



1818 SOCIETYSM QUARTERLY

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

Is the worst of the COVID-19 pandemic finally over? The World Bank Group is moving to Tier Zero (0) as of July, which means that retirees will be able to access World Bank premises after having their ID cards revalidated. But members entering the building will have to confirm that they are fully vaccinated and will be expected to wear a mask while on premises.

Meanwhile the Center for Disease Control (CDC) has discontinued its policy of requiring mandatory PCR tests before flying back to USA. These are grounds for cautious optimism, however, it is premature to conclude that the pandemic is over. We continue to hear of members who tested positive and suffered varying symptoms for a few days or weeks. The CDC approval of vaccination for children, and even infants, is to be welcomed. Nonetheless, because of our age vulnerabilities, we recommend that our members go the extra mile to protect themselves in terms of social distancing, use of face masks, and more booster shots as soon as they are available.

The Ukraine war continues and the combination of COVID-19 and the pressure on fuel prices due to the war has led to much higher inflation than normal in many countries, including USA. We have been fortunate that the health of the Pension Fund allowed the annual COLA increase to keep pace with inflation. Citizens in many other countries have not had this financial cushion and are struggling to cope, a problem compounded by the dramatic increase in food prices and risk of food insecurity as supplies of wheat, maize, barley and sunflower from Russia and Ukraine have dwindled (see Nadim Khouri's blog of July 1, 2022, on the [1818 Society website](#)). Many countries in MENA and AFR will likely be the unintended victims of the Ukraine war.

This has been a busy quarter at the Society. On March 25, the Committee for Revision of the By-Laws submitted their Interim Report of Recommendations. Following initial discussions with the Board, a summary of the report was made public and a Members' Survey undertaken from May 1-15, 2022, to obtain feedback on the key recommendations. The Board also held consultations on the proposed recommendations with the heads of overseas Chapters, the Administrative Professionals Group (APGP) of the Society, and with members at an open Townhall Meeting on May 9, 2022. In parallel, the Committee concluded its internal deliberations and submitted its final **Report on Recommendations of the 1818 Society By-Laws Committee for Revision of the By-Laws** on May 25, 2022, which has been posted on the Society's website [[Click here to read the report \(login required\)](#)].

Results of the Members' Survey were encouraging: 937 members responded to the Survey. While the aggregate response rate was 13%, members endorsed all of the recommendations: Of the 10 questions in the Survey, 8 were supported by 80% or more, while the remaining two questions were supported by 59% of respondents ([Click here to see the results of the Members' Survey](#)). Results of the

Members' Survey and the feedback from the various consultations have been consolidated and communicated to the By-Laws Committee, which has commenced drafting revisions to the By-Laws. When they are ready, the proposed amendments will be circulated to all members for their consideration and possible approval. Members will be given the opportunity to review and approve, or reject, each proposed amendment.

We are pleased to report that the Members' Blog Posts were launched on schedule on April 1, 2022. Recent blogs are posted at the bottom of the Home Page, with a link for members to view previous blog posts.

On the knowledge agenda, this has been a busy quarter with 10 thematic group events and 5 informational seminars and training sessions. Two useful webinars for members were organized by the Credit Union at our request – Digital Banking (April 18), and Fraud Prevention/Financial Scams (June 9); the IMT Committee organized two training sessions providing Tech Tips for Retirees (April 27, and June 27); and the WBG HR Global Benefits team organized an information session with AETNA & CIGNA Dental (May 5).

Following the launch of the [First Virtual Art Show](#) of the Society from March-May 2022, the Society has decided to formally start an Art Club. Dominique Lallement, who curated the Art Show, will serve as the Chair. All members who contributed their artwork for the Art Show will automatically be enrolled. Other members wishing to join the Art Club should send an email to 1818society@wbgalumni.org with the words "Art Club" in the subject line.

The summer is here but there is no rest for the wicked. We intend to continue with our plans to rollout additional features on the website to enhance user experience, and to rollout seminars and blogs with the help of our volunteers. Meanwhile, stay healthy, and stay safe!

Anis Dani
President



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Dear Friends:

Let's start with a little quiz: Who can identify the three former Bank staff or consultants who are heads of state in their respective countries or hold very senior government positions? (*See below*)

Or, another puzzler: What are the "Hash House Harriers," started at the Bank in 1972 and celebrating their 50th anniversary this year? (*See below*)

Although he left the Bank as President 41 years ago, the late Robert McNamara's impact continues to inspire retirees to recall memorable events, like Economist Robert Cassen's reflections on his work in India (*page 27*) or Shiva Makki's on poverty alleviation (*page 33*). Then there is a note on the new book about McNamara as a father, by his only son Craig (*page 11*).

For the fall issue of the Quarterly, we would like to encourage contributions about what it likely will take to help reconstruct Ukraine, if and when the war ends. The hope is that we can draw on lessons learned over the years on other Bank reconstruction efforts.

Thanks to everyone for their kind support,

Tom Blinkhorn, Editor

- a) Najla Bouden, Tunisia's first female Prime Minister and first in Arab world
- b) Rodrigo Chaves, President of Costa Rica (*page 10*)
- c) Maia Sandu, President of Moldova (*page 11*)
- d) Hash at 50 (*page 23*)

1818 SOCIETYSM NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Staff Retirement Plan

By Lee Meddin



The annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for the pension was recently announced. For those receiving their pension in US dollars, the increase is 8.54%. This increase is in-line with inflation as reported by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). We are fortunate that the Staff Retirement Plan has been managed in a prudent manner to allow for such an increase. To put this in perspective, the Bank Board approved a 5 percent salary structure adjustment for HQ-appointed staff. We as retirees obviously

fared better.

Since the COLA was announced only a few weeks ago, inflation has continued to rise globally. US inflation has now reached 8.6%, a 40-year high. Inflation in the Euro area has reached 8.1%. The Bank of England has warned inflation in the UK may exceed 11% by the autumn. To combat this, central banks globally have been increasing their policy rates. The Fed raised rates by 0.75 percentage points this week, the largest increase since 1994. This brings the federal funds rate to a range of 1.50 percent to 1.75 percent. The Fed also signaled the policy rate could rise well above 3 percent by year-end, perhaps eventually rising above 4 percent. In Europe, The Swiss National Bank just raised their benchmark rate for the first time in 15 years. The Bank of England just raised rates for a fifth straight meeting. The ECB is expected to start raising rates in July.

We've already begun to see the impact of these rate increases on the financial markets. The 30-year fixed-rate mortgage in the US rose to 5.78% this week, the highest level since November 2008 and well above the 3.11% recorded near the end of the last year, according to Freddie Mac. As for equities, the S&P 500 entered bear territory this week, falling more than 20% from its recent high.

This combination of inflation, higher rates, and weakening financial markets is weighing on the economy. This week, the CEO of Morgan Stanley stated there is a 50% chance the US economy will enter a recession. According to Bloomberg, JP Morgan strategists said stocks imply 85% chance of US recession and 80% chance of Europe recession.

All of this presents challenges not only for us as retirees in terms of our spending, but also for those who manage our pension. In a world of rising rates and falling equity valuations, managing a large pension such as the Staff Retirement Plan (SRP) becomes increasingly challenging. Early in June, the 1818 Society Board and the Pension Committee received an update from PEN (The Pension and Endowments Department) to inform us of what they are proactively doing to buffer the Staff Retirement Plan against a market downturn.

Two of the indicators that PEN looks at in term of financial health for the SRP are the funded ratio and the contribution rate. These are explained in the annual report published each year and made available on the pension website. PEN expressed that both indicators are very strong and able to weather more challenging markets. They are also focused on risk management based on a target

volatility as they pursue their long-term real return objective (LTRRO) of 3.5%. Additionally, the buffer that has been built over the past decade will be helpful in more turbulent markets ahead. For the 10-year period ending Dec 31, 2021, the SRP achieved an excess net real return over LTRRO of 4.2%, resulting in a net nominal return of 10.0%.

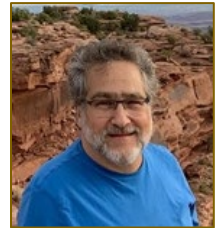
Key in producing these results, and allowing the SRP to weather the challenges ahead, is a well-diversified portfolio. The strategic asset allocation (SAA) is well diversified across different types of risk factors. This is one of the key defenses over time as the market environment shifts. From a tactical perspective, the SRP is currently overweight in areas that tend to offer more reliable inflation protection (real assets, credit strategies) and underweight in fixed income. The private equity allocation is also above target and the position is compensated from a risk perspective by a commensurate underweight in public equities. In the short-term, PEN expects this strategy to outperform public markets during a market downturn.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at lee@sagaciouscapital.com

The RMIP Corner – Retirees Medical Insurance

By Eduardo Wallentin

I hope those of you in the Northern Hemisphere are having a pleasant summer and those of you in the Southern Hemisphere are having a mild winter, and that you are staying healthy. There are three things I would like to report: new access to health advocate services, exploring improvements for our coverage and HR's seminar with AETNA and CIGNA.



You should have recently received a communication from the Bank Group informing us that retirees now have access to **HealthAdvocate** services at no additional cost. HealthAdvocates are an independent, third-party benefits services. Here's a [link to the document](#) in case you didn't receive it and where you'll find more information about their services. I would like to thank my predecessor, Fons Marcelis, and his fellow committee members, as they were instrumental in helping us secure this service. While too early to assess, initial comments we have received from members have been quite positive.

You can contact this service at answers@HealthAdvocate.com, or visit their website at HealthAdvocate.com/worldbankretirees. You will have to create an account the first time you login.

The Health Insurance Committee brought to the attention of the Board some potential deductible and dental benefits to help determine their feasibility. With the full endorsement of the Board, we submitted these **proposed RMIP coverage changes** just for their costing at this time to the Bank HR Department. Since implementation of these potential changes would likely have an impact on our premiums, we first want to know their potential impact, consult with you on your preferences and formally proceed with a request if there is broad support among our membership. Once we have the numbers, we'll come back to you with more specific information on the proposed changes. Keep in mind that a final approval would be subject to Bank management's decision as the Bank now covers about two-thirds of the plans' costs.

Lastly, I would like to mention the recent webinar with AETNA and CIGNA representatives organized by the HR Department. We would like to thank the HR Department for their initiative. The webinar was well attended with more than 130 participants who posed several questions, most of which were addressed. In case you missed it, you can visit our website <https://www.wbgalumni.org/informational-seminars/> to view the recording of the event as well as a revised presentation.

Stay healthy!!

Eduardo

WORLD BANK GROUP NEWS

Pandemic Update

As of June 30, 2022, the Bank reported 2,825 confirmed World Bank Group cases of Covid-19 (11 deceased, 206 active, 2,608 recovered).

Bank/IDA Achieve Record Lending

In a fiscal 2022 year-end message, President Malpass reported that the Bank (Bank and IDA) committed nearly US\$71 billion in FY 2022, a record. Since the start of the COVID pandemic, Malpass said that Bank lending totaled \$269 billion, with a “significant portion of this to support food security, helping manage refugee flows, health preparedness and mitigating impacts of accelerated climate change.”

Bank President Tests Positive

President Malpass, in an internet message on May 11, reported that he had tested positive for COVID-19. “I’m feeling fine,” he said, “just have a runny nose. I have been working from home and have cancelled in-person meetings for this week.” The full text of his message is here: <https://onespacex.worldbank.org/wbgalumni/undefined/communication-content/announcement/d3e0046e-71d4-4427-ae0b-6e2e6f5bbb8b> (login required)

Bank Report Projects Grim Global Outlook

The Bank’s twice-annual Global Economic Prospects, released in June, warned of significantly lower global growth in 2022 with dire consequence for poorer nations, pushing millions into extreme poverty and raising the risk of a debt crisis in low and middle-income nations. The report estimates world growth to slow to 2.9 percent this year from 5.9 percent last year. Fallout from Russia’s war in Ukraine is exacerbating the effects of the global pandemic plus growing, widespread inflation all combine to leave global economic output in the five years from 2020 to 2024 more than 20 percent below the level between 2010 and 2019. This will be the sharpest slump that the global economy has suffered in more than 80 years, the report said.

Bank/IFC Senior Management Changes

A flurry of senior management retirements/appointments were recently announced as follows:

- Carmen Reinhart, Bank Group Chief Economist and Development Economics Vice-President since June, 2020, will return to the Harvard Kennedy School at the end of this summer. Search is on for a replacement.
- Annette Dixon, Bank Group Vice President for Human Resources, will reach mandatory retirement in November this year. She will be replaced, effective July 1, by Diarietou Gaye, a Senegalese national who joined by the Bank in 1999. Her most recent assignment has been as Vice-President and Bank Group Corporate Secretary.
- Hafez Ghanem, Regional Vice-President for Eastern and Southern Africa, is retiring at the end of July, 2022. He joined the Bank as a Young Professional in 1990. He will be replaced, effective July 1,

by Victoria Kwakwa, a Ghanaian national who joined the Bank as a Young Professional in 1989. Her most recent assignment was Vice President, Strategic Corporate Initiatives.

- Hartwig “Hart” Schafer, Regional Vice-President, South Asia, will retire in August this year. He joined the Bank as a Young Professional in 1990. He will be replaced on July 1 by Martin Raiser, a German national who joined the Bank in 2003. His most recent assignment has been Country Director for China, Mongolia and Director for Korea.

In addition to these retirements/appointments, the following were also recently announced:

- Junaid Kamal Ahmad is the new Vice President, Operations, for the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA). A Bangladeshi national, he was previously Country Director for the World Bank in India since 2016.
- Garcia Mora is the new IFC Regional Vice President for Europe, Latin America and Caribbean. A Spanish national, he has been the IFC Regional Vice President for Asia and the Pacific.
- Chee Kin Tang, a Malaysian national, will be Head of Office, Managing Director and World Bank Group Chief Administrative Officer. He has been a senior resource management officer.
- Twenty-one country and other directorships were announced along with a chief economist position.

Bank Reopens to a “New Normal”

Starting Tuesday, July 5, the Bank’s headquarters “campus” (meaning the main complex and associated facilities in DC) will transition to “Tier O” operating status (meaning a hybrid work pilot involving two to four days of in-office presence for all headquarters staff on a weekly basis).

This decision was announced by the 10-member senior leadership team in mid-June. The following actions will remain in place:

- Proof of vaccination will be required to enter any Bank headquarters building.
- Masking will also be required in common areas and in meetings (although not when speaking).
- Social distancing and staff capacity limits will be lifted.
- All Bank employees will be required to participate in weekly asymptomatic Covid-19 testing and report the results in the Bank Group VAX.

Finally, the following early releases and office closures were announced for DC facilities: July 4 (US Independence Day); early release on Friday, July 1; World Bank Group offices closed from December 26 to December 30, reopening January 3. County office managers may grant equivalent days of leave.

“New Normal” for Retirees and Visitors Accessing Bank HQ Facilities

- The key requirement for retirees, visitors, non-staff with Bank Group ID badges is that they must be fully vaccinated.
- They must confirm this by showing their vaccination card at a building lobby security desk. They will then be issued a visitor pass.

- Bank Group retirees and spouses who wish to have their Bank Group ID badges reactivated must visit the ID office in the main complex (room MC1-309), accessed through the entrance on 18th street NW (near Pennsylvania ave.) and provide proof of vaccination. No proof, no entry.
- The ID office will issue something called a Bank Group VAX pass and their ID badges will be reactivated 24 hours later.
- Once the badge is reactivated, individuals involved can enter any HQ building by showing the VAX pass and by scanning their ID badge at the turnstiles as in the good old days.

Salary Increase

The Bank board on May 10 approved a 5 percent salary “structural adjustment” for headquarters staff and, for country offices, “an outcome that considers overall labor market movements and inflation trends.” Salary increases for all staff will continue to be linked to performance and position in salary range. This means that the size of the merit envelope “...which can be up to 1.5%” will be determined after completion of the fiscal year 2022 performance review process. Individual salary increases will be effective as of July 1, 2022 and paid out in the end-October paychecks. Details on the salary decisions can be found here: <https://onespacex.worldbank.org/wbgalumni/undefined/communication-content/announcement/d242d269-643b-42b4-a268-5ad71bba6a90> (login required)

Former Bank Staffer Sandberg Leaves Facebook (Meta)

Sheryl Sandberg, research assistant to former Bank Chief Economist Larry Summers from 1991-93, who, after the Bank, went on to fame and fortune at Facebook (now renamed Meta) has decided to relinquish her post as second in command, next to founder Mark Zuckerberg. She will leave this fall, though remain a board member. She plans to focus on her personal philanthropy through her foundation, according to news reports. Ms. Sandberg, 52, was born in DC and is a billionaire with a net worth, estimated by Forbes magazine, of \$1.7 billion.

US Treasury Criticizes Bank for Alleged Climate Inaction

In a letter to Bank senior management, the US Treasury expressed dissatisfaction with Bank policies and programs aimed at helping mitigate the consequences of accelerated climate change in developing countries. Specifically, according to a report in the *Financial Times*, the letter asks that the institution avoid financing fossil fuel projects and provide more help to developing countries to move away from coal. In response, the Bank said it was “committed to help countries meet the goals of the Paris (Climate Change) Agreement....and will continue to support the transition to low-carbon, resilient growth, particularly for the poorest and most vulnerable countries.”



Ex-Bank Manager Elected Costa Rican President

Rodrigo Chaves was sworn in on May 8 to a four-year term as the 49th President of Costa Rica. Chaves, 60, returned to the country in 2019, after working for many years as a Bank economist and later Indonesia Country Director.

Moldovan President Speaks at Harvard

Moldovan President Maia Sandu, who once worked as an adviser to a Bank Executive Director and an economist in the Bank Chisenau (Moldova) country office, delivered the graduation address on May 25 at the Harvard Kennedy school. A total of 609 graduates from 37 US states and 86 countries were honored. Sandu, 50, waged a decade-long anti-corruption campaign and won a landslide victory for President in December 2020. “My country is now run by a woman president and a woman prime minister – both Harvard Kennedy school graduates,” Sandu told the audience, referring to Prime Minister Natalia Gavrilita.



Poverty Redefined

The Bank announced an update in the global poverty line. Since 2015, the last update, \$1.90 per day has been the line. As of the fall, 2022, the new global line will be \$2.15, using 2017 prices. This means that anyone living on less than \$2.15 a day is considered to be living in extreme poverty. Just under 700 million people were in this situation in 2017. The poverty line is updated periodically to reflect changes in prices across the world. The increase reflects cost increases for basic food, clothing and shelter in low income countries.

Another McNamara Perspective: His Son's



Craig McNamara, the only son of the late World Bank Group President Robert S. McNamara, has authored a new book: “Because Our Fathers Lied: A Memoir of Truth and Family, from Vietnam to Today.” The “Our” in the title refers to a friend, Rich Rusk, son of the former US Secretary of State Dean Rusk. He and Robert McNamara, then US Secretary of Defense, had been chief architects/supporters of the war in Vietnam. Both sons opposed the war. Rich Rusk eventually committed suicide. Craig pursued subsistence farming in South America before settling in California where he is married, father of three, and owns a walnut farm, purchased with money from his father. The book is available on Amazon and from other book

sellers. [Click here](#) for the Washington Post book review.

CHAPTER NEWS AND UPDATES



***Note:** Most Chapters maintain websites that can include details of their activities. These individual Chapter website can be accessed at www.wbgalumni.org/chapters/. Contacts for Chapter heads are indicated at the end of the Quarterly.*

British Chapter



Members of the British chapter were delighted to be able to hold their annual reunion and AGM in person this year now that the constraints of the pandemic have been lifted. We met in Portsmouth on a beautiful

weekend in late May, and spent a fascinating day exploring the docks including the Victory and the Mary Rose. Our after dinner speaker was Alex Hildred, the Head of Research and Curator of Ordnance at the Mary Rose Museum, who gave a fascinating talk on the raising of the Mary Rose and other highlights of her 40 year career with the Mary Rose Museum and also the Trust.

We were pleased to welcome Tim Cullen from the Isle of Man, who has proposed some excellent ideas for next year's reunion in the Isle of Man. There are so many great options that we are looking into offering a longer event than usual; all 1818 members are warmly welcome, so make a note in your diaries for May 2023 and watch this space for details.

At the AGM, we discussed ways of improving our website to be more useful to members and this work is advancing well. It will also allow us to post our acclaimed Elderly Care Guide which has been updated recently, and take advantage of the wealth of material coming from HQ. We welcome Anis's ideas for collaboration on attracting new members and sharing knowledge on issues such as tax arrangements.

Dutch Chapter



The reunion program, already presented in the Quarterly's Spring Edition, is now fully confirmed for September 6-8 this year. In summary, the reunion will take place in and around the historic town of Amersfoort. The program includes on September 6 an afternoon visit to a typical fishing village, and an evening dinner in a star restaurant in the old harbor. The next day, September 7, includes a visit to the Flehite museum, a unique middle age Old Men's home, a boating trip, and a concert by a chamber orchestra led by one of our members. The day will close with the customary gala dinner. During the Thursday, September 8 morning, we will have the Chapter business meeting.

The deadline for reservations at the magnificent hotel Kontakt der Kontinenten, where we all stay, is August 1. They can be made by phone at: +31 (0) 346 35 17 55 or by email at (reserveringen@kontaktderkontinenten) under group reservation 69283. The nightly room rates, including breakfast, are €115 for a 2-p room; €90 for a single room. The extra costs are € 230 pp, to be paid to our treasurer J.R. de Regt on account number NL85 ABNA 0558 6546 22. There will be English-speaking guides for non-Dutch speaking visitors. Participants may be asked to wear facemasks in public

places and are expected to have an adequate level of immunity to Covid. Please contact the team leader with any questions or our secretary Jan Bouwhuis. cunera23@planet.nl

German-Speaking Chapter

The German-Speaking Chapter is planning to hold its annual reunion from Thursday September 1 to Saturday September 3 in Bozen (Bolzano), South Tyrol, in northern Italy. The reunion will be attended by approximately 60 participants. It will include, as in previous years, a "business meeting" during which various matters including the Chapter's activities, the 1818 Society, general retiree topics, and Bank news will be discussed. The remaining program includes a tour of Bozen, a trip along the wine road south of the city to the town of Kaltern (Caldaro), and visits to the towns of Meran(o) and Brixen (Bressanone), as well as to the well-known Neustift Monastery (Abbazia di Novacella). The highlight will be our "gala dinner" on Friday evening high above the city of Bozen at the historic Haselburg castle (Castel Flavon). There, we are expecting to be joined and greeted by the Rector of the University of Bozen and by the head of the local Rotary Association.

THEMATIC GROUP NEWS AND UPDATES

Note: All Thematic Groups maintain a page on the Society's website where they post presentations and discussion summaries. These can be accessed <https://www.wbgalumni.org/thematic-groups/> (login required). Contacts for Thematic Group Chairs/Co-Chairs are indicated at the end of the "Quarterly". Members are invited to send the TG Chairs suggestions for topics/speakers.

Agriculture and Rural Development (ARD) Thematic Group

The ARD thematic Group hosted or co-hosted one presentation in April 2022, via Webex. Members of the group have also been kept apprised of ongoing World Bank agriculture and food systems activities, and broadly the global agriculture situation. The World Bank continues to report significant global agricultural supply chain disruptions due largely to the COVID pandemic, exacerbated in some places by climate shocks, war and civil disruption. The war in Ukraine has provided a new shock both to international agricultural trade and to agricultural input trade. Price inflation for both agricultural inputs, and agricultural outputs, is increasing rapidly everywhere.

On April 28, 2022 the thematic group cosponsored an event entitled "India and the World Bank." Cosponsors included two other thematic groups (WB History and Economics) as well as the World Bank Library. Six scholars and development practitioners discussed the partnership. The organizer and moderator was Uma Lele. The panel (in alphabetical order) consisted of Shankar Acharya, Montek Ahluwalia, Poonam Gupta, Devesh Kapur, Nicholas Stern, and Martin Wolf. Uma Lele is currently President, International Association of Agricultural Economists.

India was a founding member of the Bretton Woods Institutions. and has been the largest borrower of World Bank/IDA loans and credits. Panelists suggested that the partnership between the Bank and India was mostly positive, in particular the considerable number and value of investment projects financed by the Bank in India. In agriculture, the Bank financed green revolution investments as well as massive irrigation projects. This contributed to India's successful agricultural expansion. Bank advice regarding agricultural policy was less effective, though not for want of trying. Dialogue was friendly and respectful, but advice rarely taken up. The future of Indian agriculture is fraught due largely to climate change. The existing and projected impact of climate change on Indian agriculture is negative. Adaptation to climate change is imperative. Although there has been adaptation, assisted by the donors including the Bank, the magnitude of the effort required is enormous, and the commitment of government to this task may not be up to the challenge, yet. The future of the partnership was discussed, and is of course much broader than the agricultural aspect. Most panelists and commentators agreed that the partnership has further to travel.

Education Thematic Group

The Education group held an informal Zoom meeting on Friday June 10. Fifteen members joined in a hearty discussion on our activities over the past few years. Most of us continue to be connected with education and development, through writing articles, consulting, and helping at the local level. We hope to have these encounters every six months, with the next one in the fall, hopefully including a luncheon in a local restaurant.

Steve Heyneman is the editor in chief of the International Journal of Educational Development (IJED), considered the most prestigious journal in this field. "The purpose of the IJED is to report new insight and foster critical debate about the role that education plays in development. Aspects of development with which the journal is concerned include economic growth and poverty reduction; human development, well being, availability of human rights; democracy, social cohesion and peace-building; resilience and environmental sustainability." Steve regularly circulates a summary of the journal contents to Education group members. Published bi-monthly, the most recent journal included an article by Steve, Nick Burnett, and Keith Lewin, entitled "The Future of Aid for Education: Three Essays." Be on the lookout future summaries provided by Steve.

Barbara Bruns reported on an Africa Fellows program which Rick Hanushek has helped to launch. The purpose is to provide support for young African education researchers. If you have suggestions for recipients contact her at barbara.bruns@gmail.com.

Also, Education Group members should note that a new feature in the newsletter is the posting of members' blogs on the home page. Articles should be 600-800 words long. Some of the stories told during our Zoom meeting could serve as interesting blogs. If you are interested, write to 1818society@wbgalumni.org, including the words "Blog Proposal" in the subject line, with copy to Larry Wolff (larrywolff@live.com) and Robin Horn (robinshorn@gmail.com)

Energy Thematic Group

On May 4, we had an excellent presentation by Ladislav Paszkiewicz, TotalEnergy's recently appointed representative in Washington DC. He spoke on the French oil company's new and ambitious investment strategy to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050. For any of you who missed this presentation, it is posted on the 1818 Society website or you can contact Eugene McCarthy (emcc8940@aol.com).

Our planned Fall presentations will be of interest to all of you. First, *Demetrios Papathanasiou*, Director of the Global Energy Practice, will speak on the WBG's energy strategy, tentatively in October, in a post COP-26 world. Also, *Shane Streifel*, the Bank Group's oil and commodity expert and recently retired, will give us in own perspective on the continuing, turbulent global oil markets. Finally, *Miguel Schloss* will speak to us-from Santiago, Chile, on his recent book, "*Mining and the Environment*". We will be announcing the specific dates for each of these presentations before end September, 2022.

HISTORY THEMATIC GROUP

The History Thematic Group has had a busy three months. April 28 saw a webinar *India and the World Bank: a partnership of 75+ years*. On May 19, Frank Vibert discussed in a webinar his new book, *Comity: Multilateralism in the New Cold War*. May 22 saw the webinar *When & Where the Board Made a Difference, 1990-1997*, with former Executive Directors Eveline Herfkens and Ruth Jacoby, with Alex Shakow, Executive Secretary of the Development Committee and Deputy Secretary of the World Bank. Finally, on June 14, Masood Ahmed, President of the Center for Global Development, spoke about the issue of inclusive growth and recovery, with Atish "Rex" Ghosh, Historian of the IMF, as discussant.

The History Thematic Group welcomes suggestions for subjects of further webinars. Suggestions should be sent to Chuck Ziegler at cziegler1@hotmail.com.

Urban and Water Thematic Group

We held two virtual technical sessions during the Spring quarter, one in May and one in June, and one in-person social gathering, also in June. Both technical sessions were a continuation of our “Talk Shop” series. In May, Bank staff member Fadel Ndaw, Senior Water and Sanitation Specialist, gave a virtual presentation titled Lessons Learned from 25 Years of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) in Urban Water Supply and Sanitation in Senegal. Our moderator was Ato Brown, a former manager for Water Practice in MENA. Fadel described how Senegal, an example of a successful PPP that serves 67 urban centers with a total population of more than seven million, was structured and the significant improvements that resulted.

In June Bank staff members Judy Baker, Lead Economist & Global Lead for Urban Poverty, Inclusive Cities and Housing, Sheila Kamunyor, Senior Urban Specialist and Keziah Mwanaga, Urban Specialist gave a joint presentation titled Reconsidering Sites and Services as an Approach to Meeting Urban Development and Housing Needs in Rapidly Growing Urban Areas. The basis for their presentation was a study conducted by the Urban Poverty, Inclusive Cities and Housing Global Solutions Group. This study evaluated the possible application of the large-scale first-generation sites and services projects of the 60s and 70s to current day needs. Our Moderator was our TG Coordinating Committee Member, Catherine Farvacque-Vitkovic.



Also in June, we gathered for a social get-together in person for the first time since the beginning of the Corona Virus pandemic. We met for lunch outdoors at the Irish Inn at Glen Echo. Fifteen vaccinated members attended including former Society President, Inder Sud. A good time was had by all.



Presentations on the following subjects are proposed for the coming months:

- Legal Issues in transboundary water management
- Views and perspectives from the International Water Works Association
- Lessons learned from the Manila, Philippines Public-Private Partnership
- Impact of Olympic Games on Host Cities

During the last two years we have organized many well attended presentations that facilitated interesting discussions. We are always looking for program proposals and speakers. Please send your suggestions for subjects and speakers to Dick MacEwen rmacewen@1818alumniwbg.org.

Information Management and Technology (IMT) Committee

The IMT Committee has been busy this past quarter. As mentioned in the Spring Quarterly, we launched a new feature on the [1818 Society Website](#) called Member Blog Posts. Blog posts are 600-800 words either on professional work by retirees, such as book publications presented at Thematic group meetings, or human-interest stories by retirees wanting to share their personal experiences. As of July 1, blog posts have included 12 by fellow retirees from near and far. If you are interested in writing a blog please contact the relevant Thematic group chair or write to 1818society@wbgalumni.org, including the words “Blog Proposal” in the subject line.

To facilitate revision of the By-Laws, the IMT Committee conducted a Members’ Survey from May 1-15, 2022, to obtain feedback on the key recommendations of the By-Laws Committee. The responses to the Members’ Survey were analyzed and presented to the Board and the By-Laws Committee and have been posted on the website. Access the [Results from the Members’ Survey on Proposed Revisions to the 1818 Society By-Laws](#) here (login required)

Two sessions of a new webinar *Tech Tips for Retirees* were offered this quarter. The training sessions aimed at helping members with information technology, including the use of the Society’s website and email Weekly Updates and making better use of your home technology.

The event was sponsored by the IMT and MHM Committees. Speakers included: Lesley Shneier, MHM Co-Chair, Venkat (KV) Kalicheti, IMT Committee and Susan Dubas, Board Director and IMT Committee. In case you missed it, you can access the session under [Activities> Informational Seminars](#).

The Society and the BFSFCU jointly sponsored two digital workshops: One on April 18 dealing with digital banking; the second on June 9 on fraud prevention. Both were well attended, recorded and can be accessed on the 1818 Society website under [Activities> Informational Seminars](#).

We also launched a “Tech Help” facility for members who may need help with the Society’s website. Feel free to email techhelp@1818alumniwbg.org and include your phone number if you would like a call back.

The frequently asked questions (FAQs) were updated in May 2022 with additional information on how the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) is computed by the Staff Retirement Plan. See details in the Pension section of [FAQs](#).

Members Helping Members (MHM)

In April, MHM together with Information Management and Technology (IMT) committee conducted a webinar called “Tech Tips for Retirees”. To view the slides and/or watch the recorded event, please [click here](#). Susan Dubas and Lesley Shneier walked the 50+ participants through the 1818 Society Website ([click here](#)), explaining how to login and showing what is available both before and after login. Venkat Kalicheti talked about keeping one’s home technology safe and up to date. The webinar was repeated on Jun 29, 2022.

On the Pension front, it is sometimes hard to know where to start to get your pension questions answered. Sometimes it's because we all get a little rusty if we aren't in touch with the pension office

and don't use the internet every day. In the last year, a new problem seems to be that the regular mail has been less reliable than in the past (a postal service problem, not a Bank problem). Here's a simple guide what to do if you have a pension question and you don't know where to turn:

- Your one-stop place for all your information is the Bank's pension website, **pension.worldbank.org**. Login and on the top right, click on "Retiree Portal". The next page has all the documents you are accustomed to receiving, including a table that lists the documents, when you receive them, and whether by mail, through the portal, or by email.
- If you haven't set up a login to the portal, that's fine. Pension Administration still has several ways to be in touch:
 - You can write an email to 1pension@worldbank.org
 - You can call the helpline at 202 458 2977 (9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Monday - Friday, DC time), and,
 - If you do access the portal, there is even a place under "contact us" to message Pension directly.
- A final point, as we get older it is more difficult—and less interesting—to keep up with technology. Therefore, in a technology-driven world, it is important to have as part of your support network someone you can turn to for help in navigating electronic information. Talk with them about what you need and what to do if you need a question answered.

ACTIVE RETIREMENT LIFESTYLE



The 1818 Hiking Club – Don't Stop Walking!

The hikes in the Greater Washington area have continued, following our COVID-19 protocol. Hike invitations are sent to fully vaccinated members of the Hiking Club, along with the link to the “Waiver and Release of Liability and Special Covid-19 Guidelines.” Confirmation of agreement with the Waiver and Guidelines is mandatory for our hikes.

- Black Hill Regional Park, MD, April 28, 2022
- Gerry Connolly Cross-Country Trail, VA, May 25, 2022 – [click here for photo album](#)
- Brown Mountain - Big Portal Loop, Shenandoah National Park, VA, June 26, 2022 – [click here for photo album](#)

Interested in joining our local hikes? Send an email to 1818society@wbgalumni.org, mentioning Hiking Club in the subject line.

1818 Yoga Club

With the prolonged closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 1818 Yoga Club has been offering free online yoga sessions for members on Zoom. These live sessions led by four volunteer yoga instructors—Maryvonne Plessis-Fraissard, Simone Lee, Davinder Singh, and Yoshiko Okushi—on a rotating basis are held twice a week, every Tuesday and Friday from 11 am – 12.15 pm. In addition, the Yoga Club has added a new online practice “Breathwork and Meditation” led by Anjana Singh. This is a deep restorative 75 minute long session from 7.45 – 9.00 am every Monday. The online Zoom sessions have leveled the playing field, enabling members in distant locations to participate easily.

If you would like to join the online yoga sessions send an email to 1818society@wbgalumni.org, requesting that your name be added to the Yoga Club mailing list. You will receive an email with a link that will allow you to register for the sessions using any web browser on your device. Please read the Waiver of Liability on the Yoga webpage before you register.

1818 Society International Treks and Tours

Upcoming Tours and Treks in 2022:

(2023 trips will be announced in the Fall issue)

July 29-August 5, 2022, UK: Walking in Northumberland, Trip Coordinator: Sandra Hadler, shadler@seraconsult.com

August 12-27, 2022, Norway: Trekking in Norway: Mountains and Fjords, Trip Coordinator: Reidar Kvam, reidar@kvam.net

September 6-21, 2022, Turkey: Sample the Delights of Turkey, Trip Coordinator: Lesley Shneier, lshneier@1818alumniwbg.org

October 7-20, 2022, Republic of Georgia: Walking in the Caucasus, including daily hikes through glacial valleys, UNESCO heritage sites and more. Trip Coordinator: Tom Blinkhorn tblinkhorn@gmail.com or trip details: John Graham, John@JohnGrahamTours.com

October 22-November 12, 2022, Nepal: Around Manaslu & Tsum Valley Trek, Trip Coordinator: Jack Glen, jdglenn7@gmail.com



Fund and Bank Ski Club

The Fund and Bank Ski Club just announced their 2022-23 season. It includes the following:

Dec 11-17, 2022, Aspen, Colorado; Trip Leader: Frona Hall, fronahall@aol.com

Feb 4-11, 2023, Snowmass, Colorado; Trip Leader: Gail Davenport, davenport.gail@gmail.com

Feb 18-25, Snowbird/Alta, Utah; Trip Leader: Van Pulley, vtpulley1@hotmail.com

Feb 25-March 5, Les Arc, France; Trip Leader: Nathalie McGregor, mcgregor.nathalie@gmail.com

March 18-25, Sun Valley, Idaho; Trip Leader: Brenda Mejia, skibum2026@gmail.com

Sign-ups are expected to commence in Mid-July. Visit their website

<https://www.fundbankskiclub.org/> then to sign up for one or more of these exciting trips.

Sailing the Potomac

Esther Petrilli-Massey membership director for the Sailing Club of Washington, reports that the organization sponsors a social sail every Thursday at 6 p.m. (May through October) at the Washington Sailing Marina, just south of Reagan National airport. Six 19 foot Flying Scots and three Catalina Cruisers are available. The club offers lessons, racing opportunities and social events on the Potomac. Contact Esther at membership@scow.org for more information.



MEMBERS' NEWS IN BRIEF

Off the Beaten Path.....

By Althea Skeete

Editor's note: Retiree Althea Skeete wrote recently with an interesting suggestion: A section in the Quarterly for "recommendations. If you go to X, check out this place to eat, museum to visit, park to hike..." We challenged her to start the process with a contribution. Here it is. If more of you like the idea and have suggestions, perhaps we can include in a future "recommendations" section.

If you are looking for an easy escape, consider [Longwood Gardens](#), Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, in the [Brandywine Valley](#). Longwood is just two hours north of Washington, DC and one hour west of Philadelphia. That short distance will transport you to a world of calm and beauty. Longwood is the dream of founder Pierre du Pont, American entrepreneur and philanthropist. He could never have imagined the intense splendor and overwhelming peace that makes Longwood a unique experience. The East and West Conservatories are filled with tropical and temperate plants.



You must visit the breathtaking orchid house, enchanting green walls, an amazing silver cactus garden, bonsai trees from the 1900's, and the [Organery](#) with its oversized flower vibrant floor balls suspended in mid-air and plants and trees that create an air of tranquility and encourage reflection. And, yes, you can even dance to your heart's delight in the ornate grand ballroom, and [so much more](#). If you wander outside, you'll find winding paths embraced by roses, the magical smell of wisteria, the calming sound of gentle water, and giant blooming water lily pads, that may transport you back to childhood stories. The topiary garden is not to be missed, walk a little further and you can wander through forests or through the meadow garden filled with lavender and three miles of hiking trails. Fountains and waterfalls abound, but the [Main Fountain](#) puts on quite a show several times a day. And if you are there at night, the fountain show is spectacular. In the summer, live bands perform in the gardens. So, if you are looking to get your Zen on, I'd recommend

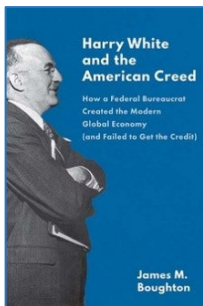
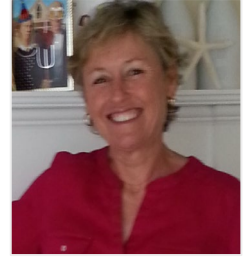
Longwood Gardens, just off the beaten path.

Althea Skeete joined the Bank Group when the main complex still had an indoor courtyard; later she joined MIGA (Multilateral Investment Guaranty Agency) and retired in 2020 at the end of her assignment as Learning Coordinator.

Was Harry Dexter White a Soviet Spy?

By Lesley Anne Simmons

My husband, Jim Boughton was the IMF Historian in 1994 when Stan Fischer, former World Bank Chief Economist, and then First Deputy Managing Director at the IMF asked him to look into allegations that Harry White, a chief architect of Bretton Woods institutions, had been a spy. After several months of sleuthing (and many fascinating conversations over our dinner table), Jim sent Stan a memo concluding that the evidence against White was weak but not completely implausible. He then wrote up those findings in an article for the journal *History of Political Economy* with the subtitle “Still Not Proven.”



Fast forward to November 2021 and Jim’s biography, “Harry White and the American Creed”, is published by Yale University Press. Having come into possession of a treasure trove of documents from White’s granddaughter in 2014, Jim has written a book that gives a rounded picture of the man and his legacy, something earlier biographies failed to do. White’s achievements in a short career – cut short by serving in the military in World War 1 before beginning his higher education and by an early death from a heart attack -- were outstanding.

I think Jim’s fascinating book will be of interest to many World Bank colleagues.

Lesley Simmons joined the Bank in 1980 as a summer intern in the Energy department library, moved to IPA (Information and Public Affairs) as a research assistant, later editor of the Bank’s annual report and other jobs before retiring in 2000.

Running for Dear Life

By Cliff Groen (no relation to Henk)



“I had a serious stroke in 2012 at age 64. It was caused by atrial fibrillation, a heart malady. I was in the hospital for a month, couldn’t talk. I had contracted something called conduction aphasia—loss of language, even though my mind and intelligence are intact. I took speech lessons for two years at the New York University medical center. Now I can talk. My wife Marti and I have been married 50 years. We live in Manhattan and can see the East river from our apartment. Our social life involves going to doctors.

“I worked as a lawyer at the IFC from 1993 to 2009 when I retired. It was great. I did project finance in many nations---China, Iraq, Yemen, others.

“We have a second home in Quechee, Vermont, between Woodstock, Vermont and Hanover, New Hampshire. We can see the Green Mountains from our place. My idea of heaven.”

Speaking of Running: The Infamous Hash House Harriers DC are Celebrating their 50th

If you were around the Bank in the 1970s, you might have been mesmerized, or shocked, by the strange sight at one of the entrances to the then H building on a Monday evening after work: A pack of men in varied running clothes bolting out of the building, then down 19th Street toward the mall or up 18th Street to God knows where.

The pack included some familiar names: Sven Burmester, Ian Hume, Peter Cordukes, Art Bruestle, Ralph Wadsworth, John Ducker, among others.

The fabled Hash House Harriers (known locally as DCH3) were off on another 5-6 mile sprint, followed by great, rousing camaraderie at a well-stock beer bar. Peter Cordukes reports from Australia that the DC Hash was created 50 years ago by two Bank agriculturalists: the late Bill Panton and the late Ralph Wadsworth. Pete also called attention to an excellent summary history of the Hash that appears in a new memoir by Ian Hume, with the title “From the Edge of Empire.” ([see link here](#)).

Willie Singleton, the official “Hashbassador”, says that in the early days most of the nearly 80 members were from the Bank, Fund, and US State Department. Today, DCH3 has about 105 dues paying members, but only 5 are from the Bank. However, the DC area has about eight groups with total membership over 700. And, Hash groups exist all over the planet. Plus, some are co-ed, unheard of in the early days!

“The Hijack” Wins Award

Retiree Jeff Balkind reports that the Audible original 10 episodes podcast called “The Hijack” won a major award in May in London. It is based on the 1981 hijacking of a Pakistan airlines flight on which Jeff was a passenger, returning from a Bank mission. The podcast was awarded bronze in the “best factual series” category. “The ARIAS awards are like an Oscar,” Jeff explained in an email. “But it is for the world-wide industry of radio, music and podcasting. The Academy received more than a thousand entries in various categories.”

Kid Power

Robin Weisman, an IFC retiree, joined the board of “Kid Power, Inc.”, a DC non-profit last year. The mission is to promote youth leadership “through after-school, summer, in-school health and wellness (including community gardens) and older youth mentoring programs.” Robin says 1818 Society members have many options for getting involved. More information can be obtained by contacting her at robinweisman03@gmail.com or the institution’s volunteer coordinator at volunteer@kidpowerdc.org

Gene Rotberg and Friends: New Podcast

Gareth Gore, Associate Editor of an international financial magazine IFR, writes: “I recently interviewed Gene (Rotberg) – along with Jessica Einhorn and Cyrus Ardalan, two other World Bank alumnae – for a podcast series looking back at some of the most important deals in financial history. They spoke to me about the World Bank’s swap deal with IBM in 1981, which was ground-breaking at the time, and which effectively gave birth to today’s multi-trillion-dollar swaps markets.

You can [find the episode and details of how to listen here](#). Gene suggested that other World Bank alumnae might be keen on hearing, and that you might consider a note in the Quarterly. This is actually the first of two episodes about important deals from the World Bank. We have another episode (featuring Heike Reichelt, a current Bank employee) about the first green bond.

Just Color Me Human.....

By Lorna Jacobson

I am a 74 year-old retiree. I am of mixed blood (Filipina), was once married to a European, have raised two mixed race children, which inspired my writing this message.

Having lived and worked with international organizations in four continents, I can only be grateful for the privilege and opportunity to learn about “the other” and now claim fluency in four more languages other than two of my native tongues. Like many, I have faced unusual challenges - as a single parent and cancer survivor, diagnosed with PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder).

Also, i am a newly-minted American. It has been a roller coaster ride, complying with residency requirements and, finally, becoming a naturalized American citizen in 2019, after more than 30 years trying. I am neither white nor black. What color am I? Should I look to the mirror for the correct answer? Here are my thoughts.

Any travel outside the USA, requires a passport; mine clearly states my nationality to be AMERICAN, no hyphenations needed, no color affiliations wanted.

Interestingly, we are a family of various nationalities, married into multicultural ethnicities. I would attest that whatever the “family color-construct” there is surely work in progress dealing with “dysfunctional aspects” relevant to any grouping.

May we all acknowledge our common desire to love and be loved.

Lorna Jacobson joined the Bank in 1985 and worked in various assignments before retiring in 2003. She lives in Northern Virginia.

An Unforgettable Points Trip: Saudi Arabia 1986

By Joan McQueeney Mitric

Slobodan Mitric, transport specialist for 25 years and my husband for 49 years, called the Bank’s “points trips,” marriage savers.

Translation: Periodic excursions to foreign lands were a kind of salve, a small “payback” to spouses’ sacrifices on the home front during long “mission” separations.

In this case, the deal was five days in Riyadh in return for five days in PARIS! How could I pass that up?

But with three kids and a mother-in-law who didn’t drive or speak enough English, we had childcare challenges. I called in all my favors and got generous neighbors to help ferry the two younger kids to soccer and music lessons, playdates and theatre practice.

Slobodan got to Riyadh first; I came two weeks later, arriving at the airport terminal serving women passengers only. He'd warned me NOT to hug him, not to show **any** affection, and to wear modest, arm-covering clothing. In fact, he met me with a black *abaya* – and suggested I slide it over my clothes.

The Riyadh business hotel was upscale, with a serene inside Olympic size pool, several French pastry cafes and a gym, with a verdant garden patio. I was excited, and immediately took a long soak in the tub.

Unfortunately, my five days were only “fun” once my man arrived about 5-6pm each evening. Otherwise, I quickly learned that I was a prisoner of my room with its ornate lattice window coverings that made peering outside quite impossible. I watched some TV – only to see appallingly violent Rambo-type movies playing almost non-stop alongside vintage films with all sex scenes scrambled.

As a journalist, addicted to a daily paper, I descended to the café areas the next day, snatched a Herald Tribune and made a beeline for the pool. My vision: a leisurely read while luxuriating fully robed on a chaise lounge along the pool's absolutely empty periphery.

A guard stopped me, wagging his finger sternly. *NO WOMEN inside, he said.* I said: It's empty. I'm the only person.” But to no avail. I slinked back to my room.

I met professional women who lived inside walled compounds where they dressed as they pleased, played mixed doubles and swam in communal pools.

We visited folks making bathroom gin in their tubs. One night at dinner in a rooftop restaurant, a guy in our group did a nose dive into his food. Drunk as a skunk on “near beer.”

Suffice it to say, I was not terribly sad to leave Riyadh, bound for Paris, the City of Light. That was some bargain: Five days in Riyadh for five glorious days in Paris.

Joan Mitric is a career journalist/editor/media trainer, who divides her time between California, DC and Serbia where her late husband Slobodan's 150 year old family farm is open for visitors.

Retirement Home Truths: What HR Didn't Tell Me

By Ashok Subramanian

At my retirement party, my spouse heard my colleagues declaring what a great guy I was. She had a puzzled look, as if wondering who they were talking about. Then they thanked her for sharing me with them all these years and added: *Now you finally have him 24/7!* She was visibly agitated: *Thank you for your kind words. But one request: I don't want him 24/7, I have my own interests. Can you please keep him busy with consultancies?* I avoided my colleagues in the MC Cafeteria so they didn't think I was shopping for jobs.

Instead, I found my way into one of those Retiree Rehab Think Tanks around the beltway, and got busy with papers and panels on weighty global issues. In fact, I quite enjoyed being the Radical Retiree, chiding the Bank for its timidity on governance and climate. Until someone asked me why I did not do any of the things I was advocating during my 25 years in the Bank.

One morning, I was finishing up on a disaster prediction model, but failed to sense the swirling tornado at home. My spouse suddenly erupted: *Why did you retire? You might as well be back at your Bank job.* Before I could formulate a response, she continued: *Whatever happened to your retirement and our bucket list - learning Mandarin in Chengdu, exploring Inca ruins in the Andes, wine tasting in Portugal?* That was not the time to remind her that she did not want me 24/7 by her side. I reached out to HR for advice. Their only consoling suggestion was that my Gross Pension Plan might prevent a divorce!

HR's pre-retirement counseling educated me on wills, taxes and social networks but, alas, not on home management.

New Book on Population Policies

Bank retiree John May is co-editor, along with George Mason University colleague Jack Goldstone, of an "International Handbook of Population Policies," published in June by Springer. It offers up-to-date summaries and sources of information on major subjects and issues of demography and population.

John May joined the Bank in 1997 as a lead population specialist working in the Africa region. He left the Bank in 2021.

Caucasus Rouge (or Tsiteli Doli) Makes Comeback

By Mark Woodward



Editor's Note: This lovely strand of wheat catching the breeze in Mark Woodward's front yard in Vienna, Virginia is actually an ancient strain from the Republic of Georgia. Why? Mark, who has developed a passion for baking bread after retiring from the Bank, tells part of the story in a recent blog on the 1818 Society website ([link here](#)). He picks up the tale here.

"Last summer, one of my Facebook bread friends talked me into attending a heritage bread festival in Belfast, Maine. There, I was introduced to a soft, red winter wheat that originates in Georgia (the country)—Caucasus Rouge. Last fall I planted it in my yard. Reason: Accelerated climate change is going to be a disaster for most commercial wheats. But ancient grains like this one were developed to grow under diverse and hard conditions. So we are testing the strain and hope to save the best seeds. Tsiteli Doli was traditionally grown in Georgia. It is supposed to have a unique flavor, used to make porridges and the traditional Georgian bread Khachapuri. Today, it is endangered in Georgia but is being grown in France, where it is known as Caucasus Rouge. The storm that hit the East Coast June 22 did significant damage, knocking over much of my wheat. This made some of the grain accessible to a squirrel who had figured out how to get through my fence. Nonetheless, while my harvest will be smaller than hoped for, I will still be able to save seeds from the strongest plants."

Mark Woodward first worked at the Bank as a research assistant in the Brazil program in 1981, later did some consulting. He joined the Bank in 1989, worked in several regions on social development before retiring in 2016.



MEMBERS' CORNER

Remembering India...and McNamara

By Robert H. Cassen

Editor's Note: The recent well-received Society virtual symposium on the 75-year relationship between the Bank and India inspired a request of former Bank senior economist Robert Cassen for reflections about his India experience and what he's been up to since retiring as Professor of Development Economics at Oxford. He responded immediately with two fine anecdotes.



"The Bank's Delhi office was responsible for the annual economic report on India; one of my jobs was to go out to Delhi and work on the report, and then bring it back to Washington and see it through the Bank's review process.

"There was one thing I was proud of: I suggested that the 1971 India report have a chapter on poverty, and we were able to put it together, relying on Government of India (GOI) survey data and quite a lot of published research. McNamara (Bank President Robert McNamara) was very pleased with the chapter, which was a first for the Bank. He asked all the country departments to cover poverty in their reports. But it would be years before many of them could – at first in most countries there simply were not the data and the research to allow it.

"I didn't really know McNamara, but I did come to appreciate his formidable mind. The first occasion was an evening when we came down in the elevator together. I had met him only once before, at the Bank's annual staff Christmas party when I had recently joined the Bank. I was introduced to him, and we chatted for maybe five minutes. Six weeks later in the elevator he looked at me and said, "Hi Bob – have you read that programme Lending paper yet?" In a flash he had recalled who I was, and knew I had had a hand in the paper. A mind like a computer. It was a scary thing to take a document to him that he wanted to review. There would be three or four of us together, and we'd spend half a day before going up to his office, preparing to face him. Typically, he would open the document without having seen it before and go straight to the tables. Within seconds he'd say something like, "Well look here in Table 3.1 you have abc, but in Table 7.2 you have xyz. What's going on here?" He read tables like people read detective fiction. It was always a relief when the meeting was over. He was fair and friendly, but you couldn't get away with anything.

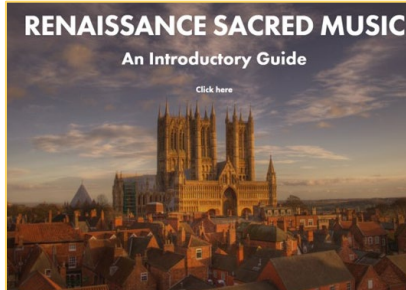
"I did some project work too. A particularly memorable trip was to Uttar Pradesh to see whether the Bank could fund a government family planning project there. A vivid memory was the hotel where we stayed in Lucknow, full of large insects scuttling under the beds and a rat or two darting across the dining room carpet; an American colleague said as we drove away, 'That wasn't a hotel, it was a game reserve'.

"I had one more incarnation in the Bank in 1980-81, as a Visiting Research Fellow, working on a study of the 'Asian Tigers'. I also produced in 1986 my academic best seller, *Does Ad Work?*, which was commissioned by an international group convened at the suggestion of the Bank. I always felt that I'd been lucky to be in the development field, combining travel, interesting work, research, teaching, and, I hope, some minute contribution to economic progress in the developing world."

Renaissance Sacred Music

By Robert Cassen

"I'm well aware that Bank people have many outside interests. I have one that some may consider a bit esoteric, namely Renaissance sacred music. It is mainly choirs singing 'a capella', that is, without instrumental accompaniment. It was my labour of love for two years to set up a website about it, www.golden-age-music.com. You can visit it for free, without registering for it. You will find some history, biographies of sixteen outstanding composers from the 16th and 17th centuries, and listen to their work.



Why did I do this? If you asked me which classical composer I would keep last if I had to lose all of them one by one, it would probably be J.S.Bach. But I love this earlier music, and felt I could bring it to an appreciative audience. So in my retirement, aided by a designer nephew who made the website look beautiful, and a young choirmaster who has recorded some of it with his choir, I set out. (With special thanks to the British Library, and its wonderful music reading room.)

As the website puts it, 'Voices that rise and fall like cathedral arches, subtle interweaving of vocal lines, language expressive of faith and torment, of love and penitence – this is the world of the sacred music of the Renaissance.' But the music-loving public hears the great pre-Baroque composers relatively rarely, and knows far less about them than about Mozart or Beethoven. For many, classical music starts with Monteverdi, Bach and Vivaldi.

"Of course there are performances of works from the older repertoire, and pieces such as Thomas Tallis's *Spem in Alium* or Allegri's *Miserere* have become quite well-known popular favourites. Yet creative giants such as Josquin des Prez, Lassus and Palestrina were similar in stature and influence in their own day to the leading composers of the 18th and 19th centuries. And their music to those who do know it is as rich and rewarding as any that came later. My website aims to guide the listener through it.

"So – what can I say? Give it a try, and I hope if the music is new to you, you will be glad to be pointed towards it.

Bird Dispatches from Kenya

By Robert Hindle and Stephen Eccles

Editor's Note: Bank retirees Robert Hindle and Stephen Eccles have been birding together for years, even before retiring. Robert provides context for their recent Kenya trip, followed by a summary account by Stephen on what they found.



Robert Hindle writes... "Stephen and I have been birding together since we both worked on West Africa in the early 80s. While working (at the Bank), we birded together on weekends, mostly in Northern Virginia but over to the coast as well. After we left the Bank, we began traveling together. Stephen is a better birder than I in terms of the science of ornithology and he has a startlingly long "life list" (of birds). I take a broader view and am interested less in counting than in

understanding habitat and environment. For me, the highlight of the Kenya trip was to be in a place I had worked on but not visited for about 15 years. Seeing “how things turned out” is simultaneously gratifying and horrifying.”

Stephen Eccles writes: “A recent study confirmed statistically a generally recognized ‘fact’ - birds in the tropics are on average more colorful than in temperate zones. Nevertheless, the majority of tropical birds are NOT particularly colorful and, as the more colorful birds are generally easier to see, most birders in the tropics are soon searching mainly for the less colorful! That was definitely the case for Robert Hindle and myself on our recent (May/ June, 2022) trip to west and central Kenya. There were only 27 species on our itinerary that I had not seen before and only one of these (Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye) could truly be called colorful - and it was so shy that we couldn’t get good photos. The other 26 species were more cryptically colored. We did see a lot of colorful birds on the way, of course, such as this *Ross’s Turaco* ([Photo #1](#)) and the ubiquitous *Grey Crowned Crane* ([Photo #2](#)). Our itinerary took us into less travelled parts of Kenya - swamps on the shores of Lake Victoria, a remnant of equatorial forest (Kakamega), moorlands at the top of Mount Elgon and the Aberdares, Lake Baringo and the forest on Mount Kenya.

To get an idea of how stealthy some of our target species were, examine the photo of the *Elgon Francolin*, a partridge-like bird ([Photo #3](#)) - can you even find it? It looks a lot like its sister species, *Shelley’s Francolin* ([Photo #4](#)), which we saw in Nairobi National Park at the beginning of our trip. The latter was also the site for the *Brown-backed Barbet* ([Photo #5](#)), attractive but hardly colorful! The moorland of the Aberdares produced several pairs of *Aberdare Cisticolas* ([Photo #6](#)), looking very similar to many other cisticola species, this one confined to the area we visited. After a lot of work, we saw 22 of our target species, heard another two but bombed out on three (Olive Ibis, Papyrus Yellow Warbler and Sharpe’s Starling), which we will try for again in Rwanda and south-west Uganda at the end of this year.

[[Photo #2](#) by Robert. All other photos by our local guide, Crammy Wanyama]

Bank retirees Stephen Eccles and Robert Hindle have become avid international birders in their retirement. Stephen joined the Bank in 1966 as a Young Professional and, after becoming Vice-President and Controller, retired in 1994. Robert joined the Bank in 1971 as an assistant to the US Executive Director. After joining the Bank staff, he worked in Africa (west and east), the Philippines, Cairo and Sana’a before leaving in 2005. He then spent two years at the Millennium Challenge Corporation before fully retiring.

Ukraine Memories

By Alan Roe

In mid-1990s Ukraine was one of the largest single borrowers from the World Bank. Anxiety about its nuclear endowments figured in the US State department’s pressures on the Bank to lend.



As Country Economist, the chronically inefficient energy sector and the wholly unregulated but expanding financial sector were two main concerns. My own personal involvement was more in the latter.

The Bank’s work drew substantial support from the then Governor of the National Bank of Ukraine, Viktor Yushchenko, and his long-time close assistant Oleh Rybachuk who was Chief of the Foreign Relations Department. With program loans designed to achieve much needed financial regulation, I, like Lucan Way in his article in the Spring Quarterly, was surprised by the

easy acceptance of often complex Bank conditionality by Government officials (a legacy no doubt of many years of saying “yes” to Moscow directives and then finding ways to dodge them). A major report that the Bank team published in 2001 and presented in five major cities from Lviv to Donetsk provided a stark summary of the issues that had to be deal with. (ref. *Ukraine: The Financial Sector and the Economy. World Bank 2001. Roe et al.*)

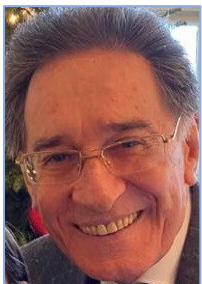
When Leonid Kuchma’s term as the 2nd President was due to end in 2004, it seemed quite clear that he supported Viktor Yanukovych – described by the BBC as a puppet of Moscow/Putin, to replace him. But by then my former counterpart Viktor Yushchenko had emerged as the main rival candidate leading his new Our Ukraine political alliance, and Oleh Rybachuk had become his election agent. The election of 2004 that was eventually declared to be fraudulent was a high drama affair. Yushchenko was out of action for two weeks of the campaign due to a mysterious dioxin poisoning. But he discharged himself from hospital and, according to his own account in a recent BBC documentary, he then addressed some big election rallies knowing that he could only speak for some 20 minutes before passing out. The first election having been won by Yanukovych was eventually declared fraudulent by the country’s Supreme Court but only after nation-wide protests, the so-called Orange Revolution.

Recent evidence has now emerged from the same BBC documentary, based on an interview with Rybachuk, that in this turbulent inter-regnum he and other Ukrainians were invited several times to Moscow for high level meetings in the Kremlin. According to his own account, he made it quite clear to the Russians that when Yushchenko won the election, he would plan on Ukraine joining the EU and probably also NATO. Certainly, Ukraine would be Western leaning and he (Rybachuk) wanted to leave Russia in no doubt that this would be the case. With the benefit of hind sight it may not have been such a good idea to be so up-front with the Russians. His contribution must, at very least, have been one of the events that fueled Putin’s paranoia and later decision to invade Ukraine.

Alan Roe joined the Bank in 1980, served as country economist for Portugal and Iran and then Ukraine from 1994. He retired in 2000. Since then he has served in many senior consultancy positions for UN agencies and other entities. He is an Honorary Professional Fellow in the Economics department at the University of Warwick.

The Iran Oil Crisis: Correcting the Record

By Nicolas Gorjestani



In the Spring edition of the Quarterly, an item under the rubric “World Bank History (70 years ago)” drew my attention. It was entitled: “Iranian Oil Problem Resolved.” It also cited the Bank’s attempt in 1951-52 to mediate the oil crisis that resulted from British sanctions on Iran after the country’s prime minister, Mohammad Mosaddegh, nationalized the oil industry in 1951, but with a commitment to compensate the Anglo Iranian Oil Company (AIOC, and, later, renamed British Petroleum) that had controlled oil operations and profits under a concession since 1901.

The write-up in the Quarterly left the impression that the Bank had acted as a neutral intermediary. The origins of this (incorrect) portrayal of the Bank’s role are a few self-serving Bank documents released publicly some seven decades ago that had conveyed a benign picture of the Bank’s effort. That narrative later found its way into Edward S. Mason and Robert E. Asher’s book, The World Bank since Bretton Woods (1973). Based on my decades long research into the Bank’s internal archival record,

however, I have come to a very different conclusion. The latter is presented in my recent two volume publication, Ahead of their Time: The legacies of Mohammad Mossadegh in Iran, and Zviad Gamsakhurdia in Georgia (2021).

My research documents a rather disturbing picture of how the newly established Bank allowed itself to be manipulated by one of its major shareholders. Specifically, the Bank did not play the neutral role that was expected of it as an international organization. Instead, the Bank's proposal to restart Iran's oil operations for export reflected AIOC's wishes. In fact, that proposal was developed during dozens of hours of confidential discussions at the Bank between the Bank's team and senior AIOC officials who had flown in from London for that purpose. Conspicuously, the Bank team did not have similar discussions with Iranian officials in Washington (Executive Director for Iran or Iranian Embassy staff). In addition, Eugene Black, president, and Robert Garner, vice president, personally committed to the British that the Bank would clear with them all communications on this matter with Mosaddegh, as well as clear with them the recruitment of consultants for the operation. In fact, Bank management personally cleared with Anthony Eden, prime minister, the hiring of an oil consultant who participated in the Bank's missions to Iran.

Furthermore, the Bank's proposal was designed less as a development scheme and more like a politically motivated intervention with the objective of bringing the AIOC back into oil operations in Iran. Specifically, the proposal was anchored in a two-year time-frame to de facto work with only British technicians. Why not five years, and why not with qualified foreign technicians from other countries? Ultimately, Mosaddegh rejected Garner's insistence on the use of British technicians. The Iranian authorities correctly suspected the Bank's scheme to be a 'Trojan Horse' disguised under the Bank's logo to bring the AIOC back to control Iran's oil industry. To learn the full story of the Bank's involvement, see: <https://amzn.to/3D75LUc>.

Pakistan, 1959 – 1962: An Emotional, Cultural Experience

By June Frost

Editor's Note: June Frost is the widow of the late Bank economist Raymond "Ray" Frost. He joined the Bank in 1955 and retired 24 years later. They were married for almost 55 years. June's Pakistan reflections were adapted from a speech she gave at a Pakistani celebration several years ago in Miami, Florida where she lives.



When I think of our stay in Pakistan, I remember the people. They were friendly, gracious and sincere with an excellent sense of humor.

To recapture these memories, I go back many years, too many years, to a particular date in the early history of Pakistan. No matter how small in number, those years occupy an important space in our lives.

Emotionally, this has been no small task. Indeed, all I could remember was the exciting tour of duty that my husband undertook in Pakistan assigned to the World Bank Economic Mission. He worked with the Ministry of Finance from 7:30 to 1 p.m. during the hot months. The remainder of the day he wrote a book.

It was exciting to be a part of history in the early years of West and East Pakistan, which had been born only about a decade earlier. I remember my first official reception seeing President Ayub Khan, a tall, dashing statesman with a ramrod military bearing. We were part of the huge diplomatic colony in Karachi. Underneath ran another current: A life, a culture and a civilization that pulsed around us.

It was a world and a culture so different, so extraordinary, like nothing that I had ever come across before. I felt I had entered a picture book of stories and was allowed into lives of people who surrounded me in my everyday life. I felt the need to understand the Muslim civilization. No college course had ever taught me anything about it.

I can close my eyes and hear the wailing sounds of the Mosque calling the faithful to prayer. I can see a sea of faces, camel carts, bicycles, rickshaws, cars that drove on the left on Drigh Road, teaming hordes of people coming and going, all with a purpose. Amidst the chaos there was a sense of order beneath it all. There were unwritten rules of fairness, of what was right and wrong. There was a sense of pride and honor, of saving face, of acceptable behavior, of the inevitable, the unpredictable, of what was laughable and what was forgivable.

Just imagine Karachi in the early 60s. It was five rupees to the dollar days, the Beach Luxury Hotel was the place to go for mulligatawny soup, the Metropole Hotel was the place to be seen, the Chinese Packers were without equal, only Zarina's Fabrics could outfit a home with curtains, the Camel Chest was the foreigner's second hand store. I wore Bata sandals and frequented Bambi's to buy camel skin lamps and clothes for our two babies, who were born in the Seventh Day Adventist Hospital.

In 1961, we were witness to a memorable event engineered by the World Bank which was the signing of the Indus Basin Waters treaty between Pakistan and India. It was a historic meeting between a tall, stately President Ayub Khan and a diminutive but impressive Prime Minister Nehru, two great giants and adversaries under the same tent.

I was already feeling at home when we were transferred to Rawalpindi with the government of Pakistan to be close to the construction of the new capital to be called Islamabad. It was a turning point in my life.

At last, I discovered the Mysterious East. Tired of my western clothes, I began to wear saris, learned the secret of cooking curries, sat on cushions listening to sitar and tabla music, took Indian dancing and Urdu lessons, became a regular client at the Pakistan Handicrafts Emporium and a patron of Pakistani artists.

Muslim culture became a part of my life and that of my family. We traveled the Northwest frontier to Muree, Peshawar, Gilgit, the Vale of Swat, the Khyber Pass, the hidden bazaar at Landi Khotal and the ruins of Taxila. And I sat for hours sipping tea and bargaining with merchants dealing in Pakistani and Kashmiri arts, carpets.

But all good things come to an end, and one dark night we were on the road driving to the airport in Karachi, leaving behind our home in Pakistan. My heart felt a dull thud, as I knew we were pulling up the roots we had gradually grown.

Back at our base in Washington, D.C. and feeling culture shock again, I resolved to learn more about the world and went back to university to study anthropology. It was clear to me that only by understanding the ways of other people are human beings able to develop respect for each other. Not everyone has the opportunity to live in another country; but the world has shrunk today and nations are engaged in greater travel, trade, communications, educational and cultural exchanges than ever before. Hopefully, we will learn to celebrate the differences that make us more interesting.

McNamara and Poverty

By Shiva Makki



Soon after Robert McNamara became president of the Bank in the spring of 1968, he traveled to Africa and South Asia. What he saw there distressed him. Back in Washington, he asked his staff what the Bank could do to reduce poverty and income disparities. And he wanted to know more about the poor: Who are they? What makes them poor? Where do they live? What indicators can we use to measure their status and progress? He created an advisory council headed by Hollis Chenery, the Bank's chief economist, to help identify innovative new solutions for reducing poverty. That council became the Research Committee in 1988.

When McNamara asked those questions, he was asking about me and my family. I grew up on a small farm in a remote Indian village about 250 kilometers from Bangalore in the southern state of Karnataka. We had about four acres of land, half of which was used for growing paddy, my family's main source of income. My parents, my six siblings, and I lived in a house with no running water, electricity, or bathroom. Its roof in the mid-1960s was made of paddy straw. One of my daily chores was to bring water from the well about 100 yards from the house, filling up all our plastic buckets and large copper vessels every morning and evening. Along the way in the morning I had to find a place to take a dump because of the lack of a toilet in the house. I ran around barefoot until I was 14.

So President McNamara set out to address my problems. As many of you may know, agriculture and rural development became the centerpiece of the World Bank's efforts to reduce poverty under McNamara. To raise the productivity of the rural poor, McNamara increased lending to agriculture. The integrated rural development project became the prototype for this assistance in India. Rural development programs benefited millions of people, including me and my family.

In the early 1970s the Bank funded the agricultural credit program in India. I remember going with my father to a cooperative society bank where he got a 600-rupee loan. Among the loan program's conditions was that loans had to be split into cash and in-kind components. So my father received 300 rupees in cash and the rest in the form of paddy seeds and fertilizer. We also had the option of picking up a plough, but did not. My father spent the cash buying clothes for his children and paying off informal loans.

McNamara believed that developing human resources and research infrastructure was also key to unlocking agricultural productivity. India borrowed heavily from the Bank to improve its primary and secondary schools, and I am one of the beneficiaries.

I benefited from the emphasis on developing human resources again when it came time for college. The Bank provided substantial resources for agricultural research and education, which resulted in the expansion of agricultural universities throughout India. I studied at the University of Agricultural Sciences in Bangalore, and I did not have to pay.

I joined the Bank in 2004 and went straight to work for the secretariat that served the Research Committee. My job was to support projects that generated new and innovative ideas for economic and social development in developing countries. The job was challenging, but my life experience came in handy.

As I connect all the dots and complete the circle, I am happy that my family is out of poverty and that I was able to get a great education. But the most important indicator of success is life expectancy. At the time of my birth in a rural Indian village, my life expectancy was estimated at 42 years, according to the inaugural [World Development Report](#) commissioned by McNamara in 1978. Thanks to the World Bank, I'm now 16 years past that milestone. I am happy to consider myself a successful World Bank project that Robert McNamara envisioned and set out to achieve. **I am grateful to all World Bank staff, past and present, for making countless projects like me their priority.**

Let me conclude by repeating McNamara's last words to Bank staff in 1981 which is more relevant today than ever before: *"What these countless millions of the poor need and want is what each of us needs and wants: the well-being of those they love; a better future for their children; an end to injustice; and a beginning of hope. We do not see their faces, we do not know their names, we cannot count their number. But they are there. And their lives have been touched by us. And ours by them."*

Shiva Makki joined the Bank in 2004, worked in Development Economics research before retiring in 2020. Since retiring he has been growing flowers, fruits and vegetables for family, friends, and neighbors, practicing Yoga, and studying the science and philosophy of human mind. He and his family live in Vienna, Virginia

Results and Performance of the World Bank Group, 2021: Another View

By Herve Plusquellec

***Editor's Note:** Frank Lysy's commentary on the 2021 Performance of the Bank Group by the Independent Evaluation Group (IEG), which appeared in most recent spring issue of the Quarterly, caught the interest of another retiree, **Herve Plusquellec**. He draws on his long experience as a Bank irrigation engineer to provide an informed perspective.*



Frank raises the right question: While the share of Bank projects being rated as "successful" has been going up over the past decade, it is not known whether the projects have indeed gotten better or that the criteria being used in each project to measure "success" have become more modest.

Actually, the question of how best to assess project performance dates back to discussions within the then-named Operations Evaluation Department (OED) in the early 1990s. A long cultural change began subsequently with increased emphasis on more socially-oriented projects rather than traditional "hardware" or infrastructure and a drifting away from previously sacrosanct measures as economic rates of return to assess the acceptability of proposed project investments.

The issue is compounded by the problem that projects are being evaluated at “project completion,” defined mainly as when project funds have been fully disbursed. But at final disbursement, projects are still mostly newly built and one will not know for at least several years whether they did indeed contribute to positive development.

This conundrum is illustrated in the experience with irrigation.

The ultimate success of an irrigation project is measured in terms of increased productivity of agriculture and increase of farmers’ incomes. It depends on a complex set of factors such as the use of other inputs by the water users and the international price of commodities. Project benefits could vanish within a few years, especially in projects with problem soils and in countries with long below-freezing winter.

However, while assessments undertaken at the time of project completion cannot determine what the longer-term impacts might be, the Bank does undertake audits of a subset of these projects at least five years after project completion. While possibly not a representative sample, they do generally indicate that the success rate is substantially less than the rate found at the time of project completion.

In the case of irrigation projects, for example, an OED review of audits in 1995 found the rate of success to be 67 percent. That success rate increased to 78 percent for irrigation projects audited during the last 15 years. But this was still far below the 88 percent level for all Bank-supported projects, not just irrigation.

There is a possibility that changes in IEG evaluation criteria have helped boost the success rate of Bank lending for some sectors. However, that possibility would appear to be insignificant in the case of irrigation since the volume of lending for this sector has dropped from 10 percent in the 1970s to less than 2 percent.

To answer the key question Frank raises about whether the Bank has gotten better, the real answer, especially for long-maturing irrigation projects, should come from the results of more audits, at least five years after project completion.

Herve Plusquellec joined the Bank in 1976 as an irrigation engineer. He worked in the Europe, Middle East and East Asia regions, among other assignments, before retiring in 1997. He continued consulting for the Bank and other development institutions until COVID struck.

The Bank’s first (and last?) country-based sector assessment.

By Robin Broadfield



I joined the Bank as a mid-career professional in 1984. Deputy energy director Julian Bharier needed both an experienced, multi-lingual economist and a strong squash partner and I fitted the bill.

During my four years in the Energy Department, I initially participated in and later lead country energy sector assessments and energy project pre-investment analyses all over Africa. For each task, we would fly in a team of experts who would quickly gather the country data they needed for their analysis, return to Washington to do their analysis, send their country counterparts a draft report for review. I was greatly impressed by the technical excellence of the Bank’s

work. But I was also struck by what I perceived to be limited client involvement in and understanding of our analysis and its conclusions and limited commitment to implementing our key recommendations

Shortly after I moved to the Southern Africa Industry and Energy Department in 1988, I was asked to lead an energy sector assessment for Zambia, one of the region's poorer and less technically capable countries. I saw this as an opportunity to experiment with a different way of doing an energy assessment - a way I hoped would promote greater client understanding and ownership of the exercise and deliver some useful country capacity-building to boot.

In order to achieve this greater degree of client involvement, I concluded we had to do all the data assembly, analysis and draft report preparation in Zambia, jointly with our country counterparts. Only the peer review and finalization of the report would be done in Washington.

This new approach had significant budget and staffing implications. Instead of a two-week fact-finding mission, followed by analysis and report writing in Washington, we had to complete all those tasks in Zambia, in collaboration with the director and staff of its Department of Energy. The former two-week mission would stretch to at least four or five. And, in those pre-personal computer days, we also had to take a couple of willing staff assistants with us to type, copy and revise our draft sub-sector analyses and draft report.

I decided to send an energy data specialist out ahead of us to coordinate the initial data assembly effort with our Zambian counterparts. I was fortunate to hire world gas guru Fred Thakeray, a born diplomat and slim version of my father who, untypically for a Bank consultant, managed a donkey sanctuary in his spare time. One of his daughters lived in Zambia and Fred was delighted at the prospect of visiting her.

My memory has faded now, but as best I can recall, our work went slowly but well. We soon discovered how little analytical skill the Department of Energy staff had and how eager they were to learn with us. We prepared outlines of each sub-sector analysis with them and then wrote up the detail.

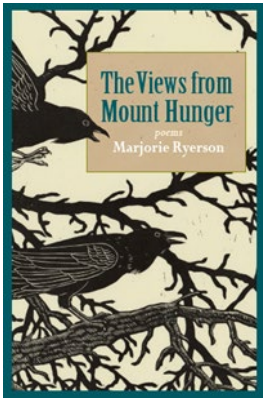
After peer review in Washington, the final report was sent officially to the Minister of Energy a few weeks later. I don't recall if we were any more successful than our predecessors at persuading the Zambian government to implement the recommendations. But I do know we did some very effective capacity building in the Department of Energy and developed excellent working relations with our national counterparts that enhanced our future country dialogue.

Given the Bank's growing interest in client capacity-building and collaboration, I thought and hoped my broadly successful experiment in country-based sector work might interest other sector assessment teams and perhaps spawn some imitators. But it was greeted with a collective shrug. Looking back, I suspect some staff weren't keen on longer missions and the technocrats were more interested in technical excellence than country capacity-building and ownership.

I soon moved on to a new challenge – helping build the Bank's global environment program. So maybe other sector work leaders did try a more client-based approach after all. I'd love to know.

Robin Broadfield joined the Bank in 1984 and retired in 2007. He and his wife live in Florida in a home that overlooks the "...14th tee of a beautiful course and I can literally walk out of the door and hit balls."

Potpourri



Marjorie Ryerson's first book of poetry, "The Views from Mount Hunger" will be published by Green Mountain Press later this year. She lives in Randolph, Vermont.

Music Doctors

By Marjorie Ryerson

The world unravels, burns and
shreds in ways none of us have
imagined and in ways none of us
knows how to repair. Yet
healing tears flood our cheeks

as a Bach adagio saturates the room.
Massenet's "Meditation" adagio
also raises the rivers of
our souls' gardens, as does
Arvo Pärt's *Spiegel im Spiegel*.

Music doctors are as old as
the human race. These healers
drench us with the only medicine
that truly cures, medicine that numbs
our agony so that we can go on.

"Tree Eternal"

In retirement, Van Pulley has pursued a photography passion, achieving great prowess in the field through multiple juried exhibitions and publications. His latest, "Tree Eternal: A Solo Exhibition" has just completed a six-week run at the Torpedo Factory Art Center in Alexandria. In describing the portfolio, Van writes, "Cypress wood is known as the 'wood eternal' because of its famed durability and resistance to rot and pests. Ironically, this prized durability threatens the sustainability of the ancient species called the 'Bald Cypress'—the fifth oldest living thing on earth, discovered in the Caddo Lake bayou on the Louisiana-Texas border, where Van produced his visual essay."



Great Blue Heron



Retired Bank lawyer Ian Newport walks regularly along the C&O Canal. He spotted this Great Blue Heron near the Old Angler's Inn in Maryland and took the photo "...with an old camera on its last legs... What is weird is that the reflection is as sharp as the real image."

WORLD BANK HISTORY

“To Hell With Bell”: Indian Press Reacts to Bank’s Bell Mission

The 1964-65 mission to India, led by Bernard “Bernie” Bell (known as the Bell Mission) significantly influenced Bank policies toward Indian development. And, for a time, sparked a nationwide controversy in India, which, in those times, was the Bank’s largest borrower.

The backstory is captured in the following excerpts from Bernie’s oral history. The entire interview can be accessed [here](#).

“In May or June, 1964, I got a telephone call from (Bank President) George Woods, whom I had never met. He proceeded to tell me that things on the economic front were not going well in India, that the aid consortium was becoming rather unhappy about the Indian economic performance and that he didn’t feel that the Bank or other aid givers knew much about the Indian economy. He wanted a mission composed largely of people NOT on the Bank staff to make an extended survey and asked whether I would lead the mission plus join the Bank. I said “no” to the latter but “yes” to the former and managed to collect a first-class team, more than half were not on the Bank staff....We spent about six months doing the job.

One of the major conclusions was that there be a devaluation of the rupee. We also recommended a reduction in trade barriers...Some of the most important recommendations, and what I think were the most effective and enduring, were in the field of agriculture.

Originally, the then Minister of Finance did not want a study by the Bank. He finally agreed provided that the report would be available only to two people: himself, George Woods and no one else.

I’m sure it was made available by someone in Government...There was quite a press campaign which went on for months and was directed not only against the Bank but George Woods himself and then against me and which, at least in my case, culminated with four-inch headlines in two papers one day that read: “To Hell With Bell.”

YEARS AGO

75 Years Ago September 1, 1947	Group Health Program World Bank’s first Group Health Program becomes effective.
70 Years Ago September 22, 1952	Bank Reorganization “The Management has reached the conclusion that there are advantages to be gained from organizing the operational activities of the Bank on a geographical rather than on the present functional basis.” The Bank is reorganized. Three Area Departments of Operations are created: Asia and Middle East; Europe, Africa, and Australasia; and Western Hemisphere. Also created are the Department of Technical Operations; the Economic Staff and the Technical Assistance and Liaison Staff.

