

# Peace & Freedom

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

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WILPF participated in the September 24th Anti-War March in Washington, D.C. *Left to right*, Pat O'Brien (in hat), WILPF interns Rhianwen Lewis-Holtz and Katherine Jones, with Jody Dodd and Kate Zaidan.

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**Cover photo:** Young woman at an anti-war protest, Toronto, Canada.  
Cover photo credit: © Allan Cedillo Lissner/GlobalAware

Plans are underway for an International Women's Peace Conference scheduled for Havana, Cuba in November 2006 sponsored by International WILPF. If you would like to be part of a national committee to bring a U.S. section WILPF delegation to Cuba, contact Cindy Domingo at [yoson66@hotmail.com](mailto:yoson66@hotmail.com) or (206) 856-0324.

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

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

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

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# Meet the Presidents

Peace & Freedom Editor Theta Pavis recently talked with WILPF's new co-Presidents Chris Morin and Tamara James about their hopes and plans for the organization. Both women work full time.

**P & F:** What are your top three goals as co-presidents?

**Tamara:** We want to make ourselves more visible, grow our membership and make WILPF financially viable for the next 90 years.

**Chris:** If we put the goals in order, it would be funds, visibility and membership. We talked about this a lot; WILPF is such a dynamic organization, with all these brilliant women, and nobody knows us in the mainstream. We need to plant a seed that whatever program or event we do, that we ask, how will it make WILPF visible, is there a funding capacity to this event, and how will it bring in members? That would be our ever present thread—fundraising, visibility, members.

**Tamara:** I think program runs through all of this. Many times when we talk to WILPF members, they want to talk about program, and say it is a mistake to talk about these other things. And I think that is true to some extent, program attracts members, but if we aren't each time saying, "Would you like to become a member or donate?" then you can have a really dynamic program and have people just walk out the door and not join.

**P & F:** What do you think WILPF's greatest strengths are?

**Chris:** The history of WILPF is a strength, as far as a building block. I would just have to say, the members, everybody combined, the combination of the wealth of knowledge and the political analysis — it is really one of WILPF's strengths.

The average member is 65 years old, so I see myself in the middle, and we have a younger voice coming in now and we are passing the torch. So many times I thought about why we keep going — there are so many things stacked against us politically in terms of moving a justice agenda forward — but I look at these women [that came before us] and I think about what they went through, it is much more than I myself have had to struggle with.

**Tamara:** It is such a grassroots organization, and even when we do our programs, we ask people and have them vote on it at the membership level. So many organizations just say, we're doing this one issue, and people join



Chris Morin, left, and Tamara James.

Photo: Theta Pavis

because they are interested in it, but they don't go to their constituency and ask them, "What are you interested in working on?"

Also, WILPF's internationalism is part of what attracted me. It's the oldest international women's peace organization in the world. I choose it over other women's organizations. Few groups can say they have 35 sections around the world where women are doing their work in their countries. It makes us unique.

**P & F:** Where do you think we most need to improve?

**Tamara:** In communication. We need to get better at communicating with each other and figuring out the structures that will allow this, especially as we become more diverse and varied in our age and backgrounds.

**Chris:** We continue to work on our racism. We have a lot to learn, especially as people from different cultures continue to come onto our board. That is one piece that we continue to work on, so that we can really move forward with all women's voices.

**P & F:** How do you plan on sharing your positions as co-presidents?

**Chris:** This was one of the first things that we talked about. Tamara is very detailed and I am not, so one of the things we share is that if something has to be written, I can put something down and get some thoughts going and then she fine tunes it. And then we split up the committees. (Chris is serving on the membership, development and nominations committees.)

**Tamara:** And I took (serving on the) program committee, because that's where I came from. I am also serving on finance and staff concerns. For the moment we are splitting our JAPA duties. I think Chris and I balance things pretty well.

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# Reader's Forum

Dear Friend:

In response to your request in the recent issue of *Peace & Freedom* for statements on what being 90 and a WILPF member is like, I would say that on reading the magazine's recent and past issues, I must say that I have a feeling the world will survive.

Would that there would be more organizations engaged in saving this world. It is a great comfort to know that in other countries in the world there are women who are concerned about the welfare of future generations. At age 95, I feel confident our country or no other will be attacked as Hiroshima and Nagasaki were.

May those responsible for the production of *Peace & Freedom* continue their work to save millions of the world's people from death.

Sincerely,

*Ruth Stahl*  
Evansville, Indiana

Dear Ms. Kent:

I remember well WILPF's 40th anniversary celebration and of course its 50th anniversary celebration. Martin Luther King was our featured speaker at the dinner we held at the Bellevue Stratford Hotel. How we hoped that in his speech he would take a public stand against the war in Vietnam! He didn't, not at that time. I remember that I organized an anti-Vietnam War Protest for the Saturday of the celebration. (I was national Program and Action Committee chairperson at the time.) I can still see how elegant we women were in our dresses, with some wearing long gloves and hats. Next morning *The Philadelphia Inquirer* carried a story on the front page and accompanied it with photos of bearded young men. (In those years the easiest way to discredit anything in the public mind was to associate with "hippies.")

And now it is the 90th, and so few of us left who remember Orlie Pell, Dorothy Hutchinson, Mildred Scott Olmsted, Ruth Gage Colby, Emily Parker Simon, Lucy Carner, Mayme Williams, Martha Tranquilli, Eleanor Fowler, Celia Daldy — I could go on and on. These are

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We reserve the right to choose and edit letters.

the women I worked with and admired, respected, even loved. I even met Dorothy Detzer Denny — I made an appointment to meet her in her Monterey apartment one year when WILPF held its annual meeting in San Francisco.

By the way, I think *Generations of Courage* is an excellent piece! I realize that a period of 30 years (the years that have elapsed since I was National president) is just a blink of the eye, but how sad it is to realize that many of the issues that concerned us back then are still unresolved today. If anything, the world has grown more complex, more frightening. Our country has become far more conservative, our young people seem to me to be less idealistic and less active. How badly I misread the future! Is it possible that the young people who marched for civil rights and against war could grow up to vote Republican? How is it that we can unlock the mysteries of the human genome and at the same time demand that our schools teach creationism? Only history will be able to tell the depth of the impact of September 11 made on the ideas and attitudes of the American public.

I admire and appreciate all of you women today who have the courage and the fortitude to continue the struggle for peace, freedom and justice. It is a good struggle, one that is honorable and noble. I salute you.

Sincerely,

*Naomi Marcus*  
Boynton Beach, Florida

## **NEW: WILPF'S RAPID RESPONSE COMMITTEE**

A new committee has been formed to provide a structure for WILPF/U.S. to respond in a timely fashion to national and international crisis situations that call for our attention. We may propose an action for branches to take. We may write a statement to be publicized locally and nationally. The committee is represented on the Board Program Committee. If a member or branch considers a situation one that demands a quick response, please contact the convener, we will then convene, and make a decision to respond or not, based on the guidelines we have developed within our eight-person committee, including WILPF members and staff. Presently the convener is Marge Van Cleef: [mvc@igc.org](mailto:mvc@igc.org), or (484) 384-2487. Let us hear from you.

# Iraq - A Quagmire?

Marge Van Cleef

**D**oes the U.S. administration want to get out of this "quagmire"? Or is a permanent military occupation the goal? If so, why?

In this brief article we'll review some of the facts leading up to the Iraqi situation in the latter half of 2005, which might shed light on the future.

**Oil** - The goal of controlling Iraq's oil is not to be taken lightly. In October 2002, Edward Said wrote, "... second to Saudi Arabia, Iraq has the largest oil reserves on earth, and the roughly \$1.1 trillion dollars worth of oil that have been available to Iraq are a crucial aim of U.S. strategy, something which the Iraqi National Congress has used as a trump card with non-U.S. oil consumers." (For more details see Michael Klare, "Oiling the Wheels of War," *The Nation*, Oct. 7, 2004.)

**Ideological Justifications for Invasion & War:** The loose and superficial use of catch phrases, ironic as they have become, include "freedom, democracy, war on terrorism, liberation, stability." The Project for a New American Century's report, dated September 2000, clearly describes plans for expanding U.S. dominance in world affairs. (See the website: [www.newamericancentury.org](http://www.newamericancentury.org).)

**War on Iraq:** Before Iraq's oil could be controlled there had to be an espoused reason to destroy the country, thus the widely accepted story of the U.S.'s de facto permission given to Saddam to invade Kuwait in 1990. Sanctions were imposed, immediately, to begin crippling the country. Reportedly 500,000 Iraqi people died from the effects of sanctions. Iraq was bombed heavily in 1991, during the first Gulf War. And Saddam Hussein, former ally of the U.S., was demonized but tolerated until the war of 2003, when he was captured and will stand trial for crimes against humanity.

Tom Brokaw (NBC), reporting a few days into the 2003 war said: "One of the things we don't want to do ... is to destroy the infrastructure of Iraq because in a few days we're going to own that country." And now it is "owned," for the most part by Halliburton and Bechtel,

supported by the U.S. government, and the oil companies vying for their share of the "gold" in the desert. A military force is required to obtain and secure this ownership, thus four permanent U.S. military bases are being built there, while some of the smaller bases are being dismantled.

**Occupation:** Since sanctions were imposed on Iraq in 1990, the first Gulf War in 1991, and the 2nd Gulf War beginning in April 2003, more than 100,000 Iraqi lives have been lost, the infrastructure destroyed, the social structure totally disrupted and many Iraqis are still without potable water, electricity (except for a few hours daily), jobs and public transportation.

See [www.globalsecurity.org](http://www.globalsecurity.org) for reports of the ongoing war, including effects of it never seen on television in the U.S.

**Military Bases:** On March 23, 2004 it was reported in The Washington Post that "U.S. engineers are focusing on constructing 14 "enduring bases," long-term encampments for the thousands of American troops expected to serve in Iraq for at least two years... The number of U.S. military personnel in Iraq, between 105,000 and 110,000, is expected to remain unchanged through 2006."

By May 2005 *The Washington Post* reported that plans called for consolidating American troop units in Iraq into four large air bases, strategic hubs, from which they could provide logistical support and emergency combat assistance for mortar strikes, air attacks, etc. Initial funding was provided in the \$82 billion supplemental appropriations bill approved by Congress.

**Costs of the War:** An excellent source is the website for National Priorities Project, noted below. The economic takeover of Iraq is well covered in Naomi Klein's article, also noted. Arguments for U.S./U.K. leaving Iraq

A majority of the Iraqi people, according to the polls, want the U.S. out of their country. Civil war is imminent, if not already begun. The Sunnis are not being given their legitimate voice in the new constitution and control of the oil-rich regions appears to be going to the Shiites, if a federal system is installed. Old tribal conflicts have reemerged. It is quite possible that the U.S. has plans for an invasion of Iran, thus widening the war in the Middle East.

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## ► IRAQ *continued from page 5*

At the very least, we can demand that our policy-makers call for the end of the U.S./U.K. occupation, the participation of Iraqis in the rebuilding of their country, and provisions for reparations to be made to the people of Iraq.

### What Can You Do?

- Motivate ourselves and encourage others to oppose the war. Include this antiwar focus in all of our peace activism. Many WILPF branches have Raging Granny groups.
- Resist the War - Participate in national, local, regional nonviolent resistance actions. See the National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance, the working group of United for Peace and Justice, which did the major organizing for nonviolent resistance at the White House on Sept 26, 2005, when 374 people were arrested. Check out: [www.iraqpledge.org](http://www.iraqpledge.org).
- Educate - Talk to people. Organize study groups in your community - neighborhood, church, school. Organize a film series - excellent videos are available at reasonable costs.
- Support Military Resisters - Iraq Veterans Against the War and Veterans for Peace are helping resisters who have refused to go and/or return to Iraq.
- Keep the military out of our schools - Through "Opt Out" you can inform high school students of their rights so that schools do not provide recruiters with students' personal information.
- Refuse to pay your taxes -Withhold the Federal tax on your phone bill, all of which goes to the military. ([www.WarTaxResistance.org](http://www.WarTaxResistance.org))

Marge Van Cleef is the former Program Chair on the WILPF National Board, and presently coordinator of the newly formed Rapid Response Committee. She is a teacher, musician, and "raging granny."

## ► MEET THE PRESIDENTS

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**P & F:** How do you see the media fitting into your goals for WILPF?

**Chris:** It is key because of our priority of visibility. What we stand for does not get into the mainstream. We are in the alternative press somewhat, but to make change we need to have our voice in the mainstream media.

**P & F:** Is there anything else you'd like to talk about?

**Tamara:** We are wrapping up our 90th Anniversary Campaign this year and I hope this helps us kick off a discussion about what are going to do to reach 100 years in a grand fashion.

