



Network News

October 2022

Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice

There is so much good happening in our communities, connections being made and movements growing.

This is the mission of WNPJ: bringing people together to amplify the work.

You are warmly welcome to attend this year's Fall Assembly

Theme: Abolition: Addressing the Root Causes of Violence

Sunday, November 13, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

In person in Milwaukee or on Zoom & Facebook

Keep reading for event details and more about Abolition!

HAPPENING SOON! Nov. 1st: WNPJ member group WAVE of Milwaukee is hosting a FREE online screening of Emmy winning documentary "When Claude Got Shot" on Tuesday, November 1 at 5:00 p.m. CT, followed by a discussion with Claude himself and the film's director. (Claude Motley is receiving the WNPJ award for Peacemaker of the Year at our Fall Assembly). Register for the screening at

<https://waveedfund.org/event/when-claude-got-shot-online-screening>

"The issue can only be cured if the society as a whole recognizes and prioritizes the problem of gun violence and all its contributing factors." -Claude Motley

Let's talk: A reminder of WNPJ's **First Thursday Drop In Hour**, Weaving the Web. Beginning at noon, this is a chance to meet your friends and allies and introduce ideas and possibilities to a wider audience.

<https://www.wnpj.org/post/weaving-the-web-wnpj-s-monthly-drop-in-hour>

Donations: You will find a cute little envelope with this mailing. It's being sent to you in order that you may send some love in support of the work being done on behalf of peace and justice in our state. Help us keep the network running. Your continued financial support is deeply appreciated. (You can also donate online at wnpj.org/donate).

Thank you! *Board members Tynnetta Jackson, Mary Kay Baum, Amy Washbush, Vicki Berenson, John Peck, Dena Eakles, Debra Gillispie and Erika Bach.*



Abolition: Addressing the Root Causes of Violence

WNPJ Fall Assembly

Sunday, November 13, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Traditionally Abolition was understood as the refusal to accept slavery. Modern abolitionists are using the term to cover a spectrum of inhumanities. Abolitionists today may call for the end of policing, as we know it. They may ask us to reevaluate how we spend our money and direct more towards community building rather than punishment. They may ask us to recognize the obligation we have to ensure all children receive an education where they are respected and treated with dignity. They are asking us to reevaluate our relationship to violence. And we are being asked to reckon with our society's unwillingness to change our thinking or to change our systems that continue to foster violence.

Today people are asking us to look deeper into what are the root causes of violence in our communities, in our families, and in our world. We are being asked to heal. This is Abolition.

Abolition is a personal choice that one makes on a daily basis.



The Board of WNPJ chose Abolition to be the focus of the year. We recognize that many of our member groups are engaged in some form of Abolitionist work and we want to support those efforts and foster more.

Marquette University*
Emory Clark Hall, Rm 111
530 N. 16th St. Milwaukee



Come early to find parking, or join us on Zoom or Facebook live.

- Interactive interviews from 1-2 pm; circulate and visit member tables
- Guest speaker Angela Harris, abolitionist educator in Milwaukee Public Schools
- Peacemaker of the Year Award to Milwaukee's Claude Motley of the Emmy award-winning documentary, "When Claude Got Shot"

Register for the assembly here: cognitoforms.com/WNPJ1/Fall2022WNPJAssemblyRegistration

*hosted by WNPJ member group Marquette University Center for Peacemaking

Volunteering at the event and beyond is always welcome! Contact info@wnpj.org to find out how you can help.

Spotlight on WNPJ Members

Here are just a few things our members are up to. You can find links to WNPJ member groups, upcoming events and news on our website at www.wnpj.org and on Facebook at **WisNPJ**.



Building Unity, SOULS (Solomons Outreach & Urban Learning Sessions) and Mother's Against Gun Violence share their work to get out the vote in this great video: <https://bit.ly/3F3D1zh>



WISDOM Wisconsin is working to reduce the Wisconsin prison population and to support a functioning parole system and to counter the false messages about parole with the truth, so that people can get the second chance that was promised to them long ago.



Wisconsin Faith Voices for Justice project Dane Sanctuary Coalition pushes to pass a pathway to citizenship for immigrant youth.

The new DACA ruling is not enough: Immigrant youth need the permanency and stability of a pathway to citizenship.

Peace Action Wisconsin, the Interfaith Peace Working Group, Physicians for Social Responsibility Wisconsin and other groups partnered to bring Medea Benjamin to Milwaukee and Madison to talk about her new book *War in Ukraine: Making Sense of a Senseless Conflict*. Learn more at codepink.org/ukrainebooktour.



350 Wisconsin helped to block a fossil fuel permitting deal and continue to work to expand renewable energy infrastructure in Wisconsin.



Veterans for Peace launched the restored peace ship, the *Golden Rule*, for a 2-year tour around the country to advance opposition to nuclear weapons and war. The *Golden Rule* originally sailed in 1958 to stop nuclear weapons tests in the Marshall Islands. Learn more at vfgoldenruleproject.org.





Deja Garner
WAVE Educational Fund



Jaylin Stueber
Just Dane

WAVE and Just Dane work to cultivate solidarity with youth on the frontlines.

WAVE stresses the importance of how we engage and interact with young people. **Just Dane** trains adults in mentorship roles, with the recognition of how systemic racism impacts life all around us.



The Midwest Renewable Energy Association promotes a just energy transition. This year's Energy Fair offered a WNPJ table and workshops by WNPJ members **Family Farm Defenders** and **Wisconsin Green Muslims**.



Safe Skies Clean Water Wisconsin joined War Abolition walkers from Truax Air National Guard base to elected officials' offices in downtown Madison to promote October's global Defuse Nuclear War movement, and participated in CODEPINK's international press conference highlighting a letter asking President Biden to Cancel the F-35 fighter jet program.

Some business

We will take a little time at the assembly to update you about the state of the Network and elect board members and officers by consensus.

Officers

CO-CHAIRS: Tynnetta Jackson and Mary Kay Baum (in 2nd year of their term)

TREASURER: *Vicki Berenson (current board member, new officer position)

SECRETARY: *Erika Bach (current board member, new officer position)

At Large Board Members

Debra Gillipsie

Dena Eakles

*John Peck (renew for another 2-year term)

*Brad Geyer (start a 2-year term)

*=up for election

Other WNPJ members may be nominated before or at the assembly. **Are you interested in helping this vibrant group grow our movement?** Please contact office@wnpj.org.



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