

# 1818 SOCIETY<sup>SM</sup> QUARTERLY

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## **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Dear Members,

I hope you all had a great summer. With the gradual easing of travel restrictions many of our colleagues have been able to leave the confines of their home and hit the road, or the air. But as many of us learned the hard way, COVID-19 is not yet over. Despite being double vaccinated and boosted, several of us caught the virus and had to isolate ourselves for a couple of weeks. For most people the symptoms from Omicron variants have been milder than from the previous viral strains. Treatment, such as Paxlovid, is also easily available. As a result, the consequences of testing positive have been less severe this summer. The good news (I have this on the authority of Bill McGreevey) is that mortality of 1818 Society members has not been adversely affected by COVID-19. Nonetheless, we encourage all members to get the new booster vaccine approved by CDC along with the flu shot to protect themselves from the coming winter.

The theme of this message is Governance and Transparency, where we have made huge strides in several key proposed reforms this year:

**Revision of By-Laws.** The By-Laws Revisions Committee, established in November 2021, has completed its work and submitted the final draft of Amendments to the By-Laws. These have been posted on our website and sent to all members on September 23 for consideration and possible approval. This draft is based on feedback provided by members through the two surveys and the townhall conducted earlier this year. The draft also includes feedback from the Board and from a pro bono law firm that specializes in the DC Nonprofit Corporation Act, 2010. By the time this Quarterly is published you will have received the electronic ballot instrument to vote on these Amendments. The innovative electronic balloting system makes these Amendments transparent and allows members to review and vote on them easily. The results from this vote on By-Laws Amendments will be announced at the 2022 Annual Business Meeting.

**Election of Directors.** The Nominating Committee established last May for the Election of Directors succeeded in eliciting expressions of interest from a larger number of candidates than usual, including some from outside the Washington area and outside USA. Thirteen candidates (13) contested elections for six (6) vacancies on the Board. The electronic voting process has been completed and the number of votes cast has been greater both in absolute numbers and percentage than in previous years. Election results will be announced at the 2022 Annual Business Meeting. I would like to thank the Nominating Committee, all the candidates, and all the members who voted for making this year's election process an inclusive and exciting one. Inevitably only six of the candidates who volunteered to serve on the Board will be able to do so. The others will be welcome to join us in some other voluntary capacity on the Society's committees, clubs or thematic groups.

**Terms of Reference (TOR) for Board Committees.** To enhance transparency, the Board has decided to formalize TORs for all Board Committees, specifying their objectives, membership and terms of office, responsibilities and deliverables. These TORs (including the Health Insurance Committee and the Pension Committee) are posted on the web and available to all members on the Society's website in the tab <u>About Us</u>.

**Renewal in Thematic Groups.** During the past year our efforts toward succession planning resulted in renewal of leadership in five thematic groups (TG). New co-chairs are running the Social & Environmental TG (Ede-Ijjasz Vasquez and Reidar Kvam) and the Global Finance TG (Aquiles Almansi and Massimo Cirasino), while Shanta Devarajan is taking over as chair of the Economics TG as of October 1, 2022. Deborah Wetzel has taken over as chair of the Governance TG, whose leadership includes Vinay Bhargava and Richard Cambridge on the Convening Group. Charles Feinstein has joined Eugene McCarthy as co-chair of the Energy TG. Many thanks to outgoing chairs – Akbar Khawaja, Ismail Dalla, Norman Hicks, and John Redwood – who have passed on the baton (as have I in my capacity as co-chair of a TG), and welcome to our new thematic leaders.

**Information Sharing and Outreach.** Throughout this year we have made a special effort to keep you informed of the Society's numerous activities. The Information Management & Technology (IMT) Committee established in January played a key role in ensuring renewal of our website and outreach. The introduction of online membership form and online fee payment led to an increase in membership this year. Blog Posts have become a popular feature for members to share their insights and experiences with others. The latest blogs are on the home page and members can access <u>all blog posts</u> <u>here</u> or look for them by title, author, or keywords in the Search bar. The IMT Committee has supported the smooth rolling out of the electronic ballot instrument for the election of directors, and designed the electronic voting instrument for members' approval of Amendments to the By-Laws. Stay tuned for additional web features coming soon.

The manner in which the Board, 1818 Society volunteers, and our membership have worked together to renew our organization and come out of the malaise forced in part by the Coronavirus and by some of the contentious debates of 2021 is very satisfying.

After several years hiatus due to COVID-19, the 1818 Hiking Club has been able to resume international hikes. The hiking trips to Northumberland, UK and Norway were a great success, in addition to the cultural tours in Armenia/Georgia and Turkey. Another group of adventurers is off to the Manaslu Valley in Nepal in October. We look forward to a busy schedule in 2023 to complete the hiking trips planned three years ago, and to plan out the 2023-24 hiking trips.

We have been busy over the summer preparing for the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting which will be held on October 26-27, 2022 (*Notice of Meeting and Agenda here*). The Health Insurance and Pension seminars on October 26 will be virtual meetings. We have a special treat for members during the Keynote Session on October 27. Shanta Devarajan will moderate a panel discussion with three former Chief Economists of the World Bank – Larry Summers, Anne Krueger, and Kaushik Basu – to explain and debate their views on "The State of the Global Economy." We look forward to a lively discussion and Q&A at the session. Subsequently, members will have an opportunity to hear and question President Malpass on his views about how the Bank Group is responding to the multiple crises facing the world today. The

highlights of the Business Meeting will be the results of the election of Directors, the Amendments of the By-Laws and, sadly, our moments of silence as we scroll through the In Memoriam list and mourn the loss of colleagues and friends. I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting. Meanwhile, stay healthy and stay safe!

Anis Dani President

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



## Dear Friends:

If this fall issue seems heftier than usual, it is for a number of reasons:

- The Society Board and committees have been going flat out on reforms, elections, all of which is summarized in Anis' message above.
- Pensions, perhaps the most popular section of the Quarterly (next to deaths), are analyzed in the latest annual report which Lee Meddin reviews cogently. And he provides an intriguing "look ahead" (page 7-9)
- A slew of senior and middle management Bank Group promotions and appointments (page 12). Plus President Malpass's challenging week in New York (page 13).
- New book notices from several retirees turned authors (pages 26-28).
- A fascinating back story about <u>an Albert Einstein</u> letter to Dani Kaufman's father (page 30).
- A long, but interesting, history section (page 35).

Thanks again for your contributions.

