



# UNA ★ USA

## NEWSLETTER

### Night of 1000 Dinners

Wednesday, March 8, 2023  
In-Person and Livestreamed

6:00 - 8:00 International Buffet and Program  
Mercer Park Aquatic Center and Scanlon  
Auditorium, 2701 Bradford Drive, Iowa City  
7:00 - 8:00 Program Livestreamed

Join us as we celebrate International Women's Day, honor three local organizations advancing UN Sustainable Goal #15, Life on Land, and enjoy entertainment from diverse cultures. The event will raise funds to support these groups and the UN World Food Program

#### Honored Groups

Grow Johnson County  
Field to Family  
Great Plains Action Society

Tickets: \$25 or \$10 for students and those on limited incomes

Donations will be used to provide complimentary tickets to community members

Tickets and Donations: <https://N1KD23.eventbrite.com>

Or mail a check payable to JCUNA to JCUNA, 308 E. Burlington Street #245, Iowa City, IA 52240  
The link for the livestream will be sent to ticket-purchasers and donors.

### JOHNSON COUNTY CHAPTER

FEBRUARY 2023

### In Memoriam: Willard "Sandy" Boyd



Prior to his presidency of the University of Iowa, Willard "Sandy" Boyd served from 1959 to 1963 as president of what was then the Iowa City Chapter of the American Association for the UN (later the Johnson County Chapter of UNA-USA). Local citizens formed the chapter in 1957 when Eleanor Roosevelt, the former First Lady and chair of the UN Human Rights Commission, visited Iowa City.

Boyd was a thirty-two-year-old member of the UI College of Law faculty when he assumed the chapter presidency. He was one of many university faculty members and spouses who have led the chapter over the decades. His wife, Susan Boyd, was his partner in this work. They invited Carl Rowan, a prominent African American journalist (and later  
*(continued on p3)*





BARBARA ECKSTEIN

When I joined the JCUNA some half dozen years ago, I had no idea the layers of the organization and the opportunities there. Now that I'm a chapter leader, as the national calls us, I'm beginning to get the picture.

For example, UNAUSA has a national board called the National Council made of elected representatives from the different regions throughout the country. It's current chair, Marielle Ali, recently declared that the National Council exists to serve the chapters, enabling them to promote the UN in their various locales. JCUNA members can be thinking about how to make use of MS. Ali's commitment. As an employee of the UN's Secretariat, besides being Council chair, she is just one council member with a lot of knowledge to share. Our regional representatives to the council, members of the St. Louis and Kansas City chapters, have additional knowledge pertinent specifically to issues of refugees, labor, and climate change. Might JCUNA partner with other

chapters in our region to facilitate events and action on one or more of these issues? Besides opportunities at the regional and national level, there is reason, always, also to think globally. On February 16 and 17, UNA is sponsoring an in-person Global Summit at the UN Headquarters in New York City. If a JCUNA member is interested to attend, they should reach out to me.

We have partners not only at the global, national, and regional levels, but, of course, also at the state level. If you aren't already familiar with the work of the IAUNA student fellows and with the organization's website and blog, you can learn about them here: <https://www.iowauna.org/>. If you have not had the opportunity yet to hear executive Director Deb DeLaet speak, you can become acquainted with her through her contributions to the IAUNA blog available through the website. Even closer to home, Linn County UNA is just up the road.

I'm proud of the work JCUNA has done in 2022 and is planning for 2023 — remember the Night of a Thousand Dinners fundraiser 3/8 at Mercer Park — and I'm eager to brainstorm ways to work with our state, regional, and national partners in the near future.

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## Learning from COP27

BY BARBARA ECKSTEIN

In 2022, JCUNA started the new year with an on-line presentation about EN-ROADS <https://www.climateinteractive.org/en-roads/> by Jackie Armstrong, Mitchell County, Iowa, resident and Citizens' Climate Lobby leader. EN-ROADS, an MIT-based on-line simulator that allows users to explore and test the effectiveness of various climate change policies and practices, is back again in 2023 to help us assess the achievements and disappointments of the November 2022 COP27 global climate change talks that occurred in Egypt.

