

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

Portland Branch, 1034 SW 13th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97205-1702

www.wilfpdx.org

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October 2013

VIDEO OF KATHLEEN DEAN MOORE'S TALK ON SEPTEMBER 21

Advertised by the title "If Your House Is On Fire," Kathleen Dean Moore's talk on our moral responsibility to halt climate change was videorecorded by Jim Lockhart. You can access the 44-minute video at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6lRbqKY0crY&feature=youtu.be>

NO MORE AFGHANISTANS - THE COST OF ENDLESS WAR

It has been 12 years since 9/11 and the US invasion of Afghanistan, but U.S. airstrikes, drone strikes, night raids, and firefights continue to kill both Afghan militants and civilians. The Afghan government has delayed signing an agreement with the United States about how many, if any, US troops will remain in the country after the end of 2014. The US is building smaller "diplomatic outposts" in Afghanistan for the thousands of contractors, diplomats and troops that remain. As 2014 ends, "Operation Enduring Freedom" will become "Operation Resolute Support." <http://tolonews.com/en/afghanistan/11859-us-troops-expected-to-stay-afghanistan-post-2014>.

At 5 pm on Friday, October 4, Peace & Justice Works Iraq Affinity group is joining the PPRC (Portland Peaceful Response Coalition) for its weekly rally at the SW Broadway & Yamhill corner of Pioneer Courthouse Square. This rally and march will commemorate the October 7, 2001, invasion of Afghanistan, proclaiming "No More Afghanists! Bring All the Troops and 'Contractors' Home!"

At 7 pm on Saturday, October 5, discussion of "No More Afghanists" continues with a forum on "The Cost of Endless War" at Fuller Hall in First Unitarian Church (SW 12th Ave & Main). With KBOO's Jenka Soderberg as host, panel members will talk on the economic impact of endless war (Marty Hart-Landsberg); veterans' issues and suicides (Ian Lavalee); drone warfare (Trudy Cooper); and war's impact on women and children (Carol Urner).

This informative forum is expected to feature a real-time Skype discussion with Afghan Peace Volunteers in Kabul.

Request for Feedback from Portland WILPF Members

As you can see below, the meeting time for the October business meeting has been set for early afternoon instead of late morning. Please let us know how this suits you. We'd like to have more members participating. Send your feedback to wilfpdx@gmail.com.

The next business meeting of the Portland branch of WILPF will be on Saturday, October 19, from 1 to 3 pm (brown bag lunch at noon) at the First Unitarian Church, SW 12th Avenue and Salmon, room A-301. For the November newsletter, submit articles by October 22, calendar items by October 25. All material may be edited for clarity, style, and space considerations.

LET'S KEEP SPACE FOR PEACE, NOT ENDLESS WAR!

October 5 to 12 is Keep Space for Peace Week, coordinated annually by Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space (www.space4peace.org). National WILPF and Portland WILPF have participated in the week every year since its inception in 2001.

This year we expect many WILPF branches to emphasize drone assassinations as evidence of the increasing insanity of "modern" warfare. WILPF-US is also exploring the illegality of US drone attacks in countries with which we are not at war, with Palestine as a primary example.

- **October 2: First meeting of a new drone group** organized by WILPF member David Delk, president of Alliance for Democracy. HB 2710, passed in the 2013 session of the Oregon legislature, seeks to regulate drone use by public agencies but lacks any rules regarding drone use by private individuals and businesses. The group will focus on safety and privacy in new drone legislation. Contact David (davidafd@ymail.com) if you are interested in attending; meetings will be at 7 pm on the first Wednesday of each month.
- **October 5: Carol Urner will speak on the effect of war and occupation** on women and children in Afghanistan. This talk is part of the 7-9 pm forum on "No More Afghanistans—The Cost of Endless War," held at the First Unitarian Church (see Calendar). US militarization of space has been essential for the waging of endless war in Afghanistan. During the week Carol will also talk about demilitarizing space and abolishing nuclear weapons to the *Wanderers* (scientists and engineers who meet in the Pauling House) and the *Thirsters* (mostly academics who are former ex pats and foreign policy wonks).

