"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead



Grandmothers for Peace International

Barbara Wiedner, Founder, 1928 - 2001

Lorraine Krofchok. Director

Spring 2012

Founded 1982

98-

Happy 30th Anniversary to US 2012





Barbara Wiedner and Raisa Gorbachev, "World Congress of Women" in

Moscow 1987.

When we reach a certain age it has been said we become invisible. NO! We have been very visible for 30 years! Grandmothers for Peace standout in a crowd — happens all the time as soon as we put on our shirts or sign with our organizational name! We are admired and respected for our work, helping to make a better, safer world for the future.

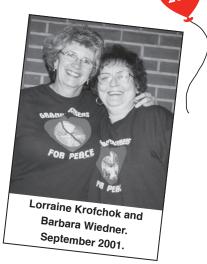
In May of 1982, Barbara and a small group of women got together in her living room, concerned that nuclear weapons were being stored at a Sacramento military base. She wanted to be sure her grandchildren would have "a future" and Grandmothers for Peace was born. She traveled the world, promoting peace and warning about nuclear weapons.

Now, 30 years later we are faced with the same problems, only much worse. We have expanded our issues because the problems have expanded. We now work with computers, get news instantly, and stay in touch with rapidity. It gets overwhelming at times. But, I have what might be a solution. Things are a mess. But many of us have to Cape Canaveral Air Station, work differently now. If you Florida, October 1994. can no longer march, stand; no longer stand for long periods,

GRANDMOTHERS

FOR PEACE

Cassini Protest,





Left: Tess Koenig, Lil Corrigan, JoAnne Lingle, Peg McIntire, Barbara Wiedner, Bernice Kring, Lorraine Krofchok, Kathy Anderson. Seated: Father Bill Bischsel, unknown. Fort Benning, Georgia, School of the Americas protest. November 1996.

- US Military Deaths, 2001-2012: Iraq War = 4,486; Afghanistan War = 1,961 - Cost of The Wars, 2001-2011: \$1,329,875,590,321.00 (TRILLION) - Civilian Deaths, 2001-2011: Iraq = 106,596-116,434; Afghanistan, 2006-2011 = 12,793 (costofwar.com; icasualties.org; iraqbodycount.org; 5-07-2012)



Bernice Kring arrested May 29, 1997, at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory protesting the construction of the National Ignition Facility.



Left: Ron and Jeri Hahn, Lil and Bill Corrigan. Fort Benning, Georgia, School of the Americas protest. November 1997.





sit. But don't angst. I say "pick a mess," a small corner, no matter how small you may think it is and do it! An accomplishment helps the heart and soul and makes us realize we may not get "the big mess" but we can DO the smaller. Yes, we would love to eliminate poverty. Contribute, collect, or work with a food bank. World peace would be the ultimate goal. Work in your community to educate on the cost of war and how it reduces our humanity. On that note, I found this link that some of you might want to consider — it is a PDF to print.



Left: Barbara Wiedner, Jeri Hahn, Fr. Roy Bourgeois, Lorraine Krofchok, Pat Chapman, Corine Thornton. SOA Protest - 1998.

"War Is a Racket" by Smedley Butler: http://www.ratical.org/ratville/CAH/warisaracket.pdf

I know, I harp on the small accomplishments, but they help us to continue work on the large, frustrating and extremely troubling issues.

Over the last ten years, taking care of GFP, I have seen people write and tell me they are "alone" in their community and suddenly they find a "small mess" and it gives hope. We have marched in large and small demonstrations, vigil on a

regular basis, have written letters, joined in solidarity with others and helped educate. We continue to protest the "clean" killing — the drones. We care about our environment and our planet as a whole. I have a sign I have used at the 99% actions that says "Don't get me started..." And that is how I feel now. I could write a mini novel about our frustrations!

It was a proud moment when in two short weeks we had the donations to help buy a classroom of desks in Malawi, Africa, with the help of information from Lawrence O'Donnell of MSNBC and UNICEF. Children sit at desks in a country probably none of us will ever visit, but we helped. A few years ago we put together hundreds of Iraq Baby Kits, helping unseen infants in a country ripped by an unnecessary war. Our support to close the SOA at Ft. Benning is unwavering as is our solidarity with Fr. Roy Bourgeois.



Left: Corine Thornton, Charlie & Judy Liteky at a farewell celebration prior to Charley's departure for a one-year prison term in Lompoc, CA, July 31, 2000, for his act of non-violent civil disobedience at Ft. Benning in November 1999. Right: In 2001, Charley speaks about his incarceration.





The Barbara Wiedner family participate in the International Day of Protest Against the Weaponization of Space at Beale AFB, Marysville, CA - October 2000.



Bertha Kurki and Jan Provost The Northland GFP Chapter (Superior, Wisconsin) May 2002



Jan Provost, Becky Kring, seated: Bernice Kring, Barbara Wiedner and daughter, Kathy. October 2001.

We have not been without loss. Many GFP have passed — they can't be replaced in a sense, but we can work harder and know they are with us in spirit and memory. My friend, GFP Mary Bisharat died a few months ago. She was my muse for the Palestinian struggle. She was passionate in her work and shall be missed. A friend from Georgia, Pat Chapman also is gone. She did extraordinary work during the civil rights movement. Can you picture a den wall filled with honors and commendations?

Our work is varied and sometimes "unnoticed." Some GFP helped the 99% by stopping by the encampments bringing food, drinks and some even volunteered to wash their clothes and bring them back clean and fresh! Lois Rockhill, Executive Director of Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana, and member of GFP, retired after 23 years of service. We can all do something. Extend your reach...

