



The WorldVoter

the newsletter of

Vote World Government

— democratic world government through a global referendum —

www.VoteWorldGovernment.org

Vote World Government President is Jim Stark; Vice President is Ted Stalets

www.RescuePlanForPlanetEarth.com

This site, above, is for the new book *Rescue Plan for Planet Earth*

www.MayorsForWorldDemocracy.org

This site, above, is for the new effort to involve municipal governments in this issue

www.WorldVoting.net

This site, above, is to connect national elections with the global referendum

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(This issue and all previous issues are posted at www.RescuePlanForPlanetEarth.com)

Quotes of the month

The nations of the world have a stake in one another. Barack Obama, “A time for global action,” an Op-Ed piece, March 23, 2009

Law is merely what enables us to live together in peace without having to love one another. Mark Van Doren, American Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and critic

The essential notion is the replacement of anarchy with the rule of law reaching to individuals. Joseph Preston Baratta, Ph.D., from an article entitled “The World Citizens Party: Ideas for the Future”

There are no passengers on spaceship earth. We are all crew. Marshall McLuhan

News in brief

Flyers sent to 30,000 libraries

Flyers (in full colour) about Jim Stark’s book, *Rescue Plan for Planet Earth: Democratic World Government through a Global Referendum*, are being sent by The Key Publishing House Inc. to 30,000 libraries in the USA at the end of April.

Mayor on Board

Albert Armstrong, the mayor of Shawville, Québec, Canada (where the headquarters of VWG is based) has become the first mayor to join the Board of Vote World Government (see www.voteworldgovernment.org/who.shtml and scroll down). We warmly welcome his participation and hope that eventually many other mayors will follow his example.

New article by VWG Liaison Officer Brian Coughlan

Go to www.free-press-release.com/news/200904/1239114898.html. The article is entitled “G20 and President Obama endorse increased global governance.” Brian is currently emailing hundreds of schools in India encouraging them to let their students express themselves informally concerning the Indian election through www.WorldVoting.net (specifically, <http://www.worldvoting.net/c/india/>).

Authors’ Campaign gearing up well

We are aware of more than 150 books on cosmopolitanism (world citizenry, democratic world government, world federalism, etc.) Some authors of such books have passed away, of course, but Earleen and Brian have worked hard to get email addresses for the rest. Beyond this list, Joseph Baratta kindly made available to us a 58-page annotated bibliography! The initiating “core group of 12” for our Authors’ Campaign is composed of the following ([alphabetical order by surname; degrees and positions not included](#)):

Daniele Archibugi - *The Global Commonwealth of Citizens: Toward Cosmopolitan Democracy*

Mary-Wynne Ashford - *Enough Blood Shed: 101 Solutions to Violence, Terror and War*

Joseph Preston Baratta - *The Politics of World Federation, Vol. 1, United Nations, U.N. Reform, Atomic Control; Vol. 2, From World Federalism to Global Governance,*

Benjamin Barber - *Fear’s Empire: War, Terrorism and Democracy in an Age of Interdependence*

Byron Belitsos (with Jerry Tetalman) - *One World Democracy: A Progressive Vision for Enforceable Global Law*

Christopher Hamer - *A Global Parliament: Principles of World Federation*

Fernando Iglesias - *Globalizar la Democracia: Por un Parlamento Mundial (Globalizing Democracy: Appeal for a World Parliament)*

George Monbiot - *The Age of Consent: A Manifesto for a New World Order*

Jim Stark - *Rescue Plan for Planet Earth: Democratic World Government through a Global Referendum*

Torbjörn Tännsjö - *Global Democracy: The Case for a World Government*

Jerry Tetalman (with Byron Belitsos) - *One World Democracy: A Progressive Vision for Enforceable Global Law*

James A. Yunker - *Political Globalization: A New Vision of Federal World Government*

We have written to yet more authors of books on cosmopolitanism to see if they wish to participate, and eight have already agreed, as follows (alphabetical order by surname; degrees and positions not included):