Keep informed about the military use of space by visiting <http://www.space4peace.org>.

HISTORY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ORGANIZING — PROGRAM

The October program from the History of Social Justice Organizing in Portland will be led by four outstanding activists from the LGBT (Lesbian/Gay/Bi/Trans) movement.

- Pat Young worked to get health benefits extended to gay employees at Tektronix and to defeat anti-gay Measure 9. In her research on local gay history, she has found out about many ordinary people who took extraordinary actions to advance the cause of gay rights. She now teaches the LGBTQ History Capstone class at PSU.
- Susie Shepherd, Oregon's first paid female gay activist, worked with the Portland Town Council 1975-1978. Her parents, Bill & Ann Shepherd, co-founded Portland PFLAG in 1976. The whole LGBT community felt included in an extended Shepherd family.
- Cliff Jones co-founded Black Lesbians and Gays United in the mid-'80s. He was the first staff member of color at Cascade AIDS Project in the late '80s, co-founded Brother to Brother in the early '90s, and was its first Executive Director in the early 2000s.
- Steve Fulmer was a gay activist in Portland throughout the '70s, '80s and '90s. He held leadership positions in PSU Gay and Lesbian Alliance, Second Foundation, Portland Gay Men's Chorus, Cascade AIDS Project, Right to Privacy PAC, Equity Foundation and Portland Schools' Sexual Minority Task Force.

George T. Nicola, who came out through the fledgling Portland Gay Liberation Front in 1970, will also be present. In 1972, he wrote the historic gay civil rights plank that was adopted by the Democratic Party of Oregon. Then he wrote and lobbied in 1973 for Oregon's first gay civil rights bill. Now retired, he is chronicling the movement's history.

The program is **Thursday, October 24, 7 to 8:30 pm** in the 2nd floor Gallery, Urban Affairs Building at Portland State University, 506 SW Mill. Free as usual. (*Sandy Polishuk*)

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 the fall. 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.)

A SMART MOVE TOWARD NUCLEAR ABOLITION: THE SANE ACT

HR 1506, the Smarter Approach to Nuclear Expenditures Act, was introduced last April by Rep. Ed Markey of Massachusetts, before he was elected to take John Kerry's seat in the Senate. The SANE Act is intended "to reduce the number of nuclear-armed submarines operated by the Navy, to prohibit the development of a new long-range penetrating bomber aircraft, to reduce the number of intercontinental ballistic missiles operated by the Department of Defense." See www.thomas.gov for details and text.

When Markey left the House of Representatives in June, he asked Rep. Earl Blumenauer to take over the campaign to pass HR 1506, which now has 41 co-sponsors including Blumenauer, Bonamici, and DeFazio. Blumenauer wants us to win over Schrader and Walden and other House members. He would also like our Oregon coalition to join in organizing a January forum on nuclear weapons and the SANE Act.

Another smart move is Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton's **HR 1650, the Nuclear Weapons Abolition and Economic & Energy Conversion Act of 2013**, which calls for nuclear weapons abolition by 2020 and for replacing nuclear power with truly green energy. Remember that the US Convention of Mayors also calls for abolition of nuclear weapons by 2020. *We need to walk every non-violent path to abolition that we can find.* The earth and its great variety of life forms are all at risk from the entire nuclear industry, not just from the bombs. The cause is urgent, and the SANE act gives us in Oregon a special opportunity to resist the present nuclear insanity and its threat to life on our planet. (Carol Urner)

DON'T 'FAST TRACK' THE TRANSPACIFIC PARTNERSHIP (TPP)!

According to one organizer of the Occupy Wall Street movement's two-year anniversary actions, it was relatively easy to agree to focus on the TPP and the economic model it embodies. "The TPP has been described as the anti-Occupy bill," says Adam Weissman, a member of the Occupy Wall Street Trade Justice working group. "If you can find an issue that Occupy is working on, the TPP is going to undermine that work. It really is a 1% power grab," Weissman adds. (from <http://www.zcommunications.org/a-corporate-coup-of-a-different-order-the-growing-resistance-to-the-trans-pacific-partnership-by-arthur-phillip>)

SEPTEMBER COAL EXPORT HEARING AT LONGVIEW

by Jane Morgan

On Tuesday afternoon, September 17, the Sierra Club sent two bus loads of Portlanders to give testimony opposing the Millennium Bulk Terminal Longview proposal. Newspapers reported that 2,000 turned out for the **scoping hearing**, arranged by Washington's Department of Ecology and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in order to gather public comments that will determine the scope of their Environmental Impact Study.

