

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

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

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July 2014

GLOBAL DETROIT: WOMEN, DEMOCRACY AND CORPORATE POWER

WILPF US Section Triennial Congress, July 31-August 3

by Lucinda Tate

Two Portland branch members are preparing to spend the first weekend of August in Detroit, Michigan. **Carol Urner** and others in her national Disarm committee will present a workshop on "Abolishing Nuclear Weapons in Our Lifetime." **Lucinda Tate** (that's me, I'm co-chair of the WILPF Advancing Human Rights committee) is busy reviewing proposed workshops related to AHR issues and approving content of a sponsored workshop for Congress. It's only my second Triennial, and my excitement is rising! This Congress lays the platform on which we prepare for the 2015 celebration of WILPF's 100th year. Find more on the Triennial Congress at <http://wilpfus.org/news/updates/updates-triennial-congress-july-31%E2%80%93aug-3-detroit>.

FIRST 2014 ISSUE OF *PEACE AND FREEDOM* IS OUT (and online)

Current members of WILPF US have recently received the spring/summer issue of the magazine. The issue reports on the role of WILPF's 75-member international delegation at the UN 58th annual session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) last March. Patricia Hynes, retired nuclear engineer, gives her reasons for supporting "a nuclear-free, zero-carbon renewable energy future." Efforts to achieve a ban on nuclear weapons are addressed in three articles, Detroit's disruption in two, and the little-known Haifa Conference on creating a Weapons of Mass Destruction and Nuclear Weapons Free Zone in the Middle East gets a full presentation. Every reader can get caught up on these and other topics, all within fewer than 30 pages. The entire issue is online at <http://wilpfus.org/resources/publications>. If you prefer reading a hard copy, join WILPF US.

How to join? See the end of this newsletter!

GLOBAL WARMING: TALKING CARBON TAX

Oregon Congressman Peter DeFazio, a senior member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, introduced HR 4848, the Repeal and Rebuild Act of 2014, on June 11. This bill would replace the gasoline tax with a tax on crude oil in order to get more revenue for the Highway Trust Fund. The bill is in the House Ways and Means Committee.

Oregon Climate (www.oregonclimate.org) is a grassroots initiative anticipating that last year's passage of SB 306 offers an opportunity to urge the Oregon legislature to consider and pass a carbon fee and dividend bill, establishing an Oregon carbon tax modeled on the one successfully in force in British Columbia. SB 306 provided funds to determine how such a tax would affect various economic and geographic segments of Oregon. British Columbia redistributes some of the revenue from the tax in the form of corporate tax cuts, low-income tax relief and targeted investments in certain industries. Citizens Climate Lobby describes such a tax at <http://citizensclimatelobby.org/carbon-fee-and-dividend-faq/>.

The annual meeting of Portland branch WILPF will be at noon on Saturday, July 12, at the home of Sara and Bill Tattam, 4602 SW 55th Place, 503-297-4338. 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.** Potluck; bring a dish and your table setting.

There will be no WILPF business meeting on July 19. Deadline for the August newsletter is July 25.

BLUMENAUER FORUM ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS, JUNE 4

As an overflow crowd kept pouring in, First Unitarian's social justice minister, Kate Lore, set the context of the forum with her opening words of welcome. She told us that the US is spending more on nuclear weapons today (at minimum a half trillion over the next ten years) than at the height of the Cold War, also citing evidence that the Congressional Budget Office cannot be sure that this accounting is even accurate.

Congressman Earl Blumenauer then took over as genial host of his forum. He spoke briefly about his bill, HR 4107, the Reduce Expenditures In Nuclear Infrastructure Now (REIN-IN) Act, voicing great concern about recent evidence of the looseness of our control over the 450 nuclear missiles held continually on high alert, ready for launch. He talked at more length about his concern over the care available to returning veterans. To meet this challenge, he said, will require several trillion dollars because "we haven't scaled up the Veterans Administration for our reckless military interventions."

Calling Carol Urner forward, Rep. Blumenauer presented her with a Lifetime Achievement Award for her decades of work toward nuclear disarmament. See the citation below.

Kelly Campbell, executive director of Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility, led off the panel with figures showing that nuclear abolition is also a budgetary issue. Rick Wayman, director of Programs and Operations at the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation (NAPF), sounded a hopeful note about growing international action toward abolition. The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN, www.ican.org) now has member groups in 48 countries. In April the Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI) filed a lawsuit in the International Court of Justice against the nine nations with nuclear weapons. See www.nuclearzero.org to sign a petition supporting RMI's goal—enforcement of these nations' obligation to begin negotiations for complete disarmament.

