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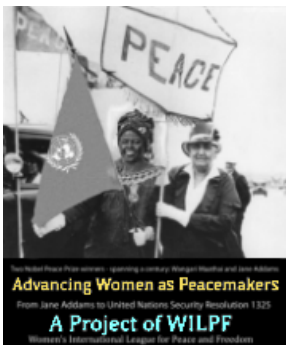
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**[Advancing Women Peacemakers: A Website for History and Activism](#)**

Dear WILPFers,

April, 2010

Spring has sprung in the northern climes, with the crocuses and green shoots giving us faith in renewal and growth. The season seems to encapsulate the last year: rain, cold and snow still tumble amidst the warming days, just as we experience frustration at political stasis amidst hope of openings for change. It points to the necessity of organizations like ours and, happily, we are tenacious in our engagement. WILPF is grateful to all who responded so generously to our winter annual appeal; your help in funding our work is essential, as is all the people power that drives our political work.



Swedish Section President Kirsti Kolthoff and PeaceWomen Associate Maria Butler at a recent WILPF fundraising reception in New York City. Photo by Pat O'Brien

WILPF's new Director of Operations, Laurie Belton, began work in February. She comes to us via Earthwatch and WorldTeach; look for an interview with her in the next *Peace and Freedom* coming out this month. At WILPF's UN office, Maria Butler has been hired to fill the position of PeaceWomen Associate, joining Reaching Critical Will's Ray Acheson, UN Office Director Ana Rosga and all their invaluable interns. We appreciated Maria's spirited intervention during the Advancing Women as Peacemakers panel at the Commission on the Status of Women meetings and look forward to working with her in the years to come.

**Members are the foundation for furthering WILPF's 95 years of unique political perspective...**

April is WILPF's membership recruitment month--help us get off to a good start by going online and renewing your membership if you have not done so in the last year, or by updating your member profile if you've had changes in your contact information. We don't want you to miss out on our monthly political updates in our eNews, and the opportunities for advocacy sent via our eAction alerts.

**...and there are many ways to contribute**

**We are pleased to welcome Ellen Schwartz to the National Board as the Treasurer/ Finance Committee chair.** Ellen has served WILPF for decades: a longtime stalwart of the San Jose and Sacramento branches, she filled the Policy Committee chair position on the National Board in the 1970's. More recently she was the registrar for the 2005 and 2008 National Congresses, and a member of the Site Committee.

**The National Board will be holding its Spring 2010 meeting Friday April 16th, noon, to Sunday April 18th, noon, in Boston,** thanks once again to the generosity of the Boston branch. The Fall meeting will be hosted by the Bloomington, Indiana branch from October 23- 25. All members are welcome to attend.

It is not too soon for you to think about running for the 2011-2014 Board; elections will be held in the spring of 2011. Also, in addition to inviting you to join one of our many issue committees, a variety of other national committees have openings from time to time. Currently the Personnel, Nominations, Mini-Grant Monitoring, and Development Committees are seeking additional members. If you are interested in serving WILPF in any of these capacities, please contact our Nominating Committee chair Pat O'Brien at [patob777@verizon.net](mailto:patob777@verizon.net). Or go to [www.wilpf.org](http://www.wilpf.org) for additional information.

**We support our members' political initiatives, and encourage you to utilize WILPF's grant program,** open to all issue committees and branches in good standing. **This year there are 2 cycles: deadlines are May 15 and October 1.** Please go to [www.wilpf.org/grant\\_program](http://www.wilpf.org/grant_program) for guidelines and to download an application, or request a hard copy from the national office.

We enter this season committed to growth in our capacity to do our work for a just and peaceful Earth. We're grateful as always for your financial support and, most importantly, for your passion and time.

Thank you,  
Nancy Munger and Laura Roskos,  
Co-Presidents, WILPF US Section

*PS Please share this letter with your sister members who may not receive emails. Thanks!*

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## Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

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