



Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
United States Section
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CAPE COD WILPF

NOVEMBER 2005

Hello Everyone!

The WILPF newsletter reflects a wide array of interests and causes that our Cape Cod Branch members are involved with. It is a lively variety. I often say during meeting "check-out" that I view WILPF as a "support group for activists". Indeed it is. Our Branch is also a catalyst for change, a source for study, reflection, visioning, and a source of community and individual action.

If you need to learn how to organize, if you want a sympathetic ear, if you seek a core group to just help you "keep on keepin' on", or if you just want to get something new started, come join us! Come and be cheered on in your efforts to understand and change our world. New members are always welcome.

SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS to the WILPF members who worked so hard to create a Human Rights Commission for Cape Cod. After a unanimous vote by the members of our County government, the Assembly of Delegates, the officials said that they had never seen such a determined, knowledgeable, and dedicated group of citizen advocates. Kudos to Helen Helfer, Jackie Fields, Mary Zepernick, Diane Willcox and other WILPF members who worked so hard *and showed up time after time* all year long.

Congratulations also to Lynn Hiller who has been appointed by the Wellfleet Selectmen to the town Board of Water Commissioners. Her work with WILPF on the Save The Water Campaign has helped prepare her for this new endeavor.

Nancy Douthiel



CAPE COD WILPF'S VISION/MISSION STATEMENT

Cape Cod's Women's International League for Peace & Freedom (WILPF) is a group of women and men who work to create justice and peace locally, nationally and internationally. WILPF envisions a 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.

Notes from Potluck & Planning, 10-25-05:

- **The discussion at the program meeting on November 8 will be on racial justice.** Come with information, questions, ideas about Cape Cod WILPF's work in this critical area in the coming year.
- **The Raging Grannies will** hold an action at the army recruiting center at 297 North Street, Hyannis (across from the large parking lot behind the Main Street stores), Friday, November 18, 4 p.m. Grannies, including WILPFers, have done this in other communities, asking that they be inducted in place of their "grandchildren." People of all ages, including men, can be a Granny. Wear a large hat, preferably decorated, and an apron if you wish and bring a sign. For more information, call Diane Turco, 508-432-1744, Cape Codders for Peace & Justice, or Mary Zepernick, 508-398-1023.
- **The Cape Cod Chapter draft budget** was discussed and the amended draft is in this newsletter. We discussed fundraising ideas. Janet Ward and Mary Zep will work on expanding the Susan B. Anthony winter walkathon. There is interest in doing something for International Women's Day, March 8; bring ideas to the November 8 program meeting.
- **LINKS:** The website www.thomas.gov is a source of information on current bills in Congress and which senators and congress people have signed onto them. We were planning to lobby Rep. Bill Delahunt to co-sponsor HR 551, which would change the student privacy provision to the No Child Left Behind act (a title stolen from the Children's Defense Fund!); parents would have to take action to agree that their children's names could be given to military recruiters rather than having to opt out, as it stands now. On checking with Delahunt's office, we learned that he signed on during the August recess, and somehow it didn't get properly recorded.



WILPF CAPE COD MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE SECOND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT THE HARWICH COMMUNITY CENTER AND BEGIN WITH A POT-LUCK SUPPER AT 6 PM. FROM 7 TO 8:30 THERE IS A PROGRAM AND POLITICAL DISCUSSION. GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!



DIRECTIONS: From Route 6: take exit 10 toward South Harwich. Go left at the first traffic light onto Queen Anne Rd. Go right on Oak Street and follow that one mile to the Harwich Community Center on the left. For information call Convener Nancy Munger at 508-255-6869



Keep your eyes on house bill HB1333 "an act to preserve public water and sewer systems"

The basics of the HB 1333 are simple. If passed into law, the bill will do three things:

- 1) It will ban corporations from buying or leasing in part or in whole public water and sewer systems at any level in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
- 2) It will enjoin corporations to offer to sell all their current holdings of or control over public water and sewer systems within 5 years, and to complete said sale within an additional 5 years (municipalities may exempt themselves from these provisions by a 2/3 vote of town meeting or city council for an additional 10 years),
- 3) It will ban the corporate use of public water resources for bottling purposes.