## Resources:

- WILPF websites  
[www.peacewomen.org](http://www.peacewomen.org) and [www.wilpf.org](http://www.wilpf.org)
- Institute for Policy Studies  
[www.ips-dc.org/iraq/quagmire](http://www.ips-dc.org/iraq/quagmire). Full report on Iraq written by Phyllis Bennis et al. August 2005
- National Priorities Project  
[www.nationalpriorities.org](http://www.nationalpriorities.org)
- Project for a New American Century  
[www.newamericancentury.org](http://www.newamericancentury.org)
- WORLD Tribunal on Iraq  
[www.worldtribunal.org](http://www.worldtribunal.org)
- "Baghdad Beyond Zero," Naomi Klein, *Harpers*, 9/04, [www.harpers.org](http://www.harpers.org).
- *Crossing the Rubicon*, Michael C. Ruppert, 2004, New Society Publishers.
- *Oil, Power & Empire*, Larry Everest, 2004, Common Courage Press.
- "The Long Emergency," James H. Kunstler, 2005, Atlantic Monthly Press.
- *War Made Easy*, Norman Solomon, 2005, John Wiley & Sons



**Chris:** Tamara and I are excited about this [serving as co-presidents.] But WILPF is a membership organization, and we really want to be open to hearing from members. I just want to encourage people to embrace this organization as their own.

**Tamara:** Yes. The board relies on the members to guide us.

**Chris:** We want to encourage that. And yes, there is conflict, but we would like to strive to be the organization that we demand the rest of the world be.

**Tamara:** Both on the board and with the membership as a whole.

**Chris:** Yes, we want to be respectful of each other and be listening and open. ♦

# Counting and Accountability

*Les Roberts*

If anything good has come from the unfolding of the Katrina disaster over the past weeks, it may be that on this rare occasion the foreign and domestic press portrayals of the U.S. have been similar. For once, Americans are seeing themselves as they are seen in Europe and the Middle East. Some of these impressions, such as the strength and activism of U.S. churches have been positive. But most have been negative. Among the embarrassing signs of dysfunction evocative of a Third-World country are the disparate estimates regarding the number of fatalities.

On September 7th, the CDC Director's Emergency Operations Center released an online briefing stating that the official death toll from Katrina was 229. The Mayor of New Orleans continued to be widely quoted in the press that day as suspecting that perhaps 10,000 had died. Is it possible that almost two weeks after the storm struck that the government did not know how many died to within a factor of 50? Could there have been thousands of families who had lost a loved one and still didn't know? Focusing on saving lives first is appropriate but 10 days after the rain stopped how could we have been this ignorant? When contrasted with the recent tsunami in Asia or earthquake in Iraq, this is dysfunction on an incomprehensible scale.

Tragically for Americans, this disinterest in counting the victims is seen as a growing pattern in the eyes of many watching the U.S. from afar. Most dramatically, the issue of civilians killed in Iraq is barely covered in the U.S. press and when it is, it is down-played compared to coverage in Europe, Canada, and the Middle East. Widely cited estimates of how many civilians have been killed range from 26,000 to 128,000. Peer-reviewed articles go unreported, such as one from U.S. Military researchers published in the New England Journal of Medicine indicating 14 percent of Army and 28 percent of Marine returnees believe they accidentally killed a non-combatant while in Iraq. That corresponds with 4,000 accidental killings a month which are simply not mentioned in the U.S.

press but reported daily in the Middle East. In fact there are now eight estimates of death rates or death tolls in Iraq that have been covered in the world press, four of which indicate over 100,000 deaths have occurred. But, the press in the U.S. most often cites the [www.Iraqbodycount.org](http://www.Iraqbodycount.org) figure, a Britain-based attempt to record deaths by monitoring the press and by having people visit some morgues and hospitals. The present estimate of at least 26,000 is described by Iraqi bodycount as certainly an underestimate.

Did anyone say on September 7th that only 229 people had died from Katrina? No. Does anyone cite police or press records as the best source for documenting the number of rapes in their community? No! We have dropped tens of thousands of bombs in Iraq with virtually none of them since the 2003 invasion mentioned in the U.S. press. U.S. soldiers are dying at a higher rate, in terms of deaths per soldier per day, than U.S. soldiers died in Vietnam. The war looks different through the eyes of Al-Jazeera and the BBC, in part because the rough horrific edges have not been taken off. In New Orleans recently, no rough edges were taken off. There are two big differences between the deaths in the Gulf Coast and in Iraq: in the end, almost all the deaths from Katrina will be tallied, and Katrina was an act of nature, not an act of man.

In spite of all the misery and horror, there is one sense with which Hurricane Katrina could help the U.S. That is, if we Americans take the chance to view ourselves as the world views us and to fix what we don't like. Many fault-lines (for example, between rich and poor, black and white) have been exposed and discussed because of Katrina; let's have the chasm between our self-image and our international image be another focus of the introspection. We need an independent investigation into the human cost of the invasion of Iraq. We will not settle for a range of deaths plus or minus a few hundred percent in Louisiana, and we should settle for no less when deaths are induced by our Commander-in-Chief.

*Les Roberts is an epidemiologist and teaches at the Johns Hopkins and Columbia schools of public health. Previously, he worked for the CDC in Atlanta, was the Director of Health Policy for the International Rescue Committee, and worked as an epidemiologist for the World Health Organization in Rwanda during their civil war in 1994.*



# Peace Education

## Why War Is All The Rage

*Christine Ahn, Gwyn Kirk*

The stories of the more than 2,000 young U.S. soldiers who have died in Iraq since 2003 are heart-wrenching. They came from all over the country — white, black, Asian and Latino. Some were immigrants, farmers, students and athletes. They shared a dream for their future and their families, as well as a belief that they were serving their country. Memorial Day this year was a time to remember these young men and women, and all military casualties, soldiers and civilians alike. It gave us an opportunity to reflect on the high costs of war, especially the waste of human life.

Along with U.S. military personnel, as many as 100,000 Iraqi civilians are estimated to have died in this war. We have spent more than \$250 billion in tax dollars on the fighting and reconstruction. Shameful actions by U.S. soldiers at Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo have fueled enormous rage against this country.

How did we get here? How did the White House convince so many Americans that military force was our only viable option? By way of explaining, it is worth noting how militarism has crept into and permeated our culture.

Take, for example, the bombed-out dollhouse, sold as a toy by manufacturer Ever Sparkle, Inc., where grenades replace salt and pepper shakers, ammo boxes occupy the kitchen and G.I. Joe, armed with a bazooka, stands ready for battle on the balcony. Another toy, the World Peace Keepers Battle Station, comes with M-16s, grenades, sandbags and other war devices so that children 3 and older can begin to understand the real meaning of peace. "Full Spectrum Warrior," a new video game set in an apparently Arab city, teaches how to kill the enemy. It was developed with \$4 million from the U.S. military as a training tool for Army recruits.

Militarism also infiltrates America's high schools and colleges. The No Child Left Behind Act requires high schools to give the names and phone numbers of juniors and seniors to military recruiters, unless parents object in writing. The military sniffs out vulnerable recruits through culturally tailored ads featuring blacks or Spanish-language pitches with Latin music. It has

even sponsored a NASCAR car in its pursuit of recruiting white, rural youth. "The recruiters prey on students who feel they have no other options: immigrant students trying to get citizenship, seniors lacking credits to graduate and anyone who they can persuade that the Army will train them for the real world," said Lester Garcia, a graduate of Roosevelt High School in East Los Angeles.

Militarism seeps into our everyday life through fashion as well. The "military look" has influenced civilian clothing for centuries. Camouflage apparel, cargo pants and bomber jackets from army surplus stores have always been staple pieces in young people's wardrobes. The difference now, according to the Army/Navy Store and *Outdoor Merchandiser* magazine, is that the military look has become so common "it's not so much fashion as an everyday look."

Camo is everywhere, from infant onesies to backpacks to cell-phone covers. Military chic for women and girls is featured in Macy's. Camouflage "flies off the shelf at the fabric store," as one Berkeley store clerk put it.

The problem isn't just that camouflage and war toys are popular. The problem is that as the symbols of the military filter into daily life, war becomes palatable and natural. We forget that this is the fabric of battlefield uniforms, of bombing, torture, violence and death. We become desensitized to the horror of war, and more prone to support an aggressive foreign policy. Militarism becomes normalized as everyday life becomes more militarized.

"Militarization is a sneaky sort of transformative process," writes Clark University professor Cynthia Enloe. "Sometimes it is only in the pursuit of de-militarization that we become aware of just how far down the road of complete militarization we've gone. In fact, since (the attacks of) Sept. 11, publicly criticizing militarization has been widely viewed as an act of disloyalty."

The militarization of U.S. society has grave implications. Many voters and our elected representatives hardly bat an eye over the fact that half the federal discretionary budget funds the military. This will be \$438 billion in 2006 — excluding the costs of action in Iraq and Afghanistan. According to the National Priorities Project, the average San Francisco household, for instance, paid \$13,139 in federal income tax in 2004, of

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

# Counting the Cost & Stopping the War

Mary Day Kent, Executive Director

In October 2004, just before the U.S. presidential election, the internationally respected British medical journal, *The Lancet*, published a study by Les Roberts and Gilbert Burnham, professors of public health at Columbia and Johns Hopkins universities. Using the research of Iraqi medical colleagues and demographic surveys, they calculated a well-grounded, appalling, estimate of 100,000 or more Iraqi deaths attributed to the U.S. (Coalition) invasion and occupation of Iraq since March 2003.

Although the study was extensively reported in Europe and worldwide, it was ignored for months in the U.S. While the detailed record of U.S. military deaths grievously rose, the U.S. military continued to claim that there were no "body counts" of Iraqi deaths, either of civilians or combatants.

Beginning in Philadelphia in December 2004, there was a grass-roots initiative to highlight the complete human toll of the war: U.S. and Coalition military losses and the reality of Iraqi deaths otherwise not counted. With WILPF sponsorship, this local initiative took on a national organizing effort aimed at holding a day of protest and mourning on May 15th, 2005. With support from Philadelphia's Bread and Roses Community Fund, the Funding Exchange, and generous private donors, a website was established ([www.countingthecost.org](http://www.countingthecost.org)) and symbolic numbers representing "one of over 100,000 dead" were ordered to be available for participants to wear on May 15th and other occasions.

The organizing was primarily done on-line, with participants and potential local organizers getting in touch through the website and ordering their numbers with a \$10 contribution.

Although the initiators' original dream of recruiting 100,000 people to stand together at one time in Washington, D.C. to represent the dead did not happen, the project ended up with a decentralized but national impact. May 15th events took place in at least 18 reported locations, from Alaska to Costa Rica. Half of these were organized by WILPF branches. In addition many individuals reported personal actions on that day—wearing "their" numbers at weddings, commencements, on trains and in airports, even in running races. In the evaluation after May 15th, 140 participants filled in an e-mail questionnaire about their experience. Among the "best aspects" they cited "feeling part of a group that is standing together to end war" and "answering questions about the number." Among the "worst aspects" respondents said, "simply realizing the numbers of the dead" and "reliving the pain of

my brother's death."

The contributions given when people signed up for numbers helped to cover WILPF's organizing cost and generated some surplus, which was given to Iraq Veterans Against the War, Gold Star Families for Peace, and Military Families Speak Out. Four thousand dollars was committed to direct humanitarian medical relief in Iraq, through International Peace Angels, which has reported on the distribution in Rawa and Samarra. For further details and the full text of the *Lancet* study on Iraqi mortality, see [www.countingthecost.org](http://www.countingthecost.org).

One year on, the toll of U.S. military deaths is inexorably heading beyond 2,000. Professors Burnham and Roberts report that the present conditions in Iraq make a one-year follow up study essentially impossible so the number of Iraqis lost to the war and occupation returns to being a guessing game, and sadly, one that few in the U.S. government or even among the general public are interested in. (See page 7 in this issue for a reflection by Les Roberts on this question.) ♦



Liz Berryman, Counting the Cost organizer, spoke at Philadelphia's Independence Mall on May 15th.

Photo: Zachary Towne-Smith

## ► WAR IS RAGE

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which \$5,097 funded the military (including interest on its debt), \$2,664 for health care, \$482 for education, and \$52 for job training.

It is vital that we open our eyes to these realities. We are engaged in a senseless, dreadful war. Far too many American and Iraqi lives have been lost. We must urge our elected officials to replace the war budget with a people's budget that invests in making this nation healthier, better educated and genuinely secure. We must believe in and contribute to a global community based on international law, diplomacy and human rights.

Finally, each one of us can fashion our own personal resistance to militarism as we recognize how military chic trivializes and cheapens the sacrifice of the people who have lost their lives.

Christine Ahn is director of Peace and International Solidarity at the Women of Color Resource Center ([www.coloredgirls.org](http://www.coloredgirls.org)). Gwyn Kirk is a member of WILPF's San Francisco Branch.

This editorial originally appeared in the *San Francisco Chronicle* on May 29, 2005.

# International WILPF on the Middle East

Tura Campanella Cook

International WILPF has been concerned about the region since 1919 — after Britain promised Palestine to the Jews and then kindled the national aspirations of the Palestinians. In 1930, our first section in Palestine was formed. Soon, WILPF adopted a forward-looking statement regarding attaining peace in the region. Today WILPF has sections in Israel, Palestine and Lebanon.

A 1978 delegation toured the region. Another, in 1989, met with the Israeli and Palestinian sections to support and foster cooperation. In 1991, 10 Israeli and 10

Palestinian women participated in a peace dialogue. The resulting comprehensive statement called for women to be part of the negotiating process.

