



IWPA

Invites You to Celebrate the Life of Our Illustrious Member Jane Addams

**Prepared by IWPA Historian Marlene Cook
May 31, 2007**

Jane Addams, author, humanist, philanthropist, pacifist, and founder of Hull-House, devoted her life to social issues and to the cause of peace.

As an active member of Illinois Woman's Press Association, she promoted the ideals of IWPA to provide women with an opportunity for creative, socially responsible work. She was involved with state and national efforts, unwavering in her belief that women's nurturing experiences led them to value life deeply and that women's involvement in world political affairs would bring about a more humane and peaceful society. She worked diligently in a movement to outlaw war.

In 1907, the same year she became a member of IWPA, she published her book, *Newer Ideals of Peace*, attended the National Peace Conference, and joined the woman suffrage committee. (Many early IWPA members were suffragists).

She became a valued speaker for the suffrage movement and served as vice-president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association from 1911-1914. Woman's suffrage passed in Illinois in 1913.

The 1881 graduate of Rockford Female Seminary (later Rockford College) served on the Chicago School Board from 1905-'09, headed the National Conference of Social Work in 1909, helped settle the garment strike in 1910 and campaigned for Theodore Roosevelt in the presidential election in 1912.

By 1915, Addams was presiding over the National Peace Conference in The Hague which led to her becoming the first president of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. By this time, she was in her mid 50s and was in great demand as a national speaker. Her mere presence on a board or executive committee reminded members to put aside petty quarrels and consider the good of the whole. She met with peace activists from many nations and lobbied for relief to Germany, Russia, Poland and Armenia. Although she brought prestige to IWPA, her busy life required her to drop her membership that same year.

Her legacy includes many books and accomplishments, but she is most recognized for Hull-House where her passion was to better the lives of immigrant families. At Hull-House she provided cooking classes, summer outings, a gym, a day nursery, classes in English and citizenship, baby and dental clinics. She started a school for art, music and theater.

She worked tirelessly to keep immigrants from injustice, exploitation and cruelty. She was always ready, willing and able to give needed help and advice.

IWPA is proud to place Jane Addams among its distinguished members.

Citizens of Illinois:
Please join us in celebrating
the FIRST annual
Jane Addams Day
on December 10, 2007!



**To learn more about how Jane Addams Day came to be,
read this press release by IWPA member Jan Lisa Huttner on PRWeb:**

When Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich signed HB 5243 naming December 10 "Jane Addams Day" in Illinois, he brought to fruition two years of dedicated work by Dongola (IL) Unit School teacher Cindy Vines and an eager team of eighth-graders. Their project received a major boost when Lelia Marvin, President of the AAUW Carbondale (IL) Branch entered the loop. HB5243 takes effect January 1, 2007, making December 10, 2007 the first "official" commemorative day. According to Jan Lisa Huttner, Director of International Relations for AAUW-Illinois, "our goal is to make sure everyone knows to mark December 10, 2007 on their calendars right away; great things will happen in Illinois on that date!"

<http://prweb.com/releases/2006/12/prweb489011.htm>

or

Google: "Jane Addams Day" + AAUW-Illinois