

Grandmothers for Peace International

Barbara Wiedner, Founder, 1928 - 2001

Lorraine Krofchok, Director

Founded 1982 Spring 2018

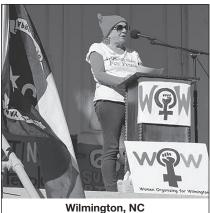
AND, WE CONTINUE . . .



Sacramento, CA GFP Judy Neel, right, with daughter, GFP Kathy Loesch.



Sacramento, CA
GFP Patti Stalder with daughter
and granddaughters.



GFP Lynn Heritage giving speech. See page 2.



Sacramento, CA
GFP Sheryl Anderson with
grandchildren Leo and Lucia.
The woman holding the sign
was Lucia's age, 1, when women
earned the right to vote in 1920.



Duluth, MN GRANDMOTHERS FOR PEACE: Donna Scheer, left, Dorothy Wolden, Beth Bartlett, Donna Howard, Penny Cragun.

"We're not going to have the America that we want until we elect leaders who are going to tell the truth - not most days, but every day." — Ann Richards

Women's March January 20, 2018



Prescott, AZ GFP Frances Thomas, right, with GFP Patti Scheaffer behind her holding sign up high.

Civil disobedience is not our problem.

Our problem is civil obedience. Our problem is that people all over the world have obeyed the dictates of their leaders and have gone to war, and millions have been killed because of this obedience ... Our problem is that people are obedient all over the world in the face of poverty and starvation and cruelty. Our problem is that people are obedient while the jails are full of petty thieves, and the grand thieves are running the country. That's our problem. — Howard Zinn, 1922-2010

Women's March January 20, 2018

GFP Ordell Nelson, Prescott, AZ

Being with like-minded people always feels good during these tough times. That was certainly the case when we joined the Women's March on 1-20; over 1,400 marched. The same happened at the 1-15 Martin Luther King March. A record 450 people attended.

It seems pointless to share the litany of frustrations with our current president and his cronies, because GFPers think alike on most topics. Instead, it's wonderful joining Grandmothers for Peace, Veterans for Peace and others every Friday on the corner of Cortez and Gurley in Prescott. Our consistency is admirable. Even though health issues cause us each to miss periodically, the others always come. We don't require any reminders! We know where it's safe!

GFP September Bowman, Goleta, CA

The Santa Barbara Women's March had to be changed to a rally because most of our police were working in Montecito where the terrible mudslides happened. We can't legally have a march in the streets without a police escort, but nobody wanted to take the police from their important work in Montecito. The whole city is mourning the loss of life and other tragedies that happened there.

Still, about 3,500 people showed up for a wonderful rally which went on for 3 hours (with the crowds dwindling to hundreds at the end).

My daughter and her political action group were in the Chicago Women's March, where my husband and I marched with her last year. She said there were estimated to be about 300,000 people there this year.

Thanks for your newsletters. It heartens me to know there are like-minded grandmothers all over our country.

GFP Kristina, SF Bay Area, CA

We went to the Women's March in Oakland yesterday. What gives me hope for the future is how many young people were there and how many young families in particular. And the witty signs showed that the next generation can think!

GFP Lynn Heritage: Speech at Wilmington, NC, Women's March

It's an honor to be here with all of you - those behind the mike, behind the scene, and all of you out there. We all have different reasons for being here. We each make our own personal decision on why we march. I march for peace, justice and a better Tomorrow for everyone.

In the past year, the Voice of Women - no matter our age - has gone from "maybe" to "yes-we-can" and now we've moved on to "Yes-we-Will!" Before too long, we'll get to "oh hell yeah, WE-DID-IT!"

We have the power, and just like Dorothy, we've had it all along and simply didn't realize it. Now the tide is turning-we found the confidence to jump on the wave and ride it in, fear be damned, we have a mission and finally, we're getting "Woke"!

We're all part of the incoming tide and we're mastering the waves. We just need to understand and respect that each of us must choose our own wave. With all these waves, both big and small, coming together - as one - we can become a tsunami, a tsunami of women empowered to set things right in this world.

