

IF YOU WORK
FOR PEACE



STOP PAYING
FOR WAR.

More than a paycheck

NEWS FROM THE WAR TAX RESISTANCE MOVEMENT

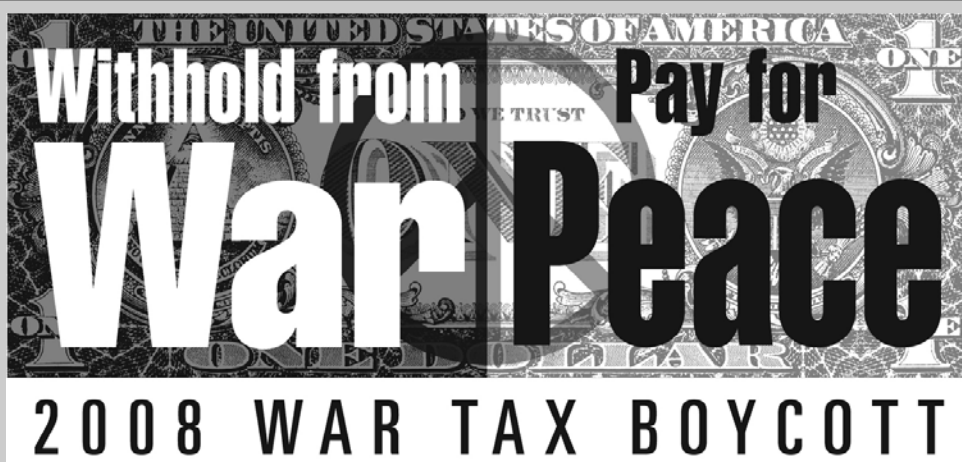
October 2007

Celebration and Reflection at 25 Years

By Ruth Benn

Today NWTRCC is \$5 richer! As I looked through old files to review the founding of this now 25-year-old organization I came across an envelope containing \$5 in cash—payment for something toward the September 1982 conference that led to the founding of NWTRCC. That was good for a laugh, and also a reminder that small peace groups with over-worked staff members slip up now and then.

Nevertheless, despite our oversights and missteps, NWTRCC is still here today doing much the same work that it was founded to do. The 1982 conference was called to “plan a



This fall the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee urges all who oppose the Iraq war and occupation to register and prepare for an April 2008 nationwide boycott and redirection of the federal income taxes that fuel the war in Iraq. The Boycott is endorsed by Voices for Creative Nonviolence, The War Resisters League, the National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance, and the Nonviolent Direct Action Working Group of United for Peace and Justice. Enclosed you will find the Boycott Appeal and Registration form. Contact the NWTRCC office about supplies you can order or visit www.WarTaxBoycott.org and download the materials to copy for outreach and tabling. And, don't forget to sign up yourself—online is best, or send in the enclosed form.



“Don't Buy What You Don't Want” banner and some participants at the 1982 conference. Juanita Nelson seated left, Wally Nelson standing behind Bob Bady with Ernest Bromley to Bob's left. Can anyone ID the others?

Photo by Ed Hedemann

national action the next spring; improve information sharing on a national level; strengthen and develop regional organizing; and perhaps, to develop a ‘census’ of war tax resisters.” The reports from the meeting show that even at that one-day conference these items were discussed in-depth, modified, or put off to the next meeting, which took place a couple months later and gave

NWTRCC its name (see box page 7).

The network has held together for these 25 years with many of the same people involved—and many of the same ideas and differences coming up at each meeting.

Anniversaries are generally a time for celebration, but for peace groups, celebrations are tempered by the state of the world around us. If our message was catching on, perhaps things would look better than they do today. NWTRCC was founded at a time when nuclear disarmament was a burning issue. Just three months before the war tax resistance conference more than a million people had marched in New York City calling for an end to the nuclear arms race. Today the

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More than a paycheck

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More Than a Paycheck is a bimonthly publication of the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee, a clearinghouse and resource center for the conscientious war tax resistance movement in the United States. NWTRCC is a coalition of local, regional and national affiliate groups working on war tax related issues.

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

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COUNSELING NOTES

DON'T FILE IF YOU DON'T HAVE TO!

