

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Triangle, NC
Chapter



Newsletter Winter 2016

TRIANGLE BRANCH CELEBRATES 80: *An Evening of Celebration, Solidarity, and Resistance*

The Triangle Branch of WILPF celebrated our 80th Anniversary and International WILPF's 100 Anniversary on November 6th. More than 70 WILPF members, friends, and allies attended the event. Because of the critical nature of the times we live in, we decided not to have a keynote speaker. Instead we asked our allies to be the keynoters for the event, sharing the work that they are engaged in and suggesting ways that others can strengthen collaborations and provide support and solidarity. Remarks were shared by community activists in organizations including the Chapel Hill-Carrboro and state NAACP, Rogers Road Community Center, A Phillip Randolph Institute, Bill of Rights Defense Committee, Balance and Accuracy in Journalism, Jewish Voices for Peace, Black Workers for Justice, Frack Free NC, and Abraham Initiative on Middle East (AIME).



These presentations were preceded by brief remarks from Lucy Lewis, Triangle WILPF Steering Committee, outlining key highlights of WILPF and local branch herstory. Triangle WILPF was founded in 1935 by Charlotte Adams, and has a long history in our community both for independently organized vigils, protests, and advocacy but also as catalysts for other organizations and activities.

Following dinner, Ruth Zalph and Peggy Misch were honored as WILPF Wise Women Elders for their decades of work for peace, freedom and justice. Ruth most recently walked across the state of North Carolina this fall with the NAACP's Journey for Justice, a march from Selma to DC for "our jobs, our schools, our votes and

our lives". Peggy was honored in absentia, as she was in Palestine, the oldest member of a Code Pink delegation harvesting olives; she received the award at WILPF's December 12 meeting.



Ann Powers presenting Ruth Zalph with award

The Raging Grannies began and ended the evening's events with songs written for the occasion, and everyone present joined them in a finale of "We Shall Not Be Moved". More pictures for the event can be seen at www.trianglewilpf.org



Lori Hoyt presenting Peggy Misch with award

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STOP THE TPP: WILPF Delegation Meet with Congressman David Price

The US Section of WILPF has been actively opposing the TransPacific Partnership through its Earth Democracy and Corporations v. Democracy committees. Miriam Thompson, who has been spearheading Triangle WILPF's efforts, organized a WILPF delegation to Congressman David Price's Chapel Hill office on December 21 where we presented the staff member with a holiday gift of a poster illustrating the environmental destruction that TPP will cause. A 12 member WILPF delegation returned on January 5 and met with the Congressman, citing our many concerns.



Dick Paddock, Lori Hoyt, Miriam Thompson, Chris Carlson, Connie Gates, Peggy Misch, Lib Hutchby, Lucy Lewis with Congressional staffer

Miriam also wrote the following letter to the Raleigh News and Observer, which was printed in December:

Trans Pacific Partnership: Another War Looms
As we enter the new year, Congress is expected to vote on the Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement that President Obama signed recently. Joining opponents of the Agreement who have visited congressional offices before the Christmas holidays, the Triangle Branch of the Women's International League for Peace & Freedom (WILPF) sent a large delegation to deliver a Christmas message to Congress member Price, urging him to oppose the TPP when it comes before Congress for an up or down vote.

WILPF celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2015 and 80 years in the Triangle, during which time it has been on the front lines in the fight for voting rights, universal health care, labor rights, public education, environmental justice, and the struggle to end racism, poverty, militarism and war. The

WILPF members argue that the TPP imposes unconscionable erosion of its long standing struggle for social justice, citing research provided by Public Citizen, and labor and environmental groups. It would cause grievous harm to the global community, especially to the most vulnerable who have already suffered job loss and environmental damage from previous trade agreements. At the same time, corporations are free to plunder our planet, including the tax subsidized oil and gas industry.

Under the agreement's Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) clause, big corporations can sue our local governments who seek to impose restrictions on environmental degradation by declaring such actions threaten their future profit. Further, under TPP, big Pharma can threaten the lives of many in our community and around the globe by raising the price of essential drugs, achieved through its lobbying efforts to secure extended patent protection. Equally disturbing is the number of TPP signatories whose governments have been cited for human rights violations, including drug and slave trafficking.

While we celebrate the holidays and the new year, WILPF urges we take the time to contact our congress members, press for a no vote on TPP and demand a fair trade agreement that benefits people not profits.

Miriam Thompson, Triangle Chapter, Women's International League for Peace & Freedom (WILPF)

SAYING NO TO WHITE SUPREMACY AT UNC



WILPF members joined Movement to End Racism and Islamophobia in supporting more than 150 UNC students on October 26 for a counter-protest when white supremacists marched on UNC's campus. The Real Silent Sam Coalition has been leading the call to take down UNC's Confederate Memorial and to address the University's racial landscape.

