



Newsletter

October 24, 2016 Meeting

Cape Cod Women's International
League for Peace & Freedom

Attending: Elenita, Karen, Mary Z,
Donna, Jan H, Laurie, Margy, Sherry,
Noreen, Alycia (facilitator/newsletter)

>Laurie & Candace attended a Boston meeting with WILPF and others to discuss the Black Lives Matter, and the difference between real allies and 'voice' allies (no action types). Three WILPF members received honors. Laurie has a few study guide pamphlets on BLM issues, and to identify and resolve the inner racisms we all might have.

>Google List – there is still no resolution with the current google list, so it was suggested that a new google list be created. Elenita will look into it.

>Environment Group – Jan H. working with Climate Change Cooperative, and also Sierra Club for joint effort potentials. Possible joint meeting of allied groups at Barnstable High or elsewhere.

>IWD-March 8th: lot of discussion on format for this coming year. The idea of all earth/environment with art displays from last meetings was modified due to difficulties of artist contacts, wall space availability at Cultural Center, etc.. It was suggested to make it more adaptable based on a theme of 'Seeds of Change', with artistic representations through small art displays (on tables), music, and the spoken word (poem/story). The focus will still be on 'Honoring Mother Earth' in a celebratory way. Donna, Margy, Laurie, and Jan have volunteered to be on the IWD committee.

>Gun Violence Group: Margy spoke of the Gun Action Network. They are working on States (vs Feds) to change gun laws. GAN has scripts that anyone can use to call residents in a State, and by pressing a # on phone will connect the resident to their representative where they can voice their thoughts on guns. Margy has the contact methods and scripts to make the calls to residents in any State for anyone willing. Can also be used for residents to connect with governors' offices to urge a veto of detrimental gun expansion laws.

Margy also reported that there will be a 'Get Out The Vote' phone bank action on Sat, Nov 5th. Please contact Margy if interested.

A Cape Cod Times news article was also cited. Kathleen Glueck, president of Grandmothers Against Guns sent out a questionnaire to Cape candidates running for office. Like the questionnaire Jan Hively sent to candidates on water issues, only 50% responded to this one

also. All 5 Democrats answered with supportive answers, only 1 Republican out of 5 reported, and he (D. Viera) was okay to support most but not support Martha Healy's effort to enforce the ban on copycat automatic weapons. One of the three Independents responded (Tobias Glidden) and he responded with supportive answers, the other two (Harrington & Cataldo) did not respond.

>Racial Group: Mary Z, reported that WILPF has changed efforts for Palestinians to be now called, U.S. Campaign For Palestinian Rights, to be a more positive working title. Mary encouraged all to participate in the U.S. WILPF voting (offices, boards, etc.)

Margy suggested watching the docu film of 'The 13th' (13th amendment).

Elenita recently attended the working panel in Hyannis comprised of CC College students, Police, CC Times writer, HRC, and others discussing the Black Lives Matter issues. She also suggested considering possible Town Hall discussions in the local areas.

Alycia reminded of the current stand-off, regarding environmental and racial issues taking place along the Standing Rock Reservation in North Dakota. The pipeline owners/supporters are building up private guards and the Governor is building up with National Guard, State and local police with heavy arms, tanks, and bulldozers. The situation is getting more tense daily.

>Noreen: reported there was a very good turnout at St Peter's in Harwich Oct 25th for the Tree of Life event (95 people). She is planning to take a Tree

of Life journey to the Mideast/Europe, March 8-20 this coming year. Cost is about \$ 2200-3100 depending on # of days to stay, and there are a few spaces left. Contact Noreen if interested.

>TDOR: Alycia reminded the Transgender Day of Remembrance will be Fri, Nov 18th, at Harwich Community Center. Doors will open at 5:30, with program starting at 6:15. It is an annual day to remember transgender people killed over the past year. It is a good opportunity to learn more about the trans community.

>World Unity Day: will be held Saturday, Nov 5th, 9:30am-1:00pm, at John Wesley United Methodist Church on Gifford St-Falmouth. There will be a panel of African American, Brazilian, Slavic, and Native American representation sharing stories. Human Rights Commission (Elenita) is hosting.

>Harry Potter Marathon: Calling all witches, wizards, and muggles. All 8 films will be shown at First Parish Brewster on Sat, Nov 9th, 4AM-11PM. Now this is a marathon!

>Native Classes: We are just ending the seven Native American classes I presented at FPB. Each class was half about traditional Native tribes, cultures, history and personages, and the other half was about the cross-country walk I was part of. The two halves were blended geographically. For myself, it was good to present the classes (I've been 'living quietly' for too long), and I think those attending found it all very enlightening. I may be doing it again in the Spring.



Walking The Woods

One day an uncle said to his two young nephews, “Go into the woods. Walk through, then come back and tell me what you saw.”

One boy thought of it as a contest, a race, and he quickly set off, trampling over everything, thrashing and crackling branches every which way. He ran back and told his uncle he saw trees, plants, rocks and some water.

The second boy returned much later. The uncle asked, “Nephew, what did you see?” This boy said....

“There were families of birds in the trees, some flying out for food, while their partners tended the young in their nests, with much beautiful singing. There were caterpillars on the leaves of plants with colorful stripes, inching their way along stems, and others who had shape-shifted into butterflies floating lightly among the wildflowers of many colors.

Along the riverbank I stopped to watch the fish swimming just below the water so gracefully, and there was a beaver working on a dam bringing fallen branches into the water to pack her

shelter with mud for the coming cool winter.

I sat on the warm south hillside out of the wind, feeling the golden warmth of the sun, and saw a bear in the woods gathering berries from the bushes.

I recognized plants you have picked for healing medicines.

I was thirsty and saw a straight path of deer tracks and I knew it was a path to water and not the wandering path of deer when they graze.”

The uncle was very pleased.

How do you walk the paths you follow each day?

Alycia (longriver) Davis, ©1996, 2015