

Questions for Prospective Administrative Committee Members for the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee

Name: Patricia Kirkpatrick

1) What interests you about participating on the Ad Comm?

As a new WTR, I am interested in learning (through observation and participation) about the ins and outs of a long-standing national group committed to this important form of direct action. We have a strong germination of interest in WTR here in Worcester, MA and I would be grateful and humbled to share what I would learn in this role with my fellow peacemakers.

2) What perspectives, skills, or interests would you bring to the Ad Comm?

I have administrative experience, having worked with numerous grassroots organizations in Worcester over the years. Note-taking, follow-up with members/funders/affinity groups, decision-making, event outreach and presenting are some of the tasks I've taken on in that work. I am interested in how personal and community experiences with WTR throughout history can inform today's resisters in the movement.

3) What would you like to get from participating on the Ad Comm?

My first hope is that I gain new and meaningful relationships with the awesome people at NWTRCC, and as a result, feel greater resolve as a resister. I hope to gain experience working with a coalition that opposes militarism and war, and bring that back to my community to make our work more meaningful.

4) Please give a brief history of your conscientious objection to war taxes.

I do not have a history of conscientious objection to war taxes. I first learned about WTR through the Catholic Worker movement in the late 2000s. My conscience was aroused so completely, but for various reasons I never went any deeper into practicing WTR in my own life. In 2014, my spouse and I purchased a home and hurled ourselves into community living with our one-year-old, our late Golden Retriever Harley and four dear friends. Collectively, we were involved in peacemaking projects, local social justice work, farming and education, so WTR would come up in conversations now and then. It always seemed like something we would intentionally head toward, but perhaps not arrive at for a while. Witnessing the recent loss of life, forced starvation and elimination of Palestinian life, culture and history, I find myself in a spiritual zone that is so desperate for love and peace that I have no choice but to object to war taxes.

Questions for Prospective Administrative Committee Members for the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee

5) What other peace and justice work are you or have you been involved in?

Over the years, I've worked on a number of grassroots efforts in Worcester. I was a founding member of the Stone Soup Collective and Community Resource Center, board member for a youth-led cooperative called the Toxic Soil Busters that took on the issue of lead contamination in marginalized urban neighborhoods, worked as a youth mentor at our city's YouthGROW Farm and served as co-coordinator for a local chapter of Mothers Out Front (climate policy activism). There are two Catholic Worker communities in Worcester, one house of hospitality and one soup kitchen. My family has been connected to both for many years. Since October 7, my time has been consumed by organizing around a ceasefire, and all things related to bringing this war to an immediate and permanent halt. This work has been a large and intense effort which involves local interfaith groups coordinating with statewide and national groups.

6) Please briefly tell us something of your vocation and home life.

A life lived with others has been a big part of my human experience thus far. My spouse and I have lived in community in different configurations over the years. Ten years ago, we bought a 180-year-old brick building near downtown Worcester, and entered a new chapter of intentional living with four other adults and our one-year-old. Today, we live with our three children, our eldest's godfather and our dog Sunny.

When we moved into our home, the outdoor space behind it was a parking lot. A big part of my work over the years has been transforming that cement lot to a small, living, breathing flower farm. It's become a really nice place for lots of people (and birds and insects!) and much beauty has sprung from it. We've hosted neighborhood movie nights, art workshops, pick-your-own hours and set up a CSA to support operations. The dream is to connect our home and the farm to a rural project, though we are still in a period of prayer and clarification on what this will be. My devotion toward the home and farm, raising my children and organizing/peacework are what I'd say make up my vocation.

7) Is there anything else you would like to share?

Hmm... Well, I love going to see live music! The Mountain Goats were a highlight this year. I really love open water swimming, and traveling/camping with my family and friends. I'm currently training for a 3-mile open water swim out on Cape Cod, yikes!

Questions for Prospective Administrative Committee Members for the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee

Name: Nick Lancellotti (28M)\

1) What interests you about participating on the Ad Comm?

- A. Being a part of a long-standing community dedicated to peace & uplifting communities and working directly with individuals who share these values
- B. Potential opportunities to suggest/lead/participate in initiatives (particularly those through social media) to elevate war tax resistance to a wider audience (see answers “D-F” to Q3)
- C. Better understanding of how the organization is run/what’s involved/the scope of current initiatives/other groups associated with NWTRCC
- D. Learning!! There is a wealth of knowledge, experiences, and histories contained in this network, and I am excited to be closer to that and to be able to share and honor those stories with a new generation of war tax resisters.

2) What perspectives, skills, or interests would you bring to the Ad Comm?

- A. As a Project Engineer (see answer to Q6), I oversee nearly all aspects of a building’s design, from initial schematics through the end of construction. I have skills in organizing and working alongside people across multiple disciplines, as well as administrative management and keeping projects on schedule/moving forward.
- B. Because my birthday is on the Millennial-Gen Z cusp, I can empathize and communicate with a large subset of people while at the same time being *just* disconnected enough from each generation to objectively identify their strengths & shortcomings. I believe this has given me a unique perspective on the younger generation as a whole and insights into how to best prepare NWTRCC for a new generation of war tax resisters.
- C. I come from a family of teachers and union members, so I’ve developed a strong love for learning & sharing information and seen firsthand the power of collective action.
- D. I consider myself to be a “service-oriented” individual and enjoy the behind-the-scenes and/or administrative work of helping others and bringing a vision to life.
- E. I have excellent writing skills (creative, persuasive, expository, and technical) and can assist with messaging & outreach.
- F. Social media literacy and a knack for art & design

3) What would you like to get from participating on the Ad Comm?

- A. Organizational leadership experience
- B. Experience talking about/thinking about budgeting (eventually, this is something I will have to do more of when I’m promoted to a Senior Engineer)
- C. Get more entrenched in the war tax resistance community and connect with other organizations that NWTRCC has relationships/partnerships with
- D. Strengthen my own understanding of taxes & war tax resistance so I can better educate & help others on their resistance journeys
- E. Leverage this position to help organize a new generation of war tax resisters
 - a. While WTR may not be for everybody due to their individual financial situations, I want to not only bring more awareness to WTR, but also try to normalize this form of protest to be as accepted and widely practiced as marching in the streets.
 - b. Specifically, as a member of the LGBTQ+ community, a group with a rich (and colorful) history of resistance, I’d like to find ways to amplify NWTRCC messaging through established social media influencers/outlets.

Questions for Prospective Administrative Committee Members for the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee

- F. Find ways to invite those who don't normally participate in war tax resistance to get involved on a "pop-in, pop-out" basis – perhaps a non-specific (i.e. not tied to a war, per se) "Tax Blackout" every election year to keep NWTRCC at the forefront of peoples' minds and the resistance "muscle" flexed
- G. Further develop and promote the existing Tax Blackout campaign for Gaza (we are planning 10% in 2025, 15% in 2026, 25% in 2027, and 50% next election year in 2028)

4) Please give a brief history of your conscientious objection to war taxes.

My conscientious objection to war taxes will have officially begun this April 2024 as part of *We The People's* Tax Blackout campaign. I have not previously engaged in war tax resistance but have been ruminating on the idea for a few years.

5) What other peace and justice work are you or have you been involved in?

I'm one of the cofounders of *We The People*, a grassroots organization that started in November 2023 in response to the United States' complicity in funding the ongoing genocide in Gaza. With a mission dedicated to liberation of oppressed peoples and facilitating resistance education, our organization focuses on (4) forms of protest we believe are critical to influencing public policy: war tax resistance, labor resistance (general strikes), consumer resistance (supplementing the established B/D/S (Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions) movement), and voting resistance (promoting and amplifying Third-Party and Independent candidates).

