



PEACE & FREEDOM

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

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The Missile Next Door

Also in this issue:

Blowin' the Whistle on Nuke Power • Afghanistan: Behind the Headlines

A Global Corporate Coup in the Making • Drones and Endless War

WILPF's 100 Year Anniversary • Promoting Sustainable Development + Gender Equality

The "Idle No More" Movement • Step Up to WILPF Membership



Three girls studying together at the Omid School (School of Hope) in Afghanistan. They are studying in a tent until their school can be rebuilt after being bombed. Story, page 9. Photo: Peggy Kelsey

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About the cover artist: Marci Mathew's paintings focus on the raw beauty of womanhood and the spiritual relationship between women and nature. Marci also paints on the themes of motherhood, women's rights and the refugee experience. Her main focus is to create empowering and peaceful images of women. Marci lives in Jersey City, New Jersey with her husband and 8 year old son and is dedicated to supporting pregnant women and honoring the sacredness of birth in her work as a birth doula and childbirth educator.

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

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 ECOSOC.

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LET'S PLAY TO WIN

By Laura Roskos, U.S. WILPF President



How does WILPF fit into the larger picture of social, legal and cultural change? What can WILPF bring to the table of movement coalitions in formation? These are questions I would urge us all to think about this spring, when so many of the causes we care about are growing in

popularity and enlivening the mainstream of political life.

WILPF's recent nomination for the 2013 Nobel Peace Prize reminds us that WILPF's impact on history, even on this particular moment in history, far exceeds its wealth or numbers. I'm certain many of us have wondered why this has been so. Especially on those days when one feels pulled in a hundred competing directions, how—we might ask ourselves—can we sustain the energy and focus that yields tangible results?

At the level of a committee or branch, teamwork seems to be key to avoiding over-extension and burn out. In a well-functioning group, tasks are divided up in a way that “fits” the talents, time availability and energies of the various group members. When done this way, accountability is easily achieved and the trust built creates a momentum of its own.

Sometimes, it's harder to see how team-work functions at the national or international levels of a membership organization that relies on volunteer energy to accomplish major social change and policy reform. The International Program of work mirrors the presentations made by our Secretary General and program directors at the WILPF International Congress in Costa Rica, explaining how our professional staff serves to coordinate, document and deepen the international impact of the work members do everyday at the local and national levels.

Within our section, we ask branches to report annually on their activities using the Evergreen Branch

survey, which can be downloaded from <http://wilpfus.org/story/branch-directory>. By collecting and analyzing our ongoing work, we can better understand our successes and build stronger campaigns.

As an organization, WILPF is thriving internationally and achieving a new level of coherence through its campaigns for a nuclear free future, a comprehensive arms trade treaty, stronger linkages between CEDAW and SCR 1325, and among women in the Middle East and North African countries. The 2012 budget for our international secretariat and projects topped \$1M last year and is projected at \$1.3M for 2013, and we have significant reserves.

There remains an ongoing need to raise additional funds to support the overhead of the U.N. office in New York and expand organizing within our sections, but we are on a firm footing as we look toward our second hundred years.

"WILPF focuses on building the capacity of grassroots organizations to enhance their ability to use and develop existing international legal and political frameworks in order to achieve fundamental change in how [nation] States conceptualize and address issues of gender, justice, militarism, peace, and security."—from the WILPF International Program, 2011–2015

Section fees remain an important income stream for our international operations; however these fees alone are not enough to enable WILPF to launch programs and successful campaigns. The same is true for our section's budget—member dues alone are not enough

to support the level of advocacy work we want WILPF to perform. In order to even approximate that level of influence and impact, we will need to be open to new partnerships, welcoming to new leaders with unfamiliar skill sets, and actively cultivate new sources of revenue.

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LEGISLATION TO WATCH

H.R. 808, the “Department of Peacebuilding Act of 2013” to create a cabinet-level Secretary and Department of Peacebuilding, introduced by Congresswoman Barbara Lee.

H.R. 676, the “Expanded and Improved Medicare for All Act”, introduced by Congressman John Conyers.

House Joint Resolution 29, the “We the People” amendment to the U.S. Constitution clarifying that rights recognized under the Constitution belong to human beings only and that political campaign spending is not a form of speech protected under the First Amendment, introduced by Congressmen Rick Dolan and Mark Pocan.

Senate Bill 332, the “Climate Protection Act of 2013” which has all the needed parts (the carbon tax, the speeded-up schedule, the payment to citizens, keeping the playing field level for companies, and especially rectifying the fracking regulations to comply with the Clean Air Act, disclosing chemicals before the harm is done), introduced by Senators Bernie Sanders and Barbara Boxer.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear WILPF National Office:

As I recall, I joined the Women's International League in 1938. I am now 103 and running out of strength and money, but I am so thankful that I can send in my dues one more time—and I could still read the last issue of *Peace & Freedom*. I liked the tone of it and I glory in your goals and perseverance. Keep on keeping on!!!
—Rachel Krieder, Goshen, IN

Dear WILPF Editor:

Thank you for the article, "What is Hamas?" by Ellen Rosser. It was great to read a reasoned review of Hamas, which has been so soundly maligned by the U.S. and Israel, two countries which have a lot to answer for as to terrorism, much more so than Hamas I would say.

Israel complains that it has no "partner for peace," but whenever one emerges, he is either killed or imprisoned. I believe it's true that Israel has never wanted peace until it can consolidate its holdings over the entire area of Palestine (at a minimum). Israel has never defined its borders, keeping it fluid so as to be able to incorporate further confiscations. Israel's rejection (actually ignoring) of the Arab Peace Initiative of 2002 is an example of its disinterest in peace.

I note in the *Washington Post* of today (10-27-12) that the U.S. is now badgering Europe to label Hezbollah as a terrorist organization also. What won't we do for the benefit of Israel?!
—Doris Rausch, Columbia, MD

Dear Laura Roskos, President:

I am very concerned about Ellen Rosser's article on Hamas in the fall edition of *Peace & Freedom*.

In the last few weeks Hamas supported elements have been shooting rockets into Israel, causing serious injuries and property damage.

Her last paragraph where she states that 20 countries including Iran continue to offer peace to Israel is beyond my comprehension.

Iran has repeatedly stated their intention to wipe Israel off the face of the earth.

She also asks us to separate the good Hamas from the bad Hamas—give me a break!

—Martin Blumenthal, Chester Springs, PA

Dear Martin Blumenthal:

Thank you for responding to my article on Hamas. Let me answer your criticisms in order. First, in regard to the current regrettable escalation of conflict at the border between Israel and Gaza, I refer you to Dr. Julie Chaitin, an Israeli professor who lives near the border with Gaza and who calls on both sides to stop fighting and start talking to negotiate peace and protect the civilians on both sides. Dr. Chaitin describes the intolerable situation as follows: "Every few weeks violence across the Gaza/Israel border surges. Israel air raids in Gaza kill and injure innocent civilians, and rockets fired from Gaza into civilian populations in Israel cause trauma, chaos and physical harm." She, who is suffering in the situation, calls for talks between Israel and Hamas as the solution. So does WILPF.

Second, in regard to Iran, the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), which consists of 50 Muslim countries including Iran, has endorsed the Arab Peace Initiative of 2002, which all the Arab countries and Hamas have endorsed, and which offers Israel peace and security. Explicitly, the Initiative calls for Israel to withdraw from all territory occupied in 1967, and to accept "the establishment of a Sovereign Independent Palestinian State on the Palestinian territories occupied since the 4th of June, 1967 in the West Bank and Gaza strip, with East Jerusalem as its capital."

In return, the Arab countries will "Consider the Arab-Israeli conflict ended, and enter into a peace agreement with Israel, and provide security for all the states of the region. Establish normal relations with Israel in the context of this comprehensive peace." Israel has never responded officially to the offer of a comprehensive peace. Why? Is it because Likud Party wants East Jerusalem, the West Bank and the Golan Heights rather

than peace?

Third, Iran has not threatened the lives of any Israelis. It has stated, as do some non-Zionist or post-Zionist Israelis, that Israel should not exist but should be replaced by the large Palestine that existed before 1948. That Palestine would contain all the people living in the area now. Iran has made the analogy with the Soviet Union, which no longer exists, though all its people are still there living in what is now Russia. Incidentally, Iran is not seeking nuclear weapons, in spite of what Netanyahu repeatedly states. The Ayatollah Kameini, the real leader of Iran, has stated on Iranian television in his own language, to his own people (shown on Al Jazeera television) that nuclear weapons are contrary to the principles of Islam. If Iran were seeking to make nuclear weapons, he would not have turned his people against them on religious grounds. Gen. Ganz, the head of the International Defense Fund, has stated that Iran is not seeking nuclear weapons, and the Israeli military is opposed to a war with Iran. The U.S. military also is opposed to a war with Iran. WILPF is opposed to a war with Iran and to the sanctions that are badly harming the civilians in a country that has no desire to develop nuclear weapons nor to attack Israel or the United States.

Fourth, in regard to Hamas' control over its military branch, Izzadin Qassam, Hamas does have influence over Izzadin Qassam in Gaza; that is, Izzadin Qassam does not shoot rockets into Israel from Gaza unless Israel attacks inside Gaza. However, in the West Bank, Hamas has no control over Izzadin Qassam. In this, Hamas is comparable to the government of Israel, which has little or no control over the settlers in the West Bank. Certainly Netanyahu does not authorize the settlers to attack Palestinian cars or mosques with firebombs nor uproot Palestinian farmers' olive trees nor attack Palestinian farmers trying to harvest their crops. On the other hand, Israel seldom apprehends or punishes the settlers for their violence.

The solution to all these problems, we hope you agree, is negotiations with all parties including Hamas and a peace treaty between Israel and Palestine so that each person in the area can "sit under his own vine and under his own fig tree, and no one will make them afraid." Thank you for your comments.

Peace and blessings,

Ellen Rosser, member of the WILPF U.S. Section Middle East Committee

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

BREAKING BARRIERS TO ACHIEVE SECURITY, JUSTICE, AND PEACE

By Anne Hoiberg

Last fall, nearly 150 women peacemakers gathered at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice (KIPJ) in San Diego for its fifth international conference, "Breaking Barriers--What it will take to achieve security, justice, and peace." In her welcoming comments, Dr. Dee Aker, deputy director of the KIPJ, urged participants to be the leaders creating a new world, to ensure that women are no longer held down in achieving security, justice, and peace.

Throughout our deliberations, we confronted the roadblocks impeding women's progress: militarism, patriarchy, corruption, gender-based violence, impunity, revenge, and misogyny. Recommendations to break through these barriers were formulated, but without the active participation of women in implementing these innovations, investments by countries in security, justice, and peace will be insufficient.

Challenges to Security

Legal Instruments: Security for women begins with the signing and ratification by governments of gender-based legal instruments, specifically those developed by the United Nations. Since the 1992 adoption of the U.N.'s Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, many official documents that break barriers and meet the obligations of the Women, Security, and Peace Agenda have also been adopted, such as U.N. SCR 1325. Although nations are committed to implementing these instruments as well as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), awareness of their status seems limited at all government levels.

Agreements: Also ignored are reports that highlight the importance of adding the gender perspective to arms trade and disarmament agreements; negotiators should work closely with U.N. Women and CEDAW committee members to ensure that women's issues and an end to gender-based violence are incorporated in agreements. U.N. Security Council members also would benefit from meeting with women from conflict zones to learn about the need to integrate the gender perspective into all elements of security and about, for example, the connection between sexual abuse and the proliferation

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THE MISSILE NEXT DOOR

By Gretchen Heefner

*Editor's note: This is an excerpt from the new book *The Missile Next Door* (from the chapter "The Radical Plains.")*

The clown was fiddling with his bolt cutter. He soon realized that it was not easy to maneuver the blades around a lock when wearing a prosthetic nose and oversize shoes—particularly not when it was hot and humid and his face paint was beginning to run, smudging his thick glasses. But once the clown had the cutters in position, the steel padlock “gave way like butter [and] the gate swung open easily.” It was then that the clown and his companion entered Missouri’s Minuteman missile silo K-8 carrying balloons and a small flute. The two tied balloons to the antennas that sprouted from the ground; they threw seeds on the barren soil and lay photos of children on the missile lid. They hung banners and ribbons. When they were done, they stood on the concrete missile silo, faced the open gate, and waited for the Air Force to arrive. The companion played the flute. It was just after 7:00 am, Monday, August 15, 1988.