And remember, peace comes in many forms — not just the absence of war. Do something everyday, something as simple as a smile in the supermarket, wear your shirt or pin, start a conversation, you can be gentle in your words yet always remember the goal. Peace is possible and it can come through Grandmothers for Peace.



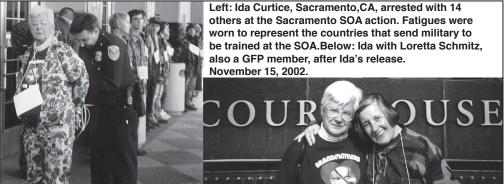
Mary Bisharat, Sacramento, CA, a long-time GFP member, at the Solidarity Action in San Francisco, CA, October 26, 2002.



in California 2002.



Ella Lively, left, in the original style GFP shirt with an unidentified person in the present style. 2002





GFP Director Lorraine Krofchok surrounded by completed kits for the Iraq Infant Care Project. February 2003.



Anderson, Indiana, GFP: left, Christie Stephens, Lois Rockhill, Norma Abby, Juanita Leonard, Dondenna Caldwell, Sandra Clark, Nancy Hoffman, Gail Smith, Kay Shively with donated food for Second Harvest Food Bank. 2004

Ellen Murphy

2003



The Northland GFP Chapter (Superior, Wisconsin): Jan, Dorothy, Katie, and Karen celebrate the closing of Project ELF, September 30, 2004.



New York City, New York, GFP: left, Helen Miles, Joan Wile, Tommy Goodman, Rosemarie Jun at the Martin Luther King Day celebration, January 18, 2005.



Lorraine Krofchok, Corine and Nate Thornton at the No War on Iraq Protest, San Francisco, October 26, 2005.



GFP Santa Clarita, CA, joined MoveOn members to present a stack of letters to U.S. Rep Howard "Buck" McKeon's office asking him to stop supporting the escalation of the Iraq war. 2007



Jeanne Norris Malone, New York, 2006.



Left, GFP Diane Bader, Sacramento, CA, and GFP Enid Williams, Albuquerque, NM, at a Crones Counsel Gathering, Pacific Grove, CA, Fall 2007.



Sacramento, CA: Ida Curtice, left, Shirley O'Key, Bill Wiedner, Bobbie Wrenn Banks, Lorraine Krofchok, Don Knutson, Ellen Schwartz, at the showing of "Last Best Chance." September 27, 2005





The Arizona Northwest Valley Chapter of Grandmothers for Peace proudly display their two new banners at the January 19, 2008, demonstration.



Columbia, Maryland, GFP: left, Helen Kolbe, Bobbi Koons, Virginia Bates, Linda Kreplin, Lynne Brallier, Elaine Andrews, Bette Hoover, June Martyn, and Debbie Matherly. 2005



Peg McIntire always proved you were never too old for activism and spent her last day trying to make a difference. She was our "elder stateswoman." 2008





The Northland GFP Chapter (Superior, Wisconsin): L-R: Jean Kilgour, Polly Edmunds, Donna Howard, Karen Barschdorf, and Dorothy Wolden attended the Nukewatch event informing the public about the contaminated barrels that are in Lake Superior. GFP co-sponsored this annual event. July 5, 2009



Jo Wharton with her origami peace cranes. Texas - 2009



The Northland GFP Chapter (Superior, Wisconsin) Karen Barschdorf, left, and Dorothy Wolden, withstand zero degree temperature at an Iraqi Moratorium rally. January 2009



Local Sacramento, CA, GFP gather to celebrate the inauguration of Barack Obama. Back left: Ellen Broms, Judy Neel, Zohreh Whitaker, Lorraine Krofchok, Sarah Johnson: Front left, Nancy Baker, Patricia Altenburg. 2009



Florida Keys, Florida, GFP organized the March 21,2009, gathering for the Sixth Anniversary of the Iraq War. Veterans for Peace and other peace friends participated.



"Hands Across the Sand" at Corpus Christie, Texas: Above, holding the GFP bumper sticker, Linda Wiles, Hill Country Chapter, with Judy Donohue (left), and Heidi Minyen (right). Below, at River Walk Park, West Sacramento, California. June 26, 2010.





GFP Helen John, left, and Sylvia Boyes. United Kingdom - 2009





The GFP Chapter in Franklin County New York protests the Supreme Court decision in the Citizens United case. January 21, 2011.



Lorraine Krofchok, above and right, at the Occupy Elk Grove demonstration - 2011.





Progress is being made with the Golden Rule Project. January 2012





Left, Diane Bader, Marie Kiene, Pearl, Nan Mahon, John Kiene, and Lorraine Krofchok marched with Veterans for Peace in the Sacramento, CA, Veterans Day Parade. November 11, 2011



Many thanks to Corine Thornton and her daughter, Sarah Johnson for the many years they handled the shirt table and order sheets.



Sammy, left, and Mia, grandchildren of GFP Margaret Hoskins. 2011



Corine Thornton and Ethel Kirk at the showing of "Body of War" co-directed by Phil Donahue who was in attendance. January 2012



Ellen Broms and her grandsons. 2011

Grandmothers for Peace International

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4,486 US Military Deaths in Iraq* 1,961 US Military Deaths in Afghanistan **Cost of Wars:**

\$1,329,875,590,321.00 (Trillion)*

President Barack Obama

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