Eight million individual income tax returns were unnecessarily filed in each tax year from 2003 through 2005. While many showed a lack of understanding of the tax law, there were also returns from millions of individuals whose income did not meet the filing requirement. In 2006 that threshold was at \$8,450 for a single person under 65 (see the chart in February issues of this newsletter). However, other factors may require filing at a lower level, such as self-employment income of more than \$400, to meet social security requirements. Over half the unnecessary returns were filed by people under the age of 21, and a common problem was overwithholding. WTR counselors should pay particular attention to young people who may not have filed for themselves in the past and may need extra help understanding income tax procedures. and that pesky W-4 form.

—Audit by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA)

SAMPLE INTEREST AND LATE PAYING PENALTIES

The IRS is showing some new facility at bank account and salary collections. Many resisters are wondering how the

interest and penalties add up and considering in more detail how much they will choose to resist. Announced on a quarterly basis, the interest rate as of October 1, 2007, is 8%; it has averaged about that for the last year or so. On overdue taxes the interest is compounded daily (details are on the irs.gov website), so what we offer here is a pretty good sense of how interest and late-paying penalties on refusing \$10 and \$100 would add up over time—up to 10 years for the statute of limitations on assessed taxes.

Interest and Penalties

Additions for 1, 5, and 10 years based on 8% interest compounded daily.

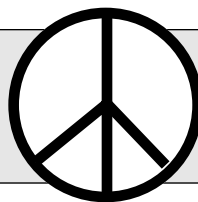
Late payment penalty is 1/2% a month up to 25%, charged on the principal.

	<u>1 year</u>	<u>5 yrs</u>	<u>10 yrs</u>
\$10 principal	10.00	10.00	10.00
8% interest comp. daily	0.83	4.92	22.25
25% max penalty	0.60	2.50	2.50
Total	\$11.43	\$17.42	\$34.75
\$100 principal	100.00	100.00	100.00
8% interest comp. daily	8.33	49.18	222.53
25% max penalty	0.60	25.00	25.00
Total	\$108.93	\$174.18	\$347.53

(The 1/2% increases to 1 percent if the tax remains unpaid 10 days after the IRS issues a notice of intent to levy. If a late filing fee has been applied, interest is charged on the principal plus that fee.)

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**Many
Thanks**



Network Updates

We are grateful to these groups for their recent contributions and dues payments:

Taxes for Peace Not War, Eugene, OR

Fools of Conscience, Asheville, NC

National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund

Western Washington FOR, Seattle

Thanks to all the affiliates who responded to the Affiliate Survey. If you got a phone message and haven't returned the call, it's never too late! Please keep us updated on your activities and information.

Postcards are coming back from counselors, contacts, affiliates, and funds to update our network listings. Please send yours if you have not done so yet. The website contacts will be updated shortly. The NWTRCC office keeps a printed list for the full country and also by region; call if you would like a copy mailed to you. When someone contacts NWTRCC for information, we send out a packet of brochures and include the network list for their region. ▼

Perspectives on WTR from Youth

From activists who are about the same age as NWTRCC, excerpted from presentations at NWTRCC's 2005 Strategy Conference

Lincoln Rice, Milwaukee

A lot of the people joined [Casa Maria Catholic Worker] because there were other young people in the community. If they had come when I joined they might have said "this is nice" but I don't want to be here. I don't know if that's something that young people see with NWTRCC, but with Catholic Worker the more young people you have the more seem to come.

I learned about war tax resistance through the community. If I had not met them I would like to think that I would still have become a war tax resister, but it would have been a longer path to learn about it and be less intimidated by the repercussions.

Alice Liu, San Francisco

Young radicals are involved in a lot of



groups, and they don't need to join this one. I'm interested in going to different groups and talking to them about war tax resistance, but not saying "come to our group." They already have groups, so they should just know about it.

One thing that got me into war tax resistance was hearing about how someone mailed a coffin to the IRS as their check. I'm into more artsy things. I don't feel like writing the IRS an articulate letter actually, so maybe thinking about communication styles and the ways people want to come up against something. Maybe the NWTRCC newsletter information could be in a different format to communicate to young people more imaginatively.