For more info on the bill, contact Mass Global Action "Our Communities, Our Water" Director, Jonathan Leavitt at (978) 683-3967, or water@massglobalaction.org.

Here are the members of the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture:

Senators

Resor of Middlesex and Worcester,	(617) 722-1120
Pacheco of First Plymouth and Bristol,	(617) 722-1551
Brewer of Worcester, Hamden, Hampshire and Franklin,	(617) 722-1540
Creedon of Second Plymouth and Bristol,	(617) 722-1200
O'Leary of Cape and Islands,	(617) 722-1570
Tarr of Essex and Middlesex,	(617) 722-1600



Representatives

Smizik of Brookline,	617-722-2060
Kulik of Worthington,	617-722-2210
Petersen of Marblehead,	617-722-5637
Straus of Mattapoisett	617-722-2040
Gobi of Spencer,	617-722-2575
Patrick of Falmouth,	617-722-5090
Kocot of Northhampton.	617-722-2210
Rush of Boston,	617-722-2210
Guy of Dalton.	617-722-2400
Gifford of Wareham,	617-722-2090
Humason of Westfeld,	617-722-2460



SAVE THE WATER

Take action on this important legislation. Call NOW!

If you can only make one call, call House Committee Chair
Representative Frank Smizik, 617-722-2060
and tell him to support HB13333

On the Art of Stealing Human Rights

The following extracts are from a speech given by Gerry Gambill at a conference on Human Rights at Tobique Reserve in New Brunswick, in August, 1958. In this speech, he warned native people about how this society goes about taking away the human rights of native people...

The art of denying Indians their human rights has been refined to a science. The following list of commonly used techniques will be helpful in "burglar-proofing" your reserves, and your rights.

GAIN THE INDIAN'S CO-OPERATION - It is much easier to steal someone's human rights if you can do it with his OWN co-operation. So..make him a non-person. Human rights are for people. Convince Indians their ancestors were savages, that they were pagan, that Indians were drunkards. Make them wards of the government. Make a legal distinction, as in the Indian Act, between Indians and persons. Write history books that tell half the story.

Convince the Indian that he should be patient, that these things take time. Tell him that we are making progress, and that progress takes time.

Make him believe that things are being done for his own good. Tell him you're sure that after he has experienced your laws and actions that he will realize how good they have been. Tell the Indian he has to take a little of the bad in order to enjoy the benefits you are conferring on him.

Get some Indian people to do the dirty work. There are always those who will act for you to the disadvantage of their own people. Just give them a little honor and praise. This is generally the function of band councils, chiefs, and advisory councils: they have little legal power, but can handle the tough decisions such as welfare, allocation of housing etc.

Consult the Indian, but do not act on the basis of what you hear. Tell the Indian he has a voice and go through the motions of listening. Then interpret what you have heard to suit your own needs.

Insist that the Indian "GOES THROUGH PROPER CHANNELS." Make the channels and the procedures so difficult that he won't bother to do anything. When he discovers what the proper channels are and becomes proficient at the procedures, change them.

Make the Indian believe that you are working hard for him, putting in much overtime and at a great sacrifice, and imply that he should be appreciative. This is the ultimate in skills in stealing human rights; when you obtain the thanks of your victim.

Allow a few individuals to "MAKE THE GRADE" and then point to them as examples. Say that the "HARDWORKERS" AND THE "GOOD" Indians have made it, and that therefore it is a person's own fault if he doesn't succeed.

Appeal to the Indian's sense of fairness, and tell him that even though things are pretty bad it is not right for him to make strong protests. Keep the argument going on his form of protest and avoid talking about the real issue. refuse to deal with him while he is protesting. Take all the fire out of his efforts.

