



**Citizens for
Global Solutions, Minnesota**
Promoting global unity since 1947

This newsletter and more at our website: <http://www.globalsolutionsmn.org>

May, 2015

OUR VISION: We envision a future in which countries work together to abolish war, protect universal human rights and freedoms, foster sustainable development, and solve related problems facing humanity that no country can solve alone. This vision requires the involvement of informed world citizens to create and maintain effective democratic global institutions that will supplant the law of force with the rule of law while respecting the diversity and autonomy of national and local communities.

OUR MISSION: We are a membership organization working to build political will, promoting global citizenship and a new spirit of sharing, and devising initiatives to promote our vision. We undertake our mission by organizing educational events, communicating global concerns to public officials, collaborating with globally engaged organizations, and disseminating proposals to reform and strengthen the United Nations and other international institutions, including the creation of new agencies when necessary.

2015, the 70th Anniversary of the United Nations A Year to Affirm the Community of Nations

THE BEGINNING OF A NEVER ENDING (?) WAR

Found hidden away in a drawer in an old North Dakota farm home, was a newsprint magazine very similar in appearance to the Parade magazine insert in present day Sunday newspapers. This one had a most intriguing title: “1942 WAR ATLAS edited by H. V. Kaltenborn, Published by Pure Oil Company.” Behind the cover, page one, was Kaltenborns “*Chronology of World War II*”*. The final entry about WWII’s beginning: Jan. 15, 1942.

Most of today’s Americans likely are only dimly aware that World War II began almost three years before Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941. In the Chronology, listed are 142 events, the first being Jan 14, 1939: “**Britain protests to Japan against violations of NINE POWER TREATY.**” December 7, 1941 is entry 125. The United States was officially at War after 23 years of relative peace.

The “Old War”, as Grandma called WWII, began to end this time of year in 1945, with Germany surrendering in May, Japan holding out till September. August 6&9 came the A-bombs (which Grandma applauded – she saw it saving her son, for three long years a Naval Officer on a Destroyer in the Pacific.) “Hurrah, the old war is over”, Grandma said in a letter after the bomb. War is like that: individual and tribal survival. It is deadly short-term thinking.

Then came Peace...for not much more than a year. People were sick and tired of war and ready for peace; as they had been after the deadly “War to end all Wars” ended in 1918. The United Nations was founded 70 years ago in October.

But war drums are hard to silence. There seems, always, the next, essential, certain-to-be successful war.

The May 2015 American Legion Magazine (pp 30-38)* briefly catalogues U.S. wars over its history. Post 1941, the author concedes about a year or two of peace – between WWII and Korea.

Then are listed, the “Cold War”, (1947-91); assorted Middle East conflicts, like Iraq; the presumptive never-to-end (till we obliterate ourselves) Global War of Terrorism, (2001 to the present).

It seems that a perpetual war has been declared on our watch.

Yes, The conversation can change. But we as individuals are the only ones who can change that conversation.

Dick Bernard

* - Both the article and part of the Kaltenborn Chronology can be read on line at the beginning of <http://www.outsidethewalls.org/blog/> at April 23, 2015.

NEWS FROM THE WORKABLE WORLD TRUST (WWT)

Joe Schwartzberg, Director, WWT

Planning for the conference on “**CREATING A WORKABLE WORLD**” is proceeding nicely. The program is now almost completely set and is laid out in the flier inserted in this newsletter. It’s going to be a rich and unforgettable experience. We hope to fill all 250 seats in the conference venue, the Cowles auditorium at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota and expect substantial registration from out-state activists and students from the US and Canada So mark your calendars now, spread the word, and register early. (Thanks to Nancy Dunlavy for her amazingly efficient coordination of the planning process.)

Our March newsletter reported plans for translating Joe’s book, *Transforming the United Nations System: Designs for a Workable World*, into seven major languages. We noted that contracts had already been signed for translations into Chinese, Japanese, Russian and Spanish. We have since added Arabic and French to that list and expect soon to add German as well.

One of several other Trust initiatives was to underwrite most of the cost of sending Shimri Zameret, an Arabic-speaking Israeli to represent the World Federalist Movement (WFM) at the periodic World Social Forum, which was held in March, 2015 in Tunis, with an attendance of 70,000 persons from some 5,000 civil society organizations. There he spread news of the WFM, the WWT and the concept of world citizenship. He had a remarkable set of contacts and delivered a report on his own and other activities that was truly remarkable.

In respect to UN reform, Joe has focused in recent months primarily on the Security Council. He has visited and corresponded with staff of the UN missions of India, Brazil and Germany working on that issue and corresponded also with staff from Japan. The following letter from the German mission is worth quoting:

Dear Prof. Schwartzberg,

On behalf of Amb. Braun, I wish to thank you for your letter of 6 April, including your thoughtful proposal for a Security Council based on a regional system with weighted voting. I read your proposal attentively, as I have done with your 2013 book “Transforming the UN System”.

