### 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;

 Treasurer, Anne McLaughlin; Membership chair, Sandra Oberdorfer;

 Corresponding secretary: Karen James; Recording secretary, Celeste Howard;

 Web manager: Brandy Robinson; Newsletter: Celeste Howard, Anne McLaughlin

***January 2017***

In memoriam: Betty June Marsh, March 1927 to November 2016.

*by Anne McLaughlin*

*I met Betty through WILPF in Portland. In 1990 she graciously hosted our local WILPF 75th Anniversary event at her beautiful Irvington home. I remember holding our planning meetings there beforehand, where she would serve us a lovely lunch. She was inspiring in her journeys abroad, going solo to many less traveled areas of the world.*

*In 1995 WILPF Portland purchased a set of photos taken in 1945 by U.S. Marine Photographer Joe O’Donnell in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. He had been assigned to document the aftermath of U.S. atomic bombing raids. In recognition of the 50th Anniversary of the bombings, Betty organized an exhibit of the photos at Pioneer Place shopping mall in downtown Portland, where they could be seen by many who might not otherwise be aware of the reality of the destruction. In her basement, she had led us local WILPF members in framing the photos and preparing them to be displayed. Betty was a special person, and we miss her presence.*

*Here's a link to an online obituary:* [*http://www.springerandson.com/on-line-obituary/betty-june-marsh/*](http://www.springerandson.com/on-line-obituary/betty-june-marsh/) *It has her birthdate wrong (the month/day are reversed, year is correct).*

**EARTH DEMOCRACY NOW!**

*Adapted from Nancy Price,* [*www.wilpfus.org/news/updates/earth-democracy-now*](http://www.wilpfus.org/news/updates/earth-democracy-now)

The WILPF US Earth Democracy National Issue Committee endorses the [People’s Climate Movement call](https://peoplesclimate.org/) to stand up and take action to protect everything and everyone we love!

No denying, Trump’s election and his cabinet choices are a threat to the people and the planet, in the US and globally, now and into the future. We must vigorously oppose attacks on working people, labor unions, people of color, immigrants, women, Muslims, LGBTQ people, and our environment.

Trump’s administration threatens to undo all of our progress on global warming and set the climate justice movement back years—years that we cannot afford.

Remember William (Bill) Moyer, the activist and social change theorist, who defined the [eight stages of successful social movements](http://www.historyisaweapon.com/defcon1/moyermap.html)? Some organizers are saying we are at Stage Six, “Majority Public Support.” ([www.historyisaweapon.com/defcon1/moyermap.html](http://www.historyisaweapon.com/defcon1/moyermap.html)) Briefly, the tasks of Stage Six are to:

* Educate that *the problems we face are systemic*.
* Be *positive* change agents and keep to the moral high ground.
* *Change political culture* rather than succumb to it.

In this stage, a movement must consciously undergo a transformation from spontaneous protest, operating in a short-term crisis, to a long-term popular struggle to achieve positive social change.

**Next WILPF Portland business meeting:** Saturday, February 11, 12:30 to 2:30, in room B310, First Unitarian Church. Doors open at noon. **Deadlines:** for the next newsletter, Wednesday, February 15; for the calendar, Saturday, February 18.

**WOMEN’S RIGHTS and NATIONAL SECURITY**

*adapted from Valerie M Hudson & Dara Kay Cohen,*

[*http://www.nytimes.com/2016/12/26/opinion/womens-rights-are-a-national-security-issue.html*](http://www.nytimes.com/2016/12/26/opinion/womens-rights-are-a-national-security-issue.html)

The State Department’s gender equality programs are not just politically correct fluff — they deal with matters of life and death, like rape during war, genital cutting, forced marriage and access to education. The State Department provides essential funding to combat these problems. For example, nongovernmental organizations around the world that work with survivors of rape and sexual violence are supported by [small grants](https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/196468.pdf) from the State Department. One [program](http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/196468.pdf) in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh trained 450 imams to extol the importance of girls’ education in their Friday sermons and, when officiating at marriages, to ask for the bride’s age and proof of her consent.

