



Women's International League for Peace & Freedom

The President's Corner

We have so much content that I just want to 'occupy' this tiny corner space this issue.

Random thoughts on the 1/21 **MADISON WOMEN'S MARCH**: Pervasive, peaceful, positive, potent! An experience reminiscent of 2011. So many kind, helpful, energetic, creative people. I've got to say there were some fabulous and funny signs that ran the gamut! A fluffy Husky dog wearing the sign: "Trust me: I know a**holes" and "Not ovary acting". Why CAN'T our revolution be fun? Just hoping the energy, peace and righteous resolve is sustained. WILPF will do our best!

Looking forward: After attending a **CITIES FOR CEDAW** Webinar, several of us are going to contact our Alders to determine what the best way is to introduce this as a city-wide resolution. If you have ideas, please talk to me! The city/county region is going to be our best bet for a while to enact progress towards creating a peaceful local economy.

During our **December plan meeting** we also decided to resurrect a service component practice. We voted to support the newly created '**Open Doors for Refugees**' by assembling a few kitchen boxes each year. Look for the list of Box #1 on the next page and decide what you might donate; tell us at the next plan meeting and we'll assemble in March.



Madison Women's March 1/21/17

Lastly, as I write this, I wish to sing **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to ROE V WADE**. 44 years! And they said it wouldn't last. This takes us full circle to the **MARCH**: We all need to stand to protect and defend this and other rights. Be strong and positive! We can do this! Like another of my favorite MARCH signs urged: **STAY WOKE**

~ Karen
kosbornepope@gmail.com

The thing women have got to learn is that nobody gives you power. YOU JUST TAKE IT. Roseanne Barr

We are ONE WILPF

THE ONE WILPF All Member Monthly Call is our chance to connect to branches and members of WILPF across the US.

These calls are in response to requests for more opportunities for branch members, branch representatives and at-large members -to connect -begin dialogues that can lead to sharing resources and creative solutions -improve communication, and -help plan national, regional, state and local gatherings and solidarity actions.

Call times in US/Central

- Thursday, Feb 09, 2017, 6pm (2 hours)
- Thursday, Mar 09, 2017, 6pm (2 hours)
- Thursday, Apr 13, 2017, 6pm (2 hours)
- Thursday, May 11, 2017, 6pm (2 hours)

Call for Peace

January 7 at the Madison central library several of us from WILPF attended the Call for Peace Drum and Dance Company celebratory gathering. They presented a twenty-year retrospective history of their organization, including a photo display. They shared a film from an event held in 2002, *Call for Peace: Dancing the Dream, A New Hope for Humanity* with dancers and music representing several cultures in glorious colorful costumes. They presented two awards, one to Jonathan Grambling, editor of the Madison Hues and the second to Rebecca Kimble for her advocacy work, resolution and arrest at the DAPL protests in North Dakota.

We heard about the importance and origins of drums from the trees rooted in our earth symbolizing peace. It was a very positive, hopeful gathering. Eleanor noted a poem by Christa Bruhn: "Let the truth be known, that indigenous wisdom calls for the protection of the Mother Earth".

~ Eleanor, Karen, Lee

Membership special!

January through March ~ Women's history month ~ pay \$15 to become a NEW member of the MADISON branch and an anonymous donor will pay the balance of \$35 for you. What a deal! Questions? Eleanor: whitea@inxpress.net

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Do you like to receive our WILPF Newsletter?

- Please kindly send a check for \$10 to help with costs to Madison WILPF PO Box 3392 Madison WI 53704

- To get WILPF NEWS via e-mail: mhsandeson@hotmail.com

Why Wisconsin Needed a Recount and What More Needs to Be Done

Your Thanksgiving was probably spent much like mine, traveling, cooking dinner, and enjoying time with family. I also spent the time emailing, texting, and following Facebook.

On Saturday, November 19th, I was elected co-chair of the WI Green Party and by Wednesday, Stein2016 announced it was going to try to petition Wisconsin for a recount!

I was amazed to see the support pour in. I know many people where hopeful that it would flip the election. I was grateful for the opportunity to test the system. Even before hearing the reasons, I thought the anomalies in the polling and the closeness of the race were reason enough.

So, here we are, two months later, after 161,000 people donated an average of \$50 to pay for the recounts, with 10,000 volunteering to observe, 3,656 in Wisconsin alone, the Stein2016 Campaign and the WI Green Party have been analyzing the Board of Canvasser and Recount Observer reports.