It's hard for me to really guess what other young people who make taxable incomes are thinking, but I can hypothesize a little bit. There are lots of reasons

that people don't do WTR—there are the obvious risks—but there's also this all-or-nothing pressure. There are a lot of people who don't do it, because resisting \$10



seems pretty wimpy but resisting thousands a year for the next 40 years is kind of intimidating.

Sherill Crosby, San Francisco

I'm 25, and I just became aware of war tax resistance mainly because my mom is a CPA and she always did my taxes for me.

As you get older and you have to take care of it yourself, then you start thinking about it. Another reason why I became really interested in it is that a lot of young people go to marches. I feel like they are fun but I don't feel like they are effecting what's going on. So I was looking for something else to be more active. In the same sense I'm not normally part of a group either and coming to a conference is not something I'm really comfortable with. If I'm communicating with people directly or by email or phone that's still a live communication, and I don't have to gather with everyone in a space. That's maybe a social and generation thing. People grow up with electronic devices and they're not used to being in a group full of people. Even though young people are not here they're still aware of what is going on, and if the message and ideas and avenues are communicated they'll act on it, even if they're not represented in this group.



25th Anniversary

Continued from page 1

U.S. and Russia still stockpile nearly 20,000 nuclear weapons, with another thousand held among Britain, France, China, Israel, India, Pakistan, and South Africa. Other countries still aspire to be counted among the nuclear states.

Over these 25 years, peace-loving people who have been moved to war tax resistance cite various issues that motivated them: nuclear weapons, the Reagan military build-up, budget cuts to social program, U.S. aid to military dictators in Latin America or to Israel for its occupation, or the first Gulf War. It goes without saying why people are turning to tax refusal today. It is no time to sit back and relax.

As we continue all our efforts to end war and work toward peace, it seems

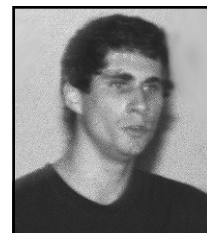


Marian Bromley and Juanita Nelson at the 1982 conference. Photo by Ed Hedemann

appropriate that we celebrate our 25th year by launching a new campaign, the 2008 War Tax Boycott. We hope that you will find the new outreach materials useful in introducing people to this form of resistance, which can be so personally empowering and politically powerful. ▼

R.J. Macani, Brooklyn

I think the idea of redirecting our money away from what is either increasingly a police state or a war machine, redirecting to things that people really need, would resonate with the people that I work with. I was specifically thinking about redirecting money to some of these grassroots funds that are trying to rebuild New Orleans. Another thing is about communications technology. The new movements are on the internet. Younger movements are text messaging each other, and most of them are against the war. You have to think about how to be part of that. ▼



RESOURCES

Contempt of Conscience DVDs

Contempt of Conscience is the title of the 14-minute documentary about the Peace Tax Seven, war tax resisters in Britain who are taking their case to the European Court of Human Rights. The film is a good presentation of the reasons for refusing to pay for war, the risk of having funds seized, and why this group feels they must go to court. Copies are available from the NWTRCC office for \$15 plus \$2 postage.



2008 War Tax Boycott

Stock up on new outreach materials! They can be downloaded from wartaxboycott.org, or contact the NWTRCC office if you would like single copies mailed to you. We will also be stocking bulk copies, which will be available at low cost plus shipping.

- Appeal and Registration Form
- Getting Started in War Tax Resistance, 2-sided, 5-step explanation
- Business card with boycott logo (front of this issue) and the web address

There is a page on the NWTRCC website with other resources that can be downloaded, including information sheets, flyers, and ads.

Recently Robert Riversong in Vermont sent his "Not One Red Cent for War" label sheet, a Word file that prints on the standard sheet of 30 mailing labels. Check it out at <http://www.nwtrcc.org/downloadable.htm>.

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War Tax Resistance



Performers from Theatre for the New City at the Gala.

Photo by Ruth Benn

Life Fund Gala

The New York City People's Life Fund is part of the "beautiful nonviolent anarchist revolution, making change by replacement of big government structures by smaller more realistic dedicated groups," said Judith Malina of the Living Theatre. Crystal Field of Theatre for a New City told about years of federal and state budget cuts and how they received a small but important grant from NYC PLF "I can't tell you what it did for our spirits. They cared about what we were doing," she said.

