



MARCH, 2009 NEWSLETTER



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT
Dr. Lisa Killinger

The year has flown by! In the next two months the World Affairs Council of the Quad Cities will be featuring a two month trip to Africa. Our March and April programs will take us from the southern most tip of the continent, South Africa, to the far northern tip, Morocco. This will conclude our 2008-09 programming. During the summer and remaining months of this academic year, our board will be busy compiling ideas and lining up speakers for our 2009-2010 programs. In September and October, 2009, WAC-QC will team up with the Bettendorf Library and World Community Institute to do two collaborative programs as part of the library's Global Gathering, on the theme of Germany. Watch for updates in the summer and early fall on this and other upcoming programs.

We welcome your input as members. If you have a topic or speaker that you feel would be of interest to our QC community, submit it by email or by phone to me at: Lisa.Killinger@Palmer.edu or 563-326-1144. All ideas that are submitted will be reviewed by the board members of the World Affairs Council and World Community Institute and final selections will be made over the summer. Also, if you or a friend would like to serve on our board, please contact me. We always welcome nominees for board positions. We welcome persons of all walks of life, from students to retirees and everyone in between. We would also like to welcome you or your friends to join or re-join as members for the upcoming year (those who join after March, enjoy membership for the next few

months and all of next year!) A membership form has been included in this newsletter for your convenience.

We look forward to seeing you at our next two programs and again as we get a new start in the fall.

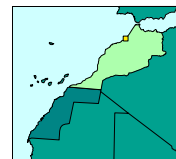
UPCOMING WAC/WCI PROGRAMS:

The following programs will be held at the Bettendorf Library, 2950 Learning Campus Drive at 7:00 PM.



Inside South Africa Today

Ed Denblaauwen
Episcopal priest from South Africa
Tuesday, March 24, 2009



Life and Traditions of Morocco

Kamal Bouzegou
Black Hawk College student from Morocco
Tuesday, April 28, 2009

**A big Thank You to these gold sponsors
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DEERE AND COMPANY

ST. AMBROSE UNIVERSITY



Dr. Marion Muste of IIHR-Hydroscience and Engineering at the University of Iowa was the speaker at our February program. His topic was ***Transboundary Rivers: Watersheds of International and National Collaboration***. An engineer, Dr. Muste serves as coordinator of the College of Engineering Fluids Laboratory and as instructor for Experimental Methods of Fluid Mechanics and Heat Transfer.

Access to adequate amounts of clean water can cause problems, disagreements and even war between countries and communities. There are 261 international river basins covering 45% of the world's land surface which house 40% of the world's population. So water problems are great and require cooperative solutions. Dr. Muste described examples of how activities in one area can cause problems elsewhere. Industrial development, housing, mining, dam building and farming methods very much affect the water quality and quantity of local areas and of far downstream. Increases in population and pollution alter the ecosystem of the whole river basin.

The difficulty of finding solutions to water problems varies according to local cultural attitudes and practices. For example, people in the U.S. tend to have a strong belief in individual ownership and the right to do what they want with their land. Buddhists see themselves as a part of the whole of nature, so have a wider view of the utilization of natural resources.

Some of the greatest water problems in need of solution are in the United States. Dr. Muste pointed out that the Mississippi River passes through 10 states with very limited overall management. Water use laws vary from state to state and federal agencies (Corps of Engineers, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Agriculture, etc.)

haven't worked together but focus on their own areas of responsibility. The following points were emphasized by Dr. Muste in regard to Mississippi River problems:

1. Increased investment in flood protection does not decrease economic losses.
2. There is a huge disconnect between science and the decision making process.
3. There are no precise tools that can predict floods – we need to learn to live with the floods.
4. We do not have enough money and knowledge to prevent floods. Waters are unsteady, living things.

The best place to solve water problems is where the rains fall. For example, the problem of hypoxia (dying of vegetation in the New Orleans delta) needs to be solved by controlling the runoff of fertilizer and nutrients from Midwest farms and lawns. There is a great need for all stakeholders to be involved in the solutions. That includes farmers, cities, all government entities, home owners, businesses. We can make a difference with new technologies such as the computer models demonstrated.



Dr. Ana Borderia-Garcia, a professor at Augustana College and native of Spain was the presenter at our January program. ***Spain After Franco*** was her topic. Her interesting and informative speech included the history of the Franco regime, its aftermath and how it still affects Spain today.

THE GLOBAL FOOD CRISIS

The Whiteside Forum is having a conference on April 17-18 at the Odell Public Library Community Room, 307 S. Madison St., Morrison, Il 61270. The topic is "***The Global Food Crisis***". Food is one of the basic requirements for life and yet millions of people in the world go to bed hungry at night. By attending this conference, you can hear views from a diverse group of people with expertise in this field. The Whiteside conferences are well planned and open to the public. Below is the schedule and presenters:

Friday night, April 17, 2009

7:00PM - Registration

7:30-9:30 Keynote presentation and Q & A.

