**WOMEN’S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM**

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

Officers: Co-presidents: Natasha Beck and Brandy Robinson;

Treasurer, Anne McLaughlin; Membership Chair, Sandra Oberdorfer;

Corresponding secretary: Karen James; Recording secretary, vacant;

Web Developer: Danielle Packard; Newsletter: Celeste Howard, Anne McLaughlin

***August 2016***

# NEWS FROM THE JULY 9 ANNUAL MEETING

Location: At the home of Sara and Bill Tattam in SW Portland.

Members Present: Natasha Beck, Brandy Robinson, Anne McLaughlin, Barbara Drageaux, Remember Skye, Jack Herbert, Carol Urner, Bill Tattam, Sara Tattam, Teisha Parchment.

Endorsements:

\* Hiroshima-Nagasaki Annual Commemoration, 6 pm Tuesday, August 9th, led by Physicians for Social Responsibility, **WILPF Portland will co-sponsor**. (see Calendar)

\* Rock Against the TPP, Oregon Fair Trade Campaign, August 20 (see Calendar)

Election of Officers: The following officers will continue: Natasha Beck and Brandy Robinson as Co-Chairs, Anne McLaughlin as Treasurer, Karen James as Corresponding Secretary, Holly Hansen as Office Manager, Danielle Packard as Web Developer, Celeste Howard and Anne McLaughlin as Newsletter Editors. Sandra Oberdorfer has volunteered to take on the role of Membership Chair with support from Barbara Drageaux and Anne McLaughlin. The position of Recording Secretary is still open.

Review of 2015-2016 Highlights: WILPF Portland’s September 26, 2015, celebration of WILPF’s 100th Anniversary was the major event of this past year. Barbara Drageaux and the late Jean Fitzgerald inspired us with creativity and tireless personal involvement, and Karen James, Gloria Deodato, Mary Rose, Carol Urner, Holly Hansen, Linda Schmoldt, Natasha Beck, and Brandy Robinson helped put together such a memorable production that WILPF US Section president Mary Hanson Harrison has talked about it all over the country since then. We also recalled special presentations by Carol Urner and Ellen Thomas during their Anti-Nuclear tour; by St Mary’s Academy students on the activism of Youth Ending Slavery; the screening and discussion of the film “Sista in the Brotherhood”; outreach to Aurora Chorus for their International Women’s Day concert; and several other events which we have co-sponsored or at which we have ‘tabled.’

Member Appreciation and Recognition: A special certificate of appreciation was given to Bill and Sara Tattam for all their support. They have hosted the mid-July Annual Meeting for many years in memory of Bill’s mother, Marjorie Tattam, a long-time WILPF Portland activist, whose birthday was July 12. Brandy and Natasha gave potted plants, pins, and necklaces to members in appreciation for their energy and imagination in helping WILPF Portland to reach out and grow.

The next business meeting of WILPF Portland will be on Saturday, September 10, 12:30 to 2:30 pm in room B310, First Unitarian Church. Doors open at noon.

**Newsletter Schedule Update**: Beginning next month, September 2016, this monthly newsletter will be **published/distributed mid-month**, enabling us to include more timely information from our monthly business meetings on the second Saturday of the month.

**Deadlines**: For the **mid-September newsletter**: Tuesday, September 6; for the **calendar:** Tuesday, September 13. Send articles and event information to [wilpfpdx@gmail.com](mailto:wilpfpdx@gmail.com).

# PEOPLE’S NUCLEAR ABOLITION TRIBUNAL

# LAUNCHES “CHAIN REACTION 2016”

[**Chain Reaction 2016**](http://www.unfoldzero.org/get-involved/chain-reaction-2016/)**,** a series of events and actions at nuclear-weapons and nuclear-disarmament related sites around the world, was launched July 8 in Sydney during an [International Peoples’ Tribunal on Nuclear Weapons and the Destruction of Human Civilisation](http://sydney.edu.au/arts/peace_conflict/practice/HSP_Tribunal.shtml).

