



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM
WILPF Fresno, P.O. Box 5114, Fresno, CA 93755

Graphic by Lincoln Cushing

Several Huge Thanks Go Out to All Who Made the Harvard Street Sale a Success!

Thanks to all who donated goods to be sold at the sale. Without you, there couldn't have been a sale!

Thanks to Patty Bennett and Tim Parker for providing their front yard for WILPF to use. They also made lunch as well as morning snacks and coffee for those of us who worked at the sale.

Thanks to the following people who worked at the sale and/or helped with setup:

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|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Janet Capella | Patricia Wells Solorzano |
| Cheryl Caldera | Nancy Waidtlow |
| Sandra Iyall | Gerry Bill |
| Bev Fitzpatrick | Kyla Mitchell |

Our sincere apologies if we have left your name off this list. You were truly appreciated as well!

We made a little more than \$1,000 at the sale! We look forward to doing this again next year. Mark your calendars for the Saturday a week before Memorial Day weekend.

Paz.

—Jean Hays and Melissa Fry

Ann Carruthers Receives Way of Peace Award

Ann Carruthers retired from teaching in the Bay Area and moved to Fresno where she joined the Women's International League for Peace & Freedom. There, she became a founder and leader of the Library Committee, a vibrant group that involved WILPFers in what started as a celebration of the Jane Addams Peace Association Award books and evolved into an amazing community literacy program with strong social justice roots and branches.

Events started with the WILPF Centennial Celebration and involved donations of the award books annually to libraries in historically underserved areas—the Central, Betty Rodriguez, Gillis and West Fresno branches of the Fresno County Library.

This expanded into school libraries, and then to the Malaga Community Center, where the staff of an afterschool program in this community without any library services connected with WILPF, and especially with Ann, as we worked together to create a children's library of more than 800 books with the shelves to hold them.

Ann worked with Sandra Rios Balderrama, an active Library Committee member and a founder of REFORMA, the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos, and WILPF-Fresno became an organizational member and contributed to the REFORMA Children in Crisis project, which attempts to send books to both sides of the border for arriving asylum-seeking children and families.

Ann and Sandra also linked us to Kids in Need of Defense (KIND), which attempts to protect children crossing borders in search of safety. The term *community outreach* could have been created for the work done by the Fresno WILPF Library Committee led by Ann Carruthers.

We're very proud of her and are happy that she was chosen to receive the Way of Peace Award given by the Fresno Center for Nonviolence in 2022.

Interested in being part of the Library Committee? Contact the current chair, Cheryl Caldera, at grammy44cac@gmail.com.



Ann Carruthers, WILPF-Fresno literacy and social justice activist, is honored with the Way of Peace Award. Photo courtesy of the Raging Grannies



Ann Carruthers and Evonne Waldo at the Fresno Center for Nonviolence anniversary event. Photo by Teresa Castillo



Ann Carruthers, center, Sandra Rios Balderrama on left, with Liz Tovar and Donna Salwasser in Malaga.

WILPF MEETING

July 14, Thursday, 7 p.m., online. Watch your e-mail for an announcement with a link and call-in number. For more information, contact Teresa at taca_03@ymail.com or Leni at lenivreeves@gmail.com.

MEMBERSHIP

Please renew if you haven't already. Send dues to WILPF Fresno, P.O. Box 5114, Fresno, CA 93755.

For questions and information updates, contact Nancy Hatcher at nhatcher46@gmail.com or Kyla Mitchell at kyla.noelle@gmail.com.

WILPF-US membership is \$35/year. WILPF-Fresno sponsors a low-income rate of \$20.

WILPF Fresno Joins Fresno Rainbow Pride Celebration

Fresno WILPF's statement for the Pride Parade: "It was the wisdom of our founding foremothers in 1915 to know that peace is not rooted only in treaties between great powers or a turning away of weapons alone, but will flourish only when planted in the soil of justice, freedom, nonviolence and equality for all. They understood that all problems that lead countries to domestic and international violence are all connected and all need to be solved in order to achieve sustainable peace. This remarkable vision still guides the Women's International League for Peace & Freedom as we face today's challenges for peace in Fresno and in our world." The same forces aligned against



The Raging Grannies performing at Fresno Pride 2022. Photo by Sandra Iyall



Teresa Castillo, Heather Loya, and Sandra Iyall representing WILPF at Fresno Pride 2022. Photo by Sandra Iyall



WILPF Booth at Fresno Pride 2022. Photo by Sandra Iyall

poor people are working against LGBTQIA+ people, Black and Brown people, the environment, education and healthcare. We're all in this together.

Our Raging Grannies led off the Pride Festival celebration and were received with enthusiasm, while Teresa Castillo, her daughter Heather Loya and Sandra Iyall represented WILPF Fresno and Peace Fresno with a double-sided banner going around twice in the parade march.

Fresno WILPF Members on the Way to Cuba with Pastors for Peace

We will have the opportunity to learn how a comprehensive universally accessible health system provided care through the pandemic and how the public health system and scientists of Cuba combined to produce vaccines made in Cuba, and then immunized a solid 90%+ of the Cuban people age two and older, bringing the pandemic under control.

Cuba has gone for more than a month without a single death from COVID-19. Taking the pandemic so far as a whole, Cuba's death rate (per 100,000 people) has been about one-fourth that of the United States.

We'll see Cuba in the process of developing a Families Code as a new revised legal code that recognizes the rights of all families and all people including protection of the right of all people to form a family without discrimination, updating the legal definition of family institutions, with inclusive rather than strictly heteronormative models, establishing the right to a family life free from violence, and centering values of love, affection, solidarity and responsibility.

We'll also see Cuba suffering from the effects of a form of siege warfare conducted by the U.S. government, which attempts to prohibit trade and financial transactions with Cuba not just for the United States, but for the world. The so-called embargo—actually a blockade given that the United States enforces it on companies and countries everywhere by threatening fines and asset seizures—has been brutally effective. The Cuban people are suffering from shortages of essentially everything.

Dr. Jean Kennedy, who is going with Pastors for Peace for the first time, and Dr. Leni Villagomez Reeves, who has close ties on the island but has been unable to visit since March 2020, will go and see for themselves. Then we'll come back and let you hear some truth about Cuba.

STIR IT UP—WILPF KFCF 88.1 FM

July 27, 3 p.m. (fourth Wednesday of each month). Jean Hays highlights people and events important to our WILPF community.

UNPACKING RACISM

Dr. Jean Kennedy will be on the Pastors for Peace Caravan to Cuba so we'll see you in August. To join and get a link, RSVP with your e-mail address to drjeankennedy@yahoo.com or text 559-270-1023.

WOMEN IN BLACK

May 4, noon (first Wednesday of each month), Courthouse. Check first with Sue Kern at skern@netptc.net or 559-439-3777.