January 12th, 2023 - 1 WILPF Call

**TEXTPAD**

"Women. Life. Freedom. VOICES OF THE IRANIAN PROTEST

**AGENDA**

Welcome & Instructions

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** SALLY RAHIMI - Feminists for Jina

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Cuban & Bolivarian Alliance Committee – Cindy Domingo or Leni Villagomez Reeves.

Women, Money & Democracy News – Marybeth Gardam and Mary Sanderson

US Section News – Darien De Lu

DISARM Committee - Cherrill Spencer

Earth Democracy - Military Poisons Project - Marguerite Adelman

Possible 2023 Solidarity Actions – Nancy Price – International Alternatives to COP28

**FEATURED SPEAKER**

"Women. Life. Freedom. VOICES OF THE IRANIAN PROTEST

SALLY RAHIMI - socialist feminist founder of International Feminists For Jina of NC...and co-founder of the International Feminist of NC Coalition.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1u8Nif9-uzi6n7KkV0OWk-pMUSBC60D0WL--u1AWHiuE/edit#](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1u8Nif9-uzi6n7KkV0OWk-pMUSBC60D0WL--u1AWHiuE/edit#)

Cuba and Bolivarian Alliance Committee:
Join us on Saturday, January 14 from 12:00 - 1:00 pm PST on zoom to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr's Birthday
https://us02web.zoom.us/.../reg.../WN_-Ss1jgWERYyD4TGfaAG4EQ

Cuba's Family Laws:
A Reflection of MLK's Vision of a New Social Order

Cuba's recently passed Family Laws make the Cuban Constitution one the most progressive in the entire world -- redefining marriage, the concept of families, and the rights of members of families.

The changes include legalizing same-sex marriages and same-sex adoption, the rights of grandparents, the rights of children to be loved and happy in their lives, and the responsibilities of the people who care for them to ensure those rights are guaranteed.

Join us in this discussion to learn about the grassroots organizing by LGBTQI organizations and other mass revolutionary organizations in Cuba and how the passage of the nationwide referendum was a result of thousands of discussions held all over the country in a show of participatory democracy in Cuban society.
Speakers include longtime solidarity organizers with Cuba and Cuban officials. Additional information will also be available on how you can travel to Cuba and learn about Cuban society on upcoming delegations.

This workshop will be simultaneously translated into Spanish.

**Women, Money & Democracy Committee News**
Marybeth Gardam - mbgardam@gmail.com

**Saturday, January 21st in 2023 and beyond– Jim Allison Day in WILPF US..**
a day to raise awareness of the threat to democracy from billionaires purchasing influence.
*It used to be called graft.*

Jim & Tomi Allison, Bloomington Indiana WILPF

Jim turned 90 in December, was honored for his work on behalf of WILPF’s Corporations v Democracy Committee (now Women, Money & Democracy Committee)

Here’s our W$D page, to find Jim Allison’s plays:
http://wilpfus.org/our-work/women-money-democracy

**Economic Justice WEBINAR**
Put this on your calendar now and look soon for registration info.
Thursday, Feb. 23rd
at 8pm eastern/7pm central/5pm pacific
W$D Webinar
co-sponsored by our ally Alliance for Just Money.


With the Bank Credit System at the root of forever wars, eco-collapse, and racist inequality, there are solutions and allies we can support.

Change the Money.
Change the Future.

Women, Money & Democracy at WILPF US
Addressing Systemic Economic Injustice and threats to Democracy from corporate power, racism and “debt-money” used as oppression. Meets 3rd Tuesday of every month at 8pm eastern. If interested in joining us, contact mbgardam@gmail.com. Find more info at: http://wilpfus.org/our-work/women-money-democracy

WILPF and Related Announcements from
Darien De Lu, President

2023 – The WILPF Year of the Branch
Alas, the COVID pandemic is far from over, and it continues to be a serious threat to our many elder members. But we’ve been hesitating for three years now – it's time we find the way to do WILPF work in the face of the pandemic and without endangering ourselves and others.

With 2024 coming up as an important election year, we have the chance in 2023 to build connections and undertake organizing with allies in our communities, build up our WILPF member numbers, strengthen and focus our branches, and prepare our resources and plans for this year and the year to come!

Do you have some good ideas to share on how we can do any of that? Please take action! Work with your branch and/or allied groups in your area. Also, I welcome your emails, sharing your suggestions for what national WILPF can do to help – including ideas for branch-building: President@wilpfUS.org.

The WILPF Communications Ctte.
is preparing to start!

You can join us!

Over three years in the making – at last the ad hoc Communications Committee has a core group of members and will begin meeting. This ctte. will work to develop input for improving our various avenues of communications, suggesting overall themes and plans for WILPF communication. Would you like to join us? Email me!

Of course, almost everything WILPF does is communications, so this ctte. will focus on a few WILPF areas, probably all or some of these: eNews, social media, WILPF SMART (FB group), Peace and Freedom, One WILPF, the Branches listserve, and eAlerts.

How can WILPF successfully speak to a diverse audience? What lessons can we learn from our communications experiences? How do we improve the coherence of our messages?

You can help us answer these questions and plan for future work! Contact me right away to be included in the first ctte. meeting: President@wilpfUS.org.

Connect with the background, history, and issues that shaped and informed Martin Luther King, Jr. and the peace and justice movement that lives on and that we celebrate around his January 15 birthdate.

Register now for this annual event – the free Jan. 13-16 2023 World House Documentary Film Festival.

Lots of amazing films to choose from – all virtual, in your home! Free!

Help yourself and other WILPF members to understand the complexities of economics, racism, history, and U.S. society. Keep King’s dream alive! Help base that dream in understanding and knowledge!

