

## WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

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

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## July 2015

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### PARTICIPATING IN THE WILPF 100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY SUMMER!

#### What you can do:

- ❖ Come to **WILPF's free film series** on July 7, July 21, and August 5 and be prepared to join us for snacks & discussion. Contact Brandy Robinson ([brandygrobinson@gmail.com](mailto:brandygrobinson@gmail.com)) to ask questions, and see the calendar pages for film titles with links for more information.
- ❖ Contact Jean Fitzgerald ([walktours2@aol.com](mailto:walktours2@aol.com)) to help organize the parade that begins our **Portland WILPF 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration** on September 26, starting at 11:30 from the PSU Walk of the Heroines, pausing at the Peace Monument, and arriving about 1 pm at 1<sup>st</sup> Unitarian. Create flags and banners, give transportation to non-walkers.
- ❖ Contact Barbara Drageaux (503-239-4204, [bjdrgx@aracnet.com](mailto:bjdrgx@aracnet.com)) to help decorate the venue between noon and 1 pm, getting round tables ready to seat friends for music (Raging Grannies, Beyond Little Boxes), food and beverages, talks by WILPF's national president Mary Hansen Harrison and Portland's own Carol Urner, and ingenious depictions/displays of local WILPF history. Volunteer by calling Barbara.
- ❖ Contact Mary Rose (503-230-2835) to help enlarge the invitation list by confirming your own mailing address (if you are receiving email newsletters) and suggesting other peace-and-justice-minded people and organizations to invite.
- ❖ Join us at the July anniversary event planning meeting on Saturday 18 July, 3 pm, at Barbara's home, 708 SE 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

### WILPF STATEMENT on the MAY 24 KOREAN DMZ PEACE WALK

*by Kozue Akibayashi, WILPF International President*

**"Unending war has become an expected way of life** between North and South Korea. The international community has, too often, ignored human rights, peace, and security in the region, and instead primarily attends to the region's economic situation. Scant attention is paid to the fact that North and South Korea are yet to sign a peace treaty for the war waged over 50 years ago on the Peninsula in which millions of people were killed. This perpetuates the division of people who have suffered the effects of brutal Japanese colonial rule in the early 1900s and the succeeding aggression by Japan and occupation by the United States. Even to this day, millions of families are separated by the 38th parallel north."

*Thirty PeaceWomen, including Kozue and two Nobel Laureates, crossed the Korean Demilitarized Zone on International Peace and Disarmament Day, 24 May 2015.*

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**No regular business meeting on the second Saturday of July. Portland WILPF's annual meeting and potluck picnic will begin at 10 am that day, Saturday, July 11, at the home of Sara and Bill Tattam. See Calendar for directions and other details. Deadlines: For the August newsletter, Monday, July 22; for the July calendar, Monday, July 29. Send all items for publication to [wilfpdx@gmail.com](mailto:wilfpdx@gmail.com).**

## IT IS TIME TO ABOLISH NUCLEAR WEAPONS: SUPPORT HR 1976

by Carol Urner and Ellen Thomas, co-chairs of Disarm/End Wars

"I think that people want peace so much that one of these days governments had better get out of the way and let them have it." -- *President Dwight D. Eisenhower (8/31/59)*

**We in Portland WILPF Branch** are being asked to solicit members of our Washington delegation as co-sponsors for US House Bill HR 1976, the *Nuclear Weapons Abolition and Economic and Energy Conversion Act of 2015*. <http://prop1.org/prop1/HR1976.htm>. We have copies of the Dear Colleague letter <http://prop1.org/prop1/HR1976.dear.colleague.2015.pdf> to give our own Congresspersons as we request their co-sponsorship. We are strongly encouraged to meet with them personally, or at least to visit with local staff about this bill, introduced by Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton on April 22. See <http://norton.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/on-earth-day-norton-introduces-nuclear-disarmament-bill>.

This request comes from WILPF's **national Disarm/End Wars Issue Committee**.

For the history of HR 1976 and its origins, see <http://prop1.org/history/histlv.htm>. The first version was introduced in 1994 and grew out of a local citizen initiative in Washington D.C. The WILPF Branch supported the initiative, but the major media and many in the Washington D.C. elite belittled and opposed it. Despite all this opposition, the initiative passed.

