



October 23, 2019

Visit our website (which includes this newsletter): <http://www.globalsolutionsmn.org>

OUR VISION: We envision a future in which countries work together to abolish war, protect universal human rights and freedoms, foster sustainable development, and solve related problems facing humanity that no country can solve alone. This vision requires the involvement of informed world citizens to create and maintain effective democratic global institutions that will supplant the law of force with the rule of law while respecting the diversity and autonomy of national and local communities.

OUR MISSION: We are a membership organization working to build political will, promoting global citizenship and a new spirit of sharing, and devising initiatives to promote our vision. We undertake our mission by organizing educational events, communicating global concerns to public officials, collaborating with globally engaged organizations, and disseminating proposals to reform and strengthen the United Nations and other international institutions, including the creation of new agencies when necessary.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE: NANCY DUNLAVY

Members of CGS-MN are very proud of our long history. As stated in our masthead, we have striven to help “create global unity since 1947,” the year that our former namesake, World Federalist Association of Minnesota, was founded. More recently, we are proud of the long-standing tradition of this chapter (2000 to 2018) of hosting monthly Third Thursday Global Issues Forums. A listing of the hundreds of topics and speakers included in this series can be found here: <https://www.globalsolutionsmn.org/pasttalks>.

Times have changed. Attendance at these outstanding Forums dwindled significantly, even though the high quality of the speakers continued. CGS-MN members are in the midst of re-inventing our local chapter, in affiliation with the national CGS organization (globalsolutions.org). Our focus is on building partnerships with other local globally-focused organizations (EX: We co-sponsored the UN Day event with United Nations Association and Global Minnesota, at the James J. Hill House on October 23rd, featuring **Stéphane Dujarric**, spokesman for UN Secretary-General Guterres. The theme: “*The World We Want, the UN We Need*”). We are exploring creative ways to reach younger generations (EX: Cross-Generational Dialogues planned for a Peace Meal on October 28th, sponsored by CGS-MN, to discuss with young students intriguing questions. We initiated the effort to get the outstanding documentary *The World is My Country* shown on public television. The film, about Garry Davis, World Citizen #1, will be broadcast on TPT Life at noon on Sunday, December 8th (see notice page 2&3). We have multiple ideas for future growth and impact on “global solutions,” and are open to your ideas as well! Feel free to contact me (**Nancy Dunlavy**, nancy-cgs@dunlavy.net, **(651)785-4243**). And please consider a financial contribution to support our efforts. We are a 501c3 non-profit organization, so all contributions are tax-deductible.

Details for becoming a member or making a contribution can be found at “Our Board’ , below

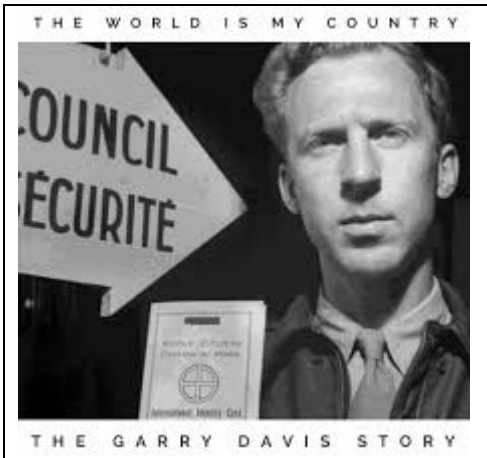
SELF-DESCRIPTORS OF THE CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE CGS, MN BOARD

Nancy Dunlavy (President): For about 10 years Joe Schwartzberg invited me to join the Board. I finally agreed to do so when my son left home for college. Prior to that, I attended the Third Thursday Global Issues Forums when I
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Our Board: Nancy Dunlavy, President; Kristi Rudelius-Palmer, Vice-President; Dick Bernard, Secretary; Gail Hughes, Treasurer; Roxanne Abbas, Beth Blick, N. John Borgen, Larry Johnson, Jim Nelson, Bharat Parekh, Maryam Yusefzadeh.

Join us: Suggested donations: \$10 students, \$30 individuals, \$40 couples.

Checks to “Citizens for Global Solutions” mailed to Gail Hughes, 141 Warwick St SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414.



SPECIAL EVENT FOR WORLD CITIZENS:
 Sunday noon, Dec. 8, TPT Life Channel
THE WORLD IS MY COUNTRY
 The story of World Citizen #1, Garry Davis
For the latest details visit
www.globalsolutionsmn.org.
 Film website: www.theworldismycountry.com
 See Minnesota connection in Trailer short.

Nancy Dunlavy, from page one
 could. Joe's energy and the vision of CGS was inspiring to me.

When I was eleven years old, my parents switched from Republican to Democrat, and from Lutheran to Unitarian. The motivation for this change was the Vietnam War. My dad gave a sermon at two Unitarian churches titled *"Why I Changed From Hawk to Dove."* My family joined in anti-war marches; my dad became heavily involved in local politics, and served as Minnesota State Rep (67B) for 18 years. Books and magazines on domestic and international affairs were strewn around our house, heavily marked and underlined, and I often picked them up.

Sunday School at the Unitarian Church consisted of visiting various religious houses – Jewish Synagogues, Russian Orthodox Churches, etc., further opening my eyes.

And then at age 16 my sister and I sought out Buddhism, and became members of Soka Gakkai, which talked all about respect for the dignity of life, global citizenship, and our inner transformation as the foundation of global peace. I went to Japan several times, chanting together with members from over 60 countries in perfect unison.

Kristi Rudelius-Palmer (Vice-President): I joined the board back in July 2013 at the invitation of Professor Joe Schwartzberg. Over the years, I had presented at a couple of Third Thursday discussions and always shared the CGS-MN events and newsletters with the international Humphrey Fellows and other colleagues at the University of Minnesota in my capacity as the Human Rights Center Co-Director.

I accepted the board invitation because I truly believed in the vision and goals of engaging citizens in grappling and advocating for global solutions related to human rights and democracy. One simple but impactful memory that I have as a young child around five years old was viewing the television evening news about the war in Vietnam with the body count images on the screen. I did not understand war and still do not understand it. I just remember a deep feeling of sadness as the visual images of the war in Vietnam, death, and violence arrived into my thoughts and heart. Television at that time brought the world into my living room and consciousness.

In reviewing some video and news stories from this period 50 years ago, I am struck by the similarities in our current context, addressing U.S. engagement in wars outside of our borders and questions of democracy, human rights, non-violence, and non-discrimination both at home and around the globe. The world wide web now brings these global images into our hearts and minds at a moment's notice. We urgently need to have cross-generational conversations and advocacy in our local communities, which can be shared with a click of the button demonstrating our commitment to strengthening our relationships for positive, healthy public good and the next generations.

Gail Hughes (Treasurer, CGS National Board member): I've been interested in other countries and people from different cultures ever since I can remember. When I was a kid, I read books about children in China, and I checked out books about the UN. I had a negative image of the U.S.S.R. during the Cold War, but I wondered what I would think if I'd been born in Russia: Would I think about the U.S. what Americans think about Russia? In much more recent years, I was a member of the Board of UNA-MN. However, I wanted to do more than support the UN – I wanted to push to improve it! I attended stimulating CGS Third Thursday Forums, and Joe Schwartzberg ... (continued page 5)

THE WORLD IS MY COUNTRY, SUNDAY, DEC. 8, NOON, TPT LIFE CHANNEL

by Dick Bernard, CGS MN Secretary and Newsletter Ed.

(Basic information on page 2)

For those interested in Peace and Justice issues, “**The World Is My Country**” should be a very high priority event. The film, while complete, is still in ‘preview’ status - not yet released. There will be a single showing on TPT Life Channel - no redo’s (Unless you have capacity to record the show at home for later showing).

