and artistic excellence. This year, the winners include:



Each Kindness, written by Jacqueline Woodson, illustrated by E.B. Lewis and published by Nancy Paulsen Books, an imprint of Penguin, is the winner in the Books for Younger Children Category. Small actions, or the lack of them, can be haunting as is the case for Maya and for Chloe in their rural elementary

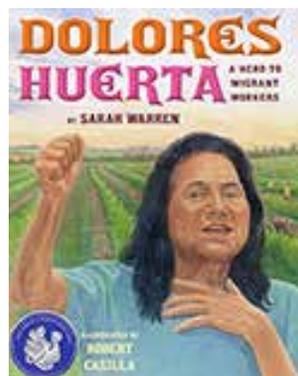
school. This open-ended, profound tale created in free verse and sober watercolors glimpses interactions between Chloe and Maya, the new girl arriving midyear in broken sandals, before the teacher invites students to ponder their kindnesses.

We've Got a Job: The 1963 Birmingham Children's March, written by Cynthia Levinson and published by Peachtree Publishers, is the winner in the Books for Older Children category. In 1963, four thousand young African American students, from elementary through high school, voluntarily went to jail in one of the most racially violent cities in America. Focusing on four of these students, this photo essay recounts the riveting events throughout the Children's March.



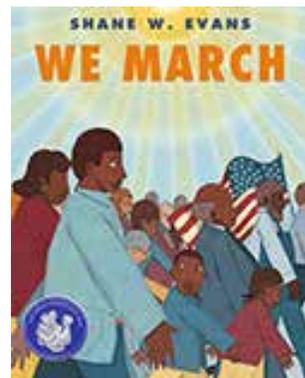
Two books were named Honor Books in the Books for Younger Children category:

Dolores Huerta: A Hero to Migrant Workers, written by

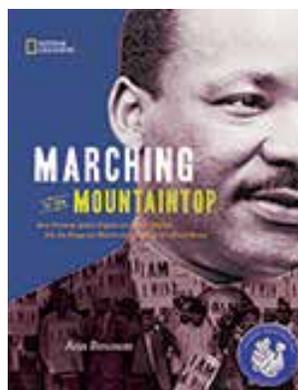


Sarah Warren and illustrated by Robert Casilla, published by Marshall Cavendish Children, has been named an Honor Book for Younger Children. In California in the 1950s, teacher Dolores Huerta was concerned for her students. Learning the conditions of the migrant families, Dolores became a determined activist who fought for labor rights through her words and actions.

We March, written and illustrated by Shane W. Evans, and published by Roaring Brook Press, a Neal Porter imprint of Macmillan, has been named an Honor Book for Younger Children. Simple and powerful illustrations capture the excitement and hope for even the youngest reader of the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. The colorful crowd of 250,000 demonstrates their strength and unity in marching to Martin Luther King's historical speech for racial equality.



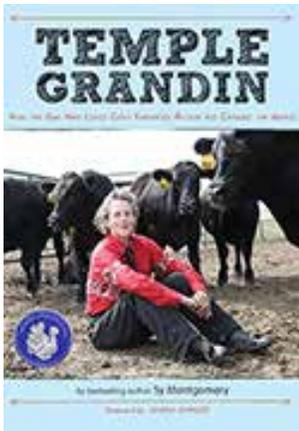
Two books were named Honor Books in the Books for Older Children category:



Marching to the Mountaintop: How Poverty, Labor Fights and Civil Rights Set the Stage for Martin Luther King Jr's Final Hours, written by Ann Bausum and published by National Geographic, is named an Honor Book for Older Children. A long sanitation worker strike began in 1968 following the

deaths of two sanitation workers on the job in Tennessee. The strike became part of the larger civil rights movement and brought Martin Luther King, Jr. to Nashville to

support the workers in their fight for integration, safety, better pay and union protection.



Temple Grandin: How the Girl Who Loved Cows Embraced Autism and Changed the World by Sy Montgomery, published by Houghton Mifflin Books for Children, is named an Honor Book for Older Children. This biography with much first person input from Ms. Grandin herself explains how her autistic mind works, how her peers

and family perceive her, and her relentless efforts as an activist.

The Jane Addams Peace Association also recognized Susan Griffith's book *The Jane Addams Children's Book Award: Honoring Children's Literature for Peace and Social Justice since 1953*. This is the first book to examine the award as well as its winners and honor books. Griffith's book reviews and synthesizes Addams' ideas and legacy, so that her life and accomplishments can be used as a focal point for exploring issues of social justice through children's literature. Her book is an invaluable resource for librarians, educators and all those interested in peace and justice education.

A national committee chooses winners and honor books for younger and older readers. Regional reading and discussion groups of all ages participate with many of the committee members throughout the jury's evaluation and selection process. For additional information about the Jane Addams Children's Book Awards and a complete list of books honored since 1953, see janeaddamspeace.org.

The award books are available for purchase by WILPF branches for a discounted price of \$70 per set of six. JAPA appreciates the work done by Branches to place the books in a library, school or community center where the books will find their way into the hearts and minds of young people.

Jan Corderman serves on the Board of Directors of the Jane Addams Peace Association and is a member of the Des Moines Branch of WILPF. She can be reached at jancorderman@msn.com or 515/205-4504.

Susan Freiss is a 4th and 5th grade multi-age teacher in Madison, Wisconsin and a member of the Jane Addams Children's Book Award Selection Committee. Each school year, her young learners enthusiastically contribute their perspective to the selection of winning books. Susan can be reached at freiss@tds.net or 608/609-7961.

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Ordering Expiration Date is Dec. 31, 2013

Make checks payable to Jane Addams Peace Association and send check with order form to:

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ABANDONED URANIUM MINES IN THE NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS

Introduction by Crystal Zevon, article by Charmaine Whiteface

I was in Oklahoma at the Great Plains Tar Sands Resistance Camp when a friend told me he could get me an interview with Charmaine White Face. I was ecstatic, nervous and resolved to plan the rest of my trip around the date she said she could meet me.

After living in a tent in Washington, D.C. for four months during the Occupy movement, then being frustrated with the lack of media coverage in the post-encampment period, I was on the road with my camera to document what activists were doing in 2013. Early in my trip, I had encountered two Dineh from the Navajo Nation and when I heard their stories of the rape of their land and the plight of their people, it was as if a switch that had been on a dimmer turned up to floodlight exposure. A few weeks later, I was in Oklahoma talking to Ponca, Seneca, Navajo and Sioux, awakening to something I probably always knew, but like most privileged, white activists, I had allowed my self-conscious ignorance and concern about stepping on cultural toes of Red Nations people to excuse me for not getting involved in “their” issues and concerns. By this time, I’d heard enough to know I could never hide in the shadow of my own ignorance again. I remembered being enchanted by my grandmother’s stories of traveling West in a covered wagon, and now I had to ask myself what price had my new-found Indian friends paid for my grandmother to settle (squat) in their wild, wild west... I determined that it was my responsibility to find out.

Charmaine and I met in a cafe near the Motel 6 where I was staying. I already knew that Charmaine was “the” expert on the open pit uranium mines, but I wasn’t prepared for the openhearted introduction she would give me into herself and her culture. As we ate breakfast and she shared, off-camera, some details of the health effects of these abandoned uranium mines, she teared up. Then, she cast her eyes downward and explained how, in her culture, it is not permitted to cry when speaking of troubles because that could be interpreted as an expression of self-pity. That was the first of many lessons I received from Charmaine, whom I now call my friend. Charmaine has a story to tell and it is one we not only need to hear, it is one we need to do something about.



Charmaine Whiteface

It was a request by a private oil company to build more oil wells near U.S. Forest Service land that introduced me to some of the abandoned uranium mines in the Northern Great Plains. A handful of us carpoled from Rapid City, SD, that Fall in 2003, driving for three hours to the northwestern corner of South Dakota where the Cave Hills are located. Driving across the flat prairie grasslands, it was inconceivable that there could be hills with caves in this area. Suddenly, there appeared on the horizon, the long flat outlines of mesas. The map indicated that these were the Cave Hills.

Eventually, we arrived at a blink-of-an-eye place called Ludlow. The restaurant-bar-post office-community store, all in one building, was on the west side of the highway as we headed north. On the east side was Ludlow School complete with slide, merry-go-round, and swings indicating it was an elementary school. We drove on about a mile and a half before we saw the red gravel road heading west to the North Cave Hills Area.

U. S. Forest Service employees in their uniforms, and some other people from Standing Rock Reservation were already at the site. We met with them and were informed that the reason for the meeting was that the U. S. Forest Service needed to build a catch pond to catch radioactive runoff from the abandoned uranium mines. What?! I was shocked! Abandoned uranium mines! Radioactive runoff! This was Harding County, the Cattle Capitol of the world. Sheep, cattle, and horses were the only things to be seen for miles and miles as they grazed on the prairie grasslands. What was this about abandoned uranium mines?

The Forest Service needed input from local people of the Great Sioux Nation and that was why we were asked to participate. The catch pond they wanted to build was near a burial site and what did we think of that. We spread out and walked the site, until we found a sacred

site facing a small part of a cliff. At the top of the cliff was a lone evergreen tree. On the other side of the cliff wall was a huge abandoned uranium mine.

