



Naples Council on World Affairs

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2012/2013

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NAPLES COUNCIL ON WORLD AFFAIRS NEWS & VIEWS

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President's Message

Here we are with the lecture year almost over. It seems to have flown by very quickly. From your many comments, I know that we have been successful in our quest to provide you with a series of speakers that achieve our goals to educate and engage you in critical global issues – and hopefully inspire you. We know that each thought-provoking speaker will have those who agree and those who dissent, but from what I hear, the lectures are the “best deal in town”.



The Program Committee is already at work on next year's line-up. The Committee has a long history of selecting subject matter in the spring that is timely in the next season. Barbara Slavin's talk on Syria is an excellent example. As always, we invite your comments and suggestions.

During the year I have tried to talk more about the Outreach activities and Model United Nations program. The Board feels they are an important part of the Council's presence in this area. I hope you have enjoyed hearing from the students that have participated in the Experiment in International Living program, through the scholarships we award. For those of you who were out at FGCU for the Model UN, I know you saw exceptional students working together. We want to continue supporting these programs along with the Academic World Quest competitions, sending students to the Georgetown University summer seminars, teacher trainings and other outreach activities. All of these are funded by your donations in addition to your membership dues. The membership renewal letter and form will be in the mail late April. I hope you will consider making an additional gift this year.

After the Annual Meeting, we will have elected three new Directors: Mimi Gregory, Greg Hudson and Bob McGinn. While we are excited to have them join the Council's Board, we know we will miss the talent and wise counsel of Trixie Dorsett Germer, Herb Evert and Tom Dyckman.

On a personal basis, this past year has been even more gratifying than I was hoping it would be. Even after being on the Board for three years, I was not aware of the myriad of places that the NCWA touches our members and our community. I am so proud to be your President. I think this is the best job I have ever had and I thank you!

Judith Lipnick, *President*

Thanks to our photographers Bradlee White and Debbie Doyle!

Program Committee

As we come into the last quarter of the season, I have to say that we have had strong support for our programs to date and certainly with Barry McCaffrey! In addition to his remarks about our military, his assessment of America's standing in the world certainly reinforced our own desires to see our country remain at the top. Quickly following the General, Daniel Markey's (Council on Foreign Relations) presentation on India could not have been more timely. Just returned from Pakistan, his recitation of the troubled actions between India and Pakistan, included in his overall remarks, is what the phrase "current events" truly means.



General Barry McCaffrey, presenting "*Challenges to American's Security__ After Afghanistan and Iraq*"

Barbara Slavin accepted our invitation last May, and named Syria the lynch-pin of the Middle East...who would have dreamed that 10 months later the escalation continues. Upcoming on March 18th, we should have some news regarding our grant of \$60 million to the Syrian opposition that John Kerry announced in Rome on his first trip as Secretary of State.

April 1st brings Cynthia Watson back to the podium as Latin America deals with the Chavez question, Brazil prepares for the Olympics with many questions as to their ability to host, and by the way, where are China, Russia and Iran going next in the Southern Hemisphere?

We are thrilled to offer an extra program this year, on Monday April 8th, under the auspices of the Committee for Special Activities. Ambassador Ryan C. Crocker will address the Council at 10 a.m. at St. John's.

Ryan Crocker is the first Kissinger Senior Fellow at Yale University, 2012-2013. Following his retirement from the Foreign Service in April of 2009, after 37 years, he was recalled by President Obama to serve as Ambassador to Afghanistan in 2011. He has served as U.S. Ambassador six times: to the countries of Iraq, Pakistan, Syria, Kuwait and Lebanon. He is the recipient of the Robert C. Frasure Memorial Award "for exceptional courage and leadership" in Afghanistan. In September 2004, he was awarded the personal rank of "Career Ambassador", the highest in the Foreign Service.

Our Annual Dinner will close the season on April 16th at the Port Royal Club and will feature author Robin Wright as our dinner speaker. Her expertise on the Middle East is clearly noted in her book, "Rock the Casbah". We hope you will join us for this always delightful event..

Mimi Gregory, *Director of Programs*

Membership Committee

It is that time of year again when we invite those with Individual and Family memberships to renew for the 2013-2014 season at last year's rates of \$100 Individual and \$175 Family memberships. On March 30th, emails/letters will be sent to you outlining the appropriate instructions for renewal. Those that would like a head start can follow the simple step-by-step instructions below to renew on the NCWA website. Mimi Gregory and her Committee put together a great program this year and they are already at work on next season's speakers. We look forward to having you all back next fall. Have a great summer!



Instructions for renewing Family and Individual Memberships for 2013-14

1. Go to www.ncwa-fl.org.
2. Click on "Member Area/Login".
3. Enter in your email address and password*. Click on the "Login" button.
*Your password is the member number shown on your NCWA membership card unless you set your own password at the time you became a member or changed it since.
4. Click on the "Click here to review & update your profile" link.
5. Click on the "Privacy" link.
6. Click on the "Edit Profile" button.
7. Review each field in your profile and choose which fields you would like other members to view and which ones to allow no one to view.
8. Click on the "Save" button found at the bottom on the page.
9. Click on the "Profile" link.
10. Click on the "Renew for 2013-2014 Season" button.
11. Scroll down through your membership details, correcting your information where needed.
12. In the very bottom section please select which contribution level and amount you wish to give. Contributions are very important. Please contribute.
13. Click the "Update and next" button found at the bottom of the page.
14. Review and confirm the details shown on the page before clicking on the "Confirm and proceed with payment" button.
15. If you wish to pay online by credit card click on the "Pay online" button and complete your payment by filling in your billing information. If you wish to pay by check you may click the "Back" link to take you back to the member area. Please mail in your check as soon as possible to NCWA, 12290 Treeline Ave., Fort Myers, FL 33913.

