

UPCOMING EVENTS:

6th Annual Peace in the Park Festival. Saturday, 8 September, 11:00-5:00 p.m., at Foote Lagoon, Loveland. In celebration of the International Day of Peace. For additional information, see www.peaceinthepark.org/.

Public Meeting. Monday, 17 September, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Coloradoan Meeting Room, 1300 Riverside Ave, Fort Collins. Eric Waples will discuss "The Constitution and Its Interpreters." Sponsored by the League of Women Voters (LWV) of Larimer County.

UNA Informal Discussion. Sunday, 23 September, 2:30-4:00 at the Coloradoan Meeting Room, 1300 Riverside Ave, Fort Collins. Sam Rachid will discuss "What's Happening in Egypt?" More details on page 3.

Old Fashioned Political Rally. Thursday, 11 October, starting at 5:30 p.m. at *The Ranch* in Loveland. Every candidate on the ballot is invited, and whoever appears will be given three minutes to speak. People on both sides of ballot issues will be there to discuss questions with voters. It's a fun-filled, old-fashioned event, with free popcorn and drinks. *Sponsored by LWV of Larimer County.*

UNA UN Day Program. Saturday, 27 October, 2:30-4:30 p.m. at the Harmony Library, 4616 South Shields, Ft Collins. Join us in honoring our Essay Contest winners and celebrating UN Day with cake.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

During the absence of our co-presidents I have agreed to serve as the Acting President of our Chapter. Nasir Jalal was our co-president until July when he finished up his doctoral program and returned to Pakistan. (See article in the July-August Newsletter). Hugh Sanborn, our other co-president, is spending the summer at his family home in upstate New York, where he and Barbara celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

*Happy
Anniversary,
Hugh!*

Hugh will return in late October.

*Hugh, Barbara and
family*



I also serve as our chapter's Advocacy Chair so I will use this column to talk about areas in which UNA's across the country are "lobbying." One area where we are constantly vigilant is full funding by the US of its UN dues. I quote here from the report our national UNA CEO gave recently. "Last week, Congressional leaders and the White House reached a tentative deal to adopt a stopgap spending bill after the August recess that would fund the government from October through March. The agreement allows lawmakers to avoid a spending fight during what is already expected to be a hectic post-election work session."

"The six-month Continuing Resolution, expected to pass in September, would be prorated at last year's funding levels. **Good news for overall UN funding and UN-related accounts**, like those on global health, because last year's levels were relatively robust. The funding levels are higher than what many in the House of Representatives were pushing for as they wanted FY'13 funding levels significantly lower than last year for many of the accounts."

We in the Northern Colorado Chapter work on the premise that the United States should fully support the UN, believing that not only is it a bargain but that it gives us access to this great international body with its many facets—peacekeeping, climate change, disease, nuclear proliferation, etc. Our voice will be heard only if we are paying our dues in full.

It is my hope that all our UNA members will become familiar with the many issues the U.N. deals with on a day to day basis and will thus have the confidence to talk with their friends and legislators about them. I realize many of you already are abreast of the issues and I thank you for speaking up about them.

Several years ago, our chapter had a program we called, "UN 101." At this meeting, we educated ourselves about how the UN works. I would like to hear if you are interested in holding such a "class" again. If there is interest, I will put this on our program calendar.

Once again, I must tell you all how very proud I am of our chapter and its diverse set of activities. Now that I am on the National Steering Committee, I see some chapters who are lagging behind and I also see many who are doing outstanding work and I hope that we can replicate some of their creative efforts to be great advocates for the UN in our region. This kind of success comes when many members participate fully—welcome aboard!

Eleanor Dwight, Acting President

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT:

PLEASE UPDATE your 2012 Membership booklet to show these changes of contact information, or to correct previous errors:

Balsiger: correct zip code is 80537

Banerjee: correct street address is 2528 W 18th St. Road

Beckley: change of phone no. to 520-780-6858

Eadaim: has returned to Libya; e-mail nna772006@yahoo.com

Gardner: change address to 2731 Lynn Ct., Loveland 80537. Phone 663-9001

Hollinger: correct phone no. is 970-518-4042; e-mail for Bob is rholling@jastate.edu

Jalal: has returned to Pakistan; e-mail: nasirjal@gmail.com

Owen: prefers this e-mail address: danielwowen@hotmail.com

THE NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM has been working hard at cleaning up the database, improving their report form, and regularizing the schedule for sending monthly reports to chapters. They are giving thought to clarifying the question of household memberships.

