A student poster about the right to water displayed at our Annual Meeting

ON JULY 28th The General Assembly of the United Nations agreed to a resolution, presented by the Bolivian Government, declaring the human right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation. This is, as Joe Biden would say, a really big deal. The declaration will change the dynamics and structures underlying the water, sanitation and hygiene (wash) activities that relate to the UN Millennium Development Goals. Our own Philadelphia Global Water Initiative has taken serious note of these developments and plans to incorporate this added dimension into its mission and its action plans.

Reach out and talk about the UNA-GP. Recruit your friends for the cause of creating global citizens.
Bringing a global perspective to a summer school program in South Philadelphia.

This summer, the UNA-GP worked with David Robinson of Gear Up on a brand-new initiative of reaching out to children who were enrolled in the summer school program in anticipation of entering high school in the coming academic year. Our goal was to apply global perspectives of justice and diversity to problem discussions about local experiences of urban life. Students Judith Okello and Michelle Horton created the first drafts of a work plan and they as well as interns and volunteers executed the 20 contact hour program in real class time with four classrooms and more than eighty children. The team, prepared themselves with some home training, brainstorming sessions and a trip to the UN. UNA-GP would like to thank Hassan Ammar, Hannah Chatterjee, Elyse Clonan, Michelle Horton, Brooke Hutchins, Kelly Kantor, Haven Og-bagioris, Judith Okello and Sunita Yadavalli for their energy and commitment. The project was difficult and several aspects of our plan could not be executed, but these young people were able to take on the tasks diligently. We are yet to write up an after program evaluation, however we can tell you that our learning curve was steep.

A few students during our class about global health, wearing masks

Meeting dates of the full Board for the coming year:
(open to all members)

September 13
November 22
January 24
April 4

Annual Membership Meeting 2011: June 24

All board meetings are scheduled from 5:30PM to 7PM.
Tentative meeting location: 3401 Market Street, suite 202.
Thanks to the hard work of our own Enid Adler we have been able to make Philadelphia the first city in the USA that has acknowledged JULY 17 as the International Day of Justice. Great work, that needs be followed with seminars and education sessions about the work of the International Criminal Court. Let us know how we can make July 17 2011 the first of a long list of annual commemorative events. info@una-gp.org

PROCLAMATION

The City of Philadelphia is known throughout the world as the home of the Declaration of Independence and Constitution of the United States, the cornerstones of the country's liberty and its legal structure. These revered documents hold up a beacon for a world seeking freedom and protection from unjust persecution.

To this day, crimes against humanity, war crimes, genocide and the crime of aggression threaten the overall peace, stability, security and well being of people in all corners of the world.

On July 17, 1998, delegates from more than 160 countries, gathered at an international treaty conference in Rome, overwhelmingly approved the Rome Statute that created the first permanent, independent, treaty-based International Criminal Court-a Court now fully functioning in the Hague, Netherlands. The International Criminal Court is a court of last resort, acting only when national judicial systems either are unable or genuinely not willing to act to investigate and prosecute these crimes.

The cases presented to the International Criminal Court relate to egregious and widespread violations of human decency, including the use of rape as an instrument of war, the enslavement of women and children, recruitment of child soldiers, the systematic cleansing of ethnic groups-all crying out for solutions and justice.

July 17 memorializes the importance of international criminal justice, and the need for bringing to justice those perpetrating these crimes through rule of law in an internationally constituted judicial body. To date, 139 nations have signed and 111 have ratified the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court signifying the seriousness that nations and the world community give to ending impunity from punishment to those who would inflict such cruelty upon others.

THEREFORE...

I, Michael A. Nutter, Mayor of the City of Philadelphia, do hereby proclaim July 17, 2010 to be INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE DAY in Philadelphia, and urge all citizens to be aware of the importance of this day and the International Criminal Court to Philadelphia, to America, and to the global community.