The First-Ever NYC PLF Gala Benefit, celebrated in New York City on September 17, 2007, was an evening of theatre, poetry, and music interspersed with trib-

utes from organizations that have received grants during the past 36 years. A drop-in center for homeless people, NY Committee for Occupational Safety and Health, and the Neighborhood Economic Development Advocacy Project were among the groups that thanked the fund for believing in their work when almost no one else did. "Banks look at the food coop as not such a great investment—not so the PLF!" said Elisa Jiji from the 4th Street Food Co-op.

Founding members Sallie Marx, Michael Gasster, and Susan Gasster were honored for their vision in setting up the fund, and Sallie along with Robert Hieger and Joanie Fritz Zosike and a handful of others have kept it going over the last decade. Times are lean now, so the Gala was organized to boost their own spirits and spark new interest in the fund itself.



Sallie Marx, Robert Hieger and Joanie Fritz Zosike of NYC PLF

Photo by Ruth Benn

The event was held at the Living Theatre, which was founded by Malina and Julian Beck in 1947 and has its own history with the IRS. In 1963 its theatre space was seized by the IRS during a run of "The Brig," a play about the ritual cruelty of a Marine Corps brig (in revival now). It's an interesting story, which we'll have to write about someday. Meanwhile, congratulations to NYC PLF for all its great work for so many years. ▼

Hit the Streets This Fall!

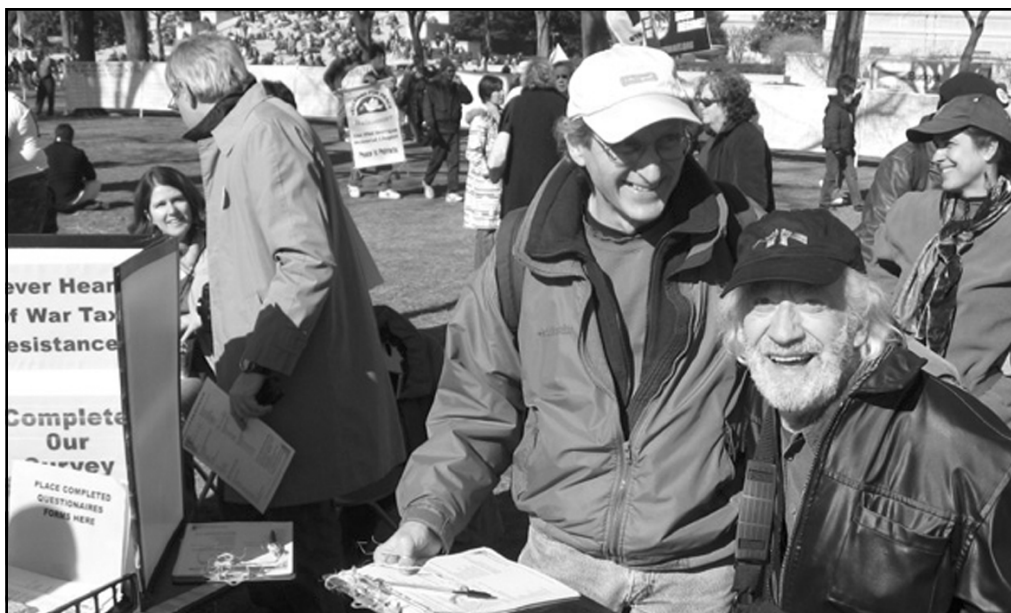
October 27, Regional Demonstrations

United for Peace and Justice is calling for 10 massive, regional demonstrations to end the war in Iraq. Nine of the locations have been announced: Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, and Seattle. Here's a great opportunity to let people know about the 2008 war tax boycott. Put your favorite war tax resistance slogan and "wartaxboycott.org" or your local group's web address on a sign and join the march. The publications page at nwtrcc.org and the tools page on wartax-boycott.org have downloadable ads and flyers, ranging from business card size to full sheets. Produce what your pocketbook

and back can handle and help spread the word. Some items are available free or low cost from the NWTRCC office. Call or email for details.

