



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
of the United States of America
A PROGRAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION

Sacramento and Davis Chapters
PO Box 163381, Sacramento, CA 95816-9381

September 2013

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The Sacramento UN Association and
The League of Women Voters
present

A CLIMATE CHANGE FORUM

Carbon Tax and Dividend

Moderator: **Dr. Matania Ginosar**
Environmental Scientist

joined by
Dana Nuccitelli,
Scientist, Author
Jerry Hinkle and Jennifer Wood
Citizens Climate Lobby

Monday, Sept. 16, 2013
7 - 9:00 pm

**SMUD Headquarters
6201 S Street
Main Floor Auditorium,
Sacramento**

Other cosponsors: Physicians for Social Responsibility, Citizens Climate Lobby, 350 Sacramento, TSR, Lutheran Office of Social Responsibility, Therapists for Social Responsibility

Climate Change Proposals

URGENT NEED TO SUPPORT

FEE AND DIVIDEND APPROACH

By Katharine Thompson

It has been agreed the world needs to reduce its carbon emissions by 350 parts per million (ppm) because the effects of climate change are catastrophic. Bill McKibben of 350.org has been a leader in this field and still equally active and important are Al Gore and James Hansen. But recently measurements show the Earth has already reached 400 ppm of greenhouse gases.

A similar sized catastrophe, though smaller in impact, faced the US before it joined World War II when Japan, Italy and Germany, the Axis, threatened to destroy self-government in the entire world. After Pearl Harbor in 1942, the US geared up for War in a massive way, instituting the draft, halting production of automobiles, rationing gas, meat and butter and reducing speed limits. Also instituted were nightly blackouts along the coast, sky surveillance, air raid wardens and drills. Troops and war material were shipped by rail. This was before the auto, oil and tire companies ripped up most of our cities' streetcar tracks and passenger rail was abandoned.

The catastrophe facing us today is very much more worldwide, with emission-induced heat producing droughts, floods, polar melting and increased fire and heat and in the US diminishing the Mississippi's height. We must understand the need for and adopt measures to keep fossil fuels in the ground. The salient solution for this purpose is known as fee and dividend, imposing increasing taxes on all fuels, coal petroleum, natural gas, et cetera at their production site and refunding to each citizen an equal portion of all that is collected. These taxes will be demonstrably more effective and transparent than a cap and trade law. It will reward those who reduce their use of these dangerous fuels and support the quick change this country needs to spur action elsewhere in the world. Of course, this will mean increasingly higher taxes on each gallon of gasoline -- but we need to get real about these dangers.

San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission projects the Pacific Ocean will flood the San Francisco financial district, Silicon Valley, athletic stadiums on both sides of the bay and both the Oakland and San Francisco airports. In the aftermath of super-storm Sandy we must admit the peril is real and the cost extremely expensive. More heat in the Central Valley, up to 7.5 degrees in 50 years is the prediction of the World Bank. The Sacramento Valley is vulnerable to flooding in areas such as North Natomas, for example. The heat here each summer is already trying.

It is clear the challenges we face surpass the challenges of World War II. An adequate response will have to be as strong and decisive. UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon urged President Obama to attend the Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20, which focused on a green economy and the

institutional framework for sustainable development in June, but the President did not go. We need to press the President to effectively fight global warming. Until we get our full cost pricing for transportation emissions, which are about 50% of the problem, and even harder to legislate than was cap and trade, we are fighting a losing battle.

Where are our President, US Senators, members of the House of Representatives, Mayors and other elected officials? It will help us here in Sacramento to know who our allies are and to get the latest news of real legislative change.

*- Katharine Thompson is Chair of the Advocacy Committee
and a Former Chapter President*

BOARD MEMBERS STIR INTEREST IN MODEL UN

UNA USA board member Kate Woolley and I met with Dr. Kathleen Collihan, sponsor of the Model United Nations Club at American River College and Dean Carlos Reyes. We discussed their current effort to develop a High School Model UN Conference, spring 2014. We agreed to support their effort with our resources. We invited students and faculty at American River College to attend the Northern California Division of the United Nations Association Intergenerational Model UN Conference in San Francisco, Oct. 19.

We also invited them to attend our various programs and our Annual Dinner on October 24. The topic of that dinner, The International Arms Trade Treaty, was of particular interest to students in the Club who were at the meeting.

- President Sharon J. Alexander, Ph.D.

UNA USA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

June 1-3, 2013, Washington D.C.

By Sharon Alexander, PhD

I arrived on Saturday June 1, at the Westin Hotel, in time for the evening session which was a Model UN/Global Classroom. Teachers and college students from the East Bay and San Francisco chapters instructed a group of us, about thirty, as a Model UN class.

We were each assigned to represent a UN member nation. I was given the Eastern African nation of Djibouti. One sheet of information included: Geographic location, population, birth and death rates, religions, ethnicities,

literacy, government type, primary leader, GDP per capita, major transnational issues, allies, natural hazards, environment, and refugees. A small map was pictured on the sheet.

We were also given a chart of rules, keeping with the rules of participation in the United Nations General Assembly. We were carefully instructed as to their use and questions answered.

The class session was impressive. Everyone was very engaged, especially the students who modeled participation. The final result was a resolution from the Haiti delegate to change the definition of refugee to include people displaced by natural disasters, not only those pushed out of their homes by conflicts.

