

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM
Portland Branch, 1034 SW 13th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97205-1702
www.wilfpdx.org Georgia Pinkel, convener for July
Continuing officers: Sara Tattam, membership; Anne McLaughlin,
treasurer; Karen James, corresponding secretary
Email: wilfpdx@gmail.com
Co-editors: Celeste Howard, Natasha Beck



July 2013

HEARTS AND HANDS ARE NEEDED FOR WILPF PDX

by Georgia Pinkel

We will be having elections at the annual meeting on July 13, and we still have two open positions: Recording Secretary/Scribe and Co-chair. We are lucky that Anne McLaughlin (Treasurer), Sara Tattam (Membership), and Karen James (Corresponding Secretary/Web Diva) are all willing to continue in their current functions. And so far, the position of President/Convener is likely to be filled by Jill Severson (see page 2), unless others step forward to run. If you are interested in any of these positions, please get in touch with me (glpinkel@gmail.com, 360-241-0528). I will be preparing the meeting and election agenda.

Besides being an officer, there are several other functions that you could help on. Some are being a Portland branch liaison with a particular national WILPF committee or on an international WILPF issue. Generally, this entails being on an e-list, conveying important updates to Portland branch members, and seeking branch input when requested. It would be great if we could have at least one member on the e-list for each of the seven U.S. WILPF committees, writing a brief monthly report about the activities of that national committee. Having such reports at the monthly business meeting and in the newsletter would keep us all better informed. So check out the list of committees in the sidebar, and see if one of them doesn't hold your passion.

WILPF U.S. ISSUE COMMITTEES

Advancing Human Rights/CEDAW
Building the Beloved Community
Corporations vs. Democracy
Cuba and the Bolivarian Alliance
Disarm/End Wars
Earth Democracy
Middle East

[see www.wilpfus.org/our-work]

It would also be nice to share out the other WILPF jobs that can be done "from home." You could be the point person for our e-mail list, or the one who checks our voice mailbox and responds to or passes on messages as appropriate. Someone familiar with social media could create and/or maintain a facebook page or twitter account for the branch, and so on.

It would also be helpful to have an "apprentice-in-training" for each of the main branch functions – convener/President, co-convener/Vice President, Treasurer, Membership chair, Recording secretary/scribe, and newsletter editors. Then we would always have two people knowledgeable enough to carry on the work.

It may not be as interesting and/or exciting as working on an event or campaign, but the bones of administration are necessary to give the group structure and sustainability! See you at the Annual Meeting and Potluck! Directions are below.

The annual meeting of Portland branch WILPF will be at noon on Saturday, July 13, at the home of Sara and Bill Tattam, 4602 SW 55th Place. 12:15 pm, business meeting and election of officers; 1 pm, potluck; bring a dish and your table setting. From SW Beaverton Hillsdale Hwy and 56th Avenue (signal just west of Albertson's/RiteAid), north on 56th, curve right as 56th Avenue becomes Seymour Street, then left on 55th Place. Limited parking, carpool if possible. 503-297-4338.

Please send any requests for sponsorships and other branch actions to wilfpdx@gmail.org. Deadline for the August newsletter is Wednesday, July 31.

Stepping Up: Who am I and what do I want to do with Portland WILPF?

My name is Jill Severson. I joined WILPF again in late November 2012. I had been a member previously probably back in the 90s and in 2005. It will be 25 years, August since I moved to Portland from Wisconsin. Other current involvements are KBOO, the Work That Reconnects (WTR) network and the Zen Community of Oregon.

What I think is most important to know about me in this context is that as I see it Portland WILPF needs either to evolve or become dormant. It is up to us collectively which occurs. I am stepping up as a willing convener for the next year. What I propose is first some one-on-one interviews with current and former active members, allies and friends to help discern their thoughts on what we do *now*, possible changes, and then creating a pool of questions for the greater membership—to be asked either in groups, via postcard survey and/or online survey—to help determine: 1st Whether members want to keep WILPF going and if so, suggestions for changes probably including, gaining new membership, and activating the current membership. It's unclear to how long this discernment process will take (my estimate is 3-6 months), but then we'll experiment with making some changes (another 6 months), and reassess (next year); the length of time will be determined by our process. I plan to start interviewing members soon, if chosen. Anyone feel excited about this process? Feel free to step up!

I will also bring skills in what I call: head, heart, hands and spirit to the convener role. That's going for a balance of: education, human connection, action and connection with nature/spirit. This is part of who I am and it's a non-negotiable part of my leadership offer. So, I plan to convene meetings inclusively, with much self-selection and gratitude.

