

# NETWORK NEWS



## UNCLE SAM WANTS YOU! – COUNSELING YOUTH ABOUT ALTERNATIVES TO MILITARY SERVICE

Carl E. Stafstrom, MD, PhD, UW-Madison

Youth face major decisions about future education and career. Information about options is limited and sometimes at odds with an adolescent's lifestyle, goals, or beliefs. As a pediatrician, I frequently encounter these issues. This article discusses my opinions regarding how to provide youth with information to make critical life choices, especially decisions about military service. From the perspective of someone who has sworn an oath to sustain life and improve its quality, I believe that participation in the military activities is contrary to those ideals.

This article is based on a talk given at the steering committee meeting of the Wisconsin Network of Peace and Justice on March 28, 2009. I discuss four topics: the concept of anticipatory guidance; the Selective Service System (SSS); options and alternatives to military service including conscientious objection; and some suggestions for parents, counselors, and other professionals who counsel teens.

### I. Anticipatory Guidance and Adolescent Brain Development

Anticipatory guidance refers to counseling about life's challenges and opportunities at various stages of development. For example, anticipatory guidance for toddlers includes discussion about shar-

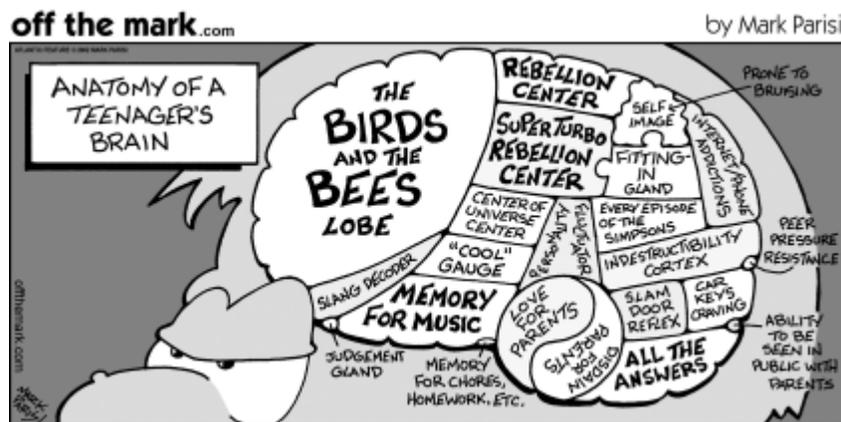
ing toys and not running into the street. For teenagers, anticipatory guidance includes risk taking behaviors, drug, alcohol, and tobacco use, depression and suicide, sexuality and safe sex practices, eating disorders, and other related topics, as well as planning for higher edu-

Many high-risk, impulsive teenage behaviors can be attributed in part to the rapidly changing synaptic connections in the frontal lobe and their intimate relationship with other brain areas that regulate emotions.[2] Adolescents need both independence from adults and guidance from them.

Enter the recruiters. Our country's current all-volunteer military requires an enormous sales force of recruiters, whose job is to find and sign-up youngsters. The tactics used by some recruiters have been suspect on both ethical

and legal grounds. Recruiters make promises that cannot be kept, use aggressive and relentless tactics, and often fail to fully explain crucial aspects of training and obligations after enlistment. [3] Recruiters abound in most high

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cation and future vocation. Anticipatory guidance of adolescents should also include discussion about military service and alternatives, the laws regarding registration with the SSS, and the medical and psychological effects of war. [1]

Those who deal with teens sometimes feel that the adolescent brain is on another planet. As seen in the accompanying cartoon, the teen brain is preoccupied with particular age-specific topics. This depiction, though facetious, emphasizes that different parts of the brain are specialized for specific functions. The adolescent brain is still undergoing massive development, particularly of the frontal lobes, which are responsible for decision making, moral choices, and other high level cognitive functions.

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## REPORT FROM THE WNPJ OFFICE

*From Judy Miner, Office Coordinator*

Thanks to **Todd Dennis** who just finished his six-month assignment as WNPJ staff, working on counter-recruitment and "Bring the Guard Home" campaign projects. His contribution to our peace and justice work was outstanding, including his successful grant application with the AJ Muste Institute. We had a tremendous response from WNPJ members to the Spring fundraising letter. Your generous donations keep our work going forward. Thanks, too, for the many volunteer hours put into the Pancakes for Peace event at the Renewable Energy Fair in June, by nearly 30 volunteers, including musicians and food donors – all coordinated by co-chair **Chamomile Nusz**. Other volunteers to thank are **Barb Boehme**, the 2010 nominating committee of **Bill Christofferson, Sue Nelson and Barb Smith; Mary Beth Schlagheck** for her work organizing this fall's Annual Assembly, **Phil Biebl, Judith Detert-Moriarty, Karin Sandvik, and student volunteers** for the Guard Home campaign, **Ellery and Lea**. And a very special 'thank you' to retiring newsletter editor, **Hildegard Dorrer** – who has been working for WNPJ for the past eight years keeping us informed and inspired through this work! Her commitment and abilities will be missed. **Sheila Spear**, former treasurer of WNPJ will take over this project with the January 2010 issue of NetWork News.

## From the Editor

This is my last issue as editor of the Newsletter. They tell me that it has been 8 years. That I lasted this long is due to the great support I received from the office staff, Judy and Steve - to Ilana Caplan, who put it into its final form, also for eight years - the various chairpersons throughout those years, and the extraordinary willingness of (mostly) WNPJ members to write articles. All are testimony to their passion and commitment to peace and justice in its many forms. Sheila Spear will take over as editor in 2010. We all still have a long road ahead. I wish you endurance and hope and I thank you. hd



**Connecting peace and the use of alternative energy**  
Chamomile and Miles Nusz, pancake organizers; and  
Chris Kuehnel, volunteer pancake flipper at the MREA  
Renewable Energy Fair, Custer, June 2009.



The Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice facilitates activities, cooperation and communication among Wisconsin organizations and individuals working toward the creation of a sustainable world, free from violence and injustice.