Over a decade’s worth of research shows that women’s advancement is critical to stability and to reducing political violence. Countries where women are empowered [are vastly more secure](https://cup.columbia.edu/book/sex-and-world-peace/9780231131827), whether the issue is food security, countering violent extremism or resolving disputes with other nations peacefully. Recruitment by terrorist groups is a prime example. A forthcoming paper by one of us, Professor Hudson, and Hilary Matfess, a researcher at the Institute for Defense Analyses, has found that swiftly rising “bride prices” (money or goods given by the groom to the bride’s family) makes it easier for terrorists to recruit members. These marriage practices not only cast women as chattel, but also create widespread resentment among young men.

A study of the landmark United Nations resolution on women, peace and security found that peace agreements were significantly more durable when women took part in the negotiations. A realist foreign policy would take note of this. For example, to gain a lasting peace accord in Afghanistan, policy makers should make sure that both Afghan and American women are at the negotiating table in meaningful numbers. The United States National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (NAP) requires the State and Defense Departments, along with the Agency for International Development, to meet benchmarks on efforts for women’s inclusion and empowerment.

During the campaign, Mr. Trump [called](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.voanews.com_a_trump-2Dcalling-2Dfor-2Dforeign-2Dpolicy-2Drealism-2Daimed-2Dat-2Ddestruction-2Dof-2Dis_3464850.html&d=CwMFaQ&c=ODFT-G5SujMiGrKuoJJjVg&r=G8LgnKf6JyxAN_hEwkYS9w&m=snKjrepsoOGbnroZD0BG_8JXbmEpOiRB5t_kis1Yghg&s=21IfS2wdJfMkrxZ0HnAEIhEvp5JEh7hX0v3XwrIpk7Q&e=) for a return to “foreign policy realism,” in which national security is the foremost concern, the stakes are zero-sum and the most powerful states are the only ones that matter. To build such a foreign policy, women’s rights are an indispensable pillar.

*(Young women on Kabul University volleyball court, 2016.* [*Valerie M Hudson*](http://vmrhudson.org/) *is a professor at the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University.* [*Dara Kay Cohen*](https://www.hks.harvard.edu/about/faculty-staff-directory/dara-kay-cohen) *is an assistant professor of public policy at Harvard. Learn about the NAP at* [*www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/gender-equality-and-womens-empowerment/national-action-plan-women-peace-security*](http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/gender-equality-and-womens-empowerment/national-action-plan-women-peace-security) *)*

**LINKS TO EXPLORE**

*from Natasha Beck*

<http://www.lrb.co.uk/v39/n02/rebecca-solnit/from-lying-to-leering> : Rebecca Solnit on Donald Trump’s fear of women.

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/dec/29/america-trump-californian-senate>: Rebecca Solnit, “Another more beautiful America is rising. Trump will be resisted.”

<https://medium.com/embrace-race/a-black-princess-who-saves-herself-and-exposes-princess-culture-kids-and-adults-say-yes>: Melissa Giraud interviews Jeremy Whitley about his race-positive, gender-bending, subversive series for kids, Princeless.

<https://www.thenation.com/article/5-practical-principles-to-guide-our-work-under-trump/> “We must know what we want, not just what we’re against.” Stephen Lerner, Justice for Janitors Campaign, & Maurice Weeks, Campaign Director of the ReFund America Project.

***"We don't have to engage in grand, heroic actions to participate in the process of change. Small acts, when multiplied by millions of people, can transform the world."--****Howard Zinn, historian, activist, author of People's History of the United States.*

**REACHING CRITICAL WILL for DISARMAMENT**

*Selections from January newsletter of RCW (Reaching Critical Will) WILPF’s disarmament program*

*From WILPF’s statement on autonomous weapons at* [*Fifth Review Conference of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW)*](http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/disarmament-fora/ccw/2016/revcon) *in Geneva on 12 December 2016:*

“How many people will be killed by autonomous machines in the future if we do not prevent the development of autonomous weapons while we still have a chance? Witnessing the horrific humanitarian consequences of the use of armed drones and wishing to prevent the further automation of means of violence, we can clearly see the need for meaningful human control over all weapons and individual attacks. There is something especially cynically abhorrent in the idea of assigning the killing of human beings to a technological creation. As a member of the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots, we call for a ban on autonomous weapons and the creation of a Group of Governmental Experts towards this goal.”