Register here for this free (non-WILPF) event! https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-world-house-documentary-film-festival-mlk-holiday-celebration-tickets-508772250497?aff=odeimcmailchimp&mc_cid=eff1346889

DISARM COMMITTEE NEWS – Cherrill Spencer  cherrill.m.spencer@gmail.com

I recommend you attend a MAPA online conference on Sat 21st January: “Reducing the Threat of Nuclear War: Social and Economic Costs of the Current Nuclear Weapons Buildup”. Some WILPF members will be speaking & it is action-oriented. 2 breakout sessions; see session F-Cherrill a panelist. Starts 10am PST, details & register here https://masspeaceaction.org/event/reducing-the-threat-of-nuclear-war-conference/

The Peace In Ukraine coalition has declared 2 weeks of action Friday 13- Friday 27 January. WILPFers are requested to arrange a demo or visit their local congressional rep’s office or join

Celebrate 2nd anniversary of Entry Into Force of Treaty on Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons: actions between 20th & 22nd January, similar to last January. Expect actions all over USA and abroad, will be listed here: https://www.nuclearbantreaty.org/actions/.

Use your banners & flyers from last EIF events. See new & updated resources here: https://www.nuclearbantreaty.org/resources-for-actions/

Defuse Nuclear War – Have arranged a webinar starting before this webinar ends but you can register and join it while in progress (Thurs 12 Jan 8pm-9:30pm EST) with reference to Martin Luther King Jr.’s writings. Fine speakers, including Daniel Ellsberg, Rev Liz Theoharis & Katrina vanden Heuvel of The Nation. See details and register here: https://defusenuclearwar.org/event/livestream-diplomacy-is-the-path-to-peace/.

*Our DISARM/End Wars Committee has several ongoing campaigns regarding disarmament and ending wars, we welcome new committee members, please write to disarmchair@wilpfus.org if you’d like to join our active committee.*

Time Magazine article on Beatrice Fihn: https://time.com/6243350/beatrice-fihn-interview-ican-nuclear-war/

Counterpunch article on need for TALK in Ukraine. “*Can the US provide an ‘off ramp’ for Putin?*” https://www.counterpunch.org/2023/01/12/can-the-united-states-provide-an-off-ramp-for-putin/

**EARTH DEMOCRACY NEWS**

Marguerite Adelman madel51353@aol.com

Marguerite is offering PROGRAMS for branch meetings on our **Military Poisons Project**

A Free Zoom Workshop on PFAS: Tailored for Your WILPF Branch

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances – known as the forever chemical PFAS—have monopolized the news in the last year, especially since the EPA lowered its lifetime advisory limits for two of the most common forms of PFAS to almost 0 parts per trillion (PPT) and is considering classifying them as hazardous substances.
Would you like to learn more about PFAS or have your branch educate your community about this?

Marguerite Adelman of WILPF Burlington has designed a free zoom program that she is offering to WILPF branches across the country that would like to understand this complex issue as it relates to their state and community. Included in the workshop will be:

- specific information about PFAS in your state and specific location;
- how to use the Military Poisons website to conduct research;
- laws and legislation about PFAS in your state and nationally;
- actions that can be taken at the local, state, and national level to restrict PFAS; and
- ways to reduce personal risk from PFAS contamination.

Each one-hour workshop will be tailored to your location and offered at a time that is convenient for you and your WILPF members. An additional half hour or hour can be dedicated to questions and discussion.

All resource materials developed through WILPF US mini-grants and WILPF US Earth Democracy committee will be shared with WILPF branches that choose to participate in the free zoom session, including PFAS information sheets, grant proposals, sample letters to the editor, and more. You can contact Marguerite at PFASinfo@wilpfus.org to request a zoom workshop.

Contact Marguerite to schedule a branch program addressing PFAS water issues in your location... possibly for World Water Day in March.... A great way to invite community members in to learn about WILPF.

Nancy Price  nancytp39@gmail.com
Earth Democracy Chair

On Considering Earth Assemblies as a Solidarity Project for WILPF US for 2023 and 2024
Noting that three decades after the 1992 Rio Summit, the climate and biodiversity crisis has alarmingly worsened, affecting millions of human and non-human beings on all continents;

Convinced of the imperative need to promote profound changes in the patterns of extraction, production, trade and consumption at personal, local, national, regional and global levels;

Noting that the solution to the climate and biodiversity crisis requires non-anthropocentric systemic responses of an environmental, economic, social, and political nature;

Highlighting that the United Nations requires a profound structural transformation to overcome the atrophy caused by the logic of power of governments that respond to electoral circumstances, and by the logic of capital of large corporations that seek to preserve their profits before life;

Assured that this is a decisive decade to stop the climate collapse and the sixth extinction of life on Earth, and that proposals for net zero emissions by 2050 or new mechanisms for carbon markets and the financialization of nature will only deepen the capitalist pathway that has led us to this crisis;

Imbued with a deep hope in the young forces of humanity to reconnect with our origins and restore balance with Mother Earth;

We call for the organization of Earth Assemblies at the local, national, regional and international levels as self-managed spaces for action, reflection and proposal where the participants define their forms of organization according to their territory, problems, sectors and other elements involved in the process, guaranteeing the decisive participation of women, youth and people or organizations that express the perspective of Nature, and
seeking a systemic approach that allows progress in the construction and implementation of the following goals...

Stating only Goal #7 here:

CALL FOR A GLOBAL EARTH ASSEMBLY BY 2023/24
in response to the capture of the Climate Change and Biodiversity Conferences by governments and corporations that seek to continue doing business as usual to preserve their power.

How can WILPF US participate or support these efforts?