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UNA-USA Southern New York State Division

Dear UNA-USA Members and Friends:

There's a lot of news in our Division and with UNA-USA nationally. Look below under [Upcoming Events](#) for information on how to register for the UNA-USA Annual Meeting, to be held in Arlington, Virginia from June 11-14. A highlight will be a signing ceremony by all chapters and divisions present of the Chapter Handbook and Chapter Affiliation Agreements. This "marries" UNA-USA to the UN Foundation at the grassroots level. Chapters not present will need to sign by June 30.

Orientation for new Board Members and volunteers. On April 27, from 6 to 8 pm, the Division will host an orientation program for new Board Members and volunteers, at 801 Second Ave. in Manhattan. If you are interested in participating, or would like more information, please contact us at unasouthernny@gmail.com and we will write back with specifics. If you have a particular volunteer interest, please let us know. If we exceed 20 participants we'll schedule a second session. Last year's program led to ongoing participation of a number of active volunteers. Also, please let us know if you are interested in developing a chapter in the Mid-Hudson Valley, in the Bronx or in Nassau, so that we can target the orientation. Several volunteers are already working in these areas. (The Division is especially seeking a Membership Chair to keep in touch with our members and a Social Media / Website volunteer.) NOTE: New Jersey Members are welcome!

Patrick Madden, the new Executive Director of UNA-USA, met informally with board members and YPIC leaders and chapter representatives on April 8. An article and photo about this lively meeting can be found at: [Meeting with Patrick Madden](#)

Welcome to Trusha Chokshi, new chair of the Division's Young Professionals for International Cooperation. Our thanks to Meron Demisse, who has stepped down as YPIC Chair. She ably co-chaired the Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference in February at the UN. Also, since January, the Queens Chapter has a new President, John Tandana. John has ably organized the chapter's Earth Day event the past three years. For information, go to: www.unaqueens.org

You can now sign up for the [The Inside View on the UN](#), the Division's Blog. Look for an article on the February 11 Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference and another on international careers. John Carey, a distinguished international lawyer (and former mayor of Rye, New York)

writes a weekly column about the UN. Feel free to leave comments!

As a result of our strategic allinace with the United Nations Foundation, we now have access online to the [2011 Congressional Briefing Book](#) on the United Nations!

This resource will provide you with background information on the world's shared problems and concrete ways in which the United States and the United Nations are working to solve them and make America safer. UNA-USA is thrilled to be able to provide you with this new membership benefit as a result of our strategic alliance with the United Nations Foundation.

UNA Southern New York State Division Adopts Energy Resolution.
At its March 21 board meeting, the Division adopted the following Energy Resolution:

Resolved that the Southern New York State Division be a rallying point among UNA-USA chapters, divisions and members to support grassroots involvement in the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves (led by the UN Foundation and as presented by Leslie Black Cordes at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference at the UN) and to engage UNA-USA chapters, divisions and members in support of UN Energy, which endeavors to focus the UN system more effectively in addressing the energy needs of developing countries as well as the need for less energy intensity in developed countries.

If you are interested in learning more, or becoming active in this area, please contact George Garland: gagarland@gmail.com or write to unasouthernny@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

- UNA Southern NY State Division Board Meeting, May 9, 801 Second Ave., 2nd Floor. 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. If you would like to attend, please email: unasouthernny@gmail.com We will focus on developing new chapters, and on membership and advocacy.
- The New York City Chapter will hold its Annual Spring Luncheon on May 11, at the Delegates Dining Room, featuring Making a Difference: Women Who Care. The registration deadline is May 2. To register, go to: [Annual Spring Luncheon: Women Who Care](#) Also see: <http://unanyc.org/events/calendar.html>
- The Westchester Chapter will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 11, from 3 to 5 p. m. Gillian Sorensen will speak on "Facing the Crises of our Times: The United States and the United Nations in the 21st Century" The meeting will be held at Community Unitarian Church, 468 Rosedale Ave., White Plains, NY 10605. The program is free and a reception will follow. For information, contact: Brenda Smith at bsmith0825@aol.com (914) 428-6008 or Claire Heskestad at claryenne@aol.com (845) 629-8971.

- UNA-USA Annual Meeting, June 12-14. Registration is open for UNA-USA's 2011 Annual Meeting, in Arlington, VA at the Hilton Arlington. This is the first Annual Meeting where we are part of the UN Foundation family. Join for skills training, issue briefings, and networking with members from across the country. The final proposed documents will be emailed to all registered Annual Meeting participants in mid-May.

➤ [Register for UNA-USA's Annual Meeting here.](#)

➤ [Make your hotel reservation here.](#)

➤ [Learn more here.](#)

Recommended Events

- The Global Poverty Project -May 3, 7:30 p.m., at Community Unitarian Church, 468 Rosedale Ave., White Plains, NY 10605. The 50-minute presentation, **1.4 Billion Reasons**, is traveling the world. See www.globalpovertyproject.com
- **Community Unitarian Church is located off Exit 25 (North St.) of the Hutchinson River Parkway. 914 946-1660 - <http://cucwp.org/directions-map> free event is sponsored by the Westchester Coalition on Global Poverty and AIDS in conjunction with representatives of a broad range of civic, faith-based, and relief organizations.** ThisFor info: HAPNY@hotmail.com UNA Westchester is part of the coalition.
- Community Development International is hosting several events. The group grew out of work by YPIC in Haiti in fall 2009 (before the Haiti earthquake), where YPIC members visited UN and non-profit organizations in Haiti. See: www.cdi-international.org to purchase tickets for these events.
- May 5 - Opening session of Exhibit of Photos taken by CDI in Haiti , Hoboken Library, Hoboken, NJ, followed by a cocktail reception from 8 to 10 pm. See the website for details.
- May 17, 6 to 9 pm - Forests: Conservation and Management - Best Practices Discussed; Church Center for the United Nations.

I hope to see you soon!

Warm regards,

Ginger

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<http://www.unasouthernny.org>

<http://unasouthernny.wordpress.com> (blog)

[Click Here to learn why you should become a member of UNA-USA or renew your membership!](#)

Good News:

Upcoming Events:

www.unasouthernny.org
<http://unasouthernny.wordpress.com>
www.unausa.org
www.unfoundation.org

Contact Information

phone: 914-478-3450

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