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## STEMMING THE TIDE

*By Mary Ann Novascone, contact for the WNPJ group, Women in Black – Sauk City Bridge*

“Who are you, and why are you in our school today?” That was the first greeting I heard from a young woman passing by the Veterans for Peace table in the commons of Baraboo High School on my initial venture of counter-recruiting. Several months later, on our first counter-recruiting action in our local high school in Sauk Prairie, two young women were the first to come to our table. They thanked us for being there as a counter presence to the recruiters who came to the high school virtually every Tuesday.

Between these two encounters with students from Baraboo and Sauk Prairie, our local group, Advocates for Truth in Military Recruitment (ATIMR), determined that our focus would be on providing information so students could better make informed choices about enlistment. Our overall message was “before you enlist, think about this”. We began this work during the lead up to and the early days of the war in Iraq. We used several placards on our table, explaining who we were and why we were present in the school, pointing out Dick Cheney’s quote that the military is NOT a social service or jobs program, but rather that the purpose of the military is to wage and win wars, emphasizing the current practice of stop-loss to extend the length of service, and clarifying the fact that a 17 year old who enlisted under the Delayed Entry Program and later changed

his or her mind could, in fact, simply not report for service and be free of penalty – something some military recruiters were not forthright about.

We also had many handouts on these topics, most of them from the American Friends Service Committee’s Youth and Militarism website. In addition, we had information for young men turning 18 about how to handle the mandatory registration with the Selective Service System in order to establish a personal file – a “paper trail”—to be used to establish conscientious objector status. My personal emphasis was on this aspect of counter recruitment since I had recently completed draft counselor training. Over the course of several years of tabling at Sauk Prairie High School, I worked through the whole process with only one student. Resources from the Central Committee for Conscientious Objection and the Center for Conscience and War were particularly helpful for this intricately detailed process.

Initially, we were not allowed to table on Tuesdays, the day that one or other branch of military recruiters were present. In our second year, however, that changed, and for the first semester, we could be present on the same day. Besides the availability of two points of view represented simultaneously, we found it obviously easier to observe the

nature of interaction of students and recruiters and, in general, recruiter access and behavior in the school. However, that situation lasted only one semester since the principal felt a lot of pressure, mostly from the recruiters themselves, to have us come on another day.

During the first couple of years of monthly tabling by ATIMR members, we talked with a fair number of students, teachers, and on occasion, parents or older siblings. Many students visited the table and picked up handouts, but chose not to speak with us.

Prior to all-school registration each year, we placed an article or letters to the editor in our two local newspapers, explaining the release of information to military recruiters mandated by the No Child Left Behind legislation, and we explained how parents could Opt Out of providing such information. Both at registration and during the school year at our table, we provided Opt Out forms. That was, undoubtedly, the most popular handout at our table.

As the war continued, the number of students who visited our table decreased each year. We reduced our presence from virtually every month to two times per semester. We continue to value our work of being a counter presence to the military recruiters – a visible sign of another point of view.

### **Think GREEN - go on-line to get your news!**

**Have you had a chance to look over WNPJ’s new website lately?** One important area needs input from you! Our staff looks for letters-to-the-editor and stories written by and about WNPJ members and groups. We then post these stories on our website, in our “In the News” section. If you have had something published in your local paper – please let us know, so we don’t miss your news! (We can scan in any paper items you mail us.)

**On-line - vs- paper version of the newsletter. It’s your choice!** WNPJ will continue mailing out a paper version of Network News - but you have the option to get your copy on-line, in a .pdf form.

**E-mail [info@wnpj.org](mailto:info@wnpj.org) if you want the on-line version only.**

*100 WNPJ members responded to our poll in the last issue of NetWork News - and many have opted for the on-line version of this September issue of the newsletter.*

## Counseling Youth *from front page*

schools and more covert messages are being conveyed to even younger children (For example, the arrangement between Sears and the Army to market official army clothing for children, see: [www.prwatch.org/node/7714](http://www.prwatch.org/node/7714)). Stories and examples of inappropriate actions by recruiters are many.[3]

The No Child Left Behind Act requires high schools to provide names, addresses, and telephone numbers of all students, unless the parent signs an "opt out" form. In addition to making personal contact with students, the military has resorted to subtler tactics such as placing recruiting signs on school gymnasium scoreboards.[4]

The military promises excitement, travel and adventure, leadership and personal growth. Money is promised for college education and a fulfilling civilian career. The inaccuracies of these claims are well known.[5] Recruiters target youth from disadvantaged socioeconomic groups. To make the military more attractive to teenagers, "Army Experience Centers" have been established - souped-up recruiting offices that boast dozens of video computer games, x-boxes, and interactive military style shooting games as well as Apache helicopter simulators. The Army website ([www.thearmyexperience.com](http://www.thearmyexperience.com)) shows exuberant teens participating in these games, unfazed by the realities of killing and war.

It does not take a great leap of imagination to see impressionable teens, with not yet fully developed decision making capabilities, easily falling prey to the promises and glamour portrayed by military advertising. In this regard, it is a disservice not to provide alternative balance to the official military position.

### II. Selective Service System

The SSS is a U.S. government agency charged with organizing a draft should

one be remanded by the President and authorized by Congress. The current task of the SSS is to maintain a registry of men ages 18 to 25 years from which men can be drafted. The last draft occurred in 1973 and official government proclamations have denied that another draft is planned. Nevertheless, we need to be aware of current and possible future draft laws.

At present, the SSS requires all males to register within 30 days of their 18th birthday by filling out a card obtainable at any post office or at the SSS website ([www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov)). Proof of SSS registration is required to obtain a driver's license in many states, including Wisconsin, to obtain federally-sponsored student loans and State of Wisconsin student aid, and to secure employment in any agency of the federal government including the postal service and national park service. The legal ramifications for not registering include a fine of up to \$250,000 and/or five years in prison. Notably, the last indictment for failure to register with the SSS occurred in 1985.

Will there be another draft? Nobody knows. The current all-volunteer military, however, is stressed by low enlistments, long and repeated tours of duty and the increasing need for personnel as U.S. military engagements continue worldwide. Future drafts may well have different rules. For example, it is likely that both men and women will be conscripted, that the age eligibility will be expanded and that the military's need for specific skills will be emphasized such as computer specialists, foreign language experts, and medical personnel.

