



# UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION of the United States

Northern  
Colorado  
Chapter

May-June 2011

Volume 7, Number 3

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**The Murulle Foundation Reception.** Thursday, 12 May, 5:00-7:00 p.m., at Whole Foods Market, 2201 S. College, in the eating area on the sun porch. The Murulle Foundation will present the opening of the TFM Ethiopian Photo display. The photographs will be on display through June. Whole Foods is providing light refreshment.

**UNA Informal Discussion Series.** Saturday, 21 May, 10:00 a.m. at the Heart of the Rockies Christian Church, 6501 Brittany St in Fort Collins (NW corner of Lemay and Trilby). Karen Smith will present "Maps of the World."

*Are maps a guide or a perspective?*

*Take a journey through the maps of our world.*



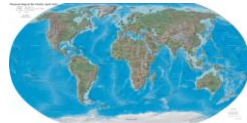
When the Peters Projection map was first published in 1973, it caused a storm of reactions. Join Karen Smith for a screening of *Many Ways to See the World*, followed by a discussion of this thought-provoking movie.



Howard Zinn, author of *A People's History of the United States*, says

"This film is more than a fascinating lesson about maps. It opens the mind of the viewer to profound perspectives on the interconnectedness of human beings everywhere."

Karen's collection of maps will also be displayed for you to examine.



**UNA Picnic.** Watch for the announcement of our annual summer UNA NCO picnic at the Warren Shores pool and recreation area. The date will be a week night in mid July.

UNA member Meredith McKee is looking for a few more volunteer host families for a group of French teens (ages 14-16) coming to Fort Collins this summer, July 5-25. Weekends are reserved for host family time, but Meredith will be leading cultural outings on weekdays, and host families are always welcome to join. *This is a great opportunity to get involved in intercultural exchange without the long-term commitment.* Email Meredith at [MeredithLMcKee@gmail.com](mailto:MeredithLMcKee@gmail.com) or call 970-343-2492 for more information.



## UNA-USA 2011 ANNUAL MEETING

**REGISTER TODAY FOR UNA-USA'S 2011 ANNUAL MEETING.** If you haven't had a chance to register yet, it's not too late -- early bird rates are available until May 27!

Please join us in Arlington, VA at the Hilton Arlington from June 12-14, 2011 to celebrate this exciting time in UNA-USA's history. This will be our first Annual Meeting as part of the *United Nations Foundation* family.

Featured speakers at the Annual Meeting will include UN Foundation President Timothy E. Wirth, UN Foundation CEO Kathy Calvin, Chair of UNA-USA's Strategy Council Ambassador Thomas Pickering, and UN Foundation board member Dr. Nafis Sadik. In addition, Ambassador Susan Rice from the U.S. Department of State has been invited to speak.

UNA-USA will once again host the most important advocacy event of the year, **USA-USA Day on Capitol Hill**, as part of the Annual Meeting. This day is a not-to-be-missed opportunity for activists from across the country to demonstrate to members of Congress the strong public support that exists for active U.S. participation in the United Nations. Letters, emails and phone calls are useful advocacy tools, but meeting face-to-face with your representatives or a member of their staff is another effective way to influence their policy positions.

**Each chapter is asked to register one delegate to vote on its behalf** regarding the Council of Chapters and Divisions (CCD) Steering Committee's proposed new Standard Operating Procedures and geographic boundaries of our regions.

See <http://www.unausa.org/annualmeeting> for more information or contact Liubov Grechen at 212-907-1328 or [lgrechen@unausa.org](mailto:lgrechen@unausa.org).

As members of our UNA, you are eligible to attend the UNA National Convention. I am planning on attending. Call me (970-377-0863) if you have questions or are interested in attending.

*Eleanor Dwight*

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT:

**2011 Membership Booklets** were mailed in mid-April to about 20 members who had not yet picked up their copies at meetings so far. Each booklet was labeled with the member's name(s) and the date when their dues expire. These booklets also contain a list of 11 new members who have joined since the Booklet was printed, through April 15.

**Please Welcome These New Members** and add their names and contact information to your membership book. These are people who have joined since the March-April Newsletter was sent out.

David Balsiger [davidbalsiger@aol.com](mailto:davidbalsiger@aol.com)

Ron Graver [Rgraver@gmail.com](mailto:Rgraver@gmail.com),

Mary Kay Graver [marygrvr1112@gmail.com](mailto:marygrvr1112@gmail.com)

(note: this is a change from the e-mail address mailed out in the booklets.)

