

War Tax Resisters Penalty Fund

Appeal #47 Summer 2015

Share amount requested of each member: \$28.00

Seeking a total: \$4,538 in contributions

See details of the request from the resister below:

Make checks payable to CMTC (PO Box 2096, Mars Hill, NC 28754)

or pay by credit card at www.wtrpf.org

Please respond within two weeks after receiving this appeal if possible.

NOTE: We welcome all contributions, even if they are less (or more!) than the share amount.

Report on April 2015 letter: We did not ask for money to reimburse resisters, but several of you sent donations. We appreciate it. These funds will be used to reimburse resisters whose penalties owed are beyond what we could have reimbursed fully while still keeping shares under \$30 each time.

Number of active contributors: 13

Total Collected: \$790

WTRPF statement of purpose: *“The War Tax Resistance Penalty Fund provides a process of mutual support through which war tax resisters and their supporters can distribute financial assistance to war tax resisters whose taxes are collected and for whom the collection of penalties and interest is a burden. In providing this mutual support, the Penalty Fund hopes to sustain and expand war tax resistance as a form of conscientious objection to war.”*

Jon Marley. Jon has been a non-filer “in the belief that it is a waste of time and emotional energy to interact with the IRS at all. I have not, however, been a silent resister.” John has posted his status as a war tax resister on Facebook, provides counseling, support, and information to potential and current resisters, and has been deeply involved in operating the People’s Life Fund (NCWTR’s alternative fund which annually distributes grants to social justice and peace organizations in Northern California). When someone exposed his tax resistance to the IRS and his employer, the East Bay Community Law Center that employs him ignored calls for his dismissal. Haunted by Richard Nixon’s famous quip during an antiwar demonstration in 1970 (“Let them march all they want, as long as they pay their taxes”), John has kept up his resistance for 23 years, determined not to give permission for war through voluntary surrender of his taxes. He asks for assistance to pay statutory additions for years 2002, 2004, 2005, and 2006 in the amount of **\$14,725**.



We have been able to reimburse Jon **\$9,397** from past appeals. We hope to fulfill his request in this appeal.

To make a contribution to our work: visit www.wtrpf.org Questions: email webmaster@nwtrec.org or call Peter at 574-532-3720. Since online donations go through Paypal, a \$1.17 fee is deducted from a \$30 donation.

Send checks payable to our fiscal sponsor CMTC to:

Conscience and Military Tax Campaign

PO Box 2096

Mars Hill, NC 28754

Note: Please do NOT make your check payable to WTRPF. We will not be able to deposit it in our CMTC account!

If you or someone you know is currently having their assets seized by the IRS and needs help with the penalties and interest, please let us know.

WTRPF Steering Committee: Peter Smith (Indiana), Shulamith Eagle (Vermont), Bill Ramsey (North Carolina), Shirley Whiteside (Colorado), Steve Leeds (California)

For future appeals:

_____ Yes, I want to receive WTRPF appeals in the future and it is OK to send them by email

_____ Yes, I want to receive WTRPF appeals in the future but please send them by regular mail

_____ No, please remove my name from the WTRPF mailing list

Name: _____

Email Address (if you checked the first option) _____

Note: We appreciate the time and effort many of you expended to complete the survey we included in the last appeal letter. Overall folks were satisfied with our governance of the Penalty Fund and were greatly appreciative of our efforts to keep the fund going. One former steering committee member mentioned: "So grateful that you folks could give the original penalty fund steering committee relief after 32 years."

We had another suggestion to send Penalty Fund material to every Quaker Meeting. Perhaps we can start that in a small, easy way by advertising in Quaker magazines. We will ask for an extra dollar or two from each Penalty Fund supporter for that purpose in our next Appeal. There are only a few magazines. We might do the same with Mennonite magazines as several respondents urged us to increase outreach to the Mennonite community.

Several folks suggested that we increase our presence on social media. None of the steering committee have expertise in that area, so please volunteer if you want to help in this way. If you have a facebook page, consider excerpting info from the attached brochure. One person thought we could use a more attractive brochure. If anyone has graphic design skills and would like to help with this, please contact us.

We would like to expand our list of supporters and also increase war tax resisters' awareness of our willingness to help them offset the burden of IRS penalties and interest. If you can help with this, please do so. Some of you said you would put out our brochures in various places. If you need hard copy (rather than printing out the electronic copy attached) in order to do so, let us know.

Name: _____

_____ I/We have included an extra ___ dollar(s) to put ads in Quaker/Mennonite magazines

_____ I/We would like to help with social media outreach

_____ I/We have graphic design skills and can improve the WTRPF brochure

_____ I/We need _____ hard copies of the WTRPF brochure

_____ I/We have ideas on how to expand the list of supporters

Comments:

