



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION of the United States of America

Northern Colorado Chapter

September-October 2010

Volume 6, Number 4

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Peace in the Park. Saturday, 11 Sep, 12 – 5:30 p.m., at the Civic Center / Foote Lagoon at 3rd and Washington, Loveland (behind the Municipal Buildings). <http://www.peaceinthepark.org/>

UN International Day of Peace. See page 4.

UNA Public Meeting. Saturday, 25 Sep, 2:30 p.m. at the Harmony Library, 4616 South Shields. *Binh Rybacki and Children of Peace International*, winner of the 2010 International Humanitarian Award. See articles on page 2.

UN Birthday at 10,000 Villages. 12:00-2:00 p.m. at 10,000 Villages, Old Town, Fort Collins. See announcement on page 4.

UNA Public Meeting. Sunday, 24 Oct. 2:30 p.m. at the downtown library, 201 Peterson St. *Celebrating UN Day*. The program will include presentations of the essay winners and birthday cake. See articles on page 4.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

We have an exciting list of programs coming up in the next few months. You will not want to miss a one. Last year we initiated an annual International Humanitarian Award. Our first recipient was Maury Albertson whom we honored posthumously. This year's award will go to Binh Rybacki, founder of *Children for Peace International*. (See articles on 2)

We will be celebrating UN Day, October 24, which falls on a Sunday this year. We have an annual tradition of having the winners of our essay contest read their essays along with cutting a birthday cake for the UN. We are adding some new sparkle to UN Day this year by having a table and entertainment at 10,000 Villages in Old Town Fort Collins prior to the essay readings. See the announcement on page 4.

Some of our long term members will remember the *Interdependent Magazine* we used to receive with our UNA membership. It was a very fine magazine and we all missed it when it quit publishing due to lack of funds. We now have the *Interdependent*-complete with all the wonderful writers found in the old magazine and some other interesting features available on line at www.theinterdependent.com. I am a little old fashioned and like to have the magazine to hold in my hand; but, when I found my favorite writer, Barbara Crossette, still there, my angst was assuaged. Go there and find excellent

content for yourself. Norm's son is working in Gulu, Uganda and he found Crossette's article about Gulu was, "right on."

I have a list running in the back of my head of things that we "ought" to do and never seem to get done. In order for this list to get accomplished we need the efforts of volunteers in many small ways. Just last week I called for someone to write a letter to our Senators about supporting the new START treaty and Dick Rush came forward and did it! Thanks Dick.

And finally, many of you know our Board member, Nasir Jalal, a graduate student at CSU from Pakistan. He has been keeping us abreast of events in Pakistan and of the status of his family. His immediate family is safe but he has cousins and uncles who are affected by the floods. He urges us to contribute to any one of the various United Nations agencies. This list and an article by Nasir can be found on page 3 in this newsletter.

I look forward to seeing you all again after our summer break. Don't forget to bring along your friends. They could be UNA members one day!

*Eleanor Dwight, President
UNA/USA, Northern Colorado*

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT:

Membership Updates: Here are few corrections of e-mail addresses you may wish to note in your membership booklet:

Phyllis Beckley: Phyllis81542@gmail.com

Irene Fortune: Irene_Fortune@msn.com

Emily Krause: emilykrause824@comcast.net

Please make corrections and additions to your membership booklet.

It's been a quiet summer and we have no new members to report. We hope everyone will **bring friends** to the meetings this fall and encourage them to join. Current "official" membership count is 74.

Dues Renewal. The few of you who have dues expiring at the end of September should have received a reminder from me, and probably also your official renewal notice from the National office. We hope you'll renew right away. To those of you who have already renewed, Thanks! I'll follow up soon with people who appear to be in arrears.

Margaret Smith, Membership Co-Chair.

HELP WANTED!

Our UNA Chapter is participating in the **Peace in the Park** event in Loveland on September 11th. We need a few more people to help staff our table.

We need people for one- or two-hour shifts from 12:30 to closing time at 5:00.

It is always a fun time. Come see the festival, have a little lunch and work our table. Friends are welcome!