Each of us received a numbered ticket. As our numbers were drawn, we had 2 minutes at the microphone for comments. We heard from about 70 people before the hearing closed at 8 pm. Although about half those present were from the Longview area, opponents of the proposal outnumbered proponents 3 to 1. Here's a sample:

- Longview residents and neighbors from the Oregon side of the river worry about traffic delays caused by 12 trains a day, each a mile and a half long.
- Health problems from coal dust worry Longview nurses, physicians, and teachers.
- A rancher from Montana told us of opposition there to the prospect of coal-mining and railroad-building on range land; *stopping coal export at Longview* is huge for them.
- Persons worried about climate stressed our moral responsibility to avoid promoting the use of coal anywhere.
- Fishers and river guides told us how dust from coal trains will degrade the Gorge.
- A Lummi tribal member reminded us, "Remember the seventh generation."
- Leaders of the International Longshore Workers Union (ILWU) look forward to the jobs promised by the Millennium Bulk Terminal Longview (MBTL) enterprise.

We were back on our buses by 8:20 and at Lloyd Center in an hour, exhilarated by the day!

OCTOBER 9 COAL EXPORT HEARING NEAR VANCOUVER

The hearing at Longview was only the first of five scoping hearings on the Millennium Bulk Terminal Longview proposal. The hearing closest to Portland is still ahead. It happens on **Wednesday, October 9**, at Clark County Fairgrounds north of Vancouver, off I-5. The building will be open from 1 to 4 before a rally at 4, then the hearing follows from 5 to 8 pm.

At the hearing you can give oral testimony, submit written comments, or simply wear red to show your opposition to coal export in our region. Absolutely everyone needs to comment, whether you can attend a hearing or not. By email: comments@millenniumbulkeiswa.gov. See <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/geographic/millennium/> for the longer mailing address.

With scoping, the public's comments guide the study of a terminal proposal. This includes coal extraction in the Powder River Basin, shipment through our region and at sea, and atmospheric effects from coal-fired electrical plants in Asia. People everywhere, not just Washingtonians, are encouraged to comment and may do so as often as they wish during the 90-day comment period which ends November 18.

Because thousands of people showed their concern for the other Washington coal proposal, the Gateway Pacific Project near Bellingham, that project has been delayed for at least two years while the agencies study the extensive impacts described during the scoping process. With enough public involvement, we can get similar results for the Longview Terminal.

There is no limit on the number of comments you can submit. All comments submitted by November 18 will be examined.

October 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** lonvet2008@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 Blvds., Milwaukie, Oregon. **Oak Grove Peace Vigil**

EVENTS

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

Wednesday 2 October, 7:30 pm: Documentary "American Winter" & discussion

Hollywood Theater, 4122 NE Sandy Blvd, doors open 6:45. Chuck Sheketoff, executive director of Oregon Center for Public Policy (OCPP), will begin the after-screening discussion. \$5; call 503-281-4215 for advance tickets.

Friday 4 October, 5 pm: Afghanistan 12 Years Later—Bring All the Troops and 'Contractors' Home!

Pioneer Courthouse Square, SW Yamhill & Broadway. Rally and march marking 12 years since the invasion and occupation. Sponsored by Portland Peaceful Response Coalition and Peace & Justice Works Iraq Affinity Group. For more info, see page 1.

Friday 4 October, 7-9 pm: Documentary, "Occupy, A Love Story"

First Unitarian Church, SW 12th Ave & Main. Film showing how the Occupy movement is a love story that is still unfolding. <http://occupylove.org/>

Saturday 5 October, 9 am-4:30: Civil Disobedience Training for Signers of "NoKXL Pledge of Resistance" [KXL = Keystone XL Pipeline]

To participate, visit <http://nokxl.org> and make your pledge. Then you'll be sent information about the training and its location; or call 503-705-1943.

