



# The WorldVoter

the newsletter of

## Vote World Government

— democratic world government through a global referendum —

[www.VoteWorldGovernment.org](http://www.VoteWorldGovernment.org)

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

[www.RescuePlanForPlanetEarth.com](http://www.RescuePlanForPlanetEarth.com)

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(All previous issues are posted at [www.RescuePlanForPlanetEarth.com](http://www.RescuePlanForPlanetEarth.com))

### Quote of the month

**A candle has to burn itself in order to give light to others. You are that candle....  
Jim, fire symbolizes also Holy Spirit. According to Greek mythology, fire was in possession of gods only. Prometheus stole it from god Zeus to give to humans when they lived in dark caves. This gift brought productivity also in the field of art and literature. You are bringing productivity in the field of peace with your new thoughts and fresh energy. Congratulations. Dr. Stephen Gill, Poet Laureate of Ansted University and the author of more than 20 books.**

### News in brief

#### **Stephen Gill to review *Rescue Plan for Planet Earth***

That is a fine compliment (above) from Dr. Gill. In August, he will be reviewing Jim Stark's new book, *Rescue Plan for Planet Earth*. A one-pager about *Rescue Plan* has been posted on Gill's *The Gazette*. It reads: "**The latest book from Jim Stark, a celebrated anti-war writer from Canada.**" To see it, go to <http://www.stephengill.ca/gazette.htm>. If you wish to post the one-pager anywhere at all, The Key Publishing House Inc. encourages you to do so. (*Rescue Plan* will be released to bookstores September 5, 2008.)

### Motto

The motto (in Latin) of the American state of Arkansas is “Regnat Populus,” meaning “the people rule.” Perhaps that should also be the motto of Vote World Government? What do you think?

### **Jerry Tetalman on VWG Board**

Author and businessman Jerry Tetalman has agreed to join the VWG Board. He has great familiarity with the issues involved, and will be a real asset in future. It is a great pleasure to welcome him to our small NGO. Here is his photo and bio, as they now appear on our “Who We Are” link.

Jerry Tetalman is the co-author of *One World Democracy: A Progressive Vision for Enforceable Global Law*. He is the current California President of Citizens for Global Solutions, an organization dedicated to building peace, justice and freedom in a democratically governed world. He is also a co-founder of the World Democracy Movement, an organization dedicated to the formation of a global democracy. He first became politically active in high school, where he protested against the Vietnam War and registered for the draft as a conscientious objector. Jerry has a MA in Psychology and has been a successful businessman dedicated to the pursuit of social justice and the abolition of war.



### **A serious problem with radio interviews—a personal comment from Jim Stark**

In the past several weeks, I have been a guest on seven American phone-in talk shows. It is not an overstatement to say that I am astonished by the degree of negativity and/or fear that I found in most people who phoned in, as well as in most of the hosts (the exception was a Catholic monsignor). What I have been able to figure out is that Americans aren't paranoid about what we are proposing; rather, they are paranoid about what they *think* we are proposing! There are quite a number of conspiracy theories out there about this or that group (the Illuminati, the Trilateral Commission, the Bilderbergers, the Communists, the UN, etc.) plotting to impose a world government on all of us, erase national borders, take away our freedoms, cull the human population, implant chips into our heads, and do most of what is predicted in *1984* or *Brave New World*. Generally, for reasons I have not been able to figure out, they refer to this global monstrosity as “one world government,” and I have no idea why the word “one” always gets in there. I can clearly say “directly-elected, representative and democratic world government” but they hear “one world government,” as if my adjectives weren't even there, or had no meaning, or were simply meant to divert attention away from our actual plan. It's bizarre, frankly. The stations that have me on as a guest advertise that fact ahead of time, and perhaps the conspiracy theorists conspired to call up and hog the radio stations' phone lines. In any event, we have an 18-nation poll that says that Americans are in favour of a “UN parliament” 55% to 35% (10% unsure), a number that stands until or unless there is a new poll saying otherwise. Still, on air, I have to keep my cool and counter these frightened and angry people with reason. It's not fun, I

assure you, and my success rate in persuading these particular kinds of Americans is zero. So ... anybody want my job?

