



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION of the United States of America

A PROGRAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION

Sacramento and Davis Chapters

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N E W S L E T T E R

October 2014

UNA Sacramento Annual Dinner

Join Physicians For Social Responsibility and UNA-USA Sacramento on October 24th.

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UNA Davis

Congressman John Garamendi joins UNA Davis on UN Day.

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Jerome Sauvage, UNDP
Deputy Director, Washington
D.C.

Climate Change in Developing Countries

This year's annual event marks the 69th Anniversary of the United Nations. UNA-USA is co-sponsoring the UN Day dinner with Physicians For Social Responsibility at the Dante Club.

Our distinguished featured speaker is **Jerome Sauvage** from the United Nations Development Program. Mr. Sauvage has served in India, Pakistan, Madagascar and other states to help with humanitarian efforts while coordinating partnerships with non-profit and for-profit sectors.

Reserve your seat now for an exciting and informative evening.

When: Friday, October 24, 2014 5:30pm to 8:30pm

Where: Dante Club 2330 Fair Oaks Blvd. Sacramento

Tickets are \$40 and just \$20 for students.

- 1) Checks should be written out to: UNA USA Sacramento Chapter. Mail to: Judith Hoefling 8020 Briar Ridge Lane, Citrus Heights, CA 95610
- 2) Please provide the names of those attending.
- 3) Entree choices are: chicken, salmon or vegetarian. Please indicate an entree preference. (Salad, pasta, coffee and dessert will also be served.)
- 4) Reservations with checks should be received by Thursday, October 16th.

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



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The Davis chapter of the United Nations Association invites the public to observe the 69th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations Friday, October 24, 2014 at International House, 10 College Park, Davis.

Congressman John Garamendi will speak on "Global Leadership: The United States' Role in the United Nations."

Reception with refreshments: 5:30-6:30 p.m.
 Talk, including Q & A: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

For more information, Ray and Verena Borton: rvborton@comcast.net

News from the United Nations Foundation

UN opens Ebola response emergency mission

The UN has deployed its first-ever emergency health mission as part of its efforts to bring the Ebola epidemic under control. Racing against the clock, the UN Mission for Ebola Emergency Response (UNMEER) will bring together and optimize efforts on the ground in Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea to treat the infected and prevent the virus from spreading.

Meanwhile, Ebola is leaving thousands of children in West Africa without one or both parents, and many relatives shun children grieving the deaths of their parents for fear of getting infected by the virus themselves, says UNICEF. "Ebola is turning a basic human reaction like comforting a sick child into a potential death sentence," says Regional Director for West and Central Africa, Manuel Fontaine.

Across affected West African countries, UNICEF is helping provide psychological support and care for these orphans as well as children whose parents are in quarantine.

Mission to rid Syria of chemical weapons concludes

The UN and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) have concluded a joint mission to help rid Syria of its chemical stockpiles. The mission has worked in risky conditions to ship all declared chemical agents out of the conflict-torn country and destroy them. Nobel Peace Prize winner OPCW will stay put in Syria to oversee the destruction of any remaining production facilities.



IGMUN Students at SF State University

"Saturday's joint venture -- the 4th IGMUN (Inter Generational Model United Nations at San Francisco State)-- produced the terrific results we'd hoped and planned for!"*

The Sacramento Chapter of the UNA USA paid the way for 13 students from American River College's UN Club to attend.

" More than two hundred enthused participants collaborated together. Spirits ran high throughout the day. They experienced a better understanding about the UN and how its member governments can achieve solutions to global challenges. Consultations were attentive and constructive and, finally, fulfilling for virtually everyone aged 14 to the dynamos in their 70's and 80's!" *

*Herb Behrstock East Bay UNA USA Chapter

UNA USA Sacramento thanks Dr. Kathleen Collihan (ARC) sponsor of the UN club, for encouraging her students to attend IGMUN.

