



TAMPA BAY CHAPTER

Working Together for Peace, Freedom & Justice

Message from the President

Dear Members,

I am thrilled to report to you that the 8th annual UNAUSA Global Classrooms Model United Nations Conference was a success. It was wonderful to see 500 students from Hillsborough, Pinellas and Pasco county schools engaged in this United Nations Simulation. We were especially fortunate to have Linda Smith of Share Hope International address the students on the topic of Human Trafficking. I would like to thank June Wallace and Seroptomists International for their support in sponsoring Mrs. Smith. I encourage you to visit <http://sharedhope.org/> to find out more about her organization efforts to combat minor sex trafficking.

This year's annual convention will take place in Washington, D.C. June 6-8 at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Many of our board members are planning on attending. This meeting is particularly important since it features the important "Day on the Hill," which is a not-to-be-missed opportunity for activists to demonstrate to members of Congress, through face-to-face meetings, the strong public support that exists for active US participation in the United Nations. You can find more information about this meeting at

Please support our 2nd Annual Ambassador's Cup Golf Tournament, June 6 at Bay Palms Golf Course on Mac Dill Air force Base. It is an important source of funds that enable us to support United Nations related projects as well as our own Global Classrooms Program. If you don't golf but would like to participate by sponsoring a golf hole or a team, please see the flyer on our website at www.unatampabay.org.

Best Regards,

Kelly Miliziano



UNA-USA Global Classrooms Model UN Conference, USF Marshall Center, March 24, 2010

UNA-USA Global Classrooms

The Mission of Global Classrooms

Global Classrooms cultivates global literacy, life skills and the attitudes necessary for active citizenship by:

- Engaging students through the exploration of international issues and institutions;
- Supporting educators through professional development and innovative learning resources; and
- Enriching communities by nurturing respect among young people for diverse perspectives.

Global Classrooms and Model UN

The centerpiece of UNA-USA's Global Classrooms program is Model United Nations, which for the past sixty years has been at the center of a thriving community of young people interested in issues of international cooperation. Model UN allows students to step into the shoes of ambassadors from UN member states to debate international issues, prepare draft resolutions, negotiate with supporters and adversaries, resolve conflicts, and navigate the UN's rules of procedure – all in the interest of mobilizing "international cooperation" to solve global problems.

With the introduction of the Global Classrooms program, UNA-USA became a pioneer in the development of simulation activities and cooperative learning strategies. Research has shown this kind of "learning by doing" strategy to be remarkably effective with students ranging from first graders to upper division college students.

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Annually, over 500,000 high school and college/university students worldwide participate in Model UN conferences—authentic simulations of meetings of the General Assembly, Security Council, and other multilateral bodies. By role-playing the position of UN ambassadors, Model UN exposes students to multiple perspectives on complex issues—such as terrorism, child labor and exploitation, refugee resettlement, sustainable development and climate change—that are of concern to young people worldwide.

Skills Developed

Basic skills such as reading and writing are developed through Global Classrooms, as are more specialized skills such as researching, public speaking, negotiation and conflict resolution. Moreover, Global Classrooms helps students develop confidence, poise, and a sense of personal empowerment.

Global Classrooms Curriculum

Global Classrooms' copyrighted curriculum, with concentrations on peacekeeping, sustainable development, human rights and the economics of globalization, offers teachers and students, unique skills and knowledge-building opportunities. Additionally, Global Classrooms can be integrated with already existing courses, such as Geography, Social Studies, and World History. The curriculum is often used by English language teachers in the international cities as a way for students to practice conversational English.

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March 17, 2010 --The United Nations Association of the United States of America announces the appointment of A. Edward Elmendorf as its new president. He succeeds Thomas J. Miller.

The United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA) is pleased to announce that A. Edward Elmendorf became the new president of the organization as of March 16, 2010. Elmendorf brings 40 years of experience to the post as an international and national civil servant.

Elmendorf started his international career in the US Foreign Service at the US Mission to the UN under Adlai Stevenson, and has been deeply engaged with international institutions ever since. After working at the US Mission, he went on to become a staff member at the United Nations and followed that with a 30-year career at the World Bank.

Most recently, Elmendorf served four years as the president of the largest local chapter of UNA-USA, the United Nations Association of the National Capital Area, (UNA-NCA). He was elected in June 2009 by UNA-USA members as chair of the UNA-USA Council of Chapters and Divisions (CCD).

"I believe the leadership that Ed has shown over the years to UNA's chapters and divisions speaks for itself," said Ambassador Thomas R. Pickering, co-chairman of UNA-USA. "His commitment to UNA-USA's mission is clear, and we are most pleased that he has accepted this vital position."

