
Naples Council on World Affairs' News & Views

Spring 2016 Editor: Frank Kolhatkar



“Think Globally... Act Locally”

OUR MISSION:

To educate, inspire and engage our community in international affairs and critical global issues.

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Donna L. Suddeth
President

President's Message

“Think locally, act globally,” and, a world of opportunities will open. However a global outlook emerges, it starts by thinking locally and expanding outward.

We, at the Naples Council, want to encourage global thinking in our youth to instill in them a lifelong quest for thinking beyond

our borders. Creating that environment takes local action, and, our academic world quests provide one such venue to inspire global thinking.

We just completed our 10th Annual Middle School Academic World Quest (MSAWQ) with 20 teams of four students each participating. These middle-school students and their teachers approach learning about our world with an unparalleled zeal and enthusiasm that you just have to believe will translate to a lifelong interest in being informed about and engaged with foreign affairs.

We have learned from the teachers that the MSAWQ is often a precursor for students participating in the high school academic world quest. As the winners of the high school competition go on to represent the Naples Council at the national competition in Washington, DC, in the spring, they are exposed to an even broader world.

Where our local thinking leads to real global action is when we send students to participate in the international living and cultural programs offered by the Experiment in International Living and Student Diplomatic Corps. We offer a quick sample of those students' experiences with their presentations at our lecture programs in March. Along with the Georgetown and Vermont Governor's Institute programs, these can be life-changing experiences as the world is opened up to them.

Then, our Southwest Florida Model United Nations program is the ultimate program of thinking locally and acting globally. Only in this case, the students are literally “acting” as they take on the role of “being” from another country and representing that country and its position in the committee which they are representing. They become passionate about “their countries and their positions” and seek to persuade others who believe just as strongly in their positions. Again, you have to believe that these activities lead to lifelong engagement in world affairs.

We, who are involved in providing these programs to the students in our community, invite you to act locally and join us as volunteers. We promise that not only will you help students expand their world horizons but yours also will be expanded. So, call or email; we would welcome more involvement.

Donna L. Suddeth, President



Donna Suddeth and Jan K. Guban with students from Oakridge Middle School at Academic World Quest.

Program Committee Report



Mimi C. Gregory
Vice President for Programs

Evil spirits have visited us twice now: once in the form of that fluffy white stuff that paralyzes Washington D.C., and then it was our own Congress with their determination to filter visitors that might be deemed “undesirable”.

Alireza Nader, Iran Senior Analyst from the Rand Corporation, was thankfully available one week later and we were able to offer his lectures on the Monday following. So snow notwithstanding, his presentation

gave us an overview of Iran after the nuclear deal, and a sense of “semi-optimism” with respect to Iran’s future friendship with the United States. His emphasis on the need to embrace new, younger and more moderate leaders is shared by many whose concerns

center on the strong influence of the religious leaders who dominate the country’s leadership today.

Now to Congress! The cancellation of the Visa Waiver Program, voted into being on January 21st, was not implemented until 3 days before our scheduled lecture with Khalid Koser, British Citizen, United Nations refugee specialist, due to brief our State Department 2 days after his presentation to us , arrived at the airport in London and was refused boarding! So who knew? Not British Airways, not his travel company, not our State Department who registered surprise, albeit all knew it was “going to happen”. We, the Naples Council however, would deem it a “nasty surprise”! We did manage to share Khalid Koser’s views with our members and also shared our partnership with Seacrest Country Day School and Shelter Box, hoping now that our next lecture: February 22nd with Heather Conley on Russia will be “free of evil spirits”.

Mimi Gregory

Committee on Special Activities

For those of you who did not attend, our presentation on Climate Change by Dr. Larry Kalkstein drew a large crowd who asked good questions on a seemingly difficult subject. A small majority seem to be believers while many remain undecided; and we will undoubtedly become more familiar with that division of beliefs as we get hammered by presidential candidates.

