

"Resisting the War Machine"

Western Washington FOR's Fall Retreat in Lacey

Friday evening November 9 to Saturday mid-afternoon November 10, 2007

It's one thing to protest against war. It's another thing to nonviolently resist war in various ways. Powerful nonviolence theory – and highly effective nonviolent methods – focus on withdrawing consent from violent and unjust systems and supporting peaceful and just alternatives.

Remember the classic question, "What if they gave a war and nobody came?"

- Look at the growing number of military people refusing to serve in Iraq.
- Look at the growing counter-recruitment movement.
- Look at the growing interest in conscientious objection.
- Look at the growing number of veterans and military families working for peace.

Persons interacting with the military can work for peace in certain ways.

But the War Machine also depends on all of us who live in the U.S. – taxpayers, voters, consumers, workers, investors, teachers, students, newspaper readers, TV watchers, churchgoers, participants in modern America culture – for what we do (even unwittingly) and for what we don't do. The WWFOR's 2007 Fall Retreat will help us explore open-mindedly and creatively:

- What are the gears and levers that keep the War Machine grinding along?
- What political, economic, cultural, and other resources are the raw materials that feed the War Machine?
- How could we starve the War Machine of those resources? How could we nonviolently gum up the gears?
- How could we – in our own lives, in our local communities, or networked regionally – withdraw our tacit consent for the War Machine's functioning? How could we – alone or with others – nonviolently resist?

This year's WWFOR Fall Retreat will help us analyze the War Machine's functioning, think creatively, and start planning. Our Fall Retreat will empower us to appreciate ourselves and connect with others.

Friday November 9:

A potluck supper begins at 5:30. Please arrive as soon as you can. Enjoy meeting old and new friends. At 7:00 sharp we'll start the evening's program, which will empower us and help us analyze the War Machine.

When the evening's program ends at 9:00, you may choose from an array of optional activities, including videos, singing, continued small group discussions, or sleep.

Saturday November 10:

Breakfast starts at 7:30, and the program proceeds at 8:30. A carefully designed series of activities will engage your creativity in figuring out how to nonviolently resist war and militarism. Small group planning will develop practical methods and possible new activities. When the program ends at 2:15 we'll have generated exciting new possibilities to take home and to organize locally and regionally.

WWFOR's Area Committee (regional networking and decision-making body) will meet from 2:30 to 5:00 to make some decisions. Everyone is invited to stay for this and to hear updates from WWFOR staff and chapters.

YES! I/we will attend the WWFOR Fall Retreat on FRI-SAT NOV 9-10, 2007.

Name(s):		
Address:	City:	Zip:
Phone(s):	E-mail:	
Please note any special dietary or physical needs:		

- The facility offers simple accommodations (4 single beds per room). Participants bring sleeping bags. Will you use the overnight accommodations? Yes No
- We encourage carpooling. I need rides for _____ persons. I could provide rides for _____ persons.
- Registration, meals, facility use: \$35 per person if you stay overnight, or \$20 per person if you don't.
- Low income folks may pay less. Some people voluntarily contribute extra so low-income folks can attend.
- **Please make checks payable to WWFOR and earmark them "Fall Retreat."**
- Amount enclosed: \$_____ I will pay at the door.
- **Please fill out this form and mail it to WWFOR, 225 N 70th St., Seattle WA 98103-5099.**

Cut on this dotted line:

How to Register

Please Pre-Register by WED. OCT. 31:

Use the form above or print one out from the Western Washington FOR's website, www.scn.org/wwfor

Everyone who pre-registers will receive a map and directions to the retreat location and a request to bring a potluck item for Friday evening and a food item to for Saturday.

Questions? Contact WWFOR at (206) 789-5565 or wwfor@connectexpress.com

Location:

We hold all of our WWFOR Fall Retreats at the Gwinwood Conference Center in Lacey, near Olympia.

From the north, take I-5 to Exit 109. Turn right onto Martin Way, left onto College Street, left onto Lacey Boulevard, south on Ruddell Road, left on 25th Ave SE, right on Hicks Lake Road SE, left on 30th Ave SE, right into Gwinwood, and right on the gravel road to the Westwood building.

From the south, take I-5 to Exit 108. Follow the long exit to College Street. Turn right onto College Street, and follow the rest of these directions.

Cost:

\$35.00 for overnights (simple accommodations), or \$20.00 for day-trippers. Meals are potluck. We keep costs low and try to just barely break even. We give discounts to young and low-income people upon request. Persons who can afford to contribute more offset the discounts for those who can afford less. Thank you!