Tom Miller, UNA-USA's outgoing president, concurred, saying: "I couldn't be more pleased with the selection of Ed Elmendorf. Having led one of our most active chapters, Ed knows the organization intimately. Ed will be a superb president. UNA-USA will be in excellent hands."

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UNA-USA Global Classrooms Continued

Opportunities Created

With the support of its sponsors and project partners, Global Classrooms offers the students opportunities to:

- Develop a personal view of, and commitment to, a positive global future and an understanding of the changes needed to bring it about;
- Acquire skills of negotiation and consensus building as they role-play representatives of a particular country or interest group;
- Identify international, national and local strategies for community development;
- Develop public speaking and debate skills as they articulate "their" country or interest group's position on issues ranging from global warming to human rights and sustainable development;
- Engage in critical thinking as they are challenged to take into account the views and opinions of the many other governments and interest groups represented at the culminating conference; and
- Learn to respect others' views as they interact with people who are different from them.

UNA Tampa Bay Chapter Makes Important Donation

In late February 2010, the UNA Tampa Bay Chapter made an important donation of \$500 in the name of all of our members and the mission of the United Nations.

Medical doctor **Franck Simon** (UNAUSA Florida Division Member), Haitian-born Palm Beach county resident, is again going over to Haiti on February 27, 2010 for several weeks to aid and assist people touched by the recent massive earthquake.

At our November Florida Division meeting he shared with us the progress of his mission as individual UNAUSA Chapters, raised funds to increase his outreach.

During Dr. Franck Simon's several weeks in Haiti last year, he touched base with the UN Peacekeepers commanding officers, the UNICEF teams on the ground, and other US NGO groups in the mountains and the capital. The UNA Tampa Bay Chapter is assured that all of the funds donated by our local chapters, as well as those contributed by individuals, were put to great use.

Book by UNA Tampa Bay Board Member Tim Kennedy

Where the Rivers Meet the Sky by Tim Kennedy: This very readable book is about a pioneering attempt at participatory development and change. Kennedy begins his inspiring story with his return, in the summer of 2006, to the communities he collaborated with 40 years ago. He found waiting a moving communal reflection (project managers would have termed it "evaluation") of the profound impact of his SKYRIVER process. Kennedy offers readers at the end of his book a succinct summary of the participatory development strategies and tools he used, and identified which worked and endured. Communication for Development and Social Change (CfDSC) is the nurturing of knowledge aimed at creating consensus for action that takes into account the interests, needs, and capacities of people concerned. It is a social process. Media and ICT's are important tools but their use is not an end in itself. Interpersonal communication has a fundamental role in CfDSC. Future titles in this series will look at issues and cases relating to HIV and AIDS, and the evolving communities one finds online. Summary from Southbound Press: <http://www.southbound.com.my/>

UNA-USA Announcement Cont...

Elmendorf's long career at the World Bank, where he started in 1970, focused primarily on policy planning, loan programming and negotiation with North African countries. He was also involved in personnel management, country assistance strategy, lending and macroeconomic policy in Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan as well as in Indian Ocean countries.

In addition, Elmendorf has worked and written on health strategy and policy, largely in Africa, for the World Bank and other organizations and was a co-author of the book "Better Health in Africa," published by the World Bank in 1994.

Since retiring in 2000, Elmendorf has taught at Johns Hopkins University and consulted for the World Bank, WHO, UNDP and the US Institute of Medicine. He has been an officer or a board member of UNA-NCA for about 15 years, with responsibilities for strategic planning, development, the Advisory Council and programs. He graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. in German literature from Yale University; a master's degree in economics from George Washington University; and a master's in public health from Johns Hopkins University. Elmendorf is married with three children and as of last week he became a grandfather for the fifth time.

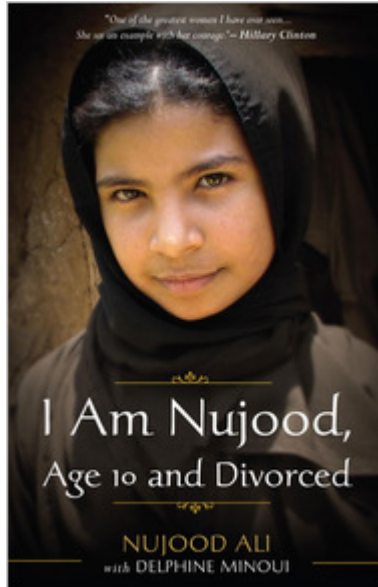
"In my view, UNA's mission is more important than ever," Elmendorf said. "The Obama administration has made a promising start and given new life to US-UN relations. I look forward to the opportunity to continue to serve UNA-USA from the national office and working with chapter leaders and UNA-USA members around the country, informing Americans about the vital role the UN plays in achieving international cooperation and advancing US foreign policy objectives."