### III. Alternatives to Military Service

Persons counseling teenagers should be able to provide practical alternatives to military enlistment, including both educational and vocational alternatives.[6]

The option of conscientious objection (CO) should be offered. A CO is defined by the government as "a person who objects to participation in all forms of war and whose belief is based on a religious, moral, or ethical belief system". There are many types of CO, including those who are morally willing to serve in the military but in a non-combat role (such as a cook or medic) and those unwilling to assist the military's mission in any manner. Some individuals may even oppose registering with the SSS.

It should be emphasized that, to be a CO, one does not have to believe in God, consider oneself a pacifist, or even oppose using violence in certain circumstances such as personal self defense. The legal definition prescribes only that a CO must oppose participation in all wars.

Resources to declare CO status are available at [www.beforeyouenlist.org](http://www.beforeyouenlist.org), [www.afsc.org/youthmil](http://www.afsc.org/youthmil), and [www.centeronconscience.org](http://www.centeronconscience.org). [1]

### IV. Suggestions

How can parents, professionals, and counselors provide youth considering military enlistment with information? First, we need to be educated about conscription laws which can change at any time. Second, we can oppose the unbalanced presence of military recruiters in schools. Most importantly, we can speak with adolescents about alternative options to the prevailing social climate of militarism. This would include discussion of the dangers and realities of war, especially the real possibility of death or disability which adolescents often do not appreciate. We need always be ready to present concrete alternatives to military service, with practical examples.

As any parent of a teenager will appreciate, much of what we say to them goes in one ear and out the other. We must

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## WNPJ WILL MISS YOU, MIDGE AND LINDA....

Barbara Quirk, columnist in the Madison Cap Times wrote in June: "I visited with Dr. Linda Farley and former state Rep. Midge Miller last September at Fighting BobFest, the annual Chautauqua for progressives. I wish I could turn back the clock and tell each of these remarkable women — both of whom died recently — how much they meant to me, and how profoundly they influenced my thinking and my life. The lesson is: Don't wait. Don't wait to tell someone how much you care." And WNPJ staff echoes this sentiment. Midge Miller was one of WNPJ co-founders in 1991, and Dr. Linda Farley was a strong supporter of our programs. We will miss their energy and activism — and we're committed to carrying on their vision!



*Midge and Linda – The Cap Times 6/15/09*

### *Bits & Peaces*

The **Rapids Citizens for Peace group** in central Wisconsin sponsors *Democracy Now!* on their local community television channel, paying \$400/yr for the 1-hour/day M-F broadcast. More people get to see the daily news from *DN!*, triggering conversations around town and giving an opening to Rapid Citizens for Peace to describe their group and its activities. "It is worth the investment," says Don Hoffman. Contact: [doncanoe@tznet.com](mailto:doncanoe@tznet.com).

**Citizens for Safe Water Around Badgers (CSWAB)** reports: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) wants answers to dozens of long-standing questions about the handling of PCB-contaminated wastes at Badger Army Ammunition Plant and other U.S. Army production facilities nationwide. In a July 7 letter to the U.S. Army, the EPA asks for a detailed response to questions about the status of demolition of buildings, management and storage of PCB wastes, research on destruction or removal of paint, and operation of decontamination ovens. "It took 6 years of dedicated work to get this issue to the

forefront," said Laura Olah, Executive Director of Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger (CSWAB). "The EPA's action is a critical first step in protecting nearby families and workers from exposure to PCBs and other toxins that are being handled and disposed of as part of base closure and realignment."

**The Army** is offering Wisconsin teachers a free trip to sunny places during their school breaks, complete with ropes courses and weapons training observation, as part of the "Army Educators' Tour." A new Army newsletter reported that twenty-nine educators from across WI, IL and upper MI participated in a trip to Fort Jackson, SC last fall for an in-depth look at many of the programs, training, and benefits the Army has to offer. Rebecca Bebber-Wells of Madison West said, "It was so interesting when we were able to participate in the activities, including when Sgt. Smith had us march around like we were soldiers" and Joe Niemczyk, counselor from St. John's Military Academy reported, "This was an outstanding tour and I learned quite a bit that I will pass on to my stu-

dents". --Source: Wolfpack News, U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion out of Milwaukee, Vol 1, No 1 2009

Graduates of the U.S. Army's **School of the Americas (SOA)** were among those leading the recent military coup in Honduras, once again exposing the destabilizing and deadly effects that the SOA has on Latin America. The actions of the school's graduates reveal the anti-democratic nature of the training being given to officers at the school, now called the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC). On November 20-22, 2009, tens of thousands will vigil at the gates of Fort Benning, Georgia, where SOA/WHINSEC is located, to stand up for justice and demand that the government shut down the school. This year's protest comes at a crucial moment. Despite promising comments from President Obama during his election campaign, the SOA/WHINSEC is still in operation. Visit [www.SOAW.org/november](http://www.SOAW.org/november) and watch for announcements on bus travel from Wisconsin to this year's SOA/WHINSEC protest at [www.wnpj.org](http://www.wnpj.org).

# Calendar

## September

**9/8 Tues 7pm "Gaza Stripped" - Racine.** Cup of Hope coffee shop, 507 6th Street. Pat Chaffee's report on her recent Code Pink trip to Gaza. [patop37@peoplepc.com](mailto:patop37@peoplepc.com).

**9/12 Sat 9 am - 4 pm Fighting Bob Fest VIII - Baraboo.** At the Sauk County Fairgrounds. [www.fightingbobfest.org](http://www.fightingbobfest.org).

**9/12 Sat 9 - 3 WI Church Women United Assembly - LaCrosse.** First CongUCC, 2503 Main Street. "Building a World Fit for Children". All welcome. Contact Susan Becker at [becker4@tds.net](mailto:becker4@tds.net) or 608-231-1817.

**9/13 Sun 3:30 - 10 pm Annual General Meeting and Picnic of the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers. Madison - Tenney Park shelter.** Bring a dish to pass. Contact [charkt@tds.net](mailto:charkt@tds.net).

## October

**10/2 Fri 4:30 - 10 pm WNPJ Progressive Dinner - Madison.** Food, music and more as we eat our way through four kitchens! \$30 suggested donation, with a free OPEN HOUSE and HOOT! at the dessert place at 7 pm, 136-138 Talmadge St. For tickets: Mary Beth, [mbspeace1@charter.net](mailto:mbspeace1@charter.net).

