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NAPLES COUNCIL ON WORLD AFFAIRS

Editor: Richard Clemens

Winter 2018

President's Message



Gregory E. Hudson
President

Recent months have proved **a challenging time** for us at NCWA. Unpredictability has cast its shadow over our usually reliable venue for the lectures scheduled for this season. Most years, it has been easy to take for granted the availability and hospitality of Kiney Hall at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. The St. John's leadership and staff have been both accommodating and generous in providing us the perfect venue. But this year, Hurricane Irma changed all that.

As most of you know, **damage done to Kiney Hall by Irma** and the work to carry out necessary repairs has rendered it unavailable to us for the first five lectures of the season through January 8, 2018, at least, and later lectures remain uncertain. Mimi, as she has since mid-October, has worked tirelessly to secure alternative sites. Artis has kindly accommodated us for one lecture, and Temple Shalom has generously opened their doors to us for two more. Both have been wonderful venues, and their leadership and staff have been a pleasure to work with.

And the work continues. Artis can accommodate us again on January 7th, so we have re-scheduled the January 8th lecture to January 7th. And we are optimistic about an alternative venue for January 22nd. Our lecture series is our NCWA flagship program; it's fundamentally who we are. And we will make every possible effort to assure that it continues to offer the best speakers, the most timely topics, and the most convenient venues available. But it will be with a sigh of relief that we return again to Kiney Hall.

At the same time, the work of our board and our committees, and the readiness of our programs have moved forward as usual. As is evident from other articles in this edition of the newsletter, **Great Decisions**, with a record registration of participants, is moving quickly in preparation for its leaders meeting and the start of its group meetings in January. The **Model UN Committee** is working hard in preparation for its MUN competition in March. The Student Outreach Committee is preparing for summer scholarship program interviews in January, and middle school and high school Academic World Quest competitions in February and March. And this year, we again offer the day-long **National War College Seminar** in February. Our members' experiences of participation in all these programs have consistently proven both enriching and fulfilling.

One final note and reminder: this edition of the NCWA newsletter marks the implementation of our new policy of delivering the newsletter to our members by email. It is by far the most efficient way to do so, and the method used by many large organizations. Of course, all newsletters will continue to be posted and archived on the NCWA website, www.ncwa-fl.org.

OUR MISSION: *To educate, inspire and engage our community in international affairs and critical global issues.*

Officers:

President - Gregory E. Hudson
Vice President for Operations – Judith Lipnick
Vice President for Programs - Mimi Gregory
Secretary - Richard G. Clemens
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Jan K. Guben	Robert Pendergrass
Robert P. Haffa	Gunther Winkler
Edwin S. Leland	Mo Winograd
Robert J. McGinn	

Program Committee



Mimi C. Gregory
Vice President for Programs

What a challenge Irma brought us as our Lecture Series began this October! As you are aware, our opening lecture had to be cancelled and we were certainly faced with some very creative thinking in order to greet Professor Karen Jacobsen on the subject of Human Migration, on November 11th. But think of that topic...and you will see that we were a migration of at least 1200 who came together at Hayes Hall for a great presentation. Professor Jacobsen was properly overwhelmed by the setting, and weren't those seats positively inviting?

Evans Revere was one of our best ever speakers; North Korea, however, remains an enigma for the best of the diplomats and military minds and we can only hope that a solution may be found in the very near future. Understanding the mind of Kim Jong Un offers the best test in psychological training, paired with plain old muscle on the part of the Chinese who seem, to date, to still be putting on the brakes. We will have another round on Korea when the War College Seminar comes to Naples.

Ambassador Steven Pifer returned to Naples on December 11th, and we were schooled on the triangle of Ukraine, Russia and the United States. Having spent most of his diplomatic career in that arena, followed by his time at Brookings, we had THE expert on the subject. Ambassador Pifer will leave Washington in January and join the faculty at Stanford. We wish him great success.

As the year turns, we will welcome Ambassador Ryan Crocker back to the podium to speak on Afghanistan and Iraq: The Longest Wars. We hope that his lecture will not be presented in Cambier Park! Wishing you all wonderful holidays!

Great Decisions



Gerry Melnick
Chair, Great Decisions

Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. Our program begins on January 15, 2018 and continues for eight weeks, ending March 9, 2018. This year 829 registrants have enrolled in the program, an increase from 748 enrolled in 2017. There are 27 groups which meet in 9 different venues from Marco Island to Estero. They are led by group leaders with impressive credentials bringing a wealth of experiences to the program. It is anticipated that one additional group will be added in 2019 due to increasing interest in Great Decisions.