*WILPF Portland’s November newsletter told how the UN resolved in October 2016 to establish negotiations on a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons. These negotiations begin March 27-31 in New York. RCW explains how the discourse on a nuclear weapons ban has changed:*

“A traditional focus on “strategic stability” has prevailed in the nuclear weapons discourse over recent decades, but the emerging discourse focused on humanitarian perspectives can set the stage for progress towards the abolition of nuclear weapons.

* The traditional approach has tended to normalize the continued possession of nuclear weapons by certain states, and that has done little to promote substantive disarmament.
* The most recent international discussions have brought to the fore the catastrophic humanitarian consequences that any nuclear weapon detonation would cause.
* Recognition of the risk posed by existing stockpiles of nuclear weapons highlights the urgency of taking international action on this issue now.
* A treaty banning nuclear weapons could be developed and adopted even without the participation of the nuclear-armed states, despite the opposition of these states towards such an initiative.
* The renewed attention to nuclear weapons as instruments of death and destruction rather than of security has reinvigorated global determination to prohibit and eliminate them once and for all. ([www.reachingcriticalwill.org/images/documents/Publications/a-treaty-banning-nuclear-weapons.pdf](http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/images/documents/Publications/a-treaty-banning-nuclear-weapons.pdf) , pages 3 and 4)

***“A regional nuclear war involving as few as 100 Hiroshima-sized weapons would disrupt the global climate and put a billion people at risk of famine.”*** *Catastrophic Humanitarian HARM,* [*www.icanw.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/catastrophicharm2012.pdf*](http://www.icanw.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/catastrophicharm2012.pdf)

**READING for PROGRESSIVES**

<http://www.yesmagazine.org/people-power/nader-calls-for-a-new-1-percent-20170113>: The Yes magazine review of Ralph Nader’s new book, Breaking Through Power.

<http://www.commondreams.org/views/2017/01/12/trump-era-will-test-us-what-are-you-willing-risk>: Fran Korten, executive director of Positive Futures Network; publisher/editor of Yes magazine.

<http://www.commondreams.org/views/2017/01/06/first-100-days-resistance-agenda>: Robert Reich, former U.S. Secretary of Labor.

<http://www.commondreams.org/views/2016/12/23/preparing-trump-ten-point-plan> How to fight for working people during a Trump administration, by Peter Dreier, chair of the Urban & Environmental Policy Department at Occidental College*.*

<http://www.commondreams.org/views/2017/01/06/protest-stopped-predators-they-will-be-back> Bill Moyers & Michael Winship. ‘The public outcry after the GOP tried to quash an ethics watchdog is the kind of citizen action we'll need to survive the next four years.’

<http://www.commondreams.org/views/2017/01/09/why-meryl-streeps-golden-globe-speech-so-important-trump-era> Juan Cole. Article includes video of Streep speaking.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/wheres-the-gops-health-care-plan/> Katrina van den Heuvel suggests how to amend the Affordable Care Act rationally.

<http://www.commondreams.org/views/2017/01/06/american-capitalism-already-abysmal-trump-about-make-it-lot-worse> Jake Johnson quotes Sam Kriss's [observation](https://samkriss.com/2016/11/09/how-you-lost-the-world/) that "Fascism is what capitalism does when it's under threat," along with signs of hope.

**JANUARY - FEBRUARY 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 MLKJr 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*](http://www.trimet.org/) *to find public transportation to all these locations]*

**A new source of info on upcoming “Resistances and Rallies” events**

The Portland Mercury (weekly newspaper) is now publishing an online calendar of these events, and they may have some events that we don’t list here. For that list, go to [**www.portlandmercury.com/events/resistances-and-rallies**](http://www.portlandmercury.com/events/resistances-and-rallies). **Check it out for many Inauguration Weekend activities**. Thanks to Natasha Beck for pointing out this link.