The search for a new president began early this year, when Tom Miller announced he was leaving UNA-USA. His career includes a long and distinguished span in the Foreign Service, including ambassadorships to Greece and to Bosnia-Herzegovina as well as a Cyprus negotiator.

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Divorced Before Puberty

The United Nations Association of Tampa Bay would like to invite members to discuss, debate, and consider issues around which to draft resolutions to take to the National United Nations Association. The resolution we pass could go to the local media as well as up the line through our own UN hierarchy. Please let us know what you think about this issue, and if you would like your chapter to draft a resolution to take nationally.



<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/04/opinion/04kristof.html?em>

By [NICHOLAS D. KRISTOF](#) – The New York Times

Published: March 3, 2010

It's hard to imagine that there have been many younger divorcées — or braver ones — than a pint-size third grader named Nujood Ali.

Nujood is a Yemeni girl, and it's no coincidence that Yemen abounds both in child brides and in terrorists (and now, thanks to Nujood, children who have been divorced). Societies that repress women tend to be prone to violence.

For Nujood, the nightmare began at age 10 when her family told her that she would be marrying a deliveryman in his 30s. Although Nujood's mother was unhappy, she did not protest. "In our country it's the men who give the orders, and the women who follow them," Nujood writes in a powerful [new autobiography](#) just published in the United States this week, "I Am Nujood, Age 10 and Divorced."

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Her new husband forced her to drop out of school (she was in the second grade) because a married woman shouldn't be a student. At her wedding, Nujood sat in the corner, her face swollen from crying. Nujood's father asked the husband not to touch her until a year after she had had her first menstrual period. But as soon as they were married, she writes, her husband forced himself on her. He soon began to beat her as well, the memoir says, and her new mother-in-law offered no sympathy. "Hit her even harder," the mother-in-law would tell her son. Nujood had heard that judges could grant divorces, so one day she sneaked away, jumped into a taxi and asked to go to the courthouse.

"I want to talk to the judge," the book quotes Nujood as forlornly telling a woman in the courthouse.

"Which judge are you looking for?"

"I just want to speak to a judge, that's all."

"But there are lots of judges in this courthouse."

"Take me to a judge — it doesn't matter which one!"

When she finally encountered a judge, Nujood declared firmly: "I want a divorce!"

Yemeni journalists turned Nujood into a cause célèbre, and she eventually won her divorce. The publicity inspired others, including [an 8-year-old Saudi girl](#) married to a man in his 50s, to seek annulments and divorces.

As a pioneer, Nujood came to the United States and [was honored in 2008](#) as one of Glamour magazine's "Women of the Year." Indeed, Nujood is probably the only third grader whom Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has described as "one of the greatest women I have ever seen."

UNA-USA Announcement Cont...

"Tom has added greatly to UNA's dynamism and steadily steered the ship during challenging economic times," said William J. McDonough, co-chairman of UNA-USA. "Tom has achieved so much for UNA in so little time. The board wishes to express its appreciation for his hard work and leadership."

The United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA) is a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to building understanding of and support for the ideals and work of the UN among the American people. Its education, policy and advocacy programs emphasize the importance of cooperation among nations and the need for American leadership at the UN. UNA-USA is affiliated with the World Federation of United Nations Associations, which began in 1946 as a public movement for the UN.

World Water Day – March 22, 2010

International World Water Day is held annually on 22 March as a means of focusing attention on the importance of freshwater and advocating for the sustainable management of freshwater resources.

An international day to celebrate freshwater was recommended at the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). The United Nations General Assembly responded by designating 22 March 1993 as the first World Water Day. Each year, World Water Day highlights a specific aspect of freshwater.

World Water Day 2010 – Theme
UN-Water is dedicating World Water Day 2010 to the theme of WATER QUALITY, reflecting its importance alongside quantity of the resource in water management.

Continued on page 5.

Robert G. Ingersoll

I think all UNA members would be interested to know about the life of a great American little recognized today but who championed so many causes that the U.N. was founded to advance. Here is an article I wrote about the greatest American orator ever - Robert G. Ingersoll. Robert G. Ingersoll should need no introduction to any American but does for most. He advanced ideals and passions we judge to be noble, kind, good, wise and brave.