In 1997, a Cyprus-held dialogue on the conflict reached agreement on possible solutions. At every WILPF International Congress, we consult with our Middle East Sections for advice on policies directly affecting them.

Our Arab and Israeli sections often agree. Believing that working for peace benefits all, the international Middle East (M.E.) committee has pressed for implementation of U.N. Resolutions 242, 338, and others basic to regional peace. Based on M.E. committee recommendations, WILPF has called on the U.S. government to work within the U.N. to negotiate the settlement of regional conflicts, for an international embargo on arms and technology transfers, and a zone free of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons.

We call for recognition of a Palestinian state, while confirming the territorial integrity of Israel within pre-1967 borders — with minor adjustments — and have insisted aid be linked to observance of human rights and an end to U.S. support for Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories. WILPF also opposes settlement construction.

## Making the Connections

The U.S. WILPF program contains many facets of the major problems of U.S. hegemony. Issues of disarmament, racial justice, and challenging corporate power are there in the Middle East. Disarmament is critical considering the nuclear and conventional arsenals of the U.S.

and Israel, reluctance to disarm, and how this stimulates other nations to arm. While the U.S. seeks control of oil in Iraq, Israel appropriates water in Palestine.

Corporations further the hegemonic policy; e.g., Caterpillar bulldozes Palestinian homes, Halliburton monopolizes the reconstruction in Iraq, and Bechtel controls water and wastewater systems. Racism against Arabs is perpetrated to support the aggressive tactics and occupation. War perpetuates racism by tapping into the minds and emotions of individual soldiers.

Photo Theta Pavis

Decades of injustice to the Palestinian people by U.S. support of Israel's occupation, compounded by the sanctions and present occupation, to the Iraqi people, make this the human rights issue that connects all our programs. We must build peace on justice. Our challenge to U.S. policy, that it be fair and responsive to human needs, is the work that lies before us.

## Highlights of M.E. Plenary

You could've heard a pin drop when we introduced the "Women Challenge U.S. Policy: Building Peace on Justice in the Middle East Campaign" (WCUSP) at Congress. Four eloquent speakers riveted the crowd: Rachelle Marshall, writer for *The Washington Report on Middle East Affairs*; Libby Frank, teacher and activist; Joy Totah Hilden, Palestinian-American moderator of Jewish-Palestinian dialogue; and Barbara Lubin, director of the M.E. Children's Alliance.

Marshall opened by developing haunting parallels between the U.S. occupation of Iraq and the Israeli occupation of Palestine. See a similar article at [www.wrmea.com/archives/August\\_2005/0508007.html](http://www.wrmea.com/archives/August_2005/0508007.html). See Lubin's work at her website, [www.mecaforpeace.org](http://www.mecaforpeace.org). What follows are excerpts from the other two papers.

*Tura Campanella Cook is co chair of WILPF's Women Challenge U.S. Policy: Building Peace on Justice in the Middle East Campaign. Formerly a translator of Latin poetry and Arabic fiction, then a job sharing city planner in Austin, Tura currently sells fair trade Palestinian embroidery. Reach her at: turacc@earthlink.net.*



Gold Star Mother Nadia McCaffrey, whose son Patrick died in Iraq, with Odile Hugonot Haber.

# Perceived Interests Direct Policy

*By Libby Frank, a member of the Leadership Team/WILPF's WCUSP Campaign*

**D**iscussing Israel is difficult, especially for those who remember the Nazi onslaught and World War II. Israel was seen as a haven for Jewish victims of Fascism. By manipulating fear, the corporate media have convinced the public that the U.S. supports Israel for altruistic reasons. Many good people condemn illegal occupation and the violation of U.N. treaties elsewhere in the world, but make an exception for Israel.

One must be sensitive to such concerns and aware of propaganda that feeds the fears of many, including some of our own members.

Peace and justice in the region cannot be assured until the U.S. changes its policies. The principles that govern U.S. strategy elsewhere in the world govern it here as well. Perceived interests, not Israel's security, nor American Jews, dictate U.S. strategy: cheap access to natural resources; privatization of major regional institutions to guarantee access; and curbing revolutionary movements that threaten access. As elsewhere the goal is U.S. hegemony.

A diversity of lobbying groups, Jewish and non-Jewish, merge, coalesce, and serve their own and each other's interests. They are inter-related by support of U.S. foreign policy and strategic cooperation between the U.S. and Israel.

Three major groupings are: the Jewish Lobby, Christian Zionist fundamentalists and the Aerospace industry.

The best-known Jewish lobby is AIPAC, the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee, which exerts power through contributions, citizen pressure, and interlocking leadership with weapons manufacturers and the Christian Right. According to its mission statement, "AIPAC was established in 1954 by leaders of the America Jewish Community who recognized that Israel's needs could not be satisfied by philanthropy alone.... [A]id necessary for Israel's survival could only come from the U.S. government."

AIPAC's interests go beyond supporting Israel. In 1995 AIPAC established the "Campaign for U.S. Global Leadership" including leaders from aerospace, telecommunications, chemical and financial industries. The Campaign states: "America's preeminent role in the world depends on our government's allocation of the financial resources needed to maintain America's global leadership.... and to educate Congress about foreign aid as a tool to enhance U.S. global interests."

Less known are other Jewish right-wing groups: the Jewish Institute for National Security (JINSA) and Toward Tradition. JINSA was founded in 1976 to "put the U.S.-

Israel strategic relationship first..." Later JINSA widened its focus to include U.S. defense and foreign policy in general.

"JINSA's aim is three-fold: to ensure a strong U.S. national security policy; to educate American leaders on the vital strategic relationship between the United States and Israel; and to strengthen U.S. cooperation with democratic allies including Taiwan, Jordan, Hungary, Turkey, India and NATO." It calls for regime change in Iraq, Iran, Syria, Saudi Arabia and the Palestinian Authority.

There has been a regime change in Iraq. There are threats to Iran and Syria; and regime change in Palestine. Coincidence?

Rabbi Daniel Lapin formed Toward Tradition in 1991, "a non-profit educational organization working to advance our nation toward traditional Judeo-Christian values that defined America's creation." Regarding Israel, Lapin says: "One message of Genesis 1:1 is that All the earth belongs to the Holy One, Blessed Be He. He created [Israel] and bestows it upon whoever he chooses." God has become a real estate agent.

Some believe the strong Jewish influence determines U.S. policy. Where then is the Egyptian lobby? After Israel, Egypt is the largest recipient of U.S. military and economic aid — receiving over \$2 billion annually.

Another category of organized lobby groups is the Christian Evangelical Right or "Christian Zionism," a movement within Protestant evangelical fundamentalism viewing Israel as the fulfillment of Biblical prophecy. They work with the Israeli government and Jewish Zionist organizations, claiming over 125 million members.

In 2002 "Stand for Israel" was formed as a Christian counterpart of AIPAC. It can mobilize 100,000 affiliated churches and 250,000 donors. Pastor Munsey [*The New York Times* 7/24/2005] said: "I support Israel in every way possible. For example, I make it a point to buy my clothes from Jews." This ignorance blows my mind — while I laugh and cry.

A third lobbying force is the arms industry and its lobby, the Aerospace Industry Association (AIA). Total annual U.S. foreign military aid to Israel, Egypt and Jordan results in a \$4 billion subsidy to the arms industry. The long-standing U.S. policy of limiting sales of sophisticated weapons changed in 1992 when McDonnell Douglas wanted to sell advanced fighter planes to Saudi Arabia. The AIA created the "U.S. Jobs Now" coalition, arguing that exporting F-15E fighter planes to Saudi Arabia would save 40,000 jobs. McDonnell Douglas succeeded. Israel agreed to that purchase, and was rewarded with permission to purchase F-15Es!

The U.S. requires Israel to use 76 percent of all the U.S. government military aid it receives to buy U.S.-made arms. Every year billions of dollars are funneled from U.S. taxpayers to hundreds of arms corporations.

U.S. demand for control of oil remains a priority, with

the need to keep down nationalist aspirations and resistance to privatization. The struggle for justice is complicated further by two deeply held attitudes: first, widespread racism toward Arabs and Muslims. According to a recent poll, nearly two in five Americans have an unfavorable opinion of Islam. The most negative attitudes are among white Protestant Evangelicals who attend church weekly. Secondly, that Jews determine U.S. foreign policy. This is due to two misconceptions: the strong pro-Likud lobby and the fact that there are Jewish men advising Bush. Many more non-Jewish men and women advise Bush, having in common their radical right-wing foreign policy agenda, which drives U.S. policy.

While public attention is focused on violence between Palestinians and Israel, the U.S./Israel alliance, pushing U.S. hegemony in the region, goes unchallenged. The M.E. remains a major pillar of U.S. imperialism and a major area of division for the U.S. anti-war movement. Unless we come to grips with the forces at play and come to a unified position, our movement will be weak. The most important distinctions in the M.E., as elsewhere, are between oppressors and oppressed. This distinction cuts across national and religious boundaries. The U.S. peace movement must explore, understand and change U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East and elsewhere.

### Palestinians and Israelis Can Live in Peace

*Joy Totah Hilden, co moderator of the East Bay Jewish Palestinian Dialogue Group*

My early life was spent in the idyllic setting of the Friends Schools of Ramallah, Palestine; climbing a giant fig tree, visiting the cooks, gardeners, and my father in his office as Principal. I was aware of the violence during the Arab Revolt against the British in the late 1930s, and impacted by blackouts and bombings during the early 1940s.

One early memory was of visiting Judah Magnes, the American-Jewish pacifist and proponent of conciliation. My father discussed with Magnes the possibility of a bi-national state. Both men stood in the middle of a nationalist trend, holding a minority view among their people. Magnes was one of the founders of Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Khalil Totah was the first boy student and first Palestinian Principal of the

Friends Schools in Ramallah. We left for the U.S. in 1944, where my father directed the Institute of Arab American Affairs, the only voice on behalf of Palestinians and other Arabs.

My life has been a dichotomy between art and activism. Besides my interest in cultural preservation, my focus is on activism and community building, with involvement in Jewish Palestinian Dialogue groups and Co-Counseling. The worsening situation between Palestinians and Israelis has motivated me to become a bridge.

Palestine and Israel must and will become more united and integrated in time, the bi-national state for which my father worked. If Israelis and Palestinians are to live together peacefully, they must be neighbors again, to know each other, and to see each other as humans, not as stereotypes. They must share the land, water, commerce and equal access to justice. We Americans must demand that our tax dollars no longer pay for the killing and subjugation of Palestinians and destruction of their homes and crops. When Palestinians are treated equally and have a viable state, they will have few motivations for violence.

U.S. citizens of all origins and religions must speak loudly to our government about supporting true freedom and democracy in Israel and Palestine. We must insist that U.N. resolutions and other treaties are kept, and that there are consequences when they are not.

Arabs have a long memory. The behavior of the U.S. and Britain now feels like a repetition of the Crusades and Western colonialism. Arab-Americans live in fear of racism, the threat to their civil rights, and targeting under the Homeland Security Act. Many of them want to be invisible.

Fear, hopelessness and anger keep many Palestinians from joining dialogue groups. Here is an opportunity for us Arabs to be seen for who we are: warm, generous, intelligent folks like everyone else. To be ambassadors for our people, to be known for the good people we are, not the terrorists the media portray.

My goal in leading the dialogue group between Palestinians, Palestinian-Americans, Israelis and American Jews, is to create an environment of trust and respect where we listen to each other and speak from the heart about our experiences and beliefs. The process of listening respectfully and withholding judgment, of speaking from personal experience rather than lecturing, can create an environment that dispels fear and anger. We have organized panels and speaking engagements, classes, and projects to raise funds.

We see each other as allies. In this way dialogue groups motivate action beyond our friends, family, and communities, reaching out to a broader sphere.

#### WCUSP Campaign: Reframing Anti-Semitism

In its many dimensions, anti-Semitism is always a part of our awareness. This book, compiled by the WCUSP Campaign, includes articles meant to deepen our collective understanding of anti-Semitism and its bearing on our work as critics of unjust Israeli policies. Individual essays investigate claims that criticism of Israel is anti-Semitic, the history of anti-Semitism, and the intersections between anti-Mizrahi racism and anti-Semitism. You can order it from the National WILPF office for \$10.

# Save the Water Campaign

Nancy Price

The United Nations International Year of Freshwater was marked by WILPF with the Fall 2003 issue of *Peace & Freedom* titled *Hydropolitics: The Future of Water — Who Has It? Who Doesn't? Who Controls It? How Do We Use It?* These questions apply to how we get water for personal and household use. They also deal with who is controlling and profiting from mining our freshwater for bottling or bulk transport.

There is no disputing that women and their families worldwide must have safe and affordable water for personal and household use, or for garden and farm plots. The burden on women who must fetch water, often at great distances, just adds to their daily round of chores. Women do laundry in dirty streams and their children play in foul water pools. When the cost of water goes up with privatization, or bottled and bulk water is necessary because the water is unsafe or service inadequate, it is the women who are forced to make the most difficult choices for their children and extended families — whether to pay for water, school books, clothes, seeds for growing food, or medicine.