Tom Blinkhorn Editor

## 1818 SOCIETY<sup>SM</sup> NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Why are the By-Laws being Amended, and What are the Key Revisions Proposed? By Anis Dani and Mark Walker

In the lead up to, and during the 2021 Annual Meeting, there was a heated debate about the eligibility criteria for the President and Directors of the Board, and about the role of the Nominating Committee. Members put forward two Motions calling for a review of the By-Laws, with competing views of how the review process should be managed. The Motion approved by a large majority of members called upon the Board of Directors to establish a Task Force/Committee to propose updates or options that would be put to a vote to the broader membership ahead of the 2022 Annual Meeting. In November 2021, the Board acted on the Motion and constituted an autonomous, diverse and inclusive seven-member Committee for Revision of the By-Laws (By-Laws Revisions Committee) to review and make recommendations to update the By-Laws (*1818 Society Quarterly, Winter Issue, 2021-2022, Volume 4, Issue 4*).

The By-Laws Revisions Committee submitted its Interim Report of Recommendations in March. Following initial discussions with the Board, a summary of the report was made public and a Members' Survey undertaken in May to obtain feedback on the key recommendations. In parallel, 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. The final *Report on Recommendations of the 1818 Society By-Laws Committee for Revision of the By-Laws* was submitted to the Board on May 25, 2022 (*1818 Society Quarterly, Summer Issue, 2022, Volume 4, Issue 6*) and posted on the Society's website [Click here to read the report (*login required*)]. A supplementary survey conducted in July providing additional feedback from members on options for the revisions fed into the drafting of pr oposed Amendments. The final draft also benefited from advice by an external (pro bono) law firm that specializes in the DC Nonprofit Corporation Act of 2010 under which the 1818 Society is registered.

The <u>Final Draft of the Amendments to 1818 Society By-Laws</u> (*login required*) has been posted on the Society's website and the link included in the customized ballot sent to members on September 21, 2022. All proposed changes are highlighted in the text included with each question in the ballot. Voting on the By-Laws will be open for three weeks, until 6.00 pm (EST) on October 12, 2022.

The key revisions in the Amendments propose to:

- Update the By-Laws to comply with mandatory requirements of the DC Nonprofit Corporation Act, 2010, and modernize the By-laws by adopting DC Act provisions like electronic voting, and annual and special meetings by internet or in-person.
- Replace the Nominating Committee with a Search Committee with clear terms of reference requiring the Search Committee to actively search for and solicit expressions of interest for candidates for the Board of Directors and the President.
- Spell out the eligibility criteria for the President and Directors within the By-Laws.

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- Modify the term of the President and Directors from two years to a three-year term, with a twoterm limit for the President and Directors; and reduce the size of the Board from 11 to 10 Directors, phasing in staggered rotation over three years, so the term of one-third of the Directors ends each year.
- Specify rules for future amendments to the By-Laws, and restrict the Board's power to make amendments by super majority only to sections that do not infringe on rights of members.

These Amendments have been prepared to strengthen the By-Laws and lay the basis for a more inclusive, vibrant Society that is responsive to the needs of its diverse membership. All members are encouraged to vote on the ballot sent to members for reviewing and approving the By-Laws

## Staff Retirement Plan By Lee Meddin



This quarter, with (i) the recent publication of the 2021 Annual Report of Retirement Plans, (ii) the recent 1818 Society Board approval of the Pension Committee terms of reference, and (iii) persistent global inflation and the impact this is having on the financial markets, there is a lot to share!

## 2021 Annual Report of Retirement Plans

The 2021 Annual Report of the World Bank Group Staff Retirement Plan and Trust (the SRP) and Retired Staff Benefits Plan and Trust (RSBP) was recently published. Members can access the <u>2021 Annual Report</u> from the Home Page of the Society's website. Some noteworthy highlights from the report include the following:

- For 2021, the SRP generated a positive return of 16.2 percent net of fees. The net real return over inflation was 8.5 percent, significantly higher than the long-term real return objective (LTRRO) of 3.5 percent. The LTRRO represents the "hurdle rate" for Plan investments, assuming all other actuarial assumptions are met.
- The SRP's projected benefit obligation (PBO) funded ratio, discounted using the LTRRO, increased from 1.33 to 1.45 at the end of 2021 because the investment performance in 2021 was significantly above the LTRRO. The funded ratio measures the adequacy of the current value of a plan's assets relative to that of its liabilities. A funded ratio above 1.00 indicates that plan assets exceed plan liabilities, and a funded ratio of less than 1.00 indicates that plan assets are less than plan liabilities.
- In April 2022, the Pension Finance Committee (PFC), responsible for the financial management of the Plans, approved a Bank contribution rate of 8.73 percent of net salaries for the SRP for fiscal year 2023, lower than last year's contribution rate of 12.06 percent. The higher funded ratio helped facilitate a lower contribution rate.
- The Plan continued the implementation of its environmental, social, and governance (ESG) work
  program, building on the work undertaken in the previous year. The Plan's ESG Policy focuses
  on ESG integration to ensure relevant ESG factors are duly incorporated into the investment
  process as an essential way to better assess the risk and return characteristics of investment
  opportunities. Climate change and human capital aspects continue to be the main thematic
  issues for discussions with external fund managers during the due diligence process. Climate
  change refers to climate-related risks and issues concerning preparedness for the climate

transition and climate transition pathways. Human capital encompasses a broad range of issues, but the focus is increasingly concentrating on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), human rights, and workforce safety and well-being.

- A comprehensive review of the strategic asset allocation (SAA) was completed in April 2021 resulting in a few marginal changes to the SAA. The SAA is a major component of the investment policy, and it represents the asset mix that the PFC believes is best able to meet or exceed the LTRRO over a given investment horizon and within approved risk tolerance parameters. As of December 31, 2021, the SAA for the SRP was as follows: fixed income strategies (20%), credit strategies (6%), equity strategies (51%), real assets strategies (13%), absolute return strategies (10%), and opportunistic strategies (0%).
- The risk management framework allows for tactical deviations from the SAA. The actual allocation as of December 31, 2021, was generally very close to the SAA target. The only notable exception was an overweight allocation for private equity (28 percent versus 20 percent) which was compensated by a similar underweight allocation for global equities (13 percent versus 22 percent). The overweight allocation to private equity has been driven by outsized performance in this asset class over the last couple of years in particular. However, given the illiquid nature of these investments, the most feasible way to rebalance the overall portfolio in the short term and ensure a stable risk profile is to counterbalance the private equity overweight by a similar underweight position in public equities.
- The number of deferred beneficiaries (active participants) in the Gross Plan continues to decline. At the end of 2021 there were 425 staff on the Gross Plan and 17,000 staff on the Net Plan.