We found some very disturbing things. Numerous voting machine insecurities, widespread inconstant practices (some actually illegal), and the large number (over 17,000) of vote changes all point to a system that is broken. This doesn't even take into account all the ballots that were not hand counted, thus making it impossible to actually verify the statewide vote. One county not hand counted was Milwaukee County where the highest number of people of color vote.

March 17-19, CountMyVoteWI will be hosting the *Democratizing Our Elections* Conference to present our report with its findings and recommendations; hear from state and national experts; learn about other election integrity efforts; train people to lobby, do other outreach, and work on the implementation of best elections integrity practices around the state. Go to CountMyVoteWI.com for more information.

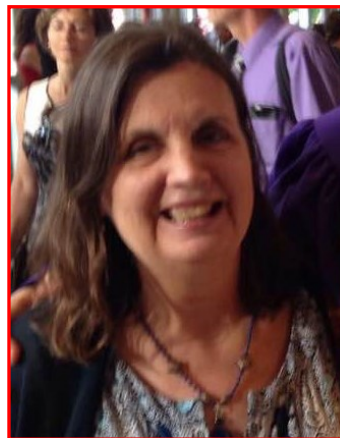
WILPF member Dace Zeps is co chair of the WI Green Party and our Web/Facebook guru dacezeps@gmail.com

“When fascism comes to America it will be wrapped in the flag and carrying a cross.” ~ Sinclair Lewis

Jane Addams Children’s Book Award Ceremony 2016

We welcomed authors, illustrators, children from NYC and Long Island middle schools, and new and longtime friends of the book award into our 2nd floor meeting room across from the United Nations. The sky was gray, the wind blowing light rain, and the room glowing yellow. The room soon filled. So many attending this year were friends or family members of those receiving awards. Among the guests were, Jeannette and Roger Winters (yes, *Nasreen’s Secret School* author Jeanette Winters!) parents of 2016 honor recipient Jonah Winters author of *Lillian’s Right to Vote*, Lewis Michaux Jr., whose childhood story was told in *The Book Itch*, and the mom and two young girls who modeled for Eric Velasquez as he illustrated *New Shoes*!

Vaunda Micheaux Nelson began with gratitude for all that went into her being able to bring Lewis Michaux Sr.’s story (*see p. 3*)



Just the Beginning... Andrea Maxworthy O'Brien

“Today was Martha Stewart King Day” announced my four-year-old son Sean when I picked him up from his Montessori School on a cold January afternoon. When I smiled over his version of the name of the holiday and heard about the picture book, *Martin’s Big Words* written by Doreen Rappaport and illustrated by Bryan Collier (JACBA, 2002) that his teacher, Mary Ann Mayhew read to him I didn’t know that it was just the beginning. The gentle Mary Ann invited me to the Jane Addams Book Award Reading Group and I kept going almost every spring to read, reflect, evaluate and dialogue about the latest crop of children’s books being considered for the award. I was impressed by the members of Madison WILPF who thoughtfully considered the books that embodied social justice, consulting their notes and their hearts.

As a professor in UW-Whitewater’s teacher training program I began to include the students in my Children’s Literature and Literacy classes in reading and dialoguing about the books under consideration for the award. Since then all of my students at UW-Whitewater have become acquainted with purpose, criteria and winners of the Jane Addams Book Award and it is my hope that they have spread a message of kindness, action and social justice through the use of the books in their own classrooms.

My son is in college now and I have recently retired from my position at the university, allowing me time and energy to get involved in the WILPF Peace and Justice Book Circle, but I’ve learned there is much more to WILPF than books. The recent election has propelled me like many people to get more involved in making this a better world. I look forward to a new chapter by formally joining WILPF. There is work to be done and I am thankful for the companionship of fellow WILPF members.

~ Andi maxworta@uww.edu

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“Nonviolence is an intensely active force when properly understood and used.” – Mohandas Gandhi

Open Doors for Refugees Service Project



Madison WILPF will assemble these items at the FEBRUARY meeting and deliver shortly thereafter. Please consider donating an item or two

- Kitchen Box #1
- tall kitchen wastebasket with lid
- tall kitchen garbage bags
- 2 or more mixing bowls
- set of knives: paring, cleaver
- mixing spoons/rubber scrapers
- 2-4 dishtowels and dishcloths
- 1 medium bottle of dish detergent
- food storage containers

(from p. 2) of the creation of the National African American Bookstore to younger children and for her partnership with R. Gregory Christie the illustrator of their joint book, *The Book Itch*. R. Gregory spoke about finding the right style of illustration that captured the mood and reality of the bookstore, as well as the message of self-respect he shares with young people through illustrations and beyond.