TPT is the first PBS station in the country to broadcast the film. Based on the audience that the film attracts, other PBS stations may consider broadcasting it as well. Please watch it and/or record it for later viewing, and encourage everyone that you know to do so as well, so that this excellent documentary can gain traction around the U.S.

This film has strong local backing. Members of Citizens for Global Solutions -MN and United Nations Association have been part of the project since 2011. CGS-MN was primary sponsor for the World Premiere at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Film Festival in Minneapolis April, 2017.

This film is about the major accomplishment of a man, then in his 20s, Garry Davis, in the time period right after WWII, campaigning for world citizenship for everyone. Early in this time period came the passage of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the new United Nations, December 10, 1948. In 1965, ‘68 and ‘71 came the Declarations of World Citizenship by the United States, Hennepin County/Minneapolis and Minnesota. Such accomplishments were amazing. The film tells the story through its subject, then 90-year old Garry Davis, himself.

(I was privileged to share the first rough draft of the film to a group of high school students in St. Paul in November 2012. I wanted to see if they would be interested in a film based in the 1940s told by a 90-year old man. That experience convinced me that kids of high school age could relate and translate what a young man accomplished.)

PLEASE, make every effort to promote and use this SINGLE OPPORTUNITY, Sunday noon, Dec 8, 2019. Anyone with access to TPT Life Channel has free access to this film. Set up house parties, or at your church, or other places, where people can watch and then discuss what they have seen. "How does this film apply to today?" is just one question.

CGS-Mn is working on possibility of a Zoom conversation between the film producer and some audiences Dec. 8.

In the mean-time, please get to work and remember: ONLY AVAILABLE ON DECEMBER 8 AT NOON.

QUESTIONS? Email dick_bernard@msn.com Here’s the website: <https://www.theworldismycountry.com>. In the Trailer Tab section, under Shorts, is an 8 minute video about the Minnesota Declaration in 1971, and more on Davis. Updates will be at CGS-MN website: <https://www.globalsolutionsmn.org>. Support Public Broadcasting.

THE FUTURE WE WANT, THE UN WE NEED

by Nancy Dunlavy, CGS MN President

Citizens for Global Solutions, Minnesota partnered with *Global Minnesota* and the *Minnesota chapter of United Nations Association* to host a UN Day event at the James J. Hill House on the evening of Wednesday, October 23rd. Keynote speaker was Stéphane Dujarric, spokesman for UN Secretary-General António Guterres. His talk, titled “**The World We Want, the UN We Need,**” is available for viewing <https://www.globalsolutionsmn.org>. The evening also featured exhibit materials that told just some of the stories of Minnesota citizens that have played important roles in UN creation, promotion and reform over the decades since its inception.

Earlier in the day Mr. Dujarric visited Highland Park High School in St. Paul to talk with an auditorium of engaged students (see photo), and visited the *Star Tribune* editorial office for a visit with John Rash. The *Rash Report* column that grew out of that latter discussion is also available from the CGS-MN home page.

The three partnering organizations are beginning to plan for other UN2020 events in Minnesota. Stay tuned!

CROSS-GENERATIONAL DIALOGUE PEACE MEAL, OCTOBER 28

By Kristi Rudelius-Palmer, vice-president, letter to Oct 28 participants

We want to thank you for taking your time and providing thoughtful discussion on Monday, October 28th for our Cross-Generational Peace Meal Dialogue. Almost all of our 24 participants indicated their interest in a future Cross-Generational Dialogue. We are so grateful to Citizens for Global Solutions - MN and the Minnesota Peace Project for their financial support for participants' meals. A big thanks goes to the [Augsburg] Human Rights Forum leaders, Bettine Hermanson and Joe Underhill, for creating the space for us to come together! Thanks so much!!