It had developed in a vigil in front of the White House that was launched in 1981 and still continues. Begun by William Thomas, a philosopher with extraordinary vision (<http://prop1.org/thomas.htm>), the 24-hour vigil has impacted millions of people over the past 34 years. *Al Jazeera's* award-winning program, *The Oracles of Pennsylvania Avenue* ([www.aljazeera.com/programmes/aljazeeraworld/2012/04/201241014447274464.html](http://www.aljazeera.com/programmes/aljazeeraworld/2012/04/201241014447274464.html)), was broadcast in 2012, and in 2013 the *Washington Post Magazine* ran a full length feature on the vigil's continuing witness. Thomas's wife, Ellen, joined the vigil in 1984. In 1993 Ellen and William and dozens of others launched D.C. Initiative 37, in 2000 Ellen helped create and manage the D.C. Peace House, and in 2006 she became a member of WILPF and joined the *Disarm/End Wars Issue Committee* in 2006. (<http://prop1.org/ellen.htm>)

In 2009, William Thomas died. By that time Disarm/End Wars Committee had adopted the bill as its own. Grieving, but determined, Ellen toured the United States in 2009 and 2010, visiting key nuclear sites and WILPF branches, sharing with anyone who would listen the story of the vigil still going on in D.C., and asking people to bring nuclear weapons abolition to the local voters in initiatives or referenda if their congresspeople failed to co-sponsor the bill in Congress. In St. Louis, people took this idea seriously and ran impressive voter initiative campaigns against the new nuclear weapons factory. Unfortunately, they lost, but as in D.C., it was a wonderful way to organize and educate.

WILPF policies for action develop among the Branches and may then become official at a triennial international WILPF conference. Prohibiting the production of nuclear weapons and destroying all existing stockpiles became WILPF official policy at the 1949 Congress in Copenhagen, and it has been a priority disarmament issue ever since. It is featured prominently in WILPF's Centennial Manifesto and in our international priorities for the next three years. (<http://peacewomen.org/node/91871>)

Now, seventy years after explosions of the first three atomic bombs—in the Nevada desert and over the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki—we in Portland WILPF are encouraged to call or write our Representatives (<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/OR>) and urge them to cosponsor HR 1976 and to foster necessary dialogue in Congress. *Contact Carol Urner* [carol.disarm@gmail.com](mailto:carol.disarm@gmail.com) with your questions.

**PostScript from Carol Urner about our U.S. Mayors:** Among our elected officials, our US Mayors are probably WILPF's (and the world's!) best friends. On June 21, the US Conference of Mayors *again* passed a strong resolution in support of the international Mayors for Peace, whose goal since 1982 has been **nuclear weapons abolition by 2020**. (<http://wslfweb.org/docs/USCM-Res-6-22-15.pdf>) Portland mayor Charlie Hales and Tualatin's mayor supported the unanimous resolution, and Danny Doyle of Beaverton helped draft the statement of support. Furthermore, Portland's mayor is one of only sixteen world-wide who have been invited to meet with Pope Francis at a July summit on climate change and human trafficking. Mayor Bill de Blasio of New York City is the only other US mayor invited.

### **from the WILPF STATEMENT on the CHARLESTON CHURCH MASSACRE**

**"As we in WILPF US begin the second century** of our advocacy to end war, we will reflect on the lives lost in this tragedy and honor their legacy with dignity and respect. This act on June 17 was not the act of a single madman. It is, sadly and outrageously, merely one act in a history of systematic racist violence and terror against those who are Black or Brown or Asian or Hispanic or Native American, or Latina/o in this country.

"We, the members of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, US Section, acknowledge the history of African American churches being attacked as one of crimes against humanity. We also acknowledge the fact that systemic racism and oppression are the roots of all war across the globe. We call for an explicit action to combat racism nationally and globally. We emphasize the need for immediate action to end all forms of violence and discrimination against those who are seen as different. We call for stronger efforts on advancing racial, social and economic justice to end war. There can be no peace without freedom, and no freedom as long as racism exists."

