



Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Triangle Branch Newsletter

www.trianglewilpf.org

March-April 2009

Wise Women Elders Of Triangle WILPF, each with one of her daughters. Seated, left to right: Tan Schwab, Lucy Straley, Beth Okun, and Jean Wagner.



With great sadness we note the passing of our last surviving Wise Women Elder of Triangle WILPF, Beth Okun (third from left, above.).

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.)

Moncure Plywood Plant, Corinth Rd., Moncure (Chatham County) Day and time varies; 968-1888 for info.

HKonJ3: DON'T BALANCE THE BUDGET ON THE BACKS OF THE POOR!



Reverend William Barber, president of the NC NAACP, addresses a crowd of thousands assembled in front of the NC General Assembly building

Over 4000 people, the majority African American, and including several Triangle WILPF members, marched in downtown Raleigh, Feb. 14, in a show of strength organized primarily by the North Carolina NAACP. This is the third year that "HK on J" (Historic Thousands on Jones Street) has taken place. This is the People's Assembly, reminding our legislators that this is the people's house, and that there is a 14 Point People's Agenda pending.

The next activity in the campaign is the People of Color Lobby Day, March 25 (Wed.) which will show the emembers our strength of numbers.

Membership Time

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

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
565 Boylston Street 2nd Floor
Boston MA 02116
www.wilpf.org

BECAUSE OF YOU, YES, WE CAN... and YES, WE WILPF!!!

Once again, many our faithful Triangle members have responded to the appeal to renew your membership in WILPF. Because of your gracious response to our recent Membership Renewal letter in which we outlined the ongoing concerns and activities of the branch, we **KNOW** we will be able to carry on with the work that current national and international peace and justice stresses require of all of us. Your generosity has injected us with a sure sense of active and ongoing support from the many members who call our branch “home.” The newsletter, website, and radio programs are on safer ground because of you. We can continue our ongoing weekly support for the Moncure strikers, our vigilling, petitioning and leafleting against war and for peace and diplomacy in the Middle East, and monitoring of current proposed federal programs in the areas of health care, education and energy **BECAUSE OF YOU**.

Just one further appeal. We would value your voices – your suggestions for action and deliberation, any ideas you have that we have not considered in our effort to respond in a timely and intelligent fashion to today’s world. Please write to us—any one of us, but here are email addresses of the Steering Committee as a first step:

Lucy Lewis (llewis2001@earthlink.net)

Dick Paddock (repaddock@nc.rr.com)

Miriam Thompson (mthompson@nc.rr.com)

Ann Powers (dannpowers@bellsouth.net) or

Michelle Cotton-Laws (mcottonlaws@earthlink.net)

We look forward to hearing from you! And if you have not yet had the opportunity to join WILPF or renew your membership, now is the time!

**When all of us are working together: YES, WE CAN continue to make a difference...
YES, WE WILPF!**



International Association of Machinists shows support of the Moncure Plywood strikers with the Pig.

The Moncure Plywood Company (Chatham County) workers are still on strike. The strike began in early August after talks on a new contract broke down. The major issues were, and remain, company demands for a sixty-hour work week, effective abolition of seniority, and major increased employee costs for health care plan. Additionally, since replacement workers have been hired, return of the strikers has also become an issue.

The International Union (IAM) has become more active recently, providing publicity materials, support of a full-

time headquarters representative, and contacts with movers and shakers at a national level.

WILPF has been with the workers since early August, visiting the line every week, organizing community support, providing food and strike fund contributions. Community support has been increasing recently, which is very heartening to the union.

Visit the line with us! Call Lori at 968-1888 for schedule of visits to the strike site and other details.

US WILPF Priorities for Obama Administration

For a pdf version of the following letter to President Obama from WILPF Co-Presidents Nancy Munger and Laura Roskos, go to

<http://www.wilpf.org/files/2009JanPresidentLtrToObama.pdf>

January 19, 2009

Dear President-Elect Obama:

We of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, United States Section (WILPF US), appreciate many of the priorities you expressed during your election campaign. A considerable number of them are our priorities as well, and we will certainly work to build support for each of those in our communities across this nation.

WILPF began in 1915, when Jane Addams and over a thousand women from both sides in World War I, and from neutral nations, gathered at The Hague determined to put an end to that war and to all wars. Our first international president, Jane Addams, and our first international secretary general, Emily Greene Balch (both from the US), were each awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for their work with the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

We continue to work to expose the root causes of war and to collaboratively create a world wherein the rule of law, not the rule of force, defines society.

We admit there are some areas in which we cannot agree with you. We will not support "rebuilding the military," for instance. Our nation has unfortunately become increasingly militaristic and we know that militarism and democracy are incompatible. Reducing the military and shifting billions to life enhancing priorities is our own goal for this and all nations. ...

Triangle WILPF 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!

Thur., March 12, 7:00 PM. NCWARN presents NCSAVESS at the Carrboro Town Hall.

Sat., March 14, 10:00-noon Triangle WILPF regular meeting Friends Meeting, Raleigh Rd., Chapel Hill. The planned brunch with NAACP women has been canceled. Reports on our various activities over these last two months. Orientation to WILPF for new members, **9:30**.

Mon., March 16: 11 AM Day of Solidarity with Justice for Moncure Plywood Strikers: Join picket line on Corinth Road, Moncure, 1 PM lunch with the strikers; 5 PM rally at Pittsboro Courthouse, 6 PM support strikers at Commissioners' meeting, Pittsboro. Info: 968-1888.

Wed., March 25, all day HKonJ Lobby Day at the Legislative Building, Jones St., Raleigh.

Fri., March 27, 7:00 P.M. WILPF Book Club at Dan Pollitt's house, 1018 Highland Woods Rd., Chapel Hill (929-5983) Our book this time is Muhammad Yunus, *Creating a World Without Poverty*

Sun., March 29, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm HKonJ-OC People's Assembly Meeting Hargraves Center, 216 N Roberson St., Chapel Hill.

Wed., April 1, 6:00-9:00 PM. Moncure strikers fundraiser at Pittsboro's General Store Cafe. Entertainment, live art auction featuring Gary Phillips, dinner catered by the GSC, and a cash bar. \$15.00 per person admission and food.

Wed., April 15, Tax Day Watch for tax resistance activities based around peace issues.

Fri., March 27, 7:00 P.M. WILPF Book Club. Book and location to be arranged. 929-1786 for info.