**10/3 Sat 10 am - 4 pm 18th Annual WNPJ Fall Assembly - Madison.** Goodman Community Center. Guy Wolf and a panel "connect the dots" of anti-war work, prison justice, immigrant rights, and environmental activism. All welcome for the business meeting and Peacemaker 2009 awards. To register, see page 11 of the newsletter. [info@wnpj.org](mailto:info@wnpj.org), 608-250-9240 or [www.wnpj.org](http://www.wnpj.org).

**10/3 Sat 4:30 - 6:30 pm Reception and Celebration of WNPJ Lifetime Achievement Awards to Joe Elder and Esther Heffernan - Madison.** Goodman Community Center. Light refreshments, music and presentations - emceed by John Nichols. To be a sponsor, see p.11 of the newsletter. [info@wnpj.org](mailto:info@wnpj.org), 608-250-9240 or [www.wnpj.org](http://www.wnpj.org).

**10/5 Nonviolent Civil Resistance - Washington, D.C.** Join us for an act of nonviolent civil resistance to end the war in Afghanistan and Pakistan, on the 8th anniversary of the U.S. invasion, organized by the National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance, [www.iraqpledge.org/nogoodwar.html](http://www.iraqpledge.org/nogoodwar.html). Local contact, Joy First [jsfirst@tds.net](mailto:jsfirst@tds.net).

**10/8 - 10/10 Thurs - Sat "Exploring the Power of Nonviolence" - Milwaukee.** At Marquette University. This is an interdisciplinary conference, jointly sponsored by The Peace and Justice Studies Association, The Marquette University Center for Peacemaking and The Wisconsin Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies. [www.peacejusticestudies.org/conference/call.php](http://www.peacejusticestudies.org/conference/call.php) or [peacemaking@marquette.edu](mailto:peacemaking@marquette.edu).

**10/9 Fri 8 pm Emma's Revolution in Concert - Milwaukee.** This is part of the 7th Annual Conference of the Peace and Justice Studies Association. [www.peacejusticestudies.org/conference/call.php](http://www.peacejusticestudies.org/conference/call.php) or call Professor Michael Duffey, Marquette University, 414-288-3748.

**10/10 Sat 3 - 9 pm SHAMA Annual Festival of India - Stevens Point.** At SPASH, 1201 N Point Dr. Plus a yoga wellness conference. [j2chande@uwsp.edu](mailto:j2chande@uwsp.edu).

**10/11 Sun 1 - 5 pm Music and more; Fundraising Event for MAPC - Madison.** At the High Noon Saloon on E. Washington. Contact Don McKeating or Barb Smith at [barbara@merr.com](mailto:barbara@merr.com).

**10/11 - 10/12 Sun - Mon 4th State-Wide Wisconsin Interfaith Earthkeeping Conference - Stevens Point.** Ramada Inn. "Greening Our Faith Communities and Our Lives." Many workshops global warming science, plus networking with people of all faiths working toward a just and sustainable future. Contact: Dave Steffenson. [dsteffe@charter.net](mailto:dsteffe@charter.net) or 608-285-5201. Call the WICEC Office to pre-register. [www.wicec.org](http://www.wicec.org) or 608-222-7339

**10/17 Sat Iraq Moratorium and Events all day to Stop the Wars and Occupations - statewide.** Contact Steve Carlson at [botmrung@centurytel.net](mailto:botmrung@centurytel.net) to let him know of the action or vigil your community is having.

**10/18 Sun 8:30 am Second Annual Peace Action 5K Run/Walk - Greenfield.** Whitnall Park. Register early! Cory Powers - [powers@msoe.edu](mailto:powers@msoe.edu) or 414-405-2244.

**10/22 Thurs 7 pm Dan Kenney speaks about Blackwater at Pax Christi Meeting - Madison.** At the First Unitarian Society, 900 University Bay Dr. [trudijenny@yahoo.com](mailto:trudijenny@yahoo.com).

**10/24 Global Day of Climate Change Action.** [www.350.org/invitation](http://www.350.org/invitation), Register participating actions at [www.350.org/oct24](http://www.350.org/oct24). To learn more, contact Alfred Meyer at [alfred.c.meyer@gmail.com](mailto:alfred.c.meyer@gmail.com).

**10/25 UNA-USA - Dane County Annual Meeting and Dinner - Madison.** [quinlanjohn1@aol.com](mailto:quinlanjohn1@aol.com).

# Wisconsin Guard News

**“Bring the Guard Home” .....  
Legislation advances in Wisconsin-  
Hearings scheduled for November -  
Citizens lobby day in September -**

Wisconsin is jumping into a leading role in a national movement by states to challenge Federal orders for deployment of National Guard troops to Iraq and Afghanistan. AB 203, a bill introduced in the Wisconsin State Assembly by Madison Representative Spencer Black, would require the Governor to review all Federal orders for deployment of our state's Guard, and to refuse any deployment orders deemed to be unlawful. The bill is scheduled for hearings before the Assembly's Veteran's Affairs Committee in November.

"Wisconsin is on track to be the first state in the nation to pass legislation like this," said Steve Burns, Program Coordinator of the Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice.

Similar campaigns are now active in more than 20 states, with Wisconsin, Vermont and Oregon in the lead.

"For this effort to be successful, it's essential that we have the involvement of



people from all over the state," said Jim Draeger of Peace Action, who recently took on the role of Statewide Campaign Coordinator and is recruiting Wisconsin activists to lead efforts in their area. Draeger is working with endorsing organizations to plan a lobby day to bring citizens from around the state to meet with their legislators in support of the bill.

Since its beginnings in the state of Vermont in 2005, legislation challenging Federal use of the National Guard for Iraq has evolved. Early legislation took the form of nonbinding resolutions, while the current crop of legislation aims to make permanent changes to state law to strengthen the ability of states to resist illegal deployments of their state Guard. Wisconsin is one of the first states to follow this new model.