A small petroglyph was on the cliff face. The Forest Service archaeologist told us that hundreds, perhaps thousands, of petroglyphs had been destroyed when the soil was dug and pushed off the cliffs to make the mines. Petroglyphs are spirit messages to us to help us live in this world. I didn't know what was more shocking: the abandoned uranium mines, or the destruction of all the sacred places.

Eventually, the catch pond wasn't built near the burial grounds, and the ten foot deep erosion ditches were filled in. A catch pond was built in another place but not near the burial site. However, the erosion caused by the radioactive runoff would start again with the next heavy rain or snowfall.



The Darrow Pit mine, 40 miles from Mount Rushmore, is one of 2,885 abandoned, open-pit uranium mines in the Northern Great Plains. Photo: Charmaine Whiteface

Since that time, we have continued gathering information. Our efforts and publicity caused others, scientists and engineers, to begin studying the northwestern corner of South Dakota for the impacts of the past uranium mining. Consistently, the studies found that the radiation levels were much higher than normal background. In one study in 2004, the radiation levels were found to be 151 times higher than normal background levels.

Today, we know there are 2,885 abandoned, open-pit uranium mines in the states of North and South Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency compiled this information in a report entitled, "Uranium Activities' Impacts on Lakota Territory," by Liliias Jarding, Ph.D. In the Cave Hills area, where I first heard about the abandoned uranium mines, there are at least 103 abandoned uranium mines and prospects. Some of them are large, like the Riley Pass mine near the sacred site which is about three-fourths mile long by one-half mile wide. Others might be the size of a small car garage. The size doesn't matter. The fact

that the uranium has been disturbed is what counts. Like riling up a bee hive, the uranium and its decay products are continually polluting the atmosphere with radioactive dust. The runoff into the water, on both the surface and underground, is polluted with radioactive particles, continuously. It doesn't stop. This has been happening since the late 1950's, for more than sixty years.

Who knew? All the federal and state agencies; but these states, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming, are poor, agricultural states so any way to make money, including mining for uranium, is pursued. No thought is given to the dangers to humans and the environment. Jobs are what are more important.

For me and my nation, the Great Sioux Nation, this is genocide. Studies of cancer rates by the U. S. Indian Health Service show that the highest cancer rates in the country are in the Northern Great Plains. This region is also the last homeland we have. It was promised to us in the last treaty we made with the United States, the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868. Everyone knows the rest of the story, even though the treaty is still legal today. We never gave permission for any of this mining to happen in our Treaty territory. Our reservations are just prisoner of war camps.

We are not the only ones affected by the radiation. The wind carries the radioactive particles to the rest of the Eastern United States as well. Contaminated water flows into the Missouri River and on to the Mississippi. The Darrow Pit Mine is only about 40 miles from Mount Rushmore, where millions of tourists visit every year, not knowing that they are breathing in radioactive dust and that the water they drink in the motels in Rapid City contains uranium.

But the very government that we distrust is the only way we can get something done to clean up these mines. So now we are looking for Congress to pass a bill to clean up all the abandoned mines in the whole United States, not just the Northern Plains. There are thousands of other abandoned uranium mines in the Southwest and the Northwest as well. Something must be done, or the radioactive pollution will continue to move across the country, spreading its cumulative threat.

Charmaine White Face is the Coordinator, Defenders of the Black Hills. You can reach her at P.O. Box 2003, Rapid City, SD 57709, defendblackhills.org. She is an at-large member of WILPF. Crystal Zevon is a member of the Montpelier, VT Branch and can be reached at chesterzev1@gmail.com.

If you would like to participate in WILPF's work to bring about earth democracy, please join us on the Earth Democracy Issue Committee. Contact Nancy Price, at nancytprice39@gmail.com or 530/758-0726, in Davis, CA.

PEACE AND FREEDOM FOR ALL AGES

By Abigail E. Ruane



Melissa I.M. Torres and Rita Jankowska-Bradley presenting at their joint side event at the UN's Commission on the Status of Women in New York

At first glance, you probably wouldn't expect these two women to be friends or even colleagues, but ask them about each other and you'll find another story. Melissa I.M. Torres has nut brown curls, dark thoughtful eyes, and a familiar confidence that comes from teaching and presenting research in front of crowds on her work on women's trafficking. Rita Jankowska-Bradley has bone-straight snow-white hair, finely etched laugh lines around her eyes that give away her easy laugh, and a fast pace when she gets fired up about her peace activism. They hail from different parts of the country (Houston, Texas and Missoula, Montana respectively), have different approaches to building peace and freedom, and come

from different decades, yet they say that their relationship with each other enriches both their lives and their peace activism.

Melissa and Rita met at the United Nations (UN) Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in 2011. Melissa was a participant in the WILPF-U.S. Practicum in Advocacy Program and Rita in the WILPF-U.S. Local to Global (L2G) Program, which each year bring student and nonstudent WILPF members to the UN to build advocacy skills and promote peace through global policy. Despite their differences, they developed a connection, and promised to keep in touch. What started out as a promise became a practice, as both women actively continued the relationship by checking in to see how each other were doing, sharing things they were interested in, and generally being good friends.

"It's the little things that connect us," says Rita, highlighting how regular and meaningful contact can make a difference. "My poetry has been strongly nurtured by young people, and my activism."

"I just genuinely like her as a person," says Melissa.

"She obviously has a very different perspective than I do, and I appreciate getting that perspective, since I don't spend time acting out and protesting in that manner. I like hearing about it from her side."

The Missoula Women for Peace WILPF Branch invited Melissa to become an "affiliate member." The Missoula branch is very open to including young women and felt this might be a way for those who do not have a strong local connection

¡NI UNA MÁS! NOT ONE MORE!

¡Ni una más! Not one more! Resilience and Resistance—Using art, protest, education and political action to eliminate "Femicide" and Human Trafficking addressed the recent and current state of Mexico's drug war and politics on the U.S./Mexico border. Rita Jankowska-Bradley and Melissa I. M. Torres drew from their work with peace and justice communities in Montana and Texas. Political work being done with government representatives to generate transnational government actions against femicide and human trafficking were addressed while demanding an end to the funding of border and Mexican militarization that fuels this violence and increases risks of femicide and human trafficking. Rita and Melissa used the word "femicide" instead of "femicide" to draw attention to the systematic gender based murder of women because they are women. Femicide occurs throughout the world, but in Latin America the epicenter is Ciudad Juárez, Mexico. Femicide is deemed a crime by the Inter American Human Rights Court— yet compliance requires the global community to come together to end this brutal war on women's lives.

to a WILPF branch to become a partner in WILPF. Melissa has had a positive experience with this and she recommends the practice as one which other branches nationwide could consider exploring. "Being creative about connecting can be good," says Melissa. Rita frequently has brought in young members to the group whose members confirm "it adds so much richness to life."

This year this collaboration translated into a joint side event at the UN's CSW entitled, "Ni Una Mas! Not one more! Resilience and Resistance: Using Art, Protest, Education, and Political Action to Eliminate 'Femicide' and Human Trafficking." Melissa and Rita had discussed trying to put together a panel in previous conversations, and ended up trying for it with encouragement from other WILPFers despite financial and logistical challenges. Rita's experience with the application process enabled them to navigate the application system, and their friendship and shared interests in advocacy and research regarding femicide and trafficking gave them the platform to plan the event. It ended up being a packed room in the Church Center across from the UN, and an event highlighted in WILPF-International news about the CSW. Moving forward, Melissa and Rita are open to exploring the possibility of developing their work on creative activism against violence against women into the broader work in WILPF and around the country.

In reflecting on the CSW event, Rita highlighted the benefits and importance of cultivating intergenerational solidarity in women's peace activism. "I think it's wonderful for people to come here and be inspired, and to take that back to their branches. And then for young women, to make connections with seasoned activists and vice versa—this not only re-inspires the long term peace workers but also the experiences around CSW will serve as a basis for the young women in their future work and lives, something that changes them... It's building networks of women working for change."

*This article was written by **Abigail E. Ruane**, one of WILPF's two representatives to the United Nations, Program Committee member, and Chair of the Practicum and L2G Program Evaluation Committee. If you know WILPFers whose relationship highlights good practice in intergenerational activism, please contact Abigail to discuss sharing their stories in future editions of "Peace and Freedom for All Ages." (Email: abigail@peacewomen.org Twitter: [@fembodiedchange](https://twitter.com/fembodiedchange)).*

Rita Jankowska-Bradley (aka Radska), a Missoula Peacemaker of the Year and member of the Missoula, Montana Branch of WILPF, works on global justice issues using activism and art. Rita's passionate and

biting poetry at rallies/protests/slams exposes people to injustice, war, Femicide, and other pressing issues of our time with the intent to challenge them to think/lact. (Email: justpeace4all@yahoo.com)

Melissa I. M. Torres, MSW is a PhD candidate and Adjunct Faculty at the University of Houston. She is a fellow of the Council of Social Work Education's Minority Fellowship Program and the Gülen Institute Distinguished Research Fellowship. She currently researches international sex trafficking of Latinas. Melissa is a native of the Rio Grande Valley of Texas and is an affiliate member of the Missoula, Montana Branch of WILPF. (Email: mitorres@uh.edu).

100 YEARS OF COURAGE

By Robin Lloyd



Our foremothers were committed to using women's power to end conflict. Their dream lives on.