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RUTH ZALPH HONORED WITH MLK COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro NAACP branch awarded Ruth Zalph with the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community



Service Award at its annual MLK Worship Service on January 18. Diane Robertson, the branch's Political Action Chair, presented the award, citing Ruth's commitment, and faithfulness. In addition to solidarity trips to Cuba and Palestine, arrests for protesting Duke Energy and twice at Moral Mondays, Ruth was recognized for walking across the entire state of NC with the NAACP Journey for Justice last

summer. Congratulations Ruth!

WILPFER ARRESTED OPPOSING FRACKING



John Wagner and other Seneca Falls protesters
"December 9, 2015 – Watkins Glen, NY – Nineteen people from New York, New Jersey, and as far away as North Carolina added their bodies and voices to the blockade at Crestwood's proposed methane gas storage facility on the shores of Seneca Lake on Wednesday morning. They stood in an orderly line with banners reading "Protecting Our Only Home" and "There Is No Plan(et) B" across the entrance to Crestwood's facility on Route 14 in Watkins Glen. This is the third blockade in the past week, timed to coincide with the COP21 climate negotiations in Paris. Over 400 people have been arrested in similar actions over the past year.

"Crestwood's plans endanger the drinking water for 100,000 people, and the fracking industry's extraction, transportation and storage of fracked gasses are major contributors to our

planetary climate chaos," said John Wagner, 62, of Pittsboro, North Carolina. "I am also here today as a small act of support and solidarity with Vanda Shiva, indigenous groups, Sandra Steingraber and others that are in Paris to try to keep the Climate Summit goals from being derailed by powerful corporations."

WILPF'S Environmental Committee efforts continue to focus on illegal dumping of coal ash, anti-fracking, and protecting the State's water resources. For more information contact Lib at libhutchby@earthlink.net or John at john_wagner@sarbo.net. For info about US WILPF's Earth Democracy Cte, visit www.wilpus.org

Listen to **WILPF's WAKE-UP CALL at WCOM 103.5 FM**, our weekly radio show. The program features local social justice newsmakers, and airs every Wednesday at 5-6PM; you can also stream live at www.wcom.org. The program is now being broadcast on **The Peoples Channel Thursdays evening at 10pm** – TWC Channel 8 in Chapel Hill, TWC Channel 4 in Carrboro and TWC 18 in Durham. Our stalwart broadcast crew includes:

- Ed King, Program Coordinator -- 919-933-4254 (call Ed to suggest guests and issues)
- Lori Hoyt, Dick Paddock, and Emily O'Hare

Join WILPF and all the HKonJ partners!

Forward Together Moral Movement
MASS MORAL MARCH ON RALEIGH & HKONJ PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

GET OUT THE VOTE GATHERING & MOBILIZATION

10TH ANNIVERSARY
Saturday, Feb. 13, 2016

WE MUST VOTE!
Pre-rally begins at 9 a.m. We will gather at the corner of Wilmington and South Streets near Shaw University.
March begins at 10 a.m. Our mass people's assembly will be held near the State Capitol on Fayetteville Street.

"MOVEMENT, NOT A MOMENT!"

BECAUSE WE BELIEVE IN:
• Voting Rights – The Expansion and Protection of Voting Rights for All
• Labor Rights – Fair and Living Wages – Economic Justice – Collective Bargaining
• Education Equality – Funding for Quality Public Schools – Support for HB/CUs, Support for Teachers
• Health Care For All – Medicaid Expansion, Women's Health
• Environmental Justice
• Equal Protection Under the Law – Justice Without Regard to Race, Creed, Class, Gender, Sexual Orientation, or Immigration Status
• Criminal Justice Reform and Ending Racialized Police Brutality

For more information call our office at 919 682-4700. Go to our websites at naacpc.org or hkonj.com

Forward Together, Not One Step Back!

On February 13, one month before the March primary and nine months before the 2016 election, the 10th mass Moral March will hold the largest Get Out the Vote rally North Carolina has ever seen.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! Join us. www.hkonj.com

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10th Annual Moral March on Raleigh - HKonJ People's Assembly Saturday, February 13, 2016

Gather across the street from the Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
2 East South St. Raleigh, NC

Gather and Rally at 8:30 a.m. | March begins at 10 a.m.

Buses will leave Chapel Hill from the United Church of Chapel Hill.

Go to www.hkonj.com for the most up-to-date information about buses, departure times, purchasing tickets & logistics



WILPF c/o Ann Powers
6 Carolina Meadows, Apt. 102
Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8528

MEMBERSHIP TIME!

It's always a good time to become a member, so join now!

TRIANGLE BRANCH: **Sliding Scale:** \$12-\$30
Students: \$5

NATIONAL WILPF: **Individual:** \$35
Limited Income: \$15
Student: \$5

Make checks payable to WILPF-Triangle
(specify National or Local dues on check)
Mail to: WILPF Triangle Branch
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Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8525

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