The Global Poverty Project Review



Sunday, September 28th, the "Global Poverty Project," for the third year in a row, 60,000 people gathered on the Great Lawn in New York's Central Park. The Secretary General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-Moon spoke about the millennium goals for 2030. Other world leaders were specific as to how they would support the reduction of poverty such as the head of the World Bank, Jim Yong Kim, pledged "billions" in the years to come; the prime minister of Norway Ena Solberg, more than \$1.2 billion for the next six years for vaccinations; Prime minister Narendra Modi of India reconfirmed his pledge to provide clean toilets for all its citizen by 2019. One of Nelson Mandela's grandsons, Ndaba Mandela, led the crowd in pledges. It was noted that poverty disproportionately affects young girls.

WHAT HAPPENS AS PEOPLE TRANSITION OUT OF POVERTY



"For almost 6 hours speeches from charitable foundations executive, and heart rendering videos about those who suffer from poverty and its symptoms sprinkled between performances of music super stars." Some of the performers, all who donated their services were a Palestinian, Israeli duo, Carrie Underwood, Sting, Jay Z, Beyonce and many more that I missed.

I chanced upon the rebroadcast of this extravaganza. What I missed I filled in from a New York Times report by John Caramanica, Sunday September 29.

Sharon Alexander, President UNA USA Sacramento

For more information: www.globalpovertyproject.com

The Climate Is Finally Getting the Attention It Deserves

His Excellency, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon, called for a carbon tax on Sunday, September 21 as he headed the march on the New York City United Nations Center by 300,000 people. A graphic calling for it shone on the UN building.

The Citizens' Climate Lobby, whom our Sacramento Chapter of the UNA has listened to more than once, is a single minded and astute advocate of such a tax, with the proper aim of wiping out the current and unique long term subsidy given the filthy fossil fuel industry in the United States. Our Chapter has voted its support of a carbon tax, having first heard from energy expert Matania Ginosar calling for a carbon tax, and a year ago a panel put on by CCL.

The Rockefeller Fund, of Standard Oil ancestry and founded by John D. Rockefeller, is divesting of oil stocks. The World Bank concurs.

According to Thomson-Reuters, the UN-backed Green Climate Fund has announced a two-day pledging conference where it hopes to radically boost its current stocks of capital. Developed and developing countries have been invited to the meeting in Berlin on November 19-20, two weeks before high level UN climate talks start in Lima, Peru.

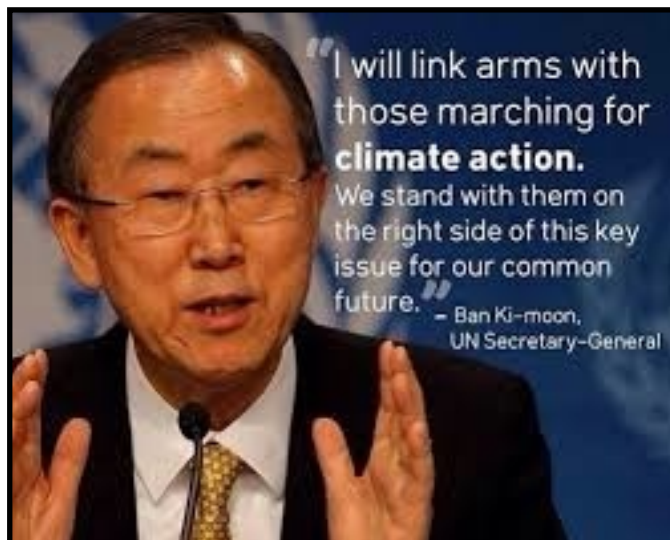
In the year 2015, a full-bore climate treaty conference will be held in Paris, France. Will the United States be able to sign a climate treaty and ratify it?

Most helpful and hopeful is the Christian Science Monitor Weekly of September 22, 2014. Its cover is titled: Force Of Nature. Christiana Figueres, UN climate chief, is on a mission to lower Earth's thermostat. Inside on page 26 is a seven page must-read article titled "Climate Controller," giving particulars of Figueres heartfelt and strong work for the Earth.