As a Grandmother for Peace, I believe that what we do, we need to do with love and peace. That doesn't mean we go around tiptoeing and whispering through life. Right now, we're at a place that might require combat boots. One of the definitions of combat is to take action to reduce, destroy, or prevent something undesirable. There's an awful lot of undesirable stuff going on in our country, so we need to roar a little louder and make ourselves heard - Peacefully!

We've invited our brothers to join us and our message is: don't try to lead us because we aren't going to follow. Trust us to lead you for a while, and if you can do that, then ultimately, we can walk forward together. And that's how we reach our goal.

On Monday, I wore my pussy hat to the MLK parade and someone suggested that when I represent GFP I shouldn't wear this hat because it's too political.

Well, let me tell you something. This pussy hat is not about politics, it's about women's rights and there's nothing political about that. There's nothing political about the rights of any human being on planet earth. Marching in the MLK parade is not politics. Black Lives Matter is not politics, today is not about politics, it's about coming together for human rights and human dignity.

Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "Tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now."

Our "now" says "time is up" on a variety of things, and I, for one, find that exciting. Time's up on our silence and our denial. Time's up on our belief that someone else will fix what we don't like. Time's up on complacency.

Get out there and do something that feels right for you even if you think you can only take baby steps. Take those steps - they matter! I encourage everyone of you who feels like you don't have anything to share, to find your Light - it's there. And even though you think it may be too small to make a difference, please know that even the smallest light shines in the dark. Be the light - no matter how small. Be that light that moves us forward together in peace. Thank you!

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

"With malice toward none..."

President Abraham Lincoln's quote hangs heavy on my mind these days, yet it has been a long time since I brought it into context, now necessary. It came from his second Inauguration Address after the Civil War ended.

"With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

Lincoln was uniting the country after a bloody war. That's what presidents are supposed to do, unite our country. With regret and sadness, that is not what we face now. I would say it is up to the majority of people to stand up and unite us. The current occupant of the Oval Office was selected by just one third of the population and lost the popular vote, but was "saved" by an antiquated system.

Our goal is to register those who don't vote and educate them as to why they must vote, especially if they are younger. It will be their country to save or lose.

On that note of younger, I got a delightful message from a woman in Texas. She works with young children at a community center and they were reviewing resources about Congress. They came across our pages and found it interesting. As a thank you, they wanted to send a link they thought would be interesting to GFP. It is a page showing how children can reach Congress.

We have added it to "numbers you need" on our website. It will help parents and grandparents teach children the process of being a citizen and contacting Congress. Take a look and please use it, they are the future!

We have difficult times ahead and no matter how small you may think your efforts are, they all count. Remember this, "innumerable snowflakes can create a blizzard!" And we continue . . .

Peace to all of us, Lorraine

Sharing Our Thoughts and Observations

Dear Lorraine.

I need Solidarity right now. I have a dear friend in Hawaii who just went through the awful experience of thinking a nuke was about to take out her entire family and island. It was gut wrenching to hear their thoughts and fears. It should remind all of us how important it is to be a Grandmother for Peace whose mission is to try to prevent the real thing from ever happening. We must stand together to stop this manic in the people's house.

It is so important that we get some peace loving, thoughtful people in our government. All politics is local, so get started at home, it won't seem so impossible.

Linda Wiles Grandmother for Peace Austin, Texas

Happy New Year Grandmothers

Have you ever seen the play or film version of "The Producers"? The current "administration?" has stolen the total plot and story line. They tried and did everything disgracefully and the audience applauded (small base now). In the final act they were producing in jail. Another happy ending.

Regards, Don Reynolds, Husband of the late Sally, a GFP

Peace to you, Lorraine!

The north country up here near the Canadian border has our Canadian neighbors being all superior because they have Justin Trudeau and you know who we have. They also have free healthcare and very inexpensive drugs – there is a lot of border crossing! We need to be thankful to Trump. When Obama was president there was very little protesting going on. Since we have had below zero temps and lots of snow, we are waiting until spring to get out, then it will be a matter of what to protest next!

What worries me the most is that there is NOTHING wrong with the man - he's in good health and has "normal" thinking abilities. We must face the fact that he is just one of the "bad hombres" he likes to warn us about.