‘*A nuclear bomb destroys through an uncontrollable chain reaction of atoms being split in two*,’ said Alyn Ware, one of the organisers of Chain Reaction 2016. ‘*Today, we are launching a chain reaction of peace actions by people to counter the threat posed by these instruments of mass destruction*.’ *The first of these events is this tribunal which highlights the responsibility of leaders of nuclear armed States and those under extended nuclear deterrence doctrines to end the illegal threat nuclear weapons pose to human civilization*,’ said John Hallam, one of the organisers of the International People’s Tribunal. ‘*There are nearly 15,000 nuclear weapons in existence, many ready to launch within minutes. The world could be obliterated in a matter of minutes – whether by accident, miscalculation, or intent. Chain Reaction 2016 and this Tribunal aim to end this existential threat to humanity.*’

*‘Chain Reaction is being launched on July 8, the 20th anniversary of the historic decision by the International Court of Justice in 1996 on nuclear weapons,*’ said Hon. Matt Robson, one of the judges of the International People’s Tribunal and a former New Zealand Minister for Courts and Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control. ‘*In 1996 the ICJ affirmed* *that the threat or use of nuclear weapons is generally illegal, and that there is an unconditional obligation to achieve their elimination*. *Today in the Peoples’ Tribunal we have heard frightening testimony on the current risks and the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapons use, as well as international law applicable to this issue. We will make a judgement on the responsibility of world leaders with regard to this situation on August 9, the 71st anniversary of the use of nuclear weapons against the city and people of Nagasaki*’.

*‘Chain Reaction 2016 includes a* [*range of creative actions around the world*](http://www.unfoldzero.org/get-involved/chain-reaction-2016/#locations) *from today until October 2, Mahatma Gandhi’s birthday and the UN International Day for Non-violence*,’ says Caroline Leroy from [UNFOLD ZERO](http://www.unfoldzero.org/), the coordinators of Chain Reaction 2016. ‘*A number of international peace, religious, environment and law networks are participating through fasts, vigils, exhibitions, bike rides, walks, symposiums, parliamentary lobbying days, symbolic events and other actions to demonstrate that people around the world are calling for nuclear abolition*.’

([www.unfoldzero.org/chain-reaction-2016-launched-at-peoples-nuclear-abolition-tribunal/](http://www.unfoldzero.org/chain-reaction-2016-launched-at-peoples-nuclear-abolition-tribunal/))

# Local Events During Chain Reaction 2016, July 8 – October 2

For a list of dates in this time period that have historic relevance to the abolition of nuclear weapons, see <http://www.unfoldzero.org/get-involved/chain-reaction-2016/>.

Monday-Friday August 1-5, 1 to 4pm, Oregon Society of Artists, 2185 SW Park Place. *Exhibition, “Everything You Treasure—For a World Free From Nuclear Weapons”* (see Calendar)

Tuesday August 9, 6 to 7 pm, Japanese-American Historical Plaza, Waterfront Park at NW Couch Street. *Remembering Hiroshima and Nagasaki: Creating a Nuclear-Free Future* (see Calendar)

# More Links on Abolition of Nuclear Weapons

<http://www.icanw.org/> : International Campaign for Abolition of Nuclear Weapons (ICANW)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/12/28/world/a-former-ground-zero-goes-to-court-against-the-worlds-nuclear-arsenals-.html> : The Republic of the Marshall Islands is suing the nuclear powers in the International Court of Justice!

# WILPF Webinar on Nuclear Weapons Abolition

from WILPF Alert, Saturday 29 July

**WILPF Australia** will host this webinar on Hiroshima Day at **12 noon to 1:30 pm (PDT**). Be informed and learn what we can do to move the agenda forward; the humanitarian approach to nuclear disarmament might just bring us closer to the goal of a nuclear weapon free world. Speakers are Dr. Helen Caldicott, veteran anti-nuclear campaigner; Daniel Högsta, Network Coordinator, International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICANW); and Ray Acheson, Director, Reaching Critical Will (RCW, WILPF). Register to hear/participate at <http://wilpf.org/events/webinar-a-nuclear-weapon-free-world/> .

# US Bills Toward Limiting Our Nuclear Weapons

**The Nuclear Weapons Abolition and Economic and Energy Conversion Act** [(H.R. 1976](http://prop1.org) in the U.S. House of Representatives) would "provide for nuclear weapons abolition and economic conversion ... while ensuring environmental restoration and clean-energy conversion." Text at <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/114/hr1976/text>. To enlist your representative, go <http://act.rootsaction.org/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=11837>.

**The Smarter Approach to Nuclear Expenditures Act** (SANE Act, S 831/HR 1534) would cut $100 billion over the next decade from the bloated nuclear weapons budget. For a short summary of its proposals, see <http://www.ploughshares.org/issues-analysis/article/sane-act-calls-cuts-nuclear-budget>. To support it, go to <https://paxchristiusa.org/2016/02/23/take-action-its-time-for-a-sane-nuclear-policy/>.