Developing United States support for a carbon tax in the Congress in time for the UN treaty talks will obviously hinge on the views of who gets elected on November 4th.

What must we all do? See CCL.org for their well-considered views and advice.

-Katharine Thompson
katharinet@aol.com





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International Film Series (Now in our 18th 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.

October 17, 2014 *Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom* (2013, UK/South Africa, directed by Justin Chadwick, 141 min.) The film is liberally adapted from Nelson Mandela's autobiography and depicts many of the significant events that defined his life and legacy, although they can only be touched upon within the limit of just under two and a half hours. British actor Idris Elba in the title role captures Mandela's distinctive accent and charismatic leadership, while Naomi Harris as Winnie Madikizela Mandela, his radical activist second wife, plays an almost equally significant role in depicting the fight against apartheid. Other actors include Tony Kgoroge as Walter Sisulu, Riaad Moosa as Ahmed Kathrada, Lindiwi Matshikiza as Zindzi Mandela and Deon Lotz as Kobie Coetzee. At the end of the December 5 London premiere, producer Anant Singh and Idris Elba took the stage during closing credits to announce Nelson Mandela's passing. (#367)

A big thank you to our new and renewing members!

Lyle Parkinson

Dr. and Mrs. William Durston

Mr. Carl Sweet

Mr. M. Eriksson

John Reiger and Debra Reiger



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Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor and UNA Sacramento Members,

The letter to the editor of the Davis Enterprise on the subject of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) that appeared undated in the September UNA newsletter was published in Davis on July 22, the week when the Senate was expected to bring debate for ratification to the floor. At the time, every advocacy action was critical.

Ultimately, the Senate took no action before the summer recess. Although there was a favorable majority in the committee and more support than previously in the full Senate, Harry Reid counted votes and determined that a ratification vote would fall just short of the two-thirds majority required. Some gains were anticipated compared to the 2012 vote when CRPD ratification fell 5 votes short. Since passage was not assured, it was best not to bring the treaty to a second vote at this time.

Ratification of treaties like CRPD, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) remain a top priority for UNA's advocacy agenda. However, prospects for positive action are not good in the current congressional climate.

Verena Borton
Davis UNA



UNA USA Sacramento members: (from left) Kate Woolley, Carl Sweet, Katharine Thompson, Fred Hansen, Sharon Alexander, Jack Kennedy, Isabelle Robertson, John Bernier, Nick Alexander, John Jervis

In July, the UNA USA Sacramento Chapter honored board member Fred Hansen for his 30 years of service. He has tirelessly and without complaint, folded and mailed thousands of newsletters to our members. Thank you Fred - you are an inspiration!

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

Upcoming Dates

- October 5: World Teachers' Day (UNESCO)
 October 11: International Day of the Girl Child
 October 12: Sacramento Freethought Day 2014 - CA State Capitol
 October 15: Rotary Club of N. Sacramento, "Rotary and the United Nations: An important partnership"
 October 16: World Food Day
 October 17: International Day for the Eradication of World Poverty
 October 24: **69th Anniversary of the United Nations**, PSR Annual Dinner, Dante Club

United Nations International Year Observances for 2014:
 International Year of Solidarity with the Palestinian People
 International Year of Small Island Developing States
 International Year of Crystallography
 International Year of Family Farming

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 Wednesday 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.

UNA-USA Board Members

Davis Chapter President

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rvborton@comcast.net

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 916-482-4949

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Application for Membership

- \$25 Introductory /First Year
- \$40 Individual /Family
- \$100 Sponsor
- \$500 Patron
- \$1000 Lifetime
- Students are free

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Chapter (Circle one): Davis Sacramento

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.

Make checks payable to:

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You can also apply online: **www.unausasacramento.com**

Choose Sacramento or Davis as your local chapter.

Thank you!

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