What I am most encouraged about is I have a college student snowflake for a grandson – he was on TV when he went to a local anti-Trump rally during the election. My next oldest grandson is in high school and is also ready to join his cousin. And

my oldest granddaughter is also in high school. These kids were all raised in the cold of northern New York and know how to create a blizzard. I am much encouraged to see another generation of activists – just imagine how bad things could be without our voices.

Another Grandmother for Peace, Jeanne Norris, Constable, New York

Dearest Lorraine and all my sisters in Grandmothers for Peace,

I have been discouraged by all the bigotry, war mongering and hatred in these troubled times. I notice that the economy standard measures and the stock markets keep roaring along, utterly unperturbed by the circumstances that afflict so many and trouble so many more.

I am not blameless. My husband and I have a modest (very modest) portfolio. I am reasonably sure my retirement plan, as a state employee, is invested in stocks. I wonder, what would happen if all acted on our conscience to remove those resources from the markets? Could such a thing be done? How much would that afflict the comfortable?

I work with little children, and every day I worry for them, for their future, for the future of our dear Earth. And most of all, for my responsibility in the barreling along of this economy of no conscience.

Hoping for a better future, Dorothy Wolden Duluth, MN

Grandmothers, Keepers of the Peace

Have you ever heard the phrase "eyes on the prize?" Coaches use to shout it at me and my teammates when we got distracted, so I heard that phrase a lot. It's a valuable lesson, and one I've applied throughout life: distractions are everywhere, and that makes it very easy to turn our attention away. But to achieve something truly important, we have to lock our focus on that goal and work without distraction. This lesson also applies to the game of life.

Our own movements naturally follow our focus. An organization's movements naturally follow its focus. What we were doing yesterday has determined where we are today; what we do today will determine where we are tomorrow. So will we spend

SEE SHARING PAGE 4

SHARING

our time today mired in distractions, or will we spend it working towards the future we wish to leave our grandchildren?

Anyone who has seen a heist film knows that distractions can be fun. Criminals stage something colorful and police go to check it out, leaving something valuable unguarded. It's a classic move, and variations appear everywhere around us. For example, corporations submit upbeat press releases that distract public scrutiny from poor earnings or malfeasance. And all around the world, politicians make inflammatory remarks that distract public scrutiny from poor legislation and poorer behaviors. In all these cases, we look back later and are disappointed in ourselves for having been distracted because we could have done more. To be fair, hindsight is 20/20. But it's worth considering what we might accomplish with less focus on distractions and more focus on our goals.

The GFP History and Vision page explains that "in most cultures around the world, grandmothers are revered as the keepers of the peace." It does not mention anything about grandmothers being "keepers of the disgust at what some abusive corporation has done," or "keepers of the outrage at what some imbecilic politicians have done." It's easy to get distracted, but grandmothers are keepers of the peace. Eyes on the prize. Eyes on the prize.

Rob, Men's Auxiliary Portland, Oregon

The pendulum has swung from the sublime to the ridiculous. Don't think it can get much worse. Therefore, I am hopeful that things will start to reverse this year. The societal pathology is revealed, no longer hidden. Now we can start the Healing, with Love.

GFP Devika Arizona

Dear Lorraine.

Just knowing you all are there, all of you grandmothers and grandfathers and peace and justice lovers, and you, especially, Lorraine, gives me great hope for the future, even in these unpredictable and illogical times. Thank you for all you do to keep us connected!

Your letters are wonderful and inspiring. Great big thank you to you, Lorraine!

With love and admiration, GFP Florida Keys

In Memory of Enid Williams

Enid Williams died on October 13, 2017, age 94 1/2. She was a



Diane Bader, left, Enid Williams, Anne, Diane's daughter. 2007

very enthusiastic member of GFP. Every few month or so she would order many buttons to hand out in her community and travels – she was sort of a Johnny Appleseed with GFP buttons. She had just moved to Massachusetts from New Mexico and I had sent her a new GFP sweatshirt and button, a gift request from a friend of hers.