Today, women are more powerful, more vocal and more insistent than ever that militarism and patriarchy must end if our planet is to survive. Thus, **Women's Power to Stop War** is our rallying cry for the 100th Anniversary of WILPF.

We on the U.S. Section Development Committee look forward to an exciting next two years: a new board in early 2014, regional meetings, and a Congress next summer. All before the 100th celebration at The Hague April 22–29, 2015.

We invite you to reaffirm the powerful spirit of internationalism and reconciliation of our foremothers and to commit to building WILPF locally, nationally and internationally.

Let's work together to enrich and renew the soul of WILPF!

Robin Lloyd is Chair of the Development Committee. She can be reached at robinlloyd8@gmail.com.

HER KITCHEN TABLE STRETCHES ACROSS THE GLOBE

An Interview with Amy Goodman by Candace Perry

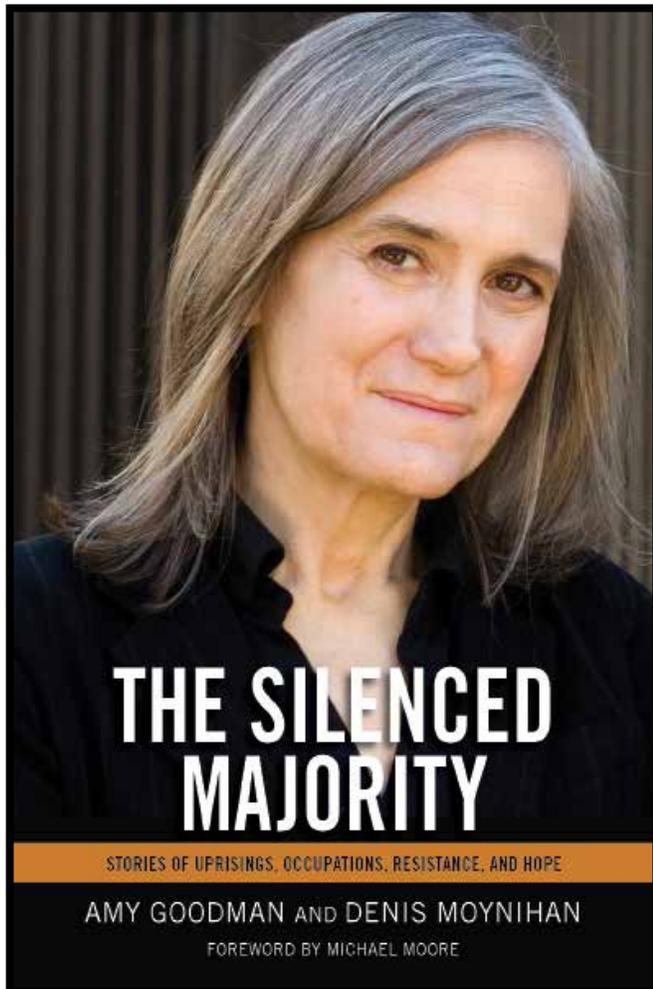
*Amy Goodman is an award-winning investigative journalist and syndicated columnist, author and host of the daily, independent global news hour, **Democracy Now!**, which airs on more than 1,200 public television and radio stations worldwide. A driving force in the movement to rebuild the public media landscape, **Democracy Now!** presents people and perspectives rarely heard in the corporate media.*

*Goodman is the first journalist to receive the Right Livelihood Award, widely known as the “Alternative Nobel Prize.” The Independent of London named Amy Goodman and **Democracy Now!** “an inspiration,” and PULSE placed Goodman at the top of their 20 Top Global Media Figures.*

*Goodman's fifth book, **The Silenced Majority: Stories of Uprisings, Occupations, Resistance, and Hope**, written with Denis Moynihan, reached #11 on The New York Times bestseller list. This timely sequel to **Breaking the Sound Barrier**, also a New York Times bestseller, gives voice to the many ordinary people standing up to corporate and government power—and refusing to be silent.*

*Viewers and listeners familiar with Amy Goodman's interviewing style on **Democracy Now!** will recognize how she introduces guests and then asks them to tell their story. It was my honor to interview the interviewer I most admire for this issue of Peace & Freedom and to ask her:*

CP: Amy Goodman, you've been at this business of brave journalism for a long time. What keeps you going?



AG: The incredible bravery and determination of people in this country and around the world who don't lose faith. I can do no less. A recent example: What appeared to be an imminent U.S. strike against Syria didn't happen because the people said NO to another war. The media credits Russian President Vladimir Putin with extending a lifeline to President Barack Obama, allowing him a diplomatic way to delay his planned attack. But without the mass domestic public outcry against a military strike, Obama would not have needed, nor would he likely have heeded, an alternative to war. Ten years ago many plans were offered to Bush. But now there's a national revulsion to war. Across the political spectrum, citizens in the United States weighed in against the planned military strike. Members of Congress, Democrat and Republican, were inundated with calls and emails demanding they vote "no" on any military authorization. This country said no to war, and that gives me tremendous strength. Not just a wind, a hurricane is blowing.

CP: You've said that war is the defining issue of the day. Tell us more.

AG: We as a society have to decide how to resolve conflict. We all need to debate war and peace and life and death in the issues of the day before we decide to risk the lives of our armed forces. Soldiers can't have these debates on bases, so they rely on us to have these discussions that lead to the decisions of whether they live or die. Often on the road I meet people in the military who say they watch

Democracy Now!, and when I ask why they watch, they say, “Because you talk about war, you recognize it as a reality.” It should be the top news story. Anything less is a disservice to democracy. What might happen if, for one week, every Facebook, Twitter, newspaper, television, and radio communication had a story about a woman whose family was killed in a drone strike? I really do think that if for one week in the United States we saw the true face of war—we saw people’s limbs sheared off, we saw kids blown apart, for one week—war would be eradicated.

CP: WILPF is focusing on the prevention of conflicts all over the world and on the participation of women in that process. Do you see a particular role for women in ending war?

AG: Women are so often the peacemakers, in the home, in the family. Women are at the forefront of all the grassroots movements for change. The same day that thousands of people “drew the line” on Keystone XL at protest gatherings around the continent, the International Women’s Earth and Climate Summit met in Suffern, N.Y. It was a gathering of women from around the world, all renowned in their own way for fighting for urgent action on climate change. Women’s voices must be heard. Women are more than half the population but much less than half of the media. We need more women in the media. **Democracy Now!** is women led. In newer, decentralized media, we’re hearing more women’s voices.

CP: “Listen to women for a change,” we say in WILPF. We take on issues like ending war, human rights and climate justice. What connections do you make between seemingly separate issues?

AG: These issues are all connected because it’s all about who decides public policy in this country. Unfortunately, a very small minority have gained an inordinate amount of power through the designation of corporations as “people.” So, small groups make decisions which hurt the environment, lead to war, increase the gap between the rich and the poor. The majority of people are concerned about all this, but big money distorts democracy.

CP: Are these the “silenced majority” of your new book?

AG: The whole reason we gave the book that title is because we think that those who are deeply concerned about war, about the growing inequality in this country, about climate change, about the fate of the planet, are not a fringe minority, not even a silent majority, but a silenced majority, silenced by the corporate media, which is why we have to take it back. *The Silenced Majority: Stories of Uprisings, Occupations, Resistance, and Hope* shows the work of ordinary people who are changing the world. Corporate media rarely give voice to those

populations. Instead, they bring us the small circle of pundits who know so little about so much, explaining the world to us.

CP: Of all the issues and stories going on in a day, week, month, how do you decide which ones to cover?

AG: I work with a brain trust of remarkable people, and we look around the world every day for critical stories. We read emails and letters people send us, we comb the world news. Our criterion is to bring the people themselves at the heart of the story instead of the so-called experts. I think what makes **Democracy Now!** special is that we are a daily, global, grassroots, unembedded news hour committed to airing the voices of people all over the world. We went to Louisiana to tell the story of Herman Wallace, one of the Angola 3 who spent nearly 42 years in solitary confinement before he was released on Oct. 1 and died three days later, a free man, after a judge overturned his conviction on constitutional grounds. Louisiana has the highest per-capita incarceration rate in the United States, 13 times higher than that of China. It also leads the nation in people freed after being wrongfully convicted. Our job is to tell these stories, and this is true all over the world. As journalists we’re not taking sides, but telling the stories that need to be told. I see the media as a huge kitchen table that stretches across the globe.

CP: Thank you, Amy Goodman, for giving us all a seat at that table.

*Candace Perry is a WILPF Life Member, a 2012 Local2Global participant, and part of the Cape Cod Branch. She is the Editor of the Fall/Winter issue of Peace & Freedom. To find out where **Democracy Now!** is broadcast in your area, go to democracynow.org.*



Photo: University of Illinois at Chicago, Jane Addams Memorial Collection

The good we secure for ourselves is precarious and uncertain until it is secured for all of us and incorporated into our common life.

Jane Addams

SEPT. 11: A DAY WITHOUT WAR

By Amy Goodman with Dennis Moynihan

The ninth anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States should serve as a moment to reflect on tolerance. It should be a day of peace. Yet the rising anti-Muslim fervor here, together with the continuing U.S. military occupation of Iraq and the escalating war in Afghanistan (and Pakistan), all fuel the belief that the U.S. really is at war with Islam.

Sept. 11, 2001, united the world against terrorism. Everyone, it seemed, was with the United States, standing in solidarity with the victims, with the families who lost loved ones. The day will be remembered for generations to come, for the notorious act of coordinated mass murder. But that was not the first Sept. 11 to be associated with terror:

- **Sept. 11, 1973, Chile:** Democratically elected President Salvador Allende died in a CIA-backed military coup that ushered in a reign of terror under dictator Augusto Pinochet, in which thousands of Chileans were killed.
- **Sept. 11, 1977, South Africa:** Anti-apartheid leader Stephen Biko was being beaten in a police van. He died the next day.
- **Sept. 11, 1990, Guatemala:** Guatemalan anthropologist Myrna Mack was murdered by the U.S.-backed military.
- **Sept. 9-13, 1971, New York:** The Attica prison uprising occurred, during which New York state troopers killed 39 prisoners and guards and wounded hundreds of others.
- **Sept. 11, 1988, Haiti:** During a mass led by Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide at the St. Jean Bosco Church in Port-au-Prince, right-wing militiamen attacked, killing at least 13 worshippers and injuring at least 77. Aristide would later be twice elected president, only to be ousted in U.S.-supported coup d'états.

If anything, Sept. 11 is a day to remember the victims of terror, all victims of terror, and to work for peace, like the group September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows. Formed by those who lost loved ones on 9/11/2001, their mission could serve as a national call to action: “[T]o turn our grief into action for peace. By developing and advocating nonviolent options and actions in the pursuit of justice, we hope to break the cycles of violence engendered by war and terrorism. Acknowledging our common experience with all people affected by violence throughout the world, we work to create a safer and more

peaceful world for everyone.”

Our “Democracy Now!” news studio was blocks from the twin towers in New York City. We were broadcasting live as they fell. In the days that followed, thousands of fliers went up everywhere, picturing the missing, with phone numbers of family members to call if you recognized someone. These reminded me of the placards carried by the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo in Argentina. Those are the women, wearing white headscarves, who courageously marched, week after week, carrying pictures of their missing children who disappeared during the military dictatorship there.

I am reminded, as well, by the steady stream of pictures of young people in the military killed in Iraq and in Afghanistan, and now, with increasing frequency (although pictured less in the news), who kill themselves after multiple combat deployments.

For each of the U.S. or NATO casualties, there are literally hundreds of victims in Iraq and Afghanistan whose pictures will never be shown, whose names we will never know.

While angry mobs continue attempts to thwart the building of an Islamic community center in lower Manhattan (in a vacant, long-ignored, damaged building more than two blocks away), an evangelical “minister” in Florida is organizing a Sept. 11 “International Burn the Koran Day.” Gen. David Petraeus has stated that the burning, which has sparked protests around the globe, “could endanger troops.” He is right. But so does blowing up innocent civilians and their homes.

As in Vietnam in the 1960s, Afghanistan has a dedicated, indigenous, armed resistance, and a deeply corrupt group in Kabul masquerading as a central government. The war is bleeding over into a neighboring country, Pakistan, just as the Vietnam War spread into Cambodia and Laos.

Right after Sept. 11, 2001, as thousands gathered in parks around New York City, holding impromptu candlelit vigils, a sticker appeared on signs, placards and benches. It read, “Our grief is not a cry for war.”

This Sept. 11, that message is still—painfully, regrettably—timely.

Let’s make Sept. 11 a day without war.

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VISIONARY ACTIVISM AT THE 2013 DEMOCRACY CONVENTION

By Emily Busam

“I would say to a young activist, ‘Do visionary organizing,’” Grace Lee Boggs, the then 96-year-old civil rights activist and writer told *Hyphen* magazine in 2012. “Turn your back on protest organizing and recognize how that leads you more and more to defensive operations, whereas visionary organizing gives you the opportunity to encourage the creative capacity in people and it’s very fulfilling.” Boggs advocates for a collaborative attitude that invests in human capacity for creativity and good, rather than a focus on protest alone, which perpetuates the conflict between “us” and “them.”

As a young activist, I find it inspiring to ask what we *do* want, rather than what we *don’t* want, and to effectively act to create that vision.

One movement that demands visionary organizing is the climate justice movement, where individuals must create solutions that systematically disperse and devolve power and control to the community level, and where a new set of values based on thrift and care replaces the old “spend and consume” lifestyle.

The 2013 Democracy Convention in Madison, WI, called for new visions to propel effective organizing within the climate movement into the coming decades. As the WILPF program intern this past summer, I was thrilled to be invited to attend the convention to support WILPF’s organizers and presence there. I met women with whom I had previously had only phone contact and movement icons with whom I had never spoken, including Jill Stein and Medea Benjamin.

Jill Stein was a featured speaker at several plenaries organized by Nancy Price of WILPF’s Earth Democracy leadership team. She consistently emphasized her vision for people, peace, and the planet, which includes a Green “New Deal” that moves America quickly out of crisis into the secure green future. In another visionary strategy discussed at the convention, WILPF member Susan Friess, elementary school teacher, demonstrated how the movement can capitalize on the moral authority and enthusiasm of children to advance change. Elementary school teacher Erica Krug and her students educated themselves about our planet’s oceans, which expanded into organizing a community drive to ban plastic

bags, writing and publishing a book of poetry, and collaborating with a high school media class to make a movie on the topic.

The climate movement will not successfully go forward, however, if similar visions are not massively developed throughout communities, nor without ongoing, strategic movements with powerful messages that use the media to amplify them. The same strategy will not apply to every locality, but the fact is that communities must be empowered, because the climate movement will only succeed on a community-by-community and country-by-country basis.

In Boulder, CO, grassroots activists and the

local nonprofit New Era Colorado Foundation are campaigning to municipalize their power source, setting a precedent in localized, renewable energy production. In another effort, Transition Towns, a grassroots network of communities, are springing up across the globe and

supporting community-led responses to climate change and shrinking supplies of cheap energy. This network is strengthening community ties, which are especially important as corporations aggressively seek to undermine the ability of local peoples to shape their own cities and towns. These efforts have conceived of, and pursued, movements in new ways, demonstrating the importance of vision within the climate movement.

Although Boggs may not endorse it, innovative and adaptive protesting is also developing, shifting protesting locations from government sites to large plants, pipelines, and other vital components of the energy system that most threatens our climate. By targeting the fossil fuel economy’s dependence on a complex web of key infrastructure, which is the industry’s Achilles’ heel, campaigners can slow down, complicate and increase the costs and ultimately block fossil fuel projects. As Daniel Lee from Move To Amend said at the Democracy Convention, “If we protest and continue to protest in the future, we need to protest at the true seat of power... a

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MIDDLE EASTERN WOMEN AND THE CULTURE OF VIOLENCE

By Leila Zand

Violence against women is a multi-layered topic. Violence comes to life in varying cultural, economic and political forms. Structural violence can occur through either domestic despotism or colonialism. Both are made more severe by the militarization of a society.

Violence against women can be divided into two major categories of harsh and visible [rape and physical violence] and soft and subtle. The latter is more diverse and veiled., such that in the Middle East, despite many differences, most educated women experience *veiled* violence in their societies. Nevertheless, due to the complexity of the region, forms of violence occur with more variable layers of harsh and soft.

Diverse cultures, religions and languages within the region on one hand and economic, political discriminations on the other hand create extensive inequality of many types. In addition the desirable natural resources in the region create an attraction for the external powers to expand more of their attention on the area. These interactions amplify the complexity of what has been an exotic, sophisticated, colourful, diverse and often too violent region.

When there is a reference to Middle Eastern women, most people hear the mainstream description relating women who are controlled by their traditional societies and by Sharia. There are many stories focused on lack of freedom and the need for greater equality for Middle Eastern women. At the same time, most stories blame the governmental systems and suggest western intervention to bring about the liberation of those women. We still hear stories about Iraqi or Afghan women's liberation as a justification for war.

There is no doubt about discrimination and violence against women within the region. It is clear that any cultural or structural violence has its victims, those who are the most vulnerable members of society: women and children. However what is missing from the western interpretation of women's liberation is what the women themselves really want or need.

Besides the cultural violence, which is domestic and needs many internal factors to change, there is an external form of violence, with deep impacts throughout the whole society. External factors could be various forms of

militarization imposed by outside powers. Militarization comes in the form of economic sanctions, arming opposition groups, operating military bases, or threats of war.

Militarization in any form weakens women's positions by promoting an image of "strength and masculinity" that involves a loud voice, large body, big boots, weapons and constructed fears. When boots and arms join the conversation, women lose their voices.

When a society heads toward militarization, women consider leaving seats at the table for men with guns.

Sanctions

There are various countries in the region with experience of international sanctions, Iraq, Iran, Gaza and Syria, to name a few. During times of economic sanctions and high unemployment, women are the first to lose their jobs. In traditional societies like the

Middle East, the man is the person mainly responsible to bring the food to the family table. Hence in the case of budget cuts, employers' lists of those most dispensable starts with their women employees rather than men.

However women still must deal with all of the difficulties due to economic difficulties within their families. Sometimes a woman is the only person in the family with income, and a job loss for her means losing everything for a family. There are young women with large families who enter into the sex trade after a job is lost, in order to provide for the essential needs of their relatives. Sanctions and war certainly have an impact on cultural change. They increase conservatism within the system and decrease women's roles and power within a society.