They have also developed a schedule of renewal notices that they will send out to members. This may help you know what to expect from National Office, when to expect it, whether it's a routine renewal notice or a different kind of fund-raising mailing, etc. I will do some follow-up locally too, about a month before dues are due. Remember that your dues are good for a full calendar year, on a quarterly basis. Here's National Office's notification schedule, now in effect:

Three months before dues date: *Benefit Reminder Postcard*

Two months before dues date: *Benefit Reminder Postcard*

One month before dues date: *Direct Mail Invoice*

Two weeks before dues date: *Email Renewal Notice*

30 days after expiration: *Email Renewal Notice*

60 days after expiration: *Final Direct Mail Invoice.*

CAN WE DO THIS? National Office's last report (roster of members) through June 30 shows our chapter with 97 members. Some of those may not renew, but we hope to **cross the 100 mark** this year. Can you help recruit? Bring a friend to meetings, show them the Newsletter, etc.

Margaret Smith, Chair,
493-3857, Macsmith36@aol.com

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT:

The Education Committee is looking for a volunteer to chair the overall committee. The committee's projects are organized into individual subcommittees, each led by a different committee member: Jane Thompson and Bob Jeffrey lead the middle school and high school essay contests, Elissa Tivona is leading the MUN project, and Dick Rush leads the elementary art contest.

GRADE SCHOOL ART CONTEST: The announcements and application forms for the Elementary Art Contest have been sent to art coordinators in the Thompson and Poudre school districts. The topic for K-5 students this year is "*Families around the World*," with a due date of October 8th. Prizes for the two categories, K-2 and 3-5, are \$25 first place, \$20 second and \$15 third. If any UNA member would like to help with the judging this year, please contact Dick Rush at crush@frii.com.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST SUB-COMMITTEE: The topic for fall's Middle School Essay Contest is "*Human Trafficking: What Can the UN Do?*"

HIGH SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST SUB-COMMITTEE: The topic for the spring High School Essay Contest is also "*Human Trafficking: What Can the UN Do?*"

OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT MODEL UN

WHAT - My name is Sara Van Velkinburgh and I am currently a high school student at St. Mary's Academy. Our club is looking for individuals who would be interested in judging a high school Model United Nations meet.

Model UN is a club in which students are assigned current global issues to debate as delegates representing various countries. Essentially, the students try to model the actual proceedings of the United Nations.

The topics that will be debated are the Iranian Nuclear Crisis, Nuclear Non-Proliferation, Property Rights in Space, the Weaponization of Space, and a council set in the future debating what the international response would be if aliens took over the International Space Station.

NO BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE IS REQUIRED, although you may be asked to read the background guide and attend a brief training session that morning.

WHEN/WHERE - If you are willing to contribute your time on Saturday of the 29th of September (between roughly 8 am - 3 pm, in the Denver area) and spend it listening to high school students collaborating on solutions to the conflict through international cooperation, we would love to have you!

WHO TO CONTACT - If you are interested please contact Sara Van Velkinburgh as soon as possible at 303.726.3111, or via email at svanvelk@gmail.com.

INDIGENOUS CONCERNS COMMITTEE REPORT:

Indigenous Concerns has been extremely active this summer supporting the 2012 *Peace and Dignity Journey* and the summer eco-dome project at Pine Ridge Reservation. Our chapter helped raise enough money for 50 runners to continue their journey through to Denver. The summer eco-dome project is still ongoing. Progress will be posted at <http://winyanmaka07.webs.com>.

Christinia Eala, Chair

JOIN US FOR AN INFORMAL DISCUSSION

Sam Rachid will present

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN EGYPT?

WHERE: COLORADOAN MEETING ROOM,
1300 RIVERSIDE AVE, FORT COLLINS

WHEN: SUNDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER, 2:30 – 4:00 P.M.