As you know, Germany, along with the G4 countries Brazil, India and Japan, is actively advocating for a more effective and representative UN system, especially the UN Security Council. In our view, the 70th anniversary of the United Nations presents an important opportunity for member states and the international civil society to refocus attention on this long overdue aspect. Your contribution to this debate is most welcome.

*Sincerely,
Heiko Nitzschke*

IT “DOESN’T GROW ON TREES”

Dick Bernard, Editor & Vice-President

On this newsletter is a postal stamp, affixed by a Board member of Citizens for Global Solutions, Minnesota (CGSMn). So, too, an address label. In all, there were about 400 of these newsletters assembled, stamped, addressed and sent, one of them to your mailbox, at no charge to you.

Certainly, I don’t begrudge this no-cost benefit. We want you to know what is happening. You became part of our list at some point, for some reason, and have elected to stay on our list. We’re pleased about that.

But there is another reality I’d ask you to consider, however.

As that old saying goes, which I first learned from my parents, the “money” for such things as postage and printing “doesn’t grow on trees”. It has to come from somewhere. Benefits come with a monetary cost, to someone.

A few years ago, I hear, a deceased member left CGSMn a few dollars in a bequest, which has helped to keep us going, financially, but such resources have a habit of drying up.

At our last meeting, our treasurer pointed out that we have had no income at all the past three months. This is hardly a sustainable model.

Usually, people don't contribute to things unless they are asked.

Consider yourself asked! And consider other items that also don't "grow on trees": time, talent, participation, including attending what you can, and letting others about us. We need your support; only you can provide it.

Questions? Ask them.

As an active member for the past eleven years, I can attest that, while we appear small in size, we are a very active group. Within this newsletter are a few evidences of ongoing activities that are far more than routine. I could mention, also, World Law Day on May 1, co-sponsored by our group, which attracted 55 persons; our early and active support for the soon-to-be released film about Garry Davis, World Citizen #1; and on and on.

Most recently we have completed and submitted the application for 501(c)3 status through the IRS. But your assistance is needed now. Why not send us a few dollars to help us continue to represent the interests of those interested in a better more cooperative world. And do what you can to help us thrive.

Thank you for your consideration.

Our Board: Dr. Gail Hughes, President; Dick Bernard, Vice-President; Nancy Dunlavy, Secretary; Dennis Dillon, Treasurer; Miraz Abdullah, N. John Borgen, Margaret Esslinger, Jason Johnson, Kristi Rudelius-Palmer, Dr. Bharat Parekh, Dr. Joseph Schwartzberg, Maryam Yusefzedah

Your financial support is needed: Suggested donations: \$10 students, \$30 individuals, \$40 couples. Checks to "Citizens for Global Solutions" mailed to Dennis Dillon, 210 W. Grant St #414, Minneapolis 55403.

NEWS FROM ALL CORNERS.

From Dick Bernard: A year ago Ehtasham Anwar, Humphrey/Fulbright Fellow at the UofM Law School Human Rights Center, and civil administrator in Islamabad Pakistan, interviewed and filmed a dozen peace advocates in the Twin Cities area, asking each the same questions. He has completed a video from the interviews, and plans to be in the Twin Cities about June 26. At this time, details are not available. Watch for more information.

From Nancy Dunlavy: When you have some spare time, you will find a fascinating biography of Joe Schwartzberg's life now loaded onto the Workable World Trust web site. What a whirlwind of productive activity over the last 87 years! I especially love the image of Joe riding around on his bike, visiting 200 villages throughout India.
<http://workableworld.weebly.com/about-the-author.html>

From Jim Nelson (past-President of WFA in Minneapolis). I revised my web site <http://nelsonfamilyfarm.org/> which deals with Pollination. It gets a lot of traffic I gave a talk recently about pollination and global hunger.

From Suzanne Pearce, Cambridge MA: The video made of Joe Schwartzberg's talk about the proposals in his book *Transforming the United Nations System: Designs for a Workable World* in Cambridge, MA in February, 2014 has been posted on YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R4PDFhm_dLc. Organizers were the Committee to Found a Democratic World Federation (group I work with), and cosponsors were our local Peace Action and WILPF groups and the Center for Global Community and World Law founded by Joseph Baratta and Virginia Swain. The video was made by my friend Tom Gale of One World Community Productions. Tom has quite a number of great videos online done for some Boston/North Shore local cable shows. Enjoy!

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All issues archived at
<http://www.globalsolutionsmn.org/>

Hearken not to the voice, which petulantly tells you that the form of government recommended is impossible to accomplish.