Email me at Eleanor@dwrightcentral.com or phone 970-377-0863

BYLAWS CHANGES

The bylaws changes sent out to Chapter members for review and comment in May and again in July were approved unanimously by the 25 members present on July 28. One change was made for clarification--that the Executive Committee needs a *majority vote* to remove an Officer or Director from office. The revised bylaws and supporting documentation have been sent to the UNA-USA national office for approval. They will go into effect as soon as approved.

Margaret Smith, Bylaws Chair

Friends and UNA NOCO members,

Please join us to honor the recipient of UNA NOCO's

2010 INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Binh Rybacki

Founder of

Children of Peace International

Children of Peace International was established in 1993 to improve the lives of thousands of Vietnamese orphaned and homeless youngsters and has a 17-year track record of accomplishments and successful programs. Please come and listen to the extraordinary story of this remarkable individual and share in the bright future she has made possible for young people, who were once among the most vulnerable and impoverished populations in the world. Her work is truly exemplary of the highest mission of the United Nations, and serves as on-going inspiration and model for international aid.

Saturday, September 25

2:30 – 4:30 PM

Fort Collins, Harmony Library

SE corner of Shields and Harmony

Everyone is welcome!



BINH RYBACKI, TO SERVE IS A PRIVILEGE

Binh Rybacki left Vietnam with her family on April 30, 1975 when the American government evacuated them in the last days before the fall of Saigon to the Communist troops. Binh finished her education at Colorado State University and worked for Hewlett-Packard for 25 years as an integrated circuit designer and information technology specialist.

In 1993, Binh returned to Vietnam to locate the rest of her family and to make peace with her home country. She found children working as street peddlers, beggars, and prostitutes.

Unable to leave things as she found them, Binh and her husband, Jack founded ***Children of Peace International*** (COPI) in 1993 to help improve the lives of these kids. Over the next years, her commitment and organization grew. ***COPI*** was incorporated in January 1996 with a board of seven members, and gained non-profit status in June of 1996.

Current ***COPI*** projects include:

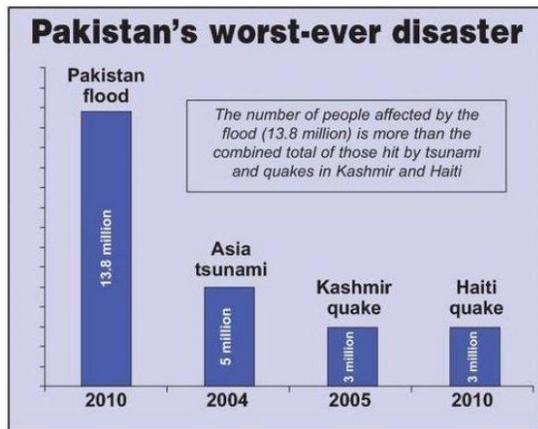
- Take care of 6,000 children in 16 homes and schools in Vietnam.
- Provide scholarships to poor and indigenous children in the communities surrounding the orphanages.
- Provide medical equipment, training and medicines for hospitals in 5 provinces.
- Built the first Pediatric HIV center in Saigon.
- Built three schools and two clinics.
- Provide direct support to poor communities.
- Host Medical Mission twice annually to rural communities in Vietnam

Binh and her husband, Jack, are the proud parents of Preston and his wife Shannon (both teach at the International Language Academy in Saigon and volunteer for ***COPI*** as the In-Country Representative and Program Director) and Spencer (a junior at Colorado University in Denver). The Rybacki family lives in Loveland, Colorado.

In 2002, *Kiwanis International* awarded Binh the World Service Medal Award for her work in Vietnam. Past winners were Mother Teresa, Katherine Hepburn, Mrs. Rosalynn Carter, Mrs. Nancy Reagan, to name a few. Binh used her award money to operate the Pediatric HIV Center in Saigon for one full year.

COPI is a subject for the "A Necessary Journey" documentary. You can view the trailer on <http://www.anecessaryjourneymovie.com/>.

To learn more about ***Children of Peace International***, please visit their website: www.childrenofpeace.org.



This chart, from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) ReliefWeb, was last updated on 9 August 2010. As of the end of August, the number of affected/displaced persons had soared to 20 million and was still rising as the flood waters move downstream to the Indian Ocean.