William and Jean Griswold

[griswold@lamar.colostate.edu](mailto:griswold@lamar.colostate.edu)

Carolyn Taylor [CarolynL.Taylor@msn.com](mailto:CarolynL.Taylor@msn.com)

Phil & Betty Weber [pr.bb.weber@comcast.net](mailto:pr.bb.weber@comcast.net)

Margaret Zierdt [margaret.zierdt@juno.com](mailto:margaret.zierdt@juno.com)

### Please Note This Correction In Your Booklet:

Mary Wolfe's e-mail address is: [lizzie943@me.com](mailto:lizzie943@me.com)

**The April 30 Orientation Get-Together was enjoyed by five new members.** We had an enjoyable time of conversing with interesting people, and learning a little about the United Nations and the United Nations Association.

Our next Orientation Get-Together will probably be in November. Special thanks to Immediate Past President of our chapter, Eleanor Dwight, and her husband Norman Illsely for being the "host and hostess with the mostest."

**Our Chapter is growing**, and we'd like to keep it growing. You can help:

- Bring a friend to our next UNA event.
- Print off an extra flyer or Newsletter for a friend, or for another group to which you belong.
- Mention the group's activities to friends and neighbors.
- Phone or e-mail me with names and contact information of people who seem genuinely interested in UNA. I'll send them an e-mail or letter explaining about what we do, with a membership form included.

**Second Quarter Dues Expire June 30, 1911.** Our chapter has only ten members whose dues will expire in June. I'll send a "heads up" notice early in May and you will receive official notice from the national office at some point--either by e-mail or by postal service. You can respond to the official notice either

directly or by mailing your form and payment to me, and I'll forward them. *The latter method lets us know more quickly about when dues have been renewed.*

Dues expire at the end of the quarter in which your previous year's payment was made. If you're not sure when your dues expire, check the label on your booklet or e-mail me at [Macsmith36@aol.com](mailto:Macsmith36@aol.com).

*Please note that Margaret and Paul Smith will be out of town 31 May – 29 June and may not have access to e-mail while we're gone.*

Margaret Smith: [Macsmith36@aol.com](mailto:Macsmith36@aol.com), 970-493-3857; Mary Wolfe, Co-Chairs

## INDIGENOUS CONCERNS COMMITTEE REPORT:

The Indigenous Concerns Committee of the Northern Colorado UN Association has two new members. Hazel Krantz and Hugh Sanborn joined Elissa Tivona and myself, Christinia Eala, to assist with keeping our ear to the heartbeat of the Indigenous Peoples of the World. We will have our first full member meeting on May 11, 2011.

In other areas, our first Informal Discussion in March was led by Christinia, who brought a power point presentation regarding the eco-village development project know as the "Wicosani Community Project" that her agency *Tiyospaye Winyan Maka*, along with Elissa Tivona has been working on for approximately four years. (See Wicosani, page 4).

The Wicosani Community Project is now preparing for the 2011 building season. If you are interested in participating, please visit the website at <http://winyanmaka07@webs.com> or contact Christinia at [christiniawin@yahoo.com](mailto:christiniawin@yahoo.com).

Christinia Eala, Chair

## OUR CHAPTER SHARES OUR SUCCESS!

Our UNA National CEO, Ed Elmendorf, was here a couple of months ago to speak to our Chapter. He was so impressed with our membership and our programs that he asked me to speak on a conference call to a "reviving" chapter in St. Louis. They wanted to know how we had managed to get and keep so many members.

I told them that this was a genuine group effort but also that we had a super membership committee that makes every effort to reach out to potential members and does not let anyone or anything slip through the cracks.

Our programs have proven to be of interest to many folks in our community. I was proud to represent all of you on this call.

Eleanor Dwight

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2011 WINNERS

On April 9, the United Nations Association of Northern Colorado presented the 2011 International Humanitarian Award to the Murulle Foundation and the Dille/Dunbar Fund, in recognition of their international service connecting northern Colorado with sustainable development efforts in Ethiopia and in Angola.

Each year UNA-NOCO recognizes the work of local citizens who are helping achieve the UN Millennium Development Goals. This year we were privileged to highlight not just one, but two organizations, actively working to end poverty and hunger, to establish gender equality, and to foster environmental sustainability in different regions of Africa.

The Murulle Foundation's work in Ethiopia's southern highlands has become a highly respected model for humanitarian assistance worldwide. Founders Paul Evangelista, Jason Roussos, and Paul Swartzinkl--all graduates of CSU College of Natural Resources--describe Murulle's mission as building an "*enduring coexistence of people and threatened ecosystems in sub-Saharan Africa.*"

According to Murulle project coordinator, Karel Waltermire, "Helping people directly is important. Of equal importance is conserving the land on which their livelihoods—indeed, their very lives—depend."