November 16-18, Columbus, GA

War tax resisters will be among the 20,000 converging on Fort Benning to demand the closing of the School of the Americas/Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation. NWTRCC will have a table staffed by volunteers, and you are invited to help! Please contact the NWTRCC office if you expect to go. A plan usually develops to share housing in a local motel. This will be a great time to do outreach for the 2008 War Tax Boycott. ▼



Outreach is fun! Rick Bickhart with Ralph DiGia (right) and Robert Randall behind at the NWTRCC table in DC, Jan. 2007. Photo by David McReynolds.

Responding to Collection—Ideas Needed!

The NWTRCC office is getting regular calls and emails from resisters who are facing collection from bank accounts or salary levies in amounts from a few hundred to thousands of dollars. Sometimes the seizures are from pension funds or investments that are held

in accounts at a distance from the resister's home. Do you have ideas for bringing more attention to these stories of refusal to pay for war voluntarily. Many resisters are frustrated by the quietness with which the government can steal the funds, without a hearing ▼

RESOURCES, CONT.

WTR Exhibit

Celebrate NWTRCC's 25th Anniversary by ordering this excellent historical display produced by members of Pioneer Valley War Tax Resistance. Use it at your workshops, events, in libraries, schools, shopping centers, and at food coops. (Be sure to send photos to NWTRCC.) The National War Tax Resistance exhibit consists of six posters measuring 22" x 34" each, depicting the history of war tax resistance from 400 BCE to 2000 with one panel on current resistance outside the U.S. Pictures of the panels are on the NWTRCC website publications page. The exhibit posters are mailed in a tube, and purchasers should plan to mount them, such as on foam core, for display. Exhibits cost \$30 for the set, which includes shipping and handling.

Order from NWTRCC, PO Box 150553, Brooklyn, NY 11215 or call 1-800-269-7464. Website orders can be paid through Paypal with credit card or bank account debit. ▼

TO THE EDITOR—

My sister has 2 DVD players that refuse to play Aaron Russo's *America: Freedom to Fascism* but from her granddaughter's player I could see that Mary Loehr's review (MTAP 6/07) is more skeptical than need be about payroll tax being a legally baseless fraud perpetrated on the working class, out of sync with the theory of business as found in Proudhon (*What is Property?*) as well as in high court decisions. But the weakness of this argument is that criminality can be legalized, so that as war tax resisters we would be right where we are now or even worse off. The DVD does vastly not enough to show how payroll tax enables these...wars of which world government totalitarianization is a ruling class function. It reeks of patriotism and therefore of the racism inherent in presenting slave-owners as liberators. Civil disobedience is part of this unrevolutionary patriotism. CD does not end the state.

—Joffre Stewart, Chicago, IL

Responsibility

by Grace Paley

It is the responsibility of society to let the poet be a poet
 It is the responsibility of the poet to be a woman
 It is the responsibility of the poet to stand on street corners
 giving out poems and beautifully written leaflets
 also leaflets you can hardly bear to look at
 because of the screaming rhetoric
 It is the responsibility of the poet to be lazy to hang out and
 prophesy
 It is the responsibility of the poet not to pay war taxes
 It is the responsibility of the poet to go in and out of ivory
 towers and two-room apartments on Avenue C
 and buckwheat fields and army camps
 It is the responsibility of the male poet to be a woman
 It is the responsibility of the female poet to be a woman
 It is the poet's responsibility to speak truth to power as the
 Quakers say
 It is the poet's responsibility to learn the truth from the
 powerless
 It is the responsibility of the poet to say many times: there is no
 freedom without justice and this means economic
 justice and love justice
 It is the responsibility of the poet to sing this in all the original
 and traditional tunes of singing and telling poems
 It is the responsibility of the poet to listen to gossip and pass it
 on in the way storytellers decant the story of life
 There is no freedom without fear and bravery there is no
 freedom unless
 earth and air and water continue and children
 also continue
 It is the responsibility of the poet to be a woman to keep an eye on
 this world and cry out like Cassandra, but be
 listened to this time.

