



**Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
Triangle Branch Newsletter**

www.trianglewilpf.org

August 2008

Membership Renewal Time

We are indeed living in time filled with the need for our voices and our action. As members of WILPF, we are fortunate to be part of an international family, a membership which makes our small voices more vocal, more visible, more informed.

As treasurer of our branch these many years, I feel as though I know more of you than I really do know as I process your faithful membership dues support each year. I open every envelope with a prayer for you — and you stay in my heart as we hold our vigils, march our marches, write our letters, speak out at meetings, support our Orange County Peace Coalition peer group efforts, and try to live out the mission that WILPF's peace and justice agenda proposes for us each year. All of this involvement depends mightily on your financial support and your continued encouragement for us to carry on.

Rising costs — especially with postage and the newsletter, and generous support to critical local initiatives and supporting the U.S. Section (national) and a regularly-updated website — are placing a strain on our available resources.

Since a new membership year begins in September, I appeal to you to renew your support again as soon as you are able.

With Jane Addams, let all of singly and together, try to make our lives worthy every day of the

Triangle WILPF:
Sliding scale-\$12 to \$30 depending on ability
Student—\$5

c/o Ann Powers
250-100 S. Estes Drive
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

www.trianglewilpf.org

U.S. WILPF:
Family \$40.
Individual \$35

U.S. WILPF
1213 Race Street
Philadelphia. PA 19107-1691

splendid opportunity we have to make our world a better place for our children and grandchildren.

Peace!
Ann Powers

WEEKLY ONGOING VIGILS

Corner of Franklin and Elliot, Chapel Hill, by Whole Foods, Fridays 5:00-6:00.

Stop the Iraq War, Impeachment, Stop Torture, No Iran War.

Corner of Gregson and Main, Durham, by Brightleaf Square. Noon-1 P.M., Saturdays.

Impeachment and Peace in Iraq (GRIM and others.)

Calendar of Events

Fridays, 7:30 a.m.-8:00 a.m.: WILPF's RADIO SHOW on 103.5 FM-WCOM in Carrboro and Chapel Hill. Also available on the internet by going to <http://www.communityradio.coop/> and clicking on the box in the upper right hand corner. Contribute! This is your community radio station!

Sat., Aug. 9, 10:00-Noon Triangle WILPF monthly meeting, Friends Meeting House, Raleigh Rd., Chapel Hill. DVD of Bill Moyers on Media Reform, recorded at the fourth National Conference for Media Reform, June 9 (929-1786).

Vigil at Aero Contractors near Smithfield: 2-4 PM, August 9, NC 70B at Swift Creek Road. Join NC Stop Torture Now. Carpool from Chapel (942-2535) or Durham (403-2712).

For A World Free of Nuclear Weapons: invitation to commemorate Hiroshima and Nagasaki Days 2008, 3 PM, Aug 9, Carol Woods Assembly Hall, 750 Weaver Dairy Road, Chapel Hill. Elders for Peace and Orange County Peace Coalition. Call 918-3504 to reserve a seat.

Help Send Volunteers to Latin America on Witness for Peace Delegation: Rice and beans fundraising dinner with speakers, 6 PM, August 9, Eno River UU Fellowship, 4907 Garrett Rd, Durham. \$15 requested, sponsored by Carolina Interfaith Taskforce on Central American (CITCA), Chapel Hill-Carrboro CITCA, Sister Communities of San Ramon, Nicaragua, and Student

Action with Farmworkers. (489-1656).

Alamance 287 (g) Support Group: 7PM, August 14, Elon University, Business School, Room 302. Planning around concern of sheriff's involvement with ICE raids in county. Carpool from Chapel Hill: 942-2535.

Possible Trial of Students Protesting in Moeser's office about sweatshops: 9AM, August 18, Chapel Hill Courthouse. (Watch for update.)

Rebecca Headen, Racial Justice Project Coordinator, ACLU-NC addresses Orange County Bill of Rights Defense Committee: 7PM, August 21, Chapel Hill Public Library. What can be done about ongoing arrests and detentions of immigrants? 942-2535.

Fri., Aug. 22, 7:30-9:00 p.m. WILPF Book Club To discuss Naomi Klein's *The Shock Doctrine*. 1018 Highland Woods Rd., Chapel Hill (929-5983).

Sat., Aug 23, 9:00-10:00 a.m. Triangle WILPF monthly Steering Committee meeting. All are welcome! Weaver Street Market, Weaver Street, Carrboro (929-5983)

Sat., Sep. 13, 10:00 a.m.-Noon Triangle WILPF monthly meeting, Friends Meeting House, Raleigh Rd., Chapel Hill. Tentatively Joyce Blackwell-johnson, Chair of the History and Political Science Department at St.

