



April 2018 Newsletter

Women's International League for Peace & Freedom Cape Cod Branch

wilpfcapecod.org

Contact: Donna Pihl dpihl2@comcast.net

Attending: Mary Z, Elenita, Alycia, Donna, Jan H., Kelly, Chris, Noreen

Next Meeting: Tue. May 22nd, Potluck 6-6:30; Meeting 6:30-8:30.

Facilitator--- Elenita Send her any agenda items.

After functionaries volunteered, Donna gave treasury report: Balance was \$ \$ 3,101.



If we see a bird who has fallen, do we try to help or walk away?
If we see, or know of, a young person who has fallen, or in need,
do we try to help or walk away?



One WILPF Calls- Elenita reported that WILPF Int'l is proposing a few structural changes: (1) possibly combining the Executive Committee and the Executive Board, for better efficiencies; (2) members to be sorted by Region versus current Sections. These items to be voted on by membership when ready. Mary Hansen, President, asked for more focus on environmental issues. Speaker Nancy Leewood, Phd, spoke of bio-diversity fragility, citing only 2% of world's water is fresh and depleting; also, the imbalance of carbon for plant growth & air quality. She also spoke of the rapidly rising population growth globally versus declining resources. For more info, see: bio4climate.org
Kelly will be on the call for May 10.

Sunday, April 29th, WILPF 103 Years Old & still going !!

Peace for all cannot be without peace from me.



Memorial Day: Sagamore Bridge & Other Overpasses

Monday, May 28th, Annual gathering at the Sagamore Bridge and other overpasses for closing of Pilgrim Nuclear. Diane Turco/Downwinders will send flyer when time is closer.

Jan Hively recommends reading paper at: poorpeoplescampaign.org recently published.

Decision made to add our branch name to Freedom for All Massachusetts Coalition. The coalition is the primary group standing for continuing rights for transgender people. There will be a Question on the November State Ballot to take such rights away, allowing public discriminations against trans people. The Boston mayor, labor unions, large co's., MA Police Chiefs are all part of coalition.



Mothers' Day Event

First: meeting at Mary Zep's house (Wood St – S Yarmouth, across from St. Pius school) on TUE-MAY 1st- 1PM, to make paper cranes.

Mothers' Day—meeting at Village Green, Hyannis, 1-2PM, to hand out cranes, play music and whatever else comes up for peace messages.



Meeting Days (next season): Through tonight's meeting and preferences received over past few weeks, it was decided to return to 4th Monday meetings when we resume in September after summer. Due to Monday holidays and Community Center closed, there will be two exceptions:

Dec 2018 Meeting will be 3rd Monday (Dec 17th).

May 2019 Meeting will be 3rd Monday also due to Memorial Day.



Donation...decided to give \$100 donation for listing and support of NAACP 40th Anniversary in June. Chris is coordinating with Donna. Chris also passed letter of thanks from Jane Cain, for our contribution of Jane Addams books to Yarmouth Library.



EARTH DAY – CAPE TRANSFER STATIONS

Jan Hively reported there were 26 volunteers (8 Wilpf'ers) at 11 of the town transfer stations to provide information and ask for support to reduce plastics. Had 100 people sign-up to get updates from: sustainableplasticsltd.org, who with WILPF and CARE (Creating A Responsible Environment for the Cape and Islands) sponsored and coordinated the event. For more info, contact:

sustainablepracticesltd.org careforthecapeandislands.org

Other WILPF members who couldn't be at Stations, did other events on other days (picking up roadways, beaches).

Mission Statement: Chris showed thoughts she is working with as an opening for our Mission Statement for Backgrounders.



PARADES – Due to lack of time, available 'marchers' and good idea, we nixed being part of Brewster parade in May. We decided not to be part of 4th of July parades due to traffic difficulties (i.e.

getting to Chatham or elsewhere). We will see if we can come up with solid plan to participate in the Seaside Parade (Yarmouth-October).



Tree of Life – Noreen talked of Ralie Cook, Palestinian speaker-author-artist, who will be speaking at Eastham Public Library: Sat., May 19th, 10:30AM-12:00PM. He is the author of, "A Vision for My Father" and comes highly recommended for his talks.

>>**HOUSING** – There will be a presentation at the Yarmouth Senior Center (Forest Rd), on Thursday, May 10, regarding “Shared Housing”. It will be presenting ideas/discussion/information to help expand affordable housing on Cape in different ways (rentals in homes with extra space, etc).



WILPF— I (Alycia) spoke of my thoughts of WILPF and how I considered us a Community Garden, each planting seeds in our own garden plots (Margy-guns, Jan H-water, Intergenerational, Noreen-Tree of Life, Diane T – Pilgrim, etc.), and how we each have our own skills (organizational, creativity, music, reliability, technology, etc.).

I shared that when first joining WILPF imagined actions where we all show up in force, but found it was more like 2-6 of us show up at different events due to our busy lives, and that's okay. That might be what we should do. Allow each other our plots to tend and help each other when needed for tasks/events that show up.

Possibly at Hawk Nest we can explore further for next season's meetings. Maybe we can have 1-2 of us at each meeting speak of what we are working on 'in our garden', providing education and information of our gardens and how others might be able/available to help on this or that.

The bottom line is we are each planting seeds in what we do. Maybe we can learn more about each other's garden and help where we can.

I gave thanks for the welcome and support received being in WILPF, and played the CD choral anthem, sung by Trinity Choir – Minnesota, using the prayer she wrote, posted on-line over 22 years ago (a seed that has travelled far). I also advised I've designed a website/blog to be activated soon (hopefully), I'll be using to send out more seeds. The book, "Open Our Hearts" is being considered for a grant from the Unitarian Sunday School division, and possible use in U.U. Sunday School environments. I'm working on it with Deer Sullivan & Rev. Kristen Harper (Unitarian-Barnstable).

Happy Mothers' Day to All

She wipes away the tears,
from the cheeks of childhood years.
She lifts the veil of a scary night,
with her warmth and comforting light.

She tends scraped knees from a playground spill,
And makes hot chocolate for a winter's chill.
She's always there to care and ask,
Lending her hand for a school class task.

She's there to read the bedtime tales,
Of fairies, butterflies and pirate sails.
Each year amid the flowers of spring,
She makes up kites with rainbow string.

To all life's questions, she seems to know,
Why is the sky blue? What makes flowers grow?
To each mother, your star does gleam,
For your love and hope and sharing our dreams.

Alycia Davis



Walk In Peace