

# USAID Alumni Association

June/July 2014 Newsletter

## Mark your Calendars for Upcoming UAA Events

**July 14-August 15, 2014:** Africa Development Forum, Washington, D.C. For more details, click [here](#)

**August 1, 2014:**Development Dialogue at DACOR - **Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki**, Chief Executive Officer of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) - "Development in Africa - Whose Agenda?"

**August 9, 2014:** Third Annual UAA Summer Picnic, Fort Hunt Park, Alexandria, VA.

**October 24, 2014:** UAA Annual General Meeting, Washington headquarters of the Center for Global Development; **Theme:** USAID Innovation Past and Future.

**October 29, 2014:** Development Dialogue at DACOR - Retired Admiral and current Dean of the Fletcher School **James Stavridis** will speak on the "21st Century and Development", part of a UAA series on the 3 Ds - Development, Diplomacy and Defense.

## New on USAIDALUMNI.org

- The UAA Board recently sent a [letter](#) to Secretary of State **Kerry** and USAID Administrator **Shah** urging them to do all possible to **gain the release of contract staff Warren Weinstein and Alan Gross**.
- The [UAA Annual Spring Event](#), held on a beautiful May afternoon, was well-attended by members and Mission Director Conference attendees alike. See the large photo gallery of participants.
- The **UAA/DACOR Development Dialogue** has had two recent sessions. **Senator Tim Wirth** spoke on the topic of "**The Politics of Climate Change.**" **Charles Kenny**, a Senior Fellow at the Center for Global Development, spoke about his view that "**the rise of the rest is good for the west.**" If you missed and are interested in these or other sessions, [click here for full audios of the presentations](#).
- Read an update on the [UAA/USAID Mentorship Program](#), including a new fact sheet. If you are inspired, consider becoming a mentor yourself!
- The [Where in the World](#) section of USAID transfers, promotions, retirements, etc. was updated through the end of May.
- In [Jobs and Volunteer Opportunities](#), there are several newly posted job/volunteer opportunities along with some still open, previously available, positions.
- See what's new on the [UAA Event Calendar](#).

- In the **Forum**, view **1)** UAA's initial suggestions re. QDDR (Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review) 2.0 **2)** the obituaries of an unfortunately large number of recently deceased colleagues, **3)** info on the latest novel by alumnus author Mark Wentling, **4)** an update on the status of USAID alum/contractor Warren Weinstein held captive in Pakistan, **5)** a discussion piece on USAID's ever-increasing number of new initiatives, and **6)** info on the state-level candidacy of alumna Kris Loken.
- Read **Articles** about 1) USAID's winningest-most contractors, 2) the newly nominated USAID Deputy Administrator, 3) how - with private sector assistance - USAID financial scrubbing has produced \$2.9 billion for Maternal Child Health endeavors, 4) a Raj Shah Washington Post Op Ed piece on how to make Afghan development gains sustainable, 5) alum Jerry Hyman's thoughts on assistance to Afghanistan beyond the U.S. troop drawdown, 6) LGBT policies and practices in USAID, 7) suggested ways for USAID to improve its procurement practices, 8) Agency efforts to help Latin America fight coffee fungus, 9) the possibilities for a second Green Revolution in rice production, 10) suggested ways that USAID and the DOD can better integrate security and development efforts in Africa, 11) cooperation in Development, Diplomacy and Defense (comments by Jim Michel), and 12) the problems of program oversight in war zones (focus is on issues with contractor IRD).
- In the **Web Links** section, take a look at the latest edition of Front Lines and Foreign Policy Magazine's recently updated Fragile States Index.

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Do you have news, an article or event you would like to share? Please send it to [office@usaidalumni.org](mailto:office@usaidalumni.org) or, better still, post it on the **Forum**.

Looking for someone with a USAID alumni background and skills to hire or volunteer? Express that interest on [usaidalumni.org](http://usaidalumni.org). If you would like to post a job or volunteer opportunity, please email us at [office@usaidalumni.org](mailto:office@usaidalumni.org), Attn: Jobs/Volunteers.

3rd Annual UAA Summer Picnic August 9

**SAVE THE DATE!**

## **3rd Annual UAA Summer Picnic**

**Fort Hunt Park, Alexandria, VA  
Saturday, August 8, 2014  
Noon - 3:00 pm**

**[CLICK HERE for Details on Fort Hunt Park and Park](#)**

## **Map**

### More information on logistics and activities to follow!

Join the USAID Alumni Association for a picnic and games in our reserved site (B-001) with shelter and restrooms. The picnic is open to all USAID alums (including FSNs), spouses, children, grandchildren, and other family members who will enjoy the beautiful park site we have reserved in close-in Northern Virginia. We can accommodate hundreds...so bring your picnic and your favorite folks to join in the fun.

Please RSVP to [office@usaidalumni.org](mailto:office@usaidalumni.org) by **August 1, 2014** with a headcount for your group

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you at the Picnic!

### Serve on the 2014-2016 UAA Board

#### Are you interested in helping the UAA to move forward?

The UAA will be electing (or re-electing) three Board members at the Oct. 24, 2014 AGM for the two-year period Oct. 2014 - 2016, to fill positions of outgoing Board members David Cohen, Jim Michel, and Nancy Pielemeier. Four Board incumbents will continue to serve until October 2015: Frank Almaguer, David Eckerson, Carol Peasley and Alexander Shakow.

At this time, the nominating committee of Frank Almaguer, David Eckerson, and Alex Shakow asks that any eligible member\*\* interesting in running for one of these positions send a statement expressing their interest and a brief bio to:

[elections@usaidalumni.org](mailto:elections@usaidalumni.org)

Expressions of interest should be sent by **July 31, 2014.**

\*\* Only alumni who have made their 2014 contribution are eligible to serve on the UAA Board.

### August 2014 Gathering of 'Development Wallahs' in Vermont

Vermont-based USAID alumni (and those passing through New England in August) will gather at the home of Connie Carrino in Stowe, Vermont on Wednesday, August 13th,

for the annual picnic gathering of "development wallahs." Last year's gathering included alumni from all over Vermont (Steve and Monica Sinding, Jim and Linda Bonner, Michael and Christin Morfit, Fritz Gilbert, Ellen Frost, Rich Owens, Art Fell, Ann and Mike Van Dusen) of course, but also from New Hampshire (Mohammed Tanamaly, Jim Bednar), New York (John and Joan Westley) and Massachusetts (Anne Tinker and Jim Henderson).



*Alumni gather in August 2013 (clockwise):  
Steve Sinding, John Westley, Jim Bonner, Jim Bednar, Art Fell, Fritz Gilbert*

Everyone is welcome so, if you will be in the area and are interested in stopping by, please let Connie know. She can be reached at: [cacarrino@gmail.com](mailto:cacarrino@gmail.com)

## UAA hosts successful 2014 Spring Reception at DACOR



*Picture left to right: UAA Board Co-Chair Carol Peasley,  
Mission Director Janina Jaruzelski, USAID Alumna Bette Cook*

On May 18, against the backdrop of the historic DACOR Bacon House in DC, the UAA held its annual Spring Reception. The weather fully cooperated for the group of over 100 attendees, who enjoyed the beautiful spring afternoon on the DACOR patio. In addition to USAID Alumni and spouses, almost 20 current USAID Mission Directors and senior Agency officials attending the annual worldwide conference joined the event. We were grateful that Administrator Shah took time from his weekend schedule to informally address the group, praising the work of the UAA in collaborating with USAID. Alumni included several from out of town such as Priscilla del Bosque and Bastiaan Schouten from California and Nancy and David Piet up from North Carolina.

For more photos, [click here to view the full gallery](#)

Deadline approaching for 'Alumni of the Year' nominations!

## There's still time to get in your nominations for the UAA's inaugural 'Alumni of the Year' award!

**Deadline: July 31, 2014**

As inspiration to others, **UAA is launching a search for two truly innovative and outstanding "Alumni of the Year"** who have made unusual and significant contributions since leaving USAID. One recipient will be honored for paid or volunteer work overseas, and the other for work in the US. The awards will be presented at UAA's Annual General Meeting on Oct. 24, 2014, at the Center for Global Development in Washington, DC.

To nominate a friend or colleague or apply yourself, email [awards@usaidalumni.org](mailto:awards@usaidalumni.org) describing what you or your nominee have done since leaving USAID that represents innovative and transformative service in development work overseas, or in community work or the arts in the US. Tell us about the impact of the contribution and why it might be inspiring to other USAID alumni or those contemplating life after USAID. Include contact information and if possible a brief narrative bio covering both USAID and post-USAID activities. If nominating yourself, please include the names of two references knowledgeable about your post-USAID contributions.

**The deadline for nominations and applications is July 31, 2014.**

Applicants/nominees must be US residents able to attend the UAA AGM on Oct. 24, 2014, in Washington, DC. UAA can help defray travel expenses for winners who live outside the Washington area. Applicants/nominees must also be in one of the categories eligible to join UAA:

- Those who worked for USAID for at least two years and who left the agency in good standing, including:
  - Former Civil Servants, FSOs, FSNs, TCNs, AD and Schedule C appointees; and
  - Those formerly employed through interagency service agreements (PASAs, RASAs), fellowship programs (e.g. AAAS Fellows, Population Fellows), and

personal services contracts (PSCs).

The awards will celebrate the new paths taken by two outstanding alumni who may have built on their USAID experience and skills but who've chosen to work in different arenas, with different partner organizations, or on their own. The recipients will also have shown passion for new activities and made significant and lasting contributions.

## Alumni Profile: Roger Carlson

Roger Carlson joined USAID in 1963 fresh out of college, eager to get involved in foreign affairs and motivated by President Kennedy's appeal to youth to join government and bring a new era of dynamism and change to public service. After initially working in the Military Assistance Division of the Agency's Planning Office his first overseas assignment was in Algeria. He convinced his former Peace Corps boss, Gail Sander, to join him there where they were married in Algiers in 1964.



As with many USAID officers in that era with a spouse safe havened, in 1967 they began a two year period of shuttling between Saigon, where Roger was a Planning Officer at Military Assistance Command, and Bangkok, where Gail was the Administrative Assistant to the Peace Corps Director. They then spent 1969-70 at the Fletcher School at Tufts University, followed by USAID assignments in Tunisia, USAID/W, studies at Stanford Graduate School of Business and then Somalia. Roger moved into the Directorship of Southern African Affairs in the mid-1980s and later in Swaziland and Mozambique.

Post retirement in 1996, he teamed up with a small publisher in Johannesburg and launched a magazine, "Transport World Africa," dedicated to analysis and debate about the African continent's transport infrastructure crisis. His experience in Mozambique confirmed that high transport costs in Africa, and from Africa to overseas markets, were seriously reducing competitiveness of African products. He never planned to get into journalism, but it was a refreshing change and a real challenge. He recalls spending many days travelling the back roads of South Africa in an un-air conditioned Mazda3, interviewing CEOs about logistics bottlenecks and selling advertising for the new publication.

In 2004, he returned to USAID for a "second time around." In Afghanistan he helped the Mission find ways to address the narcotics challenge and served as a senior advisor to the Minister of Agriculture. From 2005 through 2013, he served in senior USAID positions on an interim basis in six Near East and Asian countries and in the Asia Bureau in Washington. He remains available for short-term assignments.

Roger and Gail's children, Caroline and Kevin, were born in Tunisia in the mid-1970's. Tragically, Gail died unexpectedly in 2009. Roger's children and their spouses now live in Florida and Roger thoroughly enjoys his role as grandfather to four boys between the ages ten and three. During school holidays he often joins them in Florida and runs what the boys like to call "Camp Gramp!" While Roger still resides in D.C., he spends time on

Cape Cod, maintaining a family home and summer rental property near the National Seashore Park. It has become a wonderful retreat, winter and summer, for the Carlson clan.

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Alumni are not only in the D. C. area but scattered across the country and overseas. We would be pleased to share your latest news with former colleagues in the upcoming newsletters. Brief and breezy is the style we enjoy. Alumni interested in sharing what they are up to are encouraged to send a paragraph or two to [office@usaidalumni.org](mailto:office@usaidalumni.org)

## East and Southern Africa Alumni Reconnect

A group of alumni who worked together in East and Southern Africa in the late 70s-early 80s got together on the occasion of simultaneous visits by DeeDee Blane (from Tennessee) and Morgan Gilbert (from Mexico).



*Picture left to right: Morgan Gilbert, Marjorie Lewis, John Pielemeier, DeeDee Blane, Larry Hausman, Margie Burks, John Lewis, Nancy Pielemeier*

### USAID Alumni Association

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