John Avery - *Against the Institution of War*

Matthias Lutz-Bachmann - *Perpetual Peace: Essays on Kant's Cosmopolitan Ideal*

Frank Barnaby, ed. - *The Gaia Peace Atlas*

Gillian Brock - *Global Justice: A Cosmopolitan Account*

Sohail Inayatullah - "Why I Hate Passports and Visas: A Personal Story of Globalization and Fairness" (article)

William Knoke - *Bold New World: The Essential Road Map to the Twenty-First Century*

Dada Maheshvarananda - *After Capitalism*

John Stewart - *Evolution's Arrow*

After we have our full complement of authors, we will start contacting many thousands of NGOs by means of an email co-signed by all of these authors—tens of thousands of NGOs, actually (there are 2 million of them)—as many as it takes to well and truly light the fuse and reach a point where we can rely on others to build momentum. Anyone with a list of NGOs (with email addresses) is asked to send that list to us for this Campaign.

Declaration of Interdependence

One of the authors participating in our Authors' Campaign is Dr. Benjamin Barber. He is a former advisor to President Bill Clinton, the author of *Fear's Empire: War, Terrorism and Democracy in an Age of Interdependence*, the Founder of Interdependence Day and President of CivWorld. He will be contacting our list of authors about his campaign later, and we will be asking him to ask his supporting individuals (and also organizations) to do similarly, and vote in the global referendum. In the meantime, I would encourage you to go to www.civworld.org and, if you feel comfortable doing so, sign their "Declaration of Interdependence" (lower right-hand side of the front page after you enter the site). It's a great idea, and it's very much in harmony with what we at VWG are doing. Some day, I hope soon, we will be formal allies in a common cause.

Seeking funding

VWG CEO Bob French has accepted responsibility for fundraising. (VWG, if you didn't already know this, is in desperate need of funds.) Our first inquiry has gone out already to the Ford Foundation. We likely need \$3 or \$4 million dollars over the next decade to get the job done. In the meantime, if you are embarrassed by great wealth, or even if you are just doing OK, a donation at this time would really help. (About seven person-years have already gone into this project, all without pay for the persons who did all that work.)

Earth Hour

From *Daily Express*, Malaysia, Kota Kinabalu, Saturday, March 28, 2009—Government departments, hotels, NGOs, commercial outlets, homes and even churches will be

switching off their lights during Earth Hour between 8.30-9.30 pm tonight. What started in Sydney, Australia, in 2007, is now targeted to involve one billion people in over 1,189 cities in 80 countries.

Sandakan Sepa Chairman Charles Chow urged the “caring” community of Sandakan to respond wholeheartedly. “We credit WWF for this noble initiative to rally one billion people across the whole world to take a united stand against global warming,” he said. “We consider Earth Hour 2009 the world’s first global referendum - a choice between Earth and [sic] Global Warming.”

Ed. Note: A global referendum!?! Now there’s a thought! However, those who didn’t turn off their lights weren’t voting “for” global warming. How about a global referendum with actual ballots and in aid of a cure for what ails us, such as democratic world government? Now *there’s* a formidable thought!

Dealing with push-back

As a result of efforts by VWG Board member Raj Chandola, Lucy Law Webster, a long-time American World Federalist, is going to research and counter the various conspiracy theories that exist (to the effect that world government of any kind is likely to be one of global dominance by power elites). People who come to our movement are often stunned at the ferocity and certitude of those who claim we must be working for one or another of the power elites that are trying to “take over the world,” such as the Illuminati, the banks, the Bilderbergers, the Communists, even WalMart (there are perhaps a dozen or so main themes). The latest incarnation of these vile scare-stories is called *The Obama Deception*, and it claims in a series of YouTube videos (which likely cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to produce) that ... well, you get the idea. If these fear-mongers can expend such boatloads of resources and energy to shoot us down while we’re still taxiing on a runway, I have little doubt that the pushback will expand exponentially if the DWG movement ever strikes a cord with the human race at large (which of course is exactly what we hope the global referendum will do). Frankly, if we can manage to set up a democratic world government with total transparency, I think Obama would make a first-class candidate as the first-ever secretary general—but that for another day. In the meantime, we wish Lucy all the best in her new adventure.