Encourage the Indian to take his case to court. This is very expensive, takes lots of time and energy and is very safe because laws are stacked against him. The court's ruling will defeat the Indian's cause, but makes him think he has obtained justice.

Make the Indian believe that things could be worse, and that instead of complaining about the loss of human rights, to be grateful for the rights we do have. In fact, convince him that to attempt to regain a right he has lost is likely to jeopardize the rights that he still has.

Set yourself up as the protector of the Indian's human rights, and then you can choose to act only on those violations you wish to act upon. By getting successful on a few minor violations of human rights, you can point to these as examples of your devotion to his cause. The burglar who is also the doorman is the perfect combination.

Pretend that the reason for the loss of human rights is for some other reason that the person is an Indian. Tell him some of your best friends are Indians, and that his loss of rights is because of his housekeeping, his drinking, his clothing.

Make the situation more complicated than is necessary. Tell the Indian you will have to take a survey to find out how many other Indians are being discriminating against. Hire a group of professors to make a year-long research project.

Insist on unanimity. Let the Indian know that when all the Indians in Canada can make up their minds about just what they want as a group, then you will act. Play one group's special situation against another group's wishes.

Select very limited alternatives, neither of which has much merit, and then tell the Indian that indeed he has a choice. Ask, for instance, if he could or would rather have council elections in June or December, instead of asking if he wants them at all.

Convince the Indian that the leaders who are the most beneficial and powerful are dangerous and not to be trusted. Or simply lock them up on some charge like driving with no lights. Or refuse to listen to the real leaders and spend much time with the weak

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ones. Keep the people split from their leaders by sowing rumor. Attempt to get the best leaders into high paying jobs where they have to keep quiet to keep their paycheck coming in.

Speak of the common good. Tell the Indian that you can't consider yourselves when there is a whole nation to think of. Tell him that he can't think only of himself. For instance, in regard to hunting rights, tell him we have to think of all the hunters, or the sporting good industry.

Remove rights so gradually that people don't realize what has happened until it is too late. Again, in regard to hunting rights, first restrict the geographical area where hunting is permitted, then cut the season to certain times of the year, then cut the limits down gradually, then insist on licensing, and then Indians will be on the same grounds as white sportsmen.

Rely on some reason and logic (your reason and logic) instead of rightness and morality. Give thousands of reasons for things, but do not get trapped into arguments about what is right.

Hold a conference on HUMAN RIGHTS, have everyone blow off steam and tension, and go home feeling things are well in hand.



CALENDAR

Tuesday, November 8, 6PM: Potluck and political discussion meeting at the Harwich Community Center, Oak Street, Harwich

Thursday, November 17, 6 p.m.: Potluck meeting at Laurie Gates' in S. Chatham (508-432-4245) for anyone interested in U.S. WILPF's **Save the Water** campaign and what our branch wants to do in addition to the study groups.

Friday, November 18, 4 p.m.: **The Raging Grannies** action at the army recruiting center



On the Home Front: The Politics of Motherhood

By MEGHAN GIBBONS

Motherhood — it's the purest of roles, bound up in myth and imagery with everything that's good and wholesome. And never is it symbolically more powerful than during times of war, when a mother not only embodies all that a nation's soldiers fight to protect — country, home and family — but inspires the courage that makes their self-sacrifice possible. It's what men are willing to die for: freedom, Mom and apple pie.

So when a mother who stands to lose — or has lost — a child in war speaks, people tend to listen. That's why so many people paid attention to Cindy Sheehan when she first went public with her anguish over her son Casey's death and her campaign to end the war in Iraq. And it's why Tammy Pruett, an Idaho mother who has four sons serving in Iraq and faithfully supports the war, has also gained an audience.

Both these women have something to tell us about the conflict that we don't get from the political pundits and military experts — something that hits home in a way that the loftiest call to arms or the most impassioned oppositional rhetoric rarely do.