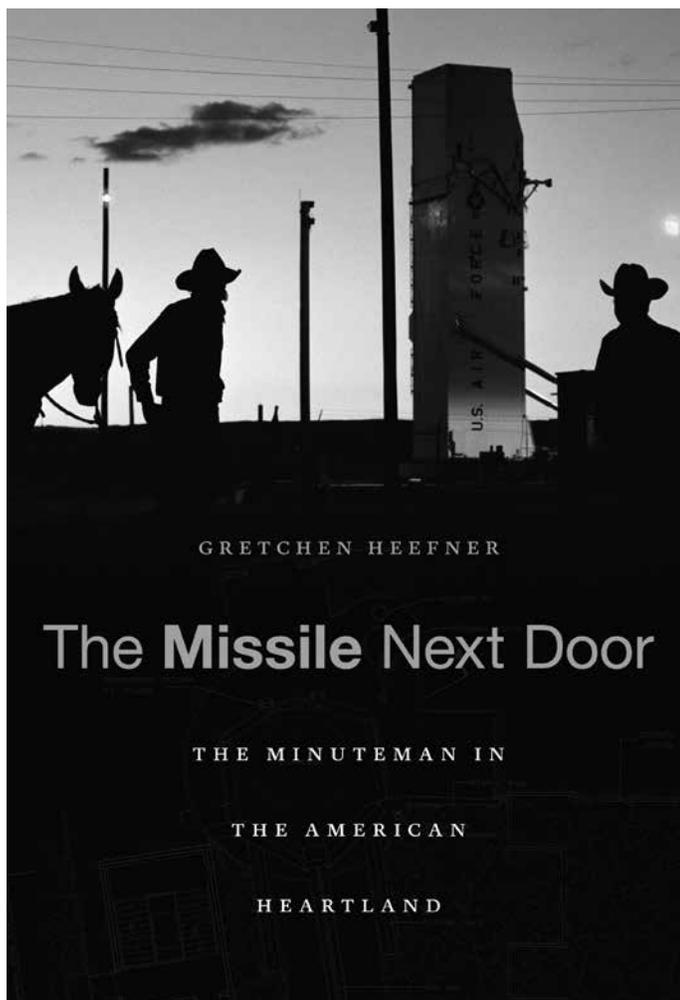
Meanwhile, nearly 30 miles away and 32 feet belowground, lights began to blink at Launch Control Center K-1, one of fifteen launch centers surrounding Whiteman Air Force Base. Each control center was responsible for watching the computer consoles that monitored ten Minuteman missiles. According to the alarm, something was inside the security fence at missile site K-8. For the two missileers sitting in the launch center, it would have been an unusual and perhaps not totally unwelcome break in the routine: most 12-hour shifts they merely had to sit and wait, perform

maintenance checks and conduct occasional drills. The job, according to one missileer, was “sheer boredom punctuated by seconds of panic.” They were trained, in fact, to perform a task no one ever wanted them to do: turn the keys and enter the codes that would launch the Minuteman.

A security breach at a missile site could mean many things. In the early years of Minuteman deployment, back in the 1960s when the missiles went in, the sensors were so sensitive that “high-jumping grasshoppers” seemed to set the darn things off. More often than not it was just the wind. While the sensors had been updated since then, alarms still sounded on occasion; sometimes large animals were found roaming the 2-acre plot, unable to get out. (How they got in was another matter entirely.) In South Dakota it was rumored that two camels had escaped an area Nativity play and were found rubbing up against a silo fence. On a few very rare occasions people had been found on the sites. Regardless of the type of alarm, the protocol was clear: when a breach occurred, a security team was dispatched to

the silo in question. Only then could the Air Force be certain of what was going on. The Minuteman missile sites themselves were unmanned. Isolation was the best security around.

This same protocol was followed on August 15, 1988. But this was not a drill or a computer glitch; there were no grasshoppers or strong winds that day. As



the security detail headed out on the drive to K-8, the missileers would have noted that it was not the only silo sounding an alarm: lights went off on K-6, then L-9 and G-11. Perhaps this would be one of those moments of “panic.” The tension level in the launch capsules and at Whiteman would have begun to rise: what was happening in the missile fields?

The answer began to take shape shortly after 10:00 am at the county courthouse in Butler, Missouri. The clown, activist and journalist Samuel H. Day Jr., and his companion were brought in hand-cuffed.

They were soon joined by other “Missouri Peace Planters”—as the protestors called themselves. By the end of the day it was clear that fourteen individuals had entered ten different Minuteman sites in Missouri. Countless others had aided the protestors that day, including witnesses and “transporters,” those who drove the protestors to the sites and then left before the security teams arrived. Their goal, according to a written statement, was to “reclaim this land for ourselves.” Nodding to the no-end-in-sight farm crisis, they wrote, “we are particularly mindful of the interdependence and fragile nature of all creation . . . into this delicate environment come weapons of indiscriminate mass destruction, placed here by a small cadre of white North Americans purportedly to secure our well being.”

The Missouri Peace Planters were interrogated by “courteous” Air Force investigators and then were released with “ban and bar” letters warning of the consequences should they ever trespass on Air Force land again. The Peace Planters were prepared for such a fate, so much so that some headed out again over the next week—climbing fences, setting off alarms, burning their “ban and bar” letters in the process. They were determined to “call attention to the danger posed by the missile underneath, and to register personal opposition to the governmental policy which goes by the name of nuclear deterrence but is in truth a policy of global intimidation.” They would not be deterred.

What the Missouri police and Air Force security teams did not realize was that the Peace Planters’ action of August 1988 was not an isolated event. This was the culmination of years, if not decades, of less visible protest in the missile fields. Since the moment the Minutemen were deployed in the 1960s, people had found ways to register their displeasure. Some posted signs at missile sites, others held prayer vigils at bases, still more sent letters of complaint about Air Force crews and tried in small ways to insert themselves in the unanimous and omnipotent operation of the U.S. Air Force. The individuals involved were as varied as their actions: the fiercely independent rural Westerner angered by the defilement of his land; the Christian pacifist moved to

action through religious conviction; the mother of three concerned about the future of her family. By the late 1970s and early 1980s local protest became more provocative. Prayer vigils turned to nonviolent civil acts of resistance.



Author Gretchen Heefner

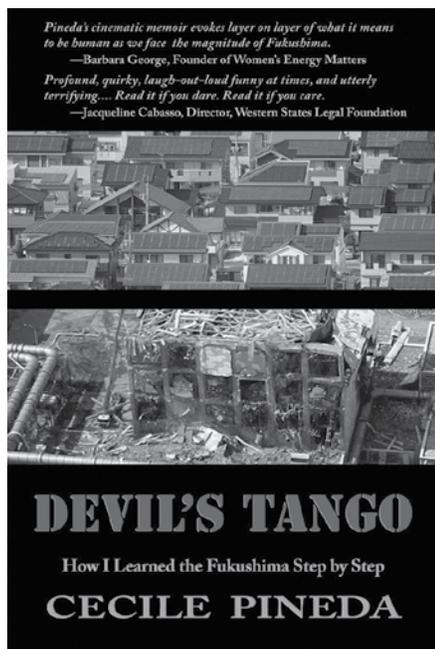
From 1980 to 1988 more than thirty acts of protest took place in the Minuteman missile fields; dozens of people were arrested and hundreds more stood in support. In Montana, Silence One Silo tried to rid the state of a single missile. The Easter Lily Peace Project in South Dakota hoped to raise awareness of the state’s militarism through annual vigils and protest in the missile fields. Wyoming Against the MX sought to stymie the deployment of a new weapon.

None of these groups were successful in getting rid of the Minutemen. That would happen only later, when the Soviet Union crumbled. For this reason, and because the efforts of rural peace groups seemed so quixotic at the time, their story has gone largely unreported. But the story is important for three reasons: it complicates the narrative of the antinuclear movement, it undermines the standard story of conservative ascendancy in the rural West, and it suggests new ways of thinking about modern agrarian politics. Protestors in the rural West were certainly inspired and in some cases assisted by the peace movement. But usually their protests were small and took shape with very little outside involvement. They were the product of grassroots organizing centered on highly local concerns, namely, the plight of small-scale agriculture. Where the global antinuclear movement of the 1980s highlighted the emotional and psychic toll of the nuclear arms race, antimissile activism could demonstrate its daily costs—in dollars, land, crops, and community.

Excerpted from *The Missile Next Door: The Minuteman in the American Heartland* by Gretchen Heefner, published by Harvard University Press. Copyright © 2012 The President and Fellows of Harvard College. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

BLOWN¹ THE WHISTLE ON NUKE POWER

By Cecile Pineda, Author of *Devil's Tango: How I Learned the Fukushima Step by Step*



On March 11, 2011, the world experienced a multiple nuclear accident of unprecedented magnitude, exceeding the 1986 Chernobyl catastrophe at the very least by a factor of 10. Until Fukushima, although two of my novels refer to nuclear disaster, the nuclear industry had not occupied my main focus.

But instantly, in view of its magnitude, I understood this accident's implication for the planet: irreversible pollution of the seas, the air, the water, the soils and the food chain the world over. I knew that deception and denial on the part of governments and on the part of the nuclear industry, would be par for the course. If there was any doubt, we had the precedent of Chernobyl to go by. And we had served a kind of apprenticeship with the 2010 BP oil spill which allowed us to see that as an industrial culture, we had "advanced" way beyond where our technology, and the God of Science could be depended on to bail us out.

I was also terrified. "How do you live with what you know?" I have been asked. In this respect, I am at an advantage because writing *Devil's Tango* was my act of exorcism, of processing the awful truth that faces us: Corporations the world over have won control of the political process. In their rapacity as "Persons," they have the power to destroy life on earth. We the people are armed with the strength of our numbers, our courage, and our ingenuity, and very little else.

We are now faced with the matter of the life and death of our planet. Our opposition is fortress in the Halls of Impunity, governmental and corporate. Our strongest weapon is shame. What does shame require? It requires boots on the ground; and it requires exposing the full destructive consequence of nuclear power to

people and property. We must find the voice of our moral authority. We must alert a brainwashed public to the very real, catastrophic dangers posed by the nuclear cycle, and highlight the deadly cocktail posed by its combination with global warming and seismic vulnerability.

Thankfully, we benefit from two very recent examples where shaming has produced results. In Congress, we have seen Republican intransigence with respect to authorization of relief for the victims of Hurricane Sandy yield to shaming; and we have seen Attawapiskat Chief Theresa Spence's refusal to eat for 24 days—with the voice of Canada's First Nations behind her—shaming Prime Minister Harper, who finally agreed to meet with her. Let us not forget that this First Nations "voice" consisted of weeks of protests, flash mobs, letters, rallies, and a twitter of outraged tweets.

To really understand the full magnitude of the nuclear disaster confronting us, we must look, not so much to the work of journalists, but of artists who can guide us to the centers of our human feeling and our connection with all living things. I have tried to touch on these places of the heart with *Devil's Tango*. I completed a speaking tour of the Northeast timed to Hiroshima-Nagasaki Day in August, 2012 backed by a coalition 35 anti-nuclear and peace groups, among them WILPF, and now, with a coalition of such groups, including WILPF, I did a speaking tour of the Midwest timed to commemorate the second anniversary of the Fukushima-Daiichi disaster, March 10-18, during which I shared perspectives with many of you.

For more information: <http://www.cecilepineda.com>.

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



AFGHANISTAN: BEHIND THE HEADLINES

By Tura Campanella Cook

Professional photographer Peggy Kelsey had an epiphany in 2002. At a reception for 14 Afghan women touring the U.S., she watched tears roll down their cheeks as they viewed photographs of sad, traumatized Afghan refugees. This was how the world saw Afghans. But the Afghan women attending the reception were a diverse group, some powerful and others mild mannered and shy. They were similar to their American audience, and yet different. Peggy decided to travel to Afghanistan to photograph and interview women to present a more complete picture of them as people.

Gathering Strength: Conversations with Afghan Women (Pomegranate Grove Press, 2012) is the product of Peggy's two trips to Afghanistan. She is often asked, "Weren't you scared to go to Afghanistan?" Actually, she was not. She had traveled there years earlier and was careful not to put herself in danger. Standing up in front of people in Austin, where she lives, and asking for money to launch her project did frighten her, however. Fundraising was outside her comfort zone.

Peggy found that the Afghan women she met were eager to tell their stories. They were glad that someone wanted to listen to them and loved the idea that Peggy would share their perspective with people in her own country. Although they have been through difficult times, this book is not a depressing read. You feel their strength, resilience, creativity within social structures, dedication to women's rights, and optimism for the long term. They are diverse voices, just as we have diverse voices in the West.

Initially readers may feel pity for Afghan women, outrage and horror at the Taliban, and irritation over women having to cover themselves with burqas. We want to help these women and save them. Our prime source of information is a media that stresses the negative

and paints a one-sided, scary picture. Afghans also have stereotypic impressions of the U.S. and American women. Some women pitied Peggy for traveling alone, having to fend for herself, having only daughters, and being far away from her family.

While the women were uniform in their opinion of the Taliban's horrors, they differed on whether there should be negotiations with the Taliban. It is a true dilemma. There will be no peace unless the Taliban are

included in talks, but they are splintered and speak with more than one voice, as the warlords do. Taliban leaders who have tried to negotiate have been assassinated. Once inside the government, the Taliban may try to change the present constitution that is protective of women's rights. In the book, for example, Tajwar Kakar's story presents a human picture of Taliban youth, often taken from their families, deprived of maternal support, denied education and forced to do terrible things.