Fort Collins resident and UNA member, Sam Rachid, has just returned from three months in Egypt. He was also in Egypt during the winter of 2011 and witnessed the protests at Tahrir Square first-hand. Prior to retirement, Sam spent much of his professional career living and working in Egypt and Qatar.



Sam will present a brief overview of the Egypt he has known and will entertain questions on what he has observed.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

CELEBRATE UN DAY

Where: Harmony Library
4616 South Shields

When: Saturday, 27 October
2:30-4:30 p.m.



On 24 October 1945, the UN came into force when the five permanent members of the Security Council--France, the Republic of China, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States--ratified the charter that had been drawn up earlier that year. In 1948, this day was established as UN Day, an occasion to highlight, celebrate and reflect on the work of the UN and its family of specialized agencies.

Join us in honoring our Essay Contest
Winners with cake.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

ONCE IN A LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY

The United Nations Association of the USA, in partnership with the US Department of State, is currently accepting applications from individuals, ages 18-25, interested in serving as the inaugural U.S. Youth Observer this fall.

The U.S. Youth Observer will have the opportunity to participate in events and activities surrounding the upcoming 67th session of the United Nations General Assembly, including interacting with the U.S. delegation and other youth representatives from around the world.

Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. (EDT) on 7 September. The selection will be announced on 14 September and the US Youth Observer role begins on 21 September in New York City.

For more information or to apply now, visit www.unausa.org/usyouth.

SUMMER HAPPENINGS AT UNA NCO

This summer was a busy one for the UNA chapter of Northern Colorado. In June, the MUN subcommittee hosted a parlor meeting for local secondary school faculty at the Global Village Museum and Eleanor Dwight represented us at the National UNA/USA Annual Meeting in Washington DC, where she was elected to the Executive Committee of the Council of Chapters and Regions Steering Committee.

In July, we held our annual picnic at Warren Shores. We had great weather, great food, and a great turnout.

In August, we hosted a fundraiser for the *Peace and Dignity Journey* at the Global Village Museum which featured traditional flute music by Marie-Louise Borak, excerpts from the award-winning documentary, *Blue Gold: The World Water Wars*, and guest speaker, Lakota Grandmother, Candace Ducheneaux, who spoke of life and water on her reservation. The money raised at this and previous PDJ fundraising events was used to purchase supplies for the PDJ runners.

Six primary runners began their run in Chickaloon, Alaska and they were joined by additional runners along the way. Our fund-raising efforts enabled 50 runners to continue their journey to Denver, where a week-end ceremony was held 10-12 August. Because of weather and fire delays, the runners were unable to stop in Fort Collins as previously planned; but Flora Teran Vargas, a member of our UNA *Indigenous Concerns Committee*, attended the Denver ceremony and presented the six primary runners with T-shirts designed by a local artist to raise funds for the 2012 *Peace and Dignity Journey*. (A few t-shirts are still available. Contact Christiana Eala at christiniawin@yahoo.com or (970) 494-0700.)

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

VOTE411 is a one-stop interactive website, sponsored by League of Women Voters, which shows the ballot and issues, offers each candidate a space to answer written questions, and helps Larimer County citizens check on their voter registration status. This is a great place to learn about the people and issues we will be voting on in November.

Many Colorado voters have been surprised to discover they are not registered to receive a mail-in ballot. If you want to check on your voter status, or if you want to see all the issues and candidates in one place, go to <http://www.vote411.org/> and follow instructions. I checked on my voter status and discovered I was not registered as a 'permanent mail-in voter'!

Susan Solick, Newsletter Editor

THE UN AT WORK

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



SEPTEMBER 21ST IS INTERNATIONAL PEACE DAY. "Peace Day" provides an opportunity for individuals, organizations and nations to create practical acts of peace on a shared date. This year, because Peace Day is on a Friday, special activities and celebrations will

take place all across the world throughout the weekend, including festivals, concerts, a global Peace Wave with moments of silence at noon in every time zone.