LINKS TO EXPLORE

*from Natasha Beck*

[http://www.laweekly.com/news/these-savvy-women-have-made-black-lives-matter-the-most-crucial-left-wing-movement-today-625Ca2489](http://www.laweekly.com/news/these-savvy-women-have-made-black-lives-matter-the-most-crucial-left-wing-movement-today-6252489): Melina Abdullah, one of these women, gave the keynote speech at the Portland Jobs with Justice Anniversary Dinner in June.

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2016/07/12/law-professor-responds-students-who-complained-about-her-black-lives-matter-shirt>: The professor wrote back, defending her T-shirt and also critiquing the students' understanding of the professor-student relationship.

<http://womensvoicesforchange.org/a-neurologists-view-of-music-therapy-in-patients-with-brain-trauma.htm>: “…as humans develop during infancy and childhood, concepts of rhythm and tonality, or prosody, supersede the development of speech.”

<https://youtu.be/k1D8Bzy8InY> : Video of Race Talks event on July 12—8 northwest authors reading condensed versions of their contributions to the book What Does It Mean To Be White in America? Breaking the White Code of Silence: A Collection of Personal Narratives.

*from Celeste Howard*

<http://www.bc.edu/schools/lsoe/isprc/manuscript415.html>: Use this link to get a free racial trauma recovery kit from the Institute for the Study & Promotion of Race & Culture (ISPRC).

<http://www.commondreams.org/views/2016/07/05/imperial-nato-and-after-brexit>: Joseph Gerson, disarmament coordinator for the AFSC, makes the case for ending NATO.

<http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/news/newsletters-archive/11083-july-2016-e-news>: Carol

Urner highly recommends this July e-news from Reaching Critical Will, saying “it is fantastic!”

## Reaching Critical Will (RCW) is WILPF’s program of analysis and advocacy for disarmament.

### Remembering Woody Guthrie

by Mary Rose

*“Beyond Little Boxes” made a guerilla appearance on SE 92nd just off Foster Road July 14 to honor Woody Guthrie’s memory on his birthday. We sang and played “Roll On, Columbia,” “This Land,” “Pretty Boy Floyd,” “So Long, It’s Been Good to Know Yuh,” and bits of others in a high wind and against noisy, speeding traffic. Motorcycles have a club nearby!*

*Altho it was crazy, we had a great time and I slept thru the night afterward. Our bass player, Jim Cook, took a video instead of playing, so we cringed in watching yesterday. Mark Loving sang Ladies Auxiliary and I tried to stay in the moment – another friend, Jean Dynes, helped us the most with her pleasant smile and ready comments.*

**Guantanamo Resolution Update**

from Kevin Matronic, Veterans for Peace

We have been in contact, mostly through email, with the Mayor and all members of the Portland City Council about our proposed City Resolution focused on providing homes for Guantanamo prisoners approved for release. While there seems to be some support, we have not been able to win a sponsor who would be willing to bring the resolution before the Council. Without a sponsor, we cannot get a vote on the resolution. Therefore, as the next step, two of us have signed up to speak directly to the City Council at its August 10 meeting. Our supporters will not be able to testify, but we will still appreciate your presence in visible support. I am told you’ll be allowed to either stand, or while seated, wave or give a thumbs up as we speak. **The meeting is at City Hall, 1221 SW Fourth Avenue, at 9:30 am August 10.**

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT

“Guns do not need to be fired to be effective. The carrying of a gun often symbolizes its use, or substitutes for its use, far more effectively than does actual use, provided the willingness of the user to actually fire the weapon has been established.” (Michael Ashkenazi, Bonn International Center for Conversion)

Do you think this is true? It sounds very much like the argument for having nuclear weapons. The handful of states that possess nuclear weapons act as if their mere possession of these weapons gives them a privileged position of authority, dominance, and security over the rest of the world. Do nuclear weapons actually offer the world stability and safety? Or do they—like small arms—leave everyone under threat?

“Weapons—small arms or nuclear arms—are about power, not security. They are about control and dominance, not cooperation or equality. They undermine security, cooperation, and equality. They detract from our collective humanity, facilitating divisions and violence. It’s past time for new approaches.”

## Inspired by <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/news/newsletters-archive/11039-june-2016-e-news>.

**SUPPORT YOUR PORTLAND WILPF BRANCH**

**To contribute to WILPF Portland**: Use the form below. Our branch does not have membership dues; we ask for non-dues support for our Portland Branch. It is only these non-dues contributions made 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 us $2 per paid member per year. In 2015 we received $52 from national.