### **Peter Linebaugh on Magna Carta, dated 15 June 1215, 800 years ago**

from [http://www.democracynow.org/2015/6/15/what\\_do\\_800\\_year\\_old\\_magna](http://www.democracynow.org/2015/6/15/what_do_800_year_old_magna) :

The Magna Carta is not just the foundation of our liberties in restricting sovereignty, but it's also a place where, if we read it carefully, we can see a principle for our future. And that principle is the principle of the commons, which you will find in a little charter, the Charter of the Forest. The common principle is that subsistence is available for all. The common principle is that of mutuality. The common principle is not of competition, but is of cooperation. And this principle may also be found in the charters of English liberty.

### **LINKS YOU MAY WANT TO EXPLORE**

[Spokane NAACP leader Rachel Dolezal a lesson in how racism works - The Boston Globe](#) This is a thoughtful article on the subject of racism.

[I'm a black ex-cop, and this is the real truth about race and policing](#) He's writing about things he wishes people understood about bias in American police departments.

[Trade Wars: Monsanto's Return to Vietnam » CounterPunch: Tells the Facts, Names the Names](#) Find out what Monsanto is up to now in the region already devastated by its Agent Orange. Desiree Hellegers, author of this article, will answer questions about what she learned in Vietnam on Saturday 18 July at 2:30; see calendar page 5.

[10 Words Every Girl Should Learn](#) Not new vocabulary, but phrases to establish gender competence and squelch 'mansplaining.'

<http://www.commondreams.org/views/2015/06/09/fear-and-learning-kabul>, by Kathy Kelly. Life as it is experienced by and with the young Afghan Peace Volunteers, who manage their traumatic memories by running an alternative school for street kids in Kabul. Kathy Kelly co-ordinates Voices for Creative Nonviolence ([www.vcnv.org](http://www.vcnv.org)), a campaign to end U.S. military and economic warfare.

## **ANNOUNCEMENT from the CENTER FOR INTERCULTURAL ORGANIZING addressed to all IMMIGRANTS, REFUGEES, AND ASYLEES**

We are thrilled to announce that we are now accepting applications for our Pan-Immigrant Leadership and Organizing Training (PILOT) Program. If you are an immigrant, refugee or asylee who has a passion for uplifting your community and you want to learn the skills to make change, please apply at [http://www.interculturalorganizing.org/?page\\_id=1899](http://www.interculturalorganizing.org/?page_id=1899). This is an invaluable opportunity to learn and build relationships across communities. All participants who are accepted into the PILOT will have *all costs covered*, including food, transportation and childcare reimbursement.

PILOT is a unique program that enhances the skills, analysis and organizing ability of emerging immigrant and refugee leaders across cultural groups. PILOT builds long-term relationships between diverse immigrant and refugee communities in Portland and builds the capacity and voice of new communities to effect change.

**Note: The Application Deadline for 2015-2016 PILOT is Friday, July 31st, 2015.**

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### ***July 2015 Portland WILPF Calendar***

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#### **VIGILS HELD REGULARLY**

- \* **Tuesdays, 4:30-5:30 pm** East end of Burnside Bridge (NE MLK Jr Blvd@Couch/Burnside) **Peace & Social Justice Visibility Action** (ongoing since March 2014)
- \* **Wednesdays, 6:30 pm** SW 5th & Hall, Beaverton. **Washington County Peace Vigil** (ongoing since 2005)
- \* **Fridays, 12:15 to 12:45 pm** SW 10th & Madison, near Art Museum. **Women in Black** (silent vigil for peace)
- \* **Fridays, 5 to 6 pm** Pioneer Courthouse Square, SW corner. **Portland Peaceful Response Coalition** (ongoing since 2001)
- \* **Saturdays, 11 to noon** Corner of NE 13<sup>th</sup> & Multnomah, across from Holladay Park. **Lloyd Center Vigil** (ongoing since 2004)
- \* **Saturdays, noon to 1 pm** McLoughlin and Oak Grove Blvds., Milwaukie. **Oak Grove Peace Vigil** (ongoing since 2006)

#### **EVENTS (free unless noted)**

[see [www.Trimet.org](http://www.Trimet.org) to find public transportation to all these locations]

#### **Thursday 2 July, 5:30 to 8 pm: Sundown Concert at Ecotrust**

Ecotrust's Natural Capital Center, 721 NW 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Tonight's theme: Climate. Music by Portland Cello Project. All Ages Dance Party! See <http://www.ecotrust.org/project/sundown/>.