Given under my hand and the seal of the City of Philadelphia on this seventeenth day of July, two thousand and ten

Michael A. Nutter
Mayor
From our friends at Project Nuclear Awareness:

New START Support: The Graph

Ben Loehrke

The bipartisan support for the New START treaty has been so overwhelming that die-hard treaty opponents are having a hard time finding credible experts to back up their claims. That doesn’t keep them from trying. The Heritage Foundation, the center of all things anti-START, recently posted a blog in which they listed the experts in opposition to New START. They said:

One of the most egregious arguments peddled by New START proponents is that no reasonable arms control expert is opposed to New START. That is blatantly false. Americans deserve honesty in this debate…The list of experts is large…Heritage wants to tally expert opinions on the treaty. Challenge accepted.

Over Seventy former high-level government officials and senior military officers have come out in support of New START. In addition, every administration official supported the treaty, from Hillary Clinton, to Bob Gates, and, representing the entire uniformed military, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs Adm. Michael Mullen. Heritage rounded up six – five George W. Bush appointees and a former Senator. The scoreboard overwhelmingly favors New START. The policy debate has been settled. It’s time for the Senate to ratify this treaty so that the United States can reap the national security benefits that the treaty provides.

CALL your Senators...Tell them we will give them a Free Membership of the UNA-GP. But only if they hurry up and vote for the new Start treaty and show the world that we are beholden to peace and disarmament, even in this money driven democracy.

From http://www.pragueproject.org/2010/08/06/new-start-support-the-graph/
From Christiaan’s Desk  
(8-21-2010)

This newsletter has been more than six weeks in the making. We never came around to publish a newsletter in July. In July we had our annual garden party, which had Haiti and biomass briquettes as themes. Producing the newsletter had to wait. Whatever energy there was in UNA-GP, it was spent on the Gear UP project, on helping PGWI in its summer program with high school students, the garden party and its aftermath a rush of feverish activities around proclaiming July 17 as the Day of International Justice.

We had a good board meeting. Not everybody came, something that has not happened yet as long as I have been with the UNA-GP. We identified four fixed dates for the coming year, and we set up a series of events. Please read about that on page 6 and page 9. We have developed these plans and ideas, because we have seen an uptick in the number of volunteers, and we have been able to hire students from the Coop Program at Drexel and the Work-Study program at UPenn. As for our ‘old’ hands, Marcia Garcia who worked very hard last year, will first go to Istanbul, and will come back in January. Joe Kim will return in early September as will Haven Ogbagiorgis. Our webmaster Ritwik Lodhiya stayed around during the summer and is becoming a crucial figure in our organization. Collaboration with OXFAM Philly chapter and the local chapter of Earth Charter US has been strong and invigorating.

All that energy doesn’t come without operational costs. We have been frugal, and Jessica Lee has kept good watch over our finances. Going forward, we need to start developing income from these activities or find donations. Working on the boards of the Global Philadelphia Association, the Project for Nuclear Awareness, and the Philadelphia Global Water Initiative, I have gotten first hand insight in the anxieties around seeing red ink appear. When writing budgets for activities and seeking funding from foundations, we are seeing now cuts.

in overhead percentages to as low as 8%. So we are going to have to ask for registration fees, etc. I have asked Jessica Lee to make budget lines for the different events and make sure that in most cases we can break even. Our first try will be with the event at U Jefferson on October 20th.

In this newsletter you see a lot of the work of Enid Adler. Thank you again Enid. Also Marietta Tanner has gotten a burst of energy before leaving for a winter vacation down under. We have a big event planned for December 10 and will publicize it well. Marietta was instrumental in securing the keynote speaker.

I have not gotten much news from UNAUSA following the meeting in DC in June. Today I got an invitation for a UN Foundation /UNA-USA dinner on November 18th in NY, and last night Mary Day alerted me that we should have received (on August 10) a request for delegates to the Special National Convention scheduled for October 12 in NY. Deadline for registration: 9/1. Three weeks in vacation time to find delegates! I have emailed NY for clarification. Stay alert.

