

www.globalsolutions.org
www.globalsolutionsmn.org

OUR VISION:

We envision a future in which countries work together to abolish war, protect our universal human rights and freedoms, foster sustainable development and solve the 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 and devise initiatives to promote our vision. We do this by organizing educational events, communicating global concerns to public officials, developing and disseminating proposals to reform and strengthen the United Nations and other international institutions, and collaborating with other globally engaged organizations.

MAJOR CHANGES UNDERWAY

Dick Bernard, Vice-President, GlobalSolutionsMN.org

There is a request at the end of this column. It goes with the enclosed envelope. Please consider becoming a member of GlobalSolutionsMN.org.

In April 2003, I received a package in the mail from Dr. Joe Schwartzberg, introducing the Twin Cities chapter of the World Federalist Association. When I joined, I must admit, I had no idea what the Federalists were, nor that they had a proud 56 years of history in the U.S. Joe had greatly impressed me. I joined and became active.

At that time major changes were afoot at the national level and they were reflected in our own chapter as well. In one of the first Newsletters that I received (dated January 2004) they were explained by Joe in some detail. We have made that editorial available for you on our website, www.globalsolutionsmn.org.

Over the years, there have been many accomplishments in the federalist movement, both nationally and locally. A prime example is publication last year by the United Nations University Press of Joe's remarkable and highly acclaimed book, *Transforming the United Nations System: Designs for a Workable World*. In the next two months the book will be sent by the World Federalist Movement (the international NGO of which GlobalSolutions.org is the US national affiliate) to the UN missions and foreign ministries of all 193 UN member nations And GlobalSolutions.org will send the work to members of the US House and Senate Foreign Relations Committees, key staff in the State Department and other leading political thinkers. Here in Minnesota our chapter will make complimentary copies of the book available to major political figures and thinkers and promote study of the book in international relations courses in colleges and universities.

Additionally, Lynn Elling brought renewed attention to a major World Federalist-adopted Declaration of Interdependence, authored by the renowned historian, Henry Steele Commager. This inspiring document, easily available on the Internet, was endorsed in 1976 by Minnesota political and civic leaders. Our Board of Directors also endorsed it at its April meeting. On May 1 we were co-sponsors, along with World Citizen, Inc. and A Million Copies, of a World Law Day Symposium (description on next page) at the Gandhi Mahal restaurant, in Minneapolis, continuing a long Minnesota federalist tradition of honoring world law.

Since January 2000, our Third Thursday Global Issues Forums and annual dinner keynote addresses have raised awareness locally about many pressing issues and long-term problems in our systems of global governance and our management (or lack of management) of economic and environmental problems. This year's annual dinner (details on page 4) on June 19 will feature an address by Dr. Bharat Parekh on the topic, Ending Childhood Malnutrition, a project on which he has been for the past three years.

Our content-rich newsletters are published five times per year; and we are in the process of creating a Facebook page. We have had our own website for more than a decade.

Beyond these activities, however, something special is taking place within our chapter.

Recently, the Board of GlobalSolutionsMN.org decided to re-invent itself, honoring its past while working toward an even brighter future. We have committed to a two-year strategic plan that we will carry out between April 2014 and June 2016. The plan set forth four key goals, including:

- Goal 1: Achieve organizational stability.
- Goal 2: Strengthen the youth component of the organization
- Goal 3: Promote democratic global governance.
- Goal 4: Foster a sense of world citizenship

In all possible ways we will honor the proud tradition of the United World Federalists and its successor, the World Federalist Association, leading to a future directed toward a new generation that shares long-standing world federalist values and beliefs. In particular, we will act on the conviction that “**global problems require global solutions.**” In order to further our goals, embracing our rich past while moving toward an exciting future, we have a request:

We urge that you become a member of the local chapter of GlobalSolutionsMN.org and that you support our organization financially. Funds will be used to support our goals. For example, we need to publicize our events broadly, reaching out to youth in particular. We anticipate substantial logistical expenses in distributing Joe's book. We face significant legal expenses in becoming a 501 (c) (3) entity.

Our suggested donations are as follows:

- \$10 for students
- \$30 for individuals
- \$40 for couples

Additional donations, will, of course, be welcome as will be contributions in any amount from our out-of-state readers,

If you donate at least \$100, you will receive a personally inscribed complimentary copy of Joe's book, *Transforming the United Nations System: Designs for a Workable World* (list price, \$40.00).

MEMBERSHIP AND DONATIONS FOR GLOBAL SOLUTIONS MN.ORG

Name: _____ Occupation: _____

Dues enclosed (\$10, \$30, \$40, \$100, or other): _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please make checks payable to "Global Solutions MN.org" and mail to Dennis Dillon, 210 W. Grant St., #414, Minneapolis, MN 55403 (see envelope attached to this newsletter).

THIRD THURSDAY GLOBAL ISSUES FORUM

Free and open to the public.

Note: Once again, it has been necessary to change our forum venue, as noted below. We regret any inconvenience this may cause. The location is central and on-street parking should not be a problem.

When: Thursday, May 15, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Where: 4200 Cedar Ave. (in large building at southwest corner of 42nd St. and Cedar Ave, Minneapolis, entrance on 42nd St.)