#### **Sunday 7 July, 2 to 4 pm: WILPF Free Film, "Peace Unveiled"**

Belmont Library, 1038 SE Cesar E. Chavez Blvd. Part of the summer series of free films honoring the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. This film follows three women in Afghanistan risking their lives to make sure that women's rights don't get traded away in any deal with the Taliban.

#### **Saturday 11 July, 10 am: Portland WILPF Annual Meeting and Potluck Picnic**

At the home of Bill and Sara Tattam, 4602 SW 55<sup>th</sup> Place, 503-297-4338. From SW Beaverton Hillsdale Highway and 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue (signal just west of Albertson's/Rite-Aid), north on 56<sup>th</sup>, curve right as 56<sup>th</sup> Avenue becomes Seymour Street, then left on 55<sup>th</sup> Place. Limited parking, carpool if possible. Help us choose our new officers. Potluck will follow; bring a dish and your table setting. Meeting at 10 am, potluck at 11:30 am.

#### **Saturday 11 July, 7 pm: Climate Jobs PDX presents: Climate Jobs Video Night**

Musician's Union Hall, 325 NE 20th Ave at Sandy Blvd. Join us for two excellent videos, provocative discussion, music, and a raffle. Video #1 David Roberts: "Climate Change is Simple." Video #2, Naomi Klein: "Why Unions Need to Join the Climate Fight," her speech to the founding convention of UNIFOR. UNIFOR is Canada's largest private sector union, with more than 305,000 members across the country, working in every major sector of the Canadian economy ([www.unifor.org](http://www.unifor.org)).

### **Saturday 18 July, 2:30 pm: Report from Vietnam with Desiree Hellegers**

St Francis Dining Hall, SE 11<sup>th</sup> and Pine. Desiree traveled on the 40 year anniversary of the end of the "war" with Veterans for Peace Chapter 160, witnessing the effects of Agent Orange, the continuing threat of Unexploded Ordnance (which has killed over 60,000 people since the withdrawal of American Troops), and the return of Monsanto, which manufactured Agent Orange. Desiree is a Peace & Justice Works board member. She helped found the Center for Social and Environmental Justice at WSU Vancouver. [www.pjw.info](http://www.pjw.info)

### **Saturday 18 July, 3 pm: 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Meeting**

708 SE 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 503-239-4204. Enter from walkway off 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

### **Sunday 19 July, 8 pm: "Teamsters and Turtles - Together at Last!" A Concert with Anne Feeney and Dana Lyons**

Alberta Rose Theatre, 3000 NE Alberta Street, 97211. Iconic environmental singer Dana Lyons teams up with notorious labor hellraiser Anne Feeney to dispel the myth that unions are at odds with environmentalists. They will accomplish this with song and story. Tickets: <http://albertarosetheatre.com>. "Anne Feeney is the greatest labor singer in North America." - Utah Phillips. Tickets \$15 advance, \$18 at door; [www.annefeeneey.com](http://www.annefeeneey.com).

### **Tuesday 21 July, 2 to 4 pm: WILPF Free Film, "I Came To Testify"**

Musicians Union Hall, 325 NE 20<sup>th</sup> Ave. Part of the summer series of free films honoring the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. How a group of 16 women imprisoned and raped by Serb-led forces in the Bosnian town of Foca broke history's great silence and stepped forward to take the witness stand in an international court of law. <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/women-war-and-peace/about/>

### **Sunday 26 July, 10 am to noon: Justice, More Justice (JMJ) Trio Performing**

Just Bob's, 2403 NE Alberta. Jane Keefer, longtime WILPF Member Mary Rose, & Jim Cook sing and play labor, protest, old-time and love songs for people's tips and delight. Lots of singing along, whistles, dancing, friendly talk, good food and drink available for purchase. Phone 503-274-2559.