30th Triennial Congress

Lib Hutchby and Dick Paddock

Two weeks after the disastrous floods in eastern Iowa, the generosity of the Des Moines WILPF chapter overflowed with gracious hospitality. Simpson College, Indianola, Iowa became the setting for the 30th Triennial Congress of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF). Begun in 1915 "to make known and eliminate the causes of war. They resolved, acted and organized; they worked for peace and freedom by asserting the right and the responsibility of women to participate in decision-making on all aspects for peace and security." We were reminded that we are still trying to achieve the goals set in 1915, even as planning has begun for the 100th Anniversary celebration.

True to the Congress' reputation, non-stop energy expectations took us to plenaries, workshops, campaign and issue committee reports, dancing water, heated discussions, early morning caucuses, night owl gathering circles, and delight in hearing the Raging Grannies every day. For a burning issue, a

creatively decorated soap box awaited in the middle of the court yard. For those who wanted to listen to stories, WILPF history, music, the buzzing of ideas, the telling of success and failure around specific issues, opportunities were ripe.

There we celebrated, learned, and felt empowered. Both Amy Goodman, principal host of Pacifica Radio's Democracy Now! Program and Fran Korten, publisher of *Yes! Magazine* were among the plenary speakers. By learning from courageous activists, including Hanan Awwad, chair of WILPF Palestine, who spoke on WILPF's role in civil society living under occupation, we were in touch with powerful truth-tellers. Awwad also presented some of her moving poetry and more intimate tales of her life as a Palestinian at a late-night session.

A special treat was a trip to the Farmer's Market in Des Moines, at which the Grannies sang and the rest of us enjoyed them, the people, and the wares.

For more information about WILPF's Campaigns, such as the Water Campaign (pgs. 12,13, 23) or the International Program, refer to the Spring 2008 issue of *Peace and Freedom*. You can also "go to www.peacewomen.org to read the Security Council Resolution (SCR) 1325, the first resolution ever passed by the council that specifically addresses the impact of war on women, and especially, the value of women in the work of conflict resolution and peace building. It calls for women to be involved at all decision-making levels for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and to have a seat at all peace tables."

For further coverage of the Congress, including pictures and YouTube Videos, go here:
http://www.wilpf.org/congress_report

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Triangle WILPF steering committee meets every fourth Saturday of the month 9 a.m. at Weaver Street Market in Carrboro. All WILPF members & friends are welcome.

If you would like to join WILPF or update your membership, please contact Ann Powers
dannpowers@bellsouth.net 919-942-2919

If you have an item for the steering committee to consider or an item for the Triangle WILPF listserv action alerts, please contact Lucy Lewis
llewis2001@earthlink.net 919-929-5983

If you have an item for the newsletter, please contact Dick Paddock, repaddock@nc.rr.com 919-929-1786

If you have an item for the website, please contact Lucy Lewis llewis2001@earthlink.net 919-929-5983



New US WILPF Statement on the War in Iraq and Iran

TO ALL CONGRESS PEOPLE

re: WAR in IRAQ and IRAN

We condemn and oppose the United States war and occupation of Iraq, which has caused the death of over 4,000 U.S. military personnel and over 1 million Iraqis. Untold numbers of combat troops have been physically and psychologically damaged. In addition there are

over 5 million Iraqi refugees, which place a strain on the economies of the receiving countries. An estimated 1 million war widows work to eke out a living for their families. Furthermore, unprovoked war and occupation, based on lies and deceit, are in violation of international law, which protects the rights of sovereign nations.

We deplore the use of torture which is, according to the Bush administration, an acceptable intelligence gathering technique. For 7 years the Bush policy has withheld due process of the prisoners held at Guantanamo Bay.

We condemn the recent U.S. Congressional decision to provide \$165 billion for continued funding of the war and occupation, which includes 58 U.S. bases in Iraq. Future generations will be burdened with this debt.

House Resolution #362, introduced in June 2008, requiring a naval blockade on Iran, includes measures that amount to an act of war. We strongly condemn any plan for attacking Iran which will expand U.S. domination in the Middle East and further destabilize the region.

We call for the immediate withdrawal of all U.S. military and all private contractors from Iraq.

**Womens International League for Peace and Freedom, U.S. Section
30th Triennial Congress, Des Moines IA
June 2008**

"We have made but the merest of beginnings in the highest of human arts, that of living and working together on the plane of consent and cooperation without coercion."
--Emily Greene Balch, WILPF's first