Author, poet, activist, and NWTRCC friend Grace Paley died in August at age 85. Grace became active with the War Resisters League in the 1960s and took her "combative pacifism" to streets and podiums in the decades that followed. She was a signer on the Appeal to Conscience circulated by NWTRCC and WRL in 2003. ▼

Join NWTRCC In Kansas!

25TH ANNIVERSARY GATHERING

November 2-4, 2007 • Newton, Kansas

Mini War Tax Resistance Conference and Coordinating Committee Meeting

The program will begin with dinner in Newton on Friday evening followed by a talk at Bethel College with Alan Gamble, Director of the National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund. Saturday workshops and evening party, the Sunday Coordinating Committee meeting, and housing will be at the Meadowlark Center, a nascent institution on the Kansas prairie.

Plan you travel now! The closest airport (and bus station) is Wichita. Amtrak arrives in Newton in the early morning hours, but our Newton hosts will arrange to meet train travelers.

Call the NWTRCC office at 800-269-7464 for the brochure and registration form or see the Programs and Gatherings page on our website. ▼

ANNOUNCING THE 2007 War Tax Resistance Video Contest

Building on the success of the 2006 contest, NWTRCC is once again sponsoring a video-shorts contest and calling for entries. We hope that readers have been able to see and use last year's winners. They can be viewed on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/user/nwtrcc> or go to nwtrcc.org and follow the video contest links. We also have the winners on a CD, available from the NWTRCC office for \$5.

The flyer announcing the 2007 contest can be downloaded from the video contest pages on our website, or call the office if you would like copies mailed to you. Get them out to high schools and colleges near you. This is a great way to promote war tax resistance among young people.

Here are the entry details:

Length: 30 seconds to 4 minutes

Topic: Taxes for Peace, Not for War!

Deadline: Jan. 15, 2008

Prizes: 1st-\$300, 2nd-\$200, 3rd-\$100

For more info: <http://www.nwtrcc.org/videcontest.htm> ▼

Lily Dalke

Continued from page 8

wonder whether I would have made the same decision to resist taxes if this safety net were not available, or if I had children or other dependents who would be made vulnerable by my resistance. I expect that my relationship to war tax resistance will change as I get older and my life circumstances change, but I feel grateful that I have started down this road at a time when I am making choices that will form my later life and when I don't have a lot invested in any particular institution or a lot of property to lose. This makes the decision to resist much simpler, and encourages me to structure my life in a way that resistance can remain (as much as possible) a simple decision for me.

While my thought processes around war tax resistance right now center around minimizing my vulnerability to the IRS, I think the longer-term project is learning how to live without fear, no matter how vulnerable I feel. It is about keeping my own fears in perspective and weighing my indulgence of my instincts towards self-protection. So much violence is perpetuated because people who are afraid (for good reason or not) privilege their need for security over others'; because we defensively buy into the idea that our needs are in competition with other humans' needs. Often this is because our political and economic structures are set up in a way that pits us against one another. Resisting war taxes helps me also resist this ideology and reminds me that our interests are all fundamentally the same. ▼

22nd Annual New England Gathering

The longest running regional gathering of war tax resisters meets December 7-9, 2007, at the Woolman Hill Conference Center, Deerfield, Massachusetts. "Taking Control of Change—Embracing Simplicity" is this year's theme. This gathering is for experi-

enced WTRs and those who are just testing the water. \$60 for the weekend includes food and housing. For more information, a brochure, registration form, and/or directions, contact: Erik Schickedanz, 270 Bullock Rd, Guilford, VT 05301, (802) 257-5725, andbefree@yahoo.com. ▼

25 TH ANNIVERSARY—NWTRCC FACTS

From the November 20-21, 1982, meeting minutes

The Name: "First item of business was to determine the official name of the committee. The meaning and connotations of all substantive words were discussed at length with the final consensus being for NATIONAL WAR TAX RESISTANCE COORDINATING COMMITTEE."

The Logo: "After considerable discussion it was agreed that one of the Mary Lyn Sheetz designs featuring a cannon with a dove should be reworked so that it would be appropriate for use as a logo" with the wording "If you work for peace—stop paying for war."