CITIZENS FOR GLOBAL SOLUTIONS NATIONAL MEETING, LOS ANGELES

By Gail Hughes

Gail Hughes (National Board) and Nancy Dunlavy (Global Solutions MN President) represented Minnesota at the Annual Meeting in Los Angeles. Nov. 1-3, 2019.

The National Board continues active involvement towards a renewed national organization, and *you* are invited to participate in many of its activities by concall or zoom! The World Citizen Virtual Book Club may be of special interest. At our next concall meeting on Saturday, December 14, 11-12:30, we'll discuss the first two chapters of James Yunker's book, *The Idea of World Government: From Ancient Times to the Twenty-First Century*, 2011. Please check out the national CGS website at <https://globalsolutions.org> for more information about the book club as well as other programs and events.

NOTE FROM EDITOR: The Cross-Generational Dialogue was in large part funded by a bequest of Elling World Citizen Foundation of Lynn and Donna Elling. The Foundation also was a very significant contributor to the World Is My Country film. CGS MN plans to emphasize youth engagement in 2019, thanks to the Ellings and others, and we encourage your private tax-deductible donations to support an ongoing emphasis in future years.



Jim Nelson, for over 50 years active in the UNA and CGS Minnesota chapters, displayed artifacts at the Oct 23 event at James J Hill mansion. He spent a great deal of time in 2018-19 preparing archival material for the Minnesota Historical Society.

(continued from page 2) ...persuaded me to join the Board, where I've been ever since. Joe's book, *Transforming the United Nations System: Designs for a Workable World*, 2013, <https://www.workableworld.org/the-book.html>, provides a blueprint for an effective, democratic UN. However, I think that we also need grassroots activism around the world on an ongoing basis to ensure that our global institutions are democratic. The price of freedom is eternal vigilance, and all of us as global citizens must do what we can to improve the world.

Dick Bernard, (Secretary): I have always been interested in civic and global matters, perhaps the first evidence being runner-up in the North Dakota Know Your State competition in 1958, then majoring in geography in college. An early vivid memory was watching Sputnik blink across a brilliant night sky in North Dakota in the Fall of 1957. I was 17, and we were visiting my grandparents farm. In those days the track of this first satellite was announced in newspaper and other media of the time. When I became active in the peace and justice movement after 9-11-01, (the bombing of Afghanistan was, for me, the key event). Citizens for Global Solutions (formerly called World Federalists) was a natural affiliation. I joined in late 2003, and have been active ever since.

Larry Johnson: I joined the CGS board because Dick Bernard has been asking me for several years. Joe Schwartzberg also talked to me once, but I had to resist because I've been largely committed to helping with sustainable funding for Veteran Resilience Project (VRP www.resiliencemn.org). When I was drafted in 1970 as a conscientious objector, unarmed medic, I figured my job was to help people get home where they belong. I now know that too many of us who make it back physically, never really come home, and making EMDR trauma therapy available to veterans (the mission of VRP) has felt like a way to make that happen. (EMDR: Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing. For more information www.resiliencemn.org).

My earliest awareness of a larger world was my early total commitment to my childhood faith, and the so-called Christian Great Commission to "Go into all the world and preach the gospel, that all may hear it and be saved". I was also struck by visiting missionaries, showing slides of their work in whatever country, and snickering, somewhat politely, at the natives' naive belief that having their picture taken would steal their soul. As I reached high school and young adult, with some ability to think critically, a dichotomy weighed in. That of the "Great Commission" with the Christian responsibility to kill the godless communists before they stole our God-given freedoms. Broadcast training also made me feel that our media's omission of so much of the truth had, in effect, stolen our souls. I now know that the real teaching of Jesus is about no killing, even in warfare, and that every major religion has the same central message, LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR, EVEN THE ONE YOU CAN'T STAND, AS YOURSELF. I finally signed on to CGS because it appears that VRP funding help is on the way, and I perceive CGS to have a better grasp than some on the complexity of making peace and justice happen in a complicated, obfuscated world.

