It is an honor to invite you to our 2012 annual membership meeting to be held on Friday, June 29th at the Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center, located at the waterfront just behind the Art Museum. Parking is available nearby, and we can arrange for pick up and drop off at the 30th Street Station.

This meeting is at the core of our organization. We may see each other at events and stay involved with newsletters and Facebook, but the annual meeting means business. Decisions need to be made. We need your input. Our organization cannot exist without your consistent support. We are all members because we believe that political, constructive engagement by our government in the affairs of the United Nations is essential for the well-being of humanity and the planet. We all believe that a strong United Nations is the best venue for peace and for much needed development work to address the gross disparities in the world. With a weak UN, nationalism, parochial self-interests, and old fashioned attitudes of revenge for old wrongs will again dominate the political discourse. The United Nations stands for hope, for the proper use of science, and for empathy for victims of violence, disasters, structural exploitation and war.

In Philadelphia, the UNA-GP carries on with the mandate of Eleanor Roosevelt and we educate where we can, we inform the public through our events and our newsletters, website and Facebook pages, and we advocate on policy issues. We are collaborating with groups like the Philadelphia Global Water Initiative, the Project for Nuclear Awareness, Peace Day Philly, relevant committees of the Philadelphia Bar Association, the Philadelphia Youth Network, relevant entities at universities and colleges, especially at Penn, Drexel, Jefferson, Temple, and Chestnut Hill. We are a founding member of the Global Philadelphia Association and we are proud to remind the world that the first UN thinker was our founding father, William Penn.

We look forward to seeing you on June 29th. Refreshments and light fare will be provided. Please RSVP by email to info@una-gp.org, by mail to our address below, or by phone. For more information or questions, call 267-252-1199. Christiaan Morssink, President (Agenda is on the next page)
The following is our tentative agenda:

5:00-5:45pm - Welcoming reception; video clip of Eleanor Roosevelt on conflict; presenting a permanent plaque about the UN commitment to water, sanitation and hygiene improvements worldwide

5:45-5:50pm - Call to order and welcome words by the President

5:50-6:10pm - Presentations (short talks, supported by posters) by our student workers on our projects

6:10-6:20pm - Report by the secretary on our IRS correspondence and a proposal to adjust the by-laws.

6:20-6:30pm - A video clip on Rio+20

6:30-6:50pm - Reports by treasurer, nominating committee.
   a. Presentation and vote on Budget for 2012-2013
   b. Election of Officers and other board members

6:50-7:00pm - Presentation of upcoming events and plan of action

7:00-7:10pm - Film clip One Goal Peace Day

7:10-7:30pm - Discussion and Q and A

7:30pm - Call to adjourn

We will be posting meeting-related documents on our website on the “About us” page [http://www.una-gp.org/AboutUs.html](http://www.una-gp.org/AboutUs.html) Up so far are the invitation and agenda, some bylaws issues, and the slate of nominees. Budget to come!
We have initiated a campaign to increase the visibility of the shot@life campaign in Philadelphia. We started out by advertising more publicly for the "shots for shots" event, including in local coffee houses, parks, dance studios, and on poles. The shot@life cause and website have also been submitted for display on the Peco Tower in central Philadelphia for three days in August. We are also in the process of designing and fundraising for a shot@life advertisement to span the sides of two SEPTA buses for one month. Finally, we have submitted an op-ed on shot@life to the Philadelphia Inquirer and will be submitting a similar op-ed to the LaSalle, Drexel, UPenn, and Jefferson newspapers.

What the Team has Been Doing!

On June 1st, we hosted a fundraiser called "Shots for shots" at a local bar, where money was raised for the shot@life campaign through wristband sales, a raffle, and the cover at the entrance. At the event we also offered information on the shot@life program and gave out fliers with the UNA-GP website on them. The event was attended by over 50 guests despite the poor weather.
Partnerships In the Community:

Shot@life Philly has established two new partnerships in the city which are aimed at integrating the medical and educational community into the vaccine discussion:

- Next school year, students from Girls High will be working with the shot@life campaign. We will be doing a presentation with the girls and, as a part of their community service, some students will be participating in the campaign.
- We also are in the process of distributing shot@life literature to pediatricians’ offices so that it can be posted in waiting rooms for patients to read.