One aspect of Afghanistan's future is certain. Afghan men and women will still be living there generations from now. The conditions they face then will rely in some part on what is done now. Education in human rights from an Islamic

point of view, such as the Afghan Institute of Learning provides, can help make the lives of those future Afghans more humane and equitable than it is now. (www.afghaninstituteoflearning.org.)

You can find Peggy's book on Amazon, among other retailers. Also, check out the Afghan Women's Project on Facebook for news and more book reviews.



Women learning tailoring, photo by Peggy Kelsey

Tura Campanella Cook is a member of the Middle East Committee, a Jane Addams Peace Association board member and lives with her family in Austin, TX. She can be reached at turacc@earthlink.net.

A GLOBAL CORPORATE COUP IN THE MAKING

By Nancy Price

Do you know that President Obama and U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk are secretly negotiating the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) “free trade” agreement? If the TPP is passed by Congress under Fast Track Authority and signed by the President, our hopes for peace and freedom will be dealt a crushing blow.

The TTP is the largest, most dangerous commercial agreement since the founding of the World Trade Organization in 1995 and defeat of the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas in 2003. After the original countries have signed, the TPP will remain open for any country to join. This is a draconian effort by the corporate and wealthy 1% to create global governance enforced by a supra-national tribunal system to protect corporate investor rights over the rights of people and nature.

Who is at the Table?

These secret closed-door negotiations are with Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Malaysia, Vietnam, Brunei, Peru, Chile and now Japan is joining. These countries have signed an unusual secrecy agreement that no draft text would be released until four years after negotiations are completed to prevent strong opposition and protest as in the past.

Presently 600-plus corporate advisors from the largest financial, insurance, healthcare, manufacturing, big Agriculture and Pharmaceuticals, oil and gas corporations, the Business Roundtable and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce have “security clearance” to the negotiating documents.

Our own congress members cannot participate. Senator Wyden, Senate Trade Sub-Committee Chair, had to file legislation for the right to see the text over which he has oversight, though as a Senate Intelligence Committee member he has security clearance to nuclear secrets! Although, stakeholders from civil society groups can make presentations, they actually have no official standing or access to the text.

Trading Away Our Rights

Lori Wallach, Global Trade Watch director, emphasizes: This agreement requires every signatory country to conform all its laws, regulations and administrative procedures to 26 chapters of very comprehensive rules, only two of which have anything to do with trade, while the others set out new corporate privileges and rights that handcuff governments.¹

The TPP will offshore millions of American jobs, free Wall Street bankers from oversight, and counteract government procurement policies to Buy Local or Buy

America to rebuild our economy or promote sweat-free and recycled-content products to create green jobs. It will decrease access to medicine and lower prices through group buying plans, flood the U.S. with unsafe food and products, infringe on Internet freedom, and allow corporations to attack our public health and environmental laws.

Justice for the 1%?

The TPP commits all countries to a trade tribunal system of three lawyers who rule on corporate claims that a country’s domestic laws and regulations, from the local to

national, have harmed current or future corporate profits and assess fines. The Transnational Institute reports that “a small club of international law firms, arbitrators and financial speculators are fuelling an investment arbitration boom that costs taxpayers billions of dollars and prevents legislation in the public interest.”² Under NAFTA, for example, \$350 million has been paid to corporations by governments over toxics bans, zoning laws and timber rules.³

President Obama on Trade and Fast-Track

In the 2008 campaign, Obama said NAFTA should be amended because it had cost tens of thousands of jobs, that human rights should be part of the “trade equation” and he “would use trade agreements to spread improved labor and environmental standards around the world and



Rally outside the Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations in Addison, Texas. Courtesy of Arthur Stamoulis.

stand firm against agreements that fail to live up to those important standards.” But he reversed himself. He did not open up NAFTA to add labor and environmental protections and signed the South Korea, Panama, and Colombia Free Trade Agreements negotiated by Bush.^{4,5}

Now Obama wants Fast Track Authority—lapsed in 2007 under Bush—to push this extreme TPP, which Global Trade Watch calls a “one-percenter power tool that could rip up our basic needs and rights.” Under Fast Track, Congress has only 90 days to analyze an enormously complicated, detailed text already approved by the President and is permitted only a “No” or “Yes” vote; no amendments are allowed.



March outside the Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations in San Diego. Courtesy of Arthur Stamoulis.

Look for Action Alerts to stop Congress from renewing “Fast Track Trade Promotion Authority” and for the TPP text to be “liberated” to shine a light on what is being negotiated.

Footnotes:

¹ Lori Wallach, “NAFTA on Steroids,” *The Nation*, July 16-23, 2012 at <http://www.thenation.com/article/168627/nafta-steroids#> Citizens Trade Campaign TPP Watch at <http://tpp2012.com/>; **Democracy Now Interview, June 14, 2012** at http://www.democracynow.org/2012/6/14/breaking_08_pledge_leaked_trade_doc and Jacob Chamberlain, Corporate CEO ‘Extremists’ Target Social Security, Medicare, <http://www.commondreams.org/headline/2013/01/17-3>

² Cecilia Olivet, *Profiting from Injustice*, Transnational Institute, Nov. 2012.

³ Discussion of leaked TPP investment text at <http://www.citizenstrade.org/ctc/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/gtwtppinvestmentanalysis.pdf>

⁴ John Nichols, “Obama Goes Soft on Free Trade” http://www.alternet.org/story/88754/obama_goes_soft_on_free_trade

⁵ Brian Knowlton, “Obama Doesn’t Plan to Reopen Nafta

Talks,” *The New York Times*, April 21, 2009. http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/21/business/21nafta.html?_r=0

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► Barriers

Continued from page 4

of small arms and light weapons. A panelist quoted this remark from a Nigerian woman, “One man with a machete can rape one woman, but men with one of these weapons can rape a village.”

Funding of War: Petra Totterman Androff, International Coordinator of WILPF, emphasized the importance for security of shifting military expenditures for nuclear and small weapons to funding to meet human needs.

R2P: Another important doctrine, the strategy of “responsibility to protect” or R2P, should be incorporated at the State level, in the international community, and through the United Nations to protect women from mass atrocities: crimes against humanity (not solely a consequence of armed conflict), war crimes, genocide, and ethnic cleansing. Women should be included in areas of detecting, preventing, mediating, and responding to risks of mass atrocities as well as in integrating women’s perspectives and voices into policy discussions focused on prevention and protection.

Finding Justice

All conferees agreed that more women must be elected to public office and appointed to positions within the U.N. Women also need to be educated about their rights. Women’s human rights, economic rights, and civil rights should be protected through laws and legal systems, but women have the least access to justice because of gender-based violence, fear of reprisal, lack of victim or witness protection, and impunity (e.g., failure to prosecute rape crimes). In many countries, laws are oppressive and services nonexistent for women. Women frequently are blocked from justice through the requirement to provide medical evidence, for example, which occurred to victims of rape in Sierra Leone.

Madeleine Rees, WILPF’s Secretary-General; former head, Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights’ Women’s Rights and Gender Unit; and conference Keynote Speaker, reminded the conferees to raise their voices and use their power to inform their governments of women’s human rights laws and resolutions, instruments to be used to achieve what women want: security, justice, and peace.

Anne Hoiberg is a member of WILPF’s U.N. SCR 1325 Subcommittee. She can be reached at AHoiberg@aol.com.

DRONES AND ENDLESS WAR

By Marge Van Cleef

Are drones leading the U.S. to endless war? Probably, the answer is yes.

Outgoing Pentagon General Counsel Jeb Johnson, speaking of the “war on terror,” has said, “We must ask ourselves: How will this conflict end? . . . ‘War’ must be regarded as a finite, extraordinary and unnatural state of affairs. We must not accept the current conflict as the ‘new normal.’ Peace must be regarded as the norm toward which the human race continually strives.”¹

Meanwhile, the use of weaponized drones (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles or UAVs) by U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Yemen and Somalia is escalating. Although this is illegal under U.S. and international law our government is funding these military and CIA-controlled invasions and attacks on “militants,” Al-Qaeda suspects and civilians, arguing that the attacks are conducted as part of the “war on terror.”

How do these drone attacks work? In *The New York Times* (May 31, 2012)² reporters Becker and Shane described the unprecedented secret kill list, administered by President Obama and John Brennan. The public hasn’t seen any legal briefs explaining what this targeted killing is based on. In addition, all military-age males in a strike zone are considered combatants. Civilians within the area are often killed as well, and though the official civilian death count in Pakistan is classified by the U.S. government, the Living Under Drones (LUD) report states that between 475 and 885 civilians have been killed in Pakistan as of 2012. (See the Bureau of Investigative Journalism for updated statistics on the locations of drone attacks and deaths from attacks. <http://www.thebureauinvestigates.com/>) Recently we learned that John Brennan, the architect of the targeted kill list, was named head of the CIA.

In 2012 the Pew Research Center (<http://www.pewglobal.org/2012/06/27/pakistani-public-opinion-ever-more-critical-of-u-s/>) found that 74 percent of Pakistanis call America an enemy. In Afghanistan many senior coalition and Afghan officials now say that after nearly 12 years of war, the view of foreigners held by many Afghans has come to mirror that of the Taliban. “Hope has turned into hatred, and some will find a reason to act on those feelings.”³

In Yemen, rapidly escalated drone attacks effectively drive Yemenis into the hands of Al-Qaeda. *The New York Times* (December 28, 2012) reported that U.S. air strikes in Yemen are carried out in close cooperation with the air force of Saudi Arabia, which will only exacerbate the

problem of people being drawn to Al-Qaeda. Indeed, virtually every person accused of plotting to target the U.S. with terrorist attacks in the last several years has expressly cited increasing American violence, aggression and militarism in the Muslim world as the cause.

Cheap Warfare, at What Cost?

Presently 76 countries have drones; the U.S., Britain, and Israel are using them in warfare. We might be seeing a coming drones arms race.

Yet in Congress we hear very few discussing this deadly policy. Rep. Dennis Kucinich, in his farewell speech, took on the CIA and drone strikes: “I’m very concerned about the shift that occurred in our national security policy, where the CIA has increasingly played a . . . paramilitary role with the execution of drone strikes which are killing many innocent civilians. There’s a lack of accountability here. Studies have suggested, for example, in Yemen drone strikes are stirring up anti-American sentiment to the point where Al-Qaeda is actually being empowered.”

Drones and their surveillance capabilities have made the attacks easy and cheap; U.S. soldiers are not endangered and some people even say “Drones save lives.” But whose lives and to what end? People on the ground cannot usually hear the drones before they arrive. The result is that many children fear going to school, and adults fear attending funerals or weddings or mosque, since anyone can end up being a victims if a “suspect” within their area is targeted.

In the words of one Pakistani civilian, interviewed for the LUD report, “When drones hit they don’t see children.” A teenage survivor of a drone strike in North Waziristan, Pakistan, said, “Before the drone strikes started, my life was very good. I used to go to school, but after the drone strikes, I stopped going to school. I thought I would become a doctor. Two missiles were fired at our hujra [a room or community club where people can gather], three people died. We didn’t hear the missile, then it was there. My cousin lost both legs and one of his eyes in the attack. It’s brutality that we are undergoing.”

And thus the circle continues; an endless war for control of resources and people which supports the military/industrial complex. Yet the “war on terror” will not be solved with violent conflict that leads to more people becoming “militants” who hate the U.S.

WILPF and Others Working Against Drones

WILPF continues its historic opposition to all wars, and that includes drones. Some of the work we are doing includes includes monthly "Death Walks" in Boston and Philadelphia. We wear black clothing and plain white masks, and walk silently in single file through the streets, while carrying a banner and distributing leaflets. Contact me (mvc@igc.org) or Joan Ecklein (joanecklein@comcast.net) for copies of leaflets and photos. In California, a nonviolent civil resistance demonstration was held at Beale Air Force Base (AFB) which resulted in eight arrests, including MacGregor Eddy of WILPF (macgregoreddy@gmail.com).

Find out what work is being done in your community and help organize a protest.

1. Manufacturers primarily include top military contractors: General Atomics, San Diego, CA; Lockheed Martin; Northrup Grumman. A weekly vigil is held by Vets for Peace at Powey, CA (a suburb of San Diego) outside of General Atomics, a major manufacturer of drones.
2. Research labs at local universities receive large sums of money from the Dept. of Defense. Google "universities and drone research" to find out which ones in your area are involved.
3. Military bases involved in training and controlling drones include Creech AFB, Indian Springs, Nevada, control base; Hancock Field Air National Guard Base, Syracuse, NY, training and launching; Beale AFB, Marysville, CA, home of Global Hawk surveillance drone; Whiteman AFB, Missouri, drone operating base. If you live near one of these bases, consider organizing a regular vigil of some sort
4. Vigils are beginning at CIA Headquarters in Langley, VA. Find out if your Congressperson is a member of the Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) Caucus, whose members support policies and budgets to promote drone capability programs. (unmannedsystemscaucus.mckee.house.gov).
5. Join conference calls organized by: the Network to Stop Drone Surveillance and Warfare, (NSDSW) – Contact: Joe Scarry, (jtscarry@yahoo.com).
6. Subscribe to: nodrones@lists.riseup.net.
7. Organize an informational meeting in your community and be sure to publicize on local campuses. Include students as speakers if possible.