Roxanne Abbas: Although I didn't win the contest, my high school essay about the United Nations caused me to think deeply about the need for a strong world government organization. It wasn't until the United States invaded Iraq in 2003 that I felt a deep responsibility to oppose U.S. imperialism and work for cooperation among nations. This new passion led to my founding the Minnesota Peace Project (<http://minnesotapeaceproject.org/about/>) and joining the Board of Citizens for Global Solutions.

Jim Nelson: My Service in the United Nations Movement. This is a short version of a very long journey. Thanks to my high school teachers and Assistant Principal at Minneapolis Roosevelt High School I developed a very early interest in the United Nations. After a military tour I settled down to earn a business degree at the University of MN. Racial relations and the Vietnam conflict were huge issues of the 60's. I decided that strong and vital United Nations offered a durable solution for the varied problems of the world. I became a member of the United Nations Association in 1966 and the forerunner to CGS [World Federalists] soon after. I credit early local leaders especially York Langton, Evelyn Schiele, Stanley Platt, Elsie Evans and Lynn Elling as early strong inspirations to be actively engaged.

I have worked on Human Rights, and Environment, and attended the first UN Conference on the Environment in Stockholm in 1972. I have worked on many activities including public programs at the Minnesota State Fair, producing educational films, Model UN and human rights cases. The highlight of my career was working on five programs in 1991 and 1992 during the first Earth Summit and the early emphasis on sustainability. My most recent activities center on the MN United Nations History project. The goal is to show how ordinary citizen can amplify the life affirming work of the United Nations while meeting its goals. Continued page 6

Maryam Yusefzedah: My purpose for being here is to educate Americans on world issues so they understand the ramifications of their votes or no vote. We are all connected now and have to start to think more globally and less selfishly.

John Borgen: My participation in CGS as a Board member began when I realized that I could use the position to advocate for population policies and related sustainable development issues. My first recollection that the world was bigger than my Laurelhurst neighborhood in Portland, Oregon was when my parents and sister and I moved to Eau Claire, Wisconsin when I was nine years old.

Bharat Parekh: I have been a board member of Citizen for Global Solutions (CGS MN) for so many years that I don't recall when CGS MN long-time leader, the great Joe Schwartzberg, asked me to join the organization. At the time I was an active member of the United Nations Association. I moved to the Twin Cities in the late '80s to work on global development projects and joint ventures. The U.N. Millennium Goals (UNMDG), 2000-2015, provided an ideal framework to focus on issues of poverty, hunger, and health in developing countries. Since I was native of India, my activities there led to fruitful partnerships. Here in Minnesota UNA projects/events for generating public awareness and advocacy of the UNMDG kept me engaged. And it still does. What is most attractive about CGS MN is its focus on ideas to design global institutions including reforming the U.N. to be more representative and effective in addressing the increasing woes of the world as impacts of climate change engulf the fate of our future on earth.

Beth Blick: Beth has been an advocate within ADAPT, a national grass-roots community that organizes disability rights activists to engage in nonviolent direct action, including civil disobedience, to assure the civil and human rights of people with disabilities to live in freedom. Disability rights is a passion for Beth, since she has experienced firsthand many difficulties in housing, health care, employment, and other aspects of daily life.

Citizens for Global Solutions, Minnesota

(formerly the World Federalist Association)

President: Nancy Dunlavy

445 Wacouta St., Unit 101

St. Paul, MN 55101

Newsletter: Dick Bernard, dick_bernard@msn.com

Past issues archived at

<http://www.globalsolutionsmn.org/>

“The time has arrived in America for the Democratic Party to get out of the shadow of the state's rights and walk forthrightly into the bright sunshine of human rights.” Hubert Humphrey at the 1948 Democratic National Convention. Later the same year the UN adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Dec. 10, 1948)