The Foreign Policy Association selected the eight topics for 2018 and engaged scholars to write the articles for their briefing book which registrants read and discuss weekly. This year's topics which are both timely and topical are: The End of Pax Americana, Russia, China, The Media and Foreign Policy, Turkey, United States Defense Budget, South Africa, and Global Health. The FPA also supplements the readings with video recordings of a television series featuring discussions by experts on the eight Great Decision topics. They are available on the Naples Council on World Affairs Council website.

Group leaders will have their organizational meeting on January 6, 2018 at St. John the Evangelist Church which will be followed by the distribution of the briefing books. Registrants were notified of the date, time and place to receive their books.

We would also like to express our appreciation to the following Great Decisions group leaders who were accidentally omitted from the list of NCWA volunteers in our last newsletter: Dan Bumstead, Jan Guben, Bob Haffa, Greg Hudson, bob McGinn and Mo Winograd.



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Model United Nations



Mo Winograd

Chair, Model United Nations

Each year, NCWA, in partnership with Florida Gulf Coast University, sponsors the Southwest Florida Model United Nations Conference. High school students from participating high schools represent different countries, discuss international issues, propose resolutions and act as UN delegates on behalf of a country. Last year, 32 high schools participated in the Conference. NCWA members act as judges and provide many other support services for the Conference. Next year's Model UN Conference will again be held at FGCU on March 8th and 9th. Awards and scholarships are presented to the best-performing student- delegates at the end of the Conference. This year, the guest speaker at the awards ceremony will be Alan Van Egmond, who served is a former Senior Policy Advisor and Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan at the U.S. Department of State.

This year, NCWA has added a scholarship named in memory of Ralph J. Bunche, a former Under -Secretary General of the United Nations and a distinguished African-American. In 1944, Dr. Bunche took part in planning for the United Nations at the Dunbarton Oaks Conference held in Washington, D.C. Together with Eleanor Roosevelt, he was considered instrumental in the creation and adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In 1948, Dr. Bunche became the UN's Chief Mediator for the Arab-Israeli conflict. Moshe Dayan, the Israeli negotiator, commented that much of his delicate negotiations with Dr. Bunche were conducted over a pool table on the island of Rhodes while the two were shooting pool. For his work in achieving the 1949 Arab-Israeli Armistice Agreements, Dr. Bunche was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1950.

Additional financial support would increase the amount of this scholarship -- which would be very helpful in light of the rising costs to attend college. Members can also create their own scholarship fund. Contributions may be made to NCWA online at www.ncwa-fl.org/Donate-new or by mailing a check to NCWA, 2316 Pine Ridge Road #361, Naples, Florida 34109-2006.

School Outreach Committee



Jan Guben *Chair, School Outreach Committee*

As winter begins the NCWA School Outreach Committee is gearing up for our usual busy season. Applications for our Summer scholarships which include the Cultural Ambassador international travel program through the Experiment in International Living and Student Diplomacy Corps, one-week intense academic programs in International Relations and National Security at Georgetown University in Washington DC and a 12-day program involving living and learning with international students at Governor's Institute in Vermont are on the NCWA website. Applications are due on or before January 19 and interviews with qualifying students will begin in late January. Gene Burke heads up the Cultural Ambassador program, Sophie Hewson leads our Georgetown program and Linda Crescenzi runs the Governor's Institute program. Much support for these programs, including making the students of Collier County schools aware of the available scholarships, comes from our Alumni Council led by a former scholarship recipient, Hannah Seitz.

Led by Bob Haffa and Jim Schmotter once again we will sponsor both High School and Middle School Academic World Quest programs. With the assistance of the Collier County School System, this year we are expecting record numbers of schools participating in the both contests. The High School AWQ will be held on Saturday February 24 and the Middle School AWQ will be held on Saturday March 24. Once again, the Community School of Naples has agreed to host both events. These are exciting team competitions and the kids very much appreciate the support they receive from family and friends, but also love to perform in front of a packed house of spectators.

We are very fortunate in that the School Outreach Committee, with its very busy and active Winter calendar, consists of a wonderful group of caring and hard-working individuals committed to providing g intellectual and cultural experiences and challenges to the local Collier County school community, both public and private. We are always looking for new members and if you are interested and would like to meet and work with the future leaders of Collier County, please contact me at janguben@gmail.com.

