



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;

Corresponding secretary: vacant; Website administrator: Danielle Packard;

Recording secretary, vacant; Membership, vacant; Treasurer, Anne McLaughlin

Newsletter co-editors: Celeste Howard, Anne McLaughlin

June 2016

Dr Joy Spalding, WILPF member who taught social work at Portland State University, died April 8 at age 89.

NEWS FROM THE MAY BUSINESS MEETING

Members Present: Brandy Robinson, Teisha Parchment, Anne McLaughlin, Celeste Howard, Danielle Packard, Sandra Oberdorfer, and Natasha Beck, presiding.

Endorsements: Veterans for Peace *Golden Rule* Peace Boat event, June 8 (see Calendar)

- * Jobs for Justice Annual Fundraiser, June 3 (jwjpx.org/25thannualdinner/)
- * Causa Oregon, Latino immigrant rights organization (www.causaoregon.org)
- * Juneteenth NAACP event, June 18 in Vancouver, WILPF tabling. Juneteenth is the annual celebration of the arrival in Galveston, Texas, of news that the Civil War was over and slaves were free! See page 2.
- * "Birth Control Brigade" street theater, June 29, WILPF financial support. Remembrance of the June 29, 1916, Portland arrest of Margaret Sanger for distributing her pamphlet, Family Limitation. See Calendar; see <http://tinyurl.com/> for a news article from 1916.
- * Hiroshima-Nagasaki Annual Commemoration on Tuesday, August 9th, led by Physicians for Social Responsibility, WILPF Portland will co-sponsor.

May 10th WILPF event: "Sista in the Brotherhood" film and panel were well received. Including the panelists, there were over 20 people present, and seven new people signed up for our emails. The panel included Dawn Jones Redstone, the filmmaker; Tiffany Thompson, a representative from Oregon Tradeswomen; and Roberta Hunte, a PSU assistant professor who interviewed 30 women in non-traditional jobs for her thesis.

2017 WILPF Triennial Congress: WILPF-US had invited our branch to host this event next year. After discussion the group agreed that we need to build our active membership before we can handle the logistics for a national congress. We have declined the invitation for 2017 and expressed interest in hosting a later congress.

Annual Meeting, Officer Election, and Potluck: Sara and Bill Tattam have generously agreed again to host our Annual Meeting at their home on SW 55th Place. It will be Saturday, July 9, noon to 3 pm. Natasha will write a newsletter article about vacant officer positions to be filled at the election. Teisha volunteered to help Brandy and Natasha plan the program, and Danielle will present two or three design options for our website to get feedback from members.

Outreach Proposal: Sandra proposed that our branch hold an event in conjunction with Oregon Humanities Conversation Project. See her article about this project on page 2.

The next business meeting of WILPF Portland scheduled for Saturday, June 11, will not be at First Unitarian Church because of Rose Festival events. Time and place TBA later.

Deadlines: For the **July newsletter:** Wednesday, June 22; for the **July calendar:** Wednesday, June 29. Send articles and event information to wilfpdx@gmail.com.

CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH

by Brandy Robinson

Juneteenth—June nineteenth--has been historically celebrated as the day that American slaves became free. Union General Gordon Granger arrived by boat at Galveston, Texas, on June 18, 1865, to occupy Texas for the federal government, signifying that the Civil War had ended. He brought word of the total emancipation of slaves. Former slaves rejoiced in the streets, and in the following year these freedmen and freedwomen organized the first of what became annual celebrations of Juneteenth in Texas. As Texans went to other places, this custom spread across the country.

Traditionally, Juneteenth has been a day to mark African-American slaves being freed — though some would argue that slavery did not officially end until later. Sharecropping and Jim Crow laws became the de facto slavery system, and in our time mass incarceration is the “new Jim Crow.” Indeed, many people all over the world continue to be enslaved. All of us may be even now cooperating with the system of slavery when we seek to purchase clothing and food for the lowest price. The modern name for slavery is ‘human trafficking.’

In the U.S., Juneteenth still focuses on the liberation of African-American slaves, and numerous celebrations around the U.S. call it National Freedom Day. Join us this year at the Juneteenth celebration in nearby Vancouver! It’s on Saturday, June 18th; see Calendar.