While the Iranian government does not have any public information about the impact of sanctions, one can estimate the effect of such "crippling sanctions" by reviewing a similar case from many years of sanctions against Iraq. A survey from reproductive health reports:

Up to 95% of all pregnant women in Iraq suffer from anemia and thus will give birth to weak, malnourished infants. Most of these infants either will die before reaching the age of five due to lack of food and basic medicines or will be permanently scarred, either physically or mentally.

Leila Zand was the featured speaker at the Philadelphia Branch's annual WILPF members' luncheon this year. In her talk, "Women in Iran," she brought to the story of her country of birth her personal history as a woman growing up there, the political realities, and the effects of the sanctions on the people. Marjorie Van Cleef, of the Philadelphia Branch, invited Leila Zand to share an article with *Peace & Freedom* so others could appreciate Ms. Zand's political perspective on Iran and its relationship to the United States, as well as the impact U.S. policies have on Iran.

In addition, during economic sanctions, a society focuses on basic needs, like food, fuel and other necessities of life. In such circumstances, women's needs, for freedom, liberation, education etc., get less attention and become a luxury. A situation not many women can afford. Then they prefer to keep quiet and focus on bread not education or liberation!

Iran: The threats of war and its subsequent impact on the women's movement

There is no doubt that any kind of reform and liberation must occur from within in order to be successful and positive. In Iran, the women's movement has a relatively long history. It is clear that women's demands have changed whenever political and social needs and class have changed. In the past couple of decades the women's movement has constantly worked for greater equality, ending discriminatory gender laws and gaining positions they deserve. However, their movement has faced many difficulties and never worse than in recent years.

It is not a big surprise that with sanctions at place and constant threats of war, no sustainable movement for change can take shape within the country, and this includes the women's movement.

Activists in general in any forms of political or social protest, or even a simple gathering, would be under surveillance of the government. That is understandable, for people in the United States who have been experiencing a similar situation after Sept. 11. The U.S. administrations felt threatened and consequently our nation's freedom and democracy have decreased. Ironically the Iranian government shares the same sense of insecurity as the United States.

Any movement in Iran, including the women's movement can easily be crushed under claims of national security issues and fear of "regime change." Activists with various interests and points of view are under pressure not to speak out, or prefer to keep quiet, practising a self-censorship, in order to avoid harsh consequences. If a woman's group simply criticizes the government in a lawful way, there is no guarantee of being immune from accusations of "working for the CIA," "spying for Americans," "pro-American regime change policy" and so on. The women activists face the most difficult time when there is public discussion of the "democracy promotion budget" which the United States proposes for Iran (or the Middle East). The Iranian government looks at this budget proposal as a covert operation for regime change and believes that any talk around human rights is intended to weaken the regime's position. Leaving Iran to Iranians to make their own decisions and to find locally appropriate ways in order to plan and work for the change they need, is a priceless favor to women.

Syria: Arming different sides of a conflict increases violence against women

Men primarily are the ones present at the decision-making tables. They approve providing sophisticated arms in the conflict area. Women pay the price, by losing their children, homes and safety. Women are raped and face any possible humiliation by the opposition groups. A quick look at the number of refugees, displaced families, deaths, injuries, and sexual assaults will demonstrate the impact of war in increasing the violence against women in Syria. A military strike will not be helpful to those who suffer most either. Again the example of the 1991 military strikes against Iraq could be helpful to our understanding. A United Nations report shortly after the bombing of Iraq suggests; "life had been reduced to a pre-industrial stage." There is a belief that in just in one day of bombing "1,600 women and children died."

If women could find their seats at the decision-making tables, possibilities of getting votes for more constructive changes and humanitarian aid would be much higher. Change would occur through education, training and building bridges of understanding, rather than military strikes, operational military bases, sanctions and bloodshed.

With the work of many women throughout the region, we hope that day is not far away!



Leila Zand

Leila Zand is an Iranian-American who lived in Iran during the Iran-Iraq war, the Iranian reconstruction period following the war, and the Iranian reform years. In 2006 Leila joined Fellowship of Reconciliation to help to create bridges of understanding between the diverse peoples of Middle East and the people of the United States.

Through writing and public speaking, Leila raises awareness about U.S. militarization in the Middle East and the impact it has on the lives of ordinary people, and she strives to make inroads to reconciliation. She is based in the Albany, New York area.

HOMAGE TO EDITH BALLANTYNE

By Robin Lloyd



Edith Ballantyne in the Beijing Peace Tent

On the occasion of her 90th birthday last Dec. 10, accolades poured in from around the world for Edith Ballantyne, **former WILPF International President and Secretary General**. She was only 26-years-old in 1948 when Human Rights Day was established on her birthday, Dec. 10. How fitting it's become, over the years, to celebrate the two together! Edith has, for decades, carried the banner of human rights and justice throughout the corridors of the United Nations, and into some of the most oppressed societies in the world.

The three struggles of the 20th century that she wove into her own life, and that of WILPF's, were indigenous rights, Palestine, and Colombia. She was drawn to the most obdurate issues, where injustice and helplessness were held in place by brutal force.

I first got to know Edith in Helsinki when she waved goodbye to us on the Peace Train. I wondered why she wasn't coming on board, but when we arrived in Beijing, I understood why: she was busy preparing the Peace Tent at the UN 4th World Conference on Women. It was a most amazing experience – both the Conference and the Tent. Edith declared the area a Nuclear Free Zone, and led a procession around the tent to consecrate the decision. For me, experiencing WILPF's dynamism on the train and in the Peace Tent made me a lifetime convert to our organization.

Then, the next year, 1996, we travelled together in a WILPF/Colombia Support Network delegation to Colombia, a cauldron of a country and the only country in Latin America where there is still a guerilla war. Three powerful women led the delegation: Edith, Marilyn Clement, and Cecilia Zarate-Laum. We met the most courageous woman in Colombia: Gloria Cuartas, mayor of a city in northwestern Colombia surrounded by paramilitaries and guerillas. Our days were filled with poignant meetings with women; we heard the grief of women living in a militarized state and of being displaced. I imagined it was especially painful for Edith, knowing

she retained the memories of her family being forcibly expelled from their home in Czechoslovakia before WWII. In Colombia, we were reminded of the courage of Edith's inspired leadership.

Conflict still reigns in the areas where Edith has worked for peace, but the fact that we know about these struggles, that Edith brought the voices of women and men from these societies to the UN and to the Commission on Human Rights, and she did all these things in WILPF's name, makes me proud to have known her and to be part of this women's organization that embraces all of humanity.

Robin Lloyd is a member of the Burlington, VT Branch and a WILPF U.S. National Board member. You can order her videos about WILPF, "Courageous Women of Colombia" and "Peace Train to Beijing," at greenvalleymedia.org.

WILPF BOARD CHANGES FISCAL SPONSOR

The Board of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, U.S. Section, has entered into a one-year fiscal sponsorship agreement with the Peace Development Fund (peacedevelopmentfund.org). This relationship replaces WILPF's prior fiscal sponsorship arrangement with the Jane Addams Peace Association (janeaddamspeace.org).

Donors seeking tax deductions for their contributions to WILPF by check should make their checks payable to the Peace Development Fund, and put U.S. WILPF in the memo line. These checks should be sent directly to U.S. WILPF's national office at 11 Arlington Street, Boston, MA 02116.

If you are currently making a monthly tax deductible contribution to WILPF via credit card, your future statements will reflect the Peace Development Fund as the vendor.

Options for making tax deductible gifts to WILPF are also available through our website at wilpfus.org. If you have written a will with JAPA as the beneficiary with the intention of benefiting WILPF or if you are in the process of writing a will in which you'd like to make a tax deductible gift to WILPF, please contact Ria Kulenovic in the WILPF office to discuss the implications of this new relationship for your gift. She can be reached at rkulenovic@wilpf.org or 617/266-0999.

▶ Coming Drone Attack

Continued from page 8

departments to get permits for their own squadrons of drones.

Given the Department of Homeland Security militarization of police departments, once the circle is completed with San Francisco or New York or Chicago local cops having their own drone fleet – and with Chase, HSBC and other banks having hired local police, as I reported here last week – the meshing of military, domestic law enforcement, and commercial interests is absolute. You don't need a messy, distressing declaration of martial law.

And drone fleets owned by private corporations means that a First Amendment right of assembly is now over: if Occupy is massing outside of a bank, send the drone fleet to surveil, track and harass them. If citizens rally outside the local Capitol? Same thing. As one of my readers put it, the scary thing about this new arrangement is deniability: bad things done to citizens by drones can be denied by private interests – “Oh, that must have been an LAPD drone” – and LAPD can insist that it must have been a private industry drone. For where, of course, will be the accountability from citizens buzzed or worse by these things?

Domestic drone use is here, and the meshing has begun: local cops in Grand Forks, ND called in a DHS Predator drone – the same make that has caused hundreds of civilian casualties in Pakistan – over a dispute involving a herd of cattle. The military rollout in process and planned, within the U.S., is massive: the *Christian Science Monitor* reports that a total of 110 military sites for drone activity are either built or will be built, in 39 states. That covers America.

We don't need a military takeover: with these capabilities on U.S. soil and this Air Force white paper authorization for data collection, the military will be effectively in control of the private lives of American citizens. And these drones are not yet weaponized.

“I don't think it's crazy to worry about weaponized drones. There is a real consensus that has emerged against allowing weaponized drones domestically. The International Association of Chiefs of Police has recommended against it,” warns Jay Stanley, senior policy analyst at the ACLU, noting that there is already political pressure in favor of weaponization:

“At the same time, it is inevitable that we will see [increased] pressure to allow weaponized drones. The way that it will unfold is probably this: somebody will want to put a relatively ‘soft’ nonlethal weapon on a

drone for crowd control. And then things will ratchet up from there.”

And the risk of that? The New America Foundation's report on drone use in Pakistan noted that *The Guardian* had confirmed 193 children's deaths from drone attacks in seven years. It noted that for the deaths of 10 militants, 1,400 civilians with no involvement in terrorism also died. Not surprisingly, everyone in that region is traumatized: children scream when they hear drones. An NYU and Stanford Law School report notes that drones “terrorize citizens 24 hours a day.”

If U.S. drones may first be weaponized with crowd-control features, not lethal force features, but with no risk to military or to police departments or DHS, the playing field for freedom of assembly is changed forever. So is our private life, as the ACLU's Stanley explains:

“Our biggest concerns about the deployment of drones domestically is that they will be used to create pervasive surveillance networks. The danger would be that an ordinary individual once they step out of their house will be monitored by a drone everywhere they walk or drive. They may not be aware of it. They might be monitored or tracked by some silent invisible drone everywhere they walk or drive.”

“So what? Why should they worry?” I asked. “Your comings and goings can be very revealing of who you are and what you are doing and reveal very intrusive things about you – what houses of worship you are going to, political meetings, particular doctors, your friends' and lovers' houses.”

I mentioned the Air Force white paper. “Isn't the military not supposed to be spying on Americans?” I asked. “Yes, the Posse Comitatus act passed in the 19th century forbids a military role in law enforcement among Americans.”

What can we do if we want to oppose this? I wondered. According to Stanley, many states are passing legislation banning domestic drone use. Once again, in the fight to keep America a republic, grassroots activism is pitched in an unequal contest against a militarized federal government.

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Marge Van Cleef, mvc@igc.org (267/763-1644), and Joan Ecklein, joanecklein@comcast.net (617/244-8054), are the point persons from the DISARM/End War Issue Committee of U.S. WILPF for concerns/actions regarding drones. They welcome you to contact one of them for more information and to get involved.

MID-YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT (JAN.–AUG. 2013)

	Budget 2013	8 Month Actual	% of Budgeted Amount
Transfer From Reserves	\$47,539.00	\$47,539	
Temporarily Restricted Carry-Over Funds	\$22,188.00	\$0.00	

Receipts

Resource Sales, Subscriptions, and Royalties	\$1,000.00	\$749.06	75%
Membership Dues and Life Memberships	\$43,000.00	\$21,904.00	51%
Branch Contributions	\$3,500.00	\$645.00	18%
Events and Initiatives: UN Practicum, Local2Global, Special Appeal, National Congress	\$74,000.00	\$35,048.00	47%
Individual Contributions-UNRESTRICTED	\$67,000.00	\$37,448.70	56%
Individual Contributions-RESTRICTED	\$33,000.00	\$32,700.00	99%
Monthly Pledges (Sustaining Members)	\$7,700.00	\$5,723.85	74%
Gifts, Tributes, and Memorials	\$1,000.00	\$65.00	7%
Bequests	\$30,000.00	\$2,000.00	7%
Foundation Grants	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	
JAPA Peace Education Funds (P&F)	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	100%
Investment Income (PAX Fund)	\$800.00	\$8,465.45	
Miscellaneous Income	\$0.00	\$3,350.00	
Total Income	\$347,227.00	\$197,138.06	57%

Expenses

Personnel	\$149,900.00	\$90,402.96	60%
Organizational Expenses	\$88,200.00	\$14,197.47	16%
Operating/Office Expenses	\$53,760.00	\$27,571.10	51%
Events and Initiatives	\$55,850.00	\$31,122.72	56%
Total Expenses	\$347,710.00	\$163,294.25	47%
Net Operating Income	(483.00)	\$33,843.81	

Correction: The financial report on page 25 of the Spring, 2013 issue of Peace & Freedom illustrates the 2013 WILPF U.S. operating budget, before year-end adjustments. That report was mistakenly labeled "Income and Expense Jul 2012–Dec 2012." WILPF's financial report for FY2012 is available on line at wilpfus.org/about/financial-reports.

WILPF HISTORY DOCUMENTED IN *WOMEN AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS, INTERNATIONAL*



An early WILPF leaflet uses a drawing featuring the symbols of the skull and crossbones for poison gas (upper right) and a container of the gas (upper left), hoping to use the repulsion chemical warfare engendered to convince the public of the folly of spending 88% of the national budget on the military.

A member of WILPF could access the database by calling a major academic library in her area and asking a reference librarian whether that library subscribes to *Women and Social Movements, International*. Librarians and faculty members can receive a free trial of the resource by going to alexanderstreet.com/products/women-and-social-movements-international.

MEMBERS INVITED TO COMMENT ON VISIONS FOR WILPF'S FUTURE

For the first time WILPF U.S. section invited eight emerging leaders to join the Board at a retreat, "Renewal, Transformation and Sustainability as We Move Forward to the Next 100 Years." The emerging leaders included Altaira Hatton of Eureka, CA; Alexandria Rain Smith of Missoula, MT; Nicole Scott of Detroit, MI; Melissa Torres of Houston, TX; Kristin Alder of Southlake, TX; Rachel Nagin of Washington, D.C.; Nyota Robinson of Pittsburgh, PA; and Abigail Ruane of New York City. The emerging leaders were selected based on essays they wrote about their visions for WILPF, and these essays can be found on the WILPF U.S. website.

Thanks to the generosity of Joan Bazar and Ellen Schwartz, Kerstin Greback from WILPF Sweden was also able to attend the retreat at the Walker Peace Center in Auburndale, Massachusetts. Kerstin shared Sweden's story of welcoming the next generation of leaders to WILPF and increasing membership in her section overall.

Members are invited to comment on the outline of tasks which resulted from the September retreat to imagine WILPF's next 100 years. To participate, go to 100years.wilpfus.org/. The invitation to comment reads:

We want your input and ideas for our next 100 years! Here you will find the vision and goals created by our four break-out groups during our September retreat. They are Program, Finance and Development, Communications, and Personnel. We were told to think big- focus on our hopes and dreams for WILPF-U.S. Our breakout group visions and goals are meant to function as a working document. Nothing about this has been set in stone. Everything is open for debate and new ideas. The details will come later, now is the time to create our shared future.

It is our hope that all WILPF U.S. members will help shape our future by contributing. We also hope that regional and branch meetings will take the time to discuss and contribute to this collaboration. When commenting, think about all of the great promise WILPF has and the big picture ways you hope WILPF will thrive in the next 100 years.

WILPF NATIONAL BOARD

NOMINATIONS DUE JANUARY 1, 2014

By Darien De Lu

These are demanding times for activists in the U.S. and for WILPF U.S. The upcoming 2014 WILPF national board elections call for candidates with special qualities of passion, clear sightedness and leadership abilities. Now is the time to submit your application for one of the 11 board openings, which — in this special election — have terms of varying lengths: either one, two, or three years.

This election marks two changes. First, members will directly elect the president along with other officers. Secondly, staggered terms will ensure continuity of the board. So this round only, some will serve one year, others two years and the rest a full three-year term. In future elections, all terms will be for three years. Below are brief job descriptions of the positions and the term lengths of service, beginning with the 2014 election:

(CO-)PRESIDENT (Two years)

The only position that may be shared by two individuals is that of the (Co-) President(s), the administrative-executive officer(s) who must see that decisions and policies set by the Board are implemented.

SECRETARY (One year)

The Secretary ensures that Board minutes are coherent, corrected, and readily available for reference.

TREASURER (Three years)

The Treasurer is the chief fiscal officer of the Section and chair of the Finance Committee.

PERSONNEL CHAIR (Three years)

The Personnel Chair chairs the Personnel Committee, which ensures that personnel issues, including hiring and evaluations, are addressed and all personnel policies are implemented.

PROGRAM CHAIRS (One 3-year term, one 1-year term)

The two Program Chairs work to oversee the Program Committee and assist and direct it in its responsibility for ensuring the integrity and effectiveness of WILPF's programmatic activities, including fostering broad member participation in these activities.

DEVELOPMENT CHAIR (Two years)

The Development Chair works with the same-named committee to expand WILPF's financial resources and support base.

NOMINATING CHAIR (Two years)

The Nominating Committee Chair leads the Nominating Committee, which encourages participation at the national and international level and helps expand our leadership circles.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR (Three years)

The Membership Development Committee Chair and committee support the growth, sustainability, and development of U.S. WILPF's membership and ongoing contact with branches.

AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS (One 2-year term, one 1-year term)

The two At-Large Board Members board positions are designed to attract younger and/or busier WILPF U.S. members and give them the experience of board membership with a lower level of responsibility than other board positions. Although their duties are, intentionally, not specified, the At-Large members are encouraged to volunteer for various board committees and tasks that arise in the course of their term.

Completed nomination papers are due by **Jan. 1, 2014**. Nominees must have been members in good standing for at least the prior 24 months. Ballots will be mailed to paid-up members by **Feb. 21** and tallied by **April 4**. Board member application forms are available at wilpfus.org/story/leadership-opportunities, or by calling or writing to the national office. Questions about the nomination process can also be sent to nominations@wilpf.org.

Darien De Lu bikes to work to her full time job in behavioral health. She writes political and labor songs and sings with her guitar-playing husband. She is active in union, peace, justice, Latin America solidarity, and WILPF work, at the national level and in her Sacramento/ Sierra Foothills Branch. She can be contacted at 916/739-0860 or conjoin@macnexus.org.

NUCLEAR ABOLITION CAMPAIGN BEGINS, MINI-GRANT PROGRAM FUNDS VISIONARY INITIATIVE

WILPF Program Committee Reports Submitted by Ellen Schwartz

Nuclear Abolition Campaign

In an exciting development, the WILPF National Program Committee is developing a national campaign for complete nuclear abolition (nuclear power as well as weapons) by 2020. The DISARM/End Wars Committee will be working on a toolkit to which the other committees (Advancing Human Rights; Corporations v Democracy; Cuba, Women, and the Bolivarian Alliance; Earth Democracy and Middle East) will contribute. The toolkit will provide resources for branches to participate in this project.

WILPF Mini-grant Program

The Mini-grant Program awards grants (up to \$2500) to **branches** or **issue committees** for projects that serve WILPF's mission and vision by building our program, favoring those that can be shared and replicated, and that will have a national impact. They may fund small one-time projects or seed larger efforts to help procure outside funding.

Currently there are three funding cycles per year. The deadlines and grant application forms are available on our website (wilpfus.org) in the Resources section or by calling the WILPF national office at 617/266-0999. Some notable recent projects include :

The **Des Moines, IA Branch** has embarked on a long-term project to promote support for Food Sovereignty among Iowans and beyond. This project was inspired by the fact that the esteemed World Food Prize, an international award based in Des Moines, has in recent years been taken over by Monsanto, which is listed as a major sponsor of the Prize and is also a recipient of it. They started last year and early this year with a study group and this fall they will hold a day-long symposium as part of the "Alternative World Food Prize" project.

The **San Jose, CA Branch** has received a grant to research agricultural policies of the World Bank, IMF and multi-national corporations. The branch is developing a website with resource materials. This project will work well with the Des Moines Branch World Food Prize project.

In May, 2012, the **Cape Cod, MA Branch** held a "Roots of Violence, Seeds of Change" Conference. The conference began with a political fashion show inspired by WILPF members and others in San Francisco. It opened with a runway presentation of costumes modeled by

branch members and friends. The costumes represented conference workshop topics, issues that are important both locally and more widely: militarism, immigration, hunger, water, housing/homelessness, corporate power, and gender violence.

The conference was followed up with monthly meetings on the workshop topics. The branch succeeded in reaching out to the social service providers who work with many of these issues daily and to students from the college. Plans are also in the works to televise the WILPF Political Fashion Show on public access television and to make the show available Capewide by broadcasting to all fifteen Cape towns.

The **Washington, DC Branch** received a grant in 2011 to build a campaign to ban weapons containing depleted uranium, in collaboration with WILPF's Reaching Critical Will Project and the International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons. The project sought to involve U.S. WILPF branches in two efforts – 1) to promote viewings of the documentary URANIO 238 in the branches and then followed up with a larger viewing to spread information; and 2) to join a letter writing campaign involving outreach to the U.S. Congress, Department of State, UN Representatives and others.

The **Earth Democracy Issue Committee** has received three mini-grants over the last two years to conduct workshops with branches (so far in Ohio and California) promoting the Precautionary Principle and the principal of Guardianship of the Earth for Future Generations. National WILPF is looking for funding to allow this project to be expanded and shared with all interested branches.

The **Boston, MA Branch** has received a grant to pursue a campaign of education on Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution (in which Japan renounces war forever), as a model for the United States.

Both the **Missoula Branch** and the **Cuba and the Bolivarian Alliance Issue Committee** received mini-grants to hold "side events" at the 2013 United Nations Commission on the Status of Women meetings.

Ellen Schwartz is Co-Chair of the WILPF National Program Committee and a member of the Sacramento/Sierra Foothills Branch. She can be reached at 916/835-4330 or ellen@nicetechnology.com.

BRANCH ACTION NEWS

Edited by Georgia Pinkel

WILPF Issue Committees

WILPF's seven Issue Committees and various subcategories are used to show branch action news in this issue of *Peace & Freedom*. Let's see how this structure helps move the work forward. Hopefully, this might become part of a more interactive tally to help us with our vision and focus. Not every action of every branch is included here, but even so, you see the range and passion of WILPF work all over the country!

Advancing Human Rights

Monterey County participated in the local Fourth of July parade in the Whistleblowers Marching Band!!

Palo Alto/Peninsula

Branch hosted a community discussion on the Homeless Bill of Rights and Fairness Act (AB5) and other local homeless issues including the ban on Vehicle Dwelling. **Des Moines** Branch joined the Immigration Reform Rally at their State Capitol and Defending the Dreamers in June.

St Louis hosted Sr. Simone Campbell, SSS (Nuns on the Bus) as she spoke of Economic Justice for All: Linking the Economy, Healthcare and Immigration. The **Detroit** Branch June event focused on Human Trafficking.

Building the Beloved Community

Fresno WILPFer honored and asks for Toilet Paper – Bev Fitzpatrick received the Way of Peace Award for work with the Thursday Group which supports the dignity and humanity of homeless people – marshaling more volunteers and resources than the city and county combined. The request was not a joke – basic resources are always needed.

Corporations v Democracy

Protesting the cutting of the social safety net, the **Des Moines** Raging Grannies rallied against the Chained CPI proposal and other SS issues. **Madison** Branch along with Move to Amend (MTA) commemorates May 10th as the infamous day that corporations assumed the rights of persons with a banner held up on a local freeway overpass saying instead - "Corporations are Not People and Money is Not Speech" **Santa Barbara** and MTA sponsored a forum with David Cobb and Margaret Koster in July – SRO crowd! **Monterey County** Branch received the Monterey Bay Labor Council's Friends of Labor Award as their members participate in the rallies and boycotts of Unite Here Local 483 (formerly the Hotel/Restaurant Workers Union). They also co-ordinate with AFD and MTA and also sponsored David Cobb's appearance there. **St Louis** hosted a presentation on "Why the Rich are Getting Richer and

the Poor are getting Poorer: The Causes and Consequence of Growing Inequality." Dr. Allan MacNeill's research concerns the relationship between increasing income inequality and consumerism.

Cuba, Women and the Bolivarian Alliance

Fresno WILPF members joined with the 24th Pastors for Peace U.S.-Cuba Friendship Caravan in July to help rebuilding after Hurricane Sandy. This fall the committee invites you to travel to Havana and participate in

the 8th International Conference of Women in the 21st Century Nov. 22–Dec 1, 2013. The mission is to build a strong U.S. women's movement dedicated to ending the U.S. Government blockade of Cuba and to create mutually beneficial U.S.-Cuba relations, the work being rooted in the concept of universal human rights, racial and economic justice and women's rights. For further details, email 2013delegation@gmail.com or womenandcuba.org. **St. Louis** reports that the Molecular Immunology Center of Havana is currently testing four vaccines against different types of cancer – a



This July, WILPF members from the **Portland, Oregon Branch** joined with hundreds of other activists from across the Pacific Northwest region to demonstrate their opposition to proposed oil, coal and gas terminals and their commitment to take action such that none shall pass through the region. After a morning of workshops and speakers on the dangers of the proposed expansions in the polluting fossil fuel infrastructure, activists took to the water and the I-5 Bridge to create a symbolic blockade of the Columbia River and to demonstrate readiness to prevent these terminals from being constructed. The banner reads, "Coal, Oil, Gas / None Shall Pass."

situation totally ignored by the international mainstream media, but published in the U.S. National Library of Medicine in PubMed or PubMed Central.

DISARM/End Wars: 2013 Nuclear Abolition Campaign and Banning Weaponized Drones

Many branches commemorated Aug. 6 – **Boston** with a full day – procession, music, talks and the film “Hibakusha, Our Lives to Live” and discussion with the film maker, David Rothauser and visiting Article 9 Specialist, Prof. Akihiko Kimijima from Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto; **St Louis** on Aug. 4 with a potluck dinner, speakers and the traditional Candle Boat Ceremony; **Sacramento** with a talk by Marylia Kelley of Tri Valley CAREs and songs about peace and justice; **Des Moines** participated in the laying of flowers at the Japanese Bell on the Iowa Supreme Court grounds supporting the theme of Never Again. **Ashland** commemorated Aug. 6–13 with various events – a nuclear

maze, origami crane folding, and various musical presentations ending with the film, *The Atomic States of America*.

