

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

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September 2014

REPORT ON WILPF US TRIENNIAL CONGRESS, JULY 31-AUGUST 3

by Lucinda Tate and Carol Urner

THEME: [Global Detroit: Women, Democracy and Corporate Power](#), reflecting how the struggle for democracy and against corporate power—in Detroit and all around the world—infuses our struggles for disarmament, peace, human rights, a sustainable environment, and more.

[Lucinda] It was exciting to have Detroit as the selected location for our Triennial Congress! While touring the city, I saw the area most hit by the water shut offs—predominantly neighborhoods where poor people and people of color live. What a disgrace and obvious takeover of public services by private interests! WILPF members attended the rally to put pressure on the Mayor and Water District, sent messages to Detroit politicians, and wrote a statement, “Water is a Human Right,” that was sent to the White House.

I concentrated on human rights issues and connected with members of the issue committee, Advancing Human Rights, that I co-chair with Barbara Nielsen from San Francisco. It was great to match voices/emails with faces. I led a workshop, “Violence Against Women.” All the position papers and presentation summaries with action plans will turn up on our computers or in *Peace and Freedom* articles that put WILPF US on track for our next three years. I really enjoyed my time in Detroit. I only wish more of you could have been with us.

[Carol] It was wonderful just to see one another face-to-face and to relate in person while we grappled with some of the biggest problems of our era, learned from one another, and began laying the foundations for our next century of work—at least for the next three years. Nineteen members from the National Disarm/End Wars Issue Committee (of which I am still co-chair) attended. We had presentations in all seven sessions.

- One on exciting new efforts to abolish nuclear weapons. (See www.nuclearzero.org to learn more about the Marshall Islands lawsuits in the World Court against all nine nuclear powers, demanding that they begin negotiations for abolition as promised.)
- One on continuing attempts to create a nuclear and WMD free zone in the Middle East.
- One on the dangers in nuclear power, waste and uranium mining. If nuclear weapons don't end life on earth, nuclear power and waste eventually will.
- Two on drones, the drones quilt exhibit, and plans for a national day for drones protest events on October 4, the first day of *Keep Space for Peace Week*.

Significantly, though, our Disarm committee decided to emphasize *End Wars* in our committee name, bringing WILPF into the new World Beyond War movement. See our statement at wilpfus.org/news/wilpf-us-statement-joining-international-coalition-world-beyond-war. The theme of WILPF's hundredth anniversary is “*Women's Power to Stop War*.” We must grow in that power as we learn better how to live the ways of nonviolence and love while helping to develop and build the institutions needed for peace.

The next Portland WILPF business meeting will be on Saturday, September 13, from 1 to 3 pm in room A301, First Unitarian Church. Join us to discuss plans for 2014/15, and come early for a brown bag lunch together. Submit articles for the October newsletter by September 22 and calendar items by September 25 to wilfpdx@gmail.com.

WOMEN'S POWER TO STOP WAR WEBINAR SERIES

Starting last November 2013, WILPF has been sponsoring a series of webinars that are occurring every two months in the lead up to April 2015. They are open to everybody. They approach issues of peace and security from a gender perspective. The next webinar, Episode 6, is coming up at the end of September. To get more information or to sample any of the five previous episodes, go to <http://www.womenstopwar.org/wsw-webinar-series/>. If you register at that site, you'll receive an email reminder with a link to click at the time of the webinar.

TWO MEN OF CONSCIENCE

Participating in the summer Stafford Studies workshop, Natasha Beck has completed her project entitled "Two Men of Conscience," in honor of William Stafford. Her illustrated biographical sketch compares Stafford's career as a conscientious objector during WWII to the student activist career of Natasha's father, Maurice (Maury) Beck, who was Stafford's close contemporary. Although the two men never met, they "shared common philosophical and political beliefs, as well as a strong love of literature." To see what a student anti-war strike was like in 1935, go to <http://williamstaffordarchives.org/natashabeck/>.

PREPARING FOR THE PEOPLE'S CLIMATE MARCH ON SEPTEMBER 21

A great deal of progress has been made since the first big protest against the Keystone XL Pipeline in late August 2011. Hear climate leaders talk about it on Sept. 16/17 (details in the Calendar). The People's Climate March is expected to be the largest climate march in history. Any website below will remind/inform you why and how our popular will for action has grown.

<http://ecowatch.com/2014/08/28/bill-mckibben-democracy-now/> Bill McKibben interview, plus links to a summary of the new UN climate report, a Sandra Steingraber article on anti-fracking movement, and Leonardo DiCaprio narrating short films on giving up fossil fuels.