Murulle projects—the Women's Small Business Loan Project, the Mountain Nyala Project and others—combine micro-enterprises for sustainable livelihoods with scientific initiatives that conserve the land and water resources of Ethiopia's ecosystem and watersheds.

In similar fashion, the Dille/Dunbar Fund meets a critical need to ease the way for women in Angola returning to farms, villages and cities after decades of civil strife.

The specific focus is "training women in life skills and economic self-sufficiency," notes Paula Dille, a member of the family group who established the fund to honor the legacy of parents and grandparents. "War torn areas of the central highlands were 70 percent women, many of whom needed education and a way to feed their families . . ."

Since its establishment, Dille/Dunbar Fund has built five schools providing literacy, health, sewing, agriculture, human rights and micro-enterprise skills. The schools have enrollments of 50 to 200 young women per six-month session, and have earned the recognition of the Angolan government, which now provides support by paying the teachers.

The formal Award presentation along with a lively presentation about the ongoing work of Murulle and Dille/Dunbar, were held on Saturday, April 9 at the Harmony Library of Fort Collins, followed by refreshments generously provided by Eleanor Dwight and Mary Wolfe.

Congratulations to both organizations. The United Nations Association of Northern Colorado is proud to honor your decades of service connecting the people of northern Colorado to the wellbeing of citizens on the African continent.

*Elissa J. Tivona and Bill Demarco, IHA Committee*

## INTERNATIONAL WORLD WATER DAY AT CSU

***Bravo To Our Newest (And Youngest?) UNA NCO Member, Phoenix Mourning Star.***

Phoenix managed a very successful World Water Day on March 22 at CSU. He, along with the help of his 'team,' set up booths and activities and workshops on ground water, water quality etc. Phoenix even managed to snag Dr. Douglas Walker, a water expert from the U.S. State Department to come out from Washington to talk about work in the State Department. Walker is a Desk Officer for the Offices of Afghanistan and Pakistan in the Bureau of South and Central Asia.

***International World Water Day is held annually on March 22 to highlight the importance of freshwater and advocating for the sustainable management of freshwater resources.***

Those who attended Dr. Walker's talk learned a lot about how things are done behind the scenes at the State Dept. I gained a great respect for the thoroughness and science behind the ongoing work there. For instance, when the terrible floods hit Pakistan last year, it was Dr. Walker's job to put together a team of water experts to help the Pakistanis evaluate the situation and make suggestions for coping.

Dr. Walker noted that when they go to work in a country they are careful to ask what those in country want and need and not to impose our solutions upon them. From time to time, he is also asked to support higher-level State Dept. officials as they testify before Congress or another body with all the technical, logistical, and geographic information that the official might need. He must have all this information in his head as there is not time to "Google" it!

Dr. Walker attended CSU in the 80s, earning his bachelor's in watershed science, his master's in civil engineering and his doctoral degree in agricultural engineering. How does a water expert get to the State Dept.? The American Academy for the Advancement of Science contracts with the State Department to provide experts in various fields of science and scholars compete for the appointments.

After seeing and hearing Dr. Walker, I came away feeling that we are in good hands if he is an example of those working at State.

*Eleanor Dwight*

Dear United Nations Association of Northern Colorado,

Thank you so much for sponsoring the second annual World Water Day event at CSU on March 22nd. The event was beneficial to me and my fellow students and you helped to make it a success! Our organization looks forward to working with you again.

Kind regards,

Phoenix Mourningstar and the World Water Day Crew.

### WICOSANI COMMUNITY PROJECT

The *Wicosani* Community Project is a collaborative effort with the women of the community of Wounded Knee in the Pine Ridge area of the Lakota Territory in South Dakota. "*Wicosani*" means *to walk in balance with the four aspects of Self: physical, mental, emotional, and Spiritual*. We found separately and together, that our vision for restoring *Wicosani* to the community must first be restored to individual families.

The heart of the project is to assist women and families reclaim their family land as the first step in rebuilding their lives. Once this is established the next step is helping to build an earthen architecture *eco-dome*, designed by *Nader Khalili* and modified as needed. The soul of the project is to create hope and self-assurance for women raising children alone, many of whom have left abusive relationships. They want to move back to their land so they can improve the quality of life for their children and/or grandchildren. We offer them our hand and the tools to rebuild their lives for themselves, and those of the next seven generations.