Branding:

The shot@life Philly group has also created rubber wristbands which say Shot@life/Eliminate which we are selling as a part of our fundraising effort and to increase the visibility of shot@life and Eliminate MNT campaigns. We have ordered 300 to start with and will be selling them throughout the summer. We also have an independent shot@life/Eliminate MNT Facebook page which can be found at http://www.facebook.com/ShotAtLifeEliminateMaternalNeonatalTetanusPhilly

A Thank you to the Team!

Dear Kiahana, Christiaan, and the UNA - Greater Philadelphia team,
Thank you so much for everything you have been doing to support Shot@Life and global vaccines! We hope these additional materials are useful as you continue to raise funds and collect email addresses. Please keep us posted!
All the best,
the Shot@life team
Caroline
Elise
Sam
Aimee
The modernization of the procurement system in Mexico is helping the country save money while improving the health, education, and housing systems. Since public purchases represent a third of the Mexican national budget, and 8-10% of the GDP, doing them efficiently is important! Enhancing the procurement system has proven to help reduce crime in certain areas. The WTO is working with Mexican authorities to help implement changes.

2. A South African cartoon - No joke:
A cartoon of President Jacob Zuma has provoked a storm of outrage. The African National Congress (ANC) calls Artist Brett Murray’s portrait of South African president Jacbo Zuma an “outrage” and “disgusting”. The piece titled “The Spear” has inspired South Africans to stand up for freedom of expression in art. Source: The Economist http://www.economist.com/node/21555950

3. Thailand: Internet Trial a Major Setback for Free Speech; Web Manager Convicted for Failing to Remove Lese Majesty Content:
Thai laws intended to protect the monarchy have seriously altered freedom of expression and speech in Thailand. Chiranuch Premchaphorn the manager of a news website has recently been sentenced to one year in prison for “Internet crimes”. Source: Common Dreams http://www.commondreams.org/newswire/2012/05/30

4. America as a Shining drone Upon A Hill:
The Global drone conundrum has caused a new power game among the countries. Every year more money is being poured into agencies that promote this secret drone warfare. The National Security Agency is currently funding a $2 billion, one-million-square-foot data center in Utah as well as the gigantic $1.8 billion headquarters the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency. Drone threats have become a global concern and will play a huge role in the 2012 Presidential election. Source: Le Monde Diplomatic http://mondediploto.com/openpage/americasa-shining-drone-upon-a-hill

5. Trade Unionists Denounce Persecution in El Salvador:
International Labor Organization (ILO) have voiced their concern for the rights of laborers in El Salvador after changes promised by president Mauricio Funes were not made. Many Latin American countries have recently expressed their frustration with labor problems in the area. Many Latin Americans fear that their rights to organize their labor unions may be in danger. Source: Inter Press Service http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=108002

6. Impact of Jobs Crisis on Youth Among Issues on Agenda of UN Labor Conference:
5,000 delegates met in Geneva at the end of May to discuss the effects of the current job crisis on the youth at the 101st International Labor Conference. At the conference it was noted that 45-50 million new jobs are needed each year, over the next five years, just to get back to the pre-crisis employment level. Source: UN news http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=42115&Cr=youth&Crl

7. UNESCO Calls for Protection of Libya’s Old City of Ghadamès:
In hopes of conserving their cultural heritage Libya calls for the protection of the city Ghadamès, also known as the “pearl of the desert”. Irina Bokova, Director General of UNESCO, asked that anyone involved in fighting in the area “refrain from hostile acts that could cause additional damage to this outstanding city”.
My Trip to Ghana: Sanimix Waterless Toilet Project  
(by Andrew Young)

On May 20th Ethan Blum (composting expert and student at University of Pittsburg student) and I arrived in Yonso, a rural town in the Ashanti region of Ghana. Our goal was to educate members of the local community about sanitation and composting. We planned to teach them how to compost properly and how to build and use waterless toilets. The waterless toilets are officially called Sanimix Units. They were designed and conceptualized by David Childs, an American inventor and water sanitation expert.