We know the facts: that water scarcity because of drought, over-use and contamination from many different sources is increasing; that more than a billion people worldwide lack clean and affordable water, and 2.4 billion lack sanitation services. More shocking is the fact that preventable water-born diseases kill one child every eight seconds.

While the lack of sanitation services contributes to serious and life-threatening diseases, the contamination of watersheds and water sources by industrial and agricultural chemicals and heavy metals is increasing exponentially in the developing countries where environmental standards are low to non-existent, and with little enforcement. In the U.S. we have our own chemical alleys and Superfund sites. Additionally, toxic pollution from military installations and as a direct outcome of combat, especially of depleted uranium (DU), is causing great harm to exposed populations. We can see this in Iraq and Palestine, where there are increased genetic disorders and birth defects, cancers, leukemia, and other serious diseases in both the local people as well as the troops deployed there.

## THE OIL OF THE 21ST CENTURY?

A number of years ago, the multinational corporations were uninterested in the water utility market and had not

yet launched their most aggressive campaigns for bottled water. More recently, however, believing that water IS the oil of the 21st Century, they are, as we know, aggressively trying to cash in, claiming that privatization is the only solution to efficient and cost-effective water delivery. The corporations claim that they can be more reliable and accountable than government.

The almost universal experience worldwide has been just the opposite. No matter the privatization arrangement and financing, often by the World Bank and International Monetary Fund forcing Third World countries to open their public sector up, when the private sector is brought in, rates go up, water quality and service go down, and accountability to the public is almost impossible to enforce. Hundreds and millions of dollars of government funds — that is, tax-payer dollars and other revenue sources — have been squandered on schemes that have often been plagued with problems from the outset. When the system needs fixing the corporations come back for more, claiming they underestimated the costs, or communities fed up with the situation spend millions buying out the contract or taking the system public again. Increasingly the foreign multinationals — the French companies Suez and Veolia (formerly Vivendi) and the German RWE that dominate the market — have found it tough going in some countries. Suez for example, was forced out of Argentina this year. Now they have turned their sights on the U.S., where 85 percent of our water services are still public.

While the case of Cochabamba, Bolivia, featured in the movie "Thirst," was one of the first and most-publicized citizen rebellions, such resistance has happened again and again in "developing" as well as in First World communities alike. The answer then to "Who Controls the Water?" is a resounding "We, the People," as more and more communities seek to restore public control and oversight.

As Virginia Rasmussen remarked in the Congress workshop on Water, Women and War, we have a right to know the facts and be informed and, in a democracy, we have the right to dissent and to say NO to privatization schemes and the taking of our water commons for bottling and bulk transport. Yet, this is not sufficient. We must use our knowledge and exercise our right to dissent, take the next step and to assert our rights as citizens over the illegitimate rights of corporations to govern our water.

## H2O — MAKING THE CONNECTION

The Save the Water Campaign connects all three of the U.S. Section's themes of peace; racial, social and economic justice, and radical democracy.

Peace: As we know from history and current events,

local and global conflict over the control and cost of water may lead to conflict between communities and regions, and even nation states. Water more than any other element of the natural commons is an absolute necessity for all life and the environment without which peace and our very survival is uncertain. Pollution of land, air and water from military installations and war-

## Basic Resources:

Public Citizen: Reports, fact sheets and other materials by the Water for All Campaign at:

[www.citizen.org/cmep/Water/](http://www.citizen.org/cmep/Water/). See in particular the new report, "Waves of Regret: what some cities have learned and other cities should know about the water privatization fiascos in the United States" (June 2005) [www.citizen.org/documents/waves.pdf](http://www.citizen.org/documents/waves.pdf).

Polaris Institute, Inside the Bottle: An Expose of the Bottled Water Industry, by Tony Clarke. (January 2005), [www.polarisinstitute.org](http://www.polarisinstitute.org); website has other materials as well.

Sierra Club Corporate Water Privatization Task Force at: <http://www.sierraclub.org/cac/water> and the Bottled Water Campaign and brochure at [www.sierraclub.org/cac/water/bottled\\_water/](http://www.sierraclub.org/cac/water/bottled_water/)

Water Allies Network, [www.waterallies.org](http://www.waterallies.org).

"Myths About Water Privatization," Vandana Shiva, in *Peace & Freedom* (Fall 2003), Vol. 63, No. 2, pp. 6-7.

fare causes irreparable harm to people and the environment for now and for generations.

Racial, Social and Economic Justice: The availability, cost and distribution of water is more and more becoming an issue of class, and therefore, race in the U.S. and elsewhere. It is an example of social and economic injustice when the cost of water increases several fold and is then sold back to the community — either through the tap or in bottles at great profit. It is an example of racial injustice when poor rural farm-workers, in California's Central Valley for example, have water contaminated with arsenic and have to buy water at great expense, or when rural communities in Texas are forced to accept pre-paid water meters (similar to those in parts of South Africa) before they can turn on the tap.

Radical Democracy: Radical means "at the root" and democracy means "rule by the people." Thus radical democracy is not a kind of government; it is the goal of government when people assume they have the values,

beliefs and skills to govern themselves. Then they can create processes and institutions to meet their societal goals. Radical democracy can only come into being through widespread individual awakening that embraces commitment to community, inclusion, mutuality and cooperation; it cannot be imagined and imposed on people by force of law (adapted from Molly Morgan, "Save the Water Curriculum Study Guide.")

It is exciting to realize how many opportunities there are to bring the work on water into the new Middle East campaign and that of the continuing issue committees. You don't have to give up work to which you are already committed, only, perhaps, broaden the scope of analysis and potential choices for action. While there have been many successes worldwide in turning back privatization schemes, only long-term collaborative work for systemic change will secure our rights over the rights of corporations who seek to profit from the "oil of the 21st Century."

### STANDING UP TO THE WATER BARONS

In the U.S. alone, it is estimated that \$500 billion is needed over the next 20 years to upgrade and build new water and wastewater systems to meet both the new quality standards and population growth. Importantly, a June 2005 poll showed clearly that 86 percent of the U.S. population supports legislation to create a trust fund for safe and clean water infrastructure. Big business, however, would like Congress to make sure that federal funds are available to cities only if they are open to public-private partnerships. We must not let this pass. And we must rebuff any attempts to lower anti-pollution and water quality standards. The potential harmful interactions of different toxins and heavy metals in our bodies must be better understood.

It may be more difficult to quench the popularity of bottled water. It is a victory of the advertising professionals that bottled water has become the multi-billion dollar business it is today. Advertising has thrown into suspicion the safety of tap water, yet, taste tests demonstrate that few people can tell the difference between tap and bottled water. One reason, perhaps, that such taste tests often fail is that Coca-Cola's Dasani and Pepsi Cola's Aquafina are tap water with a little fixing. Only Nestle, with its many brands, and some other companies have so-called "pure" fresh spring water. Even these can be suspect, as some brands of bottled water have been found to be contaminated in the past.

What is truly amazing is that people who do not need to drink bottled water for health reasons or for emergency situations are willing to pay often 1,000 times more for bottled water than for tap water (a price comparison will be posted on the WILPF website).

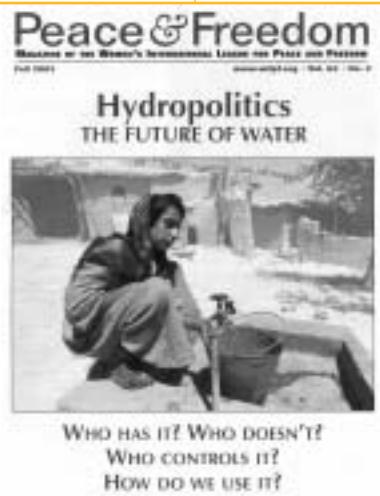
Nevertheless, advertising has convinced many that it is the drink to take with you any time, any place. It is a vicious cycle, for the production of the plastic for the bottles is highly toxic to the environment. Yet we drink bottled water and throw away the bottle—only to need more manufactured.

Of the greatest concern is that once bottled water becomes a commodity (and as such is subject to free trade regulations) it could be much harder to prevent more bottling plants and increased mining of water.

The good news is that more and more communities — from southwestern Maine to northern California are challenging the right of the bottled water giants to mine and profit from our water commons. Remember, ripples make waves.

### Suggestions for Action

- Form a water study group based on the new Save the Water: A Curriculum Study Guide, an eight-part guide by the Water Women of the Cape Cod WILPF Branch. Invite community allies to join with you. You can ask the questions and get the answers: Who owns or manages your water services? How can you protect your watershed? Who makes decisions about water in your community or region?
- Arrange for speakers on such topics as: rights-based organizing to enact the Precautionary Principle to prevent pollution of the environment and water resources, and laws for watershed and groundwater protection. Learn how free trade agreements can lead to privatization of water services and water resources. Learn about the impact of globalization on local democracy.
- Arrange for a presentation of the “Tapestry of the Commons — Reclaiming Our Common Wealth,” a new project by Jan Edwards that was unveiled at the WILPF



Congress and will be available at the Alliance for Democracy website, [www.thealliancefordemocracy.org](http://www.thealliancefordemocracy.org).

- Arrange to show movies, such as “Thirst,” or “In The Light of Reverence.” Organize a film festival.
- Plan a water forum. We’ll be delighted to assist you.
- Launch a “No on Bottled Water” Campaign in your community. Learn about “exclusionary contracts” signed by your school district with Coca-Cola, Pepsi, or Nestle brand bottled waters. Learn the serious health consequences of plastics production for bottles and why we must stop the contamination of our bodies.
- Buy a WILPF Water Campaign T-shirt. Display and sell T-shirts and curriculum study guides at events.
- Would you like to contribute to the educational materials we are developing? We are working with WILPF Issue Committees and the Women Challenge U.S. Policy: Building Peace on Justice in the Middle East Campaign to create joint activities and research.

*Nancy Price is on the leadership team of Save the Water. She is Western Coordinator of the Defending Water for Life Project of the Alliance for Democracy and National Co Chair. She also helped found the Water Allies Network and is on the Friends of the River (CA) Board.*

For extra copies of the *Peace & Freedom* issue (*see above*) on Hydropolitics (\$2) or to order the WILPF Water Campaign T-shirt (\$20; 100% Organic, all cotton) and Save the Water: A Curriculum Study Guide (\$15), please contact: Kate Zaidan at [kzaidan@wilpf.org](mailto:kzaidan@wilpf.org) or (215) 563-7110.

**We welcome your participation to help launch and build a successful campaign.  
Please contact someone near you. Thanks!**

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# Committee Corner

Around and about WILPF



## DISARM ISSUES COMMITTEE

DISARM, now an Issue Committee, set its agenda at the recent WILPF Congress. Join the new DISARM list-serve open to any WILPF member with a concern for demilitarization, disarmament and dismantling the war economy! Contact [curner@qwest.net](mailto:curner@qwest.net).

DISARM Leadership Team members sponsored six workshops at Congress, including a marathon three-hour session on continuing projects (Eye on Congress, Mil-Corp ConneXion Manual and Abolition). They laid plans to support the new campaigns, increase relationships with branches, and expand emphasis on women's budget issues and enforcement of U.N. disarmament treaties. The team thanks all WILPFers who joined in the process.

Co-operating with the two new Campaigns Two of the workshops, sponsored jointly with Save the Water Campaign, focused on "War, Women and Water" and on ways former and new campaigns can work together toward common goals. DISARM members are specifically committed to assisting the Water Campaign on military toxins that threaten water supplies world wide, information on wars for control of water, and on cutting military budgets to fund clean water for the poor. DISARM also expects to work closely with the Middle East Campaign, sharing resources on the arms trade, nuclear weapons free zones, and the Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty. Representatives of the Cuba, Challenging Corporate Power, Water and the Middle East groups contributed significantly to the discussion.

## NEW NUKES, OLD NUKES, NO NUKES!

Jackie Cabasso, WILPF member and organizer of the Abolition Now campaign, led an information-packed workshop that helped participants develop concrete action plans. Three of the most important are 1) enlisting more mayors in the Vision 2020 Campaign, initiated by the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and aimed at achieving a nuclear weapons abolition treaty by that year. 2) support of House Resolution 373, which outlines positive nuclear weapons policies WILPF supports and 3) joining with other NGOs to stop this Administration's dangerous new nuclear weapons programs.

## NO WARS IN SPACE!

Participants discussed their own branch plans for Keep Space for Peace week October 1 to 8, and received organizing packets prepared by WILPF and Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space (to which WILPF belongs). Susi Snyder (WILPF International Secretary General) reported on recent U.N. meetings in Vienna on space issues. MacGregor Eddy, who organized a major demonstration at Vandenberg Air Force Base on October 8, outlined plans to develop a Pacific Rim network to oppose missile defense and weapons in space. DISARM co-sponsors Vandenberg actions with Global Network, but also encourages branches to focus on local military bases and corporations involved in arming the heavens.