For information about Peace Day, and this year's events, check www.internationaldayofpeace.org/. There, you can find links to locate local events, schedule an event of your own, and watch the global broadcast, which starts on Thursday, 20 October at 6:00 p.m. local (Mountain) time and goes through Sunday, 23 October.

UNA FILM FESTIVAL 2012. The 15th annual United Nations Association Film Festival (UNAFF) will be held 18-28 October in Palo Alto, Stanford University, East Palo Alto, and San Francisco, California. UNAFF was founded in 1998 to honor the 50th anniversary of the signing of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. UNAFF celebrates the power of films dealing with human rights, environmental themes, population, migration, women's issues, refugees, homelessness, racism, health, universal education, war and peace. The theme for this year's festival is HUMAN DIGNITY. UNAFF is an independent project of the UNA-USA, a nonprofit organization. For more information, see www.unaff.org.



INITIATIVES FROM FIVE COUNTRIES RECEIVE UN PRIZE FOR INSPIRING ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION.

2 Aug—The UN Environment Program (UNEP) announced the winners of this year's World Environment Day Challenge. Observance of World Environment Day began in 1972 as a way to raise awareness of the environment and encourage political attention and action. This year's theme— '*Green Economy: Does it include you?*' – sought to underscore the need for everyone to play a part in keeping humankind's ecological footprints within planetary boundaries.

Fundacion Ecoprogreso, a Colombian group that works to protect a mangrove lagoon surrounding the city of Cartagena, organized activities for *World Environment Day* to raise awareness of the importance of the mangrove ecosystem for the local green economy, especially for ecotourism and sustainable fishing.

Maji Mazuri Centre International, located in Nairobi, runs an initiative called Green Heroes, in which youth focus on organizing and improving waste management in the Kenyan capital's informal Mathare settlement. Among its events for *World Environment Day* were a communal clean-up day and a football match that galvanized over 2,000 people.

On Australia's Sunshine Coast, the *World Environment Day Festival* is held annually to raise awareness of environmental issues and the unique flora and fauna of the region, as well as promote the adoption of sustainable lifestyles and technologies.

A Bangladeshi non-profit organization, Shidhulai Swanirvar Sangstha, celebrated the Day through a solar-powered boat rally, a drawing competition on floating schools, an essay-writing competition on floating libraries, an exhibition on a two-tier boat and evening shows of training boats under the theme – '*The Green Economy in a Changing Climate – Hope Floats.*'

Hand in Hand India, a development organization in the southern city of Chennai, brought together over 500 volunteers to create a colorful 10,000 square foot Rangoli carpet depicting 10 environmental themes. Rangoli is a hand-drawn Indian art which adorns the courtyards of many houses.



Rangoli carpet based on environmental themes. Photo: UNEP

UN HUMAN RIGHTS EXPERT CALLS ON US TO CONSULT WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLE OVER LAND SALE. 22

August—A United Nations independent expert, or special rapporteur, today called on the United States Government and authorities in the state of South Dakota to start consultations with indigenous people on a land sale that will affect a site of spiritual significance to them.

Five tracts of land in the Black Hills area were scheduled to be auctioned in late August. The tracts lie within a site sacred to the Lakota, Dakota and Nakota peoples, known as *Pe' Sla*. The indigenous communities are concerned that the sale will result in restrictions to their access and the use of *Pe' Sla* for ceremonial purposes and it may lead to a road development project that would diminish the cultural and spiritual integrity of their sacred site.

In 1868, the US Government signed the Treaty of Fort Laramie with these indigenous groups which reserved their rights to the Black Hills. However, the discovery of gold in the area led to a Congressional Act in 1877 that passed ownership of the Black Hills to the US. The Lakota, Dakota and Nakota peoples have since then sought to recover the Black Hills.

The Special Rapporteur is scheduled to present an official report to the Geneva-based UN Human Rights Council in the upcoming weeks. Independent experts, or special rapporteurs, are appointed by the Human Rights Council to examine and report back, in an unpaid capacity, on specific human rights themes.

WITH NO NEW POLIO CASES REPORTED IN ANGOLA, WORLD CLOSER TO ERADICATING DEADLY DISEASE. 10

August—After being plagued by a re-emergence of the polio virus in 2005, Angola has not experienced any new cases of the crippling disease for a full year, moving the world a step closer to the final goal of global eradication.