**Being a WILPF member means joining the national organization**. If you haven’t received a recent mailing from WILPF US, your WILPF membership is probably not current. Their most recent mailing was the Summer 2016 issue of ***Peace and Freedom*** magazine. **To confirm whether your membership is current**, contact the national office at [info@wilpfus.org](mailto:info@wilpfus.org).

**To join, renew or rejoin**: Pay dues to WILPF National in Boston. For internet users the quickest, easiest way to join, renew or rejoin is online at [www.wilpfus.org](http://www.wilpfus.org). If you prefer not to do financial transactions on the internet, mail your membership dues check directly to: WILPF Membership, 11 Arlington Street, Boston, MA 02116. Please indicate new or renewal, make check payable to WILPF-US. Sliding scale dues are $35 to $150 per year; your amount is up to you. Membership automatically includes International, US Section, and local Branch.

**Form for donations to WILPF Portland Branch**

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

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

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

Non-dues contribution to support WILPF Portland’s activities; automatically includes emailed newsletter**: $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Extra contribution if you want to receive *hard copy* newsletters,** rather than email($10/yr suggested)**: +$ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**TOTAL Enclosed**: **=$** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

**AUGUST 2016 WILPF PORTLAND CALENDAR**

***VIGILS HELD REGULARLY***

***Tuesdays & Fridays, 2-4 pm*** East end of Burnside Bridge **Alliance for Democracy** opposing TransPacific Partnership (TPP) and other corporate trade agreements

***Tuesdays, 4:30-5:30 pm*** East end of Burnside Bridge (NE MLKJr 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, 5 to 6 pm*** Pioneer Courthouse Square, SW corner. ***Portland Peaceful Response Coalition*** (ongoing since 2001)

***Saturdays, 11 to noon*** Corner of NE 13th & 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]*

**Sunday 31 July to Friday 5 August, 1 to 4 pm: Exhibition, “Everything You Treasure—For a World Free From Nuclear Weapons”**

Oregon Society of Artists, 2185 SW Park Place. Jointly created by Soka Gakkai and the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, this exhibit was launched August 2012 in Hiroshima at the 20th World Congress of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW). The exhibit has a total of 40 panels divided into 3 sections: *What do we treasure?*, *Learning More*, and *Changing our Worldview*. Sunday: Opening Reception—Meet the artist and representatives from SGI and PSR; Monday through Friday, gallery open 1-4. <http://www.psr.org/chapters/oregon/assets/pdfs/oregon-society-of-artists.pdf>

**Monday 1 August, 3 to 4:30 pm: Healthcare in the USA: Are We Ready for Reform Once Again?**

First Congregational Church, 1126 SW Park Avenue at Madison St. City Club Issue Forum. Six years after the Affordable Care Act was signed into law, the US still provides the world’s most expensive healthcare with the poorest public health outcomes of any industrialized country. Three highly respected physicians, Donald M. Berwick, John Kitzhaber, and Alisha Moreland, all with experience in state and national healthcare policy, offer their observations on how this debate, and Senator Sanders’ single payer advocacy, can advance the aims of better care to more people for less money in our country. Paul Gorman, MD, moderator, is Assistant Dean for Rural Medical Education and Professor of Medical Informatics and Clinical Epidemiology and Medicine at OHSU School of Medicine. Co-sponsor: Oregon Physicians for a National Health Program; Participating Organizations: We Can Do Better, National College of Natural Medicine. Free but limited space; pre-register at [pdxcityclub.org](http://www.pdxcityclub.org/).

**Friday 5 August, noon to 1:30 pm** (PDT)**: WILPF Webinar on Nuclear Weapons Abolition**

See article on page 3 for more information. Go to <http://wilpf.org/events/webinar-a-nuclear-weapon-free-world/> beforehand to register and be reminded to listen online at that time.

**Friday 5 August, 5 to 6 pm: 2 Years Since Iraq War III and Ferguson; 71 Years Since Hiroshima**

Pioneer Courthouse Square, SW Yamhill and Broadway. Rally and March with Portland Peaceful Response Coalition. Short rally, followed by a march through downtown, returning to Pioneer Square by 6 pm. For more info see [www.pjw.info](http://www.pjw.info).