Petition forms, flyers and regular campaign updates can be found at: [www.wnpj.org/guard](http://www.wnpj.org/guard)

## Get involved!

- Circulate the "Guard Home" petition in your area
- Call your legislator and ask them to support AB 203
- Ask an organization you belong to to endorse AB 203
- Join in the campaign's biweekly conference calls  
(email [jim@peaceactionwi.org](mailto:jim@peaceactionwi.org) for info)

**Coming Soon:** (see [www.wnpj.org/guard](http://www.wnpj.org/guard) for exact dates)

**Lobby Day:** Meetings scheduled with legislators in Madison -  
Call (608) 250-9240 to participate.

**Hearings before Assembly Veterans Affairs Committee -** Open to the public, date in November TBA

## A "Guard Home" Q&A:

**Q: Why is the deployment of National Guard troops to Iraq illegal?**

**A:** In 2002, the Congress passed an Authorization for Use of Military Force in Iraq (AUMF) based on a limited, two-part mission for our military in Iraq: 1) to eliminate the alleged threat posed by Iraqi WMDs; and 2) to remove Saddam Hussein from power.

The WMD's did not exist. Saddam Hussein is no longer in power. The mission authorized by Congress is over, and Congress has never voted to reauthorize the mission to Iraq on any other basis. Therefore, the 2002 AUMF -- which is the only legal basis by which the President can demand National Guard troops for Iraq -- has expired. Any continued deployment of Guard units to Iraq is now unlawful.

**Q: What can we do about it?**

**A:** Assembly Bill 203, introduced in the State Assembly by Representative Spencer Black, requires the Governor to review each National Guard federalization order to determine whether that order is legal and to contest any order lacking a valid congressional authorization.

**Q: So we're trusting the Governor to do the right thing and rule that Guard deployments are illegal?**

**A:** Absolutely not. If AB 203 passes, no matter what the Governor decides, Wisconsin citizens will be in a stronger position than ever before, with the right to challenge the Governor's decision in court if necessary. And if that happens, we'll be ready with arguments exposing the illegality of Guard deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, arguments that have been developed by Ben Scotch, a former Senior Staff Attorney to the Vermont Supreme Court.



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# TRUTH-IN-RECRUITING COMES TO WISCONSIN GUIDANCE COUNSELORS

By Vicki Berenson, Madison Friends Meeting, WNPJ member, TAME

When I first discovered TAME (Truth and Alternatives to Militarism in Education) in early 2007, activists in Madison were focused on urging schools to limit recruiter presence and to publicize the right to “opt out” of the student lists that schools are required to provide to the military. We were faced with the glaring Army ads on Madison’s high school scoreboards and trying to preserve access to schools for groups like Veterans for Peace to provide an alternative viewpoint to the military recruiter presence.

While it’s essential to keep pushing back at the constant barrage of military marketing in schools, there are limitations. The annual federal recruiting budget of \$10 billion ensures ever-present advertising. Plus we’ve been working on behalf of people who already know they want to protect their children from aggressive recruiting tactics.

How do we reach people who do not understand how military service can devastate lives? Teens who have no idea what they want to do with their lives and no money to pay for college? What about the poor and rural areas of the state that are most targeted by recruiters? And - it’s one thing to tell students about the evils of recruiting and war, but you have to give them something else to turn to.

Stevens Point activists have regularly handed out peace jobs packets at job fairs. How could we expand on this and reach young people - of all persuasions, colors and economic backgrounds - who weren’t coming to us?

Activists in Ohio spent a year creating a folder for guidance counselors, who see nearly every student during their high school years. Thanks to the expansive energy of Ohioan Fred Suter, we were able to access their experience and well-designed materials. All we had to do was customize the packet for Wisconsin, raise money to pay for materials, and as-

semble the first batch of “Options” folders. Three months later - with the help of Madison Friends Meeting, Veterans for Peace, WNPJ and many volunteers - we had our first 150 folders. Since then we’ve added Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society as a sponsor, and received some support from the A. J. Muste Institute.

WNPJ staffer and IVAW member Todd Dennis and I kicked off the Options campaign in March, at the Wisconsin School Counselors Association annual conference in Stevens Point, where we gave out over 70 folders and heard stories: recruiters roaming the hallways with free giveaways, a student bewildered at having “signed something maybe I shouldn’t have” after an impromptu tour, and another counselor whose student changed his mind about enlisting after talking with him. We’ve had counselors tell us that they need factual information about the military when they talk to students - they can’t give advice based on opinions.

The rest of the first batch went quickly as volunteers around Wisconsin requested them to take to their area schools. We have since assembled another 300 folders and are gradually moving them out to schools throughout the state.

A key element of our campaign is personal contact. Guidance counselors get so much mail that much of it ends up in the trash (or the recycling bin) unread. And so it’s important to take a little time to talk about why we are doing this and to highlight what’s in our folder.

Rather than tell anyone what to do (have you tried that with a teenager?) we focus on giving both counselors and students the information they need to make their own decisions. We give counselors help in guiding their students. We provide facts about recruiting, enlistment

and the realities of military service. We show young people how they can go to college, learn job skills, travel and meet new people *without* having to kill them.

## How you can help:

Wisconsin has over 2000 high school guidance counselors. Our goal is to get a folder to every one of them. We can use financial support to pay for materials, and volunteers to assemble folders, deliver packets to schools, and follow up with counselors we’ve already seen. We’ll give you guidelines for how to approach the schools and talk to counselors. Contact WNPJ for more information at [info@wnpj.org](mailto:info@wnpj.org) or 608-250-9240.



**Our goals:** - Provide a wide range of non-military options to youth

- Give guidance counselors factual information about enlistment and recruiting to pass on to their students

- Expose school staff and students to the idea that the military may not be their best choice

- Counter the military and to make inroads into districts where peace activists may not have the prevailing sentiment and plant some seeds to keep the message alive.