James Madison, *The Federalist*, No. 14

Quotation from the Introduction to *Transforming the United Nations System*, by Joseph E. Schwartzberg

THIRD THURSDAY GLOBAL ISSUES FORUM
Free and open to the public
Come yourself, and help spread the word to others.

Plymouth Congregational Church (Jackman room, lower level), 1900 Nicollet Ave S, Minneapolis. Abundant free parking in lot on Franklin Avenue adjacent to Church, enter building from lot on LaSalle Ave side.

More detailed bios of all speakers can be seen at <http://www.globalsolutionsmn.org/>

Thursday, May 21, 2015 6:45-8:45 p.m.

Title: How to Save the Economy, the Environment, the Internet, Our Communities, Democracy & Everything Else That Belongs to All of Us.

Presenter: Jay Walljasper

Jay Walljasper is Senior Fellow of *On the Commons*, a Minneapolis-based, globally-focused commons strategy center. He is the editor of *Commons* magazine (www.OnTheCommons.org), and a former editor of the *Utne Reader*. A popular speaker and community consultant, Walljasper gathers stories and practices from around the world that point us towards a better and more enjoyable future. He is author of *All That We Share: A Field Guide to the Commons* (2011), *The Great Neighborhood Book* (2007) and *Visionaries: People and Ideas to Change Your Life*.

**Citizens for Global Solutions, Minnesota
2015 Annual Dinner**

**“Rule of Law Fact-Finding by NGOs:
Monitoring Standards and Maximizing Impact”**



Robin Phillips

Executive Director,
The Advocates for Human Rights

Thursday, June 18, 2015

6pm Social Hour
6:30 Vegetarian Dinner
7:15-8:45 Program

**Plymouth Congregational Church
1900 Nicollet Avenue S., Minneapolis**
Free Parking; use LaSalle Avenue entrance.

DINNER COST: \$30 per person; **\$15** for students and those with limited income. To ensure a place, **reservations should be made by June 10.** Questions? Call Gail at 612-237-9819.

Robin Phillips has written extensively about human rights, including trafficking in women, employment discrimination, sexual harassment and domestic violence. She has conducted fact-finding missions to document human rights violations throughout Central and Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, Nepal, and Mexico. She has led delegations to Ghana and Liberia as part of The Advocates work with Liberia's Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Phillips has organized international conferences and trainings on human rights and NGO development issues. In addition, she has taught courses on human rights at the University of Minnesota Law School and University of St. Thomas Law School.

**For more information, please contact Gail Hughes at 612-237-9819 (cell).
Also, go to our website at: <http://www.globalsolutionsmn.org/>.**

CGS-MN Annual Dinner 2015 Reservation Form

RESERVATION: Please reserve _____ places for (*indicate names of those who will attend*):

_____ My check for _____ is enclosed.

**Please send check, payable to “Global Solutions MN,” to
Dennis Dillon, 210 W. Grant St., Apt. 414, Minneapolis, MN 55403**

**CANDIDATES FOR OFFICERS AND BOARD
CITIZENS FOR GLOBAL SOLUTIONS, MINNESOTA
(to be officially elected at annual meeting on June 18, 2015)**

PRESIDENT: GAIL HUGHES (incumbent). Gail has a diverse and eclectic background. She currently teaches, designs courses and advises doctoral candidates in post-secondary education in Capella University. Previously, she taught global studies, sociology and interdisciplinary social science at St. Cloud State University. In earlier years, Gail served as a program evaluator for the Minnesota Community Colleges. She taught English as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Lesotho and development studies as an independent volunteer in Botswana.

VICE-PRESIDENT: DICK BERNARD (incumbent). Dick joined the World Federalists in 2003, and has since been a member of the Board and participated in activities of WFA and successor organizations, including GlobalSolutions.org. Dick became a peace activist following his retirement as a teacher's union field representative in 2000. The precipitating event was the bombing of Afghanistan in 2001. He was President of Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers www.mapm.org for three years, 2005-2007, and is current Vice President of World Citizen www.peacesites.org. His personal blog is www.outsidethewalls.org/blog

SECRETARY: NANCY DUNLAVY (incumbent). Nancy Dunlavy worked as a reference librarian for over 25 years, both at the University of Minnesota and Honeywell. She has been a member of Soka Gakkai International, a socially engaged Buddhist community, for 44 years. She has initiated community events at numerous venues in the Twin Cities metro area in relation to the Earth Charter, a Culture of Peace and other causes. She was a delegate or officer of the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers from 2002-2012.

TREASURER: DENNIS DILLON (incumbent). Retired after 38 years of work on educational testing and survey research and a co-founder of two companies, Dennis is currently active in peace, justice and sustainability pursuits for the Basilica of Saint Mary parish, the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers (including chairing the Peace Island project) and People of Faith Peacemakers.