Robert Green Ingersoll (1833 - 1899) is often called the most remarkable American most people never heard of.

Yet, he is acclaimed as the premier orator and political speechmaker of post-Civil War America . . . (who) criss-crossed the nation lecturing from memory to packed houses for 30 years. I recently read Orvin Larson's biography entitled, *American Infidel: Robert G. Ingersoll* (The Citadel Press, NY, 1962.) In many important regards, Ingersoll was as much a REAL wellness promoter as anyone before, during or since his time. He is credited with 1500 speeches, almost always to SRO audiences. He spoke without notes (or a teleprompter, not that there's anything wrong with that). In Chicago in 1876, he addressed a crowd of 50,000. Museum scholars concluded that he was seen and heard by more of his fellow citizens than any other American prior to the advent of radio and television. Ingersoll's philosophy focused on reason, exuberance and liberty with a repertoire that included Shakespeare, Robert Burns, famous patriots, science, religion and much more. In an age when public lectures were the dominant form of general entertainment, Ingersoll was the unchallenged king orator. Among his best-known speeches were *The Gods, Ghosts, Humboldt, Shakespeare and What Must We Do To Be Saved?*

Ingersoll was a friend of presidents (Hayes, Garfield, Arthur and Grant), literary giants (including Mark Twain), captains of industry (Thomas Edison, Andrew Carnegie) and leading figures in the arts (Walt Whitman). He was a confidante of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, the preacher Henry Ward Beecher, Clarence Darrow, Eugene Debs, Robert La Follette and just about all the reformers of his day. Many Americans, however, were shocked by his religious skepticism. Yet, when he died in 1899, even most of those whose beliefs he skewered were lavish in tributes. The Reverend J.T. Sunderland, wrote that Ingersoll . . . pained the hearts not only of the ignorant and the narrow, but of many of the most intelligent and broad minded...he also set tens of thousands to thinking for themselves on religious subjects. He had pricked the bubbles of many ecclesiastical and theological shams, hypocrisies, pretenses, make-believers...he was in part responsible for the new awakening of thought and inquiry...that involved the testing of theological premises, a re-examination of the bible and the refining of conceptions of God.

In remarks at the unveiling of the Robert Green Ingersoll bust at the birthplace museum on July 6, 2001, the founder of the Council for Secular Humanism, Paul Kurtz, described Ingersoll as an agnostic and a freethinker. But more than that, he was a secularist. And I think for the twenty-first century, the great battle in the world is secularism - separation of church and state and the recognition that you can lead the good life here and now without need of an afterlife...

- Donald B. Ardell, Ph.D., Professor of REAL Wellness In Advance of Reason, Exuberance and Liberty, Publisher of the ARDELL WELLNESS REPORT (since 1984), Author of *Aging Beyond Belief* (and 15 others), Lecturer / Entertainer, 2009 World Triathlon Champion
www.seekwellness.com/wellness

For more about Robert Ingersoll, visit: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_G._Ingersoll

World Water Day – March 22, 2010 Cont..

The World Water Day 2010 and its campaign is envisaged to:

- Raise awareness about sustaining healthy ecosystems and human well being through addressing the increasing water quality challenges in water management and

- Raise the profile of water quality by encouraging governments, organizations, communities, and individuals around the world to actively engage in proactively addressing water quality e.g. in pollution prevention, clean-up and restoration.

For more information please visit:

<http://www.unwater.org/worldwaterday/flashindex.html>

What Do You Have to Say to the UNA?

The Tampa Bay Chapter of the UNA would like to know what you are interested in!

We are officially opening our newsletter and our chapter to our members and friends.

This column will be a voice to address issues or concerns you have with the UNA. Send us your comments and they could appear here!

Then, the Tampa Bay Chapter will take your concerns to the United Nations headquarters at the annual meeting.

**Please send your comments/concerns to:
jhiltonmontero@gmail.com**



UNA Tampa Bay Upcoming Events

The Tampa Bay Chapter of the United Nations Association

Presents the 2nd Annual

Ambassadors Cup Golf Tournament

Sunday, June 6th, 2010

Location: The Bay Palms Golf Course

Mac Dill Air Force Base

To register, please contact:

Kelly Miliziano at Kelly.miliziano@sdhc.k12.fl.us

Council on Chapters and Divisions (CCD)

Annual Meeting

June 6-8th, 2010

Washington, DC

UN Day – Career Development Panel

October 23rd, 2010

Planning in progress, details to be announced.

Race for Human Rights Fundraiser

5K

January 2011

Planning in progress, details to be announced.