After collaborative effort in prioritizing the needs of these families it was decided that:

- Tiyospaye Winyan Maka (TWM) will partner with Village Earth to guide the women in reclaiming the family land base.
- Cal-Earth and TWM will work with families to modify blueprints of the *eco-dome* housing project to best reflect the needs of the family.
- "Skill set" workshops for youth will be developed to foster cottage industry with various groups, such as Engineers without Borders, Woodbine Ecological Center, Oglala Lakota College, Trees, Water, People, and Filters for Families.

The *Lakota Circle Village*, an Immersion School for Lakota children, was invited to participate in late afternoon or early evening for *sessions of storytelling or talking circles* to promote interaction between elders and youth in the Lakota language and to help re-establish cultural values across the generations.

Incorporated into the design of the *eco-dome* will be a *rainwater harvesting system*, which will be coupled with a purification system, given the alarming statistics on water borne illnesses (due to nuclear radiation from abandoned uranium mines) of the South Dakota reservation waters. Purified water can be used for cooking and drinking and the gray water can be recycled and used for gardening and indigenous permaculture.



Finally, wind turbines and solar panels will be provided in a workshop format that will teach the assembly, installation, and maintenance of these systems. By learning how to assemble and maintain the turbine and solar panels, a technician will rarely need to be called.

The specific reasons behind the *sweat equity* style of building, as well as the *workshop* format delivered to the future homeowners are to:

- Increase self-sufficiency; self-esteem
- Promote project ownership in the family
- Create cottage industry
- Promote and enhance native language between elders and youth
- Help to preserve cultural values of the Lakota
- Create a healthier home and outdoor environment

The *Wicosani* Community Project utilizes local, national, and international volunteers. We know that the entire concept will be shared with many different regions of various reservations.

We are now preparing for our 2011 building season. Our plan is to build 3 double *eco-domes* in three different communities. We need another \$30,000 for supplies and materials. Funding is difficult to obtain for new, unproven projects. However, a fund-raising benefit concert and silent auction was held on 7 May at Avogadro's Number in Fort Collins.

If you have an interest in helping to improve the life way of the Original Peoples, we welcome all donations and volunteers. Please visit the TWM website at <http://winyanmaka07.webs.com/>.

*Be well; stay strong on our journey through this wonderment called life, and Wicosani to you and your loved ones.*

Christinia Eala

## THE UN AT WORK

The following are excerpts from UN News Centre (<http://www.un.org/News/>) and other authoritative news sources



Students at a school in Dexing, Jiangxi province, China, pose with a globe to mark **World Earth Day**.

### **Denver Zoo conservation project recognized by UNDP**

Earlier this year, the UN Development Program (UNDP) designated the conservation work done by the Denver Zoo and the Mongolian Academy of Sciences in Mongolia's Ikh Nart Nature Reserve as a "model program." It will be used as an example to replicate and adapt to other parks and reserves. For more information, see <http://www.denverzoo.org/>.



**Libya: UN food aid arriving via newly-opened humanitarian corridor**—The UN World Food Program (WFP) has started moving food aid through a new humanitarian corridor into western Libya to reach areas heavily affected by the fighting.

On 18 April, the first convoy of eight trucks loaded with 240 tons of wheat flour and 9.1 tons of high-energy biscuits—enough to feed nearly 50,000 people for a month—crossed into western Libya from Ras Jedir on the Libyan-Tunisian border. The supplies will be delivered through WFP's partner the Libyan Red Crescent. The WFP has been getting food and other relief supplies to other parts of Libya using a variety of different corridors. So far, they have reached more than 187,000 people in eastern Libya and have pre-positioned more than 17,500 metric tons of food stocks inside the country and across the region.

**DPR Korea: UN agencies begin emergency operations to feed 3.5 million people**—29 April 2011. The UN World Food Program (WFP) and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) announced plans to introduce emergency operations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) to feed an estimated 3.5 million people in desperate need after crop losses and a particularly bitter winter.

**Swedish 'lottery of life' campaign wins UN award for public service advertising**—5 May. An interactive campaign from Sweden is this year's winner of the UN award to honor advertising that promotes the ideals and goals of the world body. The ad campaign has been so successful in Sweden—more than 250,000 hits on its website—that it is being expanded to other countries and languages.

The "Lottery of Life" is an integrated campaign, including a website featuring a lottery wheel where Swedes—less than 1% of the world's population—could take a virtual spin and learn what their life would be like and what problems they would face if they had been born in another country.