For a more detailed review of the SRP and RSBP I encourage all members to review the Annual Report. The report is well written and very informative.

The Board has approved the <u>Terms of Reference of the Pension Committee</u> (login required), which clarifies the role and responsibilities of the Committee and clarifies its structure.

## Looking ahead

Whereas the recently published 2021 Annual Report for the SRP and RSBP painted a rosy picture for the calendar year 2021, 2022 has been a different story. On September 13th, the US government announced that inflation ticked up 0.1% from July to August and up 8.3% from a year ago. Excluding the more volatile categories of food and energy, core prices jumped by an unexpectedly sharp 0.6% from July to August. The inflation news stoked fears that the Federal Reserve will need to remain vigilant in terms of raising interest rates, increasing the likelihood of a "hard landing". This resulted in the S&P 500 declining by almost 6 percent over the remainder of the week following the inflation announcement.

As of this writing, September 18<sup>th</sup>, the S&P 500 is down about 19 percent year to date. Many of the equity indexes across the world have not fared much better. With the SRP having a large allocation to equities (50% as December 31, 2021), and other asset classes in the SAA also underperforming relative to recent years, it appears unlikely that the SRP will achieve similar results this year to those of recent years. However, managing this type of risk is what our colleagues in the World Bank's Pension and Endowments Department (PEN) do and something they addressed in an upfront manner in the recent annual report. In closing, I wanted to share the following excerpt from the 2021 Annual Report:

"As a long-term investor, we fully expect that the period of outsized returns observed over the last decade, in particular over the last three years, will not extend indefinitely, and so far, 2022 has provided ample evidence of that. We believe it is important to focus on results over multiyear horizons while recognizing the inherent short-term volatility...We are looking deeply into diverse possible scenarios that challenge our thinking, including those with inflationary environments, and we carefully assess their potential impact on the long-term sustainability of the Plans. We believe the investments of the Plans are well diversified and calibrated to weather such shocks over the long term."

As always, please feel free to reach out to me with any questions at Lee@sagaciouscapital.com

## <u>The RMIP Corner – Retirees Medical Insurance</u> By Eduardo Wallentin



There has been a lot of activity around our health insurance during the past few months. As you may read in a recent 1818 Society's weekly announcement, the Board approved the first Terms of Reference for the Health Insurance Committee. The Committee's name has been changed to Health Insurance Committee as it encompasses more than the RMIP plans. You can find the <u>TORs here</u> (*log in required*). We invite you to read them, particularly if you are interested in joining the Committee.

Sometimes members have questions about the plan that are directly addressed in the Plan Summary, which can be accessed <u>here</u>. We invite you to check the summary when you have questions and reach out to us if needed. We have also received questions from members on Medicare. If you are about to turn 65, contact us so we can send you a brief package we have prepared with basic information about enrolling in Medicare.

During the past six months, the World Bank's HR Department organized two Webex sessions with our insurance providers (AETNA and CIGNA) which were informative. These will be followed by our traditional session during our upcoming Annual Meeting Agenda. If you have questions that you would like to raise, or issues you would like to be addressed, please send them in advance to Eduardo Wallentin (ewallentin@gmail.com) no later than October 23<sup>rd</sup>. The session will still have a live chat where you will also be able to post questions.

Going forward, HR is putting together a session on long-term care and real estate planning. We will let you know details once the date is set and program arranged. As we mentioned before, we are also exploring potential improvements to our health programs and will update you as developments unfold.

## <u>Covid Impact on Bank Retirees' Longevity</u> By William McGreevey

In 2021, I received a grant of \$500 from Georgetown University to continue ongoing analyses of age at death of World Bank Group (WBG) retirees. Ten such grants went to GUARFS (Georgetown University Associated Retired Faculty and Staff) and many other small grants to teaching faculty at the university.



Earlier calculations showed two important results: (1) WBG retirees on average lived several years longer than the average for all United States residents which was 76 years

for males and 81 years for females, and (2) COVID-19 reduced those averages for residents of the USA but had no notable impact on WBG retirees which remained near age 82 for both males and females. My co-author on earlier work, Brenda Bermudez, dug into detailed data from 2018 through 2020, to

demonstrate continued high average years of survival for WBG staff and retirees despite COVID-19. More recent data will be available soon.

Better health, nutrition, and well-being among WBG staff help explain the higher survival rates of Bank retirees. A recent report from WBG showed that three staff members lived beyond age 100: Lilia Garcia, Audrey McCart, and Karl Smeltzer. Thirty-one WBG retirees lived beyond age 90. A recent book, *The 100 Year Life*, argues that of youth born in the 21st century, over half will live beyond age 100. Further gains in long and productive lives can be anticipated for WBG retirees as well.

Your author earned the title, *Dr. Death*, from the editor of the *1818 Society Quarterly*, Mr. Thomas "Blinkey" Blinkhorn, who may be known to his closest colleagues by that sobriquet. As work proceeds, it may move to include survival of GUARFS at Georgetown University as well as "Banquitos" as many WBG staff are known to their closest friends.

*Editor's Note:* Let the record show that "Stompin' Bill" maintains a meticulous account of the number of steps he takes on regular walks. His target is 10,000 a day. He beat that on Monday, September 18 with 16,655 steps. An audit has been requested.



## FY23 Community Connections Campaign By Beatriz Reis, CCC office

It is that time of the year again - the FY23 World Bank Group (WBG) Community Connections Campaign (CCC) is coming. This year, it will run from Tuesday, November 1, to Thursday, December 15 2022, so please mark your calendars. Starting day one, all CCC donations will be matched 100% by the World Bank Group, up to a donor's maximum limit of \$20,000.

Last year we had more donors contributing from more countries than ever before. As usual, retirees had an overwhelming impact, accounting for more than 1/3 of the total donation amount. A record number of 600+ retirees donated a total of just under \$2 million (before the corporate match), making a real difference in the work of the 400+ CCC organizations. We hope to once again count on your generosity.

As in previous campaigns, the CCC platform can be accessed through the Pension Portal using your regular retiree login credentials. If you have previously not accessed the Pension Portal, we recommend you contact <u>1pension@worldbank.org</u> for instructions on establishing your credentials. If you face login issues (e.g. forgetting your password), please call the Bank Group IT help desk at 1-202-473-2121 and ask for help.

For further information and assistance about the CCC, feel free to contact the Community Outreach Team at <u>comoutreach@worldbank.org</u> and include your UPI in the message.