There's good news and bad news out of COP27. The EN-ROADS staff summarize the results in three points. The first, good news, is the Bridgetown Initiative, proposed by Prime Minister Mia Mottley of Barbados. The Initiative explains why current energy partnerships don't work, namely that the cost to borrow money for mitigation and adaptation in the developing world carries a 14% interest rate while borrowing money for mitigation and adaptation in the developed

world is at 1-4% interest. This initiative, refined since the Glasgow talks and beta-tested with UN and national leaders, proposes a financing mechanism for climate change mitigation and adaptation that developing countries can use and in which the International Monetary Fund and other deep pockets will participate. See the podcast <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/12/02/podcasts/the-daily/barbados-imf-world-bank-climate-change.html> or the financial analysis <https://foreignpolicy.com/2022/11/11/cop27-un-climate-barbados-mottley-climate-finance-imf/>. Those nations that have contributed the least to global warming and suffer the most may finally see some of the resources they need.

The second take away is about hair-splitting in the defining and implementation of mitigation goals. Oil producing countries (e.g. Saudi Arabia, Iran, Russia) argued for the ability of technology to capture and store carbon and rejected proposals to phase down (and out) fossil fuels. Instead they stressed the phrase “low-emission energy” avoiding mention of the source of the energy. With this push-back, no incentive was agreed upon to shut down fossil fuel production and use. The ENROADS simulator is helpful in this epic struggle in that it makes clear the speed and the amount with which different proposed strategies can affect the green house gas emissions causing destructive climate change. Carbon capture, for example, is a slow and incomplete strategy — too slow to be sufficiently helpful — while a carbon tax, for example, is a faster and more thorough strategy and is effective where implemented (Chile, for example).

A third take away from COP27 focuses on the consideration of nations’ loss and damage due to climate change. Given that the 20 nations most vulnerable to climate change have lost 1/5 of their wealth in the last 20 years and some 1-2 trillion US\$ is expected to be lost by 2050, participants at COP27 needed to take stock of the connections between climate vulnerability and economic losses. For a multi-faceted exploration of this issue see the 2019 edited collection, *Loss and Damage from Climate Change* <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-319-72026-5>.

In our next JCUNA newsletter we’ll consider the results from COP15, the 2022 Montreal talks about biodiversity, another UN-convened event no less crucial than the COP27 talks. With JCUNA’s commitment to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, we’re duty bound to hang onto our hats and walk into the whirlwind of these complex global meetings. Right this moment you can text “climate” to 306-44 and ask our members of Congress to support the UN’s climate work and to implement policies that allow us to reach the goals of the Paris agreement.

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## **In Memoriam: Willard “Sandy” Boyd (cont.)**

Under-Secretary of State), to speak in Iowa City in 1960. Rowan told a capacity audience at the McBride Auditorium that “Americans must learn to eliminate the prejudices of the past and the 43 nations of Asia and Africa are watching.”

Along with other chapter leaders, the Boyds launched a tour of local homes that initially raised funds for the Jane Addams House for Refugees in Austria and later supported international graduate students at the university. Eventually the annual house tour funded one of the chapter’s most ambitious projects, a bus tour to UN Headquarters in New York City and Washington DC for local high school students, offered for many years.

We honor Sandy Boyd for his many contributions, including his unwavering commitment to internationalism and the United Nations.

# JC UNA News and Events

Johnson County United Nations Association  
308 E. Burlington St. #245  
Iowa City, IA 52240

February 2023

## GO GREEN

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically, please email [unajohnsoncounty@gmail.com](mailto:unajohnsoncounty@gmail.com). We will continue to send you a paper version unless we hear from you.

## We Can Help the UN Help the World

UN agencies are aiding the 100 million forcibly displaced people in Ukraine and worldwide and assisting the victims of natural and man-made disasters in Afghanistan, Pakistan, African countries, and elsewhere. These essential efforts are underfunded. Thank you for your support.

US Fund for UNICEF. <https://www.unicefusa.org>

USA for UNHCR. <https://www.unrefugees.org>

World Food Program USA. <https://www.wfpusa.org>

## Thank You for Your Membership Renewal!

We are most grateful to you for your ongoing support for our chapter. Thanks to you we are working to build support for constructive U.S. leadership in the United Nations. As a UNA-USA member, you are part of the constituency for international cooperation.

If you receive this newsletter by mail, your mailing label indicates when your membership renewal is due. We ask you to make your membership payment directly to UNA-USA Headquarters, either online at <https://unausa.org/join/renew/> or mail a check for \$50 payable to UNA-USA to BWF/UNA-USA, United Nations Foundation, P.O. Box 96397, Washington DC 20090-6397.

Remitting your membership payment directly to UNA-USA is faster, cheaper, and less error-prone. Many thanks!