



September Newsletter

Women's International League for Peace & Freedom

The first meeting for the 2017-2018 sessions was held at Harwich Community Center-100 Oak St-Harwich. Changes are, we are meeting on the 4th Tuesdays monthly (vs Monday) and meeting in Room 4 (vs Room 5). Potluck is still at 6pm, with meeting from 6:30-8:30pm. Attending this first meeting was: Laurie, Margy, Alycia, Candace, Becky (new), Noreen, Olga (visiting), Karen, Donna, Chris, Sherrie, Mary Z, and Elenita. After our check-in, Chris gave a presentation about child abuse.

Being our theme this year of, The Year of the Child, Chris Morin did a presentation that she and

and  associates use at Independent House. It mostly targeted the signs, affects, and  actions to take regarding potential situations of child abuse. Child abuse, child slavery and child sexual slavery are all on the rise. There are flags to be

 **Child Abuse**
a 7 unit courses addressing
'red flags', assessment, detection,
intervention strategies
community resources &
treatment



aware of, such as, a child who becomes isolated, doesn't care, signs of stress and/or anxiety, depression, or withdrawn. Some States and laws have acted to mandate reporting of any report of

likely child abuse by school teachers, administrators, doctors, nurses, hospitals, but there are still far more unreported than reported. If a 'civilian' sees, hears, or senses such a situation strongly, he/she must decide



what to do: talk to the child's parent or call officials (police, Dept. of Families & Children, social agency), but it is your decision to get involved or not. We must be involved if we want abuse to end. Too often, the abused child because an abuser of children when they get older, continuing the cycle of abuse. It can be a risk to get involved, but seeing or knowing something and doing nothing makes us part of it.

Nothing is more innocent or vulnerable than a child. No child deserves to be in a situation of abuse, slavery, or any kind of hopeless servitude. It is estimated that 80% or more abuse cases never get reported to law enforcement or protective services.



Days of Action

Nov 25- Dec 10th: Gender

Violence Awareness days. We discussed different possibilities for being part of this national & international awareness time.

Possible actions brought up were:

- *joining in a Grandmothers Against Gun Violence action;
- *holding a vigil;
- *doing Clothesline Project(s);
- *writing Op-Eds;
- *appearing on PTV;
- *showing a WILPF DVD at a theatre (Orpheum?);
- *doing something in all Cape Towns (one/day or all on same day), i.e. Clothesline? Signs?

One Wilpf Calls



Margy talked about the One Wilpf calls that are done monthly with U.S. Wilpf, and that it would be good to be better involved with these calls. Volunteers were asked for, and the following dates have been logged: Oct 12-Chris; Nov 9-Elenita;

Dec 14-Donna. Volunteers for January & beyond will be set at a later date.

WILPF Backgrounders – At Hawk’s Nest, we discussed creating ‘backgrounder pages’ that could be used in a WILPF New Member package. The backgrounders would recap our basic pillars of: gun violence, racial justice and environment, with an analysis, relationship to children’s growth/well-being, Wilpf related actions, and resources.

The gun violence (Chris) and racial justice (Alycia) backgrounders are available on your emails for review and considerations at next meetings.

Las Vegas, October 2nd...With this horrible **mass shooting**, (as of 10/3) 59 dead, 527 injured, the senselessness of guns makes us sick. Our government’s corrupted and spineless lawmakers to go against the NRA is beyond belief. Under Trump and more conservative Supreme Court, more guns and looser restrictions will most likely prevail, but we, and all, must do everything we can to stand up to it. Even NRA members overwhelmingly support more, deeper background checks and other reasonable governance over guns. This mass murderer owned near 50 rifles and pistols. At the latest data, there are 321 million guns in U.S., and 225 (70%) of these are owned by 3% of population. Above all, there is absolutely no need for anyone to have any form of automatic or semi-automatic guns, adaption clips, or auto-size ammunitions. Guns are made for only two purposes: to kill or to harm. That is all guns do.



**SEASIDE FESTIVAL PARADE
SUNDAY – OCT. 8th- S. YARMOUTH**

Join in if you can. WILPF will be marching. If you come, wear your WILPF hats, shirts, etc.