— Carol Urner

## WOMEN & CUBA ACTION ISSUES COMMITTEE

The Cuba Issues Committee is recruiting people for the Cuba Advocacy Network (CAN!), a legislative strategy that aims to:

- Deliver veto-proof Congressional legislation that ends the ban on travel to Cuba.
- Allow all manner of trade between U.S. and Cuba.
- Ensure a U.S. stance of noninterference with Cuba.

We hope to establish teams of three to five people in each House of Representatives district and two teams in each state to work with the Senators and their offices. Interested WILPF branches and members should contact Nancy Abbey at [nabbey@cruzio.com](mailto:nabbey@cruzio.com) or (831) 465-8272.

**Congressional action is needed now to change U.S.-Cuba policy!**



**Sha'an Mouliert, left, chairperson of the BBC issue committee, and Sonia Sanchez at Congress.**

Photo: Theta Pavis

## **BUILDING THE BELOVED COMMUNITY**

Building the Beloved Community issue committee continues the work that UFORJE (Uniting for Racial Justice Campaign) started, to address racism in all its forms and strategize towards racial justice.

The following description of The Beloved Community was taken from the web page of the King Center. ([www.thekingcenter.org](http://www.thekingcenter.org)) “The Beloved Community” is a term that was first coined in the early days of the 20th century by the philosopher-theologian Josiah Royce, who founded the Fellowship of Reconciliation. However, it was Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., also a member of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, who popularized the term and invested it with a deeper meaning which has captured the imagination of people of good will all over the world.

For Dr. King, The Beloved Community was not a lofty utopian goal to be confused with the rapturous image of the Peaceable Kingdom. Rather, The Beloved Community was for him an achievable goal — of people committed to and trained in the philosophy and methods of nonviolence.

Dr. King’s Beloved Community is a global vision, in which all people can share in the wealth of the earth. Poverty, hunger and homelessness will not be tolerated because international standards of human decency will not allow it. Racism and all forms of discrimination, bigotry and prejudice will be replaced by an all-inclusive

spirit of sisterhood and brotherhood. In The Beloved Community, international disputes will be resolved by peaceful conflict-resolution and reconciliation of adversaries, instead of military power. Love and trust will triumph over fear and hatred. Peace with justice will prevail over war and military conflict.

The Building Beloved Community (BBC) issue committee will provide educational information about the history and nature of systemic racism, connections between oppressions, internalized oppressions, racial justice, the struggles for racial justice and the connections between WILPF’s themes on WILPF’s website. This program will encourage WILPF members, branches, interested organizations and individuals to work in coalition with people concerned about racial, economic, social, and all justice issues, radical democracy and peace; local, national, and international. We are in the process of updating the website and look forward to working on the issue of racial justice.

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*Sha'an Mouliert is the chairperson of the BBC issue committee and was on the Leadership Team of the UFORJE campaign. She is from Troy, Vermont and a member of the Central Vermont Branch. She coordinates the African American Alliance of the Northeast Kingdom, a grassroots organization committed to racial justice. She is a Theater of the Oppressed practitioner/trainer and attended the U.N. World Conference Against Racism in Durban, South Africa.*

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## **BREAKING THE CHAINS OF OCCUPATION HAITI ISSUES COMMITTEE**

During her 200 years of independence won from the tyranny of France, Haiti has since suffered all sorts of interventions; military, economic, and political. With determination to tear free from the fabric of despotism and tyranny, Haitians democratically elected a president for the first time, Jean Bertrand Aristide. However, democracy was short-lived after a coup d’etat, led by the U.S. in 2004.

Since then, Haiti has become a field of killings. The role of MINUSTAH, the U.N. “peacekeeping” mission, in collaboration with the Haitian National Police, has led to massacres, torture, mass killings of women, children and infants. In addition, thousands have been arrested and jailed without trial, including the former Minister Yvon Neptune and journalists Kevin Pena of Flashpoints and Associated Press reporter Jean Ristil.

Ironically, exactly 80 years ago, Emily Greene Balch (founder of WILPF, Nobel Prize Winner, and author of

*Occupied Haiti*) led a fact-finding delegation to Haiti during the U.S. occupation of Haiti (1917 to 1935).

Within that same spirit, the Haiti Issues Committee sponsored two workshops at Congress led by Jacqueline Nerette of WILPF’s Baltimore Branch, Marge Van Cleef of the Main Line (PA) Branch, and Joan Drake of the Washington, D.C. Branch. The goal of the workshops was to raise awareness of the mass violations of Human Rights currently taking place in Haiti. Several seeds for changes were outlined. A plan of action for the committee might include the creation of a new WILPF fact-finding delegation to Haiti.

Haiti has been taken out of the headlines by the U.S. government because they cannot justify the racist policy and occupation. However, there have been waves of protest from across the U.S. and international community, condemning the massacre of the poor in Haiti and demanding an end to the occupation. Additionally, a coalition of Haitian solidarity groups has banded together to bring international attention to the situation.

— Joan W. Drake, Washington, D.C. Branch  
— Jacqueline Nerette, Baltimore Branch

# WILPF Celebrates 90 Years

WILPF celebrated its 90th year of action this past August during the National Congress held in San Francisco. Over 200 members gathered at San Francisco State University for WILPF's 29th Triennial Congress.

On opening night WILPF was welcomed to California by State Representative Mark Leno, and to San Francisco by Sophie Maxwell, member of the City Board of Supervisors.

We also launched our campaigns for 2005-2008 with



plenaries, panels, resource tables, and workshops on "Save the Water" and "Women Challenge US Policy: Building Peace on Justice in the Middle East."

Grassroots fundraising expert Kim Klein gave such an invigorating talk to the gathering that 22 attendees (ranging in age from 24 - 89) took out Life Memberships in WILPF and other inspired donors helped WILPF to match a 90th anniversary challenge grant in one evening!

Two nights featured outstanding and moving examples of art and politics. Friday evening WILPF honored the service of outgoing Board members and enjoyed a



## WILPF INSPIRES YOUNG MEMBERS

During the National Congress in San Francisco in August, we once again held a Leadership Institute for young members and new WILPF members.

The Institute began a day earlier than the Congress and concluded the next afternoon. We had 12 members attend, including our new Board member, Luz Morales and new Program Coordinator, Kate Zaidan.

The Institute participants then met on a daily basis during Congress to check in and support each other. On the last day, the Institute members announced that they were forming the National WILPF Youth Caucus for all young people in WILPF 30 years and younger. If you have young members in your branch, please have them contact Kate Zaidan at the office to get involved.

More news on younger members: I am pleased to announce that Goucher College WILPF is our newest branch. Goucher College is in Baltimore, MD. They are interested in our Middle East Campaign and being connected to the Youth Caucus. Their contact information is so new, it is not in the latest directory sent to the Branches but it is on our website. Welcome Goucher College WILPF!

- Jody Dodd, Leadership and Outreach Coordinator





special performance of "A Single Woman," a critically acclaimed play by WILPF member Jeanmarie Simpson of the Nevada Shakespeare Company.

The two person play, acted by Jeanmarie Simpson and Cameron Crain, presented the life and times of Jeannette Rankin, first woman member of the US Congress. She cast



the only vote against entry into WWI, and voted again to oppose entry into WWII. The play combines political passion with an ultimately hopeful view of the anguished history of the nineteenth to mid-twentieth century.

Saturday evening followed the link of culture and politics with a 90th Anniversary Celebration. Our "twins," women born on or about the time that WILPF was created were especially honored. Poetry reading by Sonia Sanchez and Shailja Patel followed the opening by the Jamaesori Women's Drumming Group. There were songs of peace and justice by Alex and Harriet Bagwell and by Barbara Dane and Johnny Harper. Aileen Hernandez was the "mc" and the wonderful evening concluded with jubilant dancing with music from DJ Vinnie Esparza.

Throughout the Congress there was singing and satire from the "Raging Grannies" of WILPF branches from California to Vermont. Sunday morning concluded the Congress with regional gatherings to plan for coordinated actions in the months ahead.



#### **CONGRESSIONAL PHOTO ACTION**

**ON PAGE 18:** *Left column top, left to right:* present board member Cynthia Minster with past board members Jennifer Pitino and Ellen Barfield; *bottom left, left to right:* board member Paij Wadley-Bailey with Raging Granny Janet Hale; *Right hand column, top:* Caleen Sisk-Franco; *bottom,* International Secretary General Susi Snyder and Ellen Barfield.

**ON THIS PAGE:** *Clockwise from above:* Gemma Bulos; Madeline Duckles, Berkeley Branch member; Linda Belle, JAPA Executive Director; Marge Van Cleef, board member and past Program Committee Chair; Kim Klein; a member of the Jamaesori Women's Drumming Group member; and Eleanor Ohlman.



# Corporations v. Democracy

## Issue Committee

Many of us absorbed the Congress workshops in San Francisco with a growing conviction that in most WILPF struggles, from Cuba and Haiti to Water and the Middle East, the tentacles of corporate power are there. Accordingly, as we metamorphose into an issue committee we hope to use what we have learned in the past six years in the Campaign to Challenge Corporate Power, Assert the People's Rights to make common cause with many other campaign and issue committees.

### A NEW PHILOSOPHY

At the same time, we hope to elaborate and refine the new approach that Jan Edwards articulated in our two workshops as she compared rights-based and harms-based models. In the example of genetically modified organisms a harms-based complaint about the spread of pollen to native species might result in a regulatory agency to monitor genetic contamination.

In contrast, a rights-based demand, asserting citizens' rights to farm and consume unpolluted organic crops, might result in local ordinances to ban the growing of genetically modified organisms. We hope to extend this rights-based approach to other abuses by the corporate ruling elite.

### WHAT NEXT?

Many who attended the Congress signed on to our list of those who had already expressed their wish to share in the work of the Corporations v. Democracy Issue Committee, which now numbers over 40 members.

We expect to keep in touch by means of a communication network that will employ conference calls, group and individual e-mails and a resource website linked to the WILPF site in the Philadelphia office. We hope this network will enable us to broadcast more widely activities germane to the work of our committee. Three examples:

One branch has agreed to stage book club discussions of *The People's Business: Controlling Corporations and Restoring Democracy*, by Lee Drutman and Charlie Cray (San Francisco: Berrett-Koehler, 2004). The discussions will be taped for local broadcast on independent low-power radio. Another branch is conducting a highly successful public film series critical of the corporation.

For the information of branches interested in the possibilities of local legislation, we hope to keep them informed of the Humboldt County drive to curtail the role of corporate money in local elections.

For more information on this committee contact Jim and Tomi Allison jtall@bloomington.in.us (812) 336-6671 or Karen Redleaf kredleaf@comcast.net (651) 731-3073.  
— Jim Allison

### CELEBRATING WITH WILPF'S TWINS

AS WE MARK WILPF'S HISTORIC 90TH ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR, WE HONOR AND  
RECOGNIZE OUR SISTER TWINS WOMEN BORN DURING 1920 OR BEFORE.

<b>CALIFORNIA</b>	Helga Herz (in Baltimore MD)
<b>BERKELEY/EAST BAY</b>	Norma Barth
Madeline Duckles (life member)	Luella Bassett
Leonore Veltfort	Catherine Bull
Lillian Elder	Faye Colling
Lenore Fine	Katherine Gee (life member)
	Mary Carolyn Harms
	Marie Hayes
	Melba Kibildis
	Sister Elizabeth LaForest
	Berniece Lasker
	Joy Marks
	Elizabeth Maysa
	Dores McCree
	Patricia Pilling
	Jeanette Safran
	Margaret Shopbell
<b>ANN ARBOR:</b>	Judith Duboff
<b>MISSOURI</b>	
<b>ST. LOUIS</b>	
Yvonne Logan (life member)	
<b>NEW JERSEY</b>	
<b>Essex County Branch:</b>	
Ruth Bardach (life member)	
Martin Bloom	
Dorothy Cinquemani (life member)	
Jeanne Ginsberg	
Martha Jewett	
Helen Strauss	
Hadassah Snider	
Harold Stokes	
Elizabeth Swindler	
Dorothy Wolfe (life member)	
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>	
Bea Milwe (life member)	
<b>INDIANA</b>	
Ruth Stahl (life member)	
<b>MAINE</b>	
Marianne Maloney (life member)	
<b>MARYLAND</b>	
<b>BALTIMORE</b>	
Edith Ballard	
Virginia Bates	
Ruth Bronstein	
Minnie Hoch (life member)	
Vivienne Shub	
June Wing	
Miriam Wallace	
Mary Woodward	
<b>CATONSVILLE</b>	
Maxine and Earl Robinson	
<b>MICHIGAN</b>	
<b>DETROIT BRANCH</b>	
Joy Marks	
<b>PENNSYLVANIA</b>	
<b>Delaware County:</b>	
Johanna Sibitt	
Holley Webster	

*Continued next page* >

# Human Rights: From the Local to the Global

Laura Roskos

Among the many interesting points raised by Ann Fagan Ginger during her highly informative talk at the WILPF U.S. Congress was the observation that economic, social and cultural human rights exist in their nascent form within the United Nations Charter itself, ratified by the United States in 1945. She stressed the importance of referencing, in particular, Chapter 9, article 55 of the Charter in any local human rights ordinance or state legislation. (*See page 22 for a review of her book on this subject.*)

While several local jurisdictions have adopted some form of human rights legislation (for example, 47 municipalities and 19 U.S. counties have some sort of CEDAW resolution on their books) many more have passed resolutions resisting, in particular, compliance with the U.S. Patriot Act. The two intersect in the recent request circulated to U.S. civil society organizations by the U.N.-sponsored Human Rights Committee for documentation of human rights violations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), committed by the U.S. government under the auspices of Patriot Act compliance.

