



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
of the United States of America

A PROGRAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION

Sacramento

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N E W S L E T T E R

September 2016

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UNA-USA Sacramento and Davis September Program:

Join UNA Sacramento and Davis, Sylvia Villalobos and TJ David of the
International World Peace Rose Gardens for the **United Nations International Day of Peace.**

When: Thursday, September 22, 2016 12:00pm - 1:30pm

Where: International World Peace Rose Garden at 15th and L St. Sacramento

A dedication of the Cesar and Helen Chavez Peace Bench will start off the celebration followed by a blessing of the Four Corners by Aztec dancers, presentations by public officials and community leaders, and a Mariachi band will honor the United Nations' International Day of Peace.



We are a volunteer organization that depends on membership dues to bring quality programs to Sacramento. Please join or renew your membership today! www.unausasacramento.com



Save the Date of October 23 for the UNA/PSR Annual Dinner

Save the date of **Sunday, October 23**, for the joint annual dinner of the Sacramento Chapters of the United Nations Association and Physicians for Social Responsibility. We'll be holding the dinner again this year at the DoubleTree by Hilton, 2001 Point West Way, in Sacramento, and we've lined up a fantastic keynote speaker in the person of **Dr. Ira Helfand**, Co-President of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW). IPPNW won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1985 for its work in spreading authoritative information and creating an international awareness regarding the catastrophic consequences of atomic warfare. Dr. Helfand has spoken at the United Nations, at meetings of the International Congress to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), and at many other national and international venues regarding the ongoing threat of nuclear weapons and the urgent need to abolish these weapons altogether. He recently co-authored an article, *Docs and Nukes – Still a Live Issue* (attached), in the prestigious New England Journal of Medicine.

We'll be sending out details shortly about how to make reservations for the dinner. In the meantime, please help us in accomplishing our goal of making 1,000 phone calls to President Obama and our members of Congress to urge them to oppose any further spending to “modernize” our nuclear arsenal and to instead work toward the worldwide abolition of nuclear weapons. Details concerning the 1,000 phone call campaign, including contact information for President Obama and members of Congress, are available on the [Nuclear Weapons, War, and Militarism](#) page of PSR/Sacramento website.

Citizens' Climate Lobby Chapter Monthly Meeting

Second Saturday of the Month, 10:00am to 12:00pm

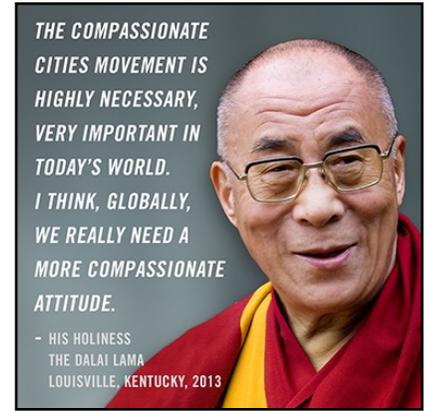
CA State Grange 3830 U St. Sacramento, CA 95817

This month's meeting: September 10, 2016

Guest: Congressman Bob Inglis

As we gear up to introduce and pass legislation, this is good time to look at the nuts and bolts of the legislative process, and who better to guide us than former Republican Congressman Bob Inglis. Inglis, who introduced his own carbon tax bill in 2009, left Congress in 2011 and founded RepublicEn, which is working to build support among conservatives for a market-based solution to climate change.





Compassion Games International offers fun and creative ways to ignite and catalyze compassionate action in communities around the world. In the five annual Compassion Games, competition becomes cooperation as teams and individuals challenge one another to strive together to make our planet a better place to live through community service, acts of kindness, and raising monies for local causes. The Games amplify what is already working in our communities and inspires increased engagement, leading to new activities that bring compassion to life and improve our well-being.

The Compassion Games adapt creatively to any community who wants to embrace and play them. Over the past four years, the Games have mobilized over 400,000 volunteers that have served over 1,500,000 people in 34 countries.

To find out how to play the Compassion Games go to: www.compassiongames.org

Compassionate Capitol Region is an invitation for the greater Sacramento area. It is a beacon for those individuals and communities looking for others dedicated to building lives and communities upon the principles of universal justice, equality, inclusion and dignity.

How Compassion Can Transform a City

We live in a region rich in natural and human resources. Over 5,000 non-profit organizations call this region home. We live in the top producing agricultural state in country. Nearly 30% of the region's population are young, college educated single adults (9% above national average) hope to build thriving careers and businesses here. These are three of many examples of the region's strengths. But in this strong foundation of giving, talent and natural beauty are cracks and gaps. Our challenges aren't scarce resources or lack of potential, but how we work together to use what we have to create a community designed for all to thrive.

Compassion is a guiding principle for all of us in our small daily actions with each other and in the larger community-building decisions that affect all of us.