"The waves of flood must be met with waves of support"
Ban Ki-moon



Amidst the worst disaster the world has seen in recent history, all Nations have extended their help to the suffering humanity. As the lifeline of Pakistan, the Indus River, changed its course due to flooding, it swelled to staggering 15 miles across at its widest point leaving millions homeless, hungry and desperate, fleeing the flood waters to save their lives.

As UN secretary general, Mr. Ban Ki-moon paid a visit to Pakistan, he stated "*Pakistan floods are the worst disaster I've ever seen*" and then went on to appeal all foreign donors to speed up assistance to the 20 million displaced. He further commented

"The magnitude of the problem; the world has never seen such a disaster. It's much beyond anybody's imagination. This is a long-term affair; this is a two-year campaign. We have to consider that and keep that in mind. For two years we've got to give them crops, fertilizers; we've got to give them seed; we've got to look after them, feed them, for two years, to bring them back to where they were. And they will still not be where they were."

Having lived and worked in Pakistan for almost 35 years, I know the extent of damage is so vast that it will take years, if not decades, to recover from this

disaster. Knowing that Pakistan's rice and cotton crops have been destroyed (the backbone of Pakistan's fragile economy), I can certainly believe the President and Prime Minister when they argue that the forecast GDP growth for Pakistan is 0.00% and inflation at 25% for 2010-2011. All these factors will tighten the noose around the neck of our economy only leading to more misery and poverty.

While local and international relief and rescue organizations have helped millions to escape the torrents of rising floods, many more will have to be saved from the aftermath, as diseases like Cholera and Typhoid have already started taking roots in the temporary camps to house people. Unfortunately, the highest fatality rate (as predicted by disaster management groups of doctors) will be amongst children who are less than 5 years of age.

"To love is to risk not being loved in return. To hope is to risk pain. To try is to risk failure, but risk must be taken because the greatest hazard in life is to risk nothing."
Anonymous

Nasir Jalal, Member UNA-NOCO

WAYS TO HELP PAKISTAN

The following is from a letter to UNA members written by our UNA National President, Ed Elmendorf:

"The UN has already delivered food to nearly 800,000 people and provided access to clean drinking water to nearly 1.4 million and medical supplies to 1.8 million people. With its partner agencies, the UN plans to help at least 8 million Pakistanis in the coming weeks.

"Our solidarity with people around the world requires urgent action. It is our responsibility, as people who care about others, to ensure that the humanitarian impact of this disaster does not escalate even higher. By assisting the UN agencies who are working on the ground, UNA-USA can make a difference.

I know you have a lot of choices to make—there are many worthy nongovernmental organizations making appeals simultaneously, but I urge you to give directly to the most pre-eminent UN organizations, such as:

[The World Food Program](#) (click on title to follow link)

[UNICEF](#) (click on title to follow link)

[Central Emergency Response Fund](#) (Yesterday, I personally donated to CERF, a humanitarian relief effort.) (click on title to follow link)

Donate \$10 to [UN High Commissioner for Refugees](#) by using your cellphone to text the word "SWAT" to #50555. (click on title to follow link)

Please do what you can to ensure that this unprecedented support continues."

Thanks for your support.

Eleanor

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS FILM SERIES GOES TO BOULDER

Remember the 5-session film series on the MDGs that was arranged by five Fort Collins Churches and our UNA Chapter, Jan-May of 2009? The Boulder Chapter of UNA-USA has gotten interested in doing a similar series in Boulder. On July 19, two of their board members came to Fort Collins to discuss this, and I've had a phone call from a third board member since. Mary Wolfe and I met with them, and Mary Jane Ward sent along some very helpful documents. The Boulder people asked good questions and were attentive to our answers. We think we were able to supply them with some useful, practical information. It sounds like they are enthusiastic about making this happen.

Margaret Smith,
2009 MDG series steering committee.



UN International Day of Peace, September 21

The International Day of Peace is a global holiday when individuals, communities, nations and governments highlight efforts to end conflict

and promote peace. Established by U.N. resolution in 1982, "Peace Day" has grown to include millions of people around the world and all kinds of events, large and small.

Anyone anywhere can celebrate Peace Day. It can be as simple as lighting a candle at noon, sitting in silent meditation, or joining with co-workers and friends engaged in a large event. The Peace Day website, <http://www.internationaldayofpeace.org/>, makes it easy to find and promote Peace Day events anywhere in the world. Just click on "Participate!" to locate an event or post information. And explore the rest of the site to learn more about Peace Day and how to get involved.