Consultants and Office Locations:

Kathy Levine – 1982-1987, East Patchogue, NY (with Larry Bassett, 1984-1986)
Carolyn Stevens – 1987-1991, Seattle, WA (with Joel Taunton and Pablo Stanfield)
Karen Marysdaughter – 1991-1999, Monroe, ME
Mary Loehr – 1999-2003, Ithaca, NY
Ruth Benn – 2003-present, Brooklyn, NY

Newsletter

1984 – 1993, "Network News"

Dec. 1993 – present, "More Than A Paycheck" (designed by Susan Quinlan, who is still laying out half the issues. Thanks Susan!) ▼

Counseling Notes

Continued from page 2

SHORT TAKES

Frivolous Fines:

The NWTRCC office recently heard from someone who sent Part A of the Peace Tax Return with her 1040 last spring and just received notice of a \$500 frivolous fine from the IRS. Using Part A is like enclosing any protest note or letter

while filing and paying taxes in full, and should not generate such a fine. We hope that the fine will be lifted. Stay tuned.

Phone Tax Refunds

If you are someone who paid the federal excise tax on long distance phone calls, you can still request the excise tax refund. People who do not need to file a regular return can use a special short form, Form 1040EZ-T, to request the refund. Those taxpayers who have filed without

requesting the refund can file an amended return using Form 1040X.

Private Collection

H.R. 3056, the "Tax Collection Responsibility Act of 2007," was introduced in Congress in July 2007. The bill would repeal the use of private debt collection companies to collect federal income taxes. It is sponsored by Charles Rangel (NY). Its progress can be tracked online at <http://thomas.loc.gov/> ▼

Lily Dalke

Brooklyn, NY

I first heard about war tax resistance as a child in Quaker meeting. It was not a form of resistance I could engage in until after I graduated from college and started filing my own returns. I thought about resisting the first year I paid taxes, in April 2006, but I wasn't sure how to go about it and delayed taking any steps toward resistance until later that year.

At Brooklyn Friends Meeting in July 2006, I learned about Dan Jenkins' war tax witness and his related appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in Manhattan with the support of New York Yearly Meeting. This reminded me of my need to make decisions about my own tax activity, and I began attending war tax resistance meetings in New York City shortly afterwards. At these meetings I gained a better sense of the wide variety of approaches used to resist paying war taxes.

By the time my taxes were due again this past April, I had already paid a percentage of taxes through federal withholding. However, I was still able to refuse payment of the remaining amount I owed (almost half of the total). I also changed the W-4 form I had on file with my employer, so that I will have more control over what I pay in 2008.

I turned 25 this year and recently found out that 2007 also marks NWTRCC's 25th anniversary! It seems appropriate that my own resistance should have begun this year. War tax resistance has provided a valuable clarifying lens at a time in my life when I have had to make a number of decisions about what I want to do for work, where I want to live, how I want to manage my finances, and how I want to spend my free time. I have had to ask myself questions about the ethics of receiving dividends and interest from the investments and savings accounts I hold and of purchasing private property, as well as my responsibilities to communicate honestly with my employer and my government. It has reminded me of the ways that most of the institutions in my life—even the nonprofit organization I work for, dedicated to protecting and promoting human rights around the world—are complicit in funding our military and has made me carefully consider my ties to these institutions.

I don't hold any expectation that the



Lily Dalke, Feb. 2007.

Photo by Ed Hedemann

few thousand dollars I withhold yearly from the federal government and invest in community organizations will lead directly to the end of our country's dependence on the military. Most of the questions and doubts about my resistance that are expressed to me from friends and family circle around this concern, that I am

making a choice that puts me at great personal risk in exchange for little in the way of practical results.

The greater risk, I believe, is to get stuck in a perspective where I accept that moral compromise is a necessity of my modern life. As an impatient idealist I don't believe that I contribute towards ending war and violence by trying to find the most "efficient" solutions to these problems, by distracting myself from taking any action at all with all the reasons for why it won't work. War tax resistance reminds me that following the rules is not required, that our current systems are not inevitable and not all-powerful. It reminds me that I can live life on my own terms and that there are solutions and options to problems other than the ones that are presented to me by the government and media.

I think my willingness to take the risks involved with war tax resistance is in many ways tied to my privilege in having a strong support system. I am lucky to have loving family and friends, many of whom are financially stable. I

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