*Nearly everything in the Options folder is available at [www.tamewisconsin.org](http://www.tamewisconsin.org) for download, plus many other resources.*

# PROPOSED 2010 BUDGET, BYLAWS CHANGES, & BOARD NOMINEES TO BE VOTED ON AT THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP ASSEMBLY IN MADISON, OCTOBER 3, 2010

## WNPJ 2009 Budget and Proposed 2010 Budget

<u>WNPJ yearly income/expense</u>	<u>2009 Budget</u>	<u>2010 Proposed BUDGET</u>	
<b>Income</b>			
			(based on 400 individual members/166 groups)
<b>4100 · Membership</b>	21096	21500	including monthly subscriptions
<b>4200 · Special Events</b>	7000	10000	holiday wreaths/lifetime&pancakes events
<b>4300 · Fundraising appeals</b>	8744	8913	spring/fall letters of appeal
<b>4400 · Grants and donations</b>	12396	8000	1/2 grants and 1/2 personal donations
<b>4500 · Sale ItemsINC</b>	2904	2000	yard signs, dvd's, t-shirts,coffee
<b>4600 · MeetingsINC</b>	804*	3000	SC mtg and Assembly
<b>4900 · Miscellaneous</b>	100	107	
<b><u>4999 · interest Income</u></b>	<u>396</u>	<u>200</u>	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>53440</b>	<b>53720</b>	

\*\*\*\*\*

<b>Expense</b>	<u>2009 Budget</u>	<u>2010 proposed BUDGET</u>	
<b>5100 · Publications</b>	3504	1000	reflects decrease in cost for on-line NL
<b>5200 · MeetingsEX</b>	840	1000	Spring SC mtg and Fall Assembly
<b>5300 · Special EventsEX</b>	2796	4500	meeting spaces/music/food
<b>5400 · Sale itemsEX</b>	4200	750	coffee, bumper stickers
<b>5500 · Fundraising mailings</b>	**	500	spring/fall/special events mailings
<b>5600 · Office</b>	9504	7500	rent,phone,stamps,website maintenance
<b>5700 · Non-payroll taxes and licences</b>	**	20	
<b>6500 · Payroll</b>	33996	34500	2 staff/20/hrs wk each
<b>6800 · Services</b>	2304	1800	2 -3 work study positions
<b><u>7000 · Expenses/staff travel</u></b>	<u>2400</u>	<u>2150</u>	UFPJ rep/trips to NYC
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>59544</b>	<b>53720</b>	

\*\* included in office expense in '09 budget & \*'09 projected mtg income = 2,820

\*\*\*\*\*

**To see the Proposed Bylaws changes, go to <http://www.wnpj.org/pdf/bylaws09.pdf>**

\*\*\*\*\*

### Proposed Nominees for WNPJ BOARD positions for 2010:

(\*new nominee to board - bios available on the WNPJ website. Nominations are open from the floor of the Assembly, Oct. 3rd.)

**Officers:**

\*Chair: Jim Draeger, Milwaukee  
 Vice-Chair: Mary Beth Schlagheck, Windsor  
 Secretary: Dennis Bergren, Madison  
 Treasurer: Stefania Sani, Madison  
 Past Co-Chair: Bill Christofferson, Milwaukee

**BOARD members:**

Chuck Baynton, Whitefish Bay  
 \*Mary Jo Berner, Eagle River  
 Cindy Breunig, Madison  
 Wix Covey/Carol Lukens, Wausau (sharing one seat)  
 Renee Crawford, Milwaukee

\*Dr. Mitzi L. Duxbury, Madison  
 \*Al Gedicks, LaCrosse  
 Zohreh Ghavamshahidi, Whitewater  
 Bob Hanson, Neshkoro  
 \*Margie Jessup, Milton  
 Chris Kuehnel, Sheboygan  
 Tom McGrath, Wausau  
 Marilyn Miller, Milwaukee  
 \*Barbara Munson, Mosinee  
 Janet Parker, Madison  
 John Peck, Madison  
 Carl Sack, Duluth  
 Cecelia Zarate-Laun, Madison

## Counseling Youth *from page 4*

avoid "talking down" to teens and try to relate to them from their own perspective.[7] An individual intent on joining the military would benefit from talking with recent veterans. A parent or friend should accompany the youth when visiting a recruiter, to ensure that the full range of risks and dangers are considered and no hasty decision is made. All of the recruiter's "promises" should be obtained in writing, although the military is allowed to change the terms (pay, job assignments, benefits) at any time. Finally, youth should understand that during the time from enlistment until arrival at boot camp, they are not legally committed to military service. Requesting CO status once one is already in the service is exceedingly difficult ([www.GIrightshotline.org](http://www.GIrightshotline.org)).

There are abundant opportunities to serve our community, nation, and world, without resorting to the military. Similarly, patriotism - love of country and desire to assist humanity - can be expressed in many non-military ways. These concepts can be transmitted to youth at every stage of development.

1. Stafstrom, C.E., *Counseling youth about military service options and selective service registration: an integral part of anticipatory guidance of adolescents*. Pediatrics, 2007. 119: p. 1199-1203. available also at [www.tamewisconsin.org](http://www.tamewisconsin.org)
2. Steinberg, L., *Risk taking in adolescence*. Ann N Y Acad Sci, 2004. 1021: p. 51-58.
3. Cave, D., *Army recruiters say they feel pressure to bend rules*, in *The New York Times*. May 3, 2005. Section A, p. 17.
4. [www.channel3000.com/news/14513918/detail.html](http://www.channel3000.com/news/14513918/detail.html). *Protestors sound off before Madison school board about military ads*. November 6, 2007.
5. Powers, R., *Top 10 Lies (Some) Recruiters Tell*. 2009, Veterans for Peace handout.
6. Schwab, J., *It's My Life - A Guide to Alternatives After High School*. 2008, Philadelphia: American Friends Service Committee.
7. Narvaez, D., *Eighteen: The psychology of enlistment*. The Sign of Peace, 2006. 5.2: p. 20-22.

## WISCONSIN PEACE WALK ENDS WITH ARRESTS AT FT MCCOY

Dozens of Wisconsin residents, joined by peace activists from New York, Illinois, Iowa and Minnesota, brought their call for "an end to wars, occupation, and militarism" to the gates of Fort McCoy in rural Monroe county on August 9. Saying they wanted to speak directly to soldiers facing deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan, nine of the protesters crossed a line set up by base security and were taken into custody by base police. "We wanted them to know what moral dilemmas they will be put into in Iraq and that they're not being trained for it," said Brian Terrell, of Maloy, Iowa. Those arrested were ticketed and released, except for four protesters who had received federal orders banning them from the base after being arrested at a similar protest at Ft. McCoy last year. Bonnie Urfer, Joy First, Brian Terrell and Alice Gerard were transported to the jail in Madison by military van, and released the following day, pending trial in Federal court on trespassing charges.