Dr. John Pearson, past president of Oregon PSR, described the consequences of even a small nuclear war for climate and agriculture. The following decade of decreased food production would be devastating, he said, and no adequate response is possible. It must be prevented. Dan Serres, conservation director for Columbia Riverkeeper, reminded us that the risks of nuclear technology are very clear at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, upstream from Portland. Hanford Challenge (www.hanfordchallenge.org) publicizes the activity and problems of this ongoing cleanup.

The vigor, excitement, and persistence of the question and answer period showed vividly how much audience members appreciated the opportunity this forum provided for discussion of a crucial topic rarely talked about publicly nowadays.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: CAROL URNER

For decades, Carol Urner has advocated for nuclear disarmament and human rights, both in the United States and abroad. In the 1950's, Carol worked on nuclear issues as the American Friends Service Committee's Chicago Peace staffer. She co-founded Women for Peace, an organization dedicated to securing the first nuclear test ban treaty and bringing women into leadership. While living abroad with her husband, she worked to improve the delivery of aid to some of the world's poorest citizens. Today Carol is a dedicated leader in US WILPF's Disarm committee, where she actively pursues the vision for a nuclear weapons free world.

NEWS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CAROL

[Sister] Megan Rice, with [Michael Walli, and Gregory Boertje-Obed] who accompanied her in breaking into the top secured weapons site at Oak Ridge, are now WILPF members. Our committee is keeping close touch with them in prison. <http://wilpfus.org/news/updates/sentencing-y-12-peace-activists>

We will begin preparing soon for *Keep Space for Peace Week*, October 4 to 11. Go to <http://www.space4peace.org> for details on the week and also for extensive resources on drones and drone warfare.

July 2014 Portland WILPF Calendar

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**
- * **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, 11 to noon** Corner of NE 13th & Multnomah, across from Holladay Park. **Lloyd Center Vigil**
- * **Saturdays, noon to 1 pm** McLoughlin and Oak Grove Blvds., Milwaukie, Oregon. **Oak Grove Peace Vigil**

EVENTS (free unless noted)

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

Tuesday 1 July – Thursday 31 July: Video, “American Revolutionary: The Evolution of Grace Lee Boggs

Streaming on line all month at pbs.org/video. Biography of the tireless Detroit activist who just turned 99. Her autobiography is called Living for Change.

Thursday 3 July, 12 pm, to Sunday 6 July, 10 pm: 27th Annual Waterfront Blues Festival

Tom McCall Waterfront Park, just to the north and south of the Hawthorne Bridge on the west bank of the Willamette River. The festival will benefit the Oregon Food Bank. \$10/day requested donation, except \$50 on Sunday. Purchase passes and find general information at <http://www.waterfrontbluesfest.com/> (press ‘cancel’ if you get a pop-up sign-in form).

Thursday 3 July, 7 pm: Brad Richardson, “The Forgotten Front: Labor, Law and Politics in Camas, WA 1916-1920”

Clark County Historical Museum, 1511 Main Street, Vancouver; doors open 5 pm. Brad will explore early 20th century radical politics, labor strife and civic unrest at this pivotal time in Camas. Refreshments courtesy of the Grant House. Free to Museum members; admission \$4 adults, \$3 seniors, \$2 children.

Tuesday 8 July, 7-9 pm: Race Talks, “The History of Housing Discrimination in Oregon”

McMenamins Kennedy School Gym, 5736 NE 33rd Avenue, doors open at 6 pm. “Race Talks: Opportunities for Dialogue” deals with race in Oregon to provide learning experiences that support the development of racial identity and sensitivity. All ages welcome; food available for purchase.

Thursday 10 July, 6:30-8 pm: Wilderness: Past, Present, Future

Sierra Club Office, 1821 SE Ankeny Street. Michael Brune and Mike McCloskey, two former national Sierra Club executive directors, will celebrate the 50th anniversary of passage of the Wilderness Act with a historic conversation about the past, present, and future of the Oregon environmental movement. Beverages and appetizers served. Space is limited; please RSVP at http://action.sierraclub.org/site/PageServer?pagename=chp_or_mikeandmike&autologin=true&s_src=314Z5300E1

Thursday 10 July, 7-9 pm: Ed Humes Talking Trash

PSU, Hoffman Hall, 1833 SW 11th Avenue. Part of Metro’s Let’s Talk Trash Event Series. Ed Humes, author of Garbology: Our Dirty Love Affair With Trash, will join local trash experts from Portland State University and Metro for one night of serious trash talking. More info at <http://www.pdx.edu/events/lets-talk-trash-garbology-author-ed-humes?delta=0>

Saturday 12 July, 12-2:30 pm: Portland WILPF Potluck and Annual Meeting

At the home of Sara and Bill Tattam, 4602 SW 55th Place, 503-297-4338. Starting from SW Beaverton Hillsdale Hwy and 56th Avenue (signal just west of Albertson’s/RiteAid), turn north on 56th, curve right as 56th Avenue becomes Seymour Street, then left on 55th Place. Limited parking, carpool if possible. Potluck begins at noon; bring a potluck dish and your table setting.