About a week later I got a letter from

Enid, thanking me and ready to wear her new shirt "to stir some interest." The last sentence in her letter said "Oh, Lorraine! We can hold fervent hope and faith in our hearts – GFP have done so much to foster peace. Lovingly, Enid" A few days later I got a message Enid had passed away. Her sweatshirt and button were on display at her memorial service. She is now a Grandmother AT Peace

Local Clean-Up Efforts Find Fewer Plastic Bags One Year After California's Ban

JULIA MITRIC CAPITAL PUBIC RADIO SACRAMENTO CA NOVEMBER 13, 2017

Each September, thousands of California volunteers clean up trash in their communities. They count and record how many items they find, from pieces of foam to candy wrappers.

You can sift through those results by neighborhood, county or state.

"Going back as far as I can remember, plastic bags were one of the third, fourth, or fifth most common items found on California beaches," says Mark Murray with Californians Against Waste, an organization that supported the statewide ban.

Murray says the bags have dropped out of the top 10 in many communities since grocery and retail stores were banned from using them a year ago.

But he notes tallies from this September's Coastal CleanUp Day are still incomplete as some local groups have not yet submitted their data.

Kera Panni of the Monterey Bay Aquarium, which works to fight ocean pollution, hails the bag ban as a good first step in reducing plastic waste and changing personal habits.

But Panni also points to exponential growth in global production of single-use plastics.

"If we don't slow down (in terms of) how much of this stuff we make and use, we will just have a growing problem on our hands," she argues.

As plastic moves through ocean food webs it can have impacts on wildlife and ecosystems and might even impact human health, says Panni.

While California was the first state in the nation to pass a statewide ban on single-use plastic bags, the law did carve out an exception.

That's why you still see plastic bags when you go grocery shopping. They're allowed for meat, bread, produce, perishables and bulk items.

Editor's Note: Julia Mitric is a Food and Sustainability Reporter for Capital Public Radio, Sacramento, CA. To hear the November 13, 2017, broadcast:

www.capradio.org/articles/2017/11/13/local-clean-up-efforts-find-few-er-plastic-bags-one-year-after-californias-ban/

"The further a society drifts from the truth, the more it will hate those who speak it." — George Orwell

Trump just triggered the Doomsday Clock

Every year, leading scientists get together to determine just how close humanity is to eradicating itself through nuclear war. They tell us how long we have until the clock strikes "midnight" and nuclear apocalypse begins. And moments ago, they announced that Donald "My Nuclear Button is Bigger than Yours" Trump has put us at 11:58 p.m. - two minutes from nuclear midnight.

Today, leading scientists declared that Trump has dragged our entire planet closer to nuclear Armageddon than any time in the past 64 years. Closer than during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Closer than the height of the Cold War in 1980s. As close as the start of the nuclear arms race in 1953 — the last time the Doomsday Clock registered just 2 minutes to midnight.

Trump is demanding more "usable" nukes. He wants to lower our standards for nuclear retaliation. He is drawing up a plan to attack North Korea and start a war that could easily turn nuclear. And we officially have two global minutes to stop him.

Editor's Note: January 25, 2018, this announcement was made and many emails began arriving in gfp's mailbox. Win Without War is a project of the Center for International Policy. 2000 M Street NW, Suite 720, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 232-3317, info@winwithoutwar.org

5 Important reasons not to waste \$1,000,000,000,000 (\$1 trillion) modernizing the U.S. nuclear arsenal

- 1. It is an insane and irrational use of funds.
 - 2. It will make the U.S. and the world infinitely less secure.
 - 3. It is provocative activity that will trigger new nuclear arms races.
 - 4. The money will go overwhelmingly to enrich "defense" contractors and their executives.
 - 5. It will make nuclear weapons appear more reliable and accurate and therefore more usable.

Nuclear Age Peace Foundation Committed to a World Free of Nuclear Weapons wagingpeace.org | nuclearzero.org

"To announce that there must be no criticism of the president, or that we are to stand by the president, right or wrong, is not only unpatriotic and servile, but is morally treasonable to the American public." — Theodore Roosevelt, (1918)

January 25, 2018 Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists



#RewindtheDoomsdayClock

Common Sense Actions

*U.S. President Donald Trump should refrain from provocative rhetoric regarding North Korea, recognizing the impossibility of predicting North Korean reactions. The U.S. and North Korean governments should open multiple channels of communication.

*The world community should pursue, as a short-term goal, the cessation of North Korea's nuclear weapon and ballistic missile tests. North Korea is the only country to violate the norm against nuclear testing in 20 years.