**Friday 20 January, 12 to 1 pm: Great Decisions Lecture Series**

Academic & Student Recreation Center, Portland State University, 1800 SW 6th Ave. Topic: Afghanistan & Pakistan. Speaker: Najia Hyder, Deputy Regional Program Director - Afghanistan and Pakistan, Mercy Corps. $5 (free to members of World Affairs Council), simulcast online at <http://worldoregon.org/events/programs/great-decisions/great-decisions-lecture-series> .

**Saturday 21 January, 11:00 am: Martin Luther King Jr Day Celebration**

VOZ Day Laborer Center, 240 NE MLKJr Blvd at Everett (or join at 11:45 am at Right 2 Dream Too, NW 4th/Burnside). Marching to Women's march, Waterfront Park under Morrison Bridge. 2 pm celebration at Sisters Of The Road Cafe (133 NW 6th/Davis).

**Sunday 22 January, 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; 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.

**Sunday 22 January, 12:00 pm: Queer Speak Out**

Salmon St Springs (SW Naito Parkway and Salmon Street) Freak Out PDX [facebook.com/events/588195801374427/](https://www.facebook.com/events/588195801374427/)

**Tuesday 24 January, 6:30 pm: Public Meeting with Kate Gonsalves, on Ending the New Jim Crow**

First Unitarian Church, SW Salmon & SW 12th Ave, room B302-B303. Kate Gonsalves is political director of the Oregon Justice Resource Center. Her commitment to criminal justice reform stems from her work with Dr. David Baldus and the American Civil Liberties Union linking race and death penalty sentencing, along with coursework examining race and mass incarceration under Dr. Angela Davis. Free; all are welcome.

**Tuesday 24 January, 7:30 to 11:59 pm: Michael Eric Dyson, Tears We Cannot Stop: A Sermon to White America**

Powell’s Books, 1005 W Burnside Street. Dyson argues that if we are to make real racial progress, we must face difficult truths, including being honest about how black grievance

has been ignored, dismissed, or discounted. This is the book that all Americans who care about the current and long-burning crisis in race relations will want to read.

**Wednesday 25 January, 7:30 to 11:59 pm: Sarah van Gelder, The Revolution Where You Live**

Powell’s Books, 1005 W Burnside Street. Van Gelder is co-founder and editor of Yes magazine. She went looking for solutions to today’s challenges—climate change, social injustice, racist violence, economic insecurity—in rural communities, small towns, and neglected urban neighborhoods. She meets the quirky and the committed, the local heroes and the healers who, under the mass media's radar, are getting stuff done.

**Friday 27 January, 12 to 1 pm: Great Decisions Lecture Series**

Academic & Student Recreation Center, Portland State University, 1800 SW 6th Ave. Topic: The Future of Europe. Speaker: Craig Parsons, Political Science, University of Oregon. $5 (free to members of World Affairs Council), simulcast online at <http://worldoregon.org/events/programs/great-decisions/great-decisions-lecture-series>.

**Saturday 28 January, 10:00 am: March for Justice and Equality: "Advancing Justice and Equality for All through the Strength to Love"**

Martin Luther King Jr Statue at Convention Center (NE MLK and Holladay) Albina Ministerial Alliance Coalition for Justice and Police Reform (endorsed by Portland Copwatch and others) March up Grand/MLK to Maranatha Church, 4222 NE 12th/Skidmore for 11:45 AM rally (with hot food) <http://albinaministerialcoalition.org/actions.html#justicemarch012817>

**Friday 3 February, 12 to 1 pm: Great Decisions Lecture Series**

Academic & Student Recreation Center, Portland State University, 1800 SW 6th Ave. Topic: A New Political Era in Latin America. Speaker: Fr. Claude Pomerleau, Associate Professor Emeritus, Political Science, University of Portland. $5 (free to members of World Affairs Council), simulcast online at <http://worldoregon.org/events/programs/great-decisions/great-decisions-lecture-series>.

