

Minutes – Pomona Valley Chapter, UNA-USA meeting

Tuesday, April 15, 2014 Room 107 Carnegie Building, Pomona College 5:30 PM

Mel Boynton, Chapter President, welcomed 36 members and guests. Maria and Larry Carlson were thanked by all for the refreshments they had provided. The Chapter interns, Leyth Swiden and Julius Kellinghusen, were introduced and credited with organizing the essay contest and planning the meeting. They were later recognized for their work for the Chapter this past semester.

Ballots for CCR-SC Representatives were distributed and later collected. Carolee Monroe, Chapter Secretary, will tabulate the votes and send the names of those three with the highest to Mel.

Special guests were recognized, including former Ambassador Cameron Munter, from the University Club, Bill Waggener, from Assemblyman Chris Holden's office, Matt Lyons and, from Claremont High School, Doug McCCasey and Dave Chamberlain.

Julius Kellinghusen introduced the essay contest winners, Sharon Musa, first place; Lynus Vuong, second place; and Andrew Brown, third place. Each was given a certificate of recognition signed by Assemblyman Chris Holden and a cash award, provided mostly by the University Club. Sharon Musa read aloud her essay on poverty and the effects it has on half of the world's population. Ms. Musa concentrated on women and girls whose outcomes are stunted by poverty. Female fetuses are aborted. Young girls are bullied, seated in the back of the classroom and subjected to gender discrimination. Girls drop out of school and are unskilled. They are unable to rise in the workforce. Many are trafficked. All three essays will be found on the Chapter website.

Introduced by Leyth, Ambassador Munter described his many experiences in the American Field Service including duties in Eastern Europe and the Middle East. He then focused on Pakistan, describing the country as one in which the state is weak but its society is strong. He thinks that the need for Pakistan is to find and build coalitions that will work towards diplomatic solutions to its problems. Questions included lobbying, big pharma, the Israel/Palestine situation, the Pakistan/India situation and the strength of the government of Pakistan.

UNA-USA EVENTS

Saturday, May 3rd, 11 AM to 3 PM, SoCal UNA-USA Meeting, Angelo's and Vinci's Restorante, 550 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton, Tickets just \$25. Hosted by the Orange County Chapter. **RSVP** with joy.adams0@gmail.com or 949-235-3603. Checks payable to SoCal UNA can be mailed % Joy Adams, 26351 Marsala Way, Mission Viejo CA 92692 **Speaker John Beynon**, and segue to breakout groups and discussion on communication, chapter development, advocacy, and more. Members and friends are welcome.

Tuesday, May 20th, 5:30 to 7:00 PM, Pomona Valley Chapter Meeting, Porter Hall, Pilgrim Place. Program on Global Climate Change and the 2014 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Report. Public is welcome and refreshments are served.

Sunday June 8th through Tuesday June 10th, 2014 Annual Meeting of UNA-USA in Washington DC. Featuring chapter-building, international issues, networking opportunities, and lobbying Congress for the UN. Registration link and details <http://www.unausa.org/membership/una-usa-events/annual-meeting>