Coming up in March, Jeremy Haft will present “Unmade in China: The Hidden Truth about China’s Economic Miracle”. The program will be held on March 14th at 10 am at the Claussen Center Seminar Room. Watching the Chinese Stock Market these past weeks, since the turn of the year, his presentation should be right on target. Mark your calendars!

February 19th we welcomed 6 outstanding speakers from the National War College who presented our 225 attendees with a great deal of very pertinent information on the trouble spots around the world today. From bad boy Vladimir Putin to NATO to China’s military excursions we had an exciting morning of presentations. Lunch came with Energy, the “Longest War” on Iraq/Afghanistan and finally a great “primer” on Counter-Insurgency. Much to absorb, but that’s why we are there! Many thanks to all who spoke.

Our annual dinner will be held on April 7th at the Naples Hilton and will welcome speaker and famous author, David McCullough.

Mimi Gregory

Great Decisions Program

As we go to press, the 690 participants in Great Decisions have finished the sixth of the eight week program. The timeliness of the discussion topics is remarkable. The 2016 program will end the week of March 7th. The twenty-five group leaders will meet for the end-of-season review on March 17th.

This year Karen Rohan, Editor-in-Chief of the Foreign Policy Association will join us to discuss the 2016 Program and plans for the 2017 Program.

The 2017 Program will begin during the week of January 16, 2017 and week of March 6, 2017.

GREAT DECISIONS REGISTRATION SCHEDULE FOR 2017 PROGRAM

Participants in the Great Decisions Program are required to be Members or Associate members of the Naples Council on World Affairs (NCWA). To synchronize both registration cycles, NCWA Membership Renewals for 2017 began on February 1, 2016 – two months earlier than last year and Great Decisions renewals will begin on March 22, 2016 – one month later than last year. Below are the new registration dates for Great Decisions:

March 22, 2016 to April 22, 2016 – Pre-registration for 2016 participants wishing to stay in their current group as well as for those wishing to join another group.

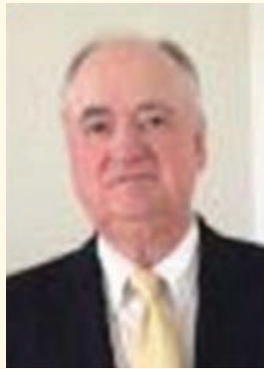
April 25, 2016 to May 31, 2016 – General Registration for those who did not participate in the 2016 Program.

Our Discussions stimulate intellectual curiosity of our participants...

Pete Quinby

Regrettably I have to report that Pete Quinby died of a heart attack on January 27, 2016. Pete was a longtime, active member of NCWA. Including serving as a Board Member and as Chair of Great Decisions. Pete and his wife Linda were Group Leaders for many years and he continued after Linda died.

Pete was generous and a gentleman. Bruce Hobbs has taken over Pete's Group Leadership position.



Bob McGinn
Chair

Village Assistant Program (VAP)

The Village Assistant Committee recommended to the NCWA Board of Directors the purchase of at least seven "Shelter Boxes." The Board approved. They cost \$1000 each.

Shelter Boxes will be of invaluable assistance to the Syrian Refugees desperately in need, especially the children to relocate to Jordan.

The Shelter Box is fully equipped with heaters, cooking utensils, sanitary facilities and sleeping accommodation for ten persons.

In addition to the shelter, educational opportunities for refugees, particularly children, covering basic academic subjects will be needed. We have been joined by senior class students as well as Student Government Association at Seacrest Country Day School; who have agreed to purchase one Shelter Box and are holding Fund Raising 'Sadie Hawkins Day Dance' in hope of additional purchases of Shelter Boxes.

We feel inspired because we will be able to help Syrian Refugees so desperately in need of safety and shelter right in their neighborhood. If you want to help contact me for more information at 502 641 0265 or E Mail me at callenchauvin@yahoo.com. Board Members are also available for more information at Lectures on Monday

We would love to hear from you.

