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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 2000-2003 program cycle has three key campaign areas: Challenge Corporate Power; Assert the People's Rights; Disarmament; and Uniting for Racial Justice: Truth, Reparations, Restoration and Reconciliation (UFORJE). Each campaign area focuses on local and national effectiveness in creating lasting social change.

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.
In the 1960s, Canadian educator and author Marshall McLuhan wrote *The Medium is the Message* about the evolution of transmitting information. In it, he reminded us how we separate pre-history from history by the invention of writing. Paleologists can only make educated guesses, based on archeological evidence and cave drawings, about the life of Earth’s peoples before the advent of writing.

Over three thousand years ago, Sumerians, Egyptians, Chinese, and the inhabitants of the Indus Valley devised systems of written symbols. Inscribed on stone, clay tablets, or papyrus, the stories of those peoples could be recorded and their technologies could be passed on from generation to generation, without reinventing the wheel, literally. The imparting of knowledge took a giant leap forward.

Just as writing changed the world forever, the invention of the printing press with movable type, first in China and Korea, then in Europe in the 15th century, made the printed word available to the masses. Writing, and its sister, reading, spread throughout the world spawning reformations and revolutions, public schools and daily newspapers. Then after another 500 or so years, as the potential of electricity became more evident, our grandparents witnessed the advent of telegraphs, telephones and radios. Another watershed in communication.

In our own time we have seen the addition of television, computers, cell phones, and other devices that provide communication so instantaneously it makes our heads spin. We are now drowning in information. E-mail has made handwritten letters collectible.

We are only now just beginning to assess the effect that media has on the message. I, for one, am glad that electronic media has not totally wiped out print on paper. In this issue you will read about books that are of interest to WILPF women, some authored by our own members. A look at the list of our sponsors will also reveal a group of prolific writers, some of whose works will be reviewed in this issue. I would just like to mention a few others in this column.

Betty Reardon, an educator at Teachers College, Columbia University, has been writing about peace education for many years. Two of her recent books, *Tolerance: The Threshold of Peace* and *Toward a Women’s Agenda for a Culture of Peace*, published by UNESCO in Paris, are important books for women in the peace movement.

Barbara Kingsolver’s novels speak to all the issues that we in WILPF hold dear. *The Bean Trees* and *Pigs in Heaven* relate the humorous, yet poignant adventures of a young woman and her adopted Native American daughter. *Animal Dreams*, which is dedicated to Ben Lindner, tells the story of a woman whose younger sister is killed while working in Nicaragua. In *The Poisonwood Bible*, Kingsolver takes the reader to Africa through the minds of a family of five women and details the tragic results of western intervention in the former Belgian Congo. I have just gotten her most recent novel, *Prodigal Summer* from the library and am eager to get into it.

Next on my reading list is the autobiographical *With Ossie and Ruby: In Their Life Together* by our sponsors Ruby Dee and Ossie Davis. With summer around the corner, we look forward to some spare time for reading and we hope this issue will be useful.

Happy reading!
TAKING ISSUE WITH PALESTINE/EAST JERUSALEM STATEMENT

I, Dorothy Rom, Chair of the Palm Beach Branch of WILPF, must say that I was appalled by item No. 5 in the Statement of U.S. WILPF on the Situation in Palestine/East Jerusalem. It seems to me to be a contradiction of item No. 2 which says, “We condemn the use of all deadly force...” Yet, in item No. 5, you only condemn the violent acts by the Israelis against the Palestinians while you “recognize the Palestinians’ right of resistance.” Nowhere in the paragraph do you condemn the violent acts by the Palestinians against the Israelis; rather, you simply “call upon them (the Palestinians)...to return to the negotiating table.”

In the second paragraph of item No. 5, four and one half lines are devoted to demanding “full respect by Israel of Palestinian human rights.” In the few words, at the end of the last sentence, there is no demand for full respect by Palestine of Israeli human rights; rather, the statement should emphasize full respect for the human rights of both the Israelis and Palestinians.

Therefore, in my opinion, and in the opinion of our board members as well as in the opinion of many of our rank and file members, this statement is biased on the side of the Palestinians. But, even more distressing, is your condoning of violence. The members of our branch have been long time activists for peaceful conflict resolution and against any form of violence — local, national, or global. We have been proud to join our WILPF sisters in this quest to abolish violence as a means to achieve justice. We know, only too well, that the use of violence leads to war, not peace. We feel betrayed that you would support the use of violence when you state, “We recognize the Palestinians’ right of resistance...”

We concur that many injustices have been imposed on the Palestinian people by the Israeli government; notwithstanding, at least 70 percent of the Israeli people want peace now and there are a growing number of grassroots organizations in Israel demanding a just peace. For example, Women for a Just Peace in Israel on February 24th staged a “Peace and Justice March” in Israel in solidarity with a similar march being held simultaneously by Palestinians in Bethlehem, and met at the border crossing between them.

I noted that the Israel section of WILPF is part of a Coalition of Women for a Just Peace, which includes as members: Bat Shalom, Mothers and Women for Peace, New Profile, Movement for the Civilization of Society in Israel, Neled, Women for Coexistence, TANDI, Movement of Democratic Women, Women Engendering Peace, and Women in Black. In your Statement, in the center box where you highlight “peacemaking and conflict resolution organizations in the region” none of these organizations are acknowledged to exist. Yet, in item No. 8, you say, “we support the efforts of individuals and groups on both sides that work towards nonviolent resolutions...”

We agree that there are passions and conditions that must be resolved by both sides in order for there to be peaceful coexistence in the Middle East; however, WILPF must be consistent in its condemnation of violence whenever and wherever it occurs if we are to stay faithful to the principles laid down by our founding mothers. Also, as the oldest international peace organization in the world, WILPF must acknowledge and support every effort to bring about a negotiated peace everywhere conflict exists. The Statement of U.S. and International WILPF on the Situation in Palestine/East Jerusalem should be more reflective of the basic principles upon which WILPF was founded.

— The Board of Palm Beach County Branch, WILPF

SEEKING PEACE

Your “statement of U.S. WILPF on the situation in Palestine” is not in accord with the best spirit of WILPF. You only suggest a partial solution and only one point of view. WILPF is an expert on world peace problems and I expect WILPF to seek long range answers to fundamental questions such as “Why is Middle East peace so hard to achieve?” and “Why is peace in the Balkans so hard to achieve?” and “Why do some countries get along
extremely well?”

There is no good short-range solution to the Arab Israeli tensions at this time, but there are long-range solutions and fundamental factors which can be identified. Drawing borders can be discussed but are inadequate in the long run. India and Pakistan are an example where borders and partition by religion do not stop war, but rather have made things worse...

The long-range solution is for both parties to de-emphasize placing religious principles above human rights. Both sides must emphasize mutual respect, individual security, and the protection of law for each human being’s life, property, jobs, and family, regardless of religion and ethnicity. Also necessarily abandoned are the sworn-to-hate syndromes, and the one-true-religion convictions. So long as either party has a large undisciplined component sworn to the destruction of the other, no matter what, tranquillity and true peace will not be found. The Arab groups must abandon their hatred, and the fundamentalist Israelis must remove religious tests for civic functions. WILPF will provide a lasting service if it points out these needs over and over again.

I have been a generally pleased member of WILPF since I first learned of it, roughly 20 years ago, but your position on the Middle East and Palestine is a discredit to WILPF.

Charles Walton,
Los Gatos, CA

A POSITIVE STATEMENT

My wife Sally Luther (a long time member of WILPF) and I appreciate very much the positive WILPF statement on Middle East Peace. I happen to be Jewish and my mother and many of my German and Austrian relatives were killed by the Nazis.

It’s an additional reason why we value the worth of the life of every human being regardless of their ethnic, religious, or national background. This applies as much to the Palestinians as it does to Israelis.

Thank you and the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom for your work for peace and justice.

John J. Neumaier
Mount Dora, FL

RESPECT HUMAN RIGHTS

I’m writing because I was impressed by the “Statement of U.S. WILPF on the Situation in Palestine/East Jerusalem” in the winter Peace & Freedom. It was outstanding for its integrity. The trouble with statements is that they only reflect, and don’t describe human pain and suffering.

The statement doesn’t include the pain and frustra-
Clinton beginning on day one. They are so afraid of a strong, independent, elected woman that they will stop at nothing. They want to cover up, in advance, any possible negative effects from the false election. Some showboats are running before the television cameras, day after day, gaining the cooperation of the big news organizations and the major newspapers.

What an ugly sight! I believe that WILPF members should perform major outreach to female Senators and members of the House, to enhance and promote our agenda of peace and justice. Senators Mikulski, Boxer, Feinstein, and Clinton, among others, are waiting to hear from us.

Rhoda Hoffman
Brooklyn, NY

PEACE RESOURCES

In your first issue this year, Winter 2001, among the many excellent and pertinent articles, I especially noticed the article, “Building a Department of Peace” by young Sarah Lockhart.

While exciting in its broad vision, the proposal for a national department for peace is remarkably similar to a proposal of about 20 or 25 years ago, a proposal which has resulted in what is today the National Peace Foundation.

In the interest of synergism of efforts, and so that one generation’s efforts may build on another, let me briefly recall what progress is made in this endeavor. I became aware of the proposal for a “National Peace Academy,” rising perhaps in the late 1970s or early ‘80s. The proposal was to establish not just a study center, but an actual center for training people in the arts of peace, a parallel / contrast to the various Armed Service academies. This had quiet but broadly ranging support, due in part to the proven value of the Peace Corps for some 15 or 20 years prior to the time, and feelings of urgency about the conflicts in Korea and Vietnam.

Public support for the proposal, over several years’ time, brought it to the Congress for consideration...The present National Peace foundation is, as I understand it, the successor or the publicly-supportive arm of the endeavor ...

Thus, while it is gratifying that each generation finds its way to the high visions of peace, I would hope that there can be some continuity, connection, and continuous reinforcement of efforts among organizations and from one generation to the next. Helping make such connections I assume is a part of what WILPF is about.

Steve Osborn
East Lansing, MI

REFLECTING ON FLORIDA

We are often told to learn from the past. I am old enough to remember the early, orchestrated demonstrations by the Nazi Party of middle-class elements. In Miami-Dade the Republican Party not only enlisted Cuban-Americans and Hispanics to invade and intimidate the canvassing board, but hundreds of Republican Party staffers were flown into Florida to demonstrate. All their expenses were paid. Most fearfully, there were organized groups of young pro-Republicans that brazenly played the military card of a supposed inaccurate count to create disaffection among military personnel. These are all acts of incipient fascism. The Justice Department must investigate to prevent further erosion of our democratic heritage.

Evelyn Alloy
Philadelphia, PA

Building a U.S. Women's Movement for Cuba

Hermanas: Sisterhood in Central America and the Caribbean, Northwest Labor and Employment Law Organization (LELO) and WILPF, are organizing Women’s Roundtable discussions on Cuba. We are getting together leaders in Cuba solidarity; social and economic justice; feminists; media; progressive philanthropy and parliamentarians, with the ultimate goal of ending the U.S. government blockade of Cuba and normalizing relations between the two countries.

All our campaign actions aim to empower diverse women in the U.S. and other parts of the world to participate in and develop just and peaceful international relations, deepen global women’s solidarity and use a woman-to-woman citizen diplomacy model to craft methods to normalize U.S.-Cuba relations.

This fall, a national Women and Cuba Leadership Summit will bring together women from across the country, based on the results of our assessment through roundtables and questionnaires, to determine the vision, values, three-to-five year program and activities, administration and resources needed.

Hermanas and WILPF are among the few women’s organizations working in solidarity with Cuba and the only Cuba solidarity organizations to incorporate a gender analysis that focuses on women, race and sexuality. Through their EveryWoman’s Delegations to China and Cuba, LELO has expanded the diversity and number of working-class women in this movement.

We work through the Federation of Cuban Women (FMC), which hosts our women’s delegations. Since 1990, we have organized successful annual delegations to bring demographically diverse and larger numbers of women to Cuba, unified around strategic themes and international conference organizing opportunities, and helped start the U.S. & Cuba Sister Cities Association.

For information, or to receive a questionnaire, contact Jan Strout at 1016 N. 45th Street #1, Seattle, WA 98103, or (206) 547-0940, or janstrout@qwest.net.
Elise Boulding is one of the (s)heroes in the struggle for a more compassionate and peaceful world. She is professor of sociology at Dartmouth College, a WILPF sponsor and a past president of International WILPF.

Her book, *Cultures of Peace: The Hidden Side of History* (Syracuse University Press, 2000), is an extensive and comprehensive survey of 50 years of reflections and research on human societies and cultures. Studying and envisioning the spaces where humanity enters the grace of peace has been her life’s work.

Boulding gives the reader an integrated perspective on violence by combining her activism for peace and justice with the study of injustice and war. The book begins with a history lesson about wars won and lost, illustrating how the “centrality of war in public consciousness” shapes how we think about ourselves in relationship to others. She traces the Holy War culture, “a male warrior culture headed by a patriarchal warrior god.”

Boulding also exposes the “hidden side of history,” the unfamiliar story which “rarely shows through in history books.” These are the peace cultures, where people’s “resistance to oppressive institutions and their persistent experiments with peaceable living arrangements remain a reminder to us that peace is possible and the two cultural themes of violence and peace interact over time” to affect the transformation of human societies.

Boulding is optimistic and hopeful, suggesting that the human race is in a transition era. The peace cultures nourished by our vision of how things might be, she writes, are often kept alive in the cracks of a violent society.

“They can help us move away from global destruction and toward a world alive with a great diversity of peaceable life ways. The very ability to imagine something different and better than what currently exists is critical for the possibility of social change.”

Utopian communities are examined and the difficult disciplines that make transformation possible are frankly discussed. In this section of the book, she points out that social compassion begins in the small, local setting, but it never ends there—it only opens new paths to the greater whole.

In her search for the roots of peaceable communities, Boulding writes about contemporary societies that set a high value on peace, and examines how adults use conflict management and teach it to children. She describes the ground-breaking, global peacemaking efforts under taken by feminists, particularly through the United Nations and associated nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) like WILPF.

Throughout the book, Boulding stresses the role that relationships and communication can play in enhancing the human capacity for nurturing and empathy. She explores the dynamics of partnership and the models of domination, power and authority. She writes about progressive movements that work to transform traditional roles and attitudes, including those towards children.

Boulding connects structural violence to institutional patterns of behavior, which is explained as a problem in governance. The patterns are enshrined in outmoded patriarchal structures. She looks closely at development, ecological degradation, corporations, modern technology, capitalism and militarism. She believes a possible future for society resides in our human capacity for learning and evolving, for imagining and shifting reality. She offers possibilities for the transformation of our war culture into “an interconnected localist world of adventurous but peaceful problem solvers.”

Emblematic of everything she believes about creating a culture of peace is this question: “Is your home a center of peace and love that refreshes and strengthens every one who comes there?”

Peacemaking begins at home.

Betty Burkes is the past president of U.S. WILPF and a current board member, serving as...
Economics is famous as the subject that makes many of us glaze over and struggle to stay awake. Kevin Bales has written an absolutely gripping exception, a scholarly economics study that is also a passionate denunciation of human cruelty and exploitation. In addition, *Disposable People* is a fascinating detective story as the author unravels the hidden details that make slavery function profitably in the present day.

Perhaps the most devastating aspect of *Disposable People* is the way it reveals the crucial links between the process of globalization and the contemporary forms of slavery that help to make certain businesses so extremely profitable. As Bales says, “Slaves made the bricks for the factory that made the TV you watch. In Brazil slaves made the charcoal that tempered the steel that made the springs in your car and the blade on your lawnmower. Slaves grew the rice that fed the woman who wove the lovely cloth you’ve put up as curtains. Your investment portfolio and your mutual fund pension own stock in companies using slave labor in the developing world. Slaves keep your costs low and returns on your investments high.”

Starting from the images we have from the slavery of the (not so distant) past, Bales pursues the way in which slavery today is both like and unlike “old” slavery. The core difference being that “new” slavery owns only the labor and value of the slave, not the person as legal property. The minute the slave becomes less productive than desired, he or she is disposed of, whether by casual murder or by being dumped out on the street to starve. The core similarity is the role of brute violence in both forms of slavery, to enslave at the beginning and to enforce bondage throughout. Other key elements of the “new” slavery are the low cost paid for the slave, the very high rate of return (profits), the surplus of potential slaves, the short-term nature of the slavery, the disposability of the slave, and the absence of race as a factor.

Separate chapters explore the mechanisms and profitability of slavery in Thai brothels, Brazilian charcoal works, Pakistani brick kilns, and the Indian countryside. One chapter contrasts these new forms of slavery with the ancient slavery that continues today in Mauretania. As an economist, Bales hunted out the figures to show the stunning rate of profit that can be made in all these processes when the labor is free. The Thai brothel he studied, for example, rakes in $88,000 per month, with only $10,280 in expenses. It is striking that the chart of expenses includes a salary for the pimp, but no payments at all for the prostitutes.

Looking at the phenomenon of slavery globally, Bales estimates that there are today about 27 million slaves, the majority of them in Asia, but found in every continent and almost every country in the world (including the United States, Japan, and many European countries). This is a conservative estimate and Bales makes a distinction between slaves and other workers who are also exploited and unjustly treated but who are not kept in slavery by force.

The grim realities presented in *Disposable People* are made bearable by the author’s human sympathy for the enslaved people he interviews and by his explicit commitment to ending slavery as the goal of his research. This is not the usual academically neutral book, right down to the endnote saying that all of the royalties from *Disposable People* go to the Anti-Slavery International organization to fight slavery worldwide. In the author’s concluding paragraph, he paraphrases from Frederick Douglas’s editorial on the Fourth of July, which poses the challenging question, “If there are still slaves, how can you be proud of your freedom?”
Passionate Legacies

Ariane Allen

Ruth Hunter got the idea for her new book during a tea held for “Dangerous Women in Their Eighties.”

The event was held in 1993, and many WILPF members and others had gathered in Santa Cruz to honor the women. As these octogenarian political activists shared their stories (such as smuggling draft resisters into Canada during the Vietnam War and speaking out against racism in the South during the ‘60s) Hunter got it all down on tape.

A year later, she rediscovered the tape and heeded the call of these women’s unique stories. She called up La Gazette, a monthly, central California coast feminist newspaper, and began writing a column called What a Life! This is also the title of her recently published book, which compiles the many interviews she conducted with senior women from the Santa Cruz area. Hunter has turned these passionate legacies into a momentous oral history. The book is published by Watsonville Press, Watsonville, CA, 2000.

Hunter begins her book with the story of 98-year-old Esther Hagler, introducing this woman as she sees her harvesting beans in her garden. “An amazing woman — growing vegetables, cooking her favorite recipes, defying the debilitating ravages of age as she neared her 100th year. Awesome! When I went out to greet her, she insisted that I take a zucchini and ripe tomatoes from her bountiful vines. What a mentor! What a gardener! WHAT A LIFE!”

Hagler, she goes on to tell us, took part in the 1915 Suffragette march and in the ‘30s joined the Communist party and attracted hundreds of listeners to her soapbox, where she spoke about economic issues affecting the lives of women.

Hunter’s profiles include women from all different walks of life. She speaks with a Nazi concentration camp survivor who now works the fields with the Grey Bears, a group of volunteer seniors who harvest “supermarket seconds” to feed nearly 2,700 low-income seniors in the Santa Cruz region. Hunter also speaks with a woman who experienced life in a Japanese internment camp in Arizona and is now a WILPF member working with displaced children of cannery and field workers and fighting against immigrant bashing.

In What A Life! we read about one of the four “Napalm Ladies,” Joyce McLean, who blocked the route of napalm bombs being transported from Southern California to Port Chicago in 1966. McLean now represents the U.S. WILPF section in the International Executive Committee.

Hunter interviews seniors who fought the apartheid regime in South Africa, who did peace work in Nicaragua in the ‘80s and continue their work today with the Pastors for Peace and the National Global Alliance for Nicaragua. She talks with women who tutor in literacy programs, work with AIDS victims, Native Americans, and battered women, with women who are still actively petitioning and educating the public against nuclear weapons and land mines and warning against the growth of corporations and the blossoming military budget.

While traveling in El Salvador on a “journey of remembrance” in 1999, Hunter spoke with Rufina Amaya, the only villager to escape the slaughter of over 800 people in El Mozote in 1981. A military battalion trained by the U.S. to fight the FMLN guerillas was responsible for this devastation. Amaya’s story will not be forgotten.

In addition to writing and profiling, Hunter continues her own peace and justice work. Inspired in her youth by her radical father who emigrated from Russia at the turn of the century, Hunter has made social activism her way of life. In 1994 she joined the “40-day Fast for Life” group protesting on the steps of the Capitol in Washington, D.C. to demand the closing of the School of the Americas in Ft. Benning, Georgia. In 1999, she spent time in jail during the WTO protests in Seattle. Hunter has traveled to Turkey, to Central America, and several times, including very recently, to Cuba, to challenge the travel ban and to protest the trade embargo still in place today. She writes, “When I travel to less developed countries like Cuba, the spirit and courage of those who carry on their struggles refuels my energy, inspiring me to continue on my chosen path.”

Obviously, the feisty spirits of the “dangerous women in their eighties” have inspired her as well.

Ariane Allen recently worked as an intern for Peace & Freedom.
Jane Addams is a towering figure in the world peace movement. She has become the archetypal woman reformer of the progressive era in American history. We know her as founder of WILPF, and as our standard-bearer and role model. And yet, for many, Jane Addams remains an enigma. Most often she is identified as a woman who founded the famous social settlement Hull House, in Chicago, and the image she recalls is that of a serious, serene, kindly, but unsmiling grandmotherly person who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931. Recent scholarship may change all of that.

Biographical study of Addams began during the last years of her life. Winifred Wise authored Jane Addams of Hull House (1935), an Addams-approved work for young people. Jane Addams’s nephew James Weber Linn, novelist, biographer, and English professor at the University of Chicago, offered a still famous and personal rendition of her life and achievements in Jane Addams, A Biography (1935). Jane Addams read and approved the first nine chapters of the work before her death in 1935. It was reissued last year, with an introduction by distinguished woman’s historian Anne F. Scott. (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2000).

Then, except for children’s books, there were few serious biographical studies of Addams until the centennial of her birth in 1960. WILPF’s own Jane Addams; A Centennial Reader (1960), an edited selection of Jane Addams’s published writings prepared by editor Emily Cooper Johnson led the way. English peace activist Margaret Tims’s Jane Addams of Hull House, 1860-1935; A Centenary Study (1961), a slender work with emphasis on the peace movement, followed. At the end of the 1960s and the beginning of the 1970s, three new biographies appeared. John C. Farrell’s intellectual biography, Beloved Lady; a History of Jane Addams’ Ideas on Reform and Peace (1967) and Daniel Levine, Jane Addams and the Liberal Tradition (1971) were followed by Allen F. Davis, American Heroine: The Life and Legend of Jane Addams (1973) which has become, after Linn’s work, the standard Addams biography. This was reissued, with a new introduction by Davis. (Chicago: Ivan R. Dee, 2000).

Then, for more than 25 years, no major adult biographical study of Jane Addams was published. However, scholarship about Jane Addams and the national and international movements with which she was identified was quietly going forward in monographs, journal articles, book chapters, and dissertations.

A major project to gather and organize the papers of Jane Addams was begun during the mid-1970s. A team of editors joined forces to produce three major publications on the life and times of Jane Addams. These were a comprehensive microfilm edition of the Jane Addams papers, an index or guide to that body of material, and last, a book edition of several volumes of selected Addams correspondence and writings. While the microfilm and index were produced primarily for a scholarly audience, the selected book edition was to satisfy a more general reading public, one interested in biography. An 82-reel (2,000 images on each reel) microfilm edition, titled The Jane Addams Papers and consisting of correspondence, writings and speeches, personal documents, research files, news clippings files, records of Hull House, the Woman’s Peace Party, and WILPF gathered from more than 1,000 repositories and private collections from all over the world, was issued in the 1980s. The Jane Addams Papers: A Comprehensive Guide was issued in 1990. They are available in libraries throughout the world. The editorial team is now at work on the book edition of selected Addams correspondence and writings. In the planned multi-volume edition, the editors will present a biographical treatment of Jane Addams, using her own words and documents. Volume One, which includes documents written by and sent to Jane Addams as well as editorial commentary about Addams, her family, friends, and surroundings from her birth in 1860 through her graduation from Rockford Female Seminary, Illinois, in 1881, will be issued by the University of Illinois Press in 2002.

The availability of the organized and published Addams papers has made the task of constructing biographical studies of Addams easier. One of the results is a spate of new publications about Jane Addams. In 1999, two new biographies of Jane Addams were published.

Continued on page 23
There are many notable studies about the peace activism of the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom. The majority, however, limit themselves to the achievements of the organization and focus almost exclusively on the experiences of white peace activists. Consequently, they fail to explore the connection between race and peace within WILPF and how this linkage helped shape the goals and ideology of the group’s members, as well as their peace agenda. Such studies marginalize black women as they present the League as the exclusive product of white peace activists. Nonetheless, when African American women’s voices are heard, WILPF’s historical experiences become more multidimensional.

When the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom decided to open its membership to African American women in 1915, it brought the American peace movement into a new era. Just as women changed the agenda and direction of the peace movement when they became increasingly involved in what had been an all-male club, so too did African American women alter the path of a cause that had previously lacked racial diversity. Black women brought to the movement historical experiences shaped by a multitude of pressures and societal racism. Their experiences influenced their definition of peace and freedom, which sometimes led to intense debate between black women and their white colleagues. These debates often revolved around the basic question of what issues would be, and should be, the organization’s priorities.

My forthcoming book, Coloring Peace: African-American Activists in the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, 1915-1945, attempts to rescue black female peace activists from invisibility as I explore how African American women’s increased presence in WILPF, coupled with their desire to eradicate racial injustice, compelled the white leadership to revisit its own conceptions of peace and freedom. In the book, I maintain that African American women changed WILPF from the moment that they joined the organization, perhaps more so than even they realized. Everything about WILPF, I reason, was designed to differentiate it from the male-led and male-controlled peace organizations. However, its charter members never gave any serious thought as to how the organization’s original goals would change if, and when, black women became active participants. I contend that once black women joined WILPF, they developed rhetoric of their own, employing concepts not traditionally used by white peace activists. Whether they spoke about wars, colonialism, economic imperialism, or oppression, African American women’s language embodied a “womanist consciousness.”

Hence, the book weaves together a narrative that explores how these women interpreted world peace through the eyes of African Americans, in the images of African Americans, and with African Americans’ needs in mind. I assert that this is why the black peace activist’s vision is appealing. It roots peace soundly in race, making racial justice the very essence of a warless world.

My study breaks some new ground as it situates the historical experiences of black peace activists in a global or international context. In examining their international convictions, I introduce the issue of American imperialism into our historical thinking about African American women’s peace activism in particular and African American women’s history in general.

I hope Coloring Peace will contribute to our understanding of both the diversity of women’s experience and the peace movement between 1915 and 1945 by focusing on the work of African American women. As black peace activists, these women, I conclude, brought a distinct perspective on numerous peace issues.

Joyce Blackwell Johnson, Ph.D. is an assistant professor of African American Studies at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Her book is scheduled for Fall 2001 publication by the University Press of Florida.
Working to Dismantle the War Economy

Ellen Barfield

WILPFers helped plan and facilitate the second “Women for Responsible National Security Conference” held in early March at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies in South Bend, Indiana. Eight WILPF members attended. The third in this series of conferences will be held in Atlanta, June 23 - 24 at the Carter Center. WILPF is one of 13 planning partners working with Peace Links in a two-year campaign to “challenge national security policy that is based on mutually assured destruction through the immoral threat of using nuclear weapons.” For information, call (202) 783-7030, or go to www.peacelinks.org.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

The former ImPEACE the Congress project has changed its name to Eye on Congress. Congressional districts with 15 or more WILPF members have been researched, and branches in these districts will be contacted to work on pressuring legislators to vote against military spending. For information, contact Val Mullen at (802) 685-2214, vmullen@together.net.

The Dirty Dozen Project — aimed at spotlighting 12 of the worst multinational military contractors — was released in late March. Research done by Felicity Hill in WILPF’s U.N. office, Bill Hartung and Frida Berrigan of the World Policy Institute, Pat Birnie of WILPF’s Mil-Corp ConneXion, and others, provides a wonderful tool for campaigns against the local branches of the world’s biggest and worst arms sellers, like Lockheed-Martin and Boeing. Contact Pat Birnie at (520) 908-9269, birnie@gci-net.com.

An exciting plan is also firming up in the Abolition subcommittee to encourage using invisible theatre to work against the National Missile Defense boondoggle and other weapons issues which are making headlines. This is a variant on the Augusto Boal techniques we learned at the International Congress in Maryland, in 1998 — a way to subtly generate conversation and attention for disarmament ideas with a loud discussion or other attention-getting behavior in a crowded place. A short how-to video and field guide are planned for release by December. Contact Yoshiko Ikuta at YIkuta@aol.com.

BOOKS ON WAR AND DISARMAMENT

Last spring at the Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference at the United Nations, I had the pleasure of meeting an old friend who had been a speaker for us peace types in Texas, years ago, on the subject of economic conversion of weapons plants. Dr. Lloyd J. Dumas is an economics professor, but he was talking up a new book he had written on a different subject, relating to his experience as an engineer. Lethal Arrogance: Human Fallibility and Dangerous Technologies (1999, Saint Martin’s Press), is a frightening look at how society (and scientists and engineers in particular) have let comfortable assumptions of being in control lead us into dangerous complacency.

Dumas gives case studies of near disasters with chemical and nuclear weapons and power technologies, and warns that a “one in a million” risk of failure is really pretty likely given our hyperactive world. He further states that risk prediction is an inexact technique.

I also learned a lot about the rituals and rewards which keep weapons manufacturers and dealers together in their secret societies in Nuclear Rites, by Hugh Gusterson, 1998, University of California Press. He lived for several years near Lawrence Livermore Lab in California, and achieved many sympathetic insights into the scientists’ and the community’s defensive identification with their doomsday machines, instead of with humanity. Understanding these feelings is imperative to those who want to convert weapons labs and plants.

My Navy Too by Beth Coye, U.S. Navy Cmdr.,
Rtrd., 1998, self-published, is “a political novel based on real life experiences.” It tells the story of a woman serving in the Navy from 1960 to the eve of the “don’t ask, don’t tell” fiasco for gays and lesbians early in Clinton’s presidency. By that time, Coye had retired in frustration, refusing to hide her lesbian self any longer. Early in the book I wondered if I could stand the character’s knee-jerk patriotism. She evolved through the Vietnam War though, and quietly opposed that conflict for many years. Much of her military work was doing research to push for expanded roles for women — a subject about which I am quite ambivalent, being myself an Army veteran turned peace activist. This book gives useful insights into a progressive military mind.

Though I haven’t read any of them, yet, the titles in the “Armed Conflict and Peace Process” section of the Women, Ink. website sound fascinating. This project of the International Women’s Tribune Center has offices in the Church Building at the United Nations and provides marketing for small women’s presses and groups from the global South. Two books really caught my eye. *What Women Do in Wartime: Gender and Conflict in Africa*, edited by Meredith Turshen and Clotilde Twagiramariya, 1998, portrays women in Chad, Mozambique, Sudan, and other African countries as combatants, victims and change agents. The author of *The Space Between Us: Negotiating Gender And National Identity*, Cynthia Cockburn, 1998, researched “how peace is done” in Northern Ireland, Israel / Palestine, and Bosnia/Herzegovina.

Go to www.womenink.org, or call (212) 687-8633 for more information.

*Ellen Barfield is an Army veteran and the co chair of WILPF’s Disarmament Committee and the Vice President of Veterans for Peace.*

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**Globalization and the South: Some Critical Issues**

Martin Kohr is a friend to WILPF and a partner in our work opposing capitalist globalization. His new book, *Globalization and the South: Some Critical Issues*, is an adaptation of a paper he presented at the South Summit held in Havana, Cuba, in April 2000. It captures the possibilities offered by the changing public perception of globalization. The Asian financial crisis and the failure of the WTO Seattle Meeting, “have catalyzed a serious rethinking of the orthodox policies and approach to globalization and liberalization.” The book encourages governments of the global South to take a more active role in reviewing recent developments in the global economy and their impact.

The book is an easy-to-read summary of the main issues faced in the global South in the areas of trade, finance and investment. It not only describes the problems but also proposes many practical concrete steps that can be taken by governments and by multilateral financial institutions to reverse the negative impact of globalization.

Kohr argues, “There is a need to strive for governance at a national level that combines economic development, [and] environmental concerns with social justice. In both North and South, the wide disparities in wealth and income within countries have to be narrowed. In a situation of improved equity, it would be more possible to plan and implement strategies of economic adjustment to ecological and social goals.” The book is published by the Third World Network.

— Reviewed by Felicity Hill, WILPF U.N. Liaison

Mary Day Kent and Jody Dodd in Baltimore at the Sweet Honey in the Rock benefit concert organized by WILPF.
Radical Democracy by C. Douglas Lummis, Cornell University Press, 1996. This book is an exhilarating look at both the concept and practice of democracy. How confused we are about this form of political rule. Of course, our confusion is no surprise. The meaning of democracy has been “stolen by those who would rule over us,” says Lummis. Democracy means rule by the people, and “demos,” from which it is derived, stood for “the poorest and most numerous of people.” Lummis’s radical democracy “describes an adventure of human beings creating with their own hands the conditions for their freedom, an adventure the main part of which is still to be undertaken.... Democracy...is a way in which people order their lives together, through discussion and common action, on principles of equality and justice.” It is not a kind of government but an end of which is still to be undertaken.... Democracy...is a way in which people order their lives together, through discussion and common action, on principles of equality and justice.” It is not a kind of government but an end of government and might better be thought of as an ideal or a project.

As we struggle to understand what this challenge of self-governance requires of us, we are helped by thinking about democracy as “a performance art,” or “a project.

The following resources are available from WILPF, 1213 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107 or call (215) 563-7110. Ask for Charmaine Sprengelmeyer. Prices include postage.

Women Define Globalization Written by a 10-member International WILPF working group, it details how global corporatization is driven by a few at the expense of the many, showing the impact on women, workers and the poor everywhere. $10 (goes to International WILPF).

By What Authority? by Tony Clarke: Unmasking & challenging the global corporations’ assault on democracy through the WTO. Published by the Polaris Institute of Canada and the International Forum on Globalization. $4.

Want to Start a Study Group? Packets are now available from the Philadelphia office or can be downloaded from the WILPF website, www.wilpf.org. The revised packet consists of 10 sessions and includes tips on getting a study group started. Each session includes a list of supplementary materials (books, pamphlets, websites, and videotapes) for those who want more information or discussion material. The revised packet includes new sessions, new readings, and new discussion questions, and we’ve made cosmetic and usability improvements. To obtain the packet, contact Charmaine Sprengelmeyer in the Philadelphia office; the requested donation for a complete packet is $15.

A Minnesota member wrote: “I expected solid information about the rise of corporate power, but the way it is contextualized right from the start — ‘who we are as human beings,’ what this knowledge means to us, how it will change.
International WILPF Awareness Quiz

Prizes for everyone! Test Yourself

Directions: For every YES answer, add up the points in parentheses. You get zero points for NO answers.

Are you aware that WILPF was the first women’s group to receive consultative status with the United Nations? (15)

Are you aware that Progressive magazine recommends that if you want to do peace work while Bush is in the White House, you should join WILPF? It’s global. (15)

Are you aware that just recently North Korea and China invited and hosted a delegation of our top leadership women? (10)

Are you aware that WILPF celebrated International Women’s Day with a disarmament Seminar: “In the Line of Fire: A Gender Perspective on Small Arms Proliferation, Peace Building and Conflict Resolution?” (25)

Are you aware that WILPF will play a major role in the coming U.N. Conference to End Racial Discrimination to be held in South Africa? (30)

Are you aware that WILPF is continuing its organizing work in Sierra Leone, Burundi and Benin? (40)

Did you know that WILPF’s U.N. office led a coalition of non-governmental organizations, and that their work resulted in Security Council’s Resolution 3145? This resolution advocates, for the first time, the inclusion of women in peace building and negotiating efforts in war situations. (50)

Are you aware that WILPF’s triennial Congress scheduled for East Jerusalem has been unfortunately postponed, while an extended International Executive Committee (IEC) will meet in Geneva instead? (15)

Are you aware that the success of this IEC meeting depends on wide input from all WILPF members? (45)

**SCORING CATEGORIES:**

- 0 to 25 — Oh Dear! (Either read Peace & Freedom more carefully or start a group and receive a branch packet.)
- 25 to 100 — Still Learning, but Not Bad
- 100 to 245 — Wise Woman Status

**NOW FOR THE PRIZES...**

The first 15 e-mails and the first 15 letters received that include your score and the answers to the following questions will be sent a valuable prize coupon.

1. What would help you strengthen your connection to WILPF’s International work?
2. What do you think WILPF’s international priorities should be?
3. How could we improve coordination between WILPF International and its national sections?

Send your scores to jmclean@jps.net or 25080 Skyland Rd. Los Gatos, CA 95033. Feel free to ask questions and make comments. I look forward to all responses.

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**Syracuse Cultural Workers poster**

A Call to Defy Corporate Domination of the United States & the World. This poster features the analysis of our campaign to Challenge Corporate Power, Assert the People’s Rights, with WILPF listed as one of three resource organizations; 19 x 28, two color; $8 ea. 10+@$4, 25+@$2; call Donna at (315) 474-1132, ext. 102. Great for tabling and study groups!

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The Corporate Consensus: A Guide to the Institutions of Global Power, by George Draffan. Consists of two sections: Part I is an essay called “The Dynamics of Power,” an excellent and comprehensive overview of the system of global corporate power. Part II is “Profiles in Corporate Power,” a detailed description of the major think tanks and influential organizations in U.S. and global politics (e.g., Brookings Institution, Cato Institute, Heritage Foundation, International Chamber of Commerce, RAND) and how they work. Published by the Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project, HCR 82, Fossil, OR 97830. 114 pages (standard 8.5x11 size), October 2000. $10 each. Also available on the web at [www.endgame.org](http://www.endgame.org).

This list of resources was compiled by the leadership team of the campaign Challenge Corporate Power; Assert the People’s Rights.
I’m gonna stay on the battlefield
I’m gonna stay on the battlefield
I’m gonna stay on the battlefield til I die.

I had come into the city carrying life in my eyes
amid rumors of death,
calling out to everyone who would listen
it is time to move us all into another century
time for freedom and racial and sexual justice
time for women and children and men time for hands
unbound
I had come into the city wearing peaceful breasts
and the spaces between us smiled
I had come into the city carrying life in my eyes.
i had come into the city carrying life in my eyes.

And they followed us in their cars with their computers
and their tongues crawled with caterpillars
and they bumped us off the road turned over our cars,
and they bombed our buildings killed our babies,
and they shot our doctors maintaining our bodies,
and their courts changed into confessionals
but we kept on organizing we kept on teaching believing
loving doing what was holy moving to a higher ground

even though our hands were full of slaughtered teeth
but we held out our eyes delirious with grace.
but we held out our eyes delirious with grace.

I’m gonna treat everybody right
I’m gonna treat everybody right
I’m gonna treat everybody right til I die.

I say, come, sister, brother to the battlefield
come into the rain forests
come into the barrio
come into the schools
come into the abortion clinics
come into the prisons
come and caress our spines

come, i say, come, wrap your feet around justice
come, i say, wrap your tongues around truth
come, i say, wrap your hands with deeds and prayer
you brown ones
you yellow ones
you black ones
you gay ones
you white ones
you lesbian ones

Come. I say come, you sitting still in domestic bacteria
come. I say come, you standing still in double-breasted

Sonia Sanchez poet, activist, and scholar is a WILPF sponsor. The collection ShAke loose my skin (from which this poem was taken) was published in 1999 by Beacon Press.
On average, one Iraqi child dies every eight minutes as a result of the harsh sanctions maintained by the United States and Britain.

While I write this article, a group of U.S. military veterans and supporters, from the Iraq Water Project of Veterans for Peace, are spending their first evening in Baghdad.

I traveled to Iraq last October with the first team sent by the Iraq Water Project. We put in some sweat equity to show our solidarity, and brought money to pay workers and buy the supplies needed to repair the Labanni drinking water treatment plant, located in the Abu al Khaseeb valley outside Basra in southern Iraq. The second team will work on three smaller plants in the same valley.

The Iraq Water Project (IWP) is the brainchild of Veterans for Peace members who had been to Iraq with other groups, and had seen the dire effects of the lack of access to clean drinking water there. Iraqi water treatment plants, as well as sewage and electrical plants, were intentionally targeted in 1991, and sanctions have prevented their repair or maintenance for over 10 years. Water-borne diseases are one of the main killers of Iraqis living under sanctions.

Half of the second team is made up of wonderful, dynamic women. Cherie Clark, who has run the International Mission of Hope children’s orphanages in Vietnam since the war years of the ‘60s, was also on the first team. Vickie Goodwin of Douglas, WY, does financial development and grant writing for Veterans for Peace, and is on the IWP planning committee. Emmy Barth is a Bruderhof member and activist from Rifton, NY. Lisa Gizzi, an editor, and Kathryn Herzog, a radio journalist, are both from Twin Cities, MN.

The only woman veteran on the second team is Candy Lovett, a disabled Gulf veteran from Interlachen, FL. She has an immune disorder and degenerative arthritis. These illnesses were likely caused by contamination she sustained in 1991 during her assignment to bury charred Iraqi bodies on the infamous “Highway of Death,” where Iraqi troops and civilians were incinerated as they fled to Baghdad. That women who have seen so much horror, like Cherie and Candy, can give so much by joining projects like the IWP gives me tremendous hope.

To hear about the second team’s experiences, check the website at www.iraqwaterproject.com, or call (718) 398-5839 or (202) 347-6780.

Ellen Barfield is an Army veteran and the co chair of WILPF’s Disarmament Committee and the Vice President of Veterans for Peace.
A Global Look at Racism

Laura Partridge

“Conference on racism this summer could be one of the most explosive meetings this organization (U.N.) has ever had, with moves afoot to cast globalization as a racial issue and to demand reparations for the slave trade (Trans-Atlantic) and colonialism.”

A recent article in the New York Times by Barbara Crossette

The World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (WCAR) is destined to be the most noteworthy U.N.-sponsored event in the organization’s history. For the first time, racism is being globally unveiled. As we already know, it is truly an ugly picture: a horrifying story of violence and privilege whose chapters continue to be written today.

