



**UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
of the United States of America**

SPOKANE CHAPTER

"A LOCAL VOICE FOR GLOBAL COOPERATION" Spokane Chapter Vision Statement

October 2006 Newsletter
Vol. 6 No. 10

*Monday, September 11th Meeting
7:00 pm
Unitarian Universalist Church in Spokane
4340 West Fort Wright Drive*

*9/11: What's Real and What's Not
Mike Kress*

Air Force veteran and KYRS producer/host Mike Kress ("Take the Power") will review relevant events of September 11, 2001. As well as generating a discussion with our group, Mike Kress wants to encourage us to question and search for the real truth of the events of 9/11.

Mike Kress was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1970. He entered the Air Force at age 17 and became a Morse code intercept operator. He was stationed for two years in the Philippines, then was assigned to Ft. Meade, Maryland, at the NSA. During the Persian Gulf War his duties were related to those operations. Wanting to fly and travel, he retrained to become a crew chief on C-141 Starlifter cargo aircraft and was re-assigned to McChord Air Force Base in 1992. He then served two voluntary tours in the Persian Gulf region to support Operation Southern Watch in Iraq, and Operation Restore Hope in Somalia.

He moved from active duty to the Reserve in 1994 as a staff sergeant when his experiences and spiritual beliefs caused him to question the role of our military in the world and his contribution to that role. A year later Mike applied for conscientious objector status. Before his completed application went to the Pentagon his first sergeant had him placed in inactive reserve and he received his honorable discharge in 1998. His decorations include the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Air Force Achievement Medal, and the Southwest Asia Service medal with a bronze service star. Mike opposed the 1990/91 Gulf War, and was outraged when Bill Clinton bombed Baghdad at regular intervals. His military experience helped fuel his passion for peace and justice, and his first public war protest was against the illegal bombing of Serbia and Kosovo.

Mike recently finished a year of producing a public affairs show on KYRS local community radio and is the former vice chair of the Spokane Human Rights Commission. He lives in Spokane with his wife and son and is currently working on a book.



2006 Spokane Chapter Calendar

Sept. 11: UNA- Spokane
"9/11: What's Real?"

Sept. 22: Nalta Hospital Benefit
Topic: "Global Vision"
Center Place, Spokane Valley

Oct. 24: UN Day Dinner and Program: "Maternal Health"
Mukogawa Fort Wright Institute

Nov. 13: UNA Spokane
"World Council of Churches
Brazilian Meeting"

Dec. 11: UNA Spokane
"International Security and the
Practice of Torture"

Jan. 8:
Spokane Chapter Annual Meeting

President's Message

Jo Stowell

I hope you all enjoyed a great summer. Charles and I had the privilege of spending three weeks in Kenya attending his son's marriage to a Kenyan woman. Both the bride and groom are attorneys living in Seattle. We learned much about the Kenyan cultural and political circumstances and even attended a session of parliament.

While I was being totally absorbed in my amazing journey, other members of the UNA-Spokane were busy carrying out our Chapter's mission of bringing more awareness of the United Nations to our community. In May several members volunteered at the "Thin Air" radio station; in June Fran Degerness and Tom Terrell created and staffed a resource table at the Leadership Spokane graduation; on June 10th eight members volunteered for the KSPS pledge drive; on August 19th Judy Gardner chaired and set-up our resource table at "Unity in the Community" with a number of members passing out resource materials and talking to those visiting our table. I thank all of you who participated in these important events. I deeply appreciate your dedication and hard work.

And now on to our 2006 - 2007 lecture series. Our first meeting is on September eleven so in keeping with the significance of that date the program will be on the subject of terrorism. Given the Israel-Lebanese (Hezbollah) war and the desperate situation in Iraq, I'm afraid our topic is all too timely.

Cheri Catt's Resignation

It is with regret that we announce the resignation of Cheri Catt as our membership chair and board member. While Cheri believes deeply in the work of the United Nations, her passion for peace is taking her in directions that require her to be away from Spokane at long intervals. We are grateful for Cheri's dedication and enthusiasm during her tenure with UNA-Spokane and wish the very best for her in her present and future work for peace.

AUTUMN 2006 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Enter to Win Free

UNA Spokane Renewal Membership!!!

AUTUMN 2006 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE RULES

1. You must have a minimum of five new members to be eligible to win.
The winner is the person who brings in (at least five) the most new members.
The winner will be announced at our January 8, 2007 Annual Meeting.
2. The Autumn Membership Form must have your signature.
Make at least five copies of the Autumn 2006 Membership Form .
3. The deadline for entering the free membership renewal competition is December 31, 2006.
4. The Autumn Membership Form and a check made out to UNA-USA, must be received by Betty Banks no later than December 31, 2006. *New Member introductory fee is a special price of only \$25.00 per person.*

With your help, we will build a stronger, more effective UN., a more informed American public, and a more peaceful, humane, and just world for us all.
William H. Luers

***Autumn 2006
UNA Spokane
Membership Form***

\$10. Student.

\$25. Introductory (first year only) Offer for Individual or Household

\$25. Fixed Income, Per Individual or Household

\$40. Per Individual or Household Member

Name(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Current members sign here for a chance to win a free one year renewal.

X _____

Make Check payable to UNA - USA..

Mail to Betty Banks, 2429 W. Sanson Ave., Spokane, WA 99205

**United Nations Day 2006: "Maternal Health & Well-Being:
A Cornerstone of the Millennium Development Goals"**

UNA-USA will highlight the role that a healthy mother plays in the development of families and communities worldwide on October 24, 2006—UN Day—with the theme, "Maternal Health & Well-Being: A Cornerstone of the Millennium Development Goals." We hope that this theme will not only shed light on the challenges faced by mothers in the developing world, but that it will also tap into United States concerns regarding the role that mothers and families play in establishing a brighter future for our own communities.

United Nations Day 2006: "Maternal Health & Well-Being: A Cornerstone of the Millennium Development Goals" Each of the eight United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) focuses on a different aspect of the human condition, from tackling poverty and disease to improving literacy and nutrition. The MDGs seek to improve the lives of the world's majority—that is, the poorest individuals living in today's developing countries. A healthy and educated mother is at the center of these efforts to raise the level of human development at the local level. UNA-USA will highlight the role that a healthy mother plays in the development of families and communities worldwide on October 24, 2006—UN Day—with the theme, "Maternal Health & Well-Being: A Cornerstone of the Millennium Development Goals." We hope that this theme will not only shed light on the challenges faced by mothers in the developing world, but that it will also tap into United States concerns regarding the role that mothers and families play in establishing a brighter future for our own communities. October 24th---UN Day Dinner and Program Mukogawa Fort Wright Institute Watch for reservation information in the Oct. newsletter.