Stan Chauvin, Chair VAP



Mimi Gregory, Bob Erbstein, Earl Anderson,
Laura Kerkoss

Outreach Committee

The School Outreach Committee is in the middle of its incredibly busy season. On Saturday February 6, 20 teams from 6 Collier County schools competed in the Middle School Academic World Quest at The Community of Naples. And the winners were:



Jan K. Guben
Chair

First Place - Gulfview Middle School coached by Diana Borowski

Marissa Akins
Caroline Corban
Camilo Quintero
Grace Vanpoelvoorde

Second Place – North Naples Middle School coached by Laura Heald

Lucas Bradshaw
Anna Mazzone
Richard Qian
Glenn Randall

Third Place – Oakridge Middle School – coached by Andrea Polanco

Cody Camp
Evan Cohen
Matthew Costantino
Grant Germann

After 4 afternoons and evenings of interviews the School Outreach Committee has selected 24 Collier County High School Juniors for the following scholarships:

Experiment in International Living:

Robert Beatty	Gulf Coast HS	Jordan
Marcella Bolenbaugh	St. John Newman	Chile
Maggie Collins	Barron Collier HS	Costa Rica
Grace Eugenides	Gulf Coast HS	China
Elizabeth Govern	Gulf Coast HS	China
Kelsey Halaschak	Lely HS	Thailand
John Koga	St. John Newman	Uruguay
Allison Minker	St. John Newman	Ecuador
Dallas Nash	Barron Collier HS	Japan
Sophia Torres	Lely HS	South Korea
Lisa Tseng	Golden Gate HS	Tanzania

Governor's Institute in Vermont:

Medjine Abellard	Golden Gate HS
Autumn Crosley	Naples HS
Ryan McNichols	St. John Newman
Arlette Perez:	Golden Gate HS
Olivia Squirewell	Barron Collier HS

Georgetown University Summer Program:

Emma Crawford	Lely HS
Scott Etchechury	Barron Collier HS
Rose Gelin	Lely HS
Ashley Johnson	Barron Collier HS
Kathryn Quintero	Barron Collier HS
Sara Saintil	Lely HS
Kesline Senesca	Golden Gate HS
Nick Tomcik	Barron Collier HS
Zanies Grekos	Community School

And if we didn't have enough to do, we are now in the final stages of preparation for the High School Academic World Quest which will be held on Saturday March 5 also at The Community School of Naples. We are expecting a large contingent of teams from many of the Collier County high schools and another exciting, spirited and competitive contest.

The School Outreach Committee is a working committee with more than 20 dedicated members. As our workload never seems to diminish we are looking for new members who are interested in working with some of the best and the brightest always Collier County students. If you're interested please contact me at janguben@gmail.com.



Students from Gulfview Middle School - the team won the First Place

...We reach out and support the next generation

SW Florida Model United Nations Program

Model UN program is totally dependent upon the many volunteers who work at a variety of tasks. This report will recognize and thank them by name.

We have added a new contest to this year's Model UN. It was made available to all the participating high schools, and three schools took up the challenge to design a \$1 million refugee relief effort to be recommended to the UN. Cash awards will be made to each of the school's Model UN Clubs based on first, second and third place. The first place winner will present their project at the Model UN Awards Ceremony on March 11th. The NCWA members who agreed to judge these proposals are Earl Anderson, Howard and Nancy Cohen, Mimi Gregory, Sue and Jan Guben, Judith Lipnick and Mo Winograd.

Registrars: Chairperson Nancy Wallace recruits volunteers who will be, in a sense, the NCWA's "first face" of the Model UN that the students meet when they register. These registrars are positive, pleasant and well informed, which greatly helps new students to relax and feel welcome at the conference. Registrars are:

Pat Cacho, Ron Lacy, Jon Mohle, Andrea Pandazi Psaras, Susan Anderson, Dick and Betty Porell, Marshall Sutker, Robert Haffa, Cathy Daghestani, Nancy Cohen, and Jennifer Drozada.

