

# NATIONAL WAR TAX RESISTANCE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

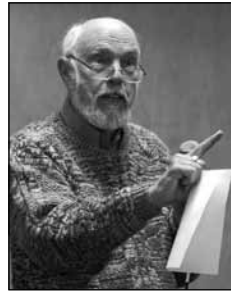
## 2012 ANNUAL REPORT



### NWTRCC

PO Box 150553 • BROOKLYN, NY 11215  
718-768-3420 • 800-269-7464  
NWTRCC@NWTRCC.ORG • WWW.NWTRCC.ORG

NWTRCC's 30th anniversary was celebrated at the national gathering in Colorado Springs, home to Bill Durland, one of the organization's key founders. In 1982 he headed the Center on Law and Pacifism and put out a call for groups involved in war tax resistance (WTR) to meet and discuss their duplication of efforts and overlapping interests. NWTRCC was born out of that conference. Today Bill says, "NWTRCC became the go-to group, the clearing-house for all the others, and it certainly fulfilled my hopes."



Bill Durland

At the Colorado Springs gathering, a human "arc of war tax resistance" curved across the room giving life to how this organization brings together resisters from their 80s to their 20s; from local, regional, and national groups; and from across the country.

NWTRCC's founding documents proposed carrying out the five tasks used in the first five headings below. Over 30 years this mission has served the network well.

### COORDINATE NATIONAL PUBLICITY

In 1982 publicity meant typing press releases and mailing them to newspapers and radio and TV stations. Today press releases are emailed to hundreds of media, from blogs to international networks like BBC and Al Jazeera. Websites are essential. We have [nwtrcc.org](http://nwtrcc.org), [wartaxboycott.org](http://wartaxboycott.org), and [hanguponwar.org](http://hanguponwar.org), and our online presence includes videos on YouTube and Vimeo, two Facebook pages, and an active Twitter account. We hired an hourly Social Media Specialist in September 2012 to enhance our 21st century communications.

Media coverage included interviews on David Swanson's Talk Nation Radio and Cindy Sheehan's Soapbox; *Forbes Magazine* blogger Peter Reilly who wrote three articles about WTR-related court cases; MintPress News, another online source, featured "Going Against The Law To Protest Criminal Acts:

War Tax Resisters And The Rebellious Spirit" by Frederick Reese. Other media links can be found at [nwtrcc.org](http://nwtrcc.org).

### ORGANIZE STRATEGY MEETINGS & CONFERENCE

NWTRCC holds twice a year gatherings, combining business meetings with panels, strategizing, and workshops. Despite the cost of travel, the need for face-to-face support and sharing is important to this form of resistance. The location changes with each meeting to allow those who cannot afford to travel to attend a gathering occasionally. In May 2012 the gathering was held in Chicago in conjunction with the NATO summit and protest, affording an opportunity to make WTR visible in a national march and rally. The 57th Street Friends Meeting hosted us, and Chicago resident Brad Lyttle, who staffed War Tax Resistance in the 1960s, helped with arrangements. The November gathering was in Colorado Springs (see above). It was hosted by Citizens for Peace in Space and held on the campus



of Colorado College. The participation of many students was inspiring. "Does WTR Have a Political Future" was the provocative theme of the 27th annual New England Gathering, held in November in Cambridge, Massachusetts. NWTRCC helps with promotion and follow-up reports and encourages other regions to meet also.

### INFORMATION SHARING, INCLUDING NEWSLETTER

Each year NWTRCC publishes six issues of our newsletter, *More Than A Paycheck*. Our October 2012 anniversary issue included extra pages for celebratory ads. Each issue is posted on our website and announced to a growing email list of more than 500 subscribers. Most of our brochures, pamphlets,

and guides are available for free at [nwtrcc.org](http://nwtrcc.org) or in print from the office or at events. Each of our national gatherings includes sessions to update WTR counselors and keep them informed of trends among resisters and IRS activity. "Counseling Notes" appears in each issue of the newsletter, and we regularly update information in our publications and on the website. Skills workshops are held at each gathering, which cover topics such as using social media or developing a mutual aid system. A Speakers' Bureau is maintained on the NWTRCC website, and the introductory film *Death and Taxes* can be watched online. NWTRCC encourages local groups to hold workshops and provides requested resources.

The Rapid Outreach Working Group (ROWG) identifies and provides resources to broader peace and justice actions, like the Global Day of Action on Military Spending. Locally, war tax resisters united with Occupy for tax day actions and took signs and flyers to Occupy encampments and events. , and gave out free literature at a Voices for Creative Nonviolence program that weekend. We had literature tables at the Anarchist Bookfair in New York City; School of the Americas Watch in Georgia; and the annual Pacific Northwest Regional FOR Conference.

### NETWORKING—PUT PEOPLE IN TOUCH WITH EACH OTHER

Bill Durland's 1982 vision for NWTRCC was that the groups that formed the original "coordinating committee" would all continue and that "NWTRCC would be the least active." Many of those groups are still affiliates, and new ones have joined over the years. NWTRCC maintains a printed and online Network List of WTR counselors, contacts, affiliate groups, and alternative funds around the country. Individuals are referred locally whenever possible or to the person most expert on a particular topic. Anyone with an email address can sign up for the WTR Listserve, which is a place to ask questions, converse, and share concerns. Our networking has expanded through the International Conference



Nationally we joined thousands of activists to protest war, militarism, and the NATO summit held in Chicago in May 2012. Photo by Ruth Benn.

on War Tax Resistance and Peace Tax Campaigns that began in 1985 and has met every second year since. War tax resisters can feel very isolated, so at each of our gatherings we send cards to people who are facing IRS action or struggling as low income resisters. In this “wired world” people can find information on our website and may not seek out a local group. “Revitalizing local affiliates” is an ongoing priority for which your help is needed.

### CENSUS – HOW MANY ARE WE?

It is not easy to count war tax resisters and refusers. Wartaxboycott.org maintains a list of people who “publicly refuse to pay for war,” but the 300 signers fall far short of a total. The NWTRCC mailing list has 1,500 individuals and groups, but WTRs within groups are not on our national list. Many live below the radar and do not choose to be public. The IRS does not announce how many people protest war with their taxes. This task is hard to accomplish, and our best guess is 8,000 – 10,000. As opposed to counting resisters, we carried out an information survey to find out what our contacts think of NWTRCC and our work. The 202 responses are an important component in ongoing strategy sessions.

### ADMINISTRATION

Fifty affiliates are our structural core. Organizational decisions are made at two Coordinating Committee (CC) meetings a year. The six-member Administrative Committee (AC) provides day-to-day oversight, and each AC member serves a 3-year term. The CC is made up of representatives of affiliates, area contacts, counselors, and meeting attendees. Ruth Benn has served as the part-time Coordinator since 2003, but much of the work is done by volunteers, including maintaining the websites and listserve; writing articles; designing the newsletter; hosting gatherings; planning fundraising and outreach; writing and reviewing literature; and special tasks like analyzing survey results and leading workshop sessions. Volunteers are always welcome.

### FINANCES AND FUNDRAISING

A financial statement for the past fiscal year is part of this report. NWTRCC has a modest budget, and we expect to overcome the deficit shown in the next fiscal year. Special thanks are due for grants from Anonymous Foundation, CMTC Escrow Account, Southern California War Tax Alternative Fund, and

Maine War Tax Funds for Life. The CC is carefully managing the 2011 grant from Craigslist Charitable Fund. The organization would not be here today without the generous support of many individuals, whether the donation is \$1 or into the thousands, and the Fundraising Committee continues to brainstorm ideas to expand our funding base.



Chicago, May 2012, after the NWTRCC meetings.

### ADMINISTRATION & COMMITTEES (2012)

#### ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

**Kima Garrison**  
Portland, OR

**Jason Rawn**  
Union, ME

**RICK BICKHART**  
Co-TREASURER  
Charlottesville, VA

**CARLOS STEWARD**  
Asheville, NC

**MELISSA JAMESON**  
Co-TREASURER  
Brooklyn, NY

**ALTERNATES**  
**ELIZABETH BOARDMAN**  
Davis, CA

**ROB STENGER**  
Washington, ME

#### RAPID OUTREACH

**DAVID GROOS (COORDINATOR),**  
**PAM ALLEE, ESZTER FREEMAN,**  
**ERICA WEILAND**

#### FUNDRAISING

**ERICA WEILAND (COORDINATOR),**  
**ROD NIPPERT, DANIEL WOODHAM,**  
**BILL GLASSMIRE, RICK BICKHART**

#### SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH

**JASON DUFFIELD**

**NWTRCC**  
**COORDINATOR**  
**RUTH BENN**

**VOLUNTEERS WELCOME!**  
**PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE**

## FINANCIAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 12/1/11 — 11/30/12

### INCOME

Affiliation Fees.....	\$2,937
Gen'l Donations .....	\$9,475
Large Donations/Bequests .....	\$11,307
Grants .....	\$25,250
Alt. Funds .....	\$1,250
Newsletter Subs & Ads .....	\$4,614
Literature & Other Sales.....	\$961
DVD Sales .....	\$486
C.C. Meetings .....	\$1,817
Religious .....	\$200
War Tax Boycott .....	\$205
International Conference .....	\$500
<b>TOTAL INCOME.....</b>	<b>\$59,502</b>
Transferred to reserves.....	\$22,465
<b>TOTAL INCOME.....</b>	<b>\$36,537</b>

### EXPENSES

Postage .....	\$2,366
Telephone .....	\$920
Office Supplies/Equip .....	\$1,108
Consultant.....	\$17,250
Social Media Outreach Specialist.....	\$1,168
Health Fees .....	\$3,107
Retirement .....	\$2,545
Travel.....	\$2,829
Rent.....	\$709
Copying/Printing/Lit .....	\$2,404
Newsletter Print/Postage .....	\$1,725
C.C. Meetings .....	\$1,066
Publicity & Outreach .....	\$582
Local/Regional Org.....	\$270
War Tax Boycott Campaign.....	\$195
International Conference .....	\$1,005
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES .....</b>	<b>\$39,249</b>
<b>NET GAIN (OR LOSS) FOR YEAR .....</b>	<b>(\$2,712)</b>

*Donations made directly to NWTRCC, by check or through Paypal or WePay, are not tax deductible. See our website or donation slip or contact the office for tax deductible options.*



*NWTRCC sees poverty, racism, sexism, homophobia, economic exploitation, environmental destruction and militarization of law enforcement as integrally linked with the militarism that we abhor. Through the redirection of our tax dollars, NWTRCC members contribute directly to the struggle for peace and justice for all.*

COVER: Kansas City Nuclear Parts Plant, 11/6/12 (photo by R. Benn); Oakland Flash Mob, 4/15/12; (photo by S. Quinlan); Raytheon Peacemakers, Tucson, 4/15/12 (photo by F. Cohen-Joppa).