Jim Fleck, *Chair*

Outreach Committee

On February 18th, prior to speaker David Ensor, three of our Experiment in International Living scholars shared the highlights of their experiences in Tanzania, Turkey and Japan in a brief two minute presentation to our members. Your letters, emails and verbal praise for their presentations and the EIL program were most gratifying. It was your generosity that gave them these life changing opportunities. They will never forget you.



This year we have 40 applicants for EIL and are currently interviewing them at their high schools. That's a 50% increase over 2012, due to returning awardees sharing their experiences at their respective high schools. Our budget allows us to award 8 of the 40 EIL scholarships this summer. If you feel the program worthy and would like to help us send more of the many worthy applicants in the future, a donation to the Outreach program would be most welcome and greatly appreciated.

On February 2nd, more than 100 students competed in the Middle School Academic World Quest. North Naples Middle School won 1st place and Pine Ridge Middle School came in 2nd. Of the 28 teams entered, the top 5 scoring teams were awarded gift cards to Barnes and Noble and medals for academic excellence.

On March 2nd, 64 students competed in the High School Academic World Quest. Community School won for the second consecutive year. Teams from Gulf Coast High School won 2nd and 3rd place. They, too, were awarded Gift cards and medals. Community School also won an all expense trip for their 1st place team and their teacher/coach to Washington D.C. in April to compete against 50 or more World Affairs Councils from the United States.

We are currently interviewing 16 applicants for scholarships to attend George Washington University this summer for a program on International Relations or National Security. Our budget will allow us to send 8 students.

On February 5th, following his lecture the previous day, General McCaffrey delivered a speech to 300 Jr. and Sr. ROTC students from Collier County Public Schools on Leadership at Gulf Coast High School. It was a huge success and was covered by NBC and Fox local TV.

All of the above programs and other Outreach programs are due to your generosity to meet our mission of "Educating, Inspiring and Engaging the Community in World Affairs and Global Issues" for which we are most grateful.

Chuck Stuart, *Chair*

Hospitality Committee

If you enjoy the opportunity to attend a few small intimate luncheons with our Speakers, you might consider joining the President's Club when you renew your Council membership for next season. With an additional \$250.00 contribution, you will join other members in these interesting and stimulating discussions. It is a great opportunity to interact with the Council's Board of Directors, and members of the President's Club. And our Speakers appreciate becoming acquainted with the Council's membership.

Do join us!



Judy Rubinstein, *Chair*

Middle School Academic World Quest

1st place Team from North Naples Middle School



(Left to right: Coach Brad Preston, Robert Beatty, Jake Fecher, Dillon Lewis, Will McCann, Jared Kelley)

SWFL Model United Nations Program

On March 7th and 8th approximately 300 students from 17 area high schools met on campus of Florida Gulf Coast University for the 20th annual Model United Nations session. Following are some details of the event.



The committee structure of the Model UN replicates that of the United Nations. Topics addressed are different each year and are selected by Dr. Richard Coughlin, FGCU's faculty member who works with us on this project.

Each school requests the countries that they would like to represent (36 countries are included). The selections are made at the beginning of the school year and each school's Model UN Committee spends the next several months preparing for the event in March. Students must study the culture, politics, history and vital interests of the country they represent so that they can participate in an informed and articulate manner in their committees' deliberations.

Samples of topics to be deliberated (and on which a consensus resolution must be developed) include:

- ✦ Counterinsurgency and the Stabilization of Order—how can Counterinsurgency Policies contribute to the resolution of conflicts?
- ✦ Developing foreign aid in the age of austerity.
- ✦ How to deal with crises in Syria and Sudan etc.

Seventy people volunteered to work on this project. Ten one-year, \$1500 scholarships were awarded to the students with the highest ranking as determined by the forty committee judges.

This is a "great" Council program. Thank you for your support!

Earl H. Anderson, *Chair*

Great Decisions Program

By the time you receive this Newsletter our 2013 Great Decisions discussion season has almost ended. I am happy to report that this year's participation has surpassed all previous levels. A total of 616 NCWA members and associate members have registered in our 20 discussion groups. To accommodate new members we will open at least two new discussion groups for next year.



All our 2013 participants have received an invitation to pre-register for the 2014 season if they wish to join the same group again next year. To be sure of a place in the same group we ask you to register before April 12, 2013. You may register either online on our web site www.ncwa-fl.org (go to Great Decisions, then click on Registration), or you can call (239) 649 3942.

If you are a 2013 participant who wants to participate again in 2014 but in another group, you will have a second opportunity to pre-register, this time for the group of your choice. Invitations to do so will be sent soon after April 12 and you will be asked to react before May 15, 2013. Thereafter registration will be open for all NCWA members and associate members.

Great Decisions is a program for NCWA members. Associate members are given an opportunity to participate while they wait for an opening to become full members. NCWA associate members are therefore reminded that, when such an opening occurs, they have to become full NCWA members if they wish to continue participating in Great Decisions.

I welcome you to join our ever-increasing group of enthusiastic and loyal Great Decisions members.

Maas van den Top, *Chair*

2013 Annual Dinner

**The ever popular and well attended NCWA Annual Dinner
will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2013,
at the Port Royal Club in Naples.**

*For information contact HerbertEvert07@comcast.net,
Or Amanda Mingione, at amingione@PhaseV.com.*



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LECTURE BROADCASTS

Our Lecture Series is aired on
Sunday nights at 8:00 pm
after the Monday lectures

Thanks to our partnership with WGCU-FM, Public Media

The lectures can be heard on
WGCU: 90.1 FM, Naples and
WMKO: 91.7 FM, Marco Island

Trixie Dorsett Germer, Newsletter Editor