Other organizations working against drones:

- Code Pink (www.codepink.org)
- Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space (www.space4peace.org)
- Voices for Creative Nonviolence, Chicago, Kathy Kelly (kathy@vcnv.org).

Footnotes:

¹ "The 'war on terror' – by design – can never end," by Glenn Greenwald, *The Guardian*, Jan 4, 2013, guardian.uk.com.

² "Living Under Drones," study of drone attacks and victims in Pakistan, conducted by human rights clinics at Stanford and NYU Law Schools. Downloadable at <http://livingunderdrones.org>.

³ "The 'war on terror' – by design – can never end," by Glenn Greenwald, *The Guardian*, Jan 4, 2013, guardian.uk.com.

Marge Van Cleef is a member of the WILPF Philadelphia Branch. She can be reached at mvc@igc.org.

SEEKING A SITE, AND LEADERSHIP, FOR CONGRESS 2014

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Looking for ways to involve volunteers or re-energize your branch? Hosting the 2014 WILPF National Congress might be just what's needed. Sure it is a lot of work, but hosting a successful Congress relies on teamwork focused on a positive future, outreach to the wider local community, and a wide range of talents. There is literally some task that is just perfect for every diverse one of us. And, it is an effort that has a definite end-point. When the Congress is over, you'll be left with a stronger branch and new skills.

The National Board's vision for the 2014 Congress features a compact two and a half day format over a long weekend, preceded by up to seven simultaneous regional meetings held several months in advance. It includes plans for virtually connecting the regional meetings, which will be organized locally with assistance from the Membership Development Committee, and live-streaming parts of the national meetings. Through these multiple entry points, we hope to have the participation of every WILPF member in contributing towards our centennial celebrations and planning for WILPF's future after 2015—without putting undue pressure on those who would rather not travel or who need to conserve their money. This Congress will not be delegated, but branches will be given incentives to send a member, as determined by the National Congress Committee and organizational budget. We hope that the plans for WILPF's future, generated through this process, will be plans that all of our current members will feel invested in moving forward with.

Continued on page 28

MILLION WOMEN DRUMMERS MARCH

By Marilyn M. Cuneo

The first thing to know about the Million Women Drummers Gathering (October 2013) is that you don't have to be a drummer to participate. Around the world, groups of women are forming to honor the trees from which drums are made and to celebrate the vital part they play in sustaining life on earth. Anyone interested in becoming more aware of the basic cycles of nature is invited to share the experience the Gathering will offer. However, women who have participated in drum circles in their communities will be especially excited to have this opportunity to feel the rhythm of the drums permeating the air in global expression.

Over the last two years, members of the WILPF MN-Metro Branch have joined in the local preparations for the Gathering. Our Arts Committee considers this activity a natural progression of its six-year study of global water issues. It is important to recognize and emphasize the role of trees in the circulation of water through the atmosphere and the soil. Because our committee seeks to promote public awareness leading to action through presentations in various forms of art, we chose to present water issues through music. To do this we sought out guidance from the Women's Drum Center (WDC) of St. Paul, whose members helped us to create "Stirring the Waters," an intergenerational women's percussion band. (Our interest in drumming stems from this collaboration.) The WDC is the organizing agent and center of preparations for the Gathering throughout Minnesota. (See www.womensdrumcenter.org)

Beginning in the fall of 2011, the WDC began offering a monthly Drum Circle as a place for women interested in the Million Women Drummers Gathering to learn to drum together and to study the connections between drums and trees. We learned how trees create wood, which trees have traditionally been used for making drums and which tree produced the wood for our individual drum. Science stories confirmed for us the central place of trees in our ecosystems and in the creation of the atmosphere that supports life on earth.

We learned more about the history and care of forests on our land base. As consumers of drums, we became more aware of forest management and logging practices and the impact of drum making. We practiced a special drum song to play during tree plantings. One of the goals of the Gathering is the planting of one million trees worldwide.

For us, a highlight of 2012 was the visit to Minnesota by Ubaka Hill, the creator and organizer of the Gathering. At the invitation of the WDC, she came to spread the word and to meet women drummers throughout the State. In the Twin Cities she offered a two-day drumming workshop and was the featured performer at a well-attended WDC concert. WILPF demonstrated its work on water and trees at the concert, and performed with the Gathering's Drum Circle.



Women drum outdoors, under the trees in Alexandria, MN during the statewide tour of Ubaka Hill.

Members of WILPF and the WDC also presented an overview of their Gathering-related activities at a public program offered by our branch in November. Entitled "Women, Water, Trees and Drums," we discussed each one of these areas and how they interrelate. We used the examples of three

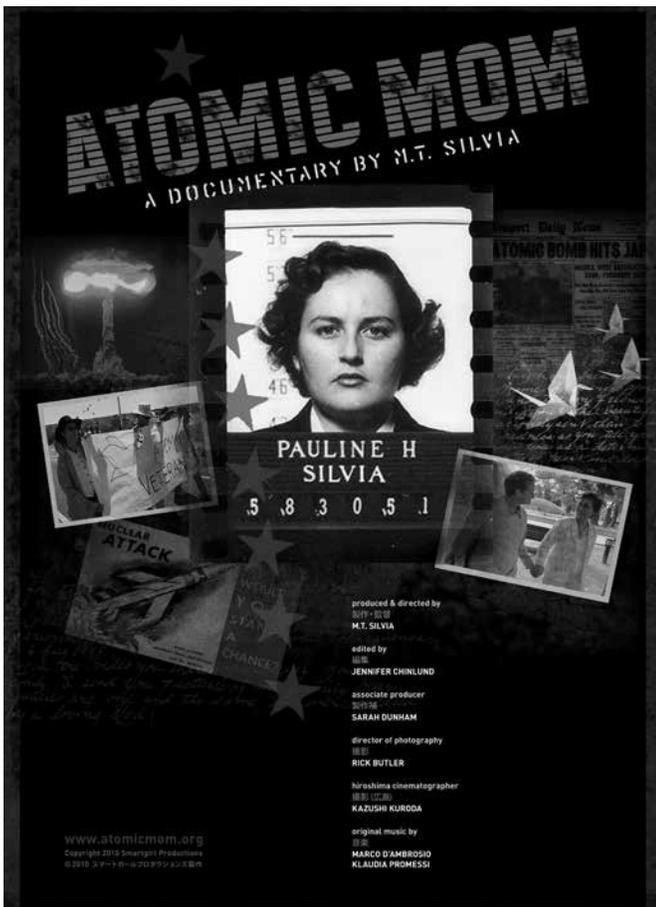
outstanding women who have dedicated their lives to actions in these areas: Wangari Maathai, Vandana Shiva and Jean Shinoda Bolen. And, of course, we played drums (or shook maracas made from recycled water bottles)!

Preparing locally for this inspiring global event has broadened and deepened our approaches to the environment and to drumming as a community-building tool. The Gathering is a great opportunity for all the members of WILPF to come together to demonstrate their concern for the natural cycles of life on earth, to feel the pulsating rhythms of the heartbeat of all living things, and to be connected to women working for a more humane world, everywhere. Check out the website www.millionwomendrummers.com to get a preview of what can happen when lovers of trees and drums come together. See you there!

Marilyn M. Cuneo is the convener of the MN-Metro WILPF Arts Committee. She can be reached at mcuneo77@gmail.com

ATOMIC MOM

By Nicole Scott



I have visited New York several times, but my May 2010 trip was the most memorable. That spring I was a practicum student with the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, and attended the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) Review held at the United Nations.

My trip was filled with what seemed like back-to-back U.N. sessions and side events. One event for practicum students was the chance to preview a documentary called *Atomic Mom*. I sat in amazement as I watched the documentary. The film had a profound effect on my view of nuclear weapons. Immediately after the documentary, I introduced myself to the director, M.T. Silvia. I informed M.T. that I was attending the NPT Review as a practicum student and asked if she would be willing to come to Detroit to show her documentary. I shared with her how the film had at times moved me to tears.

While I had asked her to come to Detroit, I had no idea how I was going to get M.T. there. But, I had planted the seed of an idea. All I could remember was that

we were asked to go back to our communities and bring awareness about our experience at the practicum—and I wanted as many people as I could gather to see that documentary. When I arrived back in Detroit, I shared my idea with a man who had supported my efforts to attend the practicum, my former husband.

He thought my idea to plan an event that would allow M.T. Silvia to speak and show her documentary was a good one. I emailed the local Detroit WILPF branch chair with a proposal to have a screening of the documentary on the International Day of Peace, September 21, 2010. I also began working diligently with Laura Dewey; because of her I was able to work collectively with the Detroit branch and other Detroit peace organizations. We were able to have two screenings of the documentary on two different days, pay for the director's travel, provide an honorarium, offer a group lunch with the sponsoring peace organizations, and provide housing. It was my first time putting together an event of this magnitude and it turned out awesome!

***Editor's note:** Peace & Freedom reached out to Atomic Mom director M.T. Silvia, who told us that her film is airing regularly on the Documentary Channel and has educational distribution in the U.S. She is currently looking for distribution in Japan. You can learn more about the film at <http://atomicmom.org>.*

Nicole Scott lives in Detroit and is a member of the Detroit WILPF Branch. Nicole became involved with WILPF after attending the 2010 Nonproliferation Treaty Practicum. She currently serves on the personnel and 2013 practicum oversight committees. She can be reached at nscott823@gmail.com.

WILPF envisions a transformed world at peace, where there is racial, social, and economic justice for all people everywhere. Consider giving to WILPF today to continue this vision.

Go to www.wilpfus.org and click on "Donate."

PLANNING FOR WILPF'S HISTORIC 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY



WILPF U.S. members (from left to right): Joan Bazar, Ria Kulenovic (WILPF U.S. Director of Operations), Linda Belle, Catia Confortini, Abigail Ruane, Aningina Tshefu, and Nancy Ramsden

As many of us know, 2015 marks the 100th anniversary of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. *Peace & Freedom* spoke

to Petra Totterman Andorff, the coordinator of the WILPF Anniversary Campaign, to find out more about it.

P & F: 100 years is an incredibly long time for women to be fighting to end war. Can you tell us a little about the extent to which the organization has transformed since its conception in 1915?

Petra: It's important to remember that the founding sisters of WILPF came together during World War I. So their most pressing objective was to grant women the power and influence to prevent war. And they did just that, by creating a space for women to discuss war and take an active role in decision-making.

Today WILPF works towards the same goal of preventing conflict and working towards disarmament. Importantly, this is not because women are more peaceful than men. It is simply because rational and effective decisions for humanity cannot be made without including one half of it.

P & F: So what does the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom have planned for its 100th anniversary in 2015?

Petra: Well, we've only just welcomed in the new year 2013, so there is still much more planning to be done! Our aim is to celebrate the year with a new campaign. We have looked deep into the papers the women wrote in 1915 and what we came up with is that the campaign has to focus on the idea "women have the power to stop war."

P & F: This sounds great. How can people join in the preparations and get involved?

Petra: First of all you can save the dates! In 2015, we are hosting two events. From April 22–25, 2015, we will be holding our Triennial International Congress at the Peace Palace in The Hague, Netherlands. This will be followed by a festival and conference from the 26–29, at the World Forum in The Hague. Both venues are absolutely

amazing. Moreover, we are also looking for funds to make the campaign come true. So if you're interested, you can join the "Committee of 100," a group of dedicated women



who have each donated \$1,000 for the preparation and celebration of WILPF's anniversary. You can read more on WILPF International's website www.wilpfinternational.org. We'll be giving you updates of our planning as we move forward with it this year.



Scan and join us!

If you have any questions, comments, or ideas please feel free to get in touch with Petra at petra.totterman.andorff@ikff.se. If you don't have access to the Internet and are interested in finding out more, you can contact International WILPF through the U.N. office: 777 UN Plaza, 6th Floor, New York, NY 10017, (212) 682-1265.

Sign the Pledge, go to <http://www.womenstopwar.org/>

PAKISTAN MEMBERS ATTEND AWID FORUM

By Sumaira Ishfaq and Sehrish Ayub



**WILPF Pakistan president,
Sameena Nazir**

Last April, 2012, the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID) held its 12th International Forum in Turkey and with support from members of the U.S. Section and the Kay Camp Fund, several of us from the Pakistan Section were able to attend and make important connections.

In addition to Sumaira and Sehrish, Sameena Nazir, president of our section, was also part of our delegation.

AWID is an international women rights organization working for gender equality, and the forum's theme was on Transforming Economic Power to Advance Women's Rights and Justice. There were three main goals of the forum: facilitate learning on the role and impact of economic power in diverse women's rights agendas, experiences and issues; support bridge-building among women's groups and with other social movements; advance proposals on feminist visions and practices to resist challenges and transform dominant forms of economic power.