This session was the most important for me since I attended the conference to learn more about the Model UN classroom and I did.

The second day of the conference covered resources of the national organization that are available to support our chapters. For example one session was titled, "How to build Chapter –Capacity through Board Development." Best practices on board "Recruitment;" creating a culture of "Accountability;" tools for "Deliverables" is the focus of a "RAD" tool kit available to help chapters.

The support of current UN Foundation Campaigns that attract and involve young people are: "Girls Up," fight against child marriage; "Nothing but Nets" supports distributions of nets to protect sleepers from malaria carrying mosquitoes; and "Shot @ Life" vaccination campaign to protect against polio and other diseases.

The group "UN Women seeks to address the underrepresentation of women domestically and internationally through grassroots mobilization, activism, and advocacy." Finding out about this group and how it differs from the other roles women take on inspires me to organize such a group in our chapter.

The third day of the conference was "Advocacy Day." Each attendee was assigned members of the House of Representatives of our home districts. As the only member from Sacramento attending and new to advocacy, Davis President Verena Borton and her husband Ray went with me to Representative Ami Bera's office. We were met by his legislative director, Matt Horowitz, who had attended Model UN classes in high school and an intern from Israel. They were supportive and responsive as was Dr. Bera who appeared as we were leaving. He then offered to speak to our group in Sacramento about his recent trip to Afghanistan. We took pictures with him.

Verena was assigned to Representative John Garamendi. She had arranged in advanced to meet with him directly. Since it was past the time scheduled, his legislative assistant Annie Gilman chatted with us until he returned. We discovered that she was from Sacramento and the daughter of Diane and Dr. Bill Durston. Dr Durston ran for congress in 2006 and 2008. When Representative Garamendi returned, there was time for a discussion and

assurance of his support for UN goals. Verena gave him material on the work of the Davis chapter she had prepared for him. Pictures were taken with Representative Garamendi.

I thank our chapter for helping finance my trip to the annual conference to represent the Sacramento Chapter of the UNA USA. This opportunity helped me understand how our chapter can move forward with the support of the United Nations Foundation.

COMING EVENTS

Anytime! -- All Sacramento UNA Chapter members who have not renewed memberships are urged to do so. Contact Carl Sweet at (916)481-6122.

Fri., Sept. 20 -- Presentation to members of the CSUS Renaissance Society, by Board Members Kate Woolley and Carl Sweet, "Understanding the UN," CSUS Library, Room 1522. 10 am-11:45.

Sat., Sept. 21 -- International Day of Peace, "A Global Call for Ceasefire and Non-Violence, 10am-noon, West Steps, State Capitol.

Oct. 6 -- PSR's 10th Annual Dinner, CSUS Alumni Center, Speaker Julie Leftwich, Executive Dir., Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence. Topic: "Gun Violence and Gun Laws in the USA." Information: sacpsa.org.

Oct. 19 -- Third Annual Intergenerational Model UN Conference, hosted by the Northern California Division, San Francisco State University, 8:30 am - 7:30 pm. (More information included in this newsletter.)

Oct. 24 -- ANNUAL DINNER, Dante Club, Sacramento
6 pm, Social hour; 7 pm, Dinner and Program;
Speaker, Johan Bergenas, Deputy Director, Managing Across
Boundaries Initiative, the Stimson Center, Washington, D. C.

Anytime! -- All Sacramento UNA Chapter members who have not renewed memberships are urged to do so. Contact Carl Sweet at (916)481-6122.

Dear Sacramento United Nations Association Supporter:

Thank you for your past support of the UNA-USA, Sacramento Chapter, and the annual United Nations Day Dinner. We invite you to celebrate the founding of the United Nations on the Anniversary,,Thursday, October 24, 2013.

The Sacramento annual dinner annual will be held at the Dante Club at 2230 Fair Oaks Boulevard, between Howe Ave and Fulton Avenue. . Social hour begins at 6:00 pm with no host bar and dinner will be served at 6:30 pm before the Program at 7:00 PM

Our speaker will be Johan Bergenas, the Deputy Director of Managing Across Boundaries Initiative, at the The Stimson Center, Washington, D. C. He Is an international security expert at the global security think tank and his focus is on international illicit networks, crime, arms proliferation, trafficking and security development. He is an active media commentator and freelance journalist for New York Times and several publications, covering a wide range of international and U. S. domestic issues

Thanking you in advance for your consideration of this special request.

Sincerely, *Sharon Alexander*, President, United Nations Association, Sacramento Chapter

We would like to be a sponsor with Name(s) listed in the program as

\$25_____ \$50_____ \$100_____ other_____ Tax deductible gift \$_____

I/ We plan to attend. Tickets at \$35. Number of tickets_____ Total cost of tickets

I/ We regret we are unable to attend the dinner but sending a donation to the UNA _____

Entree will be served individually plated with vegetables & extras included in family style table setting.

Chicken_____ or Vegetarian entrée_____ Total amount enclosed \$_____

Name_____ Phone_____

Address_____

E-Mail_____

Please RSVP by sending your dinner reservation to Ms Hoefling below with your donation.

Please make check payable to UNA-USA, Sacramento Chapter. and send bottom portion

Judith Hoefling

8020 Briar Ridge Lane, Citrus Heights, CA 95610

Phone: 916-966-7002; judithhoeffling@comcast.net

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