

THE WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF THE QUAD CITIES, Inc.



FEBRUARY, 2008 NEWSLETTER



Above: Kristin McHuch and Keith Porter from The Stanley Foundation spoke at our November program. Their topic was "Beyond Fear: America's Role in an Uncertain World."

(For more information on the Stanley Foundation, see the last page.)

MEET JOANN MILANI WAC Secretary

JoAnn Milani worked as a school psychologist and special education consultant for Area Education Agency 9 in Iowa for 28 years. She continues working as a clinical psychologist in private practice and serves as a counselor for those in drug and alcohol addiction programs. Married to Italo (Lo), JoAnn and her husband have five children, one of whom is deceased. They have four grandchildren and three step-grandchildren. Now JoAnn is about to become a step-great-grandmother. JoAnn has always been interested in foreign affairs and foreign languages. Besides English, she speaks Italian and is now learning Spanish. Church work is important to JoAnn. She is very involved, especially on the Social Justice and Action Committee.

INTRODUCING MIKE LAUFENBURG WAC Treasurer

Mike retired from Deere & Company after 34 years of service. His experience with Deere included Manufacturing Engineering, Plant Engineering and Supply Management. Beginning in 1988 Mike was responsible for dealing with international suppliers to Deere in Mexico, South America, Europe and Asia and made several trips to these locations. During that time, Mike traveled for Deere and visited nearly 20 different countries. He enjoyed the varying cultures, foods and especially the people he was privileged to meet and work with. From 2000 until his retirement Mike was a Supply Base Manager in Indirect Materials and Services leading a team responsible for Capital Equipment, Non-Perishable Tooling and Inspection Equipment. Since his retirement he has been and continues to be a contract instructor for Deere leading workshops in Decision Analysis, Supplier Rating procedures, Managing the Supply Chain and International Purchasing.

Mike is a member of the Celebration Choir at Christ the King, plays trumpet and loves music, plays golf and is involved with the Retired Senior Volunteer program of the Quad Cities with his wife Zobeida of 35 years. He is also a member of the East Moline-Silvis Kiwanis Club and has been a member for 34 years.

A big *Thank You* to these gold sponsors who make our operation possible:

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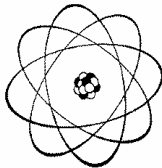
EASTERN IOWA COMMUNITY

COLLEGE DISTRICT

WAC/WCI UPCOMING PROGRAMS *



“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 the Bettendorf Library, 2950 Learning Campus Drive (Off 18th Street). These programs are sponsored jointly by the World Affairs Council of the Quad Cities and the World Community Institute.

OTHER UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Blackhawk College – US-China People’s Friendship Association Quad Cities Chapter will sponsor the **Chinese Regional Minority Costume Exhibit** on February 12, 2008. It will be at Black Hawk College Lower Lobby of Building 1 from 7 to 9:00 pm. Event is free and open to the public. Exhibit of costumes is from February 12 to March 12, 2008 at the BHC library

St. Ambrose Cultural Diversity Festival

Sponsored by **BeeGlobal**
Noon-6pm., Sunday, March 30th
Rogalski Center

Admission is \$2 for adults, SAU students and children 12 and under admitted free.

Join us for an afternoon of cultural diversity, fun for families and people of all ages that will include musical and dance performances, food from around the world, and children’s activities, crafts and games.

The Peoria World Affairs Council Conference. – February 15-16. 38th Annual Central Illinois World Affairs Conference: **“Geopolitics of Climate Change: Competition for Limited Resources”**
The conference will be at the Hotel Pere Marquette. Speakers will address the theme from several different angles with an outstanding line-up of experts, including Terry Maple, co-author of *Contract with the Earth*, and Henry Henderson, Director of the National Resource Defense Council. With speakers from the American Enterprise Institute, Worldwatch, and the American Society of International Law, we should have no end to the exciting debate of the best course of action to deal with climate change.

For more information or a conference brochure, contact Angela Weck. Phone 309-677-2454.
Email: pawac@bradley.edu.

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 World Affairs Council. Their programs are held at the Odell Public Library in Morrison, Illinois. Their annual Conference is **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.



Above: Samanta Echevarria de Schmelzer, an Augustana College teacher from Mexico presented our January 22 program. The topic was “**Mexico: What You Don’t Know – Facts and Myths**” 115 people were captivated by her dynamic and informative presentation. Did you know these interesting facts?

1. Mexico City is the largest city in the Americas, the third largest in the world.
2. The richest man in the world is a Mexican.
3. It was a Mexican scientist who first discovered the threat of chlorofluorocarbons to the ozone layer.
4. Mexico is 5th in production of oil in the world.
5. The largest Spanish speaking country in the world is Mexico. Besides Spanish, there are 53 indigenous languages.
6. Mexico is the 11th most populous country in the world. 75% of Mexicans live in cities.
7. According to the LPGA, the world’s top woman golfer is Mexican.
8. US citizens make up 1% of the population of Mexico. The largest number of US citizens living abroad, live in Mexico.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

By Lisa Killinger, DC

Dear World Affairs Members and Friends,

Your local World Affairs Council has had a very exciting winter so far! In mid January, representatives from our council met with the President of our neighboring Chicago World Affairs council. We learned a lot about the amazing depth and breadth of programs that the Chicago council offers and opened the door on future collaboration. This was the first formal meeting of our councils’ leaders in over a decade. On January 29th, several members of our World Affairs Council board enjoyed a dinner meeting with Vlad Sambaiew, the new President of the Stanley Foundation, and Georges Rioux, the Canadian Consul General. Such meetings really help us to keep our fingers on the pulse of the bigger picture of world affairs.

On January 22nd, I hope you all made it to our monthly program entitled, “Mexico: What you don’t know: Facts and Myths”. This outstanding program was attended by over 115 people and was another great example of how our council unites young and old, student and executive, Democrat and Republican for education programs about the world in which we live. Don’t miss our next programs on “Togo, Africa (February) and on “Avoiding a Dangerous Nuclear Era” (March). We hope to see you there!

THE STANLEY FOUNDATION

Sometimes we have been fortunate to have speakers from the Stanley Foundation. – (See picture of November program on front page.) The Stanley Foundation, based in Muscatine, Iowa is a nonpartisan, private operating foundation focusing primarily on peace and security issues and advocating principled multilateralism. They provide speakers and publish policy briefs, analytical articles, and reports on a number of international issues. Their quarterly publication *Courier* provokes thought on world affairs by giving readers insight into issues driving Foundation programming. To receive a free issue of the *Courier*, email: info@stanleyfoundation.org.



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

The Foreign Policy Association (FPA) and World Affairs Councils were part of the same system from 1918 until the early 1950s. The FPA began with a small group including Woodrow Wilson and Journalist Paul Kellogg. They were concerned that with the end of World War I, Americans would choose an isolationist foreign policy over one of engagement. By 1947, this vision evolved into one of a national organization based on a network of independent community councils. In 1986, the National Council of World Affairs Organizations national office was established in Washington, DC. This office evolved into the World Affairs Councils of America – a commonwealth of 87 World Affairs Councils serviced by a national office that provides resources, as well as serving as the central agency of correspondence, and information exchange.

WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF THE QUADCITIES, INC.

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