It’s a tall order to acknowledge the devastation of the past, the ongoing existence of structural racism, and racial discrimination. At the same time, we must look at the damage intolerance has caused and then produce an international plan of action to repair the past and present harm.

Across the globe, indigenous peoples, African descendants, migrants, Roma (Gypsies), Asians, gays and lesbians, and women of all the affected groups are consistently being discriminated against, marginalized and cast aside as “disposable people,” as Augusto Boal, the originator of the Theatre of the Oppressed, refers to the world’s oppressed.

Reparations

“South Africa, host of this year’s United Nations conference on racism, is heading for a major row with first world countries over the thorny issue of reparations for slavery and colonialism.”

A Feb. 19, 2001 article in Cape Town, Cape Argus, by Clive Sawyer

The Clive Sawyer article also stated, “President Thabo Mbeki reportedly told a conference of South African heads of diplomatic missions last week that the question of international reparations for these abuses needed to be addressed.”

Representatives from Western countries have responded by saying that the “...mandate given the conference was that it should be forward-looking rather than concentrating on the past.” Yet, in answering a question at a news conference, South African Foreign Minister Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuna “emphasized that the future could not be discussed without discussing the past.”

This comprehensive newspaper account also quoted Mary Robinson, the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights and the former president of Ireland, as having responded to the past/present question by saying, “It may sound strange that we still have to do that (address the past), but in fact we need to close off a period, and say that this exploitation was in real terms a crime against humanity when it took place and that it had an effect into this century. The more generous and open the condemnation is, the less, I believe, there will a push to focus on precise monetary compensation.”

The Uniting For Racial Justice campaign (UFORJE) Campaign, WILPF International Racial Justice Core Group and WILPF’s International Secretary General, Michaela Told, continue to be an integral part of the planning and debate for WCAR. Below is a partial list of this past year’s contributions. The next edition of Peace & Freedom will provide an update on events yet to occur.

Update on Events

In May of last year, Adjoa Aiyetoro represented UFORJE in Switzerland at the first Prep Com meeting for WCAR. The purpose of this meeting was to raise the issues of reparations, restoration and reconciliation, and advocate for their inclusion in the World Conference on Racism. Actions at this meeting include: 1) Presenting intervention before States and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) stressing the need for continuing the discussion of reparations in a meaningful manner. 2) Collaborating with two other NGO delegates in the preparation of a background document on reparations for distribution to Member States.
3) Co-sponsoring, as U.S. WILPF, an NGO forum entitled “Combating Racism and its Effects Across the Globe: Not Cure But Repair.” Eight speakers from all over the world participated. Adjoa spoke on reparations, restoration and reconciliation. The 75 people in attendance enthusiastically received the presenters.

Last June, several of us attended a debriefing of the first Prep Com. Present in Philadelphia were Chris Ballin, Barbara Simmons, TāMora Jones, Mary Day Kent, Charmaine Sprengelmeyer, Beth Harris and myself. The meeting’s purpose was to: 1) Strategize around the five thematic areas outlined by the U.N. for WCAR, 2) Determine WILPF’s role(s) in U.S. NGO-WCAR working groups and 3) Provide input into the development of the U.S. NGO-WCAR statement of vision and goals.

In July, there was a U.N. WCAR NGO planning meeting in Oakland, CA so that we could continue actively participating in the planning of WCAR and in the selection of the U.S. NGO Coordinating committee. At this meeting we participated in thematic working groups, worked on refining the U.S. NGOs Statement of Vision, contributed to outlining the next steps in the WCAR planning process, and received an update on the latest WCAR developments at the international level.

In December, Adjoa and I attended the NGO’s Forum of the Americas in Chile for another Prep Com. Also in attendance was Olga Bianchi of Costa Rica. The purpose of this gathering was to have a regional meeting of States and NGOs for planning WCAR. During the meeting, we presented a statement on “The Importance of Compensatory Remedies for Victims of Racism.” We also obtained approximately 50 co-sponsors of the above intervention statement, served on the Drafting Committee for the first regional collaboration of African descendants, “The Declaration of African Descendants of the Americas” and actively participated in the WCAR Women’s Caucus.

We also assisted in planning and facilitating a small meeting with African descendants and U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mary Robinson, and lobbied states and NGOs for support of UFORJE/WILPF’s WCAR issues.

In March of this year, Adjoa also attended the U.N. WCAR Intersessional meeting in Switzerland. The meeting’s purpose was to further draft and refine WCAR statements. Michaela Told and Edith Ballantyne were also present. We presented intervention before states and NGOs on Compensatory Measures, actively participated in the development of the Women’s Caucus declaration, and continued to lobby for support of UFORJE/WILPF WCAR issues.

That same month, I attended another Forum of the Americas in Ecuador, where we worked to finalize the Americas’ Regional NGOs’ WCAR Declaration and Plan of Action. We also issued a statement before the Racism and Racial Discrimination Working Group, presented a statement calling for adding space (including resources and action) for global artistic expression during WCAR. We also rigorously participated in the Women’s Caucus, in the work of the Editing Committee, and in lobbying.

Upcoming meetings we will be attending include the 2nd U.N. WCAR Intersessional/ WCAR Prep Com, this month in Switzerland, and the NGOs WCAR Forum and WCAR itself, to be held in Durban, South Africa in August.

**Race Raves**

The first UFORJE/WILPF Race Rave was held in early February on the University of California-Santa Cruz (UCSC) campus. The event was co-sponsored by the campus’ Center for Justice, Tolerance and Community. Over 250 students, WILPF members, UCSC staff and community activists attended this historic conference. In accordance with the mandate adopted at the 1999 U.S. Section Triennial Congress, Theatre of the Oppressed techniques were an integral part of the weekend. One comment following the event, referring to the sense of community created at the event, read; “I wish that we could all feel strong and supported by not just a local, but a global community. A community in which everyone’s ideas are expressed, where we can talk, laugh and cry, like we did here, without fear.” That statement sums up the event’s impact well.

Future issues of *Peace & Freedom* will report on raves held in New York and Asheville.

Laura Partridge is a member of the UFORJE campaign.
NATIONAL PRO-DEMOCRACY CONVENTION
Congress has seen a flurry of new bills addressing electoral reform introduced recently. Perhaps the best is Congressman John Conyers' (D-MI 14) Equal Protection of Voting Rights Act of 2001. (HR 1170)

Meanwhile, the Pro-Democracy Campaign launched in January has issued a call to citizens to convene in Philadelphia in late June to organize for change. The National Pro-Democracy convention will run from June 28 to July 1 to push for voter rights. A 10-point Voters’ Bill of Rights circulating among groups in draft form is garnering widespread endorsement. Cooperating organizations and activists meeting in Philadelphia will focus on national, state and local strategies for sustaining the popular outrage after Florida and turning it into effective action to reclaim democracy.

One of the 10 reforms promoted is a WILPF UFORJE legislative priority to restore the franchise denied to 3.9 million former prisoners. Conyers has also vowed to reintroduce his bill reinstating federal voting rights, which died in the 106th Congress. Please talk to your representative and urge co-sponsorship of this bill.

To get your copy of the proposed Voters’ Bill of Rights and find out more about the Pro-Democracy Campaign, see www.ippn.org or send request to Independent Progressive Politics Network, P.O. Box 1041, Bloomfield, NJ 07003.

MARKETING WAR
“An experienced petty officer admitted that he simply missed sonar readings showing the fishing boat closing in and that when he did notice, he overrode the computers. The captain explained that he had taken extra time to sign photographs for the 16 civilians on board, but that he failed to notice that nine officers were not where he had ordered them to be and that the sonar officer failed to update a chart tracking nearby vessels. And he never clearly explained why he abbreviated four safety procedures that might have averted the collision, which killed nine.”


Who can doubt that the nine Japanese people who died in the collision between the U.S. Navy nuclear submarine USS Greenville and Japanese fishing vessel Ehime Maru were victims of Pentagon marketing? The story told at the court of inquiry laid bare the blatant reciprocity of U.S. corporate interests and our tax-supported military operations.

 Defense industry PACs spent more than $7 million on candidates in the 2000 election cycle. Another $4.3 million went to the parties in “soft” money. These high-return investments are a fraction of the weapons and war industry’s total marketing budget. Lobbying expenses totaled more than $48 million in 1998. (Center for Responsive Politics, www.opensecrets.org.)

These amounts do not include advertising monies or the salary and expenses of corporate officers enjoying Navy jaunts. Or of representatives guarding corporate interests as members of the State Department’s Defense Trade Advisory Group. In 1995, 57 of the 60 members of this influential body came from the arms industry.

The marketing done by the weapons industry and the Pentagon control Congressional military spending decisions, pushing the sum in fiscal year 2001 to a grotesque $310 billion. A recent, highly readable book about the deadly interplay is worth picking up. Private Warriors, Ken Silverstein, New York, Verso, 2000: The author’s fact-packed thesis is that America’s Cold War veterans — Pentagon bureaucrats, national security establishment staffers, intelligence operatives, soldiers and arms dealers are as great a threat to world peace as dispossessed Russian arms experts and nuclear scientists. Chapter one treats you to a test drive in an F-16 simulator at the four-day arms shows in Rio in 1999. Six thousand Pentagon, Commerce and State Department employees (1,000 of whom work in more than 70 of our embassies around the world) promote weapons companies’ sales abroad full-time, a bureaucracy partly supported by 3 percent commissions. Silverstein’s biographies include Frank Gaffney, director of the Center for Security Policy, a founding member of the 1970’s Committee on the Present Danger, whose alumni now dominate Bush II Administration policy.

UPCOMING EVENTS
June 10-12
Stop National Missile Defense Lobby Days
Event information at www.projectabolition.org
On NMD, see Peace & Freedom Winter 2001 article, pages 6-7.

October
Eye on Congress Lobbying Days in Washington, DC. All three WILPF campaigns will be involved. For specific date, watch for a mailing and see the WILPF in Washington section at www.wilpf.org or call (202) 546-6727.
In 1984 I was shocked when I dated a woman who told me a former partner had battered her. I had heard of battering, of course, but never lesbian battering. Several years later I was working at a domestic violence agency. We offered services to battered lesbians, but few came. The same story was happening all over the country. We knew it existed, but lesbians did not come to agencies. Fast forward a decade. More studies had been done on lesbian (and gay male) battering, but still few services exist. Data on sexual violence was scarce except for anecdotal stories.

Working with results from a nationwide survey on woman to woman sexual violence, I wrote my book Woman to Woman Sexual Violence: Does She Call it Rape? due out by Northeastern University Press in early 2002. I worked with the stories of 70 lesbians and bisexual women about their sexual violation at the hands of another woman. It’s hard to cut through our own denial that a woman could sexually assault another woman. These women were afraid no one would believe them and most told no one, or only the closest of trusted friends. Legal help was nonexistent, except in a few cases when the sexual abuse was part of a battering relationship and women sought restraining orders.

In my book I not only document this sexual violence but I discuss the context of homophobia, problems of language in labeling what these assaults are, legal heterosexism, lesbian-friendly services, and the need for social change. It’s easy to say “no one deserves to be abused or raped.” How to translate that into a society where the “power-over” model is transformed so mechanisms of control such as battering and rape are no longer used is the challenge of our lifetimes.

Lori B. Girshick, Ph.D. is an activist and sociologist. She teaches at Warren Wilson College and is a member of Asheville WILPF. She also wrote No Safe Haven: Stories of Women in Prison, and Soledad Women: Wives of Prisoners Speak Out. She can be reached at lgirshick@mindspring.com.

Civil Liberties Committee

The good news is that most of the immigrants who had been detained through the use of secret evidence have been released. The Secret Evidence Repeal Act will again be introduced in the House of Representatives by Reps. David Bonior (D) and Bob Barr (R).

ACTION: Ask your representative to become a co-sponsor again by calling Scott Paul of Bonior’s staff (202) 225-2160 or Keri Allin of Barr’s staff at (202) 225-2931.

The bad news is that we are seeing a crackdown on free speech and dissent that is more serious than we have seen in the past 30 years. This crackdown is taking many forms. The U.S. Military is actively training troops and police to suppress democratic opposition to government policies. Police are using preventive detention to suppress dissent.

All kinds of electronic devices are being used to monitor people. An example of this intrusive surveillance was seen at the Super Bowl, where everyone who entered had their photo taken on entrance to be compared with mug shots of criminals on a database.

In addition, the Clinton administration greatly expanded the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA). Under this Act, a secret, seven-member court can use electronic surveillance to spy on residents in the name of “national security.” The court now has the legal authority to authorize Department of Justice requests to conduct physical as well as electronic surveillance without obtaining a warrant in open court. These kinds of secret searches in the name of national security were among the worst civil liberties abuses of the Cold War. Congress should outlaw them. — Vivian Schatz

Death Penalty Committee

At this time we do not have an acting WILPF committee working, but we do have an acting chair and a small budget. The fact that we are spread out in the U.S. could be an advantage. We can keep each other up to date and help each other. Even non death penalty states are constantly fighting moves to add the death penalty to their laws.

I suggest we form a WILPF committee to abolish the death penalty for the purpose of keeping each other informed, spreading information and action, and for preparing abolition of the death penalty as part of the agenda of the next national meeting of WILPF. If you’re interested, send your e-mail address and your home address to: lfuray33@aol.com, or 5929 Queensloch #134 Houston, TX 77096. — Lynn Furay
In the 20-plus years of my activism I have worked with grassroots activists planning for direct actions and civil disobedience as a part of their strategies to address injustice. I have participated in actions across the United States, large and small. As a nonviolence trainer, I have always prepared people for actions by warning them about the “worst case scenario” of what the consequences of their actions might be. I explain the maximum fines and possible jail time and the need to prepare in advance for legal and medical support.

And so, in preparing for the Republican National Convention demonstrations in Philadelphia last summer, activists went through these trainings and expected to be arrested, expected to be charged with a summary offense or misdemeanor for blocking traffic, expected to spend a night or two in jail, and expected to show up in court to take responsibility for their actions. Nothing happened as expected.

Leading up to the convention, there was surveillance of groups preparing for demonstrations, including WILPF. The city’s Licensing and Inspection department raided and temporarily shut down Spiral Q, a puppet-making space where activists were building puppets in preparation for the demonstrations. Even with all of these events, activists from Philadelphia Direct Action Group and members of R2K initiated a meeting with the police to “demystify” who we were and to reassure them that we were organizing nonviolent actions. Ironically, it was at the exact time of the meeting that L&I was shutting down Spiral Q.

On August 1st, before activists could even take to the streets, police surrounded and preemptively arrested over 75 people in the “puppet warehouse,” charging them with up to eight misdemeanor counts of blocking a highway and conspiracy, resisting arrest and conspiracy to resist. Then police proceeded to sweep what they identified as “leaders” off the streets, charging them with up to 25 counts of felonies and misdemeanors — everything from conspiracy to commit mayhem, rioting, and arson, to conspiracy to assault police officers. The activists that did manage to block several roadways in and around Center City were charged with not one, but as many as 12 to 15, misdemeanors. People were held in jail for up to two weeks, even those who gave their names and tried to cooperate with their jailers. Bail was set at minimums of $10,000 and included bails of $1 million for two people. Numerous people had bails in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. For most of the 400 plus activists, the average bail was between $30,000 and $50,000!

Well, here we are eight months later. Young people from all over the country came back to Philadelphia for their arraignments and trials. Thus far, over 95 percent have been found not guilty. In some cases, the judge threw out their charges or reduced them, and in precious few cases, the prosecutors withdrew charges. Also of importance — not one person was charged with slashing tires or spray painting cars or possessing or using chemical agents. There were 40 people arrested and charged with felonies, but of those, over half were thrown out or the charges were reduced to misdemeanors (for which they still await trial!).

These tactics used by the state and supported by the media are not isolated. Since Seattle in the fall of 1999, police and state violations of civil rights at mass mobilizations have escalated. In Washington, D.C. during the IMF/World Bank meeting, we saw the use of surveillance as well as preemptive strikes and shutting down of convergence spaces. We have seen the media repeatedly use the word “violent” to describe protesters, when in most cases violence was perpetrated by the police. In Los Angeles during the Democratic Convention, the police used tear gas, pepper spray and rubber bullets on demonstrators at permitted rallies and marches. As I write this, we are gearing up for the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) meetings in Quebec City, April
19-21 and there are numerous reports of impending violence by anarchists. In response, the authorities are building a wall around the area where the FTAA will be held. Even places that have had long histories of nonviolent action, such as Livermore Labs in California, have experienced an escalation of state repression. Several people have reported that at Livermore people have been arrested while standing on the sidewalks, and that the police are handling demonstrators roughly and increasing charges.

From these experiences and observations, two things come to me as “lessons learned.” First, we need to prepare people based on these increasing consequences, but we must not let these state tactics deter us. Which leads me to the next lesson. It is essential that those of us who are older, seasoned activists must stand in solidarity and support younger activists. We must not buy into the lies and misinformation about who they are, but listen to what they have to say. We must question media reports about their activities and finally, we must join them in the streets and in their meetings to work together to build a movement. A movement where we all share a vision of a world where peace and justice are more than words; they are an expression of our lives.

Jody Dodd is WILPF Leadership and Outreach Coordinator.

JANE ADDAMS

Gioia DiLiberto’s A Useful Woman (Scribners) focuses with novel-like color on the life of the young Jane Addams prior to 1900. Barbara Garland Polikoff, whose aunt Sadie Ellis Garland lived and worked at Hull House and was a colleague of Jane Addams’s, has written a delightful and easy-to-read life of Addams entitled With One Bold Act; The Story of Jane Addams (Boswell Books, Chicago.) It encompasses the entire life and accomplishment of Addams, but places emphasis on her Hull House years. Of course, the first volume of Jane Addams’s autobiography, Twenty Years at Hull House, first issued in 1910, remains in print in several different editions.

Other scholars and publishers are also underway with studies. Among them are Victoria Brown at Grinnell College in Iowa with a planned two-volume biography, and independent scholar Lucy Knight, headquartered in Evanston, Illinois, writing a one-volume work highlighting the growth of Jane Addams as a person. Jean Bethke Elshtain, the Laura Spelman Rockefeller professor of social and political ethics in the Divinity School of the University of Chicago, is completing an intellectual biography of Addams. It is based largely on Addams’s public writings and speeches. Many other studies of some aspect of Addams’s life and extraordinary contribution to the world are underway and in the years to come will bring this special individual to us and to thousands of interested readers worldwide.

Mary Lynn Bryan is editor of the Jane Addams Papers.
Early this year, the St. Louis WILPF branch decided that instead of planning a Race Rave we would focus our attention on thwarting the appointment of John Ashcroft as U.S. Attorney General. We wanted to work with local African-American groups, who, like us, were incensed by Ashcroft’s treatment of Judge Ronnie White. Could we hold a public hearing on the nomination? We discussed timing and decided we couldn’t possibly do it before early February.

Then, one of our non-Board members was contacted and things began to happen. On January 5, some 14 people met to plan a response to the nomination, six of whom were WILPF members. We received the immediate and enthusiastic support of Planned Parenthood of St. Louis, the Missouri National Abortion Rights Action League, the National Council of Negro Women, Missourians against Handgun Violence, and a couple of individual women — one of whom is a former public defender. Some suggested holding a press conference, but frequently in St. Louis press conferences don’t attract media. We decided to hold a public hearing.

WILPF members Myrna Fichtenbaum, Hedy Epstein, Yvonne Logan and Jane Mendelson contacted potential panelists and moderators. Myrna found a convenient site and we all invited organizations to present testimony. Meanwhile, the former public defender spoke with a court reporter about getting a transcript of the hearing. Jane called WILPF’s Washington D.C. office about getting the transcript into the official record. We met again and again, made decisions, and realized success on Thursday, January 18, about two weeks after our first planning meeting had been held.

Frankie Freeman, Esq., a former member of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, moderated the three-hour hearing. The panel included Norman Seay (vice-chancellor of the University of Missouri at St. Louis, and longtime civil rights organizer), Rita Days (then a State Representative), Pat Dougherty (then a State Representative and since elected to fill a vacancy in the State Senate), Susan Uchitelle (director of the Inter-District Desegregation Program) and Jerryl Christmas, Esq., (member of the Mound City Bar Association).

They listened carefully and asked questions of those testifying. Forty-nine people testified, representing 37 different organizations and individual opinions. The court reporter worked all night and turned in 108 pages of testimony Friday morning. As Jane Mendelson was leaving home to meet the court reporter, she heard Senator Durbin (D, IL) on C-SPAN tell Senator Leahy (D, VT), then Chair of the Judiciary Committee, that the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom had held a public hearing on the nomination the previous evening. Durbin asked if it could be entered in the Judiciary Committee Hearing record. Senator Leahy agreed, and the transcript was faxed to his office that afternoon and entered into the record.

The following Wednesday, Gillian Gilhool, WILPF’s legislative organizer, hand-delivered the transcript to Missouri Senators Bond and Carnahan. The next day, the package was delivered to every member of the Judiciary Committee, with an adapted cover letter from our Washington office.

On February 2, after the confirmation vote of 58 to 42 for Ashcroft, a press conference was called by Missouri NARAL, Missourians against Handgun Violence, and the St. Louis Clergy Coalition (made up of African American pastors). Together they issued a statement, signed by many of the organizations that testified at our hearing, and pledged to work together to monitor the actions of Ashcroft and the Bush Administration. No media attended.

We had two weeks of intense work, but everyone was pleased with the outcome. Letters and emails were sent to organizations and individuals testifying, telling them the transcript was entered and delivered to Senate offices.

While collaborating organizations and their members were most helpful, I must say a huge thank you for a job very well done to our branch members. We did it!

The transcript, list and letter went up on WILPF’s website over the weekend of January 27-28, “just in time to become an historical artifact,” according to Gillian. Gillian also said that the “transcript will remain accessible on the site via the WILPF in Washington section as a great example of what one branch can do.”

Mary Jane Schutzius is a member of the St. Louis WILPF Branch.
Our book, *Women in a World of Money: Making the Local to Global Connections*, was inspired by our 23-day journey on the WILPF Peace Train from Helsinki to Beijing to attend the 4th U.N. World Conference on Women in 1995.

Exchanging ideas with the 234 women on the train and the women at the seven stops along the way expanded our thinking about the impact of economic decisions made by men on the lives of women. The mobile, global community we formed on the train was like an economics laboratory. We traveled through countries moving from planned economies to market systems, where women were losing their social support networks, living in chaos and violence, struggling with family upheaval and working several jobs to survive. The discussions we had added new dimensions to our thinking about the fast-growing global economy and were a jump-start for the book.

Understanding economics is essential to gaining peace, equality and justice for women. While economics describes and quantifies the production, distribution and consumption of wealth, it’s also about fundamental questions of our daily lives: what we eat and wear, how we live, how much we get paid, the taxes we pay, how we relate to peoples of the world.

We provide economic literacy as a tool for political action for women (and men) to empower readers as economic beings. Ours is a feminist economics: the participation of women using feminist principles of respect for life, nature and human society in the determination of economic value in the Gross National Product (GNP) of nations.

This is important because policies are made on the basis of economic value — what is bought and sold for money. Historically and presently women have second class status worldwide, which means their voices are muted. It is estimated that women’s unpaid roles in birthing, care-giving for young and old, community volunteering, and their part in family farming (more than 60 percent of which is done by women in the developing world) would add more than $11 trillion to the world’s GNP.

Women and girls make up 70 percent of the world’s poor and nearly 90 percent of the world’s illiterate. Everywhere in the world women work longer hours than men, and receive less money for their work. Yet it’s acknowledged that women’s improved economic status is a necessity for sustainable development worldwide.

The book explores the whys and hows of deconstructing economics, making the case for economic literacy from a feminist perspective, introducing basic concepts, defining terms and the world’s economic systems as they affect women and children: market, capitalist, socialist and command economies.

The premise of the book is from our 6th grade civics class: that the sacred, inalienable rights of people are the bedrock of democracy, and the basis for the social compact. Democracy is the partnership of people with business and government to achieve a common good. Let’s claim our democracy!

We deal with women’s struggles for recognition and equality in the United States in a women’s survey of the U.S. economy, from the Declaration of Independence to the present. The section on the corporatization of America includes features and results of the global economy, which is controlled by the excessive contributions of transnationals to political campaigns. We examine the political and legal decisions over time that define our economic status and urge readers to ask, “Who wins? Who loses? Who decides?”

The section on the global economy gives examples of women’s lives and gives voice to their needs. The global economic institutions responsible for the impoverished condition of women and children worldwide are addressed: the World Bank and International Monetary Fund; the trade agreements (GATT, NAFTA, WTO), with suggestions for reforms.

We present models of successful programs and strategies for networking for social change, building on the resources of the growing global Women’s Movement (1975 to the present) and the role of WILPF in the United Nations and other regional and international bodies. Money is power, but so is knowledge, the power to change the world!

To order:
*Women in a World of Money: Making the Local to Global Connections* The book with Study Guide ($15 + $4 shipping = $19) send check payable to: Corin Kagan, 624 3rd. Ave. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414; or Sally Flax, 1116 E. Haystack Dr., Tucson, AZ 85737.

The Appendices include notes, a list of resources, networks and a glossary. The Study Guide helps groups and classes to understand the range of information, local to global, and to integrate it into their own lives, developing workshops and action plans in collaboration with like-minded women and men. The authors are available for workshops and presentations to classes or conferences. Please contact by e-mail: CorinKagan@gateway.net; sallyflax@earthlink.net.
Did you ever wonder what Liquid-Paper, windshield wipers and voice-controlled wheelchairs have in common? The answer is they were all invented by women!

In her new book, Girls Think of Everything: Stories of Ingenious Inventions by Women, Houghton Mifflin Co., 2000, Catherine Thimmesh describes the way in which women have come to gain recognition (and patents) for their unique innovations. Thimmesh provides a timeline of women’s inventions, beginning in the year 3000 B.C, with a method of gathering silk discovered by a 14-year-old Chinese empress. She takes us all the way into the ‘90s with a spill-proof feeding bowl. In between, we find out about everything from the first solar-heated house in 1848, to the retractable safety needle in 1988.

The year 1715 saw the first “documented” invention by an American woman. Sybilla Masters invented a new power-driven method for cleaning and curing corn, but since she was considered to be the property of her husband, the patent was awarded to Thomas, reading in part, “a new invention found out by Sybilla, his wife…”

It wasn’t until 1809 that a woman was awarded a patent in her own name. Mary Dixon Kies created a process of weaving straw with silk and thread, used mainly in the making of women’s bonnets. In 1905, Madam C.J. Walker, the daughter of former slaves, became the “first American woman self-made millionaire” with her creation and marketing of hair-care products for African American women.

Margaret Knight’s brainchild — a machine that could fold and paste square bottoms for paper bags — was copied in 1868 by a man named Charles Annan who saw her invention in the shop while it was being cast in iron. He tried to patent it as his own but lost after 16 days of testimony when Knight took him to court. Margaret Knight went on to receive a patent for her machine in 1870, and won 26 other patents in her lifetime for a variety of inventions.

Thimmesh documents many such struggles. She writes, for example, about a woman who faced several challenges in seeking a career outside the home; the woman was eventually hired as a scientist to create fuel hosing for jet aircrafts.

Nine years before her invention of Scotchgard, Patsy (Sherman) took a general-interest test in high school. In 1947, girls and boys took separate tests. Despite the fact that she wanted to be a scientist, her test indicated that she was well suited to be a housewife. Unsatisfied, she demanded to take the boys’ test. The results? A career in dentistry or chemistry.

Even after reading about all the remarkable contributions made by women, the question remains, of course, how many inventions by women over the ages were not recognized in our patriarchal society? Did Eli Whitney really invent the cotton gin in 1793, or should credit be given to Catherine Littlefield Greene who is thought to have supplied him with the ideas? How many inventors were discouraged from trying to market their ideas because they were women? Is this what happened to Mary Anderson? When she finally patented her idea for the windshield wiper in 1903, a big company who thought her invention had no commercial value turned her down. Years after her patent had expired, someone else revived her idea, got a patent and made a lot of money.
**Bright Star in the Big Sky**

Mary Barmeyer O’Brien is the author of *Bright Star in the Big Sky*, Falcon Press, 1995, a young adult biography of peace activist Jeannette Rankin. This is an inspiring and easy-to-read portrayal of a mover-and-shaker woman in American politics. The book is full of black and white photographs of Jeannette throughout the stages of her life: holding a banner in support of suffrage around 1914; stuck in a phone booth with an angry mob outside after she voted in Congress against U.S. involvement in WWII; heading the Jeannette Rankin Peace Brigade march on Washington, D.C., in 1968, (at age 88!) to end the war in Vietnam.

Born and raised in Missoula, Montana, Rankin began her political work as a member of the Equal Franchise Society, which she helped organize. In 1914, Montana women gained the right to vote due to the hard work of Rankin and her group. This was only the beginning of her lifetime involvement with social justice and peace causes.

In 1917, Rankin was the first woman ever to be elected to Congress, causing quite a stir in the nation. On her sixth day, she cast her (very famous!) first vote in Congress. She was the only one to vote no to U.S. involvement in WWI. This decision to stand by her beliefs won her the ugly criticism of the nation, but eventually also won her its respect. After her two-year term in Congress — during which the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution was passed, giving women all over the country the right to vote — Rankin traveled to Europe, where she joined women from around the world at a peace conference. Here, they established the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom.

For the next 20 years, Rankin devoted her life to peace work. In 1934, as conflict escalated overseas, she warned the nation, “Preparation for war leads to war... If we are to have peace, we must achieve peace by preparing for it.” To make her voice stand out, she decided to return to Montana and again run for Congress. She was elected to the House of Representatives in the fall of 1940 and this time was not the only woman. On the day after the Pearl Harbor Attack, Rankin became the only lawmaker in the country to have voted against U.S. involvement in both world wars.

“Wouldn’t it be too bad if we left this world and hadn’t done all we could for peace?” Rankin once asked. And that’s how she left, having done all she could, leaving her bright mark in the movement for world peace.

**Educating the Public on Prisons**

A large group of grassroots activists concerned with prison issues has organized in Philadelphia. Their aim is to reach out to the public with information about the American Correctional Association (ACA) and the exploitation of prisoners that goes on in our country’s prison industrial complex.

What is the ACA exactly? In their own words, it is “an umbrella organization for all areas of corrections, providing a broad base of expertise no other organization in the world can offer this growing field...” (www.corrections.com/aca). It is composed of companies involved in all aspects of corrections, whether they provide fences, pharmaceuticals, or institutional furniture. Everyone from the Center for Disease Control to the American Fence Company are members. The ACA represents the money and the power behind the incarceration of millions of Americans who are being exploited by these big corporations.

The ACA is planning a big conference to be held in Philadelphia in August, 2001. According to their website, a company in the ACA can expect to do over 80 percent of their corrections-related business at a conference like this one. This conference presents an opportunity for activists to unite and educate the public.

The Philadelphia coalition has put together an informational packet and flyers, and has held several “town-hall” meetings and caucuses, including at the National Conference on Organized Resistance in Washington, D.C., in January, and at the Critical Resistance Conference in New York in March. The group is planning to continue outreach to family, church, local community groups and student groups, in particular those that deal with issues of globalization.

To learn more, or to share information about the ACA or related organizations, please email: prisons@critpath.org or mail to PDAG, c/o WILPF, 1213 Race St., Philadelphia, PA 19107.

*Ariane Allen recently worked as an intern for Peace & Freedom.*
BOOKS FOR GIRLS


Ruby Bridges, author of Through My Eyes, and Edithmia Daves shared some time at the Jane Addams Book Awards ceremony in October, 2001.
Ruth Anna Brown, a long-time WILPF member and peace activist, recently passed away at the age of 86. The daughter of Danish immigrants, Brown was born in Port Chester, NY. She earned her doctorate (in peace education and the study of “women as agents of change”) from Susan B. Anthony University in Montreal. In 1967, she moved to Honolulu, where she was a department administrator for the Environmental Research Laboratories in tsunami research at the University of Hawaii for 15 years. Shortly after her arrival in Honolulu, she became active in WILPF, giving leadership to the Hawaii branch for roughly 20 years. During this time, she participated in numerous WILPF conferences around the world. Among numerous peace efforts, she was active in bringing into being what became the University of Hawaii’s Matsunaga Institute for Peace. From 1983-87 she directed an interactive, monthly WILPF satellite radio program on issues of peace beamed to the Pacific Basin countries. She and her husband Ralph W. Odom moved to Boulder, CO in 1981. Brown also set up a fund to support an annual summer internship at WILPF’s national office, in the name of her son, Dean Reed. Reed was an internationally known peace-activist, actor, singer and “citizen diplomat” among the “iron curtain” countries during the cold war, prior to his death in East Berlin in 1987.

In Memoriam: Ruth Brown

Pamela Jones-Burnley, administrative director, celebrates 25 years of service to WILPF with staff and board members in Philadelphia.

Staff and interns during the March board meeting, left to right, Rosemary Burke, Padma Manchala, Jody Dodd, Charmaine Sprengelmeyer and Jill Catanese.

Editor’s Note

I hope you enjoy this books issue. With so many WILPF members and sponsors being writers (and so many being such informed readers!) we had a tough time choosing what to highlight in this issue. Peace & Freedom also received many letters to the editor recently, which is wonderful. We are always very glad to hear from readers. Please remember to try and keep letters short — about 300 words long is ideal. Please also remember that we reserve the right to choose and edit letters. The next issue of the magazine will focus on women’s rights, so if you have ideas or would like to write an article, please get in touch with us at the national WILPF office or email peacefreedom@wilpf.org. The deadline to submit articles for the next issue is June 4. The last issue of 2001 will focus on the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and will have a September deadline. — Theta Pavis
From Portland, at a City Council meeting to expand the Portland Police Joint Terrorism Task Force: “It isn’t nice to get surveillance/ Or go on some secret list/ It’s not nice to be harassed by cops/ And called a terrorist./ It isn’t nice, it isn’t nice,/ We’ve told you once, we’ve told you twice./ Must repression be the price/ Of speaking out?” Sung by WILPF member Kathleen Juergens in an attempt to get Council’s attention.

Quote of the Month: “The American people need to institute a welfare reform plan for large corporations. Eliminating spending on missile defense would be a step in this direction.” — Charles Guenther Jr., St. Louis.

MEMBERS HONORED
Joyce Vandevere (Monterey) was chosen to receive the Ralph B. Atkinson Award for Civil Liberties. Hedy Epstein (St. Louis), one of the 16 people portrayed in the documentary Into the Arms of Strangers: Stories of the Kindertransport was one of those honored at the London and Berlin premieres of the film; she wrote an account of this event for the newsletter.

Special Events
The Inauguration: Taking Emma Goldman’s statement “If I can’t dance, I don’t want to be in your revolution” to heart, Cape Cod threw “The People’s Supreme Inaugural Ball” on January 20. Palo Alto and Catonsville participated in a “Counter-Inauguration Ball (demonstration).” Members of Rockaway demonstrated in Washington. At a potluck birthday celebration on Feb. 15, Portland WILPFers were invited to submit proposals for why they would want to run the federal department of their choice in Washington, D. C. Tabouli Dinner: Monterey helped to revive a traditional event for the liberal community, an all-community fund-raising dinner committed to a cause. Their cause was the plight of the Palestinians, with Barbara Lubin, director of Middle East Children’s Alliance, and Charlie Clements, M.D., author of Witness to War, as speakers.

Israel-Palestine
East Bay and Berkeley WILPF Women in Black oppose the occupation every Friday. Palo Alto cosponsored a rally and leafleting on the Stanford University campus. It also had as a meeting topic the Israeli-Palestinian so-called peace process and what Israel is actually offering as a “compromise.” Chapel Hill published an e-mail from WILPF-Israel about the arrest of 17 women demonstrating in Tel Aviv against the “closure” of Palestine. Madison reprinted a piece from regional representative Audley Green on a huge Israeli-Palestinian rally for a just peace, calling on people everywhere to stage their own demonstrations. Los Angeles published the long WILPF U.S. Section Statement on the situation in Palestine-Israel.

Using Arts to Promote Peace
Minnesota Metro’s Arts Committee worked for three months with high-school students on one-act plays on issues of war, violence, and peace. Seven plays researched, written, directed and acted by the students were performed for the school and the public.

Colombia
All branches are concerned about the involvement of the U.S. in Colombia’s civil war under the guise of a drug war. Palo Alto circulated a petition asking that all U.S. military aid be stopped. Berkeley heard from a member who attended a conference on U.S. Policy and Human Rights in Colombia; she offered information and ideas for action. One was to get members of Congress and other leaders to attend an “alternative tour to Colombia” (Kim Alphandary, (503) 537-9014). A member of the Peace Community of San Jose de Apartado in Colombia spoke to Madison about the threat to the community’s land by global developers because of its resources and its location next to a projected interoceanic free trade zone. Monterey ran a piece by Andy McInerney, which had been given at a public meeting in New York.

Star Wars
Catonsville had a film featuring Dr. Karl Grossman on nuclear weapons in space. Santa Cruz demonstrated against the National Missile Defense System at Vandenberg Air Force Base and made tapes for broadcast on “First Person Singular,” 90-second opinion pieces that run on Public Radio’s “Morning Edition” and “All Things Considered.” Des Moines viewed the film Keep Space for Peace and sent postcards to the White House. Philadelphia formed a new task force to address star wars and nuclear arms control. Chapel Hill held a vigil to de-alert nuclear weapons and asked members to support creation of a cabinet-level Dept. of Peace.
Corporations and Democracy

Des Moines joined groups fighting a mega mall for West Des Moines involving plenty of corporate welfare. Philadelphia sponsored a discussion with the leader of the Unity 2000 protest march that took place before the Republican Convention. It also protested sweatshops and is watching three bills against sweatshops before the City Council. Asheville is sponsoring a junior WILPF group at a local high school. To begin they will use a video followed by discussion led by a WILPF member. Commercialism in schools is among topics to be covered. Los Angeles ran a long article by San Diego WILPF member Molly Morgan entitled “Death by Profit—Corporate Greed and Militarism,” that showed connections between all sorts of government agencies, people, and policies. Santa Cruz heard Virginia Rasmussen and Mary Zepernick, co-chairs of WILPF’s Committee on Corporations, Trade and Democracy, speak on “High Stakes Testing in Public Education: The Corporate Connection.” Cape Cod cooperated with the Green Party on a workshop: Roots of Violence, Seeds of Change, which explored the roots — oppression, corporate power, and democracy, and the seeds — facilitation, consensual meetings and decisions, and resolving conflicts cooperatively. Berkeley ran an article explaining the California “energy” crisis as a multinational corporation (PG&E Corp.) letting its subsidiary PG&E Co. threaten bankruptcy unless the taxpayers bail it out, and urging people to demand “no more corporate welfare.”

Racial Reconciliation

Asheville helped organize a “race wave” on the university campus, with testimony, dialogue, mini workshops, and theater. They hope to have it serve as a model for other U.S. communities. Santa Cruz cosponsored a talk on “drug wars” (or the “war on drug users”) with its race and class bias. It also helped put on a race rave at the university as a meeting program, with a preview from “Juice,” a multicultural Race Rave planning team of students. The Cape Cod Racism Task Force is working on presentations to Rotary clubs, Council of Churches, and other Cape Cod groups on issues of racism, our different histories, and white privilege. Chapel Hill formed a study group to investigate ways WILPF can develop and support community efforts moving toward racial justice and reconciliation. East Bay had an afternoon of speakers, poetry, music and refreshments with the theme United for Racial Justice. Santa Cruz explored the topic of racism and health at its February meeting.

International Women’s Day

Los Angeles held a luncheon with a panel discussion, “Women and the Growing International Movement Against Globalization.” It, as well as Philadelphia, also participated in the second Global Women’s Strike (a strike opposing no pay for housework, low pay, and overwork), sponsored throughout the U.S. by WILPF U.S. Section. MN Metro’s Arts Committee put on a performance of A War Story — a Hmong immigrant’s odyssey from Laos to Thailand to the U.S., as told by her and illustrated by storyboards held by Women in Black.

Meeting Topics

The morality of the death penalty (Rockaway); “Writing for Social Change: From Letters to Articles and Editorials, Put Your Opinions to Work,” presented by Betty Burkes (Cape Cod); the current health care situation and measures needed to fix it (Palo Alto); immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers and the conflicting functions of the INS: providing service to immigrants and enforcing U.S. immigration laws (Des Moines); “People’s Power in the Philippines,” by Lolita Lledo, board member of the Filipino Workers Center (Los Angeles); Ghana (St. Louis); restorative justice (Des Moines); Cuba (Madison); “The Media and the Past Election” (Los Angeles).

New Ways of Doing Things

Fresno has joined other progressive organizations in publishing a monthly insert in a publication called Labor/Community Alliance. It will have a quarterly newsletter. Minnesota Metro has changed administration from the board to a volunteer administrator and treasurer, and programming to a steering committee. Chapel Hill has changed from a single chairperson to a coordinating committee.
Join your sisters in WILPF to:

- **UNITE** in a worldwide sisterhood of peace and justice;
- **BUILD** a constructive peace through world disarmament;
- **WORK** for the equality of all people in a world free of sexism and racism;
- **CREATE** lasting social change and worldwide peace and justice.

WILPF, one of the world’s oldest, continuously active peace organizations, works in 37 countries, over 100 U.S. communities and on many campuses, and with the United Nations, where it has Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) status.

**Yes! I want to join WILPF to work for peace and freedom.**

Name __________________________________________________________
Address _________________________________________________________
City ________________________ State _____ Zip Code __________________
Phone __________________________  email ___________________________
Branch Name _____________________________________________________

__ New Member  __ Renewal

All dues and contributions are payable to WILPF and are not tax deductible. Make tax deductible contributions of $50 or more to Jane Addams Peace Association Fund.

Mail to: WILPF
1213 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107
For information, call: (215) 563-7110

**Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom**
1213 Race Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107-1691

**Time Value – Do Not Delay**

**Spring Book Issue**

The East Bay/Berkeley Branch donated to several local libraries the six children’s books that won the Jane Addams Children’s Book Awards last fall. Left to right: WILPF member Leonore Veltfort; Vivian Lee, of the Oakland Main Library; and WILPF member Marlene Krohn handing over *Through My Eyes* by Ruby Bridges, and *Molly Banaky* by Alice McGill. WILPF branches all over the U.S. have donated these books to their libraries in recent weeks.