### **Wednesday 5 August, 1 to 4 pm: WILPF Free Film, "This War We Are Living"**

Multnomah County Central Library, 801 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Part of the summer series of free films honoring the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. In Cauca, a mountainous region in Colombia's Pacific southwest, two extraordinary Afro-Colombian women are braving a violent struggle over their gold-rich lands. <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/women-war-and-peace/about/>

### **Thursday 6 August, 5:30 to 8 pm: Sundown Concert at Ecotrust**

Ecotrust's Natural Capital Center, 721 NW 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Tonight's theme: Forests and Water. Music by Orquestra Pacifico Tropical and Mimicking Birds. More information can be found at <http://www.ecotrust.org/project/sundown/>.

### **Thursday 6 August, 6 to 7 pm: 70 Years After Hiroshima and Nagasaki: The Ever-Present Nuclear Threat**

Japanese American Historical Plaza, NW Naito Parkway and Davis. This year's memorial event, sponsored by Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility and partner organizations, including **Portland WILPF**, will feature speakers and performers, including [Portland Taiko](http://www.portlandtaiko.com), and will provide opportunities for attendees to get involved in efforts to abolish nuclear weapons. [www.psr.org/chapters/oregon/](http://www.psr.org/chapters/oregon/)

### **Sunday 23 August, 10 am to noon: Justice, More Justice (JMJ) Trio Performing**

Just Bob's, 2403 NE Alberta. Jane Keefer, longtime WILPF Member Mary Rose, & Jim Cook sing and play labor, protest, old-time and love songs for people's tips and delight. Lots of singing along, whistles, dancing, friendly talk, good food and drink available for purchase. Phone 503-274-2559.

**Thursday 3 September, 5:30 to 8 pm: Sundown Concert at Ecotrust**

Ecotrust’s Natural Capital Center, 721 NW 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Tonight’s theme: Food. Music by Horse Feathers and School of Rock. See <http://www.ecotrust.org/project/sundown/>.

**Saturday 26 September, 1 to 4 pm: Celebrate 100 Years of Peace Activism with Portland WILPF**

First Unitarian Church, SW 12<sup>th</sup> Ave & Salmon. Keynote speaker Mary Hanson Harrison, president of national WILPF US. Portland WILPF member Carol Urner, US delegate to the WILPF International Congress held in The Hague last April, will be honored for her leadership in action toward disarmament, nuclear abolition, and ending war. Food, music, visual displays, branch history.

**Tuesday 13 October, 7:30 pm, The Nation Live! John Nichols, Naomi Klein, and Other Writers from The Nation Magazine**

Newmark Theatre, 1111 SW Broadway at Madison St. Writers for The Nation Magazine on a national tour. Other speakers include The Nation’s editor and publisher, Katrina van den Heuvel, Walter Mosley, Ursula Le Guin, Sherman Alexie, Dave Zirin & Zoe Carpenter. Tickets \$15 to \$65 plus service charge, <http://www.portland5.com/newmark-theatre/events/nation-live>.

**SUPPORT YOUR PORTLAND WILPF BRANCH**

**Being a WILPF member means joining the national organization.** If you haven’t received recent mailings from WILPF US (such as the Spring/Summer 2015 issue of *Peace and Freedom*, the national magazine), your WILPF membership is probably not current.

**To join, renew or rejoin:** For many of us the quickest, easiest way is online at [www.wilpfus.org](http://www.wilpfus.org). But, if you don’t do financial transactions on the internet, please send your membership dues check directly to **WILPF Membership, 11 Arlington Street, Boston, MA 02116**. Please indicate new or renewal. Dues are on a sliding scale, \$15 to \$150 per year. Membership automatically includes International, US Section, and local Branch.

The form below is not for membership dues; it is for non-dues support for our Portland Branch. It is only these non-dues contributions directly to our branch that support all of our local work. When you send your membership dues to WILPF-US, the entire dues amount – except \$2/year – stays with the national organization. They send our branch \$2 per paid member per year.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ New Supporter:  Already a Supporter:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Non-dues contribution to support Portland WILPF activities, includes emailed branch newsletter: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Extra contribution if you want to receive a *hard copy* newsletter: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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