**Tuesday 9 August, 6 to 7 pm: Remembering Hiroshima and Nagasaki: Creating a Nuclear-Free Future**

Japanese-American Historical Plaza, Waterfront Park at NW Couch Street. Program includes [Hideko Tamura Snider](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eeegP25r11Q), a *hibakusha* (survivor of the atomic bombing) who made a profound impression at the 2011 commemoration, will be back to share her remarkable story this year, also [Unit Souzou](http://unitsouzou.com/), a Portland-based taiko ensemble. Organized by [Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility](http://www.psr.org/chapters/oregon/), and co-sponsored by **WILPF Portland.** Limited chair seating provided, consider bringing a lawn chair or blanket.

**Thursday 18 August, 5:30 pm: Michael Moore Film, “Where to Invade Next”**

Cascade Park Library, 600 N.E. 136th Avenue, Vancouver WA. In this free film (donations welcome), Michael Moore takes us around the world to show us what life is like in cultures that are not obsessed with maximum profitability for corporations, and where the quality of life for average citizens is top priority for public and private policy. For trailer and more info, see <https://meaningfulmovies.org/events/4628/>.

**Thursday 18 August, 7:30 pm: Sarah Jaffe, Necessary Trouble: Americans in Revolt**

Powell’s Books on Hawthorne, 3723 SE Hawthorne, Author Sarah Jaffe in conversation with Matt Bors about the current rise in political engagement and social activism. What has made ordinary Americans from Seattle to St. Louis to Atlanta become activists, boldly challenging those who wield power in this country?

**Saturday 20 August, 5 to 10 pm: Rock Against the TPP**

Director Park, 815 SW Park Ave. at Taylor Street. Free concert and rally to protest the Trans-Pacific Partnership. Hosted by actress Evangeline Lilly, featuring Anti-Flag, Downtown Boys, Bell’s Roar, Evan Greer, Taina Asili and more. National tour sponsored by Oregon Fair Trade Campaign, Citizens Trade Campaign, Sierra Club, and Fight for the Future. Free tickets at <https://www.rockagainstthetpp.org/portland-or/>. For info about afternoon events (teach-in and march/bike to the concert venue), see <http://www.afd-pdx.org/community-events.html>.

**Sunday 28 August, 10 am to noon: JMJ Acoustic Trio at Just Bob**

NE Alberta and 24th Avenue. Mary Rose, Laura Webb (members of WILPF Portland) with Jane Keefer, banjoist, & Jim Cook, bassist, all love to bring live acoustic music to informal audiences. Enjoy breakfast; favorite songs, original & old-time, lots of sing-alongs, good food & drink, community-spirited folks from the neighborhood & beyond. All ages welcome, tips only, no cover, 4th Sunday every month. Jim Cook, Mary Rose, Jane Keefer & friends.

**Tuesday 30 August, 7:30 pm: An Evening with Malala Yousafzai**

Moda Center, Tickets $79 (maybe) to $160 at [www.rosequarter.com](http://www.rosequarter.com/) or call 800-745-3000 (less expensive seats are no longer available).

**Friday 9 September, 5 to 6 pm: Rally and March, “Casualties of Endless Wars”**

Pioneer Courthouse Square, SW Yamhill and Broadway. This week’s Friday Rally marks 15 years since 9/11/2001. Short rally, followed by a march through downtown returning to Pioneer Square by 6 pm. For more info see [www.pjw.info](http://www.pjw.info).

**Sunday 11 September, 10 am to noon: JMJ Acoustic Trio at Just Bob**

NE Alberta and 24th Avenue. Mary Rose, Laura Webb (members of WILPF Portland) with Jane Keefer, banjoist, & Jim Cook, bassist, all love to bring live acoustic music to informal audiences. Specializing in Malvina Reynolds songs and other progressive, too-long unheard songs. All ages welcome, tips only, no cover.

**Friday 23 September, 5 to 6 pm: Rally and March, “2 Years of US War on Syria”**

Pioneer Courthouse Square, SW Yamhill and Broadway. Short rally, followed by a march through downtown returning to Pioneer Square by 6 pm. For more info see [www.pjw.info](http://www.pjw.info).

**Saturday 1 October to Saturday 8 October: Keep Space for Peace Week**

Look for more information in our next calendar & newsletter.

**Friday 7 October, 5 to 6 pm: Rally and March, “The Afghan Invasion 15 Years Later”**

Pioneer Courthouse Square, SW Yamhill and Broadway. Short rally, followed by a march through downtown returning to Pioneer Square by 6 pm. For more info see [www.pjw.info](http://www.pjw.info).

**Contact us: To submit items for an upcoming WILPF Newsletter and/or Calendar, to be removed from our distribution list, and for any other messages:**

Email to [wilpfpdx@gmail.com](mailto:wilpfpdx@gmail.com).