

THE WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF THE QUAD CITIES, Inc.

November, 2007 NEWSLETTER



World Affairs Councils of America



Above, left to right: Secretary JoAnn Milani, President Lisa Killinger, Vice President Zobeida Laufenberg and Treasurer Mike Laufenberg.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR CHANGES

There have been some major changes recently on the board of directors of your World Affairs Council of the Quad Cities, Inc. President Jon Stauff moved to Virginia on July 1st to take a new teaching position. We send John our best wishes. VicePresident Zobeida Laufenberg served ably in the interim until October when Lisa Killinger graciously agreed to step into the Presidency. Replacing Lisa as secretary is board member JoAnn Milani. Treasurer Tootoo Pinto resigned recently due to family concerns. We thank Tootoo for all her hard work. Now we welcome Mike Laufenberg as a new board member and treasurer. We also welcome Juanita Zertuche as a new board member. Your board and officers are dedicated, hard working people. They all deserve our support and thanks for agreeing to serve. But they could use some help. With more willing workers, our council could accomplish more and offer additional activities. If you are interested in helping on a committee or in some other capacity, please contact one of the officers whose addresses and phone numbers are listed on the back page.

YOUR DUES MONEY AT WORK

The World Affairs Council and the World Community Institute are working together again this year to provide monthly programs. The programs presented so far have been extremely interesting and informative. We know that the upcoming ones will be great, too. But the programs don't happen without

effort and money on the part of both organizations. The World Community Institute pays for the monthly mailings. Their money comes from grants from the Riverboat Development Authority. Our World Affairs Council pays for the library fees and the refreshments with money from your dues and from donations. So we need the support of our members to continue providing these programs and for newsletter and other expenses. A membership form is enclosed for those of you who have yet to pay dues for the 2007-2008 year. Please help us continue our work.



OCTOBER PROGRAM –“ Muslim Women: Translating Faith and Culture from the Middle East to America.”

A panel of Middle Eastern Muslim women (see above) offered a unique and personal glimpse into faith and culture from a woman's perspective and also shared how faith and culture have shaped their respective lives as women living in the United States. Speakers included Etaf El-Khatib from Palestine & Jordan, Nada Diab from Syria, and Ebtessam Khalafallah from Egypt. The moderator was Dr. Lisa Killinger. This was a great program co-sponsored by World Affairs Council, World Community Institute and the Bettendorf Library.

WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF AMERICA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

- This is an important conference held in Washington, DC with excellent speakers. A brochure is included with this newsletter. Please look through it and consider attending.



Above: Kathy Gockel from the Stanley Foundation spoke at the September World Affairs Council/World Community Institute program at the Bettendorf Library. Her timely topic was “Root Causes of Tension between Islam and the West.”



A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

By Lisa Killinger, DC

We have started our 2007-2008 year off with a very strong program. In September and October we teamed up with the Bettendorf Library and collaboratively offered programs as part of their annual Global Gathering Series. It was a very symbiotic relationship that brought many new faces to our monthly community-based events. In September, the Stanley Foundation’s Kathy Goeckel did a great job of exploring the root causes of tension between Islam and the West; a nice kick off program indeed. October’s program on Muslim Women of the Middle East attracted over 160 attendees, our best attended World Affairs monthly program ever! In November, the Stanley Foundation’s Keith Porter and Kristen McHugh will lead the discussion on the topic of America’s role in an uncertain world, which promises to be another thought provoking program.

It is my honor to have been recently elected to serve as this year’s World Affairs Council President. I am delighted to have been a part of our local WAC for over a decade and to have seen literally hundreds of excellent educational council programs over the years. I would like to encourage all members to share this newsletter with your business associates,

local leaders, and young people who have an interest in World Affairs. Our programs are a “best kept secret” in the Quad Cities, and we would love to share the wealth of our council with a greater share of the community.

I look forward to the year of outstanding programs in the months ahead on a wide range of topics. Through our events, Quad Citians will experience the global community, from South America to Africa to the Far East. We are always scanning the horizon for topics for our next year and welcome your input and suggestions. So many great opportunities ahead!

UPCOMING EVENTS

WAC/WCI Upcoming Programs*

“Beyond Fear: America’s Role in an Uncertain World” Kristin McHugh and Keith Porter, The Stanley Foundation. Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2007.

“Mexico: What You Don’t Know-Facts and Myths” Samanta Echevarria de Schmelzer, Augustana College. Tuesday., Jan. 22, 2008.

“Life in Togo, Africa: Nature and People” Debi Nicoue and Georges Tounon, natives of Togo. Tuesday, February 26, 2008.

“Avoiding a Dangerous Nuclear Era: The Future of U.S. Nuclear Weapons Policy”. Dr. Lisbeth Gronlund, Union of Concerned Scientists. Tuesday, March 25, 2008.

“Healing Hands in South America: Healthcare Missions to Brazil and Ecuador”. St. Ambrose and Palmer College students. Tuesday, April 22, 2008.

*All monthly programs are held at 7:00 PM at the Bettendorf Library, 2950 Learning Campus Drive (Off 18th Street).

Whiteside Forum – The Whiteside Forum is a nonpartisan, not-for-profit community group which sponsors presentations and discussions of issues of importance and interest to the public. It is similar to the WAC. Their programs are held at the Odell Public Library in Morrison, Illinois. Their annual Conference will be April 11-12 with the topic of “Immigration: A World on the Move.” For more information, contact Gail Elflin, 322 N. Jackson St., Morrison, IL 61270, email: gayelf@mchsi.com

WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF THE QUADCITIES, INC.

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