---

Enid, as promised, a picture of the letter of ABA.

---

Carolyn B. Lamm  
President

Enid Adler, holding the proclamation; flanked by Jerome Shestack and Christiaan Morssink

---

Carolyn B. Lamm

Defending Liberty  
Pursuing Justice

---

Carolyn B. Lamm
Projected program of activities UNA-GP August 2010-August 2011; Public Events.

September 13-24: Intended Recruitment drive of students, faculty and staff on several campuses, in collaboration with OXFAM, Earth Charter, Citizens for Global Solutions, Philadelphia Global Water Initiative: volunteers needed

October 17: CARE will be sponsoring local events around the country to honor the United Nations “International Day for the Eradication of Poverty”. Please see www.care.org for details or to sign up to host an event and receive your “event in a box” resource pack to host an event to mobilize concern and action on food security, global health, and achieving the Millennium Development Goals! For a local connection, contact UNAGP Board Member Mary Day Kent (also CARE’s advocacy coordinator for the Mid Atlantic ) at mdkent@care.org.

October 20: UN DAY Celebration Luncheon at Thomas Jefferson University, Noon to 1:30PM; Collaboration with the nascent Center for Global Health at UJeff. Keynote speaker pending, tentative topic: Global Education needed for Global Citizenry. Presentation of Global Citizen Award ; Financial Sponsoring needed.

October 24: UN DAY Celebration at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Germantown on the topic of Global Warming. See flyer elsewhere in this newsletter.

November 2, (Election day): Earth Charter US Philadelphia Chapter is organizing an event at the Friends Service Center from 6:30 to 9PM, in conjunction with the major conference of ECI "Ethical Framework For a Sustainable World in Ahmedabad, India, which is the culmination of global events organized to celebrate the ten year anniversary of the Earth Charter, which was launched in 2000 at the UNESCO in Paris. The UNA-GP is co-sponsoring this program. For more information, contact Rob Petito at rob@earthcharterus.org

November 4: All day conference of the Philadelphia Global Water Initiative: Managing the last 1%. Venue: Hall of Flags in Houston Hall, University of Pennsylvania. Reception at FWWIC at 5 PM. UNA-GP is co-sponsoring: For more information: visit www.pgwi.org

December 10: Human Rights Day celebration at the National Liberty Museum, with keynote speaker Bruce Knotts: "Challenging curtailment of human rights for underserved communities". Focus on LBGT. 4PM to 8PM. Followed with panel discussion, documentary showing, reception. Financial sponsoring needed

February 2011 (late): UNAUSA membership day at the UN in New York. Date as of yet unknown.


March 22, 2011: World Water Day. 'Lifting the Burden' event planned. Lead organization PGWI.

Early June: UNAUSA in DC: advocacy on the hill. Details not yet available.

See also page 9.

Subject: tell Washington to end the wars

Dear Fellow PA UNA Members,

As US troops and civilian casualties mount in Iraq and Afghanistan, we may feel that all our work to end the wars is futile.

We must tell Washington we are sick of the wars, sick of the death, sick of the bloodshed.

On UNA-GP’s website are the contact points for the President, Vice President, Cabinet members, and every member of the House and Senate from Pennsylvania - last month I faxed letters to all of them, a version of the letter is at www.cis.upenn.edu/grad/documents/obama.pdf.

Tell the President, Cabinet and our legislators the wars must end. However futile it may seem, Washington needs to hear our voices and we need to be heard.

Sincerely,
Mike Felker
UNA-GP
Veterans for Peace

Hassan Ammar one of the Gear Up volunteers. He is from Pakistan. In the weeks since this picture was taken, Pakistan has experienced the deadly force of water in ways unimaginable.