In response to this request, the HRC received several submissions including a joint submission from over 20 U.S. non-governmental organizations. This document is outstanding for its depth, breadth and activist interpretation of the various articles of the covenant. While noting the author's concerns that (a) the fight against terrorism is enabling the U.S. government to retreat from its human rights commitments in the name of security concerns; (b) that anti-terrorism legislation has been used by the U.S. government to detain or punish individuals and groups of people not related to the "war on terror" such as Haitians entering the U.S.; and that (c) laws, policies and administrative regulations have been promulgated which particularly impact non-citizens in discriminatory and unfair ways, the document goes on to state:

## WILPF'S TWINS

Wilma Mosholder  
Ellen Blosser (life member)  
Kathleen Henderson  
Elizabeth Gelzer  
Mary Jane McGlynchey  
Elizabeth (Betsy) Wray  
Yvonne Fraley  
Anne Geers  
Lark March

## PHILADELPHIA

Barbara Arnold  
Evelyn Alloy  
Evelyn Beilan  
Norma Brooks  
Miriam Crawford (life member)  
Max Cohen (life member)  
Clarice Herbert  
Marion Howell  
Rosalyn Kleinberg  
Elizabeth Naghski  
Florence Olivenbaum  
Rosa Perchonock

"There are many more issues which are equally important regarding U.S. compliance with the ICCPR. . . such as disenfranchisement of voting rights for minorities and convicted felons, failure of police to prevent violence against women, sentencing of children in conflict with the law to life without parole, mandatory minimum sentencing guidelines for criminal cases, labor rights and freedom of association for immigrant workers. . ."

The U.S. government is expected to file its long overdue second report under the ICCPR sometime during the next few months. The period between the submission and the committee's review will be a window during which a shadow reports on U.S. compliance with the ICCPR are likely to be written and filed with the HRC. It is likely that WILPF members will be solicited for their input into such reports, at which time concerns that range far beyond the administration of the Patriot Act can and will be raised. WILPF members can facilitate this process by identifying and documenting human rights violations in their localities. If you have a strong local coalition of human rights defenders, think about compiling and filing your own "shadow report." And/or watch the WILPF listserve and blog for information on how to participate in a broader reporting process. If you would like additional information about how to collect data for a shadow report or copies of the documents referenced above, please e-mail [roskos@masscedaw.org](mailto:roskos@masscedaw.org).

*Laura Roskos is a member of the National WILPF Board, co chair of the WILPF Advancing Human Rights Issues Committee and co founder of the Massachusetts CEDAW Project ([www.masscedaw.org](http://www.masscedaw.org)).*

Those who would like a DVD copy of WILPF's Tucson Raging Grannies visit to an Army Recruitment Center (where they asked to enlist) and their subsequent citing by the Tucson Police force (all filmed by a guerilla Granny), plus the nine-minute sequence from the TODAY Show "in depth" interview with the grannies, e-mail Robin Lloyd at [robinlloyd@greenvalleymedia.org](mailto:robinlloyd@greenvalleymedia.org). Cost is \$5 for shipping and handling.

Nancy Webb  
Minnie Jaffe (life member)  
Irene Cohan (life member)  
William Hood  
Alfred Lisi (life member)

## PITTSBURGH

Eliza Critchlow  
Anne Steyler  
Edith Bell

## VERMONT

Barbara Dunnington  
Elizabeth French  
Barbara Jones  
Lea Wood

## MASSACHUSETTS

Marii Hasegawa (life member)

## UTAH

Irma Sayer

Should your name be on this list? If we have left you off here, please contact Sandy Silver at [silver@cruzio.com](mailto:silver@cruzio.com)

# New Books By and About WILPF Members

Two WILPF members have published exciting and useful books. Both authors can be contacted regarding presentations and book signings in your community.

## ***Women and the U.S. Budget***

Now in bookstores across the country, *Women and the U.S. Budget: Where the Money Goes and What You Can Do About It* was written by Jane Midgley. Midgley, first as WILPF's legislative director and later as executive director, was responsible for the popular WILPF Women's Budget project.

This is a crash course in "budget literacy" that uncovers the secrets hidden in the national budget. Readers take on the role of "public investigator" and explore those secrets, then look at both national and international economies and what organizations around the world are doing to create gender-sensitive and people-sensitive budgets. The book ends with a section on values, guiding principles and a framework for a new budget for the United States. It suggests ways to take action and provides resources.

This is a book that should be especially useful to the Water and Middle East Campaigns, to Advancing Human Rights/CEDAW, to DISARM, and to any, as Mary Day Kent writes "... who believe in using our national funds for social needs, global justice, democracy and peace . . . and it is most certainly a book to bring along when you meet your Congressional Representatives!"

Congresswoman Barbara Lee, a WILPF member and sponsor, has written the introduction. Jane has an interactive website at [www.womenandtheusbudget.com](http://www.womenandtheusbudget.com) with ordering information and possibilities for interchange of ideas. The book is also available from New Society Publishers, Gabriela, Canada. Thanks, Jane, for this great new resource!

***Challenging U.S. Human Rights Violations Since 9/11***  
Long-time WILPF member and peace and civil rights lawyer Ann Fagan Ginger has written this book, which is already a hot property on the U.N. circuit. The United Nations Committee is using the text (which was forwarded to it as a shadow report by the Berkeley City Council) and documents provided by ACLU, for a possible investigation of U.S. treaty violations in Iraq, Afghanistan and Guantanamo.

Congressman John Conyers, another WILPF member and sponsor, writes, "This report is a veritable roadmap to the countless ways in which the Bush

Administration has used lies and the politics of fear to assault the Bill of Rights, trash human rights, and launch a phony War on Terror. It is equally thorough, gripping, and frightening, but demands to be read by every concerned citizen. Aroused voters, not timid politicians, have always been the ones to set America back on course. This is both their call to arms and a loud alarm for the United Nations."

Howard Zinn and Noam Chomsky are also among those praising and recommending this book. Ann brought copies of the book, hot off the press, to the WILPF Congress and shared her many suggestions for action with those interested in Advancing Human Rights/CEDAW and DISARM. Ann is a valuable consultant to both groups. Prometheus is the publisher. Read more about the book at the Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Institute's website, [www.mcli.org](http://www.mcli.org).

— Carol Reilly Urner

## ***Elise Boulding: A Life in the Cause of Peace***

By Mary Lee Morrison; Foreword by Mary Catherine Bateson

*Mary Zepernick*

Mary Lee Morrison contends that *Cultures of Peace: The Hidden Side of History* (Syracuse, 2000) represents the core of Elise Boulding's legacy: research, writing and pioneering in peace and women's studies, and her groundbreaking work in futures study and visioning. Morrison takes on the daunting challenge of chronicling the complex life and work of Elise Boulding, producing a biography that captures the experiences, relationships, and organizations that shaped this extraordinary woman — and were shaped by her — including the Women's International League for Peace & Freedom.

From Norwegian immigrant child to young wife of noted poet and economist Kenneth Boulding; mother of five and Quaker activist to local, national and international peacemaker and organization-builder, prolific author and professor of sociology, Elise's life has been and continues to be about making connections.

According to biographer Morrison, "Probably no other organization in which Elise Boulding has been involved, has helped to define her subsequent life and work more than WILPF." Elise became active in the Ann Arbor, Michigan, branch in her 1950s and 60s child-raising years. She was a member of the first WILPF gathering with members of the Soviet Women's Committee, a 30-year groundbreaking exchange beginning at Bryn Mawr

*Continued on page 31* 

# Open Letter to WILPF's U.S. Members

I'm Lois J. Fiedler, a relative newcomer to WILPF (3 years). I have been aware of WILPF since my time on the faculty of the University of Minnesota but never joined until recently and I just attended my first WILPF Congress!

So why am I challenging you all, throughout the USA? Well after hearing keynoter Kim Klein tell us that fundraising is "not just about money," but about "building relationships," and hearing that the future of WILPF is at stake, I had an idea and started something, that I now feel compelled to keep going. Many people, now over 30, have joined me in taking out "lifetime WILPF memberships" as a symbol of our "relationship and commitment to the future of WILPF and the importance of peace and freedom and women in our world.s" **And we helped WILPF meet its matching \$45,000 grant within one 24-hour period!**

I had help from individuals I'd only met that or the previous day, like **Regina Sneid (San Francisco)** and **Mary Bricker-Jenkins (Tennessee)** and others willing to commit on the spot to lifetime memberships or to contribute to the three gift memberships, given to 89-year-old Madeline Duckles of Berkeley and former WILPF presidents **Phyllis Yingling** and **Sandy Silver** that day! It was a great groundswell of support for WILPF!

Well, WILPF still has great needs ahead and we are asking you to consider joining us and WILPF at the lifetime level (\$500) thus making a commitment to this wonderful 90-year-old organization. **We are looking for 90 new "lifers" in this, our 90th anniversary year to become part of the WILPF 90's CLUB!** We're over a third of the way there. If you cannot commit at this level, please consider pledging a regular amount, sending a generous one-time pledge, or helping find a new member to add to our membership. All of these will help ensure the future of this very unique and needed organization.

Our task in this world is not done, it is not time to put WILPF to sleep, but rather it's the time to streamline and carry this organization forward into this 21st century! **Please join us.** I recruited the woman sitting next to me at my first San Jose meeting after the Congress to go lifetime and we have another from our branch. From our San Jose branch, of only 60 members, we have gone from two lifetime members to six in a matter of weeks! **What about your branch? Let's keep this going.**

Sincerely, Lois J. Fiedler

**We have 32 New Lifetime Members in 2005 . . . we want 90 for the 90th . . . Will you join us?**



## New Program Coordinator Joins WILPF

Kate Zaidan joined WILPF as program coordinator in July. She has been organizing for environmental and social justice on both a local and national level for six years. A graduate of Antioch College, having transferred there from the University of Dayton, she participated in and coordinated a number of student activist groups, as well as being active in Antioch's community garden, community government, and several other peace and justice groups.

In 2002, Kate was elected national council coordinator for the Student Environmental Action Coalition (SEAC) and was acting chair of SEAC's board of directors. Since being involved with SEAC, she has helped to organize three national conferences, co-coordinated SEAC's Tampaction Campaign, developed resources for SEAC's other campaigns, helped build SEAC's coordinators and trainers program, and sat on the steering committees for the FAIR Network and the Independent Progressive Politics Network. In Philadelphia, she is active in the Student Environmental Action Coalition, the National Youth and Student Peace Coalition, and the local chapters of Arab-American Anti-

Discrimination Committee, Incite! Women of Color Against Violence, Sustain-Stop U.S. Tax Funded Aid to Israel Now! and the Industrial Workers of the World.

The two issues Kate is most passionate about are Middle East peace and environmentalism, so the role of program coordinator is a perfect fit. Kate has also been focusing on viewing her work through a racial justice lens.

She loves her cat Pushkin, eating alone in restaurants, and sappy, sappy music

## WILPF STAFF & CONSULTANTS

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**Theta Pavis**, Peace & Freedom editor  
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Gillian Gilhooley retired. She most recently was WILPF Program Coordinator, and was Washington Office Legislative Coordinator.  
Photo: Theta Pavis

# Pushing for Peace at the United Nations and Beyond

*Jean Verthein*

In a deep blue suit and black head veil, a woman recently passed me in the early morning, outside the United Nations. Her serenity contrasted with the issues at hand.

Inside, the U.N. was in disarray, as its staff and volunteers sorted clothes and donations to box up for Hurricane Katrina victims. The U.N. and its civil society never sleep. Neither does WILPF, which tracks the U.N.'s work.

Recently that work included celebrating the 60th anniversary of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

A major NGO conference on the treaty opened in September, attracting more than 3,500 people. There were many WILPF events leading up to the conference, including a women's caucus and parade to the U.N. in May, which we participated in.

Some 1,600 NGOs (from 124 countries) were represented as the conference convened in the General Assembly. We hoped the World Summit would enact the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) to end poverty, for example, by allocating 0.7 percent of the income from wealthy countries towards development.

Wahu Kaara, a Nobel Peace prize nominee, roused the audience by holding "African governments to account" and said the U.S. has "no more excuses" for not helping the world's poor. "You found money for a war in Iraq," he said.

Yet as the NPT negotiations dashed hopes in May of



WILPF members and staff at the Cuba Action Day this spring in Washington, D.C.  
Photo: Henry McGee



The author, Jean Verthein, left, with Anita Pulier.

ending nuclear proliferation, the World Summit failed in September to fulfill the MDGs.

Critics say U.S. ambassador to the U.N. John Bolton supplants test ban treaties with agreements like the anti-terrorism treaty. Russia and France signed on to this treaty. (See [reachingcriticalwill.org](http://reachingcriticalwill.org) for more information.)

