

**UNA-USA Pomona Valley Chapter**  
**Minutes      February, 18, 2014    5:30 PM**

Mel Boynton , President, welcomed the 22 people attending the meeting and asked each person to share something not known about him/herself. Intern Julius Kellinghusen was introduced. Julie Steinbach was thanked for providing the treats.

**Membership:** Katie Gerecke, Chapter Vice-President and Membership Chair, encouraged everyone to join/renew. Brochures were distributed.

**Announcements:**

**UNA-USA Events:**

**February 21 (Friday) Reception in Glendale. (contact Mel for more information)**

**February 22 (Saturday) –Southern California Division meeting at the Claremont Consortium.  
(Mel)**

**February/March Advocacy Visits: to Congress members who will be home in their districts.  
(contact Marjorie Bray and Art Sutton)**

**March 18 (Tuesday) Munter or Interns to speak**

**March 25 (Tuesday) Vigil to Observe the Thirds Anniversary of the Conflict in Syria.  
(contact Leyth Swidan)**

**April 15 (Tuesday) \* at the Carnegie Building, Pomona College\***

**June 7 – 10 – National UNA-USA meeting in Washington, D.C. (Mel)**

**Other Events:**

February 21 and 22 “Math Counts” middle school math contest (contact Art Sutton)

March 1 (Saturday) TAIPO Conference on “Water” at Garrison/Scripps (contact Barbara Aswad)

March 1 (Saturday) Rotary Conference on Peace (contact Adnan Aswad)

**Treasury:** Retiring Treasurer Bob Wallace reported a balance of approximately \$2,000.

**Program:**

Dick Mann spoke of his 55 years of service in Thailand, focusing on the successful opium poppy eradication program that he participated in facilitating. Mr. Mann’s preparation began locally at Cal Poly with further agricultural extension education at the University of Missouri. Then, in 1959 until now, he has worked under the auspices of the United Nations and the United States. The projects have always had the full support of the Thai government. Originally he helped the hill people change from growing just opium poppies to a variety of different crops, including coffee, cabbage, citrus, kidney beans and other non-perishables. When an infrastructure was developed, more crops and livestock were introduced. Now he returns to Thailand to work with heroin drug addicts whose treatment is based on native herbs. He believes that marijuana is a “gateway” drug. When comparing poppy eradication programs in Thailand and Afghanistan, he has observed that the former had the full support of the native government and its agencies, including public welfare, forestry and narcotics, while this is not true in Afghanistan. He made reference to the war in Viet Nam, the addictions of American soldiers, the production of illegal drugs being established in Burma and the Thai government’s suppression of drug use among its people. A Q/A session followed the presentation.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Carolee Monroe, Secretary