## BANK-FUND STAFF FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

## Credit Union Launches New On-Line Service

The Credit Union has announced a new on-line foreign currency service with more than 80 different currencies available for expedited delivery to members. According to General Manager Shronda McElveen, "Orders placed Monday through Friday before 3 p.m. are shipped directly to your home for next business day delivery. If you are not home and prefer to pick up the order yourself, you will need to go to the IFC branch at 2100 K st. NW. For more information visit the Credit Union website at <u>www.bfsfcu.org</u> or visit the <u>Foreign Currency</u> page."



#### Back to Work...Sort Of

In a mid-September announcement, Bank managers re-iterated the "new normal" hybrid approach to working at the Bank Group with a few new twists:

- Staff are expected to come to the office 2-4 days a week. This approach is also being implemented across country offices "based on local conditions."
- Starting September 19, masking became voluntary on Bank Group premises.
- Vaccination requirements and weekly testing remain in effect through the end of October, at which point management will re-evaluate.
- In country offices, the hybrid approach and related safety measures will continue to vary as determined by country and regional management.

## New Bank Management Appointments

The following appointments were recently announced:

- Indermit Gill became Bank Group Chief Economist and Senior Vice President for Development Economics effective September 1. An Indian national, he previously was Vice-President for Equitable Growth, Finance and Institutions.
- <u>Pablo Saavedra</u> replaced Indermit as Vice President for the Equitable Growth, Finance and Institutions (EFI) Global Practice Group, effective October 1. A Bolivian national, he joined the Bank through the Young Professional (YP) program and has served in several senior positions, most recently Bank Chief of Staff.
- <u>Mercy Tembon</u> became Bank Group Vice-President and Corporate Secretary on September 1. A Cameroonian national, she most recently was Country Director for Bangladesh and Bhutan.
- <u>Christopher Stephens</u>, a United States national, switched on September 16 from being IFC's Vice-President and General Counsel to Bank Group General Counsel and Senior Vice-President.
- <u>Lily Chu</u>, Manager of Investment and Program lending in OPCS (Operations Policy and Country Services) on September 1 became Director of Strategy and Operations in the Office of the Director General of the Independent Evaluation Group. She is an American national.
- J. Humberto Lopez, a Spanish national, is Country Director for Turkey. His most recent assignment was Director of Strategy and Operations in the Eastern and Southern Africa region.
- <u>Nathan Belete</u> is Country Director for Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi based in Dar es Salaam. An Ethiopian national, he joined the bank through the YP program.
- <u>Laura Frigenti</u>, an Italian national, becomes Chief Executive Officer of the Global Partnership for Education, effective December 1 this year. The Partnership is a financial intermediary fund hosted by the Bank. Ms. Frigenti previously worked for the Bank from 1994-2013 in a variety of technical and managerial positions.

- **Samuel Munzele "Sam" Maimbo** became Chief of Staff in the Bank Group Presidents office on October 1. A Zambia national, Sam has been Director of IDA Mobilization and IBRD Corporate Finance.
- <u>Dirk Reinermann</u>, Director, IDA Mobilization and IBRD Corporate FInance in the Development Finance complex (DFI) on October 1. He joined the Bank as assistant to the German Executive Director, and later was Director for Trust Funds & Partner Relations in DFI.
- **Priya Basu**, an Indian National who joined the Bank in 1998 as a Young Professional, has been appointed Executive Head of the newly created Secretariat for the Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response unit. She previously was head of the Covid-19 secretariat.

## President Malpass's Hectic Week

Bank President Malpass informed Bank Group staff that he had "a busy and challenging week.." at the United Nations General Assembly 77 meetings in New York (September 19-23).

In addition to meeting with more than 20 heads of state and government ministers, he provoked a social media controversy on the issue of accelerated climate change and its global impacts.

The incident came during a panel discussion on climate change moderated by New York Times climate reporter David Gelles. The panel included President Malpass, Kristalina Georgieva, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund and Philip Edward Davis, Prime Minister of the Bahamas.

Gelles opened the discussion by mentioning that at a different meeting earlier that day, former US Vice-President Al Gore called for a new President of the World Bank because, he alleged, Malpass is "a climate denier." Gelles then asked the Bank President about Gore's comments and whether he (Malpass) accepted the "scientific consensus that man-made burning of fossil fuels is rapidly and dangerously warming the planet." Malpass didn't answer that question directly but mentioned the Bank Group's large and growing climate change mitigation assistance programs, noting that the Bank is the largest global financier, "more than all of the G-7 countries put together."

Pressed by Gelles to "answer my question," Malpass said, in part," "I'm not a scientist."

This triggered a surge of social media commentary, mostly critical of the Bank and Malpass. Print newspapers also covered the story.

In the September 22 message to staff, Malpass said, "On climate, it's clear that greenhouse gas emissions from human activities are causing climate change and that the sharp increase in use of coal, diesel and heavy fuel oil is creating another wave of climate crisis. Anything seen in a different light is incorrect and regrettable and I clarified my remarks on <u>CNN International</u> this morning." He also repeated this point in a live interview on September 23 with Politico, adding "I could have done better."

He emphasized the point again at a Town Hall meeting for staff (in person and virtual) on Tuesday, September 27. "I stumbled," he said and "gave a clumsy answer to the question." He also revealed that Bank management, in a meeting with the Bank board on Monday the 26th, proposed a new Trust Fund that would provide concessional financing for climate related efforts. This will be discussed further at the October Bank-Fund annual meetings.

## Pakistan Floods Disaster Relief Drive

The relief drive raised a total of \$156,654 from 860 Bank Group donors in the two weeks the drive functioned --from September 8-21. This was matched 100% by the Bank Group, resulting in a grand total of \$313,308 which will go to two charitable organizations working in Pakistan-- UNICEF and CARE.

## **Ukraine Assistance**

A total of almost \$13 billion in emergency financing for Ukraine was announced by the Bank in August. This includes commitments and pledges from donors to support essential government services in health, education and social protection including pensions. More than \$6.3 billion of the total had been disbursed as of the end of July. The Bank itself has approved more than \$14 billion for projects and programs in Ukraine since that country joined the institution in 1992. Separately, President Zelensky called for a special "Marshall Plan for Ukraine" similar to the USA plan used to help finance western Europe reconstruction after World War II. An estimated \$700 billion would be required, he said. Separately, the recent <u>Ukraine Fund drive</u> involving Bank Group staff raised more than \$750,000 from over 3,350 donors in September. This too was matched 100% by the World Bank Group, leaving a grand total of \$1.5 million. The money will go to Caritas Vienna, a non-profit charitable organization that provides emergency assistance to Ukrainian refugee families and children.