Edwidge Danticat sent a video message of acceptance and appreciation for our honoring of *Mama's Nightingale*. Jonah Winters, author of *Lillian's Right to Vote*, was forthright and intense, speaking the truth about our country, recognizing its foundation in the enslavement of a people and honoring that many suffered and lost their lives in the struggle for freedom and the right to vote. Shane Evans, illustrator of *Lillian*, arrived up front with a guitar and colored posters created by school children in Pennsylvania where he had recently visited, posters that depicted qualities of Lillian and of themselves. Shane began us all singing with a refrain of 'love, love, love'--- a persistent and quiet refrain that echoed the rain out the windows---over which he sang, asking at the conclusion that we vote with love.

Marilyn Hilton sent a written acceptance, hoping for all young people the sense of agency that Mimi, protagonist of *Full Cicada Moon*, possessed. Susan Lynn Meyer told how she learned of the affront of African Americans not being able to try on shoes and brought Jane Addams' perspective into the mix, while illustrator Eric Velasquez expressed appreciation for his art and his models.

Linda Lowery, who as a girl turned 15 on the march from Selma to Montgomery, was preceded by her two coauthors and illustrator of *Turning 15 on the March to Freedom*, Susan Buckley, Elspeth Leacock, and PJ Loughran. All three attested to Linda's empathy and clarity of spirit. Linda rose and called for respect for those who went before and for fully honoring the right to vote.

There was a flow to this award ceremony: something that happened because the speakers were together, a building of power and grace, an expression of harmony and peace with a resounding call for justice at its core.

~ Susan Freiss
freissSusan@gmail.com

Susan is a member of the JAPA board and assists the Madison branch with Communications



Just a reminder that our US WILPF publication *Peace & Freedom* has wonderful articles and inspirations! Worth becoming a member!

NOW
Pay WILPF membership dues online

Locate the Madison WILPF website, wilpf-madison.org Find Membership in the lower right corner of the home page. Choose Regular for \$50, or Fixed Income for \$35. Regular allows a small dues payment to the Madison branch, while the fixed amount all goes to US WILPF. Click Buy Now. If you use PayPal, key your user-id over the WILPF one, and enter your password. If you do not use PayPal, scroll down and choose Pay with Debit or Credit, and proceed from there. When the treasurer submits your dues to National WILPF, you may be asked for some more data, such as a phone number. We look forward to you joining us!!

~ Eleanor White, Madison WILPF treasurer
whiteea@inxpress.net

WILPF MADISON:
WEB: <http://wilpf-madison.org/>
FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/WILPFMadison>
Jane Addams Peace Association Children's Book Awards: <http://www.janeaddamspeace.org/jacba/>

WILPF Calendar & Events

Monday Vigils for Peace at Noon

Every Monday Corner of Doty & MLK Jr Dr. Madison . . . Info: 846-7924 mbspeace1@charter.net

1st THURSDAYS 6:30—8:00 WILPF PEACE & JUSTICE Book Circle (every month first Thursday)

Goodman So Madison Library, 2222 S Park St Madison . . . Info: 608 467-2637

Please see the INSERT page for book titles/authors for MARCH—OCT 2017 Print/Post/Share!!

MOST 2nd Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:00 Madison WILPF Planning Meetings (every month 2nd Wednesday)

Barriques 2166 Atwood Ave, Madison, WI 53704 Madison . . . Info: 608 467-2637

SAVE THE DATE!!

February 4 Pipeline Fighter's Extravaganza Wil-Mar Center, Madison

February 19 Circle the Cities with LOVE event, WI state capitol

April 22 ONE WILPF SOLIDARITY NATIONAL EVENT PEACE & PLANET BEFORE PROFIT

July 27-30 WILPF triennial conference Univ of IL- Chicago campus -near Hull House Help plan our own future !!

Check our WILPF Madison Website frequently for many co-sponsored community events, calendar and book circle UPDATES : <http://www.wilpf-madison.org>

Renew locally or contact us about Subscription & Mailing:

Eleanor 608 345 5828 whiteea@inxpress.net

Editor : K Pope Send items for next NEWS:

kosbornepope@gmail.com

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PO Box 3392 Madison WI 53704
Address Correction Requested