Saturday morning April 18

8:30 registration

9:00 – 12:00 Panel presentations and Q & A

Keynote Speaker – John M. Staatz, Professor, Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, Michigan State Univ.- East Lansing, MI

Panel Moderator – Dr. William Parsons, Professor, Chair of Political Science & Leadership Studies at St. Ambrose Univ. – Davenport

Panel Members and Speakers

John E. Peck, Executive Director, Family Farm Defenders, Madison, WI

Roger Thurow, Senior Writer, The Wall Street Journal, Chicago

Hamish Gow, Associate Professor, Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics, Michigan State Univ., East Lansing, MI

For more information, contact Marc Adami, 300 N. Jackson St., Morrison, IL 61270, home phone: 815-772-4949, cell: 815-718-5347, email:

ardami@mchsi.com



AWARDS

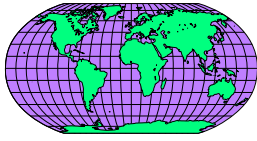
A mid-year dinner party was held at The Lodge for board members of The World Affairs Council and the World Community Institute. At that time, President Lisa Killinger presented awards to the following people for long time service above and beyond the call of duty:

Bob and Doris Libey (above) were recognized as those with greatest longevity as WAC members. Bob is a current board member and both have served multiple terms on the board. The Libeys are also known for creating many WAC booths at local multi-cultural festivals, featuring art, musical instruments and collectables from the four corners of the world. We appreciate their many years of dedication.

Ted and Eloise Pfeiff (below) were also honored, Ted as long time board member, past president, and vice president, Eloise as newsletter editor.

Tom and Judy Betts (picture in December newsletter) were honored for their long time leadership of the WCI and for handling the mailing of program fliers to our members every month.





INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

Black Hawk College is having an International Festival.

Date: Saturday, April 4th, 2 to 7 PM.

Cost: \$1.00 if purchased before April 3rd, \$2:00 day of event.

All proceeds will support BHC International/ESL Scholarship Program.

Contact: Diana Badur – badurd@bhc.edu (309) 796-5428
or Juanita Zertuche – zertuchej@bhc.edu (309) 796-5186

RETIRING

After two years of producing and mailing the WAC-QC Newsletter, it is time for me to retire. It's been an interesting and valuable learning experience for this computer "Dummy". I'm glad to have been able to make a contribution to such a worthwhile organization but now it is time to turn it over to someone else. **Many, many thanks to all of you who sent news items and encouragement, to those who served as proofreaders and to my in-house technician who came to my rescue many times. I really appreciate all of your help.**

Eloise Pfeiff



VICTORIA FITZGERALD

After a few years absence, Victoria Fitzgerald, above, has agreed to become a member of the World Affairs Board again. With her vast knowledge and many skills, she is a real asset to the board. Welcome back, Vicky.

Dr. Victoria Fitzgerald has served as Dean of Instruction and Student Learning at Black Hawk College in Moline, Illinois, since January, 2002. She provides leadership and support to many areas of the College: faculty and curricula in transfer and career programs, international programs, and assessment of student learning. Additionally, she is co-project director for the Joined by a River: Logistics Programming in the Quad Cities grant funded by the U.S. Department of Labor and the National Science Foundation *Innovations in Engineering Technology* grant – focusing on sustainable energy topics. Prior to working at Black Hawk College, Dr. Fitzgerald had over 14 years of teaching and academic administration experience at Scott Community College (SCC). While at SCC, she helped support the Quad City World Affairs Council general operations and conference planning as part of her role as Dean of Alternative Programs and Special Projects. She also served as President Elect and President of the Quad City World Affairs Council from 1999-2002.

WACA NEWS

The World Affairs Councils of America has named A. Alexander Lari vice chairman of its board of directors. Lari, principal of The Claremont Group, a group of New York-based real estate firms, began his term on February 19. He succeeds Ambassador Mark Johnson, executive director of the World Affairs Council of Montana and former Ambassador to Senegal and deputy chair of mission to Kuwait during the first Gulf War.

The World Affairs Councils of America (WACA) is the country's largest nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering grassroots understanding and engagement in international affairs. WACA seeks to involve as many citizens as possible in an exchange of ideas, knowledge and understanding of global issues. WACA's membership includes 535,000 individual members belonging to 90 councils in 39 states, plus the District of Columbia. The present president and CEO is Barbara Propes. For more information on WACA, visit www.worldaffairsCouncils.org.



The World Affairs Council of the Quad Cities is a member of the World Affairs Councils of America with headquarters in Washington, DC.

WANTED: EDITOR FOR 2009-2010 WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL NEWSLETTER.

Contact Lisa Killinger – 563-326-1144 or email: Lisa.Killinger@Palmer.edu

Here's your chance to come to the aid
Of a great organization, so it won't fade
From the consciousness of our members all.
Please do our newsletter, spring, summer, and fall.

Think of the satisfaction you would feel
By sending us information that is real.
We need to know each activity and date
You send it our way before it's too late.

Please pick up the phone and volunteer,
For your answer, Lisa will want to hear,
Or send an email to her now
And we will thank you with a big bow!

DIVERSITY FEST-St. Ambrose University

The third Annual Be Global Diversity Fest is scheduled for Sunday, March 22, 2009. This is your chance to see unique exhibits, taste exotic foods and watch international entertainment.

“Cultural diversity is not just a natural fact that we need simply recognize and respect. It's about plurality of knowledge, wisdom, and energy which all contribute to improving and moving the world forward.” - UNESCO

WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL
QUADCITIES, INC.

Quad City Web Site:

<http://www.wacquadcities.org/>

National Web site: www.worldaffairsCouncils.org

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Eloise Pfeiff – Newsletter

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PLEASE JOIN US

The operation of the World Affairs Council of the Quad Cities is made possible by your dues and donations. Membership is \$15.00 a year, \$5.00 for students. Gold Sponsoring institutions contribute \$200.00. Please join and help us continue our work. Checks should be made payable to “**World Affairs Council of the Quad Cities**” and mailed to **WACQC, 4310 5th Street, East Moline, IL 61244**. If you have any questions, please contact our treasurer, Mike Laufenberg at email: malafenberg@mchsi.com.

“ It is from the numberless diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped. Each time a man stands up for an ideal or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression or resistance.” -Senator Robert Kennedy