Additionally, through my job, I act as one of the admins on our [Building Equity Initiative](#) (BEI), which provides pro-bono and "low-bono" services to non-profits and public programs to alleviate financial stressors. Utilizing our expertise as structural engineers, we help create spaces that strengthen communities and contribute to societal equity, particularly in the areas of housing, education, healthcare, and access to culture. I am currently working on a proposal for how to integrate Land Back initiatives into our repertoire & language and collaborate with Indigenous-owned architecture & construction firms. I was also a part of a coalition of building engineers and architects who volunteered for an emergency migrant housing development team lead by the NYC Mayor's office and AIANY. The goal was to build temporary structures quickly, efficiently, and safely *within* unused office space in the city's financial district (8ft x 8ft "pods"), including a long-term (3-5 yr) feasibility study on the implications of a full retrofit of commercial space into [affordable] housing. Unfortunately, this initiative was short-lived as the Mayor made some unfavorable statements to the press and we went pencils down.

6) Please briefly tell us something of your vocation and home life.

I'm a structural engineer (building design) and will be studying to get my professional licensure over the next 2-3 years (depending on how the election shakes out!). Typically, I work between 9-10 hrs/day, Mon-Fri (Monday and Friday are usually WFH). I'm single and live alone in a studio apartment, so I have few familial or relational responsibilities (mother, father, and brother (24) are back in Massachusetts).

7) Is there anything else you would like to share?

I am incredibly honored to receive a nomination for AdComm. 6 months ago, I was just a person with an idea who, like many of you, couldn't bear the violence anymore and had to act – I had no way of knowing if such a lofty goal would be well-received or if it was even possible. Thanks to

**Questions for Prospective Administrative Committee Members
for the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee**

June and NWTRCC, I've become a co-founder of a grassroots political organization and am collaborating with an incredible network of activists to make this vision a reality. *We The People* has reminded me what it means to be part of something bigger than yourself, especially something dedicated to real, tangible change, and I would very much like to continue that work through AdComm. Regardless of whether I am selected to serve on the committee, I am looking forward to strengthening our relationships with you through *We The People* and will definitely be applying in the future should this not be my year. Thank you all very much for your time and consideration.

**Questions for Prospective Administrative Committee Members
for the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee**

Name: Daniel Woodham

- 1) What interests you about participating on the Ad Comm? Furthering the cause of NWTRCC to support and spread the word about not paying for war by resisting tax payments that support preparations for and carrying out war.
- 2) What perspectives, skills, or interests would you bring to the Ad Comm? I'd bring my knowledge of NWTRCC since the early 1990s, my interests in connecting with people, my multicultural views and fluency in Spanish/French, and some prior knowledge of WTR internationally (I represented USA at the international gathering of war tax refusers in Brussels Belgium in 2003).
- 3) What would you like to get from participating on the Ad Comm? Better connectivity with the WTR movement in the US today and the chance to further the movement for the next generation of income earners.
- 4) Please give a brief history of your conscientious objection to war taxes. In 1991 I started resisting payment of the military portion of my federal taxes. The next year I resisted all of my federal taxes. In subsequent years I remained low income many years so that I had no tax burden. When I earned more I resisted and received liens from the IRS. Through leaving a job or lowering my income I was able to avoid paying the federal tax. Currently I file jointly with my wife. Since we have a child and file jointly we are able to pay minimal federal tax.
- 5) What other peace and justice work are you or have you been involved in? One of my current jobs is being a case manager with immigrants with a non-profit where I live in Kingston NY where we declare "No human is illegal". This is one thing. Another is farming vegetables and redistributing food to food pantries weekly. I am also involved currently in helping to design and implement a Community Fund with an organization that focuses on "Just Transitions," helping to level the playing field for making the small city where I live to become a place for all to have access toward a better life. The goal is to better "The Commons."
- 6) Please briefly tell us something of your vocation and home life. Mostly mentioned above (farming and case management). I live with my wife Andrea, son Miles and dog Molly.
- 7) Is there anything else you would like to share? Thank you for the opportunity to run for the AdComm!