

UNA-USA Pomona Valley Chapter
Minutes Annual Meeting Sunday, January 19, 2014 5:00 PM

Approximately 40 people enjoyed the potluck dinner and the speech. Rizek and Alice Abusharr staffed the sign-in table.

Business Meeting: Art Sutton, out-going Chapter President, welcomed members and guests.

He introduced Judith Harris, the newly elected President of the Southern California Division of UNA-USA. Ms. Harris thanked the chapter for its involvement and for its hosting of the upcoming 11: AM to 2:30 PM, February 22nd meeting of the Southern California Division meeting to be held at the Claremont Consortium Executive Conference Center featuring Mary-Frances Wain, Deputy Executive Director of National UNA-USA. We will also hear from candidates for Regional Representative.

Mel Boynton distributed membership brochures and encouraged all to join/renew.

Bob Wallace, Chapter Treasurer, distributed a 2013 financial report and 2014 recommended budget while briefly explaining items in the categories. It was approved unanimously.

Marjorie Bray, convener of the Nominating Committee, recognized Art Sutton and Bob Wallace for their service and gave them tokens of appreciation. She then explained how the committee had determined the service terms of those persons nominated to be officers and members of the board. She introduced the nominees to serve as Officers and Board of Directors of the Pomona Valley Chapter of UNA-USA:

Officers

President (2014-16), Mel Boynton

Vice-President (2014-16), Katie Gerecke

Treasurer (2014), Marjorie Bray

Secretary (2014), Carolee Monroe

Continuing Directors, Class of 2013-14 Directors, Class of 2014-15

Rizek Abusharr

Adnan Aswad

Marilyn Brunger

Bertil Lindblad

Charlene Martin

Joe Salas

John Moore

Sally Seven

Marilee Scaff

Art Sutton

Lako Tongun

Bob Wallace

Art asked for any nominations from the floor. None were made. The committee's nominees were approved by unanimous consent.

Program: Charlene Martin who recognized his past support of the United Nations and MUN introduced Professor Thomas Ilgen. Martin also noted his work as an author and researcher in the areas of International Relations and the Regulation of Chemical Weapons. Ilgen began his talk with a summary of the 1992 Chemical Weapons Convention, the 192 countries that are signatories to it and the successful reductions of chemical weapons as a result of it. This success led to a Nobel Peace Prize in 2013. Ilgen then gave a brief history of chemical weapons regulations, beginning with 1675 and including WWI and WWII. He then made reference to the need to distinguish between combatants and civilians as targets in war because over 1400 children and women were killed last year in the conflict in Syria. With a dozen chemical weapons sites identified within its borders, the government of Syria has agreed to have the chemical weapons removed and destroyed by a multi-national effort. Ilgen ended by listing the countries that are cooperating in the effort and the task each is assuming. A Q/A session followed the presentation.

Charlene Martin was thanked for chairing the program.

Announcements:

February 18 - The next chapter meeting (Porter Hall, Pilgrim Place, 5:30 PM)

February 22 (Saturday) -Southern California Division meeting at the Claremont Consortium.

June 7 - 10 - National UNA-USA meeting in Washington, D.C.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Carolee Monroe, Secretary