<u>Arup Banerji</u>, country director for Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova, said at the Tuesday Town Hall meeting that an estimated \$349 billion would be required for future Ukraine reconstruction, of which a significant proportion (around \$70 billion) would be needed for "demining (of unexploded bombs) and cleaning out debris."

## Global Environment Facility (GEF) Donors Step Up

Twenty-nine donor governments recently pledged a record \$5.33 billion to the GEF for the next four years. This represents an increase of more than 30 percent from the last operating period. The funding will support initiatives to address biodiversity and forest loss, improve ocean health and reduce the effects of accelerated climate change. The GEF was established in 1991 as a pilot operation of the World Bank. It was later restructured as a separate, independent institution although the Bank remains a member and is trustee of the GEF Trust Fund. To date, the GEF has provided more than \$22 billion in grants and blended finance operations. It has also helped mobilize another \$120 billion in co-financing for more than 5,000 national and regional environmental projects.

## Improving Workplace Culture

Initial recommendations from the special Bank Task Force on Workplace Culture have been announced. They include measures to strengthen protection against retaliation, increase accountability, improve decision-making in misconduct cases and review fundamental approaches to performance and promotion. The task force, established in December, 2021, held extensive discussions with staff across the organization as well as members of the Board.

## 2022 Annual Meetings

The 2022 annual meetings of the Bank and Fund will be held from Monday, October 10 through Sunday, October 16 in Washington. Virtual audiences will be able to follow public events and press conferences as well as by-invitation-only sessions on the Bank and Fund digital platforms. Registration process for guests and civil society organizations can be found on the annual meeting website – <u>AMWeb</u>.



## CHAPTER NEWS AND UPDATES

<u>Note:</u> 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**

The Society British Chapter is pleased to announce the return of its Annual Christmas Reunion Reception and Lunch which will take place on Saturday 10 December 2022 at the East India Club, St. James's Square, London.

Details are being finalised and will be circulated with the booking form via email in due course. Details will also be available on the British Chapter website <u>https://1818bc.org.uk</u>

Booking forms can also be obtained by contacting the Membership Secretary at<u>membership1818bc@btinternet.com</u>

We hope very much to have the pleasure of welcoming you.



## 1818 Society Chile

Activities of the **Chilean Chapter** have continued throughout 2022. The process of Life Certification 2022 was completed successfully and we have been active in supporting members on health insurance issues, relocation modalities and international taxation practices. We have also entered into more active cooperation with the Washington DC office. Our head, Andres Solimano, has participated as a guest in Society board meetings. He also published a <u>guest article on their website</u> related to the economics of the art market based on his recent book the *Evolution of Contemporary Art Markets*. *Aesthetics, Money and Turbulence*, Routledge, UK , 2021. One of our members (former head of the Chilean chapter), Miguel Schloss, delivered a well received talk on <u>Carbon Emission Reduction and Economic Well-being</u> for the Society's Energy, Social and Environment thematic groups. The chapter keeps our membership informed and connected to main global and domestic workshops, seminars and conferences on economic development and public policy.





The **Dutch Chapter** enjoyed a splendid reunion in Amersfoort, 6-8 September last, attended by 33 members, including spouses. The first day featured an afternoon excursion to Spakenburg, a quaint fishing village nearby, known for its religious fervor and generous use of alcohol and drugs. The local museum turned out to be an unexpected pleasure to visit, and the surprise gourmet dinner was delightful.

The next day we dropped in at the famous Fléhite museum, dedicated to the art and history of Amersfoort. This was followed by a simple but nutritious lunch in a one-of-a-kind Middle-Age old men's home, unique in Europe. In the afternoon, we went for a canal ride through the old city and visited a historic poor people's home.

At the end of the day, in the Saint Rochus Chapel, we were invited to listen to an exquisite performance by our own string quartet led by Dutch 1818 retiree Willem van Eeghen. In the evening, we had our customary happy hour and gala dinner.

The next morning was dedicated to the annual Membership Meeting. Main points included: greetings of the members who were unable to attend, a review of the currently (fortunately few) outstanding tax and health insurance issues and most importantly, the planning of the next reunions. The coordinators for the 2023 reunion, Willem Struben and Jan Weijenberg are already quite advanced with a program covering a boat ride in one the last extensive freshwater tidal wetlands in NW Europe and a visit to the most recent container terminals of the port of Rotterdam, the largest and most modern port in Europe. In true fashion, the Dutch Chapter also already tentatively fixed September 3-5 in the Silicon Valley of the Netherlands, Eindhoven for the 2024 reunion.

## **German Speaking Chapter**

The German Speaking Chapter's annual reunion in Bozen/Bolzano (a University town in northern Italy), was attended by 38 participants. This was a very low number explainable by the uncertainties of the Covid situation and partially by the long distance to Bozen/Bolzano from places of residence for most participants. The reunion started on the afternoon of Thursday with a guided tour through Bozen/Bolzano where participants were lodged. We had hired a local travel agency to make all the arrangements. The weather was pleasant throughout and made the three days very enjoyable. In the late afternoon (Thursday) we went on a one-hour bus trip through picturesque villages. After tasting a selection of local wines on the terrace overlooking the lake and the mountains in the background, we sat down for a delicious dinner.

On Friday morning participants took a short walk from the hotel to the local Chamber of Commerce for the Chapter's annual meeting. The agenda followed a pattern adopted over the past years, focusing on the Chapter's activities and finances, and topics of interest relating to the 1818 Society, specifically the discussion on the Society's by-laws, the communication between the Society's Board and the Chapter, and the maintenance of contacts with other 1818 Chapters, particularly those in Europe.

The agenda also included the topics Pension Fund and Health Insurance (RMIP). The former was not discussed in detail and no particular questions were raised. Our member Christian Grossmann then gave a presentation on RMIP, specifically its governance aspects. There are various issues on which members would like to get more clarity, and lingering questions on the plan differences between members resident in the US and in Europe. Christian is in contact on these topics with Eduardo Wallentin and HR.

The current Chapter Committee, consisting of Stephan von Klaudy (Chair) and Elke Kreuzwieser (Treasurer) stood for re-election and was confirmed in its functions. The Chair then proposed Frankfurt am Main as location for the annual reunion 2023 which was unanimously accepted by the participants. For the annual reunion 2024, the Chair proposed Vienna on a preliminary basis, to be confirmed at the 2023 membership meeting.



**Annual Meeting of Japan Chapter:** The annual meeting in Japan was postponed for this fiscal year to the appropriate later date.