Saturday 5 October, 7-11 PM: In Other Words' 20th Birthday Celebration

Vendetta Bar, 4306 N. Williams (a few blocks from In Other Words at 14 NE Killingsworth). Celebrate 20 years of Portland's non-profit feminist bookstore, lending library, and community center. Free; food, wine, raffle baskets, silent auction. 21 and up. www.inotherwords.org

Saturday 5 October, 7 pm: Forum, "No More Afghanistans! The Cost of Endless War"

First Unitarian Church, Fuller Hall, SW 12th and Main. A forum marking 12 years since the invasion and occupation. For program details, see page 1.

Saturday 5 October, 8 pm: Documentary, "In the Wrong Body" (Cuba)

Sisters of the Road Café, 133 NW 6th Avenue (97209). The story of Mavi Susel, who underwent the first gender reassignment operation in Cuba in 1988. For further information, call Lucilene Lira, 503-753-3775.

Tuesday 8 October, 7 pm (doors open at 6 pm): Race Talks

McMenamins Kennedy School Gym, 5736 NE 33rd Avenue. This event in the series of monthly dialogues on race in Oregon will be a Get Acquainted Social and Auction. All ages are welcome. Free; food available for purchase.

Wednesday 9 October, 12 pm: Ramesh Sagili (OSU), "Bees on the Brink"

World Affairs Council, 1200 SW Park Avenue. Sagili runs OSU's Honey Bee Lab. He will address 'colony collapse' and what it means for global ecology and food production, with tips for home gardeners. \$10; register at www.worldoregon.org.

Wednesday 9 October 4-8 pm: Vancouver Scoping Hearing on Longview Coal Export

Clark County Event Center at the Fairgrounds, 17402 NE Delfel Rd, Ridgeville WA (98642). Doors open 1 to 4, hearing starts at 5. Visit www.powerpastcoal.org, and see page 4 articles on the September scoping hearing at Longview and the upcoming Vancouver one.

Saturday 12 October, 5:30-9:30 pm: Zimbabwe Artists Project 14th Anniversary Celebration and FUNdraiser

Olympic Mills Commerce Center, 107 SE Washington, first floor. Delicious Zimbabwean dinner, live music, complimentary beverages, silent auction for great deals. For tickets, call 503-232-7057 or visit www.zimbabweartistsproject.org.

Wednesday 16 October, 5:30 pm: Banquet in Support of Death Penalty Abolition

First United Methodist Church, SW18th Ave & Jefferson. Reception precedes dinner. Tickets \$40; see Oregonians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty (<http://www.oadp.org/>) for info.

Thursday 24 October, 7-8:30 pm: History of Social Justice Panel on LGBT Movement

PSU Urban Affairs Bldg, 506 SW Mill, second floor gallery. Panel members: Pat Young, Susie Shepherd, Cliff Jones, Steve Fulmer. Free; more details in article on page 2.

Sunday 27 October, 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.

Saturday/Sunday 2/3 November, 9-5: Weekend Workshop, "We the People Are More Powerful Than We Dare to Believe: First Steps in Dismantling Corporate Rule"

Location TBA. Paul Cienfuegos leads this Portland community rights workshop. Pre-register to get a spot; full registration fee is refundable till October 25. www.communityrightspdx.com, <http://paulcienfuegos.com/node/91>.

Wednesday 6 November, 7 pm: Jared Diamond, "The World Until Yesterday"

Newmark Theater, 1111 SW Broadway. Sponsored by Powell's Books. Diamond explores what we can learn from the way that traditional peoples approach universal problems. Buy tickets at www.portland5.com.

Sunday 10 November, 6:30 pm: Documentary, "A Fierce Green Fire: The Battle for a Living Planet"

First Unitarian Church, SW 12th and Salmon. Director Mark Kitchell will join in discussion after the screening. Donation \$5-\$20; no one turned away. For more information on the film, see <http://afiercegreenfire.com/index.html>.