



World Affairs Council of Montana

Fall Newsletter 2010

World Affairs Council of Montana ~ 201 West Main St., Suite #101 ~ Missoula, MT 59802 (406)728-3328
Email: wacmontana@mtwi.net ~ See us on the web: www.montanaworldaffairs.org

Council Celebrates 10 Years of Bringing the World to Montana and Montana to the World

Ten years ago, Amb. Mark Johnson (ret.) founded the World Affairs Council of Montana. After returning home to Montana after a 30-year career as a Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. State Department, Mark had one simple goal, to give something back to the community by offering opportunities to help Montanans understand the world around them by demolishing two myths. First, the Council sought to disprove that the world was not some far off distant place with little relevance to us here in the Rocky Mountains. Second, that even if the world did somehow matter, there was no real way for someone in such a remote location far from the world's 'hot spots' to have any meaningful impact. Inspired by the words of Senator Mike Mansfield, the Council has come a long way in dispelling these myths, "Montanans have room to live, to breathe, and above all to think – to think with a breadth of view which goes to the far horizon and beyond."

The Montana World Affairs Council is a member of the national World Affairs Councils of America, the largest international affairs NGO in the U.S.. When the Council in Missoula was founded, it was the only Council between Minneapolis and Seattle. A dedicated group of community volunteers and University of Montana students helped Amb. Johnson get the Council up and running.

Over the past ten years, the Council has grown into a valuable resource for communities and schools. With nearly 300 members, the World Affairs Council has hosted or co-sponsored over 175 community and school programs across the state. Amb. Johnson has traveled around Montana to promote global awareness, speaking to students and communities in Wolf Point, Poplar, Fort Peck Community College, Gardiner, Livingston, Big Fork, and his home town of Great Falls to name a few. Council events have seen audiences of more than 600 Montanans for Distinguished Speaker Programs. In 2002, the Council received an unprecedented visit by a senior Iranian official resulting in national and



Amb. Johnson representing the Montana Council on recent leadership mission to Saudi Arabia

international press. Education programs have grown outward from Missoula reaching schools in Troy, Geraldine, Belgrade, and Columbus. As the only non-partisan organization promoting global education, demand for school programs has grown nearly beyond our reach.

We have learned some valuable lessons with our success over the years. Most importantly, Mark's hunch was correct; Montanans do care deeply about global issues as evidenced by the engaging discussion that pursues at events and by the many Montanans who drive hours to attend programs. While focusing on continuing to build a sustainable organization that can continue to provide these unique opportunities, we take a moment to look back on some of our accomplishments. We are making a difference and helping to create a corps of citizen diplomats who are interested in engaging globally. As President Eisenhower said 50 years ago, "when people come together peacefully, eventually so will nations". These accomplishments do not belong solely to the Council, they are the result of the dedication and generosity of our members and supporters and especially our founder, Mark Johnson.

*Statement from the Executive Director
Aubrie Lyons*



WAC is excited about our growth and accomplishments over the past year. Our membership and budget have increased along with demand for Council programs. continue to forge new partnerships – locally and internationally – that connect more Montana classrooms and communities with the wider

world. MWAC's accomplishments are possible only with the generous support of donors, volunteers, interns, program participants and our dedicated board of directors.

We are most proud of our outreach to high schools. Last spring, Amb. Mark Johnson (ret.) visited Livingston and Gardiner High Schools and the Great Falls community to discuss why global issues matter. A record 40 high school teams from Montana competed in Academic WorldQuest 2010, and 30 K-12 educators participated in the 3rd annual 'Discover Turkey' teacher workshop.

Impressively, the Council's Distinguished Speaker Programs often draw audiences that surpass those of big-city Councils around the U.S. More than 200 Montanans attended the Turkish Consul General's discussion. And the popularity of new MWAC initiatives such as our *Business Luncheon Series* and *Council on the Radio* are extending our community mission while benefiting members.

Community and classroom demand for education resources and global awareness programs has been overwhelming. With only one paid MWAC staff member, the Council struggles to meet these requests. Your generosity as members is critical to the success of our programs. We thank you for your continued dedication to *bringing the world to Montana and Montana to the world*. We would especially like to recognize Allegiance Benefit Plan Management Inc. and Dirk and Kim Visser for their generous donation in support of the Council's *Global Education Initiatives*.

MWAC is now preparing compelling programs for 2011. In a recent meeting with Gov. Schweitzer, he emphasized the importance of students' understanding of the global society we live in. We agree: it's why we strive to connect students, teachers, business leaders and community members through our world-class programs. Thank you for an outstanding year and join us for an even greater 2011.