Bob Tammen, a Vietnam Veteran, explained why he joined in the protest. "I'm here to raise public awareness and for these young soldiers here to think about what they're being asked to do," said Tammen. "These are my brothers, my brothers and my sisters over there...and they're dying for nothing."

The action at the gates of Fort McCoy took place at the end of a thirty-mile "Walk for Peace" in which more than fifty people took part. The Peace Walkers began their three-day march on August 6, with an event commemorating the anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing of Hiroshima.

Starting at Camp Douglas, the headquarters of the Wisconsin National

Guard, the Peace Walkers headed to Tomah the first day and Tunnel City the following day, finishing with an eight-mile walk to Ft. McCoy. Each night, the walkers camped, and representatives from some of the Walk's supporting groups gave reports about the wars in Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan to those gathered around the campfire. Pakistani peace activist Razia Ahmed reported on her recent trip to Pakistan with Kathy Kelly and Dan Pearson, of Voices for Creative Nonviolence. The Peace Walkers also heard from Mohammed Hamoodi, an Iraqi teen who is now in the United States as a refugee after losing many of his family members in the war.

The Peace Walkers were supported by numerous WNPJ groups which provided food and other supplies, including Concerned Citizens of Newport, near the Dells - Juneau County Peace Committee, Rapids Citizens for Peace, Hill Connections, LaCrosse Interfaith Justice and Peace, Mary House, Veterans for Peace, Iraq Veterans Against the War, Nukewatch, and Madison Pledge of Resistance.

Brian Terrell was undeterred by his arrest. "We've written letters and spoken to our representatives and clearly that's not enough," he said.



Arrests at Ft. McCoy - photo courtesy of WKBT News, LaCrosse

**Those crossing the line at Ft. McCoy:** Janet Parker, Madison, Bonnie Urfer, Luck, Tom Haebig, West Bend, Joy First, Monona, Vicki Andrews, Grand Rapids, MN, Alice Gerard, NY, Brian Terrell, Maloy, Iowa, Gerald Paoli, Chicago, Dylan Parkes, Iowa.

**WNPJ Membership Renewal Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Person for Organization Membership \_\_\_\_\_  
 Send my next newsletter on-line, please \_\_\_\_\_

- Type of Membership (Check one)**
- Individual \$35/yr
  - Family \$45/yr
  - Fixed Income/War Tax Resister \$15/yr
  - Sustaining \$52/yr (\$1/wk)
  - A-dollar-a-day for peace \$365/yr
  - Benefactor \$\_\_\_\_\_/yr\*\*\*
  - Organization without paid staff \$50/yr
  - Organization with paid staff \$75/yr

\*\*\*You can pay monthly with PayPal online, see [www.wnpj.org](http://www.wnpj.org) "Join Us" to see how.

Send completed form to: **Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice**  
 122 State Street, #402  
 Madison, WI 53703

Phone 608-250-9240; E-Mail [info@wnpj.org](mailto:info@wnpj.org); Website [www.wnpj.org](http://www.wnpj.org). WNPJ is a 501c3 organization and donations are tax-deductible.

*\$20/WNPJ members*

***Registration for the 18th Annual  
 WNPJ Fall Assembly- Oct. 3rd***

*\$25/non members*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Member of a WNPJ group? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Registration Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 My WNPJ group wants to TABLE at this event \_\_\_\_\_ (\$10 suggested donation for tabling)  
 Sign me up for this breakout group on: (prisons, immigration, anti-war work, or environment) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Yes! \_\_\_\_\_ I want to SPONSOR for the Lifetime Achievement Award Reception \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2009 Fall Assembly for the  
**Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice**

**Connecting the Dots ...  
 Since 1991**



***Saturday, October 3rd***

**18th Annual WNPJ Fall Assembly**

Goodman Community Center  
 149 Waubesa St., Madison WI

All welcome to attend this annual meeting - from 10 am - 4 pm: Panel, facilitated by Guy Wolf of LaCrosse; business meeting; local food lunch; breakout sessions; plus the 2009 Peacemaker of the Year Awards.

**Lifetime Achievement Reception for Joe Elder and Esther Heffernan**, - emceed by John Nichols - from 4:30 - 6:30 pm - music and light refreshments.

*Send in the form above to register for the Assembly and to be listed as a sponsor for this special event.*



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#### WNPJ ASSEMBLY REGISTRATION INSIDE!