The line-up begins at 10:30AM, near Capt. Parker's Restaurant, and will begin from there. Parade will start at 12:30pm. Margy has more details if questions.

>WHITE PRIVILEGE SYMPOSIUM

Margy spoke of the above being presented at Nauset Regional High School on Friday 10/20, from 6:30-9:00pm, and Sat 10/21, from 9:00-5:45. It is a two-session symposium. Cost is \$ 100 to attend. We discussed that we could sponsor 1-3 members to attend, through Donna. Whoever attends this, or any event WILPF pays for member(s), we decided that the attendee should always present a report or feedback about the event.

>Tree of Life: Noreen spoke of Palestinians traveling U.S. and Canada, who can't return to their homeland, and speaking of it and conditions there, through continued Israeli settlement expansion and Palestinian restrictions. They speak of refugee camps in Lebanon, where there are separate camps for Christians and Muslims. Christians are allowed to visit Muslim camps but not vice-versa. Noreen spoke of an 85 year old woman, who had lost 4 of her 9 children through the chaos and upheavals.

On **Oct 22, 2PM at 4C's, Science Lecture Hall A**, there will be a Courageous Woman talk/panel. It will include Native American input of taken land loss issues like the Palestinians are experiencing through Israeli taking of their land. WILPF agreed to be included as a sponsor. There are a lot of similarities of what happened to Native Americans and what continues to happen to Palestinians.

>**Women In Politics** - Becky King joined us for meeting, and said she is strongly considering running for Rep. Bill Keatings seat. Paula Schnepf has also been running for town government in Barnstable, and has made it to a run-off stage. It is good to see women running for political seats, and more importantly, for them to get elected. The U.S. has so far to go in fixing the gender-political balance in this country. We are far behind other countries in diverse politics. Ireland has a conservative gay Prime Minister whose father was born in India. England has a female Prime Minister, as do some other nations. The U.S. seems stuck on about 20% of Congress being female. It is not enough.

Most people want to see equality and economic fairness for all, inclusion opportunity for all, a healthy environment, clean energy, child and elder caring services and protections...none of this can happen with an 80% male dominated Congress. During the recent Senate health care attempts to push through a GOP Health Care change that would have pushed millions off of health care, it was Republican women Senators that were instrumental in blocking it from happening. A balanced or near-balance Congress of men/women, House & Senate, would produce a totally different focus of laws and budgets. Men will have strong considerations for military spending, whereas women will consider families in decision making.

“SIMPLY DIAMOND” – Saturday, October 28, 7:00PM

Independent House is sponsoring a Neil Diamond Tribute at Barnstable High School. Tickets are \$ 25 in advance, and \$ 30 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at Independent House or check on-line event to purchase on net.

Solitary Man, I’m A Believer, many others to sing-along with, especially Sweet Caroline. Should be a fun event.

WILPF Cape Cod Branch

To become a member, or get newsletter, fill out below:

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Wilpf Membership includes International & U.S. Sections, plus Cape Cod Branch. \$ 35

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- Total Enclosed \$ _____

We will send the newsletter electronically unless you request a paper copy. Your contribution supports all the work of the Cape Cod branch, including production of the monthly newsletter.

Thank-You! Come try a meeting before joining:

4th Tuesday monthly, Harwich Comm Center, 100 Oak St, Harwich Room 4 Potluck 6pm Meeting 6:30-8:30pm

Please send form & check payable to: WILPF

Send to: WILPF % Laurie Gates
38 Dusty Miller Lane
S. Chatham, 02659

www.wilpfcapecod.org

WILPF

Women's International League
For Peace & Freedom
(founded in 1915)

We are a group of women and men who work to create justice and peace locally, nationally and internationally. WILPF envisions transformed world at peace, where there is racial, social and economic justice for all people everywhere... a world in which the interconnecting web of life is acknowledged and celebrated, and human societies are designed and organized for self-governance and sustainable existence. In pursuit of these goals we educate ourselves and others, take action against injustice, and nourish one another.

*Do no harm, in thought,
word or deed, with
respect for the earth and
for all people.*

