

(As always, we ask that those of who are on the members e-mail list please forward this message to members who are not on it—yet.)

April 23, 2008

Dear WILPF members,

We want to thank the Tucson branch for their careful work . . . and  
**CONGRATULATE WILPF's 2008-2011 BOARD!**

717 ballots were received by the Tucson branch who tabulated the election results – and, in the process, collected \$1,105 in accompanying contributions. The ballots returned represent 13% of those mailed: a much higher turnout than in past elections and more than 3 times the number received in the 2005 National Board election. Of those choosing to cast a vote, 93.5 endorsed the slate of candidates as presented.

We congratulate the WILPF members elected to the 2008-11 National Board:

- o Secretary- Pajj Wadley-Bailey (VT)
- o Treasurer - Barbara Nielson (CA)
- o Personnel Committee Chair - Denise Hall (CO)
- o Development Committee Chair - Laura Santana (CA)
- o Co-Chair of Program Committee - Carol Urner (CA, OR)
- o Co-Chair of Program Committee - Tura Campanella Cook (TX)
- o Nominating Committee Chair – Pat O'Brien (MA)

In addition to these newly filled positions, two Y-WILPF representatives will be chosen before the Triennial Congress to serve on the 2008-11 National Board. Audley Green, appointed representative to WILPF's International Board will continue to serve, as will Ann Chalmers Pendell, the president of the Jane Addams Peace Association.

The presidency of our section is open to an individual or team who puts her name/s forward. At the Spring board meeting prior to a National Congress the sitting board elects the next president by secret ballot, in the same way the board elects the US Section Member of the International Board and the US Section Delegates to International Congress. As with International WILPF elections, board members must be present at the meeting to vote.

At the meeting of the National Board, April 11-13, Nancy Munger and Laura Roskos were elected Co-Presidents by unanimous vote of the board members present. Nancy currently serves as the Save the Water Campaign Representative on the National Board and brings with her many years of grassroots activism experience. She seeks to strengthen the connections between WILPF's work and the environmental/ sustainability movement, as she believes human rights and Earth rights are inextricably linked. Laura currently serves as our Secretary and Acting Executive Director. She is also the co-chair of the Advancing Human Rights Issue Committee and helped create WILPF's first

Practicum on UN Advocacy at the Commission on the Status of Women in March. We are looking forward to filling the Director of Operations open staff position, before Congress, at which point Laura will step down from the position of Acting Executive Director.

The balloting did not go as smoothly as we all might have liked. Some people did not receive ballots; the nominating committee investigated every instance that was brought to our attention. In some cases, the exclusions were traced to errors in WILPF's member database or in the mailing list used to execute the balloting. In other cases, the fault seems to lie with the U.S. Postal Service. We apologize for not including a description of the position of president in the Winter 2008 issue of Peace and Freedom. Although only the sitting board is eligible to vote for the president/s, any WILPF member may be put herself forward for consideration in that election. Leading up to the nominations deadline, we had several conversations with individuals about the position of president/s, and are sorry if any misunderstandings on this point remain.

Thank you all for your patience and enthusiastic response. We hope that all WILPF members will join the members of the 2005-08 National Board in wishing the new National Board all the best and in supporting them as they tackle the challenges ahead.

Chris Morin, President and Nominating Committee  
Pat O'Brien, Nominating Committee