*The Trump administration should abide by the terms of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action for Iran's nuclear program unless credible evidence emerges that Iran is not complying with the agreement or Iran agrees to an alternative approach that meets U.S. national security needs.

*The United States and Russia should discuss and adopt measures to prevent peacetime military incidents along the borders of NATO.

*U.S. and Russian leaders should return to the negotiating table to resolve differences over the INF treaty, to seek further reductions in nuclear arms, to discuss a lowering of the alert status of the nuclear arsenals of both countries, to limit nuclear modernization programs that threaten to create a new nuclear arms race, and to ensure that new tactical or low-yield nuclear weapons are not built, and existing tactical weapons are never used on the battlefield.

*U.S. citizens should demand, in all legal ways, climate action from their government. Climate change is a real and serious threat to humanity.

*Governments around the world should redouble their efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions so they go well beyond the initial, inadequate pledges under the Paris Agreement.

*The international community should establish new protocols to discourage and penalize the misuse of information technology to undermine public trust in political institutions, in the media, in science, and in the existence of objective reality itself.

"The current, extremely dangerous state of world affairs need not be permanent. . . . the danger is of our own making. Humankind has invented the implements of apocalypse; so can it invent the methods of controlling and eventually eliminating them. This year, leaders and citizens of the world can move the Doomsday Clock and the world away from the metaphorical midnight of global catastrophe by taking common-sense action." Lawrence Krauss, director of the Origins Project at Arizona State University, Foundation Professor at School of Earth and Space Exploration and Physics Department, Arizona State University, and chair, Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists' Board of Sponsors.

Editor's Note: The entire Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists 2018 Doomsday Clock Statement is available in PDF form, downloadable at thebulletin.org



The Paper Clip Project

In 1998, an after-school program was launched at Whitwell Middle School that would put Whitwell, Tennessee, a town of less then 2,000 people, on the map in a big way.

Principal Linda Hooper asked language arts teacher Sandra Roberts and associate principal David Smith to begin a Holocaust education class that would be the basis for teaching tolerance and diversity.

A stumbling block for the students was comprehending not only the idea, but the magnitude of six million Jews dead because of intolerance and prejudice. The students decided to collect "six million paper clips - one for each soul who perished."

Paper clips were chosen because their research showed that Norwegians were them as a silent protest and symbol of resistance against Nazi occupation during World War II. Students asked and wrote people for paper clip donations. They were answered with 30 million paper clips from around the world.

In 2001, the "Paper Clips Project" was completed and a Children's Holocaust Memorial was dedicated at Whitwell Middle School. An authentic German railcar is filled with 6 million paper clips. The documentary film "Paper Clips" was released in 2004 and received a number of awards.

However, this is not the end of the story. The 1998 after-school program has evolved into One Clip at a Time, a nonprofit based in Chattanooga, Tennessee, "designed to motivate and empower students in 5th grade and above." As Linda Hooper states: "Through One Clip at a Time, we can have a world where acceptance, respect and love are the rule and not the exception."



Editor's Note: There are **two different** videos: www.oneclipatatime.org/one-clip-one-video/

www.onecupatatime.org/one-cup-one-viaeo/

www.oneclipatatime.org/paper-clips-project/paper-clips-film/

Information about One Clip at a Time's Summer Institutes or professional development opportunities:

www.oneclipatatime.org; Phone: (423) 643-3939.

Notice the quote at the top of this picture and the top of the GFP masthead on the front page.

"KODAK MOMENTS"



Prescott, AZ GFP Ordell Nelson and friends participate in the Martin Luther King, Jr. March January 15, 2018.

Prescott, AZ The Prescott GFP Chapter participate in the Veterans' Day Parade 2017.





Superior, Wisconsin Karen Barschdorf, left, Donna Howard at the microphone. Donna was organizer and spokesperson for the August 2017 event.

Superior, Wisconsir The Northland GFP Chapter participated in the 4th of July Parade 2017.





Sacramento, CA Women's March Pat Altenburg, left, and Nan Mahon with friendly, enthusiastic marchers.

Grandmothers for Peace International

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Grandmothers for Peace - Spring 2018

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