65 Years Ago August 2, 1957	Bank and Italy Study Nuclear Power Bank and Italy sponsor study expected to lead to construction of large nuclear power station. For more information see: https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/700621467993172257/loan-for-nuclear-power
60 Years Ago September 17, 1962	First Funding for Tunisia First funding for Tunisia: Credit 0029 – Education Project (first World Bank Group financing of education). For more information see: https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/750901467993173024/education-project-tunisia
55 Years Ago September 25, 1967	Annual Meetings in Rio de Janeiro Annual meetings convene at the Museum of Modern Art in Rio de Janeiro. For more information see: https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/821151468914466635/international-bank-notes
50 Years Ago August 10, 1972	Major Bank Reorganization Announced A major reorganization of the Bank is announced to decentralize the Bank's operations. A senior vice presidency of operations is created with five regional vice presidents and a vice president for project staff. Vice presidencies are also created for: Organization Planning and Personnel Management; Development Policy; Finance; and General Counsel. For more Information see: https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/344061468915656282/bank-notes and: https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/265621468914477475/bank-notes
45 Years Ago August 1977	Joint Committee of the World Bank and IMF on Staff Compensation Issues Established Establishment of a Joint Committee of the World Bank and IMF on Staff Compensation Issues to examine principles of staff compensation.
40 Years Ago September 8, 1982	Publication of IDA in Retrospect: The First Two Decades of the International Development Association For more information see: https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/547941468762296226/ida-in-retrospect-the-first-two-decades-of-the-international-development-association

35 Years Ago September 30, 1987	Final Day of Reorganization's Round 2 Selection Process Final day of the Reorganization's Round 2 selection process. Of 5910 staff who participated, 5410 were selected during Rounds 1 and 2; 500 selected separation packages. For more information see: https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentlist?display=title&str_docdt=1987-06-01&end_docdt=1987-07-31&docty_key=563770&srt=docdt&order=desc
30 Years Ago June 16, 1992	IBRD and IDA Articles of Agreement signed by the Russian Federation IBRD and IDA Articles of Agreement signed by the Russian Federation, becoming the 159th member of the Bank and the 142nd member of IDA. For more information see: https://timeline.worldbank.org/#event-post-soviet-states-join-the-world-bank-group
25 Years Ago September 15, 1997	Funeral of Aron Broches, Former Vice President and General Counsel Funeral of Aron Broches, one of the "fathers" of the World Bank. Broches had participated in the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference as a delegate from the Netherlands and joined the Legal Department of the Bank in 1946. He became the Department's Director in 1956, and the General Counsel of the Bank in 1959, a position he held until his retirement in 1979. Broches played a prominent role in laying the legal foundations for Bank operations. His World Bank Group Oral History Program transcripts can be read here: https://oralhistory.worldbank.org/person/broches-aron
20 Years Ago September 23, 2002	OED (Operations Evaluation Department) 30th Anniversary event OED sponsors a series of events to celebrate the 30th year of its existence. Interviews with former DGOs were conducted, as well as panel discussions and a keynote speech by Robert Picciotto. For more information see: https://ieg.worldbankgroup.org/sites/default/files/Data/reports/OED IEG First30Years.pdf

TRANSITIONS



We welcome the following World Bank Group retirees/alumni to The 1818 Society. Country of intended residence other than the USA has been added after their names.

Masood Ahmed	Karin Kemper
Andrina Ambrose-Gardiner, <i>St. Lucia</i>	Emi Komazaki, <i>Japan</i>
Livia Benavides, <i>Peru</i>	George Larbi
Tebereh Berhe	Hannah Messerli
Elizabeth Boydell, <i>United Kingdom</i>	Luz Meza-Bartrina, <i>Paraguay</i>
Margot Brown, <i>Canada</i>	Amitabha Mukherjee
Denise Burgess	Rajiv Murjany
El Cid Butuyan	Karin Kemper
Gerard Caprio	Debra Perry
Rita Cestti	Gunars Platais
Mariam Chindo	Maria Ponce de Leon
Rafael Cortez	Andrew Ragatz, <i>Australia</i>
Emmanuel Cuvillier	Colin Rees
Duy Dang	Odile Rhaume
Mamadou Deme	Justin Runji, <i>Kenya</i>
Kathleen Dettlaff, <i>Germany</i>	Muna Salim
John Donnelly	Edith Ann Santos
Ana Maria Espinoza	Sarosh Sattar
Barbara Faillace, <i>United Kingdom</i>	Hartwig Schafer, <i>Austria</i>
Marie Claudine Fundi, <i>Canada</i>	Shekhar Shah
Pierre Girardier, <i>France</i>	Vinay Sharma, <i>India</i>
Margaret Grosh	Jayashree Srikantaiah
Maurizio Guadagni, <i>Belgium</i>	Elena Sterlin
Scott Guggenheim, <i>Indonesia</i>	Tomoko Tatara
John Haber	Stuart Tucker
Julie Halperson	Michel Van Beneden
Ronnie Hammad	Lubomir Varbanov, <i>Singapore</i>
Mei Huang	Shuilin Wang
Ivo Imperato, <i>Brazil</i>	Georgina Wiese-Billhorn



**We regret to inform you of the following deaths
based on information provided by the Pension Administration Division.
We extend our sincere sympathy to the families.**

Robert S. Barger, 86, of Rockville, MD, on March 31, 2022. Mr. Barger retired from the Bank in 1994.

Sethuraman Balan, 85, of Falls Church, VA, on June 12, 2022. Mr. Balan retired from the Bank in 1999.

Florence G. Blakley, 78, of Unionville, VA, on May 14, 2022. Ms. Blakley retired from the Bank in 1986.

Luis Bori, 82, of Silver Spring, MD, on April 22, 2022. Mr. Bori retired from the Bank in 1995.

Han Van Mourik Broekman, 86, of De Zutphen, Netherlands, on May 20, 2022. Mr. Broekman retired from the Bank in 1982.

Richard I. Burnham, 86, of Newport, RI, on April 26, 2022. Mr. Burnham retired from the Bank in 1998.

Leonila Castillo, 74, of Midlothian, VA, on April 3, 2022. Ms. Castillo retired from the Bank in 2010.

Aurelio Cespedes, 93, of Medellin, Columbia, on March 28, 2022. Mr. Cespedes retired from the Bank in 1985.

Clara Mimi Chen, 93, of Napa, CA, on June 3, 2022. Ms. Chen retired from the Bank in 1986.

Mavourneen E. Cox, 75, of Montevideo, Uruguay, on March 3, 2022. Ms. Cox retired from the Bank in 1997.

Donna L. Criddle, 87, of Montpelier, VA, on May 24, 2022. Ms. Criddle retired from the Bank in 1997.

Vinodhini David, 63, of Ellicott City, MD, on June 2, 2022. Ms. David retired from the Bank in 2016.

Guido J. Deboeck, 76, of Arlington, VA, on April 1, 2022. Mr. Deboeck retired from the Bank in 1998.

James J. Douglas, 75, of Kingston, Australia, on June 19, 2022. Mr. Douglas retired from the Bank in 2004.

J. Christian Duvigneau, 80, of Marseille, France, on May 30, 2022. Mr. Duvigneau retired from the Bank in 1999.

James Joseph Gallagher, 74, of Woodbridge, VA, on March 29, 2022. Mr. Gallagher retired from the Bank in 2010.

Reginald Gomez, 87, of Purcellville, VA, on March 29, 2022. Mr. Gomez retired from the Bank in 1988.

Ian Munro Gray, 55, of Edinburgh, U.K. , on March 2, 2022. Mr. Gray retired from the Bank in 2020.

Dong Woo Hahm, 89, of Lutz, FL, on June 4, 2022. Mr. Hahm retired from the Bank in 1993.

John M. Hall, 86, of Nice, France, on April 18, 2022. Mr. Hall retired from the Bank in 1997.

Francis D. Hamilton, 82, of Oxfordshire, U.K., on April 22, 2022. Mr. Hamilton retired from the Bank in 2002.

James Leslie B. Hardie, 93, of Scotland, U.K., on April 24, 2022. Mr. Hardie retired from the Bank in 1983.

Rose Marie Harris Caponio, 91, of Washington, D.C., on March 27, 2022. Ms. Caponio retired from the Bank in 1996.

Ernesto E. Henriod, 85, of Auckland, New Zealand, on May 23, 2022. Mr. Henriod retired from the Bank in 1998.

Nanette Hopkinson, 93, of Bellevue, Switzerland, on March 31, 2020. Ms. Hopkinson retired from the Bank in 1966.

David A. Howarth, 82, of Oud-Beijerland, Netherlands, on April 8, 2022. Mr. Howarth retired from the Bank in 2001.

Nina M. Jones, 71, of Frederick, MD, on April 8, 2022. Ms. Jones retired from the Bank in 2012.

H. Martin Koelle, 90, of Hamburg, Germany, on June 8, 2022. Mr. Koelle retired from the Bank in 1988.

Anne E. Lamond, 69, of Arlington, VA, on April 21, 2022. Ms. Lamond retired from the Bank in 2007.

Andrele Mathurin, 75, of Katy, TX, on May 8, 2022. Ms. Mathurin retired from the Bank in 2000.

Andres M. McAlister, 70, of Washington D.C., on March 27, 2022. Mr. McAlister retired from the Bank in 2003.

Cynthia M. Noronha, 94, of Miami, FL, on June 5, 2022. Ms. Noronha retired from the Bank in 1988.

John Milne Pettigrew, 98, of Scotland, U.K., on April 12, 2022. Mr. Pettigrew retired from the Bank in 1985.

Rajesh D. Ponnraj, 50, of Arlington, VA, on April 21, 2022. Mr. Ponnraj retired from the Bank in 2020.

Romelia Hoyos Restrepo, 86, of Medellin, Columbia, on March 16, 2022. Ms. Restrepo retired from the Bank in 1986.

Nadia M. Saad, 93, of Potomac, MD, on June 4, 2022. Ms. Saad retired from the Bank in 1992.

Andre G. N. Salmon, 92, of Phoenix, AZ, on April 6, 2022. Mr. Salmon retired from the Bank in 1992.

Ellen F. Schaengold, 76, of Cincinnati, OH, on June 10, 2022. Ms. Schaengold retired from the Bank in 2000.

Jocelyn Severino, 76, of San Juan City, Philippines, on May 3, 2022. Ms. Severino retired from the Bank in 2004.

Javed Shaukat, 90, of Islamabad, Pakistan, on June 12, 2022. Mr. Shaukat retired from the Bank in 1992.

Taverekere Srikantaiah, 84, of Bethesda, MD, on March 31, 2022. Mr. Srikantaiah retired from the Bank in 1999.

Gerd F. Steinke, 79, of Lafayette, CO, on November 24, 2021. Mr. Steinke retired from the Bank in 1988.

Tsion Tesfaye, 78, of Annandale, VA, on April 17, 2022. Mr. Tesfaye retired from the Bank in 2006.

A. Robert Whyte, 89, of Chichester, U.K., on May 3, 2022. Mr. Whyte retired from the Bank in 1989.

Denise R. Williamson, 82, of Chevy Chase, MD, on April 2, 2022. Ms. Williamson retired from the Bank in 1994.

We are including contact information for deceased members whose family have agreed to the publication of their contact information in the Quarterly so former colleagues may send condolences directly to them.

Deceased: Gerald W. Fauss

Contact: Marghi Fauss (spouse)

Address: 903 Peele Place, Alexandria, VA 22304

Email: MarghiFauss@gmail.com

Deceased: Rose Marie Harris Caponio

Contact: Anna Isabella Harris Caponio (daughter)

Address: 508 G St. SE, Washington DC 20003

Email: isabella.harris@verizon.net

Deceased: Reginald Gomez

Contact: Silja Gomez (daughter)

Address: 35795 Dunthorpe Ln, Purcellville, VA 20132

Email: silja.gomez@gmail.com

Deceased: Donald S. Hill

Contact: Brenda Hill (child)

Address: 417 Grand St. D1307, New York, NY 10002

Email: behill@mac.com

Deceased: Sarwat Hussain

Contact: Vidya Bhandarker (spouse)

Address: 4610 Iowa Ave, NW, Washington DC 20011, USA (until next year);

402 Sai Krupa Avanti, St #4 West Marredpally, Secunderabad, 500026 Telengana, India (permanent)

Email: vbhandarker@gmail.com

Deceased: Mario Rothschild

Contact: Soledad Rothschild (spouse)

Address: Casilla 724, Puerto Varas, Chile

Email: soledadrothschild@hotmail.com

Deceased: Taverekere Srikantaiah

Contact: Jayashree Srikantaiah (spouse)

Address: 8600 Bradmoor Drive, Bethesda, MD 20817

Email: jayashree.srikantaiah@gmail.com

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