To the Esteemed Participants of the reading of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

A note from Jana Shober, Organizer.

On behalf of the Multicultural Committee of Elk Grove and the Franklin Community Library, I wish to thank each and every one of you for joining us in the multilingual reading (in 31 different languages!) of the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights** on Thursday, August 18th 2016. Let us now reflect on the powerful words that were reaffirmed by readers as young as 8 and as old as 93 and let us also accept the responsibility not to infringe on the rights of others and to support those whose rights are being denied. Hopefully the event inspired all of us to live the words of the Declaration and to take action on these issues in our schools, workplaces and communities.

On August 18th, we all joined together in the hope that the words of the Declaration- combined with our actions – will lead to a more **PEACEFUL WORLD**.



Americans Against Gun Violence

“The death toll from small arms dwarfs that of all other weapons systems – and in most years greatly exceeds the toll of the atomic bombs that devastated Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In terms of the carnage they cause, small arms, indeed, could well be described as ‘weapons of mass destruction’”. *Former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan*

At last year’s joint annual dinner of the Sacramento Chapters of the United Nations Association and Physicians for Social Responsibility, Australian Human Rights Medal winner Rebecca Peters spoke about how she and her Australian colleagues were able to get a ban on all semi-automatic rifles and semi-automatic shotguns passed in their country within just 13 days of the infamous Port Arthur massacre in 1996. Ms. Peters stated, “You Americans are clever people,” and she urged the audience to work toward similar measures in the United States.

At the time of Ms. Peters’ keynote address in October of 2015, though, there was no national organization in the United States that openly advocated the adoption of definitive gun control measures similar to the ones enacted in Australia in 1996 and currently in place in every other high income democratic country of the world – countries in which mass shootings are rare or non-existent and in which overall rates of firearm related deaths and injuries are much lower than in the USA. Since they couldn’t find any other national organization that advocated definitive gun control regulations, the presidents of the Sacramento Chapters of the United Nations Association and Physicians for Social Responsibility, Kate Van Buren and Dr. Bill Durston, decided to start one.

With the help of some other colleagues, Kate and Bill filed papers to start a new 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Americans Against Gun Violence, in March of this year. The organization opened for general membership following the Pulse nightclub mass shooting in Orlando, Florida, in June.

The mission of Americans Against Gun Violence is to reduce rates of firearm related deaths in the United States to levels comparable to those in other high income democratic countries through the adoption of comparable gun control regulations, including stringent regulation, if not complete bans, on civilian ownership of handguns and semi-automatic rifles, accompanied by stringent regulation of the use of lethal force by law enforcement. In the short time that the organization has been in existence, the response from members of the American public who are concerned about the epidemic of gun violence in our country has been gratifying. Much more help is needed, though, in order for Americans Against Gun Violence to accomplish its mission. Please visit the Americans Against Gun Violence website at aaagunv.org to learn more about how you can become involved in this effort.

International Film Series *(NOW IN OUR 20TH YEAR!)***Shown at International House, 10 College Park, on first and third Friday nights, Sept. - May****Sponsored by the UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF DAVIS and I-HOUSE**

- There is no charge, but **donations are welcomed and gratefully accepted** to help cover the
- cost of DVD rental or purchase, facilities use, cups, plates etc. and the **refreshments that are served at 7:30 p.m. Programs begin promptly at 8.**

September 2 – October 21, 2016 Schedule**WELCOME BACK AFTER THE SUMMER BREAK!**

September 2, 2016 ***Rams*** (2015, Iceland, directed by Grimur Hákonarson, 92 min.)

Featuring life in a wind-swept, secluded valley in rural Iceland, this story about two brothers and their prized sheep herds gives insights into a way of life experienced by the director's family and by himself as a youth. Devoted to but more stubborn than their sheep, siblings Gummi (Sigurður Sigurjónsson) and Kiddi (Theodór Júlíusson) live on the same land but have not spoken to each other for forty years; when necessary, occasional notes are delivered back and forth by Kiddi's dog. When the veterinarian Katrin (Charlotte Boving) identifies a disease that has broken out among the sheep, authorities order the herds to be destroyed. In their effort to save the breed from extinction, the brothers take unusual steps and eventually come to realize the importance of family relationships. The cast of sheep was carefully selected and it took five years to complete the film. This was Iceland's official selection for the 2016 Academy Awards. (# 400)

September 16, 2016 ***Woman in Gold*** (2015, UK, directed by Simon Curtis, 109 min.)

This film is the remarkable true story of one woman's journey to reclaim her heritage and seek justice for what happened to her family. Sixty years after she fled Vienna during World War II, an elderly Jewish woman, Maria Altmann (Helen Mirren), starts her journey to retrieve family possessions seized by the Nazis. Central to the stolen possessions is Gustav Klimt's famous painting of Maria's aunt, "Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer I." Together with her inexperienced but determined young lawyer Randy Schoenberg, son of an old family friend and grandson of the composer (Ryan Reynolds), she embarks on a major legal battle that takes them all the way to the heart of the Austrian establishment and to the U.S. Supreme Court. With Daniel Brühl as Hubertus, Tatiana Maslany as young Maria, Max Irons as Fritz Altmann, Elizabeth McGovern as Judge Cooper and Jonathan Pryce as Chief Justice Rehnquist. (#401)

October 7, 2016 ***Billy Elliott*** (2000, UK/France, directed by Stephen Daldry, 110 min.)

The story takes place during the endless, violent 1984 strike against the Thatcher closure of British coal mines. Widower Jackie Elliott (Gary Lewis) and his eldest son and fellow miner Tony (Jamie Draven) take a dim view of 11-year old son Billy's poor performance in boxing class. Meanwhile Billy (Jamie Bell) discovers his love for dance in a girls' ballet class at the gym. He secretly gets private lessons from teacher Mrs. Wilkinson (Julie Walters) who recognizes his talent to train for trying out for the famous Royal Ballet audition. He gets encouragement from his grandmother (Jean Heywood) and schoolmate Michael (Stuart Wells). The prospect of a fancy dancing career eventually persuades father and brother to give their support as well. (#402)

October 21, 2016 ***Still Mine*** (2013, Canada, directed by Michael McGowan, 102 min.)

Craig Morrison (James Cromwell) is an 87-year old New Brunswick farmer determined to build a smaller and more convenient house for himself and his wife of 61 years, Irene (Geneviève Bujold), who is developing dementia. Based on a true story, the film thoughtfully and deliberately presents both the pride and the perils of aging, as well as the endless confrontations between the careful and thorough craftsman and the by-the-book building inspector. "There's some kind of regulation for everything these days," comments Morrison. Two of their children (Rick Roberts and Julie Stewart) who live nearby want to help and provide more standard care for their mother when her memory becomes impaired, but the parents are stubborn and refuse to give up their independence. The real Mr. Morrison served as a consultant on the film. (#403)



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Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor,

North Korea is now testing nuclear weapons with widespread condemnation, including from the United Nations. With the United States set to spend \$1 trillion on modernizing its nuclear arsenal, it is imperative that the United Nations Association and other peace loving groups let our elected leaders know this is a dangerous situation that must be addressed immediately. Stop the proliferation of nuclear weapons and end the United States' 30 year program to build a new generation of weapons of mass destruction.

Regards,
KVB

Don't have time to be a board member but would still like to volunteer? Well we need you! Event leaders for UNA sponsored programs will take on one event of their choice during the year. We are starting exploratory committees for:

International Day of Peace September 2016

Annual Dinner/UN Day October 2016

IGMUN at UC Berkeley October 2016

UNA Advocacy Day at the Capitol

Model UN Clubs

Young Professionals Group

We welcome your thoughtful and civilized comments! Please email your Letters to the Editor to:
[**kate.unausa@gmail.com**](mailto:kate.unausa@gmail.com)

Sept. 4: UNA Sacramento Board of Directors meeting, UUSS 2425 Sierra Blvd. Sacramento 9:00am-10:00am
Sept. 10: CCL Chapter meeting
Sept. 11-21: Compassion Games International
Sept. 18-19: Social Good Summit
Sept. 22: UNA Program, UN International Day of Peace, at World Peace Rose Garden, 15th St. and L St. 12:00pm-1:30pm.
Sept. 24: UNA N. CA Division meeting, UC Berkeley
Sept. 26: International Day for Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons
October 2: UNA Sacramento Board of Directors meeting, UUSS 2425 Sierra Blvd. Sacramento 9:00am-10:00am
October 15: UNA-USA Intergenerational Model UN, UC Berkeley

United Nations International Year Observances for 2016:
International Year of Pulses

Dues and donations: Please remember to pay your yearly membership dues. We are an all-volunteer organization and depend on our members' support in order to bring quality programs to you and our community.

UNA board meetings are the first Sunday of every month. If you have an idea for a program or would like the UNA board to address an issue, email Sharon Alexander (alexanders@csus.edu) to be considered for an upcoming agenda item.

Remember to check out our website, Facebook and Twitter.
www.unausasacramento.com

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UNA-USA Sacramento Chapter
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 - \$1000 Lifetime
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Chapter (Circle one): Sacramento Davis

The United Nations Association of the United States of America is a national organization dedicated to strengthening the three pillars of the U.N: sustainable development, human rights, and peace and security. UNA-USA carries out its action agenda through a unique public outreach, policy analysis, and international dialogue.

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Choose Sacramento or Davis as your local chapter.

Thank you!

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