1926



Members of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom come to Washington to call for world disarmament.

The mothers' groups formed just in the last century to speak out on issues of war, peace and justice are as diverse as they are plentiful. Some have organized around the motherhood identity to try to avert conflict or to protest government oppression. Early in the 20th century, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom formed to protest World War I. Here in the United States, the Vietnam War gave rise to the anti-draft group Another Mother for Peace, and the Cold War to the anti-nuclear Women Strike for Peace. Elsewhere, the CoMadres in El Salvador denounced government human rights abuses during the civil war of 1981-1992. The Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo in Argentina protested the disappearances of their children under the nation's military dictatorship that ran the country from 1976 to 1983.

In the name of accuracy in honoring many of WILPF's foremothers (including Jane Addams, above right), how about an article on "The Politics of Lesbianism"!



OCTOBER IS NATIONAL "COMING OUT MONTH"



READ THE WILPF MEMBERSHIP BLOG

And get up to the minute national WILPF UPDATES!

<http://wilpf.blogspot.com/>

What the heck is a BLOG? It's a place in the web to share commentary and information like links to web sites. The WILPF blog's purpose is to promote our activities and encourage people to join us.

How do I use it? Forward your submissions to our blog administrator, C.J. Minster at cjminster@gmail.com



CAPE COD WILPF HAS A WEB SITE TOO!

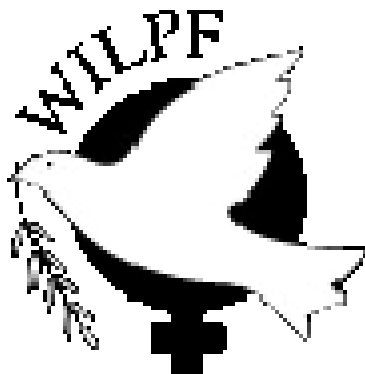
GO TO: www.wilpfcapecod.org

and check it out

Contact Webmaster Rachel Crosby with your submissions at

web@wilpfcapecod.org

Thank You to Lynn Hiller for her years of Service as our branch Treasurer. She is stepping back into an advisory role as Sandra Junier takes on the responsibilities. Welcome, Sandy and thank you too!



PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2006 (January to December)

ITEM	PROJECTED EXPENSE	PROJECTED INCOME
Newsletter	1400	1700
BRANCH OPERATING EXPENSES		
Convener	150	
Treasurer	30	
Membership	55	
Web site and PR	250	
Resources	150 (Peace and Freedom)	100 (sales)
BRANCH PROGRAMS		
Save the Water	300	
Human Rights/Social Justice	100	
We the People	200	
Donations to WILPF	500 (plus 10% of fund raisers)	
Special Events	200	200
Joan Patchen Fund	200	
TOTAL	3850	1700 (1000)

**Women's International League for Peace & Freedom, Cape Cod Branch
Make Peace and Justice a Reality: JOIN WILPF!**

NAME _____

PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____

TOWN/STATE/ZIP _____

WILPF membership includes International, U.S. Section & Cape Cod Branch

\$35 individual \$40 household \$15 limited income

Cape Cod newsletter: member: sliding scale \$5-\$50 non-member: \$25

Total _____ Send form & check, payable to WILPF, c/o Laurie Gates (see below).

Since its founding in 1915, the Women's International League for Peace & Freedom has connected women around the world in affirming that peace and justice are inseparable. WILPF envisions a world at peace, with racial, social and economic justice for all people everywhere -- a world in which:

- the basic needs of everyone are met
- all people participate equally in making decisions that affect their lives
- the interconnected web of life is respected and celebrated in diverse ways and communities
- human societies are designed and organized for sustainable existence.

Convener: Nancy Munger, 508-255-6869; mungbean54@hotmail.com



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Cape Cod

c/o Laurie Gates
38 Dusty Miller Lane
South Chatham, MA 02659