NCWA's Georgetown University 2017 Summer Program

As an important part of the activities of the School Outreach Committee, NCWA offers full scholarships to Collier County high school juniors for a one-week summer program on international relations at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. The students who participate in these programs universally have high praise for the program, which is funded by contributions from NCWA members. Below are some excerpts from the essays of the students who attended the 2017 Georgetown summer program. The full text of these student essays can be found on NCWA's website at www.ncwa-fl.org/sogoergetown.html.



From left to right: **Georgetown scholarship winners: Catherine Stogner, Valentina Zuluaga, Harrison Powell, Lily Cuellarsola, & Erline Miclisse.**

Alexander Askar, Community School of Naples:

"As a passionate young man of politics, the International Relations program at Georgetown University exceeded my expectations. Going into the program, I knew that I'd be surrounded by knowledge and intellectual individuals, but I was not aware of how far the program planned to educate myself and others. Students didn't just listen to lectures by elite Georgetown professors, they were exposed to everything our Nation's capital has to offer. We met with politicians such as Congressman Rooney, we visited monuments, and had debated/discussed everything we learned. ...The fact that the Naples Council on World Affairs is remarkable, and I am extremely thankful that they granted me this unique opportunity..."

Lily Cuellarsala, Barron Collier High School:

"A week at Georgetown exceeded my expectations. This whole experience has made me extremely excited about going off to college next year and getting to build up on my knowledge of International Relations. I cannot thank the NCWA enough for giving me this opportunity; I truly got to face life outside of the Naples bubble."

Molishka Heriveaux, Lely High School:

"From the first day, I met students from Russia, China, Columbia, Peru, Saudi Arabia, and many other countries and

walks of life. Regardless of what our backgrounds were, we instantly connected and were able to have intellectual conversations regarding current and historical events, racial and gender roles, and even social media trends. These students were some of the brightest minds I had ever met and being around them revived my love of learning and my interest in the world around me.”

Erline Miclisse, Lely High School:

“My point here is, there is so much to do and so much to learn. This is the best program that ever happened to young adults like me that are pursuing the international relations field.”

Harrison Powell, Barron Collier High School:

“‘24 to 21’ I called out before serving the volleyball on the game’s winning point with one of the most diverse and unified teams I have ever been on. Within the six of us on the team, we represented the countries of Russia, France, Italy and the United States. Despite our differences in origins, within a day of being at Georgetown to study International Relations, we developed lasting friendships. ...The opportunity I was given to go and study International Relations at Georgetown University is one that I will cherish the rest of my life. The experience had a profound impact on my world views, and I established many friendships that I will cherish for rest of my life.”



From left to right: **Nora Vedder, Congressman Francis Rooney, Alexander Askar, Molishka Heriveaux**

Annie Stockham, Barron Collier High School:

“This really set in the ‘college experience,’ and going into college next year, it was something I needed. My mom wasn’t around to guide me along, and she won’t be when I leave for college, wherever I end up. This week showed me that I will be able to handle it, and was a huge relief. Overall, the week was amazing, and I would like to thank the Naples Council on World Affairs for this opportunity of a lifetime.”

Catherine Stroger, Lely High School:

“My experience during the Georgetown Summer IR program was unlike any other experience I have ever had. Not only were the lecturers and staff knowledgeable of the topics that I was interested in, the other students were as well. It was a breadth of fresh air to be able to talk with peers about world issues and have productive conversations in discussion groups....I am so grateful for the experience and beyond honored that I was chosen to receive the scholarship.”

Nora Vedder, Barron Collier High School:

“With my senior year and the daunting college application process quickly approaching, I am grateful for the opportunity to have been able to explore my interest in international affairs at the breathtaking Georgetown University. The knowledge gained from this institute has opened my eyes to a realm of global viewpoints on current events and possible career paths.”

Valentina Zulaga, Mason Classical Academy:

“I would not have imagined I would have the opportunity to study international relations from one of the best IR schools in the country, but thankfully, I was able to do so with the help of the NCWA. As college application season rolls on, I find myself more confident in my own skin, ready to take the leap into college and into a further education in international studies. Through the NCWA and Georgetown University, I deepened my passion for helping others in different countries and I know that my week in Washington, D.C. has impacted my life in a positive and lasting way.”

NCWA’s Georgetown University scholarship program and the other school outreach activities described above are dependent upon voluntary contributions—in addition to dues -- from members and friends. You can contribute online at www.ncwa-fl.org/Donations1/ or by mail to NCWA, 2316 Pine Ridge Road #361, Naples, Florida 34109-2006.

The President's Club/ Speaker Luncheons



Robert Pendergrass
Chair, Hospitality Committee

We are coming into "season" now and I have the experience of three luncheons and one cancellation.