<http://www.commondreams.org/news/2014/08/27/severe-pervasive-irreversible-ipccs-devastating-climate-change-conclusions> What the UN climate report says.

<http://www.commondreams.org/views/2014/08/27/making-living-living-planet> Joe Uehlein describes how to make a living as climate changes.

A CALENDAR OF PEACE HOLIDAYS

The US calendar has 66 separate military holidays, including Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and the upcoming 9/11 Remembrance Day / Patriot Day. WorldBeyondWar.org has prepared a new calendar that reminds us of peace-making events, like the Kellogg-Briand Pact signed August 27, 1928, which outlawed war. The new Calendar of Peace Holidays can be downloaded from <http://www.worldbeyondwar.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/WBWcalendar.pdf>. It's "Good for every year until all war is abolished and sustainable peace is established."

PEEKS BEHIND THE MAINSTREAM MEDIA CURTAIN

Even in Portland we may find an Oregonian editorial taking Monsanto's side on GMO labeling or KOPB ignoring, then featuring only one side of a significant foreign policy issue like the trouble in Ukraine. Listening to Democracy Now and other programs on KBOO, plus some articles available online are needed to obtain views beyond the Washington DC consensus.

- On GMOs: Be sure to notice the series of 8 informative documentaries on GMOs being shown August 7-10 at Clinton Street Theatre, two each evening (see Calendar pages).
- On Ukraine: <http://www.commondreams.org/news/2014/08/29/will-ukraine-bid-join-nato-unleash-21st-century-cold-war>; and the one featured in Global Network's *Space Alert*, <http://www.counterpunch.org/2014/06/06/washingtons-iron-curtain-in-ukraine/>
- Follow-up on nuclear dangers, <http://ecowatch.com/2014/08/28/fukushima-solartopia-atomic-meditation/> Audio of Harvey Wasserman's 60-min speech on Hiroshima Day at Unitarian Hall in Berkeley, California.

September 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** (ongoing since March)
- * **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 4 September, 5 to 9 pm: Michael Kurz art, "Time Will Speak. And Speak. And Speak."

City Club of Portland, 901 SW Washington St. Join City Club & Café Voila for First Thursday. Michael presents a new body of work—large abstract landscape paintings and pastels evoking the drama and beauty of our local geography. Preview his art at www.michaelkurz.com. Free, RSVP at www.pdxcityclub.org.

Thursday 4 September, 7 pm: Echoes of the Vietnam War

Oregon Historical Society Pavilion, 1200 SW Park Ave at Madison. Featuring Christian Appy, University of Massachusetts Amherst; Daniel Ellsberg, who released *The Pentagon Papers*; and Lt. Colonel Thuy Tran, Oregon Air National Guard. Co-sponsored by the ACLU of Oregon. Free and open to the public; registration required at www.worldoregon.org.

Friday 5 September, 12:15 pm: City Club Friday Forum, "State of Our Schools: Leading for Racial Equity"

Sentinel Hotel, 614 SW 11th Avenue; doors open 11:30 am. School superintendents Carole Smith (Portland), Don Grotting (David Douglas) and Karen Gray (Parkrose) will be joined by Sheila Martin, Director of the Institute of Portland Metropolitan Studies at PSU, and Daniel Ledezma, education advisor to Gov. Kitzhaber. Members free, \$15 for non-members.

Friday 5 September, 6 to 11 pm: Opening Night, "Enemy: Imperialism/Enemigo: Imperialismo"

Independent Publishing Resource Center, 1001 SE Division Street. Portland Central America Solidarity Committee (PCASC) presents a bilingual community art exhibit inviting artists and community to envision a world free of imperialism. The exhibit features works of local artists, regional collectives, and Chilean artists. It continues through September 25. The Center is open noon to 10 pm on Mondays & Fridays, 4 to 10 pm TWTh, 5 to 10 pm Sundays.

Sunday 7 September, 3 pm: Nicaragua Today

214 NE Thompson Street, on the lawn; please bring your chair. Veterans for Peace #72 members Mike Hastie, Brian Willson, and Becky Leuning report back on their recent trip to Nicaragua as guests of President Daniel Ortega commemorating the 35th anniversary of the Sandinista Revolution. Music by David Rovics. Donation \$5-\$20; no one turned away.

Sunday 7 September, 5:30-8 pm: City Club Leadership Spotlight, Matt Morton

Hennebery Eddy Architects, 921 SW Washington St. #250. Matt, a Squaxin Island Tribe member, is Executive Director of the Native American Youth and Family Center and also chairs Oregon's Youth Development Council. Free. [Click here to RSVP](#).