Please think of ways we all can help.
THE GLOBAL PHILADELPHIA ASSOCIATION

For about two years UNA-GP has been involved with other organizations, all non-profit, to work on coordinating our agendas, seek platforms through which information can be exchanged readily, and collaborate on venues of mutual interest. In that period, one group of organizations that focus on working abroad, such as Care, UNA-GP, OICI, and others, had started a process of seeking collaboration, while another group, mainly working around issues of immigrants, visitors and business opportunities started a separate process. Through the insights and connections of Molly Roth, these two meetings converged in the spring of 2009. We have now reached a point where a legal entity is formed, the Global Philadelphia Association, Inc. UNA-GP is a founding member. We have accordingly agreed to act together - and in concert with like-minded governmental, cultural, corporate, academic, and philanthropic organizations – to carry out the following mission:

“To raise the international profile of the Greater Philadelphia Region. GPA will showcase the organizations, people, and activities that contribute to the region’s international character and provide both local citizens and the world community with ready access to them through an on-line “information commons.”

For us as UNA-GP an extra mission is to raise the profile of our international non-profit organizations in the region and encourage the leveraging of resources and synergistic activities among them. The GPA has obtained two website domains, www.globalphiladelphia.org and www.globalphiladelphia.net. Work has started to develop a website as a first step. We seek to make this website a portal for everybody and anyone who wants to engage in global work, using Philadelphia as a base or a focus. The website should be interactive, have a strong search engine and be as complete as possible with regards to info and links to all the organizations that work in Philadelphia, exposing the rich and wide variety of Global Philadelphia. Molly Roth has agreed to lead the start up effort for the Association.

UNA-GP has agreed to recruit students and volunteers to help with the data gathering and also with the public relations work that lies ahead. I am writing this text also for another reason. The association has a good number of organizations with staff members and long histories. In my opinion the rich tableau of smaller organizations like UNA-GP, without much staff to speak of, but with clear global activism in mind, needs to be valued as the coloring of Global Philadelphia, as the specificity that makes Philadelphia unique. These small organizations need to be heard and have their connection to the association well organized, making sure that they are linked. Many of you are members of those organizations with a global scope. Please let us know how we can get the right information from your organization on the website of GPA, including preferred keywords, etc. Letters requesting support and membership have already been going out to some of the usual big organizations. We at UNA-GP want to make sure that the support of the 'row houses and apartments' gets collected as well.

Every organization will be listed, and their info maintained, whether a member or not. The GPA has a membership structure, with the smallest fee set at $75. For information, please contact GPA Executive Director Molly Roth, at mollydroth@earthlink.net

Christiaan Morssink

"Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane."

Dream + Drive Destiny

Pou sante yo an Ayiti!
**UNITED NATIONS SUNDAY**

October 24, 2010

THE ETHICAL ASPECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Hear: Pamela V’Combe

Waterhed Planner, Delaware River Basin Commission, Formerly Director of Murray Grove & Unrondack UU, Acting Director, Unitarian Universalists United Nations Organization, Presently Board Member, Secretary to Climate Change Initiative.

Plan to stay for the workshops 12:30 p.m.:

“Green Movements on the African Continent,” Anastasia Shown, Assistant Director, Africa Studies Center, University of Pennsylvania.

“Evidence and Its Deniers, the United Nation’s Role,” Christiaan Morssink, PhD, President, United Nations Association of Greater Philadelphia

Plus college students back from travels to impacted communities.

DVD on Global Warming in African Communities

***

Don’t Forget: The children will begin their UNICEF “Trick or Treat.” Collection

For further information contact: Marietta J. Tanner

USG, UUUNO Envoy, Mariettan@aol.com

Unitarian Society of Germantown, 6511 Lincoln Drive, Philadelphia, Pa 19119

---

**AT THE ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY**

Ashlyn and Michelle from Abraham Lincoln High show how you can use a combination of biomass briquettes and rocket stove hardware to create fuel efficient, clean cooking, lower the carbon footprint, help with the re-forestation of Haiti and improve health conditions. At the party, organized by Jessica Lee, with help from a team of volunteers, we played good music, drank good drinks, enjoyed the conversations and grossed over $1600 for a school project in Haiti.