Model UN Position Paper reviewers and raters: Chairperson Gerry Melnick recruits reviewers, who read and rate approximately 150 position papers written by the delegates, selecting the top 15 papers for final review and rank ordering them. In order to be eligible for a scholarship, a delegate must have written a position paper. The writer of the number one paper receives a \$1,000 scholarship. The reviewers are:

Roger Barna, Barbara Barlas, Rollie Crawford, Laura Gold, Richard Koff, Stanley Lipnick, Michael Muller, Steve Nichols, Louise Orkin, Charlie Offutt, John Psaras, Judy and Ronald Scheffkind, Chuck Theisen, Steve Vesce and Fred Whitridge.

Model UN Judges: Chairperson Mo Winograd recruits approximately 50 judges who sit in the Model UN committees for one and one-half days, evaluating the performance of the delegates. Scholarships and other awards are made based on each judge's evaluation of the delegates. Judges are:

Karen Biernesser, C'Allen Chauvin and Stan Chauvin, Howard Cohen, Rich Cowan, Linda Crescenzi, L. Park, Diane Dearth, Thomas DeWitt, Marty Durham, Robert Erbstein, Judith Gates, Carole

Greene, Jan and Sue Guben, Paula Himowitz, Pat Jackson, Jan Johnson, Rob King, Carol and Roger LaFontaine, Sherrye Lenington, Michael Long, Janice Miller, Ruthmarie Mitsch, Frank Mitchell, Michael Muller, Maureen O'Gorman, Dennis Parass, Bobbi Polacheck, Leah Potere, Andrea Pandazi Psaras and John Psaras, Robert Ravitz, Richard Ryder, Rhona Saunders, Beth Smith, Michael Smith, Chuck Theisen, Mary Udell, Steve Vesce, Nancy Wallace, John Wesler, Suzanne Wilcox and Richard Zounes



Earl Anderson
Chair

And special thanks to the Model UN Vice-Chairperson, Mo Winograd and our photographer Bradalee White.

Earl H. Anderson, Chairman, NCWA Model UN Committee



Model UN Students



Membership Report

Membership renewals started on Feb 1st and will end on March 18th. On March 21st invitations begin for Associate Members.

As mentioned earlier moving the renewal period up two months and Great Decision renewals back a month is an effort to insure that applicants for Great Decisions are NCWA members, a prerequisite for participation, and that renewals are done before most members leave Naples for the season. We were still processing memberships after the lectures had started.

Dealing with members who forgot to renew accounted for a significant waste of time and money for your organization.

To this early request to renew, so far members are responding a big Thank You



Bob Erbstein

Our Website... www.ncwa-fl.org

Increasingly the website is being viewed as part of a broader communications vehicle between members and their organization. Recording of lectures is part of this along with email blasts notifying members and Associate Members when they are posted for viewing. Reminders for scheduled and CSA (Committee for Special Activities) lectures and events have typically been supported by email blasts. Further effort will be made to use these to highlight the occurrence of outreach activities and increase membership participation with programs involving the youth in our community.

To insure you receive emails, please confirm that your email address in your profile is up to date. We are always looking for new features to improve the use of the website to members.

If you have any suggestions please send to them to erbsteinb@embarqmail.com.

Village Assistance Program (VAP)

Provides modest financial assistance to projects in economically distressed areas in foreign countries where NCWA members are directly involved

All programs must be proposed by a Council Member. Full details of the procedure and requirements are available at our website www.ncwa-fl.org under VAP Application.

We would love to hear from you.

Stan Chauvin, Chair VAP



Ghana: Construction of the adult learning center in Whutin.



For the first time Luvana kids have fresh and clean water to wash their bowls and dishes.

**NCWA is proud to support the Village Assistance program (VAP)
Thank you, Stan Chauvin, Chair**



Naples Council on World Affairs

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Lectures on the Radio

Our lecture series is aired on Sunday nights at 8:00 p.m. following the Monday lectures, thanks to our partnership with WGCU.FM and Public Media. Listen on:

- WGCU (90.1 FM) Naples
- WMKO (91.7 FM) Marco Island