

# WILPF Cape Cod

November 2018



*The Cape Cod Branch of WILPF is part of a global organization.*

*We believe in a world where all living things can grow and thrive and reach their potential.*

*We work passionately toward a peaceful and just world, free of patriarchy, corporate greed, and white supremacy.*

*We reject the idea of security that is created defined, and defended by weapons, war, and profits. Instead, we define security as universal access to safe food, affordable housing, clean air and water, accessible education and a just health care system.*

*We advocate for a feminist National budget that reflects the inherent human rights and dignity of all.*

## Notes from November meeting

We were a small but committed group.

- Donna reported via email that WILPF has a **balance of \$2124.19** in the bank as of October 25. The monthly income was \$100 with expenses of \$98.86. These numbers reflect only the WILPF balance not the other organizations.
- Elenita asked whether the National ballot deadline had passed. There were concerns about the candidates running for president.
- Elenita then began her presentation on the backgrounders. They were intended as one page each explaining WILPF's position on the 3 pillars - racism, guns, and the environment. We agreed to complete them last year and drafts were done but never finalized. When Elenita began working on them for this meeting she realized they don't work anymore. They were hard to explain because there were too many issues, it seemed wasteful to hand out 3 pages of paper, and they didn't directly address the issue that Paula had brought up at Hawk's Nest - the militarism encroaching on our lives. So Elenita came up with a new idea and handed out the Militarism brochures that she sent on the list serve. It is one piece of paper that integrates the issues of militarism with the different pillars CC WILPF was focusing on. We made comments about small changes but overall were very impressed with the work Elenita had done and the result. More work is needed to add a 4<sup>th</sup> panel with membership information, meeting times, and the paragraph that Chris drafted in the spring (at the top of the newsletter). Elenita would also like quotes from women rather than men which Chris will look for. We will add website information, other references, the WILPF logo, and make small edits in the text. Elenita showed us how easy it was to make changes to the document. Margy will check with Cape Cod Guides to see what is required to have the brochure distributed throughout the Cape.
- Chris said our language is militaristic without us intending it. "Rule of thumb" is from the rule that the stick used to beat your wife can't be thicker than your thumb. One description of the "whole nine yards" is that it refers to the length of the ammunition belt used in planes during WWII although it is unclear where exactly the saying originated.
- Chris suggested we honor trans women for International Women's Day (IWD). Other ideas were the community garden and the one that Donna had suggested of an international intergenerational focus. Elenita suggested we merge the international, intergenerational with recognizing trans women also. Chris will call Donna to discuss future plans.
- We then discussed the branch's viability with the lack of energy and members to carry out our agenda. Chris suggested we plan 3 events a year and maybe meet every other month to work on them. Laurie suggested we gather socially and if an action comes of it

that's a bonus. Others want to continue to meet with those of like minds as a balm for our distress at the state of our nation.

- Elenita announced that she needed to take a break from WILPF for now. We each have something we are working on but no issue has motivated us as a group. One of Elenita's concerns is the Cape Cod SWAT Team that is not reportable to any civilian authority. It is funded by a non-profit organization and acts more like a military operation than police function. When concerns were brought up to the SWAT team they responded that they have federal guidelines.
- Margy asked about the scholarship to fund the CEDAW internship for a WILPF member. The deadline was October for this year and there was no movement to move forward so it didn't happen.
- We adjourned early, cleaned up, and went out into the cold rain warmed by our gathering together in solidarity.



### Future branch plans

- We will meet next at the Human Rights Day Breakfast, Monday, December 10, 2018, 8:30 am – 10:30 am at the Hyannis Golf Course, Terrace Room 1840 Iyannough Road, Route 132, Hyannis, MA  
Guest Speaker Gretchen Arvanitopoulos Vice President CORD (Cape Organization for Rights of the Disabled)  
RSVP required no later than December 1, 2018, Please rsvp with full contact information to: [hrc@barnstablecounty.org](mailto:hrc@barnstablecounty.org) or **508-375-6912**  
There is no charge for this event.
- There will not be a December evening meeting.
- On Saturday, January 5<sup>th</sup> we will gather at Sherrie's South Chatham house for a potluck brunch at 10:00am. Details to follow.

**Please bring your own table setting!**

If we all bring our own plate, utensils, cup and napkin for the potluck, we can lighten our basket considerably! Thank you....



## *FROM US WILPF WEBSITE*

Every month, WILPF US schedules a One WILPF call. There is always a main topic and one of the goals of the call is to connect with other WILPF members all over the country. This year the international Congress was held in Ghana. If you would like to hear a recording of the One WILPF call which was about the Congress in Ghana, click onto this website.

[www.wilpfus.org/story/one-wilpf-calls#ghanawww](http://www.wilpfus.org/story/one-wilpf-calls#ghanawww)

If there is a problem with the link, just go to [www.wilpfus.org](http://www.wilpfus.org) and on the homepage, is a link to the Congress under "Updates/Alerts."



The US Delegation, US members, and international WILPF friends.

## **FROM INTERNATIONAL WILPF**

### *WILPF'S WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY PROGRAMME*

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)'s mission is to achieve feminist peace for equality, justice and demilitarised security.

Women must participate! Gender analysis must be applied! Conflicts must be prevented! All actors must disarm!

PeaceWomen.org is a space for peacemakers to engage, learn and be part of a global movement to advance a holistic Women, Peace and Security Agenda.

Want to know why it matters, who has responsibilities and what that means around the world?

We feature information about women peace leaders, the social movement on women's power to stop war, monitoring tools and more than 23,000 resources on issues of gender, peace and security.

**To learn about one of their programs: What would a feminist security council look like, check out this website.**

<http://peacewomen.org/node/100653>

What would a feminist Security Council agenda look like? The UN Security Council is responsible for maintaining peace and security in accordance with the principles of the United Nations, including women's equal rights and prevention of war. Yet because violence against women exists everywhere, no country in the world is a country without conflict for women.

WILPF has developed an info-graphic and series of resources to envision how the Security Council mandate could work for women, and push the international community to change from business as usual toward feminist peace.

This info-graphic and resources show how patriarchal security fails women and why it is time to demand a Feminist Security Council Agenda for peace.



Thoughts on militarism:

Farewell Speech 1/17/61, of Dwight D. Eisenhower, Republican President from Jan 1953- Jan 1961 (also General of all Allied Forces in World War II):

"This world of ours...must avoid becoming a community of dreadful fear and hate, and be, instead, a proud confederation of mutual trust and respect. In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial-complex. Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed. This world in arms is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of laborers, the genius of scientists and the hopes of its children."

§ Our website address is [wilpfcapecod.org](http://wilpfcapecod.org)

§ Our listserve for members is [capecodwilpf@googlegroups.com](mailto:capecodwilpf@googlegroups.com)



## Become a dangerous woman! join WILPF today...

Help make peace, freedom, and justice a reality for all. You can use this form to join WILPF or to renew your membership.

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**email address:** \_\_\_\_\_

*(You will be added to the Cape Cod WILPF email list to receive notices and news about the branch. You may remove your name from that list at any time.)*

**WILPF membership fee:** **\$35.00** (not a sliding scale)

*Your membership includes WILPF International, WILPF US Section, and the Cape Cod Branch. This fee is split between International (\$17) and the US Section (\$18).*

**Contribution to WILPF Cape Cod:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Supports the work of the Cape Cod branch, including programming, news gathering, and educational activism*

**TOTAL:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail your check, payable to WILPF Cape Cod, to  
Sherrie Burson  
52 Dusty Miller Lane  
South Chatham, MA 02659**