



WOMEN’S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

WILPF Fresno, P.O. Box 5114, Fresno, CA 93755

Graphic by Lincoln Cushing

Bev Fitzpatrick Scholarship Launch and Stan Poss Dedication at the EcoGarden

May 3, Noon–3 p.m.
Dakota EcoGarden Open House, potluck and announcement of the Bev Fitzpatrick Scholarship: Join the dedication of the newest (fourth) Arthur Dyson–designed ecostructure, which will be named in honor of a longtime supporter, Stan Poss. Plus, Wings Advocacy Fresno and The Eco-Village Fresno Project are launching a Bev Fitzpatrick scholarship in Bev’s memory and legacy to help empower Fresno City College students make positive changes in the community. Please consider contributing to endow this scholarship. Donations can be made at the open house or by contacting Gerry Bill at gerry.bill@gmail.com.

WILPF Fresno Earth Democracy at Earth Day

WILPF Earth Democracy had a booth at the Earth Day Fresno Celebration on April 12 at Fresno City College. It was complete with two oceans (kiddy wading pools filled with plastic trash). Kids and adults alike loved cleaning out the oceans with our nets and looking at the clean water. We hardly had time to pollute them again for the next person to clean out!
Many people were very interested in our fliers about plastic pollution; PFAS in our water; safer, alternative things to clean with; and the danger the CEMEX gravel company poses with its wishes to dig a 600-foot-deep trench near the San Joaquin River at Lost Lake.



Cleaning the oceans at Earth Day Fresno.

HUGE THANKS goes out to the following WILPFers for helping set up our booth and being there in 2–3 hour shifts to welcome visitors and answer questions. We COULD NOT have done it without you!
Please forgive us if we forgot to thank you!
Patricia Wells Evonne Waldo Carol Goiburn
Jan Slagter Rich Rollin Joan Poss
Carlos Haeussler Lynn Jacobsson Gioia Frank
Thanks, also, to the Fresno Raging Grannies who sang Earth Day songs and even an Earth Day Rap!
—Jean Hays & Kyla Mitchell, Fresno WILPF Earth Democracy Co-Chairs

May 18 at 3 p.m. Malcolm X el-Hajj Malik El Shabazz Birthday

Free AME at 806 Collins Ave., Fresno
We will celebrate and honor Black Revolutionary Internationalism, including Franz Fanon, Patrice Lumumba and Malcolm X, all born in 1925. Distinguished speakers Drs. Melissa Knight and Michael Onyebuchi Eze, a student art contest, cake and more. (Potluck optional; you can eat even if you don’t bring food.)

SAVE THE DATE

Commemorating the 100th birth anniversary of

AL-HAJJ MALIK AL-SHABAZZ BROTHER MALCOLM X

Sunday, May 18th

Details Coming Soon

FRESNO MALCOLM X ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Contact
hajjreza@gmail.com

Graphic by Reza Nekumanesh

WILPF 110-Year Anniversary on April 29

In April 1915, about 1,200 women from Austria, Belgium, Britain, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the United States gathered at The Hague for the Women’s International Congress. Holding this congress at this time was remarkable due to the difficulties of organization and travel, and the courage required to advocate for peace in time of war. The delegates discussed the root causes of conflict and how to end the war; it was the first international meeting to declare the principles that were needed for peace, including democratic control of foreign policy, with no secret treaties, universal disarmament, international disputes to be settled by arbitration and equal political rights for women.
A moment of silence for those killed by the war was described by a notable participant, Rosika Schwimmer, a Hungarian pacifist leader of the international women’s suffrage movement: “We had one who learned that her son had been killed—and women who had learned two days earlier that their husbands had been killed, and women who had come from belligerent countries full of the unspeakable horror, of the physical horror of war, these women sat there with their anguish and sorrows, quiet, superb, poised, and with only one thought, ‘What can we do to save the others from similar sorrow?’”
Rosika Schwimmer returned to Hungary, then after the war was forced to flee to the United States where she was falsely accused of being a German spy and denied U.S. citizenship because she “refused to bear arms.” She died stateless in 1948.

April 5 Protests—Of Course, WILPF and the Raging Grannies Were There!

Hands Off! was the name, and these protests were aimed at opposing billionaire fascist government and corruption, and protesting cuts to Social Security and Medicaid and attacks on health, education, the environment and racial justice—essentially trying to erase rights and visibility of all non-white people—and even harsher attacks on immigrants, trans people and supporters of Palestine.

Somewhere between 1,500 and 2,000 people showed up and showed out in Fresno. WILPF Fresno President Teresa Castillo spoke with heartfelt eloquence and the Raging Grannies “sang truth to power.”
Protests are necessary against this fascist regime that abducts people and sends them to concentration camps. What are the next steps for the resistance?



Teresa Castillo, WILPF Fresno president. Photo by LVR



Fresno Raging Grannies singing truth to power

One protester carried a sign with the Audre Lordé quote “Your silence will not protect you.” Audre Lordé was good at truth, and here are some more quotes to guide us.
“And at last you’ll know with surpassing certainty that only one thing is more frightening than speaking your truth. And that is not speaking.”
“In a society where the good is defined in terms of profit rather than in terms of human need, there must always be some group of people who, through systematised

oppression, can be made to feel surplus, to occupy the space of the dehumanised inferior.”
“In order to be whole, we must recognise the despair oppression plants within each of us—that thin persistent voice that says our efforts are useless, it will never change, so why bother, accept it. And we must fight that inserted piece of self-destruction that lives and flourishes like a poison inside of us, unexamined until it makes us turn upon ourselves in each other.”



Fresno Raging Grannies at Hands Off! protest

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW! HERE’S HOW:
Send dues to WILPF Fresno, P.O. Box 5114, Fresno, CA 93755.

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

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

WILPF MEETING
May 8 (second Thursday), 7 p.m., via Zoom (and sometimes also at the Fresno Center for Nonviolence, 1584 N. Van Ness Ave.). This meeting is open to all. Watch your e-mail for an announcement. To check the in-person option, contact Teresa at taca_03@gmail.com or 559-360-8054.

STIR IT UP—WILPF ON KFCF 88.1 FM
May 28 (fourth Wednesday), 3 p.m. Jean Hays highlights people and events important to our WILPF community.

VALLEY VOICES FOR PEACE
Listen to our new monthly podcast! “Valley Voices for Peace” can be found on SoundCloud and YouTube. Thank you to host Carol Goiburn and a mini-grant from WILPF US.

WOMEN IN BLACK
11 a.m.–1 p.m. (first Wednesday). We are now joining Raza Against War’s protest in front of the Federal Building at 2500 Tulare St. in Fresno. Check with Sue Kern at skern@netptc.net or 559-349-3777.

THE CONTENT IN THIS SECTION IS PAID FOR BY WILPF. THE WILPF PAGE IS USUALLY COMPILED AND EDITED BY LENI VILLAGOMEZ REEVES (LENIVREEVES@GMAIL.COM).