~Aubrie Lyons

*2010 Council
Highlights*

- A record 40 high school teams participated in AWQ, Hellgate placed in top-10 at the national competition
- Four Montana educators were selected to travel to Turkey this past summer, making a total of 14 in the last 10 years
- Missoula high school students established pen-pal relationships with Malawi students
- The Council held seven community Distinguished Speakers Programs and doubled Education Initiatives
- Business Luncheon Series and partnership with KGVO - 1290am has been successfully launched

***THANK YOU TO OUR
DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS***

We would like to recognize the following members for their outstanding contributions and commitment to promoting global awareness.

Ambassador Members: Milton & Joan Datsopoulos, Dr. George Risi & Willa Craig, Kathy Veazey, Corinne Tribe, Helen Cappadocia, Dirk & Kim Visser, Dr. Michael & MJ Schutte, Sally Cummins & Mark Johnson

Statesmen Members: Dr. Thomas Rickard & Dr. Cathy Capps, Maureen Fleming & Ray Murray

Envoy Members: Dan & Sophia Lambros

Cabinet Members: David Morgenroth & Barbara Koostra, Fred & Diane Bodholt, Gary & Carol Graham, Noel & Anne Hoell, Charlie & Charlotte Oliver, Peter & Maria van Loben Sels, Mary Ellen Campbell & Dennis O'Donnell

Diplomat Members: David Aronofsky, Tom & Ann Boone, Brent Campbell, John & Holly Carnes, Mark Connell, Matt Gibson, Richard D. Erb & Joanna Shelton, Steven & Madeline Levine, Kitte & Pat Robins, Dale & Carol Stovall, John & Sue Talbot, Bari Burke & Tom Huff, Jim & Marcia Valeo, Sandy & Pam Volkmann, Tania Wieck, Don Williams

FALL PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE

- Sep. 21st From East to West: Recent Trends in Turkish Foreign Policy*
- Oct. 18th China Town Hall, Co-sponsored Program with Mansfield Center*
- Nov. 16th A Thousand Barrels a Second, Radio Interview*
- Dec. 1st A Real Plan to Build a Palestinian State*
- Dec. 13th Nuclear Tipping Point, Film & Discussion*

Academic WorldQuest - *Do You Have What It Takes?*

Academic WorldQuest is an exciting challenge event testing teams of high school students on international affairs and global issues. The winning team from the Montana competition is sent to represent our state at the national competition in Washington D.C., at which Montana teams have consistently placed in the top-10, competing against charter and private schools from around the country. This past year Hellgate High School placed 9th overall in the nation! Montana's AWQ competition has grown into one of the largest in the country with 40 teams gathering in Missoula last spring. We are excited for an even greater turnout at the 2011 AWQ where teams will travel from around the state to participate. AWQ features a full-day of events beyond the competition including a UM campus tour, a talk by Amb. Mark Johnson (ret.), opportunities to visit with foreign exchange students, presentations by international clubs and more.

Teams travel to Missoula each spring from schools as far as Billings, Geraldine, Livingston, Gardiner, Deerlodge, and Troy to name a few, just to participate in this one-of-a-kind global academic challenge. Students work together to answer 10 categories totaling 100 questions with multiple choice answers. 2011 categories include: World Religions, Europe, World Health, Great Decisions, Press Freedoms Around the Globe, Current Events, and Millennium Goals (Gender Equality and International Organizations). Although the competition will not take place until March, teams have already begun preparation.

We invite our members to join us in the fun at the 2011 AWQ competition to be held on March 10th in the UC Ballroom/UM Campus. This event would not be possible without the generous support of the 2010 AWQ sponsors: The Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation, S.G. Long and Company, Max and Betty Swanson Foundation, Gagliardi Insurance, The University of Montana, First Interstate Bank. Interested in putting a team together or becoming a team or event sponsor? Contact Aubrie Lyons at wacworldquest@gmail.com or call the Council at 728-3328. Academic WorldQuest is a flagship program of the World Affairs Councils of America and the Montana Council's largest *Global Education Initiative*.

AWQ TRIVIA



Now, it is time to test your knowledge. Here are some sample questions from previous years. Good luck!

