



Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

FOUNDED IN 1915 / First President: JANE ADDAMS

LOS ANGELES BRANCH 8124 West Third St., #206, Los Angeles, CA 90048 (213) 891-4517

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Grace Aaron, Treasurer
Louise Katz Sullivan, Membership Chair

Johnnye Milligan, Recording Secretary
Florence Johnson, Corresponding Secretary

Summer 2006

WILPF LOS ANGELES BRANCH MEETING

invites you to join us for a

Pot Luck Garden Party

plus

A report back from WILPF West Regional Gathering
held July 20 – 23 at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon



SATURDAY, AUGUST 19th ♦ 11:30 a.m.

at the home of
Grace and Ken Aaron

1459 S. Rexford Drive #2, Los Angeles 90035

(west of Robertson Blvd. and south of Pico Blvd.)

DIRECTIONS FROM SANTA MONICA FWY: Exit at Robertson — go north on Robertson to Pico Blvd.

Turn left (going west) on Pico Blvd. to Rexford Drive and turn left.

Or call Grace at (310) 286-1011 for directions.

Bring your favorite dish to share!

In case of extreme heat, our party will move into air conditioned living room.

— ALL MEMBERS AND PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS WELCOME —

Founded in 1915, WILPF is the oldest and largest international women's peace and justice organization. WILPF works to achieve through peaceful means: world disarmament, full rights for women, racial and economic justice, an end to all forms of violence; and to establish those political, social and psychological conditions which can assure peace, freedom, and justice for all.

Call for Immediate Cease Fire!

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom urges its members to take action now regarding the escalating violence in the Middle East. We demand an end to the violence and for negotiations to begin under U.N. auspices. The massive humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip and the war between Israel and Lebanon call for our immediate attention.

Civilian deaths are rising as the United States Government remains complicit in Israel's attacks. The Israeli Army is using weapons provided by the United States to carry out this aggression, and U.S. support of this assault is allowing Israel to act without accountability to international law, The Geneva Conventions, the Road Map to Peace, or any previous treaty or negotiation.

We must oppose our government's unquestioning support of Israeli policies. This recent escalation of violence and civilian casualties is a direct result of 39 years of occupation of Palestinian land. We must demand that members of Congress, the State Department, and the President end our military support of Israel on the basis of its consistent violation of human rights and international law. Our leaders must demand that Israel end attacks on civilians, end attacks on infrastructure, and immediately cease all human rights violations.

Israel is using weapons supplied by the United States to target Palestinian and Lebanese civilians and civilian infrastructure in Gaza and Lebanon in violation of the U.S. Arms Export Control Act and the Geneva Conventions.

Mainstream media coverage of this crisis is unbalanced and biased, and we must change the discourse and work to influence the general public through our media outlets. Visit <http://wilpf.org/letter-editor/> for contact information and help in sending email letters to the editor of your local papers. Also, be prepared to challenge radio and television talk show hosts on their language.

from: wilpf@wilpf.org (WILPF, 1213 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107 tel: 215-563-7110 fax: 215-563-5527)

President George W. Bush The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, DC 20500

(202) 456-1111 (comment line) (202) 456-1414 (speak to person) Fax (202) 456-2461 E-mail: president@whitehouse.gov

Senator Barbara Boxer 112 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20510

(202) 224-3553 Fax (202) 228-0026 Local (213) 894-5000 E-mail: senator@boxer.senate.gov

Senator Dianne Feinstein 331 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20510

(202) 224-3841 Fax (202) 228-3954 Local (310) 914-7300 E-mail: senator@feinstein.senate.gov

Write to Representatives: Rep. _____, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515

CAPITOL SWITCHBOARD: (202) 224-3121 TOLL-FREE CAPITOL SWITCHBOARD: (888) 355-3588

WILPF Remembers Miriam Goldsmith

On June 23rd, just one month short of her 95th birthday, we lost our dear friend and long-time WILPF member, Miriam Goldsmith. From the time she joined WILPF in 1967, until a few years ago, Miriam was one of the most active members in our Los Angeles Branch. She held every office on our board, including that of president. She was our United Nations representative for many years, and she was WILPF's representative to the Westside Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition.

Wherever she went, Miriam talked to people about WILPF, and though there are no formal records to prove it, Miriam is probably responsible for signing up more new members than anyone else in the history of the organization! WILPF L.A. Branch used to meet in Los Angeles, near Sunset and Vermont. But Miriam, who had moved to Santa Monica and was signing up many new members in that area, wanted WILPF meetings to be more accessible to the Westsiders.

So in the early 1990s she arranged for one monthly meeting to be held in the Community Room at Santa Monica Place, with Bill Press as our speaker — and hundreds of people attended, making that our most successful meeting ever. Since that time, we've continued to meet in the Community Room every other month.

Throughout her life, Miriam worked tirelessly to make the world a better place — a trait she passed on to her children, Steve and Joan. In 1996 Miriam was nominated (by then Assembly Member Sheila Kuehl) and selected as one of 100 California's Women of the Year by the State Legislature.

Miriam will be sorely missed by her many friends in WILPF. Our deepest condolences go to Steve and Joan and their families. Two photo albums of Miriam's years working with WILPF will be displayed at our garden party, where we'll share our memories of this extraordinary woman.