NEGOTIATION AND CONFLICT MANAGEMENT ONLINE CERTIFICATE COURSE

The USIP Academy for International Conflict Management and Peacebuilding is pleased to announce the latest online certificate course in Negotiation and Conflict Management. This course provides a comprehensive conceptual framework to help practitioners structure their efforts in negotiation. The course concludes with an overview of the keys to successful negotiation, and practical steps for more effective negotiating in real-world situations.

For more information or to register see <http://www.usip.org/education-training/courses/certificate-course-in-negotiation>

Sponsored by the United States Institute of Peace

HAPPY UN DAY, SUNDAY OCTOBER 24

Join us for our UN Day program at the downtown Fort Collins Library, 201 Peterson St., at 2:30 pm on Sun., October 24. The winners of our middle school essay contest will share their essays and we will celebrate UN Day with a birthday cake. Please come and honor these upcoming "world leaders" and their families by your presence.

This year, we are adding some new sparkle to UN Day by having a table and entertainment at **10,000 Villages** in Old Town, Fort Collins (12:00-2:00 p.m.) first.

Everyone is welcome!



UN DAY AT 10,000 VILLAGES

We have a two-part cooperative with 10,000 Villages in Old Town Fort Collins coming up. On Thursday, October 21st, we will be receiving 10 percent of gross sales at the store during the last four hours they are open. **So plan on shopping on that day and get your friends to come along with you.**

Secondly, on UN Day, 24 October from 12:00 to 2:00, we will have a table in front of the store with information about the UN, with a focus on UNICEF. We will have UNICEF trick or treat boxes to hand out and will be collecting donations for UNICEF relief in Pakistan. We will also be calling attention to the products in the store from Pakistan. To go along with this we will have some music! If you would like to volunteer to help at our table or to entertain, give me a call. If the weather is bad we will be inside, but on a reduced scale. After all this, we will walk around the corner to the library to hear the young people read their essays and to have a piece of birthday cake. Be sure to stop by.

And **THANKS, 10,000 VILLAGES !!**

Eleanor 970-377-0863

OUR GLOBAL VILLAGE MUSEUM AND LEARNING CENTER

presents

The Worlds' Animals -- Reality and Mythical

September 1 - November 30, 2010

220 E. Mulberry (Scavo Building), Fort Collins

This is a special exhibition of international animal representations from around the world. The kids will love it! And it is all free. Drop by for a visit!!

Hours: Tue through Fri: 12:00 - 5:00 pm

Saturday: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

THE UN AT WORK:



Palestinian children attending the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) Summer Games attempt to smash their own world record for the number of kites flown simultaneously on the beach in Gaza City

Since 2007, UNRWA has provided the children of Gaza with the opportunity to have fun, develop new skills and make new friends through this 10-week Gaza Summer Games program.

Icelandic designer takes top prize in UN anti-poverty ad contest--Stefán Einarsson, a graphic designer from Iceland is the winner of a United Nations advertising contest to boost awareness in Europe of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).



The winning entry

The competition invited citizens of 48 European countries to submit one-page print entries in the form of drawings, designs, cartoons, photographs or slogans. Over 2,000 entries from 34 countries were submitted. Finalists can be viewed at <http://www.wecanendpoverty.eu/index.html>. The Director of the UN Regional Information Centre in Brussels (UNRIC), which launched the web-based campaign, noted that most participants were hoping to send a message ahead of a meeting of world leaders in September in New York to continue pushing for progress on the MDGs.

UN helps Liberia rehabilitate swamplands for food production

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the European Community are supporting Liberia in rehabilitating its fertile lowlands to cut the nation's dependence on rice imports and improve the livelihood of vulnerable farming families. The lowland farms have the potential to yield up to 90% more rice than upland ones so the Liberian Government has prioritized the rehabilitation of swamps, especially those with damaged or abandoned rice fields.

FAO has provided technical support for a 2,000-hectare swamp and irrigation rehabilitation project funded by the European Union and has distributed rice seeds, fertilizers and pest management supplies to 10,000 vulnerable rural households under the initiative. It is also supporting school garden projects and vegetable growers with materials, training and technical assistance.