Over 2,000 women rights activists participated from around the world. We met many inspiring women and learned different strategies, such as how to combat violence against women and improve women's economic empowerment. For some of us, it was our first international trip and our first chance to meet WILPFers from around the world. It was a unique experience. We attended sessions such as "From the Beijing Platform to Resolution 1325: Military expenditure and its consequences for women's security." This session was organized by WILPF members from Colombia, Costa Rica, DRC, Nigeria and Sweden and staff of the PeaceWomen project.

During this session, Sumaira shared that Pakistan is a nuclear country and every year more than 70 percent of our budget is being allotted to nuclear technology and the army, instead of putting resources towards education,

health, development and the environment.

It was a chance for us to talk about the fact that the security situation in our country is not very good, and that people are suffering because of terrorism, war and fundamentalism. While there are "Peace Committees" organized to monitor the situation and strategize solutions, few women are involved. Our social customs, and male dominance, don't allow women to talk about peace or be a part of these peace discussions, especially at the grassroots level. The WILPF-Pakistan Section has been active since 2010, trying to fill this void.

The most important steps taken by our Section are:

- Involvement of young girls in peace advocacy
- Formation of Women's Peace Committees at the district level
- Monthly meetings of the WILPF-Pakistan Section members
- Gathering data from newspapers to highlight the security situation and hold discussions on the emerging issues
- Establishment of Peace Library
- Lobbying politicians and designing a campaign for the politicians to add a peace component to their manifesto for upcoming elections, and advocating for a role for women in the Pakistani peace process

During the Forum, Sameena was also able to share her views about peace and security in the area. In our region, both India and Pakistan are nuclear powers and we've noticed that both countries always raise their security concerns before the announcement of any national budget. In fact, both governments try to create hype in media that we have security problems—so we must need to increase our military budget! In Pakistan our military budget has been increasing consistently and our social security budget has been decreasing for the last three years.

Sumaira Ishfaq and Sehrish Ayub are both members of the WILPF Pakistan Section. The president of the Section can be reached at: sameena.poda@gmail.com

WHAT DOES LEADERSHIP MEAN TO YOU?

By Marie-Louise Jackson-Miller



Group picture of WILPFers from all over the world attending IB Meeting in Madrid 2013

How many times have you heard the words “Who will take the lead on this?” If you raised your hand, what was it that inspired you to volunteer? Do you remember advisors or mentors that encouraged you to take on a particular initiative or task? Are you already doing something meaningful that makes you a leader in WILPF? Most likely, you are!

Among our members and branches we have many leaders who plan, create, connect and reach out to others with actions and invitations. WILPF members take the lead in planning many events, including: periodic cluster meetings, branch garden parties, potlucks with peace topics, guest speaker and author events, walks, vigils, and Raging Grannies singing to end drone attacks and war. Some WILPF members are already working to create interesting branch activities for our 100th anniversary in 2015. Others are writing books and reviewing books by WILPF authors, sharing stories of past and present experiences, and envisioning what WILPF can do in the future. Some of us reach out to lapsed WILPF members, some contact independent bookstores, schools and libraries to promote the Jane Addams Children’s Book Awards.

We also strive to use the media; to work with local radio stations to amplify our voice for peace; to connect issue committees with branches and members; to participate on our Facebook page. Many have been involved in the Corporations vs. Democracy Issue Committee, collaborating with other groups to start Move

to Amend. There are lots of special ways to celebrate our strong, feisty, peace-loving women, and the above are all examples of how different WILPF members practice leadership.

Many WILPF women practice leadership unintentionally and even reluctantly. Nancy Ramsden, the WILPF Treasurer on our International Board, admitted that she was totally surprised to be asked to be International Treasurer. She even said “no” several times before finally accepting. Nancy has suggested that what is essential in good WILPF leadership is to be “willing to head up a cause and still work with another leader on another cause.”

We have many kinds of leaders in WILPF. Paki Wieland and Lois Mastrangelo, for example, recently joined a mission to Pakistan to stop drone attacks by the United States. Last spring, member Linda Richards represented WILPF’s Ashland, OR Branch at the Alliance for Nuclear Accountability’s annual D.C. Days; it was her first time doing so. WILPF member Cheryl Diersch stepped in to the WILPF U.S. National Board as Secretary. Shirley Lin Kinoshita from WILPF’s San Jose Branch gave a talk on the “Status of Women” at an SEIU 521 Retired Public Workers meeting, sharing her experiences of representing WILPF at meetings of the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women.

There are many women leaders who might consider membership in WILPF. Look at our writers from our Fall 2012 *Peace & Freedom*: Winona LaDuke writes about the land holdings of our U.S. military – land which was once cared for by Native Peoples; Lauren Carasik is a part of Rights Action, advocating and supporting community-controlled development with projects in Guatemala, Honduras, Chiapas, Mexico and El Salvador.

WILPFers, our organization – and the movement for peace and justice – needs your abilities and energy! What do you have to share to advance our work? Can you help organize a campaign, raise funds, evaluate projects, or review proposals? Do you have songs or skills, ideas or poems, talents, actions or experience(s) to inspire other members and would-be members? Claim these qualities and abilities -- and name yourself as a leader! Contact the Nominating Committee today. We can work with you to find the place where you will make a difference. We want your input to help compose a skills list, and a people list, for building the effectiveness of WILPF. Please contact us: nominations@wilpf.org.

Marie-Louise Jackson-Miller is a member of WILPF’s Boston Branch and serves on the 2011-14 National Board as an At Large member. She lives in Quincy, Massachusetts and can be reached at mariejm1961@yahoo.com.

PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT + GENDER EQUALITY

By Abigail Ruane, WILPF U.N. Representative

It is an exciting time to be creating peace and freedom in the world. In just two years, WILPF will mark its 100th anniversary and will be poised on the threshold of a second century of peace activism. In 2015, we will also mark the end of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals and the beginning of a new era of collaborations on global development, including new sustainable development goals. At such a critical juncture, I have been delighted and honored to represent WILPF U.S. with my fellow representative Maryann DeLeo as 2012-2014 WILPF-U.S. Representative to the United Nations. This has been a personal thrill for me, as it means a move from learning about feminist global activists in my doctoral research to actually working with many of my heroines.

I believe that now is a critical time, both for WILPF as an organization, and for the global community, in developing a vision, plan and mechanisms for transforming the world and I am committed to being at least a part of the change I want to see.

In working with other WILPFers over the last year, I have been impressed with the rich “herstory” and experience of this organization, and encouraged to do my best to strengthen collaborative ties in ways that build capacity for peace by sharing the riches of experience. Listening to Catia Confortini discuss WILPF’s tradition of “intelligent compassion” in her book (*Intelligent Compassion: Feminist Critical Methodology in the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom*) has made my involvement even more meaningful.

Whether attending the 2012 Jane Addams Children’s Book Awards, participating in events like “Women: A Force for Peace” or the Commission on the Status of Women with civil society advocates and other stakeholders, joining Program Committee calls, presenting at the National or International Board meetings, or collaborating with groups like the Women’s Environment and Development Organization and Occupy Wall Street, working with WILPF has inspired me with many opportunities to promote peace, gender equality and social justice, from international policy to

local practice. As the Chair of the Practicum and Local to Global (L2G) Program Evaluation Committee, it has been particularly motivating for me to see how WILPFers with very different perspectives are able to come together to craft sustainable advocacy programs that help build WILPF as an organization as well as strengthening leadership skills across generations. To me, this demonstrates how collaboration and learning are possible despite differences, and exemplifies peace in action.

Can We Put Gender at the Center?

In moving forward, some of the work I am most excited about is working with other feminist, women’s rights, women’s development, grassroots, and social justice organizations to put gender equality at the core of the global development agenda over the next several decades. The Post-2015 Women’s Coalition (www.post2015women.com) is a group that targets this goal. Recognizing – as WILPF foremothers did – how inequality between women and men, between races, and between nations, as well as the prioritization of profit over people, is part of an unjust and unsustainable world that perpetuates militarization and

war, this coalition targets current Post-2015 discussions at the U.N. “as a political opportunity to challenge and reframe the global development agenda and address the structural factors underpinning the multiple crises we currently face, which result in deepening inequalities, increased poverty and environmental degradation” (see: <http://bit.ly/VYF8b3>). This group includes key leaders from the successful Gender Equality Architecture Reform (GEAR) campaign which coordinated over 500 international organizations worldwide and resulted in the celebrated July 2010 creation of U.N. Women as an integrated gender entity responsible for spearheading gender mainstreaming across the U.N. system. As the WILPF point person to this coalition, I am working with other feminist advocates to brief U.N. Member States on key issues (including a briefing on militarization led by WILPF in June), develop a collective strategy that



Abigail Ruane, outside the UN

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CLIMATE CHANGE, NUCLEAR POWER, AND RENEWABLE ENERGY: ENVIRONMENTAL REALITY VS POLITICAL RHETORIC

By H. Patricia Hynes

A torrent of editorial comment about climate silence followed in the path of the powerful hybrid storm Sandy – a silence that pervaded the 2012 presidential and vice-presidential campaign debates and that stubbornly persisted during and after this complexly dangerous storm, until recently.

While silent on climate change, both President Obama and Republican contender Romney reserved a sizable niche in their energy independence portfolio for nuclear power. And both tout nuclear power as “clean” – code for no global-warming emissions; “safe” – that is, safely managed and regulated; and “reliable” – meaning steady energy output.

Nuclear Nemesis

March 2011’s meltdown and explosions in three Fukushima nuclear reactors triggered a sea change in much of the world’s faith in nuclear power. The *World Nuclear Industry Status Report 2012* graphically conveys an industry reeling and in decline from the multiple impacts of world recession, the Fukushima disaster, and immense competition from renewable energy development and natural gas, with costs growing and credit ratings and share prices plummeting. Nineteen reactors were shut down in 2011 while only seven came on line. Five industrial countries announced phase-outs of their nuclear power plants: Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, Taiwan, and Japan. At least five countries that planned for nuclear power have declined to develop it, including Egypt, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait and Thailand. Australia is the latest country to opt out of a nuclear energy future. China and other countries have delayed new construction starts. This is merely a partial portrait of the industry in free-fall.

Superstorm Sandy could be—and should be—the climate’s counterpart of Fukushima for the United States. Coming near the end of a year of record-shattering weather events, with dire assessments of climate change by scientists, the insurance industry and business analysts, the catastrophe of Sandy should compel both major parties to confront the joined-at-the-hip reality that climate change is upon us and that it magnifies risks of nuclear plant accidents.

Nuclear power was designed with climate scenarios and risk analysis of the 1950s and 1960s, pre-dating the severe climate change epoch we have entered. Extremes of

weather are reducing its reliability and rendering it more dangerous in five inter-related ways:

- Reliance on massive amounts of water, more than any fossil fuel plants, thus competing with agriculture for water during extended periods of drought;
- Growing production losses and shutdowns from record-breaking heat and drought, with consequent reliance on fossil fuels to fill the electricity production gap;
- Plant shutdown and potential meltdown due to extreme flooding, furthering reliance on fossil fuels;
- Overheated cooling water causing severe thermal pollution of aquatic ecosystems; and
- Threat of drought-induced wildfires spreading radioactive contamination.

Additional Consideration

Two problems unique to nuclear power—so perilous they should have caused this power source to abort at conception—are nuclear waste with no long-term storage solution, and the proliferation of nuclear weapons. Moreover, the recklessly abandoned uranium mines and waste piles on Native American lands have created what Charmaine White Face has called “America’s Chernobyl.”

Nuclear Waste

Radioactive waste is the *bête noire* of the nuclear industry, most currently so in Fukushima Dai-chi where spent fuel rods lie in damaged, unsound structures and at risk of a catastrophic fire if another earthquake strikes the region. Bringing the lesson home, nuclear reactors in the United States store on average four times the waste they were designed to handle, and far more radiation than in the reactor itself. Overpacked in pools of water without the safety containment measures of the reactor, they are vulnerable to containment failure and fire. A fire in one spent fuel pool in the United States “could render an area uninhabitable that would be as much as 60 times larger than that created by Chernobyl” states nuclear policy specialist Robert Alvarez.

Nuclear Weapons

Every nuclear reactor enables a country to develop its own nuclear weapons because both the uranium mined for

nuclear power reactors and the spent fuel from a nuclear reactor can be re-processed to make plutonium bombs. (This fact has been used to justify Israeli and the U.S. war mongering with Iran.) As early as 1946, a federal report concluded “the development of atomic energy for peaceful purposes and the development of atomic energy for bombs are in much of their course interchangeable and interdependent.” It called for a global authority to control all nuclear materials, from mining to waste, to “block the spread of bombs.”

No such authority exists. What we have in its stead are nuclear “haves” deciding who can and cannot join their nuclear weapons club. *Peaceful* nuclear technology is an oxymoron, a sleight of words that duped the 1950s world into a bargain with the devil.