1. Which country has the largest *absolute number* of undernourished people in the world?

a.) Ethiopia	c.) Indonesia
b.) China	d.) India
2. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, which food source is considered most important?

a.) Meat	c.) Cereals
b.) Dairy	d.) Vegetables
3. What is the currency in Oman?

a.) Pound	c.) Dinar
b.) Rial	d.) Ruble
4. Which country is shaded in the map below?

a.) Argentina	c.) Ukraine
b.) Azerbaijan	d.) Tajikistan



*See last page for answers



Winning Hellgate team places 9th in national competition

Fall 2010 Study Tour Opportunities



The World Affairs Council of Philadelphia has been providing tours to its members and cooperating Councils for more than 25 years. Offering all the highlights of touring, plus access to political leaders and other local experts, these trips boast behind the scenes views and briefings that make them truly unique. For more information please call: 1-800-942-5004 or be sure to visit their website at www.wacphila.org/travel for these and other travel opportunities. Interested in traveling on one of the trips listed below? Contact the Montana Council or Mark Johnson for more information. (406)728-3328.

INSIDE IRAN WITH AMBASSADOR MARK JOHNSON

October 2 – October 18, 2010

Now in his third year of leading trips to Iran, Ambassador Mark Johnson will provide invaluable insight as you journey through this ancient land. In Tehran, admire the magnificent Crown Jewels and unbelievable Peacock Throne. We include Kerman, Yazd, and Persepolis, with its ancient heritage dating back 2,500 years and perhaps one of the most beautiful and spectacular archaeological sites surviving today. Explore Shiraz, a center for poetry, and end in Isfahan, considered one of the most beautiful of all Iranian cities with stunning architecture, mosques, palaces, bazaars, and public parks. Note: *There is a State Dept. warning for Iran.*

INSIDE SYRIA AND LEBANON WITH AMBASSADOR MARK JOHNSON

October 25 – November 5, 2010

Lying at the crossroads between the Orient and the Occident, this deluxe trip to Syria and Lebanon offers a rare chance to explore two countries full of splendid historical sites representing a vast range of civilizations. We discover bustling, ancient bazaars, exquisite art and architecture and a magnificent landscape of deserts and ancient ruins. A series of briefings and meetings have been arranged with carefully selected people and organizations to allow the opportunity to understand how these countries are planning for the future and their roles in today's political map of our world.

Join or Renew Your Council Membership Today!

MWAC Members Enjoy:

- Free / reduced admissions to Council events
- Access to global professional networks
- Belonging to the largest international affairs non-profit organization in the U.S. - *The World Affairs Councils of America*
- Discounts on major international news publications, including: The Economist, Stratfor, Foreign Affairs and more
- Members joining at the Diplomat level and higher will receive priority invitations to Business Luncheon Series events and



Member reception honoring Consul General, Hakan Tekin

Individual Membership and Tax Deductible Donation Information

Yes, I want to support global awareness and education in my community...



- | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|---|
| ▪ \$1000 Ambassador | ▪ \$150 Diplomat | ▪ \$20 K-12 Educators |
| ▪ \$500 Statesman | ▪ \$75 Family | ▪ Tax Deductible Donation of _____ |
| ▪ \$350 Envoy | ▪ \$50 Individual | ▪ Please add me to the Council's mailing list |
| ▪ \$250 Cabinet | ▪ \$40 Retired | |

Name _____ Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____ Email _____

RETURN TO: **WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF MONTANA - 201 WEST MAIN STREET, SUITE #101 - MISSOULA, MT 59802**
(406) 728-3328 – ON THE WEB AT WWW.MONTANAWORLDAFFAIRS.ORG – E-MAIL US AT: WACMONTANA@MTWL.NET

* MEMBERSHIPS LAST ONE YEAR +

Reminder: Annual membership meeting Tuesday Nov. 9th - Call the Council for details

Upcoming Council Programs

The World Affairs Council of Montana invites you to join us for an engaging series of upcoming events. Please continue to check our newly updated website (www.montanaworldaffairs.org) for program details, schedule changes, speaker biographies, and sponsorship opportunities.

A REAL PLAN TO BUILD A PALESTINIAN STATE

December 1st, 2010 at 7:00pm
Distinguished Speakers Program
 University of Montana Campus
 UC Ballroom, Third Floor

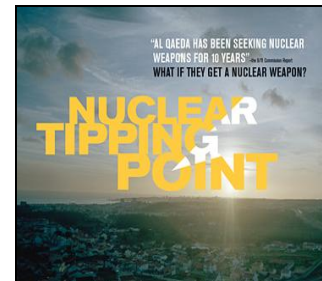


Hussein Ibish is a Senior Fellow at the American Task Force of Palestine and Executive Director of the Hala Salaam Maksoud Foundation of Arab-American Leadership. Ibish is the editor and principle author of over five books, and he has written for several newspapers including the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Washington Post*, and the Washington, DC Correspondent for the *Daily Star*. He will speak on matters of economic development in Palestine. Also, Ibish will propose a plan of action to build to peace in the Middle East.