**Online Talk Events:** Since April 2022, we had four events as follows, which attracted around 15-20 members on each occasion:

- April 23, 2022: Mr. Masahito HIRATAKE, Mitsubishi Corporation
- May 14, 2022: Mr. Koichi KAWAGUCHI, CVC
- June11, 2022: Ms. Sachiko KUNO, PhD. President, S&R EVERMAY,
- September 10, 2022: Ms. Yukiyo IKEDA, Executive Officer, INPEX

We will continue to organize similar events during the coming months. You can see our activities in our website (<u>https://www.1818societyjapan.com/</u>). Any volunteers or recommendations for an event would be highly appreciated. Send an email to <u>1818societyjapan@gmail.com</u>

## 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 two presentations in June 2022, via WebEx. Members of the thematic group have also been kept appraised of ongoing World Bank agriculture and food systems activities, and broadly the global agriculture situation. The World Bank reports 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 an additional new shock both to international agricultural trade and to agricultural input trade. Price inflation both for agricultural inputs, and agricultural outputs, resulted from the above factors everywhere during June through early August. Subsequently, world agricultural prices have fallen as some of the supply chain disruptions have been overcome, Ukraine has begun exporting grains, and some of the negative effects of the COVID pandemic have been dealt with.

In June, ARD hosted a presentation by the authors of an IFPRI (International Food Policy Research Institute) study on factors behind the rise in global food prices. The authors presenters included Joe Glauber, David Laborde, Nadim Khouri and Kibron Abay. The study pointed out that global food prices were rising even before the war began in Ukraine, due to large purchases by China, limited supplies in Latin America, drought in the Middle East, and COVID restrictions. Russia and Ukraine had a large share of the global market (12 % on average of food). The invasion of Ukraine led to a huge spike in world prices as supplies from Ukraine were cut off, supplies from Russia diminished, and farm input prices increased (Russia is a major fertilizer supplier). Hotspots in terms of calorie declines due to limitations in supply of food and increased prices included East Africa, Turkey, Kazakhstan and Mongolia, although most of the developing world was hit. Export restrictions by food surplus countries had begun, exacerbating the problem. The authors suggested policy directions to ease the problems, including avoiding export restrictions, eliminating bio-fuel subsidies, funding of food aid, measures to increase the efficiency of fertilizer use, and allowing prices to clear local markets (rather than imposing price controls). Surprisingly, the authors did not suggest other measures to stimulate food production.

Later in June, Chris Delgado updated the IFPRI analysis, adding his own findings and observations. Chris agreed with the IFPRI diagnosis but emphasized more the need for countries to change their policy environments to encourage production, while avoiding distorting subsidies. He also explained the significant work undertaken by the World Bank to address both the production problem, the price problem and the food deficits in developing countries.

## **Education Thematic Group**

The 1818 Society Education group and the Bank's Education group sponsored a presentation on improving learning outcomes of Arabic-speaking children, held on September 22, 2022.

Speakers summarized the results of a pilot study of innovative curricular mechanisms to improve learning outcomes of students in Egypt. The Al Qasimi Foundation of Ras al Khaimah, UAE, developed a grade one curriculum that teaches fundamental reading based on perceptual learning concepts and

oral standards of Arabic grammar. The aim was to speed up reading fluency and automaticity and to generate rapid comprehension of standard Arabic. The presentation discussed the rationale, procedures, and prospects for a broader strategy to improve learning outcomes in the Arab world. Presenters were Fatma Abdelkhalek, Assiut University, Egypt and Ray Langsten, University of Michigan, Sociology/Demography.

Chair Andreas Blom, Bank manager for MENA, was the discussant and Robin Horn, chair of the 1818 Society Education Group, chaired the meeting.

The Education Group recommends that 1818 Society members attend the annual meeting of the <u>Comparative and International Education Society (CIES)</u> to be held online - Feb. 14-16, 2023, and in person February 18- 21, 2023 at the Grand Hyatt Washington, 1000 H St NW, Washington, D.C. This conference will feature leading scholars and public figures in education, including a number of Bank staff and 1818 society members. Go to <u>https://cies2023.org/registration-information</u>/# for information on registration and subsequently to view the draft program.

The education group is <u>planning a luncheon</u> to be held in or around the Bank in December. Many of us have not been to the Bank for several years because of Covid. The date and venue will be announced soon.

## Energy Thematic Group

We first welcome *Charles ('Chas') Feinstein* as the new co-Chair of the 1818 Energy Group. Together with *Eugene McCarthy*, who will continue, they will co-Chair the 1818 Energy Group over the next year. They will also continue to meet regularly with a small, informal '1818 Energy Committee', which has helped identify past presentations.

'Chas' is already well known to many of you. He retired as Director of the World Bank's Energy Global Practice in 2016 after a 30-year career at the Bank, focused on energy and the environment; he now resides in Santa Barbara, California where he has been consulting for a variety of international agencies and development banks. 'Chas' has been active in the 1818 Energy Thematic Group since he retired. His presence will help bridge an 'age gap' with recent energy retirees and help maintain close links with current World Bank Group energy staff and management.

On September 15, at a seminar organized jointly with the Social & Environmental TG, Miguel Schloss spoke from Santiago, Chile, on the topic "Can Carbon Emission Reduction be harmonized with Economic Well-Being"; the presentation was based on his recent book, <u>'Carbon Neutrality in Uncertain Territory</u>'. Miguel's lively and stimulating presentation attracted an audience not only in the US but in Europe, Africa, the Persian Gulf, and even Australia. For those of you who were unable to attend, his presentation-the recording and power points slides is posted on the 1818 Society website

Our remaining Fall presentations are as follows: (i) *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; (ii) *Shane Streifel*, the Bank Group's former oil and commodity expert and only recently retired, will give us his own perspective on the turbulent global oil and gas markets, tentatively in November. We will be announcing the specific dates for each of these presentations soon.

A former colleague of the 'old' Energy department and an experienced petroleum lawyer, *Bill Onorato*, retired in New Mexico, has written two 'thrillers' under the pseudonym, Thomas Torrens. His first book, called <u>'The Viking Sands'</u>, can be purchased on Amazon; the context is the world oil crisis in 2010. Both books make for exciting reading.

In closing, we extend our warmest best wishes to *Hal Wackman*, recovering from a delicate eye operation, as well as to *Mike Gillette*, also recovering well from a fall which severely damaged his shoulder. Both have been instrumental in keeping the 1818 Energy Thematic Group together over the past two decades.

## **Global Finance Thematic Group**

After an extensive search, initiated by Ismail Dalla, the former chair of the Global Finance TG and continued by the 1818 Society Board, a new management team — Aquiles Almansi and Cirasano Massimo have taken over as co-chairs of the Global Finance TG. Both are highly regarded professionals among the Global Finance community with skills and expertise that complement each other.