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Future: The Best Kept Secret

An under-the-radar-screen research laboratory within the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)—the National Renewable Energy Laboratory—released an initial investigatory report on the potential for renewable energy in July 2012. The report is, in DOE’s words: “the most comprehensive analysis of high-penetration renewable electricity of the continental United States to date...” The major finding of the Renewable Electricity Futures Study supports a nuclear-free, zero net carbon renewable energy future:

Renewable electricity generation from technologies that are commercially available today, in combination with a more flexible electric system, is more than adequate to supply 80% of total U.S. electricity generation in 2050 while meeting demand on an hourly basis in every region of the country.

Why didn’t this crucial finding merit a spot—whether in moderator questions or candidate responses—in the third presidential debate on foreign policy, given the equation between our oil dependence, wars and military policy in the Middle East? Correspondingly, why has the Obama administration and the media failed to report dramatic growth in U.S. wind and solar power capacity between 2008 and 2012, a growth in energy production equal to nearly 60 nuclear power plants? Wind power capacity has more than doubled and solar capacity has quadrupled in the last four years outpacing fossil fuels, while nuclear is in decline.

The Road Not Taken

For more than a century, industrial countries passed up opportunities to build a durable energy economy

based on efficiency and renewables. That has led us to Chernobyl, Exxon Valdez, Katrina, Deepwater Horizon, Fukushima, Sandy, the Carter Doctrine, oil wars and climate change.

Responding to immense civil society demand after Fukushima, Germany—the world’s fourth largest economy—has taken its eight oldest nuclear reactors offline and has committed to closing the last nuclear power plant by 2022. This follows more than a decade of planning and expanding renewable energy, such that the shift to renewable energy is financially benefitting farmers, small business and investors and will have only small, temporary impacts on energy prices and the economy, according to researchers there. Further, this shift to renewable energy has finally broken the axiomatic link between nuclear and fossil fuel energy and economic wellbeing.

Political and economic realism joined with our moral obligation to present and future generations must impel us, after the climate extremes of 2012, toward the road not taken: energy-efficiency and tapping the unlimited power of sun, water and wind. Otherwise, we are hurtling toward greater climate change disasters and nuclear tragedies with no sense of environmental justice for the web of life that sustains us.

What We Can Do

At least 30 states have nuclear power plants; behind every nuclear power plant is an anti-nuke activist group and campaign. Contact NukeWatch at www.nukewatchinfo.org to find out more about anti-nuclear activism near you, as well as Congressional and NGO watchdogs of federal nuclear power policy, such as the Union for Concerned Scientists.

Twenty-nine states have renewable energy standards; that is, they require utilities to sell a certain amount of energy generated from renewable sources including wind, solar, geothermal, and biomass. The benefits for public health, climate change, environmental justice, and non-militarized energy security are legion. In order to achieve greater renewable energy in homes and businesses, many of these states have community-based programs, such as Green Communities in Massachusetts which engages residents of towns and cities to be activists. See www.mass.gov/eea/energy-utilities-clean-tech/green-communities.

H. Patricia Hynes is a retired Professor of Environmental Health from Boston University School of Public Health. A WILPF member, she chairs the board of the Traprock Center for Peace and Justice and is a member of the Nuclear Free Future Steering Committee. She can be reached at hphynes@gmail.com.

CUBA MOVES FORWARD, DESPITE BLOCKADE

By Cindy Domingo

Travel to Cuba for U.S. citizens is still limited to full-time professionals with a license issued by the U.S. Office of Assets Control. After a huge outcry from travel agencies and organizations that bring U.S. delegations to the island for educational purposes, the U.S. government let up on issuing travel licenses again in the later part of 2012. With the appointment of Senator John Kerry as Secretary of State, the broad array of forces, which includes the business community, farmers and Cuban Americans who advocate for dismantling the blockade, are hopeful that significant changes will occur. Unlike former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, who campaigned on maintaining the blockade to cater to the Florida anti-Castro vote, Kerry has supported lifting the travel ban.

Meanwhile, in response to the economic crisis facing Cuba and a population demanding social and economic changes, massive reforms debated throughout Cuba in 2011 are being implemented. In a recent delegation that I led in September 2012, these changes could be visibly seen throughout the island. Small private businesses have blossomed in the larger cities of Havana and Santiago, as well as the smaller towns of Camaguey and Bayamo.

The range of things being sold includes souvenirs, clothes and housewares. There are also small and large restaurants that have been established. *Cuenta propistas*, as these private enterprises are called, are part of an effort to move 500,000 workers off the state payrolls. Over the decades, the state has become the largest employer, often paying people even though they were underutilized or staying home. We talked to many small businesses owners who were enthusiastic about the opportunity to grow something of their own, that they can control.

According to representatives of the Confederation of Trade Unions that we met with, the government has slowed down on rolling employees off of government payrolls until they can ensure these workers will be employed, either with new skills or through the development of *cuenta propistas* or worker-owned cooperatives -- especially in agriculture and the repair and

construction of houses.

Other reforms that have been implemented include the ability of Cubans to buy and sell houses and cars, and own cell phones and personal electronics. People who had left Cuba in the past without permission are also being welcomed home, and more recently, restrictions on Cubans traveling abroad, even for extended periods of time, have been lifted. All of these reforms reflect a major shift in domestic policies to deal with the stagnation of the Cuban economy as well as sectors of the Cuban labor force.

While the reforms are widely applauded by Cubans, our 2012 women's delegation wondered if women and AfroCubans would fully benefit from some of the reforms. Many of the Cubans who have access to money to start businesses or buy electronics, cars or homes, are the families of white Cubans who left the country after the revolution (since the overwhelming majority of Cubans who left were white).

To continue the dialogue around racism and racial discrimination, the National Union of Writers and Artists of Cuba (UNEAC, or the *Union de Escritores y Artistas de Cuba*) has launched an island-wide discussion on the history of race and racism in Cuba. An important piece of this discussion is the film series by Gloria Rolanda, "1912 Breaking the Silence" (available through www.afrocubaweb.com). These films look at the history of AfroCubans' struggle through the history of the Party

of the Independents of Color. UNEAC is also reviewing school textbooks to more accurately portray the history of AfroCubans in the struggle against all forms of domination.

The beauty of Cuba has always been the way it evolves to meet the needs of its people within the context of worldwide developments, while at the same time strengthening the democratic participation of the Cuban people in their country's future. WILPF's Cuba and Bolivarian Alliance committee will continue to work over the next four years to change our U.S. Cold War policy towards Cuba and move the Obama administration away from the Bush foreign policies that currently dictate U.S. Caribbean and Latin America relationships.



Management team and workers at a factory in Santa Clara that Che Guevara founded that makes washing machines, refrigerators and fans.

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TAKING IT TO THE VOTERS: THE MASSACHUSETTS BUDGET FOR ALL

By Claire Gosselin

Over the past year, the Greater Boston WILPF Branch joined a diverse coalition of community, peace, housing, labor and faith groups promoting the Budget for All (B4A) state referendum. While deficit reduction fever dominated the media, the slogan “Stop the Cuts – Invest in Jobs – Tax the 1% – End the Wars” resonated with many in our state. We gathered over 25,000 signatures, qualifying for the ballot in eight state senate and 24 representative districts. Among other things, the referendum called for preventing cuts to Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, Veterans' Benefits, and unemployment assistance; creating and protecting jobs; redirecting military spending to domestic needs by reducing the military budget, ending the war in Afghanistan, and bringing U.S. troops home. Approximately a million Massachusetts voters – 1/3 of the expected 3 million voters in a presidential election year – had the question on their ballots. It passed in all 91 communities by an average of 3 to 1 – including in 20 towns where Scott Brown (R) topped winner Elizabeth Warren (D) in the U.S. Senate race.

Budget for All and the power of collaboration

Our branch has long worked in coalitions, primarily with peace and women's organizations; the B4A effort connected us to a broader spectrum of community, housing, labor and faith groups. An activist with the American Friends Service Committee introduced the concept to a meeting of the statewide network “Fund our Communities not War” in which WILPF participates. A committee took on refining the text, planning the work and naming the campaign. While some questioned the efficacy of work on a nonbinding referendum, many jumped at the opportunity – and the campaign took off. In the end, 80 organizations across the state endorsed the campaign.

In Boston, Black, Latin and Chinese grassroots and housing activists worked where there was strong support for the issues; this was key to qualifying the referendum citywide. Canvassers registered many new voters and emphasized the importance of political participation. Peace movement and Occupy groups took it to the suburbs and small towns, with peace and Green-Rainbow party activists working in Western Mass.

The referendum provided a timely opportunity during a presidential election cycle to engage in discussion on

these crucial matters with people we don't often reach. Many were thankful to share their concerns and for the opportunity to vote on the question. It challenged the mainstream focus on the deficit and opened a space to send a message to all levels of government.

WILPF's participation

Our co-founder Jane Addams saw “peace and bread ... as inseparably connected,” and this continues to infuse our program. B4A's demands expressed that theme: to invest in human needs, fund good and green jobs, end the Afghanistan war and cut military spending, and increase taxes on the 1%. All are important to women, particularly low-income women, who are hard hit by social service cuts and the effects of militarism and violence. The impact on women was not explicit in materials from the campaign; WILPF would do well to contribute this perspective in our future collaborations.

Branch members were active at all stages: collecting signatures in Boston, Cambridge, Newton and Waltham, distributing literature, and in the campaign endorsement and follow-up work with legislators. Pauline Solomon and Laurie Taymor-Berry attended coalition meetings, keeping us informed and motivated. Laurie was active in state house work and represented a sister organization, Survivors, Inc., whose efforts include welfare office organizing, criminal justice reform, Human Rights Cities and immigrants rights.

Activists and staff support

The B4A benefitted from the involvement of respected activists along with some staff support by Mass Peace Action, AFSC, Mass Alliance of HUD Tenants and Right to the City VOTE! The bulk of the work was provided by volunteer activists, whose role was essential to the referendum's success. Staff support was crucial for communication, developing and distributing informational materials, yard signs and poll cards, and coordinating the tasks through all stages. They also formed the consistent core of the task force. WILPF and other organizations contributed, and comedian Jimmy Tingle entertained while generating needed funds.

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THE "IDLE NO MORE" MOVEMENT

By Rose Daitsman and Pat O'Brien

Idle No More is a grassroots movement that started in Canada to protect the water, air and land. The inspiration for this historical movement, which is spreading across Canada and the globe, came from four women in British Columbia. Their vision revolves around indigenous ways of knowing and indigenous sovereignty. The goal of the movement is education and the revitalization of indigenous peoples through awareness and empowerment. Idle No More has successfully encouraged sharing of information about sovereignty and environmental protection and galvanized people to stand up for themselves and the land.

Most recently, budget provisions in Canada took away the ability of First Nations to control the way energy corporations can use Tribal Reserve lands. This takeover of First Nation resources for energy-related developments (including coal mining, tar sands extraction, oil drilling, and construction of dirty energy pipelines) is being replicated worldwide.

In Wisconsin, the legislature is attempting to do the same thing: abrogate treaty provisions to enable a mining company to dig for iron ore. The Bad River Tribe of Northern Wisconsin is protesting this legislation saying "Not On Our Land, Not in Our Lifetime" to preserve the water and land. There was testimony about the impact of this change on fisheries and tourism which would result in a net loss of jobs and that steel production from iron ore uses more energy than recycling of steel from structures and automobiles.

What's happening in Canada and Wisconsin denies indigenous peoples sovereignty on their own lands while permitting the government to trample on their culture. One of the main tenets of indigenous culture is valuing the earth as it sustains all life. In view of the recent and impending disasters resulting from climate change, we need to integrate this element of indigenous culture into the mainstream.

The Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, James Anaya, said that the dialogue between the government and First Nations should proceed in accordance with standards expressed in the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. He has asked the Canadian authorities to provide relevant information on this matter, in accordance with the terms

of his mandate from the U.N. Human Rights Council.

International human rights standards as defined in the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples require that decisions affecting the rights of Indigenous peoples be made with their full and effective participation. In the face of very serious issues concerning lands and resources of indigenous peoples, the appropriate standard is free, prior and informed consent.

Chief Theresa Spence courageously embarked on a fast to call attention to the issues involved. She has since ended her fast and is recovering from the effects of her ordeal. Further developments will show whether the government fulfills its promise to her and engages in meaningful dialogue with tribal representatives.

The Idle No More movement challenges mainstream images and stereotypes of passive/victimized indigenous

subjects and provides visibility for alternative voices. It provides an opportunity to re-think social, political and economic relations in ways that include environmental, spiritual,

and community values. The time is long overdue for us to recognize that we need to absorb the elements of the culture of indigenous peoples which values the earth.

Responses to the Idle No More movement

Communities are beginning to respond to this movement. Residents in the town of Casco, Maine passed a municipal resolution opposing the transmission of tar sands oil through ExxonMobil's Portland-to-Montreal pipeline. It is the first Maine municipality to oppose this proposal, which would send the oil extracted from Canadian tar sands through a 236-mile, 62-year-old pipeline. Dyane Brown, of the Nanaimo WILPF Branch in Canada, writes:

"Full honor and implementation of indigenous peoples treaties are crucial to the evolution of Canada and to the principle of federalism. There is an urgent need for Canada to demonstrate genuine respect and long-term commitment by initiating a meeting with First Nations leaders, the Governor General and the Prime Minister. Idle No More, the grassroots movement, has put the spotlight on federal policy which threatens our democracy. We urge the Harper Government to

"Water, soil and air are more important than any nonrenewable resource, and any government that doesn't recognize this is insane." —Robin Lloyd



Image by artist Andy Everson

repeal the bills that it recently passed which undermine the rights of the Sovereign First Nations of Canada.

Indigenous peoples rights and related government duties are an integral part of Canada's Constitution. They are affirmed in the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Our [Canadian] government must address this grievous situation in good faith."

From the Burlington, VT WILPF Branch, member Robin Lloyd adds: "Water, soil and air are more important than any nonrenewable resource, and any government that doesn't recognize this is insane. The life ways of indigenous cultures, especially indigenous women and their leadership, are crucial to reconnecting us to the earth. We look to Nina Wilson, Sylvia McAdam, Jessica Gordon, Sheelah McLean, Theresa Spence, and everyone involved in Idle No More as our allies, and we extend our hands, hearts, minds, and numbers in this struggle to offer all of our support, love, and solidarity."

Resources:

1. "Idle No More: From Grassroots to Global Movement," by Candice Bernd, *Truthout*, January 29, 2013
2. Idle No More <http://idlenomore.ca/>; You can also find Idle No More pages on Facebook
3. Wisconsin Citizens Media Cooperative: www.wcmcoop.com
4. To see a video on activist and attorney Gyasi Ross see You Tube www.youtube.com/watch?v=OQYW4fKCI5c

Rose Daitsman is a member of the Milwaukee WILPF Branch. She can be reached at daitsman@milwpc.com. Pat O'Brien is a member of the Boston Branch and can be reached at patob777@gmail.com.

TALKING WITH CHILDREN ABOUT PEACE & JUSTICE

This event will take place on April 27 at the Jane Addams Hull-House Museum in Chicago—in conjunction with The Jane Addams Book Awards Committee's announcement of the 2013 Award Winners and Honorees.

WILPF members and friends are invited to a morning program that will include activities of interest to middle school children. Following the program, we'll have an opportunity to tour the Museum. Later in the day, WILPF members from the Chicago area and surrounding states will hold a regional meeting.

Contact Jane Addams Peace Association (JAPA) Board Member jancorderman@msn.com for more info and to RSVP. The program runs from 9:30am–Noon at 800 South Halsted, Chicago.

You can also learn more about the Book Awards at JAPA's website, www.janeaddamspeace.org or look for them on Facebook.

▶ Play to Win

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WILPF is a complex organization of busy people. By respecting the roles other individuals fulfill, we encourage their continued involvement and leadership development. By finding and understanding our own individual place in WILPF we experience empowerment and contribute to a vibrant whole. Accepting the discipline of teamwork might be difficult for some of us, but it's clear that we need to update and modernize some of how we do our work, particularly how we use our work to engage new constituencies.

WILPF members must embrace cooperation and teamwork if we are to exploit the myriad opportunities to advance our mission in pragmatic and material ways. Our values and our ideas are becoming mainstream in many parts of the country, and we must continue to creatively promote those that are still marginal. During just one week in February, our allies in Congress introduced legislation to end corporate personhood, to universalize Medicare, to establish a Department of Peace, and to meaningfully address climate change. They will need our active support to maintain (and even improve) the integrity of these initiatives as they are debated, amended, re-drafted and, hopefully, enacted into law.

There continue to be many developments we must resist, but—at this historical moment—there are also many, many things we can enthusiastically promote. Let's step up our game and play to win.

REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

By Eva Havlicsek, Treasurer

I would like to take this opportunity to explain our financial situation and refer you to some financial documents that are on our website. The 2013 budget, approved by the board in November, as well as the 2012 audit and 990 IRS forms, when they are completed and approved by the proper board members, can be found on WILPF's website. The Finance Committee, consisting of four board members and our Director of Operations meets monthly to review our cash-flow and balance sheet, and has been given the responsibility of maintaining our financial strength. Unaudited financial statements, including the monthly profit and loss statements are not available to non-board members or the general public. Sharing such information would be legally irresponsible and a dereliction of the board's duty of care for the organization. Members, unlike board members, are not legally responsible for WILPF's financial transactions or contractual obligations.

I have included a simplified "rolled up" version of the 2013 budget here because I want all of our members to recognize how much it costs to run our national organization. Our total projected 2013 expenditures of \$347,710 are based on having a national office and one full-time staff person. With a membership base of 1,400 members, this averages out to \$250 per member. Obviously, member dues and contributions are not sufficient to cover our costs. We depend upon generous donors and foundations to supplement our income.

This year the board made the decision to dip into a portion of our savings to create a balanced budget. It is important to maintain a vibrant organization and the board has made a commitment to develop relevant programs to attract new members. We are understaffed and depend on volunteers to assist in developing programs and funding to further the important work of WILPF. Branches and issue committees are encouraged to apply for mini-grants for small projects that could be expanded into larger programs.

We have been fortunate in hiring an excellent Director of Operations this past May. Ria Kulenovic is conscientious and efficient, performing a multitude of tasks. In the interest of easing some of her duties, it would be helpful if Branches and individuals request materials well ahead of events so that Ria doesn't have to make additional post office trips for last minute requests.

We need the enthusiasm and concern for WILPF that many members have expressed in fulfilling our goals. Issue committees need volunteers and we need energetic

women to run for board positions later this year. Put your talents to work and enjoy the satisfaction of contributing to an exciting 100th anniversary for WILPF in 2015!

Income and Expenses Jul 2012–Dec 2012

Income

Transfer from Savings	47,539
Prior Yr Temp Restr. Assets, Restr. Income	22,188
Membership Dues	46,500
Events and Initiatives	74,000
Individual Contributions	20,000
Annual Appeal, Pledges, Gifts, Memorials	12,500
Bequests	15,000
Funding Through JAPA	108,000
Royalties, Peace & Freedom Subscriptions	700
Investment Income	800

Total Income

347,227

Expense

Postage & Printing	19,500
Coalitions, Dues, Membership & Board Expense	2,000
Mini-Grants	20,000
Issue Committee Expense	5,000
Events & Initiatives Expense	55,850
Governance	19,200
Advertising, Promotion, Employee Recruitment	620
Bank Charges, Credit Card Processing, PayPal	3,430
Computer & Equipment Purchase & Expenses	6,400
Insurance Expense	5,550
Branch Support & Membership Rebates	5,500
International Support	36,000
Office Expense, Maintenance/Cleaning, Repairs	2,500
Personnel Cost: Staff, Interns, Professional Fees	146,400
Rent	10,200
Fees, Licenses, Registrations	500
Telephone, Salsa, Web Hosting	5,560
Staff Travel, Training, Continuing Ed	3,500

Total Expense

347,710

Net Income

(483)

Eva Havlicsek is the WILPF U.S. Treasurer and can be reached at elhavlicsek@gmail.com.

REMEMBERING NAOMI MARCUS



By Sandy Silver

In the last half of 2012, WILPF lost two remarkable past presidents, Marii Hasegawa (See fall 2012 *Peace & Freedom* article, <http://wilpfus.org/sites/default/files/docs/P%26Ffall2012.pdf>) and Naomi Marcus. The two leaders worked closely together in the 1960s and 1970s.

I came to know Naomi (1927–2012) in 2008 when the past presidents were asked to research and give advice on whether to ask JAPA to sell the Philadelphia office building. From that time forward, our relationship deepened through personal telephone calls and emails. She was intelligent, articulate and knew everything about WILPF. I was drawn to her stories about her history in the organization and how she helped to strategically combine well-researched public statements on critical issues with creative activism.

During her long and productive years serving on several WILPF boards, Naomi wore several different hats: Program and Action Chair, Policy Committee Chair, *Peace & Freedom* Editor (for seven years) and President (1975–1977). Our legendary Executive Director, Mildred Scott Olmstead, recruited her after reading Naomi's anti-war toys letter-to-the-editor in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. It was a perfect recruitment match!

When Judith Joseph, a former staff person and now Co-President of the Jane Addams Peace Association, was informed of Naomi's passing, she shared that "My strongest memories of Naomi are her consideration of other's feelings and her respectful way of working with everyone. Our young staff always felt appreciated and heard."

Naomi was part of a WILPF delegation that presented 10,000 signatures for a Nuclear Test Ban to Congresswoman Edith Green (OR). In 1961, she and Ethel Taylor were responsible for writing a full-page anti-nuclear bomb advertisement titled: "It Could Happen in

Philadelphia." She raised all of the money for the ad and hired a graphics person to put it all together. In 1965 she traveled to The Hague as a U.S. delegate to WILPF's 50th Anniversary and helped Kay Camp put together the U.S. Section's Golden Jubilee celebration in Philadelphia. The keynote speaker in Philadelphia was Martin Luther King, Jr.

I was interested to learn that it was Naomi who designed the logo for WILPF's project "Feed the Cities Not the Pentagon." She told me that she and Vivian Hallinan once "attended a Mayors Conference in Milwaukee, dressed up and looking like Mayor's wives." They drafted a resolution written along the lines of WILPF's feeding the cities not the pentagon and ... the resolution passed!

Naomi was a gifted writer. She authored two WILPF Statements on Racism: "Statement on Black

Power" (1968) and "Economics of Racism" (1972). In 1977, she testified before the House Budget Committee. She told me that she "sat at a table surrounded by all these Congress people who looked bored to tears. The one person who was interested in what I had to say, and asked very good questions, was Elizabeth Holzman, Congresswoman from NY." Pennsylvania Congressman Joshua Eilberg was so impressed with her testimony that he introduced the full testimony into the Congressional record stating: "because there is so much wisdom contained in Mrs. Marcus' testimony, I commend it to my colleagues in the Congress."

After moving to Florida, Naomi, like so many other dedicated WILPF women, remained politically active in her community. Her stories filled

me with great pride to be associated with such bright, courageous and principled women. I now realize that I was drawn to WILPF because I had read and identified with WILPF's issue statements. It's only recently that I became aware of the fact that Naomi had been the principal author of those statements.

Sandy Silver, a Life Member of WILPF, is an active member of the Santa Cruz Branch. She served as the Co-President of WILPF U.S. from 2002–2005 and is currently the Co-President of JAPA, along with Judith Joseph of the Burlington, VT Branch.



Naomi Marcus, 1927–2012

STEP UP TO WILPF LEADERSHIP

By Darien De Lu

One of the many challenging yet necessary aspects of leadership is planning ahead, and now is the time to plan to nominate yourself for the 2014 WILPF U.S. National Board.



Serving on the National Board gives one opportunities and experiences frequently unavailable to us in our lives. As a national board member you get to:

- Share and shape your vision of what WILPF U.S. can be and where it should be going.
- Meet and work with the other committed, experienced, intelligent, and remarkable women on the national board and various committees, doing what they believe in.
- Help build WILPF U.S. and direct the work of our dynamic and historic organization.
- Take the long view for WILPF U.S., preparing for the future and developing your skills in planning and strategic thinking.
- S-t-r-e-t-c-h yourself as you address various challenging situations!

The upcoming board term is an unusual one. The 2014 board term initiates our transition to annual board elections and staggered board terms, so some of the board seats will be limited to a one- or two-year term, while a few have the usual three-year term. This situation could be beneficial for those unsure of their readiness for serving on the National Board.

A term of less than three years is a particularly good one for those not entirely sure that they can commit to the standard full term. This is a unique opportunity to try a shortened board term!

To run for the board, you must submit an application for a particular office and the associated application documents no later than Wednesday, January 1, 2014. Candidate information will be sent along with ballots to all current WILPF U.S. members shortly thereafter. Those applying for a board position must have been WILPF U.S. members for at least 24 months.

The offices to be elected are the following:

- Development Committee Chair (two-year term)
- Personnel Committee Chair (three-year term)
- Treasurer/Finance Committee Chair (three-year term)
- Nominating Committee Chair (two-year term)
- Program Committee Chair; two positions – one (gaining fewer votes) for one year and one (gaining more votes) for three years
- President (one person or two people, running together as Co-Presidents; two-year term)
- Membership Development Committee Chair (three-year term)
- At Large Board Member; two positions – one (gaining fewer votes) for one year and one (gaining more votes) for two years
- Secretary (one-year term)

You will find the job descriptions, including additional job expectations and requirements, and the board member application form on the WILPF U.S. website at <http://wilpfus.org/story/leadership-opportunities>. If you have any questions or encounter any difficulties, please feel free to email me at nominations@wilpf.org or phone me at (916) 739-0860 (Pacific Time Zone).

Now is the time to plan to nominate yourself for the 2014 WILPF U.S. National Board!