As I see it, we may also collectively need some skills training—in consensus decision making, for example. What skills might you have to offer the group?

I see my role mostly as a transitional one, unless WILPF members and I agree next year to continue forward for longer. I am not trying to "take over" WILPF. I will lead differently than Georgia has. If you don't want change, maybe it is time to let the local WILPF go dormant. Or someone else might also consider stepping forth as a convener or co-chair. See Georgia's encouragement for a range of possibilities! I hope even if you have not "stepped up" before that you might consider doing so, now. Thanks!

I look forward to meeting members whom I don't already know, seeing those I do know, and getting a better understanding of our interests, goals, and our possible future direction, starting at the annual meeting on July 13th. Hope to meet *you* there!

My email is: jillms@lclark.edu and mobile is: 503-984-8195. Feel free to contact me with concerns, questions or encouragement!

Warmly, Jill

ROSALIE RIEGEL'S MAY 1 TALK IS ON VIDEO!

When Rosalie Riegel spoke on May 1 at First Unitarian, P.C. Peri from the Flying Focus Video Collective taped her talk, "Putting It All on the Line for Peace!" Barb Greene edited the tape, and it is airing in two episodes on the "Flying Focus Video Bus" weekly series.

Rosalie is an oral historian whose 3 books tell stories based on her interviews with homeless women and with intrepid peace activists. These are stories you won't find on mainstream television. Part 1 of the Flying Focus series has already aired, and Part 2 airs in *very early July*. See the Calendar pages for times and channels.

DVD (or VHS) copies of the show will be available in mid-August for a suggested donation of \$11 plus \$4 postage. Order by voicemail at 503-321-5051 or by email, ffvc@flyingfocus.org. Supporting donations are always welcome at www.flyingfocus.org.

JOIN or RENEW YOUR NATIONAL WILPF MEMBERSHIP, SUPPORT PORTLAND BRANCH

Name: _____ New Member: Renewal:

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip+4: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Membership includes International, US Section, and Portland Branch (including emailed branch newsletter)

National membership annual dues, sliding scale, \$15 to \$150: \$ _____

Contribution to support Portland WILPF activities*, including emailed branch newsletter: \$ _____

Contribution for receiving hard copy newsletter: \$ _____

Other _____: \$ _____

TOTAL Enclosed: \$ _____

Mail form & check, payable to WILPF, to Portland WILPF, 1034 SW 13th Ave, Portland 97205-1702

*Each year, Portland WILPF sends you a special mailing to request your donations to support our local office and branch activities. In past years we've sent it in early spring. This year, look for it in your snail mail during summer. We hope you will respond generously as always. (FYI: When you send your membership renewal – see form above – the entire dues amount goes to WILPF National; they send us just \$1 per renewal. It is your non-dues donations to our branch that support all our local work.)

PUBLIC HEARING ON COLUMBIA RIVER COAL EXPORT PERMITS

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) regulates businesses and industry in order to ensure that projects meet applicable environmental laws. Ambre Energy, an Australian company, has applied for air quality, storm water, and water quality permits for its Morrow-Pacific coal export project (<http://www.oregon.gov/DEQ/Pages/CoalExport.aspx>). The DEQ will hold public hearings on these permits from 8 am to 8 pm on **Saturday, July 9**, at the Oregon Convention Center.

Testimony will go forward simultaneously in two rooms, C120 and C125, so that everyone wishing to testify can be heard. Sign up ASAP (several Portland time slots are already full) at <http://ordeqpublichearing.eventbrite.com/#>. You can find information and talking points at <http://columbiariverkeeper.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/2013.6.14-FINAL-Tell-DEQ-to-Deny-Coal-Export.pdf>. Through Friday, July 12, DEQ is also receiving email comments at <http://www.oregon.gov/deq/Pages/CoalExportComments.aspx>

LET'S GET EVERYONE INFORMED ABOUT FRACKING!

In his June 25 speech, President Obama called natural gas “the transition fuel that can power our economy with less carbon pollution.” Josh Fox, with his documentary *Gasland II* premiering July 8, replied the next day in an article headlined “Fracked Gas Isn't a BridgeFuel—It's a Gangplank!” (<http://www.commondreams.org/view/2013/06/26-6>) Fox fears that all the good done by Obama's reductions in CO₂ from power plants will be undone by his embrace of fracked gas. “It's clear that he does not have the right information on fracked gas,” wrote Fox.