*Aquiles Almansi* is a specialist on Financial Systems Regulation and Crisis Management. He has 20 years of experience at the World Bank as a Senior and Lead Financial Sector Specialist.

*Massimo Cirasino*, is currently the founder and CEO of the Payments System Academy and a Global Advisor on Payments and Market Infrastructures and Financial Inclusion. Massimo served at the WBG for almost 20 years where – among other things - he established the Payments System Development Group.

## **Governance Thematic Group (GTG)**

Following a call for expressions of interest, the GTG decided on a new, three-person leadership team effective September 1, 2022 that includes Deborah "Debbie" Wetzel, former Senior Director for Global Governance Practice; Richard Cambridge, former Adviser to the Africa region Vice-President and Vinay Bhargava, former Bank country director. Vinay and Akbar Khawaja previously served as co-chairs of the GTG.

## **History Thematic Group**

On June 14, the History Thematic Group, in cooperation with the IMF Library, the World Bank Group Library, and the Center for Global Development presented a webinar entitled "Inclusive Recovery and the Future Role of the Bretton Woods Institutions." The speaker was Masood Ahmed, President of the Center for Global Development. The webinar was moderated by Atish Rex Ghosh, IMF Historian. Elisa Liberatori-Prati, WBG Chief Archivist and Director of Knowledge & Information Services presented the opening remarks.

On September 22, the History Thematic Group and the World Bank Group Library hosted a webinar by **Herman Daly**, Emeritus Professor, School of Public Policy at the University of Maryland. Professor Daly was Senior Economist in the Environment Department of the World Bank from 1988 to 1994, where he helped to develop policy guidelines related to sustainable development. While there, he was engaged in environmental operations work in Latin America.

Video recordings of both events can be accessed on the History Thematic Group page of the 1818 Society's web site.

## Social and Environment Thematic Group

The Social and Environment Thematic Group has organized several seminars online with good attendance. We are looking for new ideas for presenters as we return from the summer vacation. Please contact the co-chairs with ideas – Ede Ijjasz-Vasquez (<u>eijjasz@eigen-impact.com</u>) or Reidar Kvam (<u>reidar@kvam.net</u>).

In March, we had Vinod Thomas, former Vice-president at the Bank, and currently Visiting Professor at the National University of Singapore, talk about how economics is failing the climate test. In May, Ani Dasgupta, former Director of Knowledge at the World Bank, and currently president of the World Resources Institute, discussed climate net zero targets, climate justice and global deforestation trends. In September, jointly with the Energy Thematic Group, we invited Miguel Schloss, currently President of Surinvest Ltda. and member of the Bretton Woods Committee to talk about whether carbon emission reduction can be harmonized with economic well-being. The talk was based on his recently published book "Carbon Neutrality in Uncertain Territory," Generis, 2022.

## Urban and Water Thematic Group

We held no sessions during the summer quarter. Our last spring quarter session was a successful inperson social get-together for lunch on May 26<sup>th</sup> at the Irish Inn at Glen Echo. We look forward to the time when we can resume in-person sessions at the Bank and make them virtual as well.

After well attended presentations during the 2021-2022 season, the Urban and Water Thematic Group Coordinating Committee is currently working on organizing sessions during the last quarter of 2022 on:

- Global water issues by the International Water Association;
- Urban and water problems in Lisbon, Portugal;
- Lessons learned from the institutional reform that took place 25 years ago in the urban water and wastewater sector in Manila, the Philippines.

The Coordinating Committee encourages all members of the Urban and Water Thematic Group to suggest presentations for the first half of 2023 (topic, speaker and date). Send suggestions to Dick MacEwen <rmacewen@1818alumniwbg.org>.

## Members Helping Members (MHM)

## WBG Guide: What to do after the Death of a Retiree/Spouse/Partner

This is an informational webpage intended to help the survivor spouse/partner or executor of the estate, navigate as quickly and smoothly as possible to the specific information needed to take care of all the actions required within the WBG and related institutions.

The Guide has been posted on the Home Page under WBG Resources and is available at the click of a button (*click here*) without needing to log in. Check it out! We welcome feedback to the email address: <u>MHMHelp@wbgalumni.org</u>

Our **MHM Community** continues to thrive. Members are available to help other retirees by sharing our own knowledge and experience regarding all aspects of our 'retiree journey' – from practical matters like legal, taxation or immigration, to more personal matters like emotional well being and aging. Remember that we don't offer any particular "expertise" – we just can share experiences from other members of the MHM Community.

We welcome new members to join this community, and to participate in our online monthly meetings. Please express your interest or address your questions to this email address <u>MHMHelp@wbgalumni.org</u>.

#### Administrative Professionals Group Plus (APGP) Visits Capitol



On Monday, August 15th a small group of APGP toured the U.S. Capitol. The tour started with a film about Capitol Hill and its history. In addition we visited the Dome of the Capitol with its famous sculptures and large paintings depicting historical events of the nation. We also saw two chambers where representatives from the Seventeen Century met and voted on legislation. We also visited another hall decorated with beautiful sculptures, a gift from the States to the Capitol. The tour guide was very knowledgeable and we really enjoyed ourselves and learned about the evolution of the U.S. Capitol

throughout the years. This event was the second organized by the APGP coordinating team and we expect to continue to plan more fun and informative activities in the future. We hope to have more participation next time. And we would like to thank Inder Sud for being instrumental in helping us organize the tour.

## 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.

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

During the last quarter, our local hikes were truly local city hikes, led by our sherpa, Chad Leechor.

- Burke Lake Park, VA, September 21, 2022
- The Lost Trail of Accotink, Gerry Connolly Cross Country Trail, VA, August 18, 2022
- Colvin Run-Difficult Run hike, VA, July 16, 2022 <u>click here for photo album</u>

## **International Hiking Trips:**

**Northumberland, UK, 2022:** This long-awaited hiking trip to Northumberland finally took place from July 29-August 5, 2022 after COVID-19 travel restrictions were lifted. Some 30 participants were able to join this trip. <u>Click here for the hike album</u>, which was compiled by Venkat Kalicheti with contributions from several trip participants.