Back at the U.N. I am reminded not to give up. A sudden tap on my shoulder makes me turn, and it is the woman in deep blue I first saw hours ago. She turns out to be Fatima Ahmad, a woman from eastern Sudan. Working with an NGO there, she has organized two rail containers full of goods to be distributed to Darfur refugees. Her mother, another Nobel Prize nominee, had dared to set up girls' schools in the Sudan.

WILPF hasn't given up for 90 years, and neither will I. Visit WILPF's website online at [www.wilpf.org](http://www.wilpf.org). And remember to:

- Sign up for the Fiftieth Commission on the Status of Women in February
- Save March 22, 2006 for International Water Day at the U.N.

Let us know ahead of time if you are visiting the U.N. Leave word at: (212) 682-1265.

*Jean Verthein and Anita Pulier represent the U.S. Section of WILPF at the U.N. in New York. Jean Verthein teaches Social Work at Columbia University. Her travel abroad has included trips to Iran, Italy, Mexico and Nicaragua. To contact Jean, e mail: Jean.Verthein@liu.edu.*

In August, WILPF delegated Susi Snyder, Secretary General, myself, and other members from Japan, Australia and New Zealand to attend the World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs. Held in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the event drew peace activists, diplomats and scientists. Some 99 presidents, prime ministers and royalty at the summit agreed only on an abstract statement to end poverty with no anti-nuclear statement or true input from women.

— Jean Verthein

# Giving to Receive: Build a Legacy of Peace and Freedom

**A**t the tremendously successful 90th Congress in August our work on all fronts was galvanized to meet WILPF's ambitious goal of \$900,000 by the end of 2005. This will give us a vital reserve as we work towards a century of peace making. Now we need your support to reach that goal. Gifts of \$90 in honor of 90 years of peacemaking will receive an appreciation premium of a WILPF necklace pen and a Peace Train Calendar.

Record numbers of branches and members around the country are joining efforts by purchasing an individual or family LIFE MEMBERSHIP. These two levels of giving have touched off resurgence amongst those who care about WILPF in helping stabilize the organization.

Even in the midst of trying times, generosity helps create the abundance we seek. One way to practice generosity is to give where it is most appreciated. Many WILPF members are giving towards this goal by leaving an honorary BEQUEST or MEMORIAL — a gift that keeps the peace flame burning brightly from generation to generation. A bequest truly is a legacy that allows one's life-work in peace and justice to continue. Future generations will be grateful to receive the benefits from all those who make a final gift that lives on in WILPF.

We know that those who give to peace organizations live longer! And for those who are planning ahead, there are options. It could be as simple as changing your will to include a gift to WILPF of any amount you choose. It may involve giving a percentage of estate residuals after other assigned gifts. It may also involve annuities that provide you a life income and which require legal and actuarial expertise to arrange. We can help with arrange-



ments as needed through the Jane Addams Peace Association (JAPA) which provides this service for WILPF.

If you've spent your life keeping your money away from the government, why stop now? Your loved ones and the charitable causes you esteem should benefit from your estate. Planned gifts can significantly decrease your exposure and/or your loved one's exposure to taxes while you are living or in the event of your death. The amount you wish to leave as a legacy depends on the size of your estate, and whether you need tax relief for a surviving spouse or your heirs. WILPF and JAPA benefit from trusted relationships with some of the finest estate planners in the country. We welcome your questions.

If you wish to claim your gift as a deduction in 2005, please make sure your gift is postmarked by December 31, 2005. Gifts over \$50 to JAPA, WILPF's Educational Fund, are tax-deductible for income and estate purpose.

If you would like to have our planned giving officer from JAPA call you to discuss options please call (212) 682-8830. Or call Aaren Perry, interim development associate, WILPF U.S. Section at (215) 563-7110 if there are any questions or if you require additional information. ♦

## 2004 Bequests & Memorial Gifts

### BEQUESTS RECEIVED FROM:

Esther B. Bonner  
Martin Calodney  
Coleman Foundation  
Maie Croner  
Irmgard Lenel  
Violet N. Nettleton  
Anne P. Ritter  
Edna Roberts  
Lillian Tarn Trust  
Wilzetta Williams

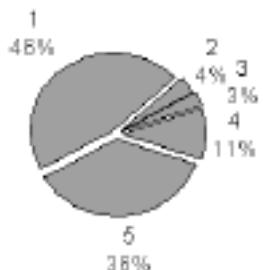
Sadie Hughley  
Linn C. Jacobs  
Julia Judson  
William Ludlow  
Mary G. MacEwan  
Aletha Martelle  
Evelyn Mauss  
Marcia McLane  
Dorothy Milluchick  
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Ruth Putz  
John Randolph  
Ursula Scott  
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Marjorie Sibley  
Mary Simon  
Ella Marie Sordill  
Blanche Spindell  
Elberta Steinel  
Elizabeth Tolles  
Jean Wagner  
Phyllis & Carol Yingling

### MEMORIAL AND HONORARY GIFTS IN THE NAME OF:

Roma Barker  
Paul Allen Bates  
Irene M. Bernstein  
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Jane Bradley  
Hyman Cohen  
Anne Davidon  
Virginia Donahey  
Vera Fisher  
Jen Geiger  
Esther Ginsherman  
Sherry & Lauren Gross  
Annabelle Haupt  
Agnes & Francis Hole



REVENUE 2004 - \$523,547



EXPENSES 2004 - \$506,231

From the WILPF 2004 Annual Report



# BranchAction News

*Leslie Reindl, Branch Action Editor*

Members: Please remember to send me a copy of your announcements and newsletters. That's the only way I am able to report on your activities so all the branches know what you are doing. My address: Leslie Reindl, 1233 Ingerson Road, St. Paul, MN 55112.

**MEMBER AND BRANCH HONORED:** Madeline Duckles (**Berkeley/East Bay**) received the Social Courage Award from the National Association of Peace and Conflict Studies in February 2005. She spoke of "the extraordinary history of the women's peace movement" (including, of course, WILPF). Roz Dean (**San Jose**) and late husband Al Traugott accepted a commendation from San Jose Mayor on behalf of the organization they started, Save San Jose Medical Center Coalition, working to ensure that the city will have another hospital (the hospital closed in 2004). **Triangle** member Margaret Misch received a 2004 Citizen Award from the Chapel Hill Independent Weekly. **Des Moines** member Judy Anderson was honored as "Citizen of the Year" in Johnston, Iowa. **Des Moines** branch received recognition from the U.S. Section for its success in reaching out to and attracting new members.

**BIRTHDAY PARTIES (90TH AND OTHERS):** **New York** presented an evening of artistic expression and an exhibit of historic photographs for the 90th. **Portland** held a parade on a May morning and a celebration in the afternoon. **MN Metro** held a fundraiser "Birthday Bash" in June; **Des Moines** had one on Sept. 11. **Los Angeles** combined the 90th with International Women's Day. **Baltimore** and **Catonsville** had a luncheon with Dr. Regina Bircham, president of WILPF International, as speaker. Member Vivienne Shub, a well-known actor, performed a history of how she became acquainted with WILPF when she was 16 years old (she is now in her 80s). This event got a nice write-up in *The Baltimore Sun*. **Delaware County** planned a trip to the NPT in conjunction with celebrating. Madison had a potluck open to the public with a speaker focusing on the early history of WILPF. **St. Louis** combined its 90th celebration with a member's 90th birthday, in April. **Catonsville** planned a branch Tenth Anniversary for October, with the theme "Keep Space for Peace" (including space in your life). **Cape Cod** had a 35th birthday party for Earth Day with dancing and entertainment, and devoted a newsletter to animal and nature issues.

**IRAQ AGGRESSION/OCCUPATION:** Every branch reported participation in anti-occupation activities — marches,

protests, letter writing, speaking out. Most participated in WILPF's Counting the Cost campaign, and had the War Resisters League flyer in their newsletters. **Catonsville** printed graphs and lists of the cost of the war in military lives and dollars. **Cape Cod** published a guest commentary by member Mary Zepernick, with good facts about recruiting techniques ([www.leavemychildrenalone.org](http://www.leavemychildrenalone.org)) and the \$1 billion shortage in the Veterans Affairs budget to cover the needs of vets. **St. Louis** urged members to help display 1,500 tombstones naming U.S. and Iraqi dead. **Santa Cruz** had an article about the Top Ten War Profiteers. **Peninsula** has been doing counter-recruiting work at a shopping center, and has received heavy media coverage, even being invited to appear on "The O'Reilly Factor."

**CORPORATE POWER:** **Des Moines** has three concurrent study groups, with 24 people, under way. Diane Krell, president, read a statement about corporate power and the rights of people at a City Council meeting. **Portland** had a long editorial from *The NY Times* about the one-year "tax holiday" whereby corporations can bring home their overseas profits at a tax rate of 5.25 percent. The law is called the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004. **Des Moines** with other groups is planning a conference on corporate power for November. It printed "The 10 Worst Corporations of 2004" from the Multinational Monitor. **Monterey County** co-sponsored two days of emphasis on corporations and democracy, with Mary Zepernick as speaker and a workshop on "Maximizing the Democratic Arts." **Cape Cod** printed Mary's speech about "rights for the natural world, not for corporations" at an animal rights conference. **Portland** sent a member to a bio-democracy counter-conference in Philadelphia, held at the same time that corporate reps were gathered in the city to bid on biotech contracts. The Dept. of Homeland Security is seeking to put bio-engineering research labs in various cities. *Editor's note:* All branches should be aware of this, and publicize this new danger.

**SAVE THE WATER:** All branches are gearing up to inform their members about the new campaigns. Some are ahead of the game. **Cape Cod** members, of course, developed the campaign study guide in long, painstaking work. **Monterey County** had a talk on "Developing Nations, Water Rights, and Privatization" by the founders of Our Developing World. **San Jose** presented a water-themed event for a joint meeting with the Older Women's League and NOW. **Greater Lansing** promoted a panel discussion on "Hydropolitics: Michigan's Freshwater Future," as a subject of interest with the new WILPF campaign. **Detroit** organized an all-day symposium on water, gathering experts and activists to tell their stories of struggles to maintain water as a public natural resource. **MN Metro** is starting a study group in October using the new materials.

**NUCLEAR MATTERS AND THE MILITARY:** Most branches

were concerned about or took part in some way in the U.N. NPT Review held in May. **Los Angeles** sent an intern for the whole week. The intern also helped the DIS-ARM campaign gather information before the conference. **St. Louis** coordinated a workshop and discussion on the NPT in April, during which everyone received the WILPF leaflet "Reaching Critical Will." Space domination and nuclear abolition were twin topics for **Santa Cruz** in May in a program that included a showing of the video "A Space for Peace" about Vandenberg Air Force Base in CA. **Berkeley** and **Santa Cruz** each reported on government plans for a new nuclear weapon that can be produced easily without testing — the Reliable Replacement Warhead — to be ready for deployment by 2012. **Des Moines** printed an article by Robert McNamara calling U.S. NATO nuclear policies "immoral." **Monterey County** co-sponsored a rally and march to Livermore Nuclear Weapons Lab on the 60th anniversary of Hiroshima. **St. Louis** coordinated its commemoration of Hiroshima with Peace Economy Project's "War and Peace" film series.

**TAX DAY:** **San Jose** handed out more than 1,000 "Where Your Tax Money Really Goes" flyers. They reported that tax day events also took place in **San Mateo, Palo Alto** (WILPF Grannies) and **Santa Cruz** (WILPF bake sale). **St. Louis** included a sign-up sheet for "an equitable restructuring of Missouri's tax system" to be returned to Tax Justice for a Healthy Missouri. This sounds like a good way to approach the subject of taxation. **Madison** leafleted with the title "Do You Know Where Your Taxes Are Tonight?"

**NATIONAL ISSUES:** **Berkeley** published a very useful comparison of drug prices. One chart showed the price for 100 tablets, the actual cost of ingredients, and the percent markup. Another chart compared prices at Costco, Walgreens, and online Canadian and Thai websites for both brand names and generics. This work showed that generics from Costco, if available, are sometimes cheaper than drugs from Canada, but Canada is the second best place to buy. What a good service for readers! **New York** urged attendance at a Health Care Crisis Hearing.

**Madison** members attended the founding convention of the Wisconsin Alliance for Retired Americans (ARA), during which privatization of Social Security and Medicaid/Medicare were topics of the keynoters. Their small group brought the assembly alive with their suggestion of a general strike followed by a peaceful revolution (Lead the way, Madison!)

#### INTERNATIONAL ISSUES:

**San Jose** asked members to support Chechen President Aslan Maskhadov's call for peace talks with Russia. It urged sending letters to Bush, the Secretary of State and the Chechyna ambassador. **Portland** printed a long article about "The Heartbreak of Darfur," noting that response to

the genocide occurring there has been pathetic. It urges passage of the Darfur Accountability Act, introduced during the last Congress. **Berkeley** reported on the group's efforts to defend Cuba's right to exist as a socialist state, and the campaign to introduce a resolution into Congress calling for opposition to any armed aggression by the U.S. government.