CONTINUING BOARD MEMBERS

N. JOHN BORGEN, MARGARET ESSLINGER, BHARAT PAREKH, KRISTI RUDELIUS-PALMER, JOSEPH E. SCHWARTZBERG, MARYAM YUSUFZADEH.

NEW BOARD MEMBER:

OLIVIA VON GHARATH: A Laotian immigrant that grew up in the Twin Cities, Olivia attended Concordia College in Moorhead, receiving a Bachelor's degree in International Relations. Her personal passion is global affairs, with the belief that we can transform our global community to a more peaceful and humanistic society. She has been member of the lay Buddhist organization Soka Gakkai International because of their beliefs in peace, human rights and sustainable development. Her most recent volunteer work has been as an ESL instructor at the Rondo Library with the Minnesota Literacy Council, and as the women's leadership rep and as a Board member for the local Aussie Rule Football Club.

THANKS TO OUTGOING BOARD MEMBER: Many thanks, **JASON JOHNSON**, and best wishes to you with your dissertation next year!

"CREATING A WORKABLE WORLD" conference

University of Minnesota,
Humphrey School of Public Affairs, Cowles Auditorium

OCTOBER 9-10, 2015

<http://workableworld.weebly.com/oct-2015-conf.html>

Global problems demand global solutions. However, the present international system is incapable of coping effectively with problems such as climate change, the North-South economic gap, civil wars, terrorism and pandemic diseases, among many others. Fortunately, creative thinkers have put forward numerous workable proposals for dealing with the major threats now facing humanity. Many of these will be addressed by a stellar group of experts at the "Creating a Workable World" conference.

Conference Registration Rates *(online registration available soon)*

Standard Rate, through October 1st: \$100

(includes coffee breaks, Saturday continental breakfast and Saturday lunch)

Standard Rate, after October 1st: \$125

(includes coffee breaks, Saturday continental breakfast and Saturday lunch)

High School / College Students with Student ID through October 1st: FREE

Pre-Registration required. Since we will be ordering food / beverages for coffee breaks and continental breakfast based on your registration, we expect a firm commitment. On your own for Saturday lunch (map with nearby meal options provided)

High School / College Students after October 1st: FREE, based on availability

Friday, October 9, 3:30 - 6:00pm

3:30 Registration, Coffee and light refreshments

4pm **Welcome:** Eric Schwartz, Dean, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, U of MN

4:05 **What is the Workable World Trust?** Joseph E. Schwartzberg, Director,
Workable World Trust

4:15 **Minnesota's Place in a Rapidly Changing World:** Mark Ritchie,
former MN Secretary of State; Director, Minnesota World's Fair 2023

4:35 **Musical Interlude:** Maryam Yusefzadeh and Tim O'Keefe, local musicians

4:45 **Conference Purpose and Overview:** John Trent, former Secretary General,
International Political Science Association

5pm **Keynote Speech: Time for a New Global Governance Paradigm:**
W. Andy Knight, Director, Institute of Intl. Relations, University of West Indies

Saturday, October 10, 8:30am - 5:30pm

- 8:30 Registration, Catered breakfast
- 9:15 **Welcome, Review of Friday Session, Introduce Saturday Program:**
John Trent
- 9:30 **A Workable System of Peacekeeping:**
Robert C. Johansen, Kroc Institute for Intl. Peace Studies, U of Notre Dame
- 10:15 **Imparting Greater Legitimacy to the United Nations System:**
Charlotte Ku, Co-Director, Center on Law & Globalization, College of Law,
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 11:00 Coffee Break
- 11:15 **A World (U.N.) Parliamentary Assembly:**
Andreas Bummel, Director, Committee for a Democratic U.N. (Berlin)
- Noon **Civil Society Engagement in Global Governance
and Promoting International Democracy:** William Pace, Executive Director,
World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy
- 12:45 Catered lunch
- 1:45 **Engaging Spiritual Progressives:**
Rabbi Michael Lerner, Network of Spiritual Progressives
- 2:30 **Expanding Human Rights Regimes:**
Barbara Frey, Director, Human Rights Program, CLA, U of MN
- 3:15 Coffee Break
- 3:30 **Musical Interlude:** Maryam Yusefzadeh and Tim O'Keefe, local musicians
- 3:45 **Meeting the Environmental Challenge:**
Hilary French, UNEP, Program Officer, Climate Change and Resource Efficiency
- 4:30 **Open Forum:** opportunity for conference participants to share their thoughts
- 5:15 **Concluding Remarks, Next Steps:** John Trent

NOTE: All presentations will be followed by a Q&A session

Joe Schwartzberg's book, *Transforming the United Nations System: Designs for a Workable World*, will be available for sale at a 25% discount; Joe will be happy to personally inscribe his book. Other books may be similarly available.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW
AND SPREAD THE WORD!**