Darien De Lu has served on three prior WILPF US boards, including as Co-President with Sandy Silver. She is currently on the board as Nominating Committee Chair and also serves as chair of the national ad hoc Bylaws Committee.

► Promoting

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promotes a gender equality perspective across major issue areas (including inequalities, population dynamics, health, education, growth and employment, conflict-affected areas and fragile states, environmental sustainability, food security and nutrition, energy, and water) and engage in other efforts to promote a gender equitable and sustainable development agenda over the next 20 plus years.

If you are interested in working on these issues, you can highlight the gender equality and human rights aspects of your current projects and point out how current injustices are also both violations of U.S. human rights obligations and detrimental to long-term sustainable development. To learn more about the background and context of the coalition, check out AWID's excellent article, "The UN Post-2015 Development Agenda – A Critical Analysis" (<http://bit.ly/W99oO7>). You can also contact me directly via email if you are in NYC or want to pass on any U.N. action alerts. Watch for my discussion board posts on WILPF's website, or follow me on Twitter at [@fembodiedchange](https://twitter.com/fembodiedchange).

Abigail E. Ruane is one of WILPF's two representative to the United Nations, Program Committee member, and Chair of the Practicum and L2G Program Evaluation Committee (Email: abigail@wedo.com Twitter: [@fembodiedchange](https://twitter.com/fembodiedchange)).

► Cuba

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See for Yourself

The delegation I led in September included 10 women and was organized by U.S. Women & Cuba founding member of. We traveled by bus from Havana to eastern Cuba researching the advancement of women's rights under the Cuban revolution and the role of women in the reforms currently taking place.

One of the best ways to support Cuba is to travel there and see the reality of the Cuban peoples' lives and build women-to-women relationships. On November 25-28, 2013 the University of Havana Women's Studies Department will be holding the IX International Women's Conference, "Women in the 21st Century." It will be an opportunity to exchange ideas and strategies with women from all over Cuba. If you are interested in more information about this conference, please contact me.

Cindy Domingo is chair of WILPF's Cuba and the Bolivarian Alliance Issues Committee and can be reached at cindydomingo@gmail.com.

► Massachusetts

Continued from page 22

It's not over!

The B4A effort underscored the positive value of working together across movements with a coherent set of linked demands for the benefit of all; the work will continue through this legislative session and beyond. We look forward to contributing to these efforts as we call for human security not austerity!

For the full text of the referendum question and other information, link to the Budget for All website: <http://budget4allmass.org/>

Claire Gosselin is a member of the Boston Branch and the National DISARM / End Wars Committee. She can be reached at claireg53@gmail.com.

► Congress

Continued from page 12

If we want to realize this vision, we need to work together now. Although seed money for a 2014 Congress has been included in WILPF 2013 operating budget, planning for a 2014 National Congress will only go forward if a suitable site can be identified, a realistic budget developed and a National Congress Committee chair recruited by November 2013. A suitable site would be one that a single or several "sponsoring branches" (as a group) propose that is also:

- Readily accessible by airlines
- Can offer reasonably priced accommodations that are substantially accessible to those with limited mobility, and
- Proposed by sponsors who are willing to do significant outreach to local WILPFers and non-WILPF allies in the surrounding community to attend the Congress.

If you are interested in proposing a site for the 2014 WILPF National Congress, please write to the Interim National Congress Committee at dialogue@wilpf.org.

Wanted

National Congress Committee Chair

The National Congress Committee Chair is a volunteer who convenes the National Congress Committee established by the WILPF U.S. Bylaws. The Chair should: be a member in good standing (dues current); have prior experience attending more than one WILPF National Congress; be skilled at managing complex interactions; be skilled at mediation; be comfortable interaction via conference calls, e-mails, and videoconferencing; and complete a conflict of interest statement annually.

BRANCH ACTION NEWS

Edited by Georgia Pinkel



Pie Chart: this is the federal budget, designed originally by Gwyn Kirk in California, modeled by Susan Weegar.

access to health care. With the gun tragedies this year, “arms control” has taken on a new and very real, local meaning. With the pushback by Mother Nature, i.e. Hurricane Sandy, climate change may finally be taken seriously.

Fighting Corporate controls: from GMO-labeling in CA, fracking in North Carolina, and coal trains in the northwest, WILPF continues to lead the way – through our issue committees: *Disarm/End Wars*; *Advancing Human Rights*, and the various parts of *Earth Democracy* - focusing our actions to insure we are walking our own talk at home! Check out the new WILPFUS website and subscribe to our great branch newsletters. We are still looking for input from our many sisters who are at-large members.

Best Practices: **Cape Cod** held a fashion show – *Fashioning Change* - highlighting their *Roots of Violence*, *Seeds of Change* *Peace Conference* topics with notable interpretative outfits: The Federal Budget Pie Chart, Hunger on Cape Cod, the Nature Goddess, Homelessness, and Mr. Corporate Power and [puppet] Friends. Their 2012-2013 agenda will continue the Conference workshop themes: Gender Violence, Gender Violence, Militarism, Racial Justice and Immigration Rights, Water Justice, Housing, Western Asia, Food Security and finally Disarmament & Peace. **Peninsula** reminds us to watch the Supreme Court this term with regard to the holding of U.S. corporations accountable

WILPF means being at the forefront of movement politics, and this past year was no exception. We provided education on numerous national, state, and local issues, dealt with voting rights issues and supported individual involvement in election activism. We seem to have re-focused our attention on being sure our own citizens – women in particular – can exercise their rights, including having control over their own bodies and

for actions overseas. **St. Louis** prints summaries of letters written or other actions by local members. **LA** held a great potluck Garden Party. **Minn. Metro** continues to hold interesting “Coffee With” Discussions – one on Women, Water, Trees and Drums – previewing the 2013 Million Women Drummers Gathering. **Santa Cruz** prints the names of renewing members, as well as any new members. **Tucson** provided candidate forums for those running locally and maintains an impressive list of on-going protests. **Washington, D.C.** continued education, letters/petitions to the U.N. on the Cholera epidemic brought by the U.N. troops from Nepal to Haiti after the earthquake. **Fresno** WILPF members Jean Hayes (monthly) and Dr. Jean Kennedy (weekly) have local radio programs. How do *you* reach out – cable access programs, radio, Facebook or Twitter?

Sacramento Valley was very involved in the WILPF-CA Vote and coordinated election-related efforts, which arose out of the August CA Cluster Meeting. Our **Des Moines** Branch was the recipient of the Progressive Hero Award presented by the IOWA Citizen Action Network! **Des Moines** also awarded the 5th Annual Strong Feisty Woman award to Lucy Krauss and Denise O’Brien.

Fresno’s Meghan Walsh spent three months as an intern at the WILPF International office and then went on to Beirut, Lebanon for six weeks. **Triangle NC**

Branch was involved, through the group Protect All Children’s Environment, in a day of Toxics Education and Action on Fracking. **Portland** connected with a unique group of five young high school women – YES (www.youthendingslavery.org).

Calendar and Movement Events: **St. Louis** participated in the Global Day of Action regarding Monsanto’s domination of seeds and development of GMOs.

Cape Cod hung two great overpass “Stop Violence vs. Women” banners for the 16 Days against Violence.

LA prints the entire text of the Declaration of Human Rights each December while this year, **Detroit, MI** focused on the U.N. Declaration On The Rights of Indigenous Peoples honoring sisters, Dr. Kay McGowan and Fay Givens. **Santa Cruz** ended the year with a holiday potluck and the music of the local Peace Chorale and the Raging Grannies, while **Tucson** participated



Mr. Corporate Power: with his military and congressional puppets. Designed by Elenita and modeled by Mark Massoni.



Homelessness: cardboard and newspaper suit crowned by the Kline Mansion chapeau (a modern monstrosity being constructed in the midst of Edward Hopper's Cape Cod landscape), designed by Donna Pihl, modeled by Pamela Phipp.

in the 4th annual "Latkes for Gaza – and the Rest of Palestine" fundraiser. Educating on the topic of "Challenging Corporate Rule & Creating Democracy," **St. Louis** hosted David Cobb. **Bloomington's** approach was to present free performances of "The Prosecution of Judge Waite," James Allison's play about the fraudulent legal basis of corporate personhood. They succeeded in having the Bloomington City Council, the state Democratic Convention and the Monroe County

Commissioners all adopt a resolution on this and they plan to organize the rest of the state! At the other end of the country, **Tucson** also kicked off 2013 with a protest/parade marking the third anniversary of Citizens United aided by the Tucson Raging Grannies. **Fresno** gets right down to business by scheduling post-election meetings with their Congress people to educate them on WILPF's priorities. **Des Moines**, working through Food & Water Watch, campaigned in favor of labeling GMO foods and is continuing its yearlong exploration of food choices.

Local: **Cape Cod** supports Move to Amend, and is celebrating getting non-binding resolutions on their November ballots regarding the amendment to eliminate corporate personhood and money as speech, which were approved by 78 percent of the voters. **LA** continues to support the LA Move to Amend group. **Santa Cruz** updates and educates around the current conditions in Haiti including the earlier impact of Hurricane Sandy there. **Tucson** celebrated the 100th birthday of local WILPF activist, Mary MacEwan (and is already planning her 101st in April). **Fresno's** Earth Democracy Team collaborated to show the documentary "Over Troubled Waters: Common-sense, affordable solutions for the local Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta." **Des Moines** is on the forefront of the battles, innovations and confrontations with big agribusiness as they continue to work with their local Occupy groups. Their e-newsletters give the rest of us many resources and a whole different perspective. **Santa Cruz** leader Nancy Abbey was recognized by the Combined 1st Congregation Church

and United Church of Christ's 2012 Amos award honoring "the prophetic ideas of justice for all and peace among nations." In September, **Des Moines** participated in the "Women Standing Up for Freedom: Dancing," a global dance action in collaboration with Planned Parenthood of the Heartland and other women's groups.

Peace: **Peninsula Branch** does a monthly peace outreach at the Lytton Plaza in Palo Alto and a vigil against nuclear weapons at the Lockheed-Martin main gate. **St. Louis** is keeping abreast of Nuclear Contamination – depleted uranium, DU weapons and the nuclear industry; it also co-sponsored an event to discuss: "What Should the International Community Do about Syria?" **LA** does weekly anti-drone demonstrations in San Diego County at the General Atomics Plant. **Tucson** WILPF sponsored a table at the 30th Annual Tucson Peace Fair, a booth at the Tucson Festival of Books (highlighting the JAPA children's books) and held two demonstrations against violent toys at ToysRUs and Wal-Mart. **Santa Barbara** participated in "Putting U.S. Nuclear Weapons Policies on Trial: A Forum with the Vandenberg 15" with Daniel Ellsberg, Cindy Sheehan and others. **Monterey County** has been an active supporter of these same actions by MacGregor Eddy. **San Jose** will join monthly actions at Beale AFB. **Washington D.C.** will be co-sponsoring a "Peace Ball" to recognize the efforts of people around the world working for peace and Justice. **Fresno** was pleased to announce that with re-organization and expansion of the Peace and Conflict Studies Program at CSU-Fresno, students will be able to complete a minor and obtain a certificate. **Portland, OR** again participated in marking the anniversary of the Afghanistan war, which this year was tied to Occupy Portland and included a march, a rally, and a day of teach-ins. In February, **Ashland, OR** held a program on "Living Under Drones – A Report Back from Pakistan," with Leah Bolger, President of Veterans for Peace, who gave an account of her September journey to Pakistan as part of a delegation that included Medea Benjamin of Code Pink. Their mission was to protest U.S. combat drones and to show alliance with the Pakistani people. **Des Moines** held the "Women Feeding the World" event: A Conversation with Jeomok Bak (chairperson of the Korean Women Peasants' Association and recipient of the Food Sovereignty Prize 2012) and Tristan Quinn-Thibodeau (representing WhyHunger, a movement to support grassroots solutions to end hunger and poverty and encourage self-reliance).

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

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

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WILPF TURNS 100



In 1915, 1136 visionary women came together in the Hague, Netherlands, to stop World War I. On April 28, they founded the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF).

In 2015, 1136 visionary women will once again come together to participate in the second women's peace and security conference.

**THE CONFERENCE WILL TAKE PLACE 26-29 APRIL 2015
IN THE WORLD FORUM IN THE HAGUE.**

The purpose is simple: we want to stop and prevent war. Not just the war on women, but the war affecting all humans, who only wish to live a life of peace and freedom.

It is time to celebrate the fact that WILPF has led the struggle, for women's power to stop war, for one hundred years! Read more at womenstopwar.org.

Scan and read



Would you like to give a gift of a WILPF membership?

WILPF annual membership dues are from \$15 to \$150 as you are able. A one-time gift of \$1,500 will make you a lifelong member of WILPF. \$35 is recommended to start.

Checks payable to WILPF. Mail to:
WILPF U.S. Section
11 Arlington Street
Boston, MA 02116
Call us at 617-266-0999

You may also join online at: wilpfus.org

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