At www.hbo.com you can read the synopsis of *Gasland II* and learn why fracking can never be done safely and how our energy needs can be filled without unearthing any more fossil fuels. And while you're accessing that Josh Fox article on www.commondreams.org, don't overlook another article the website picked up from *The Guardian/UK* on the same day: Nafeez Ahmed, “Obama's Fracked-Up Climate Strategy Will Guarantee Global Warming Disaster: Fatally flawed energy policies and inadequate emissions pledges cannot prevent dangerous climate change.” Both these articles offer a great deal of insight into fracking.

WILPF eAction

Call to Action for a Nuclear Free Future in Our Lifetimes

by Ellen Thomas and Carol Urner, Co-Chairs of DISARM/End Wars Issue
Committee

Send a letter to
your
Representative
[here!](#)



For the first time we have a bill in Congress calling for a nuclear free future by 2020—a short time frame within most of our own lifetimes.

HELP WILPF LOBBY FOR NUCLEAR-FREE FUTURE BILL HR-1650:

["Nuclear Weapons Abolition and Economic and Energy Conversion Act of 2013."](#)

Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton calls for nuclear weapons abolition by 2020 and for replacing nuclear power with truly green energy. Send your own Representative an email today [urging co-sponsorship of HR 1650](#).

- [HELP SUPPORT THE US CONVENTION OF MAYORS'](#) similar calls seeking abolition of nuclear weapons by 2020.
- [HELP HOLD PRESIDENT OBAMA TO HIS PRAGUE PROMISE](#), not centuries hence, but in our lifetimes.

In the WILPF DISARM/End Wars committee we believe the need for Nuclear Weapons Abolition and closing down of the whole nuclear chain is urgent.

WILPF members are working in clusters to abolish nuclear weapons, shut down nuclear power, ban depleted uranium, stop production or nuclear waste and end uranium mining including on Native American lands. Of course our overall goal, like that of the United Nations, is general and complete disarmament and an end to war, as well as work on other disarmament issues and ending and preventing wars. However, we believe abolition of nuclear weapons is a necessary first step.

JOIN US IN TAKING FIRST STEPS FOR LIFE AND A NUCLEAR FREE FUTURE
(contact et@prop1.org)

Image: Photo courtesy of Ellen Thomas. L to R Coralie Farlee (WILPF DC coordinator), Pamela Moffat (WILPF DC member), Ellen Barfield (WILPF at-large, Baltimore), Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (Delegate, Washington, DC) Ellen Thomas (WILPF at-large, Tryon NC), in front Carol Urner. Portland OR Branch).

REFLECTIONS ON MOANA NUI 2013

In 2011 a conference of indigenous peoples from Pacific Rim cultures gathered in Honolulu, Hawaii, while APEC (Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation) was holding its Summit meeting there. It was called Moana Nui ('Great Ocean') and the assembly put forth a statement (<http://www.change.org/petitions/moana-nui-2011-statement>) which we are all invited to sign. This year they brought their message directly to the North American continent in Berkeley, California, May 31-June 2, at Moana Nui II. Sheila Goldner is writing about it for Peace and Justice; most of the quotations here are from an early draft of her article.

"The first panel on Saturday was a traditional welcome, starting with Corrina Gould, an Ohlone Native American who is a coordinator for the American Indian Child Resource Center's Office of Indian Education. She offered a Native American prayer. Jerry Mander, the Founder, Distinguished Fellow, and Director of the Asia-Pacific Program for the IFG (International Forum on Globalization), . . . described a current policy of the Obama Administration as the 'Pacific Pivot,' redirecting the United States' focus [from] Europe to Pacific Island nations, targeting China. . . . Jon Osorio, Professor of Hawaiian Studies at the University of Hawai'i, . . . described the Pacific Islanders movement as being fired by people living in poverty who are committed to maintaining their indigenous roots, which will involve a long struggle. He pointed out that people who are comfortable have no interest in changing the status quo. He said that the United Nations' Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People will take decades to implement."

"Currently, the Pacific Islanders who came to Moana Nui II are grappling with (the reality of global warming)." As Annie Leonard (The Story of Stuff) told us North Americans, they are also dealing with our habit of taking from them whatever we want (natural resources) and dumping on them whatever we don't want, such as pesticides. However, she said, our most



hazardous export is "consumerism as a way of establishing meaning and identity."