Sunday 7 September, 6 pm: GMO Awareness Film Series, "Genetic Roulette"

Clinton Street Theatre, 2522 SE Clinton St. Documentary evidence on public health two decades after the introduction of untested genetically modified (GM) crops into our environment and food supply. The same serious health problems found in lab animals, livestock, and pets eating GM foods are now on the rise in the US population.

Sunday 7 September, 6 pm: GMO Awareness Film Series, "Forks Over Knives"

Clinton Street Theatre, 2522 SE Clinton St. Examines the profound claim that most, if not all, of the degenerative diseases that afflict us can be controlled, or even reversed, by rejecting our present menu of animal-based and processed foods.

Monday 8 September, 6 pm: GMO Awareness Film Series, "King Corn"

Clinton Street Theatre, 2522 SE Clinton St. A feature documentary about two friends, one acre of corn, and the subsidized crop that drives our fast-food nation. The film raises troubling questions about how we eat—and how we farm.

Monday 8 September, 8 pm: GMO Awareness Film Series, "Edible City"

Clinton Street Theatre, 2522 SE Clinton St. Edible City introduces a diverse cast of extraordinary characters who are challenging the paradigm of our broken food system. The film digs deep into their unique perspectives and transformative work, finding inspirational, grass-roots solutions based on growing local food systems and economies.

Tuesday 9 September, 6 pm: GMO Awareness Film Series, "The Future of Food"

Clinton Street Theatre, 2522 SE Clinton St. Examines the complex web of market and political forces that are changing what we eat, as huge multinational corporations seek to control the world's food system. The film also explores alternatives to large-scale industrial agriculture, placing organic and sustainable agriculture as real solutions to the farm crisis.

Tuesday 9 September, 8 pm: GMO Awareness Film Series, "Symphony of the Soil"

Clinton Street Theatre, 2522 SE Clinton St. Filmed on four continents, featuring esteemed scientists and working farmers and ranchers, this artistic film highlights possibilities of healthy soil creating healthy plants that create healthy humans living on a healthy planet.

Wednesday 10 September, 6 pm: GMO Awareness Film Series, "Food, Inc"

Clinton Street Theatre, 2522 SE Clinton St. Filmmaker Robert Kenner lifts the veil on our nation's food industry, exposing the highly mechanized underbelly that has been hidden from the American consumer. Our nation's food supply is now controlled by a handful of corporations that often put profit ahead of consumer health.

Wednesday 10 September, 8 pm: GMO Awareness Film Series, "Queen of the Sun: What Are the Bees Telling Us?"

Clinton Street Theatre, 2522 SE Clinton St. This film from Taggart Siegel weaves an unusual and dramatic story of the heartfelt struggles of beekeepers, scientists and philosophers from around the world including Michael Pollan, Gunther Hauk and Vandana Shiva. Together they reveal both the problems and the solutions in renewing a culture in balance with nature.

Friday 12 September, 8 am, to Saturday 13 September, 9 pm: 2014 "Justice Begins with Seeds" Conference

First Congregational United Church of Christ, 1126 SW Park Ave. Plenaries and workshops that will explore an array of issues related to GMOs. Jeffrey Smith speaks on September 13 at 3:30pm on "Getting Up to Date on the Documented Health Risks of GMOs and Roundup." Go to <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/2014-justice-begins-with-seeds-conference-tickets> for flexible income-based tickets.

Saturday 13 September, 9 am to 4 pm: Vancouver Peace and Justice Fair

Esther Short Park, 8th and Columbia, Vancouver WA. This 11th annual fair will showcase the hard work and creative spirit of the grassroots peace and justice groups in Southwest Washington. At the stage, there will be a series of events including music, dance and poetry. Around the park, groups will have exhibit spaces for tables. Children's activities will be happening throughout the day.

Saturday 13 September, 1 to 3 pm: Portland WILPF Business Meeting

First Unitarian Church, room A 301. Important planning meeting for 2014-2015. Some of us come early for a brown bag lunch together. Please join us at whatever time you can!

Saturday 13 September, 12:30 to 3 pm: BYOB (Bring Your Own Brunch) Feminist Meet-up and Discussion Group.

In Other Words, 14 NE Killingsworth. Group meets on second Saturday of each month. For updated information, search for Portland Feminist Meet-up on www.facebook.com.

Sunday 14 September through Sunday 28 September: "La Luna Nueva" Events

Milagro Theatre, 425 SE 6th Avenue. Portland's only Latino arts and culture festival. Evenings of Andean dances and legends, eye-opening Hip hop theatre, live Theatre for all ages, reflections of the unifying and universal impact of war, and visual art exhibits. Event details and tickets: <http://milagro.org/1-Performance-Presentacion/2014-15Season/la-luna-nueva.html>.

Tuesday/Wednesday 16/17 September: 24 Hours of Reality, 24 Reasons for Hope

Visit <http://www.climaterealityleaders.com/> for how to tune in and hear climate leaders talk.

Sunday 21 September, 1 pm: PDX People's Climate March

Departing from Shemanski Park, between SW Main & Salmon. Join us for the largest climate justice mobilization in history as people take to the streets across the country and around the world. With our future on the line and the whole world watching, we'll take a stand to bend the arc of history. The time is now. Action to save our planet in the next year and a half is critical to our survival.

Tuesday 23 September, 7 pm: Forum on U.S. Foreign Policy: The Wars Continue

Friends Meeting House, 4312 SE Stark. Examining America's role in the wars in Iraq, Afghanistan, Gaza, Pakistan, Yemen, Somalia, and the re-ignited Cold War with Russia. Initial organizers of the forum include Peace and Justice Works Iraq Affinity Group, Occupy Portland Elder Caucus and American Friends Service Committee. For more information contact Peace and Justice Works at 503-235-3065 or iraq@pjw.info.

Tuesday 23 September, 7-8:30 pm: Community Discussion on Wage Theft

St Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church, 1704 NE 43rd Ave. Members of the Oregon Coalition to Stop Wage Theft, Northwest Workers' Justice Project (NWJP) and workers who have been affected will share stories and background information. Organized by the Jobs With Justice Faith Labor Committee. To secure your seat, email marco@jwjpdx.org by September 16.

Thursday-Saturday 25-27 September, 8 pm, Sunday 28 September, 2 pm: Theatre: "Words That Burn"

Milagro Theatre, 425 SE 6th Ave. Part of the La Luna Nueva events in honor of Latino/Chicano Heritage Month. A dramatization, using a blend of poetry and monologue in their own words, that shows how three historical figures—conscientious objector William Stafford, Japanese-American internee Lawson Inada, and East Los Angeles marine Guy Gabaldón—galvanized language to discover freedom during WWII. Tickets \$20, \$17 seniors/students/vets; order at www.milagro.com [search for words that burn].

Friday 26 September, 7 pm: Health Care for All Oregon Benefit, George Mann in Concert

St. David of Wales Church, 2800 SE Harrison; doors open at 6:30. General Strike and others will join George. \$5-15 sliding scale donation suggested, no one turned away.

Friday 26 September, evening; Saturday 27 September, all day: Pacific NW Social Forum People's Movement Assembly

First Unitarian Church, SW 12th & Main St. The Pacific NW Social Forum (PNWSF) is a convergence of people's movements working in northern California, Oregon, Washington, British Columbia, Montana, Idaho, Utah, Hawaii and Alaska to build solidarity and unified action for social, economic and environmental justice in the Pacific Northwest. Sliding scale registration is now open at www.pnwsf.org.

Saturday 27 September, 7 to 11:30 pm: 2014 Seventh Annual Solidarity Salsa Party
SEIU 503 Ballroom, 6401 SE Foster Road. Popular fundraiser for Jobs with Justice and Voz! Celebrating and strengthening the unity between the workers' rights movement and the immigrant rights movement. Tickets \$20, <http://portlandvoz.org/2014salsasolidarityparty/> .

Sunday 28 September, 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.

Friday 3 October, 8:30 am to 5 pm: 2014 Regional Livability Summit—Pathways to Prosperity: Advancing Economic Justice

Portland State University, Smith Memorial Center, 1825 SW Broadway. Keynote speaker Dr. [Antwi Akom](#), Associate Professor of Environmental Sociology, Public Health, and STEM Education at San Francisco State and Executive Director of the Institute for Sustainable Economic, Educational, and Environmental Design ([I-SEED](#)). Early registration closes 15 September. <https://clfuture.org/news-events/regional-livability-summit>

Saturday 4 October: Global Day of Action Against the Use of Drones for Surveillance and Killing

<http://globaldayofaction.nationbuilder.com/> for concept and information. This day also begins the 2014 *Keep Space for Peace Week*, sponsored annually by **WILPF** and the Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space. Look for Portland actions to be announced for the week of Saturday, October 4, to Saturday, October 11. www.space4peace.org