Ale jèn nan Ayiti!!!!!!!
UNA-GP has in its mission: education, advocacy and awareness raising. The following activities are organized around these three tasks, although there is much overlap between them:

**Advocacy:** In general the UNA-GP follows the themes for advocacy as suggested by the national headquarters in NY and DC. Within that, we like to work together with other chapters in PA. Last year’s visits together with the chapters of Bucks County and Center County to the offices of representatives and senators will be repeated in the years to come. Separately, we work with groups in Philadelphia on issues that are dear to us. We work with PNA, WILPF, Vets for Peace, Citizens for Global Solutions, OXFAM, CARE and 350, among others, on a diversity of issues. We are active in demonstrations, letter writing, signature collecting and other forms of persuasion of the elected officials, many of whom show signs of selective hearing loss after having reached the halls of power. We will stay involved in advocacy through collaboration.

It is our intent to improve the advocacy capacity of our membership base. Whether alone, or in combination with others we look forward to organizing one or two workshops on “advocacy for the global cause”; as well as training ourselves on working better with the media.

**Awareness Raising:** We consider it important that the public is fully aware of what is happening in the world, and how what happens in our neighborhood and city is intricately connected to those events far from our borders. Selection of topics is of course necessary. Given those limits, we have asked our board members, volunteers and friends to help on A: developments around the ICC, B: gender discrimination & CEDAW, C. the worldwide movement to ban cluster bombs and landmines and regulate the trade of small arms, D: global warming and its influence of UNMDGs, E: Migration and human trafficking. In these five areas we are seeking members, volunteers, and collaborators to help track and distribute news within the Philadelphia region.

**Education:** The need for better and more knowledge about the UN and what it takes to become a global citizen is very much needed in Philadelphia if we as a city want to pursue excellence in the development of cosmopolitanism, the cornerstone of global citizenship. We want to undertake three streams of activities, using student volunteers from UPenn, Drexel and Temple. One is teaching "ad hoc" on the topic of the UN, the UN system and the UN programs. These teachings can be done in any setting, from classrooms to churches, from community centers to senior citizen facilities. Another one is working with libraries and expanding our project. We call this our "blue shelf" project. We are trying to build a permanent presence in the school or free library, a "global focal point", which can function as a recruiting and education tool for those students who seek to engage themselves with our causes. We intend to support after school projects in those schools where we can find a spirit of collaboration. Currently we are trying to set up plans and possible action with the Furness High school, Independence Charter school, and Abraham Lincoln High school. Lastly, the UNA-GP received a large stamp collection, donated by the daughter of the late Melvin L. Baron, Ph.D. We have received advice from Alan Warren of the Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition and he concluded that this collection, which contains many duplicates, makes for excellent educational and exhibition materials. We plan to make an inventory of the collection, divide the materials that can be used for education program, for regional exhibitions and what can be donated to schools for permanent displays.

**Ad Hoc Activities.** Activities often occur because someone takes an interest and somebody else says why not: this year, UNA-GP will use its organizational network capacity to support three individuals with ideas and energy:

- **Misha Baker:** Getting active about the dichotomies between food policy and hunger policy, between the local and the global. Use the International Youth Service Day in April 2011 to raise awareness.
- **Kiahana Brooks:** Starting a city-wide Global Nursing Journal and seminar club.
- **Christiaan Morssink:** organizing a conference on Ameliorating Banking Deserts to Stimulate Local Development.

You are all invited to participate and make it happen.

---

Pakistan’s flood victims now outnumber those from the Tsunami disaster a few years back. UN again is calling for help. Experts predict more disasters due to global warming. The need for a more permanent global disaster relief system is again proven by the problems in Pakistan and China.