"At Moana Nui II, one of the speakers was Jim Shultz of The Democracy Center in Bolivia. I had known about the dispute between Bechtel and Bolivia for a while. Bechtel went into Cochabamba and privatized the water, including jacking up the rates immensely. The people in Bolivia went on strike, Bolivia kicked Bechtel out, and Bechtel sued Bolivia. Eventually, they settled the case." Bechtel had sued Bolivia under a provision in international

trade treaties that grants investors the right to initiate dispute settlement proceedings against foreign governments when they are unable to obtain all the profits they expected to realize from their investment. Schultz emphasized that trade agreements like NAFTA and the TransPacific Partnership (TPP) are never in the best interest of indigenous nations.

Arthur Stamoulis, head of Citizens Trade Campaign (www.citizenstrade.org), pointed out that cross-border people's movements have a long history of stopping power grabs. He described the TPP as a corporate counter-attack, a kind of "end-run around the people's movement victory at Seattle in 1999." In selecting TPP participants, he said, the U.S. has "cherry-picked" 12 nations that will cooperate with its agenda and that constitute 40% of the global economy. Stamoulis said the TPP will undercut wages and worker power worldwide, accelerating the global "race to the bottom." It will give Big Pharma longer patents and new tools to increase healthcare costs. It will also give corporations new tools to undermine the victories of the environmental movement.

"To summarize, the United States is continuing its pattern of utilizing the planet for its needs, even though it only has five percent of the global population. With the mainstream media focusing on the wars in the Middle East, and the Obama Administration doing its best to avoid exposure of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (which will give it even more legal grounds for domination), the struggles of Pacific Islanders don't get much attention. They need it – and their survival is at stake."

July 2013 WILPF Calendar

VIGILS

- * **Wednesdays, 6:30 pm** SW 5th & Hall, Beaverton. **Washington County Peace Vigil**
- * **Fridays, 4 pm** SW First and Madison on Hawthorne Bridge. **Weekly Anti-War Protest** lonevet2008@comcast.net
- * **Fridays, 5 to 6 pm** Pioneer Courthouse Square, SW Yamhill and Broadway. **Portland Peaceful Response Coalition**
- * **Saturdays, noon to 1 pm** McLoughlin and Oak Grove Blvd., Milwaukie, Oregon. **Oak Grove Peace Vigil**

EVENTS

[see www.Trimet.org to find public transportation to all these locations]

Monday 1 July, 6 pm: Jobs with Justice Membership Meeting

6025 E Burnside Street, following the 5:30 Steering Committee Meeting. www.jwjpx.org

Monday 1 July, 7-9 pm: Fast Food Strikes – A Community Report-Back from Seattle

At the Red & Black Café, 400 SE 12th Avenue. Presentation by one of the striking workers, along with representatives of Portland IWW and We Are Oregon.

Tuesday 2 July, 12:30 am: Rosalie Riegel talk recorded on 5/1/13, “Putting It All on the Line for Peace,” Part 2

Airing on Comcast Channel 22. Repeats on Wednesday 3 July, 11 pm, on Comcast Channel 23, and Friday 5 July, 9:30 pm, on Channel 11, Cable Access Network, Portland. See July newsletter page 3 for more information about Rosalie.

Tuesday 2 July, 7-9 pm: “Lunch,” An Interactive Play

At Milepost 8, 850 NE 81st Avenue. Final performance of a play about a homeless woman. At the end, audience members will be invited to stop the play's action and get on stage to try to change the outcome. Created and developed by NE 82nd Avenue residents.

Friday 4 July, 6-8 pm: “Interdependence Day” Summer Celebration Picnic

Laurelhurst Park, picnic area F on the north side of the park, by the Ankeny stairs; look for prayer flags. Bring your place setting and a potluck dish (vegetarian or vegan dishes are welcome), and gather up all the instruments you can muster! Everyone is welcome. Betsy Toll, bt@livingearthgatherings.org.

Monday 8 July, 9 pm: HBO Docs Summer Series 2013, “Gasland Part II”

HBO channel. <http://www.hbo.com/documentaries/index.html#/documentaries/gasland-part-ii/synopsis.html>

Tuesday 9 July, 5:30 pm: Rally to “Power Past Coal in Oregon”

In front of Oregon Convention Center, 777 NE Martin Luther King Jr Blvd. DEQ public hearings on the air quality, storm water and water quality permits for the Morrow-Pacific coal export project started at 8 am and will still be in progress during the 5:30 pm rally. See page 3 in the July newsletter, if you want to testify or email your comments to DEQ.