Saint Lucia joins growing list of States parties to International Criminal Court

On 19 August, Saint Lucia became the 113th nation to ratify the pact establishing the International Criminal Court (ICC), the world's first permanent court tasked with trying people accused of the most serious offences, such as genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. The Court, which is based in The Hague, currently has investigations open in five situations: the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the war-torn Sudanese region of Darfur, northern Uganda, the Central African Republic (CAR) and Kenya.



UN agency and Ecuador sign deal to protect ecological site from oil drilling

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Ecuador have reached agreement to set up a trust fund to protect an ecological site in an oil-rich area of the South American country's Amazon region. An estimated 846 million barrels of crude oil lying under the Yasuní National Park, which has been a World Biosphere Reserve since 1989, will be left alone under the deal that was signed yesterday in Quito, the Ecuadorian capital.

Ecuador will now seek contributions from governments to protect those fields from drilling and stressed that the initiative would not become a reality until the funds are collected. The trust fund, administered by UNDP, will have the objective of eventually holding at least half of the estimated \$7 billion that tapping the oil would bring. UNDP already administers more than 30 funds covering 74 countries through its Multi-Donor Trust Fund Office.

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION, NORTHERN COLORADO (NOCO) CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

Below is a list of the 2010 Board of Directors of the UNA-NOCO. Clip and put it in your blue membership booklet.

Officers:

- President, Eleanor Dwight,
Eleanor@dwightcentral.com , 970-377-0863
- Vice President, Chuck Cairns
- President-Elect, Hugh Sanborn
- Secretary, Debbie Hamilton
- Treasurer, Don Heyse
- Membership Chair, Margaret Smith
MacSmith36@aol.com , 970-493-3857

Directors:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| William DeMarco | Christinia Eala |
| Miranda Fisher | Tom and Karen Guter |
| Norm Illsley | Nasil Jalal |
| Stan Kidder | Hazel Krantz |
| Heidi Nash | Dick Rush |
| Paul Smith | Susan Solick |
| Marla Swanson | Ken Tharp |
| Jane Thompson | Bill Timpson |
| Elissa Tivona | Mary Wolfe |

WEBSITES OF INTEREST:

UNA, Northern Colorado Chapter:

www.unanortherncolorado.org .

UNA national: www.unausa.org .

UNICEF: www.unicefusa.org .

United Nations information: www.un.org .

UN Information Center, DC: www.unicwash.org .

Our World 2.0—a web-magazine produced by the UN University, the academic think tank of the UN: ourworld.unu.edu/en/. Supported by video on YouTube and Vimeo.

FREE UN E-PUBLICATIONS:

The Advocacy E-News, the national UNA-USA bi-weekly online newsletter.

E-Action Alerts Sign Up:
<http://capwiz.com/unausa/mlm/>

Web stickers:
<http://capwiz.com/unausa/remotecoment/>

RSS Feeds:
<http://capwiz.com/unausa/remotecoment/?action=RSS>

UN Wire, the UN Foundation daily email news.

Learn more about *UN Wire* at: www.unwire.org.
Subscribe at: www.smartbrief.com/un_wire/# .

The InterDependent: unausa.org/interdependent.

UNA-USA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

Please mail this form, along with your payment to:

UNA-NC Membership Director
1980 Welch St. #31
Fort Collins CO 80525

Name (please print)

Address

City, State, Zip

Home Phone Business Phone

Email

Questions? Contact our Membership Director at 970-493-3857

Membership Category: Check one

- \$10 Student
- \$25 Introductory (first year only)
- \$40 Individual or Household Membership
- \$100 Sponsor
- \$500 Patron
- \$1,000 Lifetime (a one-time payment)

Student Members Information:

School Name & Level (ex: Adams High School, Class of '86)

Additional Contribution Opportunities:

- UNA-USA National Programs \$ _____
- My local UNA-USA Chapter \$ _____

My check (payable to "United Nations Association of the USA") is enclosed in the amount of \$ _____

Charge my credit card in the amount of \$ _____
Check one: AMEX Mastercard Visa

Name as it appears on credit card

Billing address

Credit Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Membership in the UNA-USA is open to any citizen or resident of the United States of America who is committed to the purposes of UNA-USA. UNA-USA is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit, educational organization.