**Sunday 5 February, 7pm: A Century of Song – Still Going Strong!!! Concert with Bev Grant, Charlie King and Brian Harrison**

Artichoke Music, 3130 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Grant and King grew up in singing families and share roots in the musical and political uproar of the 1960s. With Bev’s powerful guitar work, Charlie’s haunting harmonica accompaniment and a rich array of vocal leads and harmonies they present a repertoire of songs that stands the test of time. Grant is a veteran social activist, feminist, and labor singer-songwriter. King is a musical storyteller and political satirist. He sings and writes passionately about the extraordinary lives of ordinary people. Bev’s Portland nephew, Brian Harrison, will open and join them. $15. Info and tickets at [artichokemusic.org/calendar/020517.html](http://artichokemusic.org/calendar/020517.html)

**Tuesday 7 February, 12 to 2 pm: Eastside democratic Club Monthly Public Meeting**

Grace Presbyterian Church, 6025 NE Prescott St. Public always welcome. Not affiliated with the Democratic Party. More information at [the group’s Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/EastsidedemocraticClub/).

**Thursday 9 February, 4 pm: ONE WILPF Conference Call: Most Dangerous Women Books**

February’s call features the MOST DANGEROUS WOMEN Book Group Discussion. See the recent [Fall/Winter 2016 Peace & Freedom](http://wilpfus.org/resources/publications) for more about choices of books and authors. Pre-register at [myaccount.maestroconference.com/conference/register/418WA2WJTL328PEN](http://myaccount.maestroconference.com/conference/register/418WA2WJTL328PEN)

**Friday 10 February, 12 to 1 pm: Great Decisions Lecture Series**

Academic & Student Recreation Center, Portland State University, 1800 SW 6th Ave. Topic: Conflict in the South China Sea. Speaker: Mel Gurtov, Professor Emeritus, Political Science and International Studies, PSU. $5 (free to members of World Affairs Council), simulcast online at <http://worldoregon.org/events/programs/great-decisions/great-decisions-lecture-series>.

**Saturday 11 February, 12:30 to 2:30 pm: WILPF Portland Business Meeting**

First Unitarian Church, Buchan Bldg room B310, SW 12th Ave and Salmon St. Enter mid-block walkway from 12th Ave. Door on right is open around 12:30. Take the elevator to 3B.

**Friday 17 February, 12 to 1 pm: Great Decisions Lecture Series**

Academic & Student Recreation Center, Portland State University, 1800 SW 6th Ave. Topic: Saudi Arabia in Transition. Speaker: Thomas Bartlett, Former President American University, Cairo. $5 (free to members of World Affairs Council), simulcast online at <http://worldoregon.org/events/programs/great-decisions/great-decisions-lecture-series>

**Friday 24 February, 12 to 1 pm: Great Decisions Lecture Series**

Academic & Student Recreation Center, Portland State University, 1800 SW 6th Ave. Topic: Trade and Politics. Speaker: Doug Badger, Pacific Northwest International Trade Association. $5 (free to members of World Affairs Council), simulcast online at <http://worldoregon.org/events/programs/great-decisions/great-decisions-lecture-series>.

**Sunday 26 February, 12 to 2:15 pm: Peace & Justice Works' 25th Annual Meeting**

Social Justice Action Center, 400 SE 12th at Oak St. The meeting begins with a 12 noon vegetarian potluck (bring vegetarian food and non-alcoholic drink to share), followed by the business part of the meeting from 12:30-2:15 PM. See <http://pjw.info/> for more info.

**SUPPORT YOUR PORTLAND WILPF BRANCH**

**To contribute to WILPF Portland**: Use the form below. Our branch does not have membership dues; we ask 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 paying annual dues to the national organization**. If you haven’t received a recent mailing from WILPF US, your WILPF membership is probably not current. Their most recent mailing was the Fall/Winter 2016 issue of Peace & Freedom magazine. **To confirm whether your membership is current**, contact the national office at info@wilpfus.org.

**To join, renew or rejoin WILPF**: 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](http://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 non-dues donations to WILPF Portland Branch**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ New Supporter: ❑ Already a Supporter: ❑

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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 this form & check, payable to WILPF, to Portland WILPF, 1034 SW 13th Ave, Portland 97205-1702**

**Contact us: To submit items for an upcoming WILPF Newsletter and/or Calendar, to be removed from our distribution list, and for any other messages:**

Email to wilpfpdx@gmail.com