At the beginning of the season, I requested President's Club members to respond to me for their priorities for luncheons. About one quarter of President's Club members replied. The feedback from those who have attended is very positive, having enjoyed the opportunity to directly contact the speakers and Board members at the luncheons.

President's Club members who listed first and second priorities will be invited to those luncheons with a few exceptions. In many cases third and even fourth priority requests will be fulfilled. For NCWA members who are already members of the President's Club, I would encourage you to make requests or to add to your initial request for places since there are places available for some of the luncheons.

Membership in the President's Club is provided to NCWA members who donate \$250 or more within each calendar year entitling you to attend luncheons with the lecturers. For more information see www.ncwa-fl.org/presidentsclub.

NCWA Website



Gunther Winkler
Webmaster

You may have seen already and enjoyed our updated website. We listened to your input and have made improvements to the layout and to the navigation across the entire NCWA website and especially to the Home page.

When you open www.ncwa-fl.org on your browser you enter our Home page. There you find the most important information about upcoming events and news. This is a useful feature when you quickly want to check on the topic, day, time and location of the next lecture and other scheduled events. This feature has proven very useful in the wake of hurricane Irma when we had to announce changes to our lecture venues on short notice.

We also made it easier for you to access the NCWA Newsletter with a single click. The links to both, the newsletter and the president's message, are found right below the welcome message. Please notice that the words "NCWA NEWSLETTER" and "PRESIDENT'S

MESSAGE" are underlined on the web page. In most cases an underlined word on our website means that it is an active link and when you click on it, it will direct you to the specific information that you wish to see.

When you scroll down the home page you will see new fields that will let you directly access the most popular functions on our website such as the annual membership renewal, the application to join the President's Club or the Donation page.

As previously, but now separately organized into a Members' and a Students' section, all our programs are listed on the right side of the Home page. Each program topic can be easily accessed from there with a single click. Of course, you may also use the Menu buttons at the top of the website. They offer a more detailed navigation and they are accessible on each page of our website.

All this and much more information is available to you on our website 24/7 and most of it can be easily printed. Should you still have questions or suggestions, please contact our call center during normal business hours at 239-649-3942



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Membership Information



Judith Lipnick
Vice President, Operations

For those of you who have been to the Fall 2017 lectures, thank you for traveling with us. I want to thank our Greeters and Board members who are at the doors helping our members navigate new surroundings.

Our decision to mail membership cards this year using first class postage was a success with very few members not receiving their cards. I urge you to check the ncwa-fl.org member roster under the Members tab to be sure the information we have is correct including email and postal addresses. You can do this by going to the website (ncwa-fl.org), logging in, clicking the member tag and then member roster. This year has shown us how important it is for us to be able to get in touch with you with event changes. We will continue to bring the directories to lectures for distribution.

Membership Renewal notices will be sent out on February 1, 2018 with a deadline of March 15, 2018. Please give it prompt attention. After the deadline, we will assume you have decided not to renew your membership and offer the opportunity to one of Associate Members on the wait list. Since our seating is limited, current members who do not renew on time, will be asked to become Associate Members until their name comes for membership again.

Starting on January 1, 2018, with the following exceptions, all communications with our members will be by email. Those exceptions are: renewal letters for members without email access, Annual Meeting Notice, Membership Card mailing in September with Lecture Schedule and Donation Acknowledgments for tax purposes. *Please make sure your spam filters are adjusted to assure your receipt of NCWA emails.*

Please note: Membership cards are non-transferable and may be used only for the designated lecture. We are unable to accommodate session change requests, guests, member substitutes, walk-ins or Associate Member at the 11 feature presentations.

Donation Information

Members and friends of NCWA are encouraged to make donations to NCWA to help us support and expand our important outreach activities, such as the Model UN, Academic World Quest and School Outreach Programs mentioned in this newsletter. Students receive scholarships made possible by your donations. Donations may be made online at www.ncwa-fl.org/Donations1 or checks may be mailed to Naples Council on World Affairs, 2316 Pine Ridge Road, Box 361, Naples, Florida 34109-2006. Membership in the President's Club is given to NCWA members who have donated \$250 or more to NCWA within the current calendar year or provide endowments annually equal to or exceeding \$250.00. Membership in the President's Club provides an opportunity to attend luncheons hosted for featured speakers.



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Last year, NCWA sponsored a Model UN contest in which students were asked to draft a UN Resolution addressing Boko Haram's abduction of young girls in Nigeria.



Nigerian Girls, 22" x 30", pastel, 2017.
Artist: Richard Segalman. Courtesy of The WFG Gallery.
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