Tuesday 9 July, 7 pm (doors open 6 pm): Race Talks: Cross-Cultural Communication

McMenamins Kennedy School Gymnasium, 5736 NE 33rd Avenue. Monthly dialogues on race in Oregon, both historically and up to the present time. Free; food available for purchase. Minors welcome with parent or guardian.

Wednesdays 10, 17, 24, 31 July, 5:30-8:30 pm: Ecotrust Outdoor Concert Series and Innovation Showcase.

Each Wednesday at Ecotrust Natural Capital Center, 721 NW 9th Avenue. Free and open to the public; free bike valet for cyclists. July 10 focus: Protecting WATER. Find schedule of weekly topics at www.ecotrust.org/events/sundown.

Friday 12 July, all day: Occupy Mt. Tabor (Save Our Reservoirs)

Mt. Tabor Reservoir in Mt. Tabor Park. “The reservoirs will be under occupation/guardianship of, by, and for the people.” Visit www.bullrunwaiver.org for more information; this site is run by a working group of citizens supporting healthy and affordable Bull Run drinking water.

Friday 12 July, 1 pm: Mark Levine, "From the Revolution to the Grind: Music and Politics in the Arab Uprisings"

Smith Memorial Student Union, 1875 SW Broadway, Room 338. Professor of history at UC Irvine explores the years in which musical subcultures developed into countercultures and ultimately revolutionary cultures, providing aesthetic background to the protests and revolts. PSU Middle East Studies Center's 2013 Summer Lecture Series.

Saturday 13 July, noon: Portland WILPF Potluck Picnic and Annual Meeting

At the home of Sara and Bill Tattam, 4602 SW 55th Place. 12:15 pm business meeting & election of officers; 1 pm potluck. Bring a potluck dish and your table setting; beverages provided. From SW Beaverton Hillsdale Hwy and 56th Avenue (signal just west of Albertson's/RiteAid), north on 56th, curve right as 56th becomes Seymour Street, then left on 55th Place. Limited parking, carpool if possible. 503-297-4338.

Sunday 14 July, 3 pm: Special Theatrical Performance, "Go, Granny D! Never too old to raise a little hell"

Eliot Chapel, First Unitarian Church, SW 10th & Salmon. Based on the true story of Doris "Granny D" Haddock who walked across America in 2000 at age 90 to bring attention to **campaign finance reform**. Presented by LWV, suggested donation \$5-\$20 (no one turned away). 503-228-1675 or info@lwvpdx.org.

Wednesday 17 July, 7-9 pm: Bill McKibben, "PNW Against Fossil Fuel Exports"

Vancouver WA, Geiser Hall, Clark College. <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/4404724650> for tickets. Part of the lead up to the Summer Heat—Columbia River Climate Action on July 27. More information at <http://joinsummerheat.org/pdx/>

Saturday 27 July, beginning at 10:30 am: Summer Heat—Columbia River Climate Action

Vancouver WA, Vancouver Landing (west of 100 Columbia Street, next to Red Lion Hotel on west side of I-5 bridge). A fun day for people of many backgrounds to come together and stand up for a fossil-fuel free Northwest. Workshops at 10:30, speeches at 12:30, River Action at 1:30, "a peaceful, colorful community demonstration on the banks and waters of the iconic Columbia River." www.portlandrisingtide.org

Sunday 28 July, 10am–noon: JMJ Trio Sings Labor, Women, & Malvina Reynolds ditties

Anna Bannanas, 2403 NE Alberta. Jane Keefer, Mary Rose & Jim Cook perform here on the fourth Sunday of every month. Food available for purchase. Phone 503-274-2559.

Sunday 28 July, 6-8 pm: "Talking With Enemies: How Else Can You Ever Make Peace?"

First Unitarian Church, Buchan Reception Room. Folksinger Tom Neilson joins Barbara Taft, long-time peace activist, for this entertaining evening focusing on peace and justice. Tom's award-winning songs show the power of folk music to effect change. Barbara has been in Israel and Palestine for the U.S.WILPF Middle East Committee. Suggested donation \$5-\$20.

Tuesday 6 August, 6–7 pm: Hiroshima, Nagasaki, & Hanford: A Tragic Connection

Japanese American Historical Plaza, north end of Waterfront Park, Naito Parkway at Couch St. Exploring Hanford's connection to the bombing of Nagasaki and highlighting the lethal cycle of nuclear weapons from production to actual use. Concluding with a 3-block walk to see two special art exhibitions on the 1945 bombings, at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 121 NW 2nd Ave. <http://www.psr.org/chapters/oregon/events/hiroshima-nagasaki-and.html>