The last case of the wild poliovirus was a 14-month old child from Uige Province in July 2011, following years of concerted efforts by the Angola Government and its partners to halt the outbreak, which had spread to neighboring countries

Primarily funded by the Government, the country's massive vaccination campaigns deployed thousands of health workers and volunteers door-to-door and at crossing points, main streets, markets and water points, reaching 95 per cent of children under the age of five.

The *Global Polio Eradication Initiative*—spearheaded by the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Health Organization (WHO), and national, multilateral and private sector partners—has overseen a 99% reduction of polio cases since 1988, with only three countries still endemic—Nigeria, Pakistan and Afghanistan.

UN FOOD AGENCY LAUNCHES WATER MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK TO COMBAT FOOD INSECURITY. 27 Aug

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) today launched a framework that will help combat food insecurity by providing methods to better manage water resources in agriculture and reduce waste.

The initiative, entitled *Coping with water scarcity: An action framework for agriculture and food security*, seeks to encourage practices that will improve water management, such as modernizing irrigation schemes, recycling and re-using wastewater, implementing mechanisms to reduce water pollution, and storing rainwater at farms to reduce drought-related risks, among others.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), which created the framework, drought in some parts of the world has hurt global grain production and contributed to a spike in food prices nearly every other year since 2007, making it essential to focus on the way water is managed throughout the entire food chain.



A Turkana girl waters camels from a hole dug in a dry river bed near Kenya-Uganda border. Photo: IRIN/A. Morland

“There is no food security without water security,” FAO’s Director-General, José Graziano da Silva, said at the opening ceremony of World Water Week in Stockholm, Sweden, warning that water scarcity and pollution pose a growing threat to food production around the world.

World Water Week is hosted and organized by the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) and takes place each year in Stockholm. It has been the annual focal point for the globe’s water issues since 1991. This year’s theme is *Water and Food Security*.

RUSSIA, PHILIPPINES RATIFY UN TREATY GUARANTEEING MARITIME LABOR RIGHTS. 21 Aug

A comprehensive range of labor standards, covering decent working conditions and health and safety issues for the world’s 1.2 million merchant sailors, the Maritime Labor Convention, 2006 (MLC, 2006), is now set to go into effect replacing 37 existing International Labor Organization (ILO) maritime conventions adopted since 1920.

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION, NORTHERN COLORADO (NOCO) CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

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WEBSITES OF INTEREST:

UNA, Northern Colorado Chapter:

Webpage: www.unanortherncolorado.org .

Blog: <http://unanoco.blogspot.com/>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/225640767454752/>

UNA national: www.unausa.org .

UN Foundation: <http://www.unfoundation.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: ourworld.unu.edu/en/.

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/>

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:

To join UNA-USA by mail, please return this form with your check to:

**UNA of Northern Colorado,
Margaret Smith, Membership Chair
1980 Welch St. #31, Fort Collins CO 80525**

Your form and payment will be forwarded to the national office after being recorded locally. *Your dues include membership in both the local and national UNA-USA, which is a part of the Better World Foundation.*

Please make check payable to: *BFA/United Nations Association of the USA.*

To join online or pay by credit card, go to www.unausa.org/join.

Select Appropriate Dues Category (US\$):

- 1,000 Lifetime
 \$500 Patron
 \$100 Sponsor
 \$40 Member
 \$25 Introductory (First year only)/Limited Income
 \$10 Student/Model UN Participant
 Join *Young Professionals for International Cooperation* (UNA program for ages 21-40)
 Additional gift to local chapter: \$_____.

Preferred Chapter: Northern Colorado

Is this a membership renewal? YES NO

Member Information:

Member Name (please print) Mr Mrs Ms Miss Dr

Address

City, State, Zip

Home Phone or Cell Phone

Business Phone

Email Address

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

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

Membership in UNA-USA is open to any citizen or resident of the USA who is committed to the purposes of UNA-USA.

The BWF/UNA-USA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization (EIN/tax ID number: 58-2366765). Your donations are fully tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law.



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