#### WNPJ ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERS (New Members in bold)

Alliance for Animals–Madison  
ACLU - Madison  
**American Federation of Teachers,  
Local 212 - Milwaukee**  
Anathoth Community Farm–Luck  
Antigo People 4 Peace  
Artha Sustainable Living Center, LLC -  
Amherst  
Beloit Monthly Meeting of Friends  
**Benedict Center - Milwaukee**  
Benedictine Women of Madison  
Bread for the World – Appleton  
Cable United Church of Christ  
Campus Anti-war Network – Madison  
Candlelight Coalition–Wauwatosa  
Casa Maria–Milwaukee  
Church Women United of Wisconsin &  
Madison Branch  
Churches Center for Land and People–  
Citizen Action of Wisconsin -  
Milwaukee  
Citizens for Global Solutions– Dane  
County and Whitewater Chapters  
Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger–  
Merrimac  
Coalition for Wisconsin Health–  
Madison  
Code Pink–Boscobel  
Colombia Support Network–Madison  
Community Action on Latin America–  
Community Connections - Oregon  
Concerned Citizens of Newport, Inc.–  
Wisconsin Dells  
Congregation of St Agnes, Justice Peace  
& Ecology Office–Fond du Lac  
Coulee Progressives–LaCrosse  
Dale Heights Presbyterian Church  
Outreach Committee–Madison  
DeKalb, IL Interfaith Network for P&J  
Democratic Socialists of America–  
Madison Area  
Driftless Community Radio–Viroqua  
East Timor Action Network–Madison  
**Echo Valley Hope, Inc - Ontario**  
ELCA Greater Milwaukee Synod–Peace  
and Justice Committee  
Family Farm Defenders–Madison  
Fellowship of Reconciliation–Fox  
Valley Chapter  
First Cong Church, UCC–Menomonie  
First United Methodist Church, Church  
and Society Committee–Madison  
FOCCUS - Madison  
Fox Valley Peace Coalition–Menasha  
Franciscan Sisters of Mary–Madison  
Gay Straight Alliance for Safe Schools  
Grandmothers for Peace–Superior  
Greater Wisconsin Committee -  
Madison  
Great Lakes Region Social Concerns  
Network  
Habiba Foundation–Janesville  
Hill Connections–Chaseburg  
Interfaith Coalition for Worker Justice -  
Madison  
LaCrosse Interfaith Justice and Peace  
Network  
International Committee for the Peace  
Council–Madison  
Iraq Moratorium - Wisconsin  
Iraq Veterans Against the War - Madison  
Jewish Voices for Peace - Madison  
Juneau County Peace Committee–  
Mauston  
Kickapoo Peace Circle–Viroqua  
Lakeshore Peacemakers–Manitowoc  
Loaves and Fishes Catholic Worker–  
Duluth  
LUChA - Latinos United for Change and  
Advancement - Madison  
Lutheran Human Relations Association -  
Milwaukee  
Lutheran Office of Justice and Peace–  
LaCrosse  
Madison Arcatao Sister City Project  
Madison Area Peace Coalition  
Madison Area War Tax Resistance  
Madison Buddhist Peace Fellowship  
Madison Friends of International  
Students  
Madison Friends Meeting–Peace &  
Social Concerns Committee  
Madison Hours Co-op  
Madison Infoshop  
Madison Mennonite Church  
Madison Pledge of Resistance  
Madison/Rafah Sister City Project  
Madison Unitarian YouthMUUYACM  
Madison-area Urban Ministry  
Many Ways of Peace - Eagle River  
Marquette University Center for  
Peacemaking - Milwaukee  
Mary House–Wisconsin Dells  
Midwest Renewable Energy Association–  
Custer  
Milwaukee Fair Trade Coalition  
Miracles Prisoner Ministry - WI Dells  
National Peace Foundation–Eau Claire  
Northland Anti-War Coalition - Duluth  
Northwoods Peace Fellowship–Wausau  
Nukewatch–Luck  
Offbeat Press - Oshkosh  
1sky campaign - Madison  
One Wisconsin Now - Madison  
PAX Christi–Madison  
Peace Action Wisconsin–Milwaukee  
Peace Economics–Madison  
Peace North–Drummond  
People for Peace–Waupaca  
Peregrine Forum–Madison  
Physicians for Social Responsibility–WI  
Plowshare Center–Waukesha  
Portage Area Peace Seekers  
Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society -  
Madison  
Preserve Our Climate–Madison  
Progress Media - Oshkosh  
Racine Coalition for Peace and Justice  
Racine Dominicans Justice Outreach  
Rainbow Bookstore Cooperative–  
Madison  
Rapids Citizens for Peace - Wisconsin  
Rapids  
Red Cedar Peace Initiative–Menomonie  
Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of  
Wisconsin–Madison  
Rock County Citizens for Peace–  
Janesville  
Rockford Peace and Justice Action–IL  
Rock Ridge Community–Dodgeville  
Rock River Peace Group - Ft. Atkinson -  
Whitewater  
Rock Valley Fellowship of  
Reconciliation–Janesville  
Saint Bede Monastery–Eau Claire  
St. Norbert Abbey Justice and Peace  
Committee–DePere  
St. Norbert College, Peace & Justice  
Center–DePere  
**Sauk Prairie Area Peace Council**  
School of Americas Watch–Madison  
School Sisters of Notre Dame–Elm  
Grove  
SEIU District 1199W–Madison  
**SHAMA, Inc Projects - Plover**  
Sinsinawa Dominicans–Sinsinawa  
Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi–  
Milwaukee  
Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross–  
Green Bay  
Sisters of St. Joseph, TOSF  
Sisters of the Divine Savior–Milwaukee  
Socialist Party of Wisconsin–Milw.  
Socialist Party of WI–So. Central Local  
–Madison  
Social Justice Center - Madison  
SOS Senior Council–Madison  
South Central Federation of Labor,  
AFL–CIO–Madison  
SW Grassroots Citizens for Peace–  
Dodgeville  
The Madison Institute  
Union de la Trabajadores Inmigrantes -  
Madison  
United Methodist Federation for Social  
Action, WI Chapter - LaCrosse  
United Nations Association–Dane Co &  
Milwaukee Chapters & Wisconsin  
Division  
UW–Milwaukee Peace Studies Program  
UWW–P.E.A.C.E - Whitewater  
University United Methodist Church–  
Madison  
**Uppity Wisconsin Project -  
Menomonie**  
Veterans for Peace–Chapters #25–  
Madison; #102 - Milwaukee; #153 -  
Cable; # 80 - Superior, & #114  
Sheboygan  
Voces de la Frontera - Milwaukee  
Voices for Creative Nonviolence -  
Chicago  
Voices for Peace Institute, Eau Claire  
Watertown Peace and Democracy  
Waukesha Catholic Worker  
WAVE Educational Fund–Milwaukee  
Waysmeet Quaker Center–Richland  
Center  
Weekly Gathering for Peace, Justice and  
Sustainability - Madison  
WhiteRose Talks - Monroe  
Winds of Peace–Projects in Vietnam  
Wisconsin Books to Prisoners Project  
Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic  
Violence  
Wisconsin Coalition to Normalize  
Relations with Cuba–Milwaukee  
Wisconsin Community Fund  
Wisconsin Council of Churches–Peace  
& Justice Committee  
Wisconsin Democracy Campaign  
Wisconsin Greens  
WI Impeachment/Bring Our Troops  
Home–Madison  
Wisconsin Resources Protection  
Council–LaCrosse  
Wisconsin Women's Network  
Women in Black - Sauk City Bridge  
Women's International League for Peace  
and Freedom–Madison  
Workers' Rights Center - Madison  
Yahara Friends Meeting–Monona