Lowe Brindfors, the ad agency, explained, "Many of the campaigns are quite the same: it's all horrible pictures of starvation and death. We thought that this way we are making people care about this issue in a very different way. Being born in Sweden, a rich country, is a privilege to only 0.08 per cent of the world, a striking figure since being born to a life in poverty, wars etc. is somewhere over 70 per cent."

### **UN rolls out innovative water carriers to help residents of arid Darfur region**

—26 April. The residents of eight villages in Darfur will be among the first in the arid Sudanese region to have easier access to water under an initiative backed by the joint African Union/UN Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID).



The mission will distribute several thousand high-capacity barrel-shaped water containers—each capable of carrying 75 liters of water—over the next two weeks. The containers, manufactured by the Hippo Water Roller Project from South Africa, are designed to relieve most of the physical burden of carrying water and to reduce the number of trips a resident will have to make to a water source.

**Pesticide placed on UN list of hazardous chemicals to be eliminated—3 May 2011.**

Endosulfan, an insecticide widely used in agriculture for pest control has become the latest hazardous chemical to be added to the United Nations' list of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) targeted for elimination from the global market by next year, the UN Environment Program (**UNEP**) announced today.

Representatives from 127 governments meeting in Geneva from 25 to 29 April agreed to add endosulfan, an organochlorine insecticide, to the POPs list because it is known to cause reproductive and developmental damage in both animals and humans. The chemical is mainly used as a pest control agent in cotton, coffee and tea farms worldwide.

The conference evaluated the continued need for DDT for disease vector control to combat mosquitoes, the vector of the deadly malaria parasite. Delegates saw a continued need to use DDT while effective alternatives are being sought and implemented by an increasing number of countries.

**International day for landmine awareness—4 April.**



Landmine victims maneuver their wheelchairs through a shoe installation marking *International Day for Landmine Awareness* at Simon Bolivar Square in Bogota, Colombia. On each of the more than 9,000 shoes is the name of a landmine victim, representing those injured in Colombia. Colombia is second to Afghanistan in number of landmine victims.

**Clean development projects under UN climate change pact top 3,000—5 May.**

The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), an international arrangement that channels investment into clean energy and greenhouse gas reduction technology in developing countries has registered its 3,000th project. The 3,000th project under CDM is a wind power project in Inner Mongolia, China. The mechanism is part of the Kyoto Protocol, an addition to the Convention that contains legally binding measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

**UN panel pays out \$880 million in reparations for Iraq's invasion of Kuwait—28 April.**

The UN Compensation Commission (UNCC), which settles the damage claims of those who suffered losses due to Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait, today made \$880 million available to nine successful claimants, bringing the total amount of compensation disbursed to \$32.2 billion for more than 1.5 million successful claims of individuals, corporations, Governments and international organizations. The Commission was established in 1991 as a subsidiary organ of the UN Security Council. It has received nearly 3 million claims.

**Non-communicable diseases leading cause of deaths worldwide, says UN report—27 April 2011.**

Health experts from around the world have convened in Moscow to tackle non-communicable diseases, which are the leading killer today and on the rise, according to a new **report** issued by the United Nations World Health Organization (WHO).

According to the first WHO *Global Status Report on Non-communicable Diseases*, 36.1 million people died in 2008 from conditions such as heart disease, strokes, chronic lung diseases, cancers and diabetes. Nearly 80 per cent of these deaths occurred in low- and middle-income countries.

"Chronic non-communicable diseases deliver a two-punch blow to development" says WHO Director-General Margaret Chan. "They cause billions of dollars in losses of national income and push millions of people below the poverty line, every year."

Cardiovascular diseases account for most deaths attributable to non-communicable diseases, claiming 17 million lives annually, followed by cancer, respiratory disease and diabetes. These four groups of diseases account for around 80% of all non-communicable diseases deaths, and share four common risk factors--tobacco use, inadequate physical activity, excessive alcohol, and poor diets.

Some 300 representatives are taking part in the Global Forum, which will provide inputs to the First Global Ministerial Conference on Healthy Lifestyles and Non-communicable Diseases Control.

Both events are a precursor to the first General Assembly high-level meeting on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, to be held in New York in September.

**International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers**

is a day to pay tribute to all who have served and continue to serve in UN peacekeeping operations. The date, May 29, marks the anniversary of the creation of the UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO), in 1948 to monitor the ceasefire after the 1948 Arab-Israeli War.

**UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION, NORTHERN COLORADO (NOCO) CHAPTER LEADERSHIP  
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