Santa Barbara commemorates year round with their dramatic enlarged photo-panels featuring “A-Bombs of Hiroshima” at anti-war demonstrations at Vandenberg AFB. **Madison** commemorated with a Peace and Freedom dinner at the Democracy

Convention. **Santa Barbara** sponsored a local Peace Festival in May. MacGregor Eddy of **Monterey County** Branch participates in anti-drone demonstrations at Beale AFB, home of Global Hawk Drones. **Des Moines** peace activists walked 200 miles from Iowa to Illinois to Ground the Drones in an effort to keep drones out of the state. Women in Black still vigil for peace in **Fresno**. **Santa Cruz** tells us of success in California with one of the two nuclear plants to be shut down! **Cape Cod** proposed two actions against drones – circulate the petition and organize monthly “Death Walk” against Drone warfare – an hour-long walking vigil with drums, leaflets. **Detroit** Branch heard about the Lessons of Fukushima from Cecile Pineda as she toured the U.S. and

they also protested the Fermi 3 nuclear power plant. **Los Angeles** Branch has weekly anti-drone demonstrations.

Earth Democracy [with its framing initiatives: *The Precautionary Principle* and *Guardianship of Future Generations*]:

- Food Democracy/Local Economy:
- Global Warming/Renewable Energy
- Human Right to Water and Health
- Rights of Nature/Future Generation Guardianship

Monterey County Branch members are working to support legislation to stop fracking in CA. **Des Moines** joined in the formation of a Citizens Climate Lobby (citizensclimatelobby.org). **Fresno** is working on Eco Shelters. **Des Moines** showed a film on GMOs in June. **St. Louis** Branch on May Day heard from Rabbi Waskow as he warned that the earth cannot sustain unending economic growth, which is the foundation of modern industrial economy – capitalist or socialist. He

cited several biblical practices that might be reconsidered, that economics and ecologies are intimately intertwined: letting both the land and workers rest every seven years; annulling debts, redistributing land every 50 years and he described taxes as a form of tithing for the common good. **Cape Cod** asked itself four questions around Protecting the Groundwater and resolved to spend

time learning the answers and how they impact each person, town and eco system, learning the difference between watershed, lens and aquifer. This builds on previous year’s learning opportunities. Check out the Moana Nui statement from the indigenous peoples of the Pacific Rim cultures on climate change and global trade agreements: moananui2011.org. **Greater Philadelphia** participated in “Think Outside the Bottle” Campaign to eliminate bottled water in our National Parks. **Madison** and other members from five states and three Issue Committees were at the Democracy Convention in force! See DemocracyConvention.org for details on the nine tracks, the agenda and WILPF panels!

Continued on next page



Members of the **Cape Cod Branch** hung t-shirts from an overpass on Route 6, the main highway running from Falmouth to Provincetown, to bring awareness to “16 Days of Action Against Gender Violence” campaign. The t-shirts read, “END VIOLENCE VS ♀”

► Branch Action News *(Continued)*

Middle East

Portland Branch hosted Barbara Taft, expert on Middle East issues, who shared the evening with musician Tom Neilson for an interesting event of education and fun. **St Louis** Palestine Solidarity Committee is working against a contract with Veolia Water based on its discriminatory activities in Palestine and other considerations (perhaps France's counterpart to America's Halliburton). **Greater Philadelphia** hosted screenings of *Budrus* in a local library in March, with information about Israeli and Palestinian conflict available. And in April, they hosted a screening of *Five Broken Cameras*.

Best Practices

There's still more to report on branch activities that don't fit into the Issue Committees categories:

Fresno WILPFer, Jean Hays hosts a great local radio show the fourth Wednesday of each month at 3 p.m. on KFCF 88.1 FM – as a way to outreach to the community.

Fresno also hosted the great California WILPF Cluster Meeting in April – coordinating action on legislation and hearing from branch and issue committees. **Santa Cruz** presented a program on the Jane Addams Children's Books both as a fund raiser and promotion of the books themselves. A local bookstore makes them available for sale and shares a percentage of the sales with the chapter which is used to purchase and donate sets to two local schools. Next year it will be held during the school year.

Santa Cruz members, Jane Weed Pomeranz and Nia Shima-Franklin reported on their experiences as WILPF delegates to the 57th meeting of UN Commission on the Status of Women this past March joining over 200 other NGO organizations from around the world including 57 WILPFers as they focused on Violence Against Women. They spoke of the various types of outreach – including men's groups (Men Creating Change on the UCSC campus), We Can Network (African tribe men working for peaceful solutions to family problems) and Ring the Bell Campaign (an international movement to get one million men to promise to stop violence against women). How many WILPF branches have Facebook accounts? Check out **Des Moines** at [facebook.com/WILPFDSM](https://www.facebook.com/WILPFDSM). How many WILPF branches have their own websites? Check out **Portland's** newest: WILFPDX.org. **St Louis's** new branch president's visions for the future are practical and achievable – every member wearing WILPF pins for visibility and more emphasis on WILPF's campaigns – nuclear-free future, comprehensive arms trade treaty, stronger links between CEDAW and SCR1325 and stronger links among women in the

Middle East and North Africa. **St. Louis** reminds us of MLK's April 4, 1967 speech and its anti-war sentiments. Perhaps a better reading, a more complete reading is something we need to do rather than being told what the important thoughts are by mainstream media. **Cape Cod** asks itself what skills does it need from the Democratic Arts set and decides to devote 15 minutes of every meeting to learning about consensus, meeting facilitation, conflict resolution. What could your branch benefit from learning? **Cape Cod** is also providing training in TV show production to revitalize "In Your Face News" local programming of women's voices and WILPF analysis.

Send your news for Branch Action News to G.L. Pinkel, 2718 Falk Road, Vancouver, WA 98661 or by email to glpinkel@gmail.com.

► Activism

Continued from page 18

corporation; or we need to protest and shut things down.”

This analysis was reinforced by Lauren Regan, lead attorney for the Civil Liberties Defense Center, who talked in depth about some of the successes of Idle No More and the Keystone Pipeline protests. At a session titled, "Human, Civil, Labor, and Earth Rights Not Corporate Rights," Regan was joined by Sherri Mitchell, Executive Director of the Land Peace Foundation for the protection of Indigenous lands, who focused on explaining how intersectional, cross movement solidarity work creates spaces for native people, undocumented workers, students and workers to combine their unique strengths and succeed in stopping corporate destruction of the earth and its resources, such as when workers at TransCanada—emboldened by activist outcry—themselves publicly exposed the shoddiness of the company's pipeline engineering. What the success stories Regan and Mitchell described demonstrate is that protest is most effective when it is strategically focused on private entities and involves direct action civil disobedience.

Visionary must not be equated with naïve idealism or turning a blind eye to reality. But, the excitement—and also the challenge—is realizing the opportunity to create a new system that's based on completely different values. The first thing we must begin to teach our children (and learn ourselves) is a respect for natural limitations, including the limits of human intelligence, and the fallacy of spending and consuming endlessly. The potential for society to change for the better exists in something more simple and subtle than acts of aggression and protests. Revolution, Boggs says, is about something deeper within the human experience: the ability to transform oneself to transform the world.

Emily Busam majors in Environmental Studies at Lawrence University in Appleton, WI and served as the Administrative/Earth Democracy Intern at the WILPF national office. She can be reached at emily.busam@gmail.com.

ISSUES IN THIS ISSUE



- Abandoned Uranium Mines
- Civil Disobedience
- Domestic Drones
- Earth Democracy
- Human Trafficking
- JAPA Children's Book Awards
- Nuclear Abolition Campaign
- Nuclear Power Plants
- Sept. 11: A Day Without War
- Women Ending War

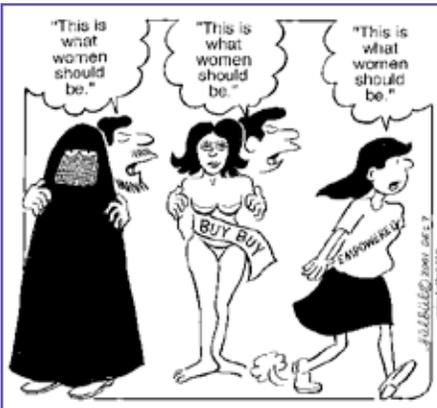
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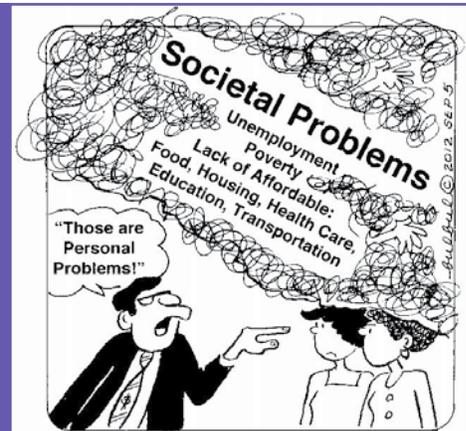
LEILA ZAND ON WOMEN IN IRAN

The 'veiled' violence against women, in Iran and around the world

PLUS LOTS OF WILPF NEWS

Taking action because the personal is political!

- 100 Year Anniversary in 2015
- Branch Action News
- Congress in 2014 and Regionals
- Election of New Officers/Board
- Fiscal Sponsor Change
- Honoring Edith Ballantyne
- Member Feedback Wanted
- Mid-Year Financial Report
- Mini-Grants Available
- Women's History Resource



Many thanks to Bulbul for making her wonderful cartoons available to *Peace & Freedom*. Genny Guracar cartoons under her pen name Bulbul. Her "Women's Herstory" quilt appears on our back cover. For more of her work, see bulbul.com.

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