**RAGING GRANNIES:** What great successes these groups are having in attracting media attention and getting their message out! The **Tucson** Grannies tried to get the National Guard to recruit them, so they could take the place of young people. Instead they were arrested. The charges were later dismissed, but this action made international news. **Peninsula** Grannies performed street theatre with a coroner reading causes of death of fair elections and a minister reading the eulogy. This got into three newspapers. They also gave a lecture at Stanford University on the "The Rhetoric of Toys," using a sculpture made of war toys. They made a ruckus at Stanford at a Schwarzenegger appearance, supporting nurses and having a Granny-Arnie chasing other grannies around. They, along with Grannies from **San Jose**, raged against Wal-Mart's marketing of the military and appeared on the TV news. The TV channel called Wal-Mart in Arkansas and demanded an explanation for the company showing recruiting videos in their stores. Wal-Mart said the videos were public service announcements. And other activities: **Des Moines** Grannies performed at an anti-war rally. **New York** Grannies gave the opening "overture" at a WILPF 90th Birthday event.

**MEDIA:** **Sierra Foothills** co-sponsored a "Forum on Media" in September, a panel discussion with representatives from press, radio and TV. It also co-sponsored a meeting with Dahr Jamail, an unembedded, independent journalist in Iraq who has done excellent reporting.

**Peninsula** heard from the publisher of the *Palo Alto Daily News*, about how small papers are being restricted from distribution by ordinances curtailing the placement of news racks.

**PROGRAMS:** **Los Angeles, MN Metro, and Peninsula** had "report backs" from the national Congress in September. **Los Angeles** asked its members, "Where do we go from here?" **Madison** featured a speaker on "Root Shock: How Tearing Up City Neighborhoods Hurts America, and What We Can Do About It" at its annual fundraiser Peace and Freedom Dinner. **Delaware County** heard about the Genocide Intervention Fund (for Darfur) and how to make a difference. **Triangle** presented "Colombia: Through Women's Eyes" with the video "Plan Colombia" and three local members who traveled to Colombia. **Santa Cruz** heard from a local farmer, a leader in permaculture and

*Continued on page 31* >

# 2005 Jane Addams Children's Book Awards

The 52nd annual Jane Addams Children's Book Awards ceremony recently took place in New York.

The winner in the Books for Younger Children category is *Sélavi: A Haitian Story of Hope*, written and illustrated by Youme Landowne, from Cinco Puntos



Press. In the category of Books for Older Children, the winner is *With Courage and Cloth: Winning the Fight for a Woman's Right to Vote*, by Ann Bausum, published by National Geographic Society.

Three books won Honors in the Books for Younger Children category: from Clarion Books, *Hot Day on Abbott Avenue* written by Karen English with collage art by Javaka Steptoe; *Henry and the Kite Dragon*, authored by Bruce Edward Hall, with paintings by William Low, published by Philomel Books/Penguin Young Readers Group; and Houghton Mifflin's *Sequoyah: The Cherokee Man Who Gave His People Writing* written and illustrated by James Rumsford and translated by Anna Sixkiller Huckaby. In the category of Honor Books for Older Children, Deborah Ellis has been recognized for her book, *The Heaven Shop*, published by Fitzhenry & Whiteside.

The Jane Addams Peace Association houses the U.N. office of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. For information about JAPA and the book awards, visit [www.janeaddamspeace.org](http://www.janeaddamspeace.org) and <http://www.ala.org/BookLinks>, (March 2005 issue)



WILPF recently presented nine books to the Children's Learning Center of the Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County. Children's Learning Center Manager Lisa Hamrick, left, accepts books from WILPF members Judy Shapiro, center, and

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### WILPF U.S. Campaigns

Women Challenge U.S.  
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Co-Chair:  
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**Yoshiko Ikuta**  
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**Issue Committees**  
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**Advancing Human  
Rights/CEDAW**  
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**DisArm**  
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**Haiti**  
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**Queer Issues**  
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**Women and Cuba**  
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**Youth Caucus**  
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Kate Zaidan  
[kzaidan@wilpf.org](mailto:kzaidan@wilpf.org)

# WILPF WANTS TO KNOW

## MEMBERSHIP PROFILE

The greatest resource of any non-profit organization is its members, and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom is an organization uncommonly rich in this respect. As we have grown and changed over the years, our membership has both changed with us and maintained the core of experience and knowledge that has kept us strong. Now, at this crucial point in the history of peace and freedom, it is time for us to form a clear picture of what our membership has become. This profile will help us to better understand our members and increase the responsiveness of our planning. Help us become a more effective, more unified organization. Please take the time to complete the profile and return it by January 31, 2006. Send to WILPF, 1213 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107, Attention: Jody Dodd

Thank you very much.

All information is confidential and optional:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

If your address is incorrect,  
please make corrections here:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

1. Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Age  18 or under  55-64  
 19-24  64-74  
 25-34  75+  
 35-54
3. What is your race/ethnicity?  
 African American  Arab American  
 Asian American  Native American  
 Latino/a  Caucasian  
 Hispanic  Other \_\_\_\_\_
4. Faith Community Affiliation  
 Jewish  Buddhist  
 Protestant  Atheist  
 Catholic  Agnostic  
 Muslim  Quaker  
 None  Other \_\_\_\_\_
5. Do you use the Internet/e-mail for communications?  
 Yes  No



Photo: Christine Morton

## **WILPF AND YOU**

1. How long have you been a member of WILPF? \_\_\_\_\_

2. How did you find WILPF?  Family/Friend  Local WILPF Program  
 WILPF brochure  Media Coverage  Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you belong to a local branch?  Yes  No  At Large

If yes, are you able to participate in the local branch? \_\_\_\_\_

What are your branches issues? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Would you like to organize a branch? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, please make sure that contact information is filled out on front of form.

5. In the past year, how have you participated?

Letter writing campaigns  Regular branch meetings  
 National Actions  Local Demonstrations  
 Iraq Demonstrations  WILPF Campaigns Which one? \_\_\_\_\_  
 WILPF Issue Committee Which one?  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

If you are unable to participate, can you tell us why?

Lack of time  
 Busy with another peace and justice group  
 Financial Supporter only  
 I would like to get involved, but don't know how

If checking last item, please fill out your contact information on the front of this form.

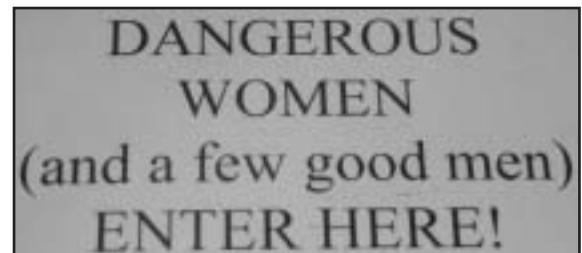
6. Presently WILPF has two campaigns and six issue committees: Campaigns: Save the Water and Women Challenging U.S. Policy: Building a Lasting Peace on Justice in the Middle East. Issues: Building the Beloved Community, Advancing Human Rights/CEDAW, Disarm! Dismantle the War Economy, Haiti, LGBT/Queer Issues, Women and Cuba Action. Would you like to be involved in any of these committees? \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, please fill out contact information on front of this form.

7. Do you have training skills and knowledge of a certain issue?

If yes, what areas of expertise do you have? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to be called on to do a training on this as a topic? Or, would you be willing to put your name in a "trainer's pool" to be called on to do training in your geographic area? If yes, please fill out contact information on the front of this form.

Sign at right was posted outside a workshop at Congress.



## ► BRANCH ACTION

*continued from page 27*

alternative fuels, on the use of bio-fuels produced in small bio-diesel plants by farmers. See [www.permaculture.com](http://www.permaculture.com) and click on “Alcohol Is a Gas” link. **Des Moines** heard about a project to disseminate edible plant seeds to the third world. “WILPF International” was the subject of a **Los Angeles** program, given by the Coordinator of Peace and Conflict Studies program at USC, who is writing a dissertation on the subject.

“WILPF  
Acts to  
Heal a  
Troubled  
World —  
Action  
Projects  
from  
WILPF  
National

and International” and “California Clean Money Campaign” were also subjects of **Los Angeles** programs. **Des Moines** heard from a member of a Christian Peacemaker Team, recently returned from Palestine. **Peninsula** co-sponsored a showing of “The 9/11 News Special You Never Saw — The Great Conspiracy” at a theater. **St. Louis** offered a forum for the public to meet three new State representatives. **San Jose** co-sponsored “Under Attack: Our Civil Liberties Under Bushites” given by a lawyer with the National Lawyers Guild. **Triangle** sponsored a concert by Fruits of Labor, the cultural group of the Black Workers for Justice, in preparation for the International Labor Tribunal to highlight the lack of labor rights around the world. **MN Metro** offered a program on “The Status of Girls Around the World in 2005,” and heard about the Girls Summit to be held in the Twin Cities in 2006. “Peace with Cuba — What It Means to Americans” was the title of a **Detroit** event, presented by the Detroit City Council president.

**LEGISLATION: A FEW CONCERNS:** Rep. Lynn Woolsey's Amendment to FY06 D (**St. Louis**); CAFTA (**Portland**); safe drinking water (**Santa Cruz**); Pentagon seeking exemption from Public Health and Pollution cleanup laws (**Santa Cruz**); universal health care (**Peninsula, St. Louis**); a woman's right to birth control (**St. Louis**); Resolution of Inquiry, HR375, regarding Downing Street memo (**Detroit**); “Save Our Veterans Hospital” (**New York**). **Des Moines** urged members to participate in a public comment period about a new EPA deal to let factory farms pollute the air without restriction.

**THE ARTS:** **Cape Cod** created a Peace and Justice Theater Festival, performing readings of seven, 10-minute plays selected from over 70 submissions, including “Peace,” “Slave Day,” and “How to Walk Out of a Restaurant.”



Catonsville celebrated its 10th anniversary, October 1 in Baltimore.

Photo by George Hagegeorge at Jonah House

**Portland, Sierra Foothills, Detroit, and Santa Cruz** donated copies of the previous year's Jane Addams book winners to local school libraries, using the occasion to talk about WILPF's work. **Sierra Foothills** got a nice picture on the front page of the local paper. The Peace Camp Committee of **Santa Cruz** gave one book to each of the 31 schools from which camp attendees hailed.

## ► WILPF WOMEN BOOKS

*continued from page 22*

College in 1961. *The Underside of History: A View of Women Through Time*, written in the early 1970s during a year of solitude at her Hermitage outside Boulder, Colorado, reflects Elise's WILPF experience, including as International WILPF President from 1968 to 1971. Fellow sociologist Robert Irwin observed, “When Elise looks at women, she sees a lot of power.”

Elise Boulding has been instrumental in the founding of the International Peace Research Association and the Consortium on Peace Research, Education & Development, and has been involved in myriad United Nations and other international and U.S. projects and institutions.

On my first WILPF field trip as staff membership coordinator, in 1982, I met Elise at Dartmouth, where she headed the sociology department. After Kenneth's death in 1993 she moved to Massachusetts to be near her daughter Christie, and our friendship blossomed.

We have shared political analysis and personal history, strolling her beloved boardwalk over the Yarmouth Port marsh bordering Cape Cod Bay and visiting the weeping copper beech that dwarfs the Cape's scrub pine landscape.

For all her accomplishments, I have come to treasure most about Elise Boulding her earthiness: her hearty laugh and love of swimming; her delight in every sign of hope for humanity's triumph over its perversity; and her moral strength, grounded in the cycles and glories of the natural world that contains us all.

*Mary Zepernick, a former WILPF staff member and U.S. Section president, is on WILPF's Corporations v. Democracy committee and works with the Cape Cod Branch and the Program on Corporations, Law*

Luz Morales is a new WILPF board member.

Photo: Theta Pavis



# PLEDGE FOR PEACE IN WILPF'S 90TH YEAR!

*Since 1915, WILPF has been working to create a global, lasting peace.*

*JOIN us as we make peace a reality in 2005!*



If you pledge to WILPF, your membership status will remain current as long as you continue your pledge. No more renewals!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

My pledge will be on a monthly basis:  \$45  \$36  \$27  \$18  \$9

Please check which option you would like to use:

Send us a VOIDED personal check and we will set up the process for the amount you indicate below to be deducted automatically.

Automatic charge to your credit /debit card. Your credit card number, expiration date and signature will be processed monthly in the amount indicated. VISA/MasterCard #\_\_\_\_\_

Expiration \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Option for credit card or debit card only!! Please check here  if you wish to make your monthly pledge to the U.S. Fund of the Jane Addams Peace Association. These gifts are fully-tax-deductible.

With your pledge of support, you will receive a subscription to *Peace & Freedom*.

Mail to: WILPF, 1213 Race Street, Philadelphia PA 19107

For more information, call (215)563-7110 or email [wilpf@wilpf.org](mailto:wilpf@wilpf.org).

**Women's International League for Peace and Freedom**

1213 Race Street

Philadelphia, PA 19107-1691

**Time Value - Do Not Delay**



Board Member Tura  
Campanella Cook and Kathleen  
Hughes at WILPF's Congress.

*See report and more pictures  
on pages 18 and 19.*

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