The main form of income for the people in these rural communities is agriculture, more specifically cocoa farming. Our purpose was to help the community increase their crop yields through the use of composting and human manure (known as “humanure”). The more direct and important effect of using these waterless toilets is the improvement to waste management and sanitation. As opposed to traditional latrines that will always need maintenance and possible human contact with the waste, the waterless toilets eliminate human and insect contact with the waste through the use of orange oil and the plumbing of the unit. This is a great improvement to sanitation over conventional latrines.

During my time spent in Yonso, Ethan, myself, and the community successfully built one waterless toilet and one large communal composting bin. The community had successfully started to compost food and organic waste at the time of my departure from Ghana. I am more than confident that they will continue to help themselves by utilizing the improved sanitation techniques and composting methods that we taught them.

*I will be presenting an overview of my trip during the Annual Membership Meeting on June 29, 2012.
Peace Day Philly 2012 Launch Event
Wednesday, June 20, 2012
1:30pm
Ethical Humanist Society of Philadelphia
1906 S. Rittenhouse Square
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Get involved in Peace Day Philly 2012,
a region-wide opportunity to observe
the United Nations International Day of Peace,
a day of ceasefire & non-violence celebrated worldwide
on September 21.

Learn about & share ideas for creating peace & non-violence activities
involving the arts, education, community, spirituality & faith, sports,
service, intercultural dialogue & more during the week of Sept. 17, 2012.

For more information, visit our NEW website:
http://www.peacedayphilly.org

Please RSVP: e-mail us at contact@peacedayphilly.org

WHAT CAN YOU DO?
UNA-USA Nationwide Conference Call

LIVE FROM RIO: An Insider’s Look into the UN Conference on Sustainable Development

with

Robb Skinner
Senior Director, UN Relations and Special Initiatives
United Nations Foundation

Fri., June 22, 1 p.m. ET

U.S./Canada Dial-in: 877-397-0291
International Dial-in: 0-800-891-6846
Passcode: 631273

Please RSVP via email to membership@unausa.org

For those that can’t make it to Rio, UNA-USA’s June Nationwide Conference Call – Rio+20: The Future We Want is the perfect opportunity to connect and engage with the action happening on the ground. Listen in as the UN Foundation’s Robb Skinner gives a full readout of what happened during the conference, what the major players had to say, and what happens next. In addition to a conference recap, he will detail happenings surrounding Rio+Social another opportunity for UNA-USA members to engage with Rio. Rio+Social will take place on June 19, and captures the fact that technology will be the principal driver for starting the conversation on 21st century sustainability issues. For more information on the event, including how to get involved, please visit: www.rioplussocial.com.

About our speaker:
Robb Skinner is the UN Foundation's Senior Director for UN Relations and Special Initiatives. In this role, he assists in managing daily operations and activities of the UN Foundation's New York staff in conjunction with the Washington, DC office.

Robb rejoined the UN Foundation in April 2008 after a brief tenure working in international corporate law. Previously, he was the Director of External Relations in the Foundation’s New York Office. Before originally joining the Foundation in April 2006, Robb spent nearly nine years as a Foreign Service Officer in the U.S. Department of State, serving in U.S. Embassies in Trinidad & Tobago, El Salvador, and Côte d'Ivoire, as well as at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in New York. He also practiced law in Chicago, including over three years as a criminal defense attorney with the Office of the Cook County Public Defender.

Robb received his law degree from the University of Wisconsin, spending one semester studying European Union Law at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands. His undergraduate degree is from Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan.