

Remembering Dr. Paul Miller



Our chapter feels a great sense of loss with the recent death of Dr. Paul Miller, from pancreatic cancer. He was a past President of our chapter and a longtime dedicated and loyal board member, as well as a close friend and advisor. Our readers will remember him best as the editor and columnist of this Midpeninsula newsletter for thirteen years, the latest edition going to press at the time of his death. His column "In My Opinion" will be greatly missed.



Dr. Miller was born in 1918 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and graduated from Grove City College where he was president of an honorary medical fraternity. He excelled in cabinet making and his first job was teaching at Brookline High School in the shop department. When the depression hit he became an occupational counselor at Conley Trade School in Pittsburgh.

His interest in cellular structure, histology, and anatomy led him to the University of Pennsylvania Medical School where he was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha Honorary Medical fraternity and graduated in 1943. He interned at the Allegheny General Hospital before going to Norfolk Naval Air Station in Virginia and Lido Beach on Long Island for military surgical training at the start of World War II.

He served as a U.S. Navy Medical Officer on the LST 49, an evacuation ship supporting the Normandy and Southern France invasions, one of four surgeons serving over six hundred casualties. From 1944-1946 his service as a U.S. Navy Medical Officer took him to London, Rome, Naples, Marseille, Tunis, Algiers, Rabat, Casablanca, Tokyo, Manila, and Hong Kong.

Back home after the war he met and married Edith Mueser. He had a General Medical Practice in Pittsburgh, a residency at the V.A. Hospital in Pittsburgh and a Fellowship in General Surgery at the Lahey Clinic in Boston. He came west to take a position as resident surgeon and Assistant-Chief of Emergency Service at Santa Monica Hospital in Santa Monica.

Since moving to Palo Alto in 1952 until his retirement in 1989 he had a long and distinguished career. Following a General Practice in Palo Alto for five years he had a residency in Anatomical Pathology at the Stanford Medical Center in San Francisco, and a residency in Clinical Pathology at St. Luke's Hospital in San Francisco. He was Acting Chief of Surgical Pathology at the Stanford Medical Center, Clinical Professor of Pathology at Stanford Medical School, an Associate Pathologist at El Camino Hospital in Mountain View, and Associate Pathologist at Kaiser Foundation Hospital in Santa Clara, from where he retired.

Dr. Miller loved the outdoors and the mountains, was a devoted leader in the Boy Scouts and was physician at Camp Olijato in the Sierras. He was a very disciplined person and continued his daily brisk walking routine until a few weeks before his death. He was an avid reader, especially well-informed on national politics and world affairs, and a respected speaker and writer. Our UNA chapter and newsletter held a special place for him in his retirement and we benefited greatly from his thoughtful columns and articles, as well as his careful attention to detail. His shoes will be hard indeed to fill.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Edith, and a son, Eric. He is survived by his son Brian and wife Bev in Ohio, son Glenn and wife Mary in Oregon and son Lysle and wife Richele in Colorado, and seven grandchildren. A Memorial Service celebrating his life was held at the Sequoias Retirement Community in Portola Valley, where he lived.

President's Message

It is my hope that you have been blessed with the warmth of family and/or friends around you this holiday season and that the new year brings brighter prospects for solutions to problems of inequalities and injustice.

My New Year's Resolutions for 2010 for our chapter are not new but they need to be restated and taken seriously. We must make a concerted effort to: * Gain more younger members and provide opportunities for

involvement. * Fill positions on our board (secretary, education, newsletter, program co-chair). * Increase co-sponsorship of programs with other organizations.

* Increase community awareness of the UN, its work, and its importance

It is also my hope that you will look seriously at these resolutions and consider how you might help bring them to fruition, either by direct involvement or suggestions, by spreading the word or by attending one



Mary Granholm

or more of our monthly board meetings.

The End of Nuclear Tests?

by Anne Loftis

I remember hearing about the highly secret first test of an atomic bomb which took place on July 16, 1945 in the New Mexico desert, conducted by scientists from the nearby Los Alamos laboratory who had been working in secret throughout World War II to develop the new weapon. Less than a month later, two versions of the new weapon were dropped by U.S. military planes on the Japanese cities, Hiroshima and Nagasaki, killing over 100,000 people and ending the war.

These bombs changed the political and social structure of the world. When delegates to the then recently created United Nations met in London in January, 1946, the first Resolution of the General Assembly called for the elimination of all nuclear weapons, as well as chemical and biological weapons "adaptable to mass destruction." But the Pandora's box had been opened.

Despite alarming reports from Japan on nuclear fallout, in July 1946 the U.S. began testing nuclear weapons at Bikini Atoll, Great Britain began operating the first atomic reactor the following year and, in 1949, the Soviet Union detonated an atomic bomb, a momentous event in the escalation

of the burgeoning Cold War with the West. The tests continued throughout the 1950s as the opponent states developed hydrogen fusion weapons and launched nuclear powered merchant ships. Eight countries in the nuclear club conducted 2,000 tests in the atmosphere, underground, and underwater.

Eventually, scientists' warnings about the effect of these tests on humans brought about a change. As new countries, including China, India, and Pakistan became nuclear powers, the original members, freed from the Cold War rivalry, launched environmental protection measures. Through the United Nations they established nuclear-free zones in the Antarctic, in South America, the Caribbean, Africa, and Southeast and Central Asia.

While the new nuclear states engaged in testing, old members endorsed reform. In December, 1995, the UN General Assembly called for the immediate cessation of nuclear tests.

In 1996 a Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty was signed by representatives of 180 countries, but has yet to be ratified by twelve nations, including the United States.

"These bombs changed the political and social structure of the world."

President Obama is in favor but must win the support of a majority of the U.S. Senate. Hans Blix, chairman of the Commission on Weapons of Mass Destruction, believes that, if the U.S. signs the treaty, other hold-out countries will follow our lead. He states, "Only the CTBT offers the prospect of a permanent and legally binding commitment to end nuclear testing."

UNAFF SCORES AGAIN

Jasmina Bojic and her team have once again brought to Stanford University and the Palo Alto community a remarkable contribution. The 12th Annual United Nations Association Film Festival in late October was a tremendous success, the best yet. Fifty documentaries culled from 520 submissions from 50 countries were selected by a member jury and presented in seven locations over a nine-day period. Twenty filmmakers from all over the world were present and available on Closing Night to discuss their films.

In addition to screening the films UNAFF offered five panel discussions with renowned experts, covering topics such as global warming, the impact of oil, the International Criminal Court, films from women's perspectives, the environment, and children. A Sunday matinee in downtown Palo Alto featured films for children, one evening session was held in a local high school for students, and one evening presentation was a tribute to Dorothy Fadiman, a local filmmaker and community leader, and included several of her films. Information on all the films can be found on www.unaff.org.

UNAFF SCREENINGS AND BOOK CLUB

Everyone is welcome to view a film from the annual festival on the second Monday of each month at 2 PM at the Avenidas Senior Center in Palo Alto.

You are most welcome to join us in reading and discussing our monthly Book Club selection, which is always interesting and stimulating. We meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 at the home of Don and Mary Granholm, at 1945 Mount Vernon Court, #15, Mountain View. Both the movie screenings and book clubs schedules are combined below:

- January 11 - "Seed Hunter" Director/Producer Sally Ingleton (52 minutes)
Monday A journey from the drought-ravaged farms of Australia, to the heart of the Middle East, and the mountains of Tajikistan with Dr. Ken in a search of the elusive wild chickpea.
- January 19 - "Cutting for Stone?" by Abraham Verghese
Tuesday An unforgettable journey into one man's remarkable life and an epic story about the power, intimacy, and beauty of the work of healing others.
- February 8 - "Milking the Rhino" Director/Producer David E. Simpson (83 minutes)
Monday Intimate, harrowing, and hopeful stories about rural Africans in the midst of deep cultural change in balancing the needs of wildlife and people.
- February 16 - "The Tiger and the Hare" by Jane Miller Chai
Tuesday A novel that opens a rare window into the events preceding the United States military involvement in Vietnam.
- March 8 - "Grandmother to Grandmother; New York to Tanzania" Directors/Producers: Anne Macksoud and John Angele (56 minutes)
Monday AIDS, drugs, and violence wipe out a generation of parents, leaving millions of children behind, and grandmothers stepping forward to raise them.
- March 16 - "Half the Sky" by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl Wudunn
Tuesday A passionate call to arms against the era's most pervasive human rights violation: the oppression of women and girls in the developing world

Midpeninsula Chapter
United Nations Association
of the United States of America, Inc.
525 Emerson Street
Palo Alto, CA 94301
☎ (650) 326-3170

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UNA Midpeninsula Newsletter

Editor: Mary Granholm
Associate Editors: Anne Loftis
Production: Cynthia Cadua, Christine Welster

January 26 Board Meetings
February 23 552 Emerson Street, Palo Alto
March 23 Tuesdays 7:30pm

January 20 World Affairs Council “Climate Change: The Road From Copenhagen
7-9 pm to Effective U.S. and International Climate Policy”
Free Michael Wara, Assistant Professor, Stanford Law School,
Los Altos Youth Center, 150 San Antonio Road, Los Altos

February 17 World Affairs Council “Global Investigative Journalism from Corruption
7-9 pm to Terrorism”
Free Lowel Bergman, Producer for Frontline
Los Altos Youth Center

UNA Calendar

Scenings & Book Club
schedule inside

New Individual/Family Membership \$25
Limited Income \$25

Individual/Family Renewal \$40
Student Membership - \$10

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It's easy to join! Just fill in the blanks and mail with
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Pass this on to your friends!