NUCLEAR TIPPING POINT

Film screening & Discussion

December 13th, 2010 at 7:00pm
Distinguished Speakers Program
 University of Montana Campus
 UC Theater



The Nuclear Tipping Point documentary film reframes the global debate on nuclear issues. It focuses on conversations with four men who have been intimately involved in American diplomacy and national security over four decades: former Secretaries of State George Shultz & Henry Kissinger, former Secretary of Defense William Perry and former Senator Sam Nunn. A community discussion will follow the 30-minute film with guest TBA. Visit the Council's website for more information and to view a film trailer. *This project is made possible by a grant from the Nuclear Threat Initiative in cooperation with the Hoover Institution.*

COUNCIL PARTNERS WITH WESTERN MONTANA'S KGVO NEWS TALK RADIO



The Montana World Affairs Council has formed a new partnership with News Talk Radio – KGVO 1290am in efforts to reach out to listeners across Western Montana. In the coming months, the Talk Back radio program will air special interviews with Council guests as part of the Council's Distinguished Speakers Program. This listener call-in format will provide a

unique opportunity for audience members to speak directly to dignitaries and international policy experts.

The next *Council on the Radio* program will air **November 16th, 2010 from 8:30-10am and will feature Peter Tertzakian**, Chief Energy Economist of ARC Financial Corporation, one of the world's leading energy investment firms. Best selling author of *A Thousand Barrels a Second*, Tertzakian has also been a guest on many high profile radio and television shows. Please visit the Council's website for more information: www.montanaworldaffairs.org

MONTANANS OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT TURKEY'S ROLE IN GLOBAL POLITICALS



On September 21st, nearly 250 Montanans filled the UC Ballroom to hear from Turkish Consul General Hakan Tekin. Tekin spoke of Turkey's strategic role, both geographically and politically in the region and around the world. "We have been re-establishing relationships in our own region that we had neglected. There is a change in the dynamic from the Cold War years. We are trying to build up trust and cooperation in our own neighborhood," said Tekin in an interview with the Missoulian. During the Consul General's visit, he met with local business leaders and Council members at First Interstate Bank for a Business Luncheon Series event as well as visited with students at Hellgate high school.

Recently, the Council organized the 3rd annual "Discover Turkey" teacher workshop and sent four more Montana educators to Turkey on a study-tour made possible through a grant from the Turkish Cultural Foundation. These individuals included: Belgrade's Debi Adams, Butte's Jon Bercier, Columbus' Norma Glock, and Hellgate's Patty Hixson. The Consul General's speech will be posted on the Council's website and there is also a copy in the Council office for members to checkout.

WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF MONTANA

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Fall 2010 interns

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- Dr. Michael Schutte
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Amb. Mark Johnson (ret.) - *Founder*
Aubrie Lyons - *Executive Director*

Answers to AWQ TRIVIA:

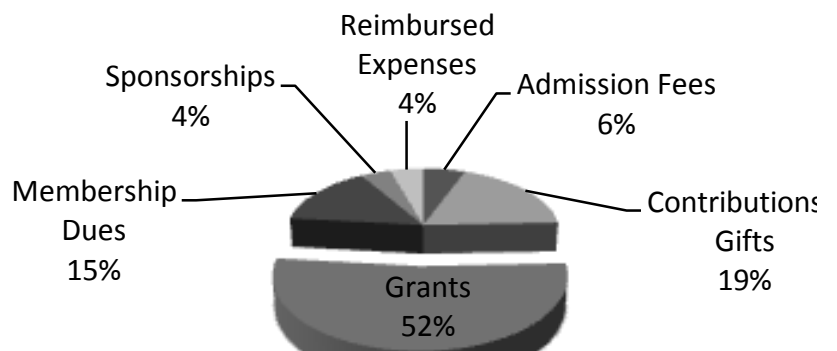
- 1. d 3. b
- 2. c 4. d

Thank You to Our Program Sponsors

- ❖ The Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation, AWQ Sponsors
- ❖ Allegiance Benefit Plan Management Inc., Dirk & Kim Visser 2010-2011 Global Education Initiative Sponsors
- ❖ First Interstate Bank, Turkish Cultural Foundation
- ❖ Max and Betty Swanson Foundation, S.G. Long and Company, The University of Montana, The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center

Council Funding FY June 30,2009 - July 1, 2010

Total Income: \$59,591



Editor: Lucy Gantman 2010-2011 Global Affairs Event/Program Coordinator