CONDITIONS AND CAUSES OF GENOCIDE

Existing literature on the causes of genocide examines the violence as a single event. However, this approach does not lead to an understanding of what drives the violence. To understand how genocides unfold at micro levels, Hollie has analyzed community-level variation in genocidal killing during the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, where over a million people were killed in several months. Her research is based on extensive fieldwork, supplemented by theories from criminology, and the study of political and ethnic violence. This is part of a broader dissertation project that examines regional and temporal variation in genocidal violence in Rwanda, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Sudan. A hoped-for outcome of her research is the development of early-warning systems that would help to prevent genocide.

Speaker: Hollie Nyseth Brehm has just received her Ph.D. in Sociology at the University of Minnesota and has accepted a teaching position at Ohio State University. She studies genocide, international crime, human rights, and representations of atrocities. She has conducted fieldwork in Rwanda and Bosnia, and she is currently working with the Rwandan Government to analyze the outcomes of the *gacaca* trials in local-level courts that were created in response to the genocide. She is chairperson of the board of directors of Heritage Academy of Science and Technology, a quantitative mentor for the Center for Victims of Torture, and a board member of GlobalSolutionsMN.org.

IN MEMORIAM: LYLE CHRISTIANSON, 1926-2014

On April 16 Minnesota lost one of the pillars of the peace and justice movement, the Rev. Lyle T. Christianson, at the age of 87. Lyle's service in the Army Counter Intelligence Corps in Germany in WWII pointed him to the pursuit of peace, which developed further during his theological studies, first at Garrett-Evangelical Seminary in Evanston, Illinois, where he earned his Divinity Degree, and later at Union Theological Seminary in New York where he studied under such renowned figures as Paul Tillich and Reinhold Niebuhr. His ministries in several Methodist churches in Minnesota were marked by their openness to all, including gays and lesbians. After officially retiring in 1990, Lyle became President of the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers, which the World Federalist Association (as GlobalSolutions.org was formerly named) helped to found, and served on the Board of GlobalSolutions.org from 2010-2013. Lyle and his wife Dorothy Anne were especially concerned with peace in the Middle East (especially in Israel/Palestine) and made eight related trips to that region. Known for his integrity and compassion, Lyle was described by his friend, Senator John Marty, "as a mentor for the type of person you wanted to be."

IN MEMORIAM: EVANGELOS N. KALAMBOKIDIS, 1926-2014

With great sadness we note the passing on March 30 of Ev Kalambokidis, who served multiple terms on the Board of the Minnesota Chapter of the World Federalist Association, predecessor of GlobalSolutions.org. Ev was active in the Greek underground during World War II and was a prominent member of the local chapter of Veterans for Peace, representing it in the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers. An economist by training, he spent most of his career working for Pillsbury; but, after retiring from that post, spent 3 ½ years working for the Greek government. He was a passionate World Federalist and championed many peace and justice-related causes.

**CANDIDATES FOR OFFICERS AND BOARD OF GLOBALSOLUTIONSMN.ORG CHAPTER
(to be officially elected at annual meeting on June 19, 2014)**

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. Nancy holds a BA in humanities from the U. of M. and has completed work toward an MA in library science. She has been a member of Soka Gakkai, a socially engaged Buddhist community for over 40 years. She has initiated community events at numerous venues in the Twin Cities area in relation to the Earth Charter, a Culture of Peace and other causes. Since 2002 she has been quite active in the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers.

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 (entering second or later year of multiple-year terms):

MARGARET ESSLINGER, JASON JOHNSON, BHARAT PAREKH, JUNE PARROTT, KRISTI RUDELIUS-PALMER, JOSEPH E. SCHWARTZBERG, MARYAM YUSUFZADEH

NEW BOARD MEMBERS:

MD. ABDULLAH AL MIRAZ (MIRAZ ABDULLAH). A native of Bangladesh, Miraz is a student at St. Thomas University, concurrently enrolled as an exchange student at Harvard. His majors are in actuarial science and financial management. He has resided in the U.S. and the U.K., where he attended London University. Among his several part-time jobs are service as an international student mentor at St. Thomas and as an assistant to World Citizen, Inc.

MICHELLE GRACE. Michelle Grace holds a B.A. in International Relations from the University of Delaware and is currently a PhD student at the University of Minnesota's Department of Human Geography. She studied Arabic for four years and traveled widely in Oman. Her research focuses on labor migration in the Middle East and on human rights and human-environment interactions. She is a recipient of the DOVE and CLA Fellowships for 2013-2014.

KAREN MONAHAN. Karen is a Sierra Club community organizer working on environmental justice. She began her work in that field while participating in the Wellstone Fellows program. She is currently an ambassador of MN for NIAC (National Iranian American Council). With a BS in social science from Metro State University, she has 12 years experience as an activist working on political and issue-oriented campaigns.

N.B. The Board will probably elect one or more additional members during the year.