### **Best interview yet**

As explained above, many of Jim Stark's guest spots on American radio phone-in shows have involved accusations that VWG stands for things that we decidedly don't stand for (a "borderless" world, surrendering all of our national sovereignty to a Big Brother world government, secretly promoting a "one-world government" that is destined to take away our freedoms and is even *intended* for that nefarious purpose). However, on June 22, he had an interview with Pennsylvania's Monsignor Tom Snyderwine (AM 1400, WJET). In a most welcome change of pace and tone, it was without question the most comfortable and calm discussion yet of what VWG actually *does* stand for. To hear that fine interview or to download the MP3, go to [http://media.libsyn.com/media/magnify/Interview\\_6-22-08.mp3](http://media.libsyn.com/media/magnify/Interview_6-22-08.mp3). Jim wants to publicly thank Tom Snyderwine for being a light to other American radio stations and media journalists in what seems a darkening nation.

[NOTE: That interview is now posted on [www.RescuePlanForPlanetEarth.com](http://www.RescuePlanForPlanetEarth.com).]

### **"One World Government," a rejoinder**

We alerted Larry Kazdan (a WFM—C executive, and a friend of VWG) about an article in which the modest UNPA (United Nation Parliamentary Assembly) proposal had been characterized as the thin edge of the wedge for an oppressive "One World Government." The article, at <http://canadafreepress.com/index.php/article/3774>, is called:

**Here comes the first draft of One World Government  
United Nations Parliamentary Assembly is One World Government in disguise**

Larry wrote back to set the record straight to those who might be interested, as follows:

For those concerned about "One World Government," the issue is certainly whether we will have true democratic processes at all levels including the global one, or whether we will let the unelected, unaccountable bodies strangle democracy at the world level and all the levels below.

There are two basic approaches to fighting the bad globalization (approaches which of course could also be combined skillfully). One is to try to buttress the nation-state so that it can defend itself from pressure from above. The other is to strengthen democracy at the global level where it is most in deficit.

In my opinion, attempting to defeat globalization simply by retreating into the nation state is doomed to failure for two basic reasons:

1. The problems of climate change, international economic turbulence, the spread of epidemics, the control of nuclear weapons and other major problems can only be solved by some kind of institutional decision-making that goes beyond the level of the nation-state. If nation-states are just kids on the playground, then bullying and self-interest will be the name of the game. So I ask: how will this decision-making be structured, and how can we get there from here?

2. If the nation-state retains absolute sovereignty, it also retains the military-industrial complexes that insinuate and squeeze out democracy anyway through patriotic calls and subordination to military necessities.

The UNPA introduces for the first time the idea that citizens should be directly represented at the United Nations. It is a modest proposal because the UNPA would start as an advisory body, but it is revolutionary in its implications. Firstly it introduces the concept of global community and the global good. Second it is a force for further change in a UN system that has ossified with the current power structure.

Certainly the political establishment will try to co-opt this new parliamentary assembly, will try to limit its powers, and marginalize it as much as possible. But they will fail. I remind you that the first parliaments were advisory bodies to all-powerful kings who yielded to public pressure but certainly did not intend to give up their omnipotent kingly powers. But in fact, over time they were booted out.

The UNPA is not a miracle nor a panacea, but it is a tool that we can use to fight for our idea of democracy at the global level. It deserves the wholehearted support of activists. Please consult the international website at [www.unpacampaign.org](http://www.unpacampaign.org) for more background information and to join volunteers in over 115 countries trying to create a more democratic and effective UN able to deal with the most pressing issues of our times - social justice, human rights, militarism and environmental damage.

Your readers might also be interested in reading George Monbiot's perspective on the UNPA in the Guardian: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/story/0,,2064087,00.html>

Well said, Larry, and thank you! We do recommend reading the George Monbiot article in the URL just above.

[NOTE TO VWG SUPPORTERS – George Monbiot wrote to say that he supported our efforts, and would like to help, but when he was asked to review *Rescue Plan for Planet Earth*, he said he was just too busy. Perhaps he will support us in other ways.]