Saturdays 12 July to 16 August, 2-4 pm: Class, "Race, Immigration and Policing"

Free non-credit class at PCC Cascade, Bernell Hall, Room 112. Sponsored by Portland Central America Solidarity Committee (PCASC) and others. Further information: claire@pcasc.net.

Tuesday 15 July, 6-7 pm: July Vigil for Keaton Otis

NE 6th & Halsey. Keaton Otis was a young black man murdered by the Portland police three years ago. In a struggle for justice, his father, Fred Bryant, has held a monthly vigil on the spot where Keaton's life was taken. <http://www.pcasc.net/event/june-vigil-for-keaton-otis/> for more details.

Tuesday 15 July, 7-9 pm: "GO GRANNY D! You're never too old to raise a little hell!"

West Hills UU Fellowship Sanctuary, 8470 SW Oleson Rd. Raging Grannies will join actress Barbara Bates Smith and musician Jeff Sebens for this show, portraying 90-year-old Doris "Granny D" Haddock, who blazed a 3200-mile trail across America for campaign finance reform. Fundraiser for Move to Amend, PDX Chapter; voluntary donations accepted.

Saturday 19 July, 10 am to Noon: Video/Discussion of "Zionism Unsettled"

Hillsboro Unitarian Church, Social Hall, 22785 NW Birch St in Hillsboro. Part 2 in a series of three discussions based on a DVD and congregational study guide prepared by the Presbyterian IPMN (www.IsraelPalestineMissionNetwork.org). The IPMN "speaks not for the church but to the church." Part 1 dealt with Zionist history up to 1948, shown in the DVD's first 3 episodes. All 9 episodes can be viewed online at <http://vimeo.com/channels/zuepisodes>.

Friday 25 July to Thursday 31 July: Film, "Who Is Dayani Crystal?"

Clinton Street Theatre, 2522 SE Clinton Street; showtimes vary. Immigration film, featuring the Mexican film star Gael Garcia Bernal, that examines the story of a Honduran migrant who died in the Arizona desert in 2010. PCASC receives \$1 from each ticket sold.

Sunday 27 July, 10 am to noon: JMJ Trio Performing at Anna Bannanas

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

Tuesday 6 August, 6-7 pm: The Old and New Faces of Nuclear Weapons

Japanese American Historical Plaza, Portland Waterfront Park at NW Naito Parkway and Couch Street. Commemorating the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and exploring the changing nature of nuclear weapons. Sponsors: Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility, **WILPF**, Japanese Ancestral Society, American Friends Service Committee, Peace & Justice Works Iraq Affinity Group and others. Seating is extremely limited; bring your own chair or blanket.

Wednesday 7 August, 7-9 pm: Community Forum, "Real Talk on Drones: What Will Oregon Decide?"

First Unitarian Church, SW 12th & Salmon. Oregonians for Drone Control has begun a campaign to enact laws and regulations for the operation of drones in Oregon. Panelists will include Col. Ann Wright and Peter Lumsdaine (Global Exchange; Resource Center for Nonviolence). Sponsors: Alliance for Democracy, Oregonians for Drone Control, and others.

JOIN or RENEW YOUR NATIONAL WILPF MEMBERSHIP, and/or 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: \$ _____
Non dues contribution to support Portland WILPF activities, including emailed branch newsletter: \$ _____
Extra contribution if you want to receive a **hard copy** newsletter: \$ _____
Other _____: \$ _____
TOTAL Enclosed: \$ _____

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

FYI: When you send your membership renewal – see options above – the entire dues amount goes to WILPF National; they send our branch just \$2 per member. It is your non-dues contributions directly to our branch that support all our local work.

How to keep your WILPF membership current

Being a WILPF member means joining the national organization. The best way to join, renew or rejoin is to go to wilpfus.org. If you don't do financial transactions on the internet, send your membership dues check directly to WILPF, 11 Arlington Street Boston, MA 02116. Or you can mail us the above form with your dues, and we will forward your membership dues and info to the national organization. If you send your check to us (Portland WILPF), be sure to indicate on the check's memo line how much of it you want us to forward to National.

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