THANKS TO OUTGOING BOARD MEMBER: Many thanks, **HOLLIE NYSETH BREHM**, and best wishes to you in your new position at Ohio State University,

GLOBAL SOLUTIONS MN, ANNUAL MEETING INVITATION

*Thursday evening, June 19, 2014, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Jackman Room, Plymouth Congregational Church
1900 Nicollet Avenue S., Minneapolis*

ABUNDANT FREE PARKING IN PARKING LOT TO SOUTH OF CHURCH
(overflow parking, if needed, in bank parking lot at SW corner of Franklin and La Salle / Blaisdell)
Enter building from entrance from parking lot on La Salle Avenue side.

**SCHEDULE: 6:00 Social Hour; 6:30 Dinner (vegetarian options available);
7:15 Program; 9:00 Adjournment.**

COST: \$30 per person; \$15 for students and those with limited income.

To ensure a place, reservations should be made by June 11. QUESTIONS? Call 612-296-4567.

Keynote Speaker:

DR. BHARAT PAREKH
Physicist, Educator, Consultant

ENDING CHILDHOOD MALNUTRITION

A native of India, Dr. Parekh earned his Ph.D. in physics from the University of Rochester. He taught for fifteen years at ND State University and was a research scientist at the ND Water Resources Research Institute in Fargo. He has lived in the Twin Cities since 1987. As a consultant for US and Indian companies and NGOs, his work involved technology transfer and trade in the environmental and rural development sectors. His current passion is to fight the scourge of malnutrition in Mumbai and other parts of India. He has long been active in GlobalSolutionsMN, the St. Paul – Minneapolis Committee on Foreign Relations and the United Nations Association, where he set up the Minnesota Millennium Initiative to champion the Millennium Development Goals. He serves on the Board of Toddler Food Partners.



Three years ago, Toddler Food Partners, a MN-based NGO built a pilot project facility to make Ready-to-use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) in a health center in Dharavi, Mumbai, arguably Asia's largest slum. An adjacent hospital embarked on a controlled clinical trial to test RUTF's efficacy in comparison with Standard Nutrition Therapy (SNT) with a sample of 200 children. The eight-week trial showed that RUTF substantially out-performed SNT. The implications are far-reaching and will be put in a wider global context by Dr. Parekh.

MEETING RESERVATION FORM

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

_____ My check for \$ _____ is enclosed.

VOLUNTARY DONATIONS: Please see form on page 2

**Please send check(s) in envelope provided, payable to "GlobalSolutionsMN.org,"
to Dennis Dillon, 210 W. Grant St., Apt. 414, Minneapolis, MN 55403.**

WORLD LAW DAY PROGRAM

GlobalSolutionsMN.org co-sponsored a special World Law Day panel on May 1 at the Gandhi Mahal Restaurant in Minneapolis. About 75 people, about half of them students, gathered to hear five young people, share thoughts on a simple question: *“How do you and the young persons you know see global relationships and interdependence at this stage in your life; and what are our hopes for the future of the planet?”*

Each panel member was well received, including Md. Abdullah Al Miraz (about to become a member of our new Board); Emily Bilius and Stephen Eigenmann, students at St. Thomas; and Dr. Tea Rozman-Clark, Executive Director of Green Card Voices; and Janelle Shoemaker, about to receive her Master’s degree at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs.

Ehtasham Anwar, completing a year as a Fulbright / Humphrey Fellow for Law and Human Rights, facilitated and provided an excellent synopsis of the history of Law Day and the significance of May 1 in the US and the world.

Many in attendance lingered well after the meeting’s formal closing, basking in the positive energy generated there. As GlobalSolutionsMN.org Board member, Nancy Dunlavy, put it: *“What a great event tonight! It was packed. So many youth. All of the pnelistswere passionate and insightful.”*

GlobalSolutionsmn.org

(formerly the World Federalist Association)

Editor: Joe Schwartzberg

5492 Bald Eagle Blvd.

White Bear Lake, MN 55110

schwa004@umn.edu

www.globalsolutionsmn.org

UNPA INITIATIVE WITH DON FRASER

On April 11, GSMN.org President, Gail Hughes, and Joe Schwartzberg were joined at lunch by eight-term Minnesota Representative, Don Fraser and former 16-year Mayor of Minneapolis to find a way to urge incumbent members of the US House of Representatives and Senate, as well as still-living former incumbents, perhaps forty persons in all, to endorse, in principle, the idea of a UN Parliamentary assembly, joining more than 1,300 present and former legislators in over 100 countries around the world who have already done so. Don had already received a trial letter and packet of supporting documents from **Joe**. We agreed on several improvements in the packet and Don agreed further to send out the appeal over his signature.

CONGRATULATIONS

GSMN.org, Board member and about-to-be Ph.D. in Sociology, Hollie Nyseth-Brehm, has been honored as being among the “30 Top Thinkers under 30” in the US! This recognition was accorded in the website of the Science of Society for Hollie’s outstanding work on genocide studies. Based on fieldwork in Rwanda, Bosnia and elsewhere, Hollie has created models facilitating the outbreak and possible mitigation of genocide. Try to make it to her Third Thursday Global Issues Forum presentation (see page 3) on April 15

The world no longer has a choice between force and law: if civilization is to survive, it must choose the rule of law.

Dwight D. Eisenhower