THE OREGON HUMANITIES CONVERSATION PROJECT

Socially Engaged Discussions Offered Across the Oregon/SW Washington Area

by Sandra Oberdorfer

WILPF members will be interested in attending any number of area public discussions organized through the [Oregon Humanities Conversation Project](#). In the Oregon Humanities' own words, the Conversation Project "brings Oregonians together to talk—across differences, beliefs, and backgrounds – about important issues and ideas." Local nonprofits and other organizations host one of their specially trained facilitators to moderate public discussion at a venue of the host organization's choosing.

Oregon Humanities posts a yearly catalog with a list of facilitators and the topics they specialize in. Themes range across a wide swath of relevant issues from food security to gender equality to government control and surveillance. Hosting organizations apply for one or several of the facilitating conversations, then Oregon Humanities works with them to coordinate time, venue and promotion.

One conversation topic relevant to WILPF members is Jade Aguilar's conversation called *Mind the Gaps, How Gender Shapes Our Lives*. An assistant professor of sociology and women's and gender studies at Willamette University, Aguilar talks about how gender shapes our identities and how we can better understand the complex ways gender affects our daily lives. Another conversation of interest is photographer Jim Lommasson's *Life after War, Photography and Oral Histories of Coming Home*, in which he talks about the emotional tribulation of homecoming for American veterans. Lommasson has collected oral histories from returning soldiers and documented their struggles upon returning home. In his conversation, participants consider the wars at home faced not only by returning veterans, but also by the communities in which they live.

The schedule for upcoming public conversations is listed on the Oregon Humanities calendar at their website. Currently, they have conversation projects scheduled through October, 2016. You can view their calendar here: <http://oregonhumanities.org/calendar/>

If you might be interested in leading discussions, consider taking the two-day Oregon Humanities Facilitation Training by clicking here for dates of upcoming workshops: oregonhumanities.org/programs/services/facilitation-training/1376/ or call Rachel Bernstein, partnership and training manager, at (503) 241-0543, ext. 124. Scholarships are available.



New Member Spotlight:

Sandra Marianne Oberdorfer is a WILPF member and artist working in a range of media including painting, ceramics and fibers. She runs Carrot Flower Creative, a small studio specializing in limited edition handmade craft objects made from recycled materials. Oberdorfer has worked for many years in education, currently as Program and Education Manager at the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education.

LINKS TO EXPLORE

<http://youtu.be/pGYEHor16jA> Natasha Beck provided this link to the talk that our branch member Carol Urner gave in Columbus NC on 4/7/16, during her *Nuclear-Free-Future* tour around the US with Ellen Thomas, Carol's WILPF Disarm/End Wars Co-Chair.

<http://www.thenation.com/article/progressive-women-are-running-for-office-all-over-the-country/?nc=1> Katrina vanden Heuvel focuses on New York congressional candidates Zephyr Teachout, Pramila Jayapal, and Lucy Flores.

<http://www.thenation.com/article/what-happened-to-sandra-bland/> Almost a biography. Very compassionate; heart-rending.

http://go.si.edu/site/PageNavigator/mm_stories "Two landmark decisions in the fight for equality and justice" is the lead story on this page of the Smithsonian's *National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC)*, scheduled to open in 2016.

<http://wocspeakout.com/index.php/about-us/> Jack Herbert attended the Women of Color event on May 26 and sent this no-compromise challenge from their website.

<http://everydayfeminism.com/2016/04/womens-rights-relationships/> Natasha Beck recommends Ginny Brown's "12 Personal Rights Women Have in Intimate Relationships"

<http://www.commondreams.org/news/2016/05/20/abandoning-doubt-denial-school-district-officially-embraces-climate-literacy> Natasha suggests this Bill Bigelow (Rethinking Schools) summary of Portland schools' sweeping "climate justice" commitment.

<http://www.thenation.com/article/break-free-from-fossil-fuels/> Best US policy to keep warming below 1.5 degrees would be phasing out fossil-fuel production on public lands and waters.—Stockholm Environmental Institute report.

<http://www.afd-pdx.org/public-bank.html> Born out of the financial crisis of 2007-08, a movement to form public banks is growing from coast to coast, focusing on municipal banks.

<http://www.commondreams.org/views/2016/05/09/why-economy-should-stop-growing-and-just-grow-up>. David Korten explains why "How do we grow the economy?" is an obsolete question and raises some more timely questions we should be asking.

<http://tinyurl.com/hgphl7s> "Elizabeth Warren takes on the 'gig economy,'" by George Zornick, writing in *The Nation*.

June 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 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, 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 to find public transportation to all these locations]

Thursday 2 June, 7 pm: Portland! Turn the City Orange!

First Unitarian Church, 1211 SW Main Street. Moms Demand Action and Ceasefire Oregon are joining in this national event to turn America orange in a day of action around gun violence prevention. With a panel of survivors and info about volunteer opportunities. Bring a friend and wear orange! facebook.com/events/467139463492551

Friday 3 June, 6 pm: Jobs With Justice PDX, 25th Anniversary and Annual Dinner

Hilton Hotel, 921 SW 6th Avenue at Taylor Street. For a quarter of a century Portland Jobs with Justice has been a hub of support for working people in our city. This annual dinner and 25th Anniversary Celebration is a fundraiser to keep JWW-PDX going strong into the future. \$100, student activists \$40. For info and tickets: jwjpdx.org/25thannualdinner/

Friday 3 June, 7:15 pm: Moisés Gómez, “Dangerous Journeys”

Musician’s Union Local 99, 325 NE 20th Avenue. Hear how people in the US can join the fight to defend the lives and rights of Central American migrants. Professor Gómez of the Jesuit Migration Network El Salvador will share his research and analysis on the root causes of migration and the impact of US-sponsored border militarization. Social hour at 6:30 hosted by Portland Central America Solidarity Committee (PCASC).

Sunday 5 June, 4 and 7 pm: Aurora Chorus Concert, “What a Wonderful World”

Parkrose High School, 12003 NE Shaver. Joan Szymko, [Aurora](#)’s conductor, describes the event: “I really do believe that our concert is a beautiful reminder that there is always respite from the ‘ugly’ out there if you seek it: in the natural world, in our own good nature— in loving each other. Our concert is respite from a world on fire, from numbing cynicism, from the dominant media culture surrounding us that profits by heavily promoting ‘always having it your way’. Please tell everyone you know to come, because everyone could use ‘a lift.’” [Ed. note: Isn’t that the truth!] Tickets \$22, at brownpapertickets.com.

Monday 6 June, 6:30 pm: “A World without Secrets: Privacy and Expectations in the United States”

Beaverton City Library, 12375 SW Fifth St., Wendy Willis leads this discussion in the Oregon Humanities Conversation Project series, which brings Oregonians together to discuss provocative issues and ideas. Info: oregonhumanities.org.

Tuesday 7 June, 6:30 pm: “Northwest Mixtape: Hip Hop Culture and Influences”

Albina Library, 3605 NE 15th Avenue near Fremont. Donnell Alexander leads this discussion in the Oregon Humanities Conversation Project series, which brings Oregonians together to discuss provocative issues and ideas. Info: oregonhumanities.org.

Wednesday 8 June, 7 to 9:30 pm: Golden Rule Panel Presentation

First Unitarian Church, Eliot Chapel, SW Salmon & SW 12th Avenue. In 1958 a crew of Quaker peace activists attempted to sail the *Golden Rule* to the Marshall Islands to interfere with US nuclear bomb testing. The *Golden Rule* has now undergone five years of reconstruction led by Veterans for Peace and is once again sailing for a nuclear-free world. In Portland for the Rose Festival, its voyage draws a distinguished panel of speakers: Helen Jaccard, crew member; Harvey Wasserman, Kianna Juda-Angelo, Mimi German, Teressa Raiford, Fred Schafer, and Chuck Johnson. Sponsored by Veterans for Peace Portland Chapter 72, KBOO-FM, No Nukes NW, Alliance for Democracy Portland, Education Without Borders, **WILPF Portland** and others. www.veteransforpeace.org \$10, no one turned away for lack of funds.

Thursday 9 through Saturday 11 June: *Golden Rule* in Portland

Waterfront Park, downtown Portland. The *Golden Rule* will be here for the Rose Festival. See previous item, and find an updated schedule at <http://www.vfpgoldenruleproject.org/events/>.

Thursday 9 June, late afternoon: Peace Fleet vs. Parade of War Ships

Waterfront Park. The *Golden Rule*, kayaktivists and other peace boats will provide a message of peace to contrast with the glorification of war and war ships when the Navy brings their weapons of destruction to Portland's waterfront. They need volunteers to pass out flyers in the park and boaters to carry the message of peace! For more information, contact Helen Jaccard, 206-992-6364, or Gerry Condon at 206-499-1220.

Friday 10 June, 6:30 to 9 pm: Potluck with *Golden Rule* Crew

Multnomah Friends Meeting, 4312 SE Stark Street. Guests include Helen Jaccard, VFP *Golden Rule* Project Manager and crew member, with a presentation about the original voyage in 1958, the ship's restoration and her 2015 and 2016 voyages, her new mission and plans for the future. Also, our Portland WILPF member Carol Urner will discuss the ways US and international groups are working for nuclear disarmament, including H.R. 1976, the bill before the US Congress to disarm and use the money for clean energy. Co-sponsored by **WILPF Portland**. For more information, call 971-282-9986 or 503-224-0097. No charge; please bring a dish to share.

Saturday 11 June, time TBA: WILPF Portland Monthly Business Meeting

This meeting will not be held at First Unitarian Church; the Grand Floral Parade will be nearby, parking will be scarce, and transit routes will be on detours. Time and place TBA later.

Saturday 11 June, 2 to 4 pm: Annual Protest of Militarism at the Rose Festival

Waterfront Park, near the military recruiting booths, probably close to the Salmon Street Springs fountain at Salmon Street. Signs and banners will be provided, and you are welcome to bring your own. Come rain or shine to this peaceful protest.

Monday 13 June: Last Day to Comment on Millennium Coal Export Terminal DEIS

Get more info at the [Columbia Riverkeeper website](#) or [Power Past Coal](#).

Wednesday 15 June, 5:30 to 8pm: Layered History, Linked Liberation: Solidarity and the Role of APIs in the Fight for Racial Justice.

SEIU Local 503, 6401 SE Foster Rd. APANO presents a panel of Chinese American leaders and organizers on the recent sentencing of NYPD Officer Peter Liang for the death of Akai Gurley and the broader questions about solidarity, community isolation, the model minority myth, and confronting anti-Blackness that the sentencing raises for Asians and Pacific Islanders. Grant-funded by Oregon Humanities. Click [here](#) to register.

Friday 17 June, 7 pm: Bill McKibben, "Climate Future Beyond Paris"

First Unitarian Church, 1211 SW Main Street. In 2007, McKibben helped found 350.org, the first planet-wide, grassroots climate change movement which has organized twenty thousand rallies around the world and launched the fast-growing fossil fuel divestment movement. Presented by [350pdx.org](#). Tickets are \$10 for students/low income and \$20 general admission; no one will be turned away for lack of funds.

Saturday 18 June, 11 am: NAACP Juneteenth Celebration, Commemorating the End of Slavery in the U.S.

Marshall Community Center and Marshall Park, 1009 E. McLoughlin, Vancouver 98663. June 18, 1865, was the day news first arrived at Galveston, Texas, that the Civil War was over and slaves had been emancipated. Festivities begin with a presentation by Cecelia Towner, founder of Black Lives Matter Vancouver, in the Oak Room of Marshall Center. At noon the celebration continues at Marshall Park. Bring your family, friends, blankets and chairs, and join us for a day of fun, learning, good eating and socializing.

Sundays 19 June—31 July, 9 to 10am: “My Neighbor Is Muslim,” Exploring the Muslim Faith

Central Lutheran Church, 1820 NE 21st Avenue at Schuyler. A series of six stand-alone sessions, using the curriculum developed under Dr. Tom Green, history professor at Luther Seminary, in cooperation with Minnesota Lutheran Social Services, and the Minnesota Da`wah Islamic Center, Saint Paul. Discussions facilitated by members of Lutherans for Justice in the Holy Land. No assigned homework. Attendees can come to one, some, or all six sessions and benefit. Session #1: Introduction to Islam; #2: The Five Pillars of Islam; #3: Islam and Jesus, Islam and Jews/Christians; #4: Islam and Charity, Islam and Violence; #5: Islam and Finance, The Islamic State; #6: A panel of our Muslim neighbors. No session July 3. Questions: call Ginny, Lutherans for Justice in the Holy Land, Central Lutheran Church, 503-901-7329.

Wednesday 22 June: Deadline for WILPF Portland July Newsletter articles

Email to wilfpdx@gmail.com.

Wednesday 22 June, 7pm: Building Community, Preventing Violence

Beaverton Community Center, 12350 SW Fifth St., #100, Beaverton. [Vision Action Network](#) hosts a facilitated conversation to address the topic of violence in our world and how we can thoughtfully confront it as individuals and in community with others. Grant-funded by Oregon Humanities. Click [here](#) to register.

Sunday 26 June, 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, enjoy 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.

Monday 27 and Wednesday 29 June: 6:30 to 8:30 pm: “Dirty Energy, Dirty Money”

Monday in Portland, Wednesday in Beaverton, location provided when you [RSVP](#). How money in politics skews the fight against climate change ... and how we can fix it! Common Cause Oregon teamed up with environmental advocates to investigate how big money tried to block major clean energy reform in the Oregon legislature. And now we want to share our research with you. Join us as we go in depth to show how the energy industry tries to buy our elections, influence lawmakers, and prevent Oregon from confronting the threat of climate change. More info at 350pdx.org

Wednesday 29 June: Deadline for WILPF Portland July Newsletter Calendar

Email Calendar items to wilfpdx@gmail.com.

Wednesday 29 June, 11 am to 2pm: Street Theater with the Birth Control Brigade

Roaming downtown Portland, including Oregon Historical Society, Farmer’s Market and other sites. 100 years ago today, Portland became the only city in the US to arrest & jail birth control advocate Margaret Sanger on her first national tour. The five-man City Council called her *Family Limitation* pamphlet “lewd, obscene, and indecent,” banned it from distribution, and ordered the police to arrest Sanger and take her to jail - which they did. They also arrested local hero Marie Equi MD, Sanger’s friend and colleague, and were then followed by a couple hundred more women - plus some good men - who demanded to be arrested with Sanger and marched to the jail. The Birth Control Brigade (local historians and reproductive justice activists) will re-enact Sanger’s visit to focus on arguments about *Family Limitation* in the US right now. Be on the lookout for them around downtown.

Saturday 9 July, 12 to 3 pm: WILPF Portland Annual Meeting, Election and Potluck

At the home of Bill and Sara Tattam on SW 55th Place near Beaverton Hillsdale Highway. Our election of officers will include the positions of Recording Secretary and Corresponding

Secretary, which are currently vacant; there are as yet no volunteers. Please consider joining our small group of active members who come to our monthly mid-day Saturday meetings to plan our branch activities. Neither position involves more than a few hours per month.

Wednesday 20 July, 7 pm: Think and Drink with Isabel Wilkerson

Alberta Rose Theater, NE Alberta at 30th Avenue. The author of "*The Warmth of Other Suns The Epic Story of America's Great Migration*," and the first African American woman Pulitzer Prize winner in the history of American journalism. She spent fifteen years researching *The Warmth of Other Suns*, interviewing more than 1,200 people to tell the story of the nearly six million African Americans who, between 1915 and 1970, fled the South for northern and western cities in search of a better life. Event sponsored by [Oregon Humanities](#). Tickets: \$15 to \$25 at [albertarosetheatre.com](#). Minors must be accompanied by an adult.

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

Japanese-American Historical Plaza, Waterfront Park at NW Couch Street. Save the date. Co-sponsored by **WILPF Portland**

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

Moda Center, Tickets \$29 to \$160 at [www.rosequarter.com](#) or call 800-745-3000.

SUPPORT YOUR PORTLAND WILPF BRANCH

To contribute to WILPF Portland: Use the form below. It is not for membership dues; it is 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 recent mailings from WILPF US, your WILPF membership is probably not current. Their most recent mailing included the Spring "One WILPF Newsletter" and a fundraising letter (Craigslist "Pop-Up donation Challenge"), mailed out in May. **To confirm whether your membership is current**, contact the national office at 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. 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: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip+4: _____

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