**Norway 2022:** After a two-year delay due to the COVID-19, the Norway hiking took place in August 2022. This consisted of a one-week hiking trip by 15 participants from August 6-12, 2022 to iconic vistas around Stavanger. Click here for the album of the Norway hike

This was followed by a 16-day trip in Norway from August 12-27, 2022 to the Hardanger plateau and mountainous Jotunheimen national park. This trip involved hiking on spectacular terrain spanning temperate forests, alpine pastures, rocky trails and moonscapes, and a glacier walk. We also enjoyed our share of sightseeing, and ferry/cruise trips in the fjords and along the coast. Click here for the album of the trip to the mountains and fjords of Norway

International treks to Bhutan, France, Romania, and Nepal are pending since 2020 due to Covid-19. The Nepal trek to Manaslu and the Tsum Valley is scheduled from October 22-November 12, 2022. The others are expected in 2023, subject to travel conditions in the respective countries. New trips are being planned for 2023-24 and will be announced during the next quarter. Details will also be posted on the **Tours and Treks** web page.

## 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 Sakhuja, and Yoshiko Okushi—on a rotating basis are held twice a week, every Tuesday and Friday from 11:00 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 levelled the playing field, enabling members in distant locations to participate easily.

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.

## Art Club

The 1818 Society Art Club was launched in late Spring, following the successful first Virtual Art Show: *Share The Joy of Artistic Expression.* To access the exhibit, please <u>click here</u>.

Our goal is to organize at least one virtual art Show a year, to enable retirees to share their work, but also to undertake other activities which will give us a chance to share our passion for art. We will soon send a short survey as to the activities you would like the Art Club to undertake.

The Art Club is now co-sponsoring with the World Bank Art Department an exhibit scheduled to take place in the spring of 2023. All retirees and their families are invited to send their work as well as art-flowers. The work will be exhibited either virtually or physically or both. The deadline for sending submissions is October 31, 2022. Details for the call for submissions are found in the weekly update of the 1818 Society dated August 26, 2022 and the document: <u>https://www.wbgalumni.org/art-show-creative-stories-of-resilience-enduring-adapting-thriving</u>.

If you would like to join the Art Club, please send an email to <u>1818society@wbgalumni.org</u>, <u>cc:dominique.lallement@gmail.com</u>

In addition, let us know if you are interested in volunteering to organize the activities of the Art Club.



## **MEMBERS' NEWS IN BRIEF**

## Old Timers Lunch By Lakhdeep Babra

On a fine summer day in July, World Bank retirees, Amar Sharma, recently turned 100, and Dr. Shamsher Singh, sprightly in comparison at 95, met to reminisce about their early days in Washington D.C. Indian nationals, both were part of the small Indian community that existed in the Bank in the early 1960s, and indeed in the D.C. area. Sharma joined IBRD in 1961 and Singh in 1962. At that time Indian staff held a monthly luncheon where all could sit around a single table. Their lunches were organized by fellow colleague, one Badri Nath from Tamil Nadu, and continued for a couple of years until they outgrew the table. More often than not the restaurant of choice was Italian, as it was today – Ledo's on River Road courtesy of Sharma in Singh's garden.

Sharma (left) and Singh. They were joined by friends and family, including Singh's wife, Mrs. Margaret Singh (nee Peters), from the U.K, no spring chicken herself at 90, who resigned from the Bank in 1962 when she and Singh married – staff rules at the time then prevented spouses from working for the Bank. Retiring in the late 1980s Sharma (from the Accounting Department) and Singh (Economic Projections Department), along with Margaret Singh, have near 60



years of service between them. More importantly they have a lifetime of friendship and fond memories which they celebrated.

## Olivier Lafourcade: Catching Up

*Editor's Note:* Although it's been 20 years since he retired from his illustrious career with the Bank, Olivier Lafourcade remains active in the development field. We caught up with him for an update last month when he returned to the area. Here is his report.



"I am returning to Washington for a number of things. I am attending the annual conference of ANDE (Aspen Institute of Development Entrepreneurs). As you may know, I have also been associated for 20 years with an outfit called 'Investisseurs et Partenaires' (I&P, see the website at <u>http://www.ietp.com</u>), which provides support to small and medium enterprises in Africa. Jean-Michel Severino (retired Bank Vice-President, East Asia region) is now chairman of the board. I am part of the board and investment committee. JM and I will be at the conference in Leesburg for three days and then spend two

days with a heavy program of meetings with IFC and the Bank, which have jointly invested in one of our funds by way of the IDA/PSW (private sector window) program. I am staying a few extra days for meetings with R4D (Results for Development), the outfit created and chaired by <u>David de Ferranti</u>

(another retired Bank Vice-President); I have been a board member for 10 years. Also, I want to visit my daughter, Anne-Lucie Lafourcade-Cornejo, who lives in McLean and works at the IFC."

Olivier Lafourcade joined the Bank in 1973. He held a number of senior management positions, including special assistant to Presidents McNamara and Clausen. He now lives in France with his family and is Chair of the Society's French-speaking Chapter.

## <u>"Century's Witness, The Extraordinary Life of Journalist Wallace Carroll"</u> By Mary Llewellyn McNeil



My new biography, published in September, traces the life of journalist Wallace Carroll. Although not well known today, he was one of the most intelligent and well-respected journalists of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Beginning with his first piece covering the St. Valentine's day massacre in 1929, in which seven Irish gang members were murdered in Chicago, through to the withdrawal of the United States from the Vietnam war in 1973, he witnessed and reported on the most historic events of his time.

A diplomatic reporter for United Press in Europe in the 1930s, Carroll covered the rise of fascism, the lead-up to World War II, the Battle of Britain. He was one of the first journalists to get into the Soviet Union after the Nazi invasion of 1941. Famed journalist James Reston (New York Times) once said that Carroll "could have edited the Gettysburg Address and improved upon it."

Carroll's story is particularly relevant today, as the world faces the Ukraine war and continued attacks on the truth. What the West failed to understand, Carroll wrote more than eighty years ago, was the power of Hitler's propaganda. It had been enabled by more than 10 years of lies and fear-mongering. Long-term exposure to such propaganda could cause a similar result elsewhere, Carroll warned.

More details about the book can be found on my website: <u>www.marylmcneil.com</u>. It is available on Amazon and in local book stores.

Mary McNeil joined the Bank in 1983 as a consultant, became regular staff in 1990. She worked as a public affairs officer in the Water/Sanitation then Urban Development departments and later in the IFC corporate relations office. She retired in 2014.

## A Fool for Learning

**Editor's Note:** The smiling face in the accompanying photo belongs to Bank retiree <u>Joseph Barone</u>, proudly sporting a Boy Scout shirt, bedecked with badges ("call them knots, please"). He has been very active in retirement as explained in an email exchange.

Tom Blinkhorn (TB): What are you up to these days?

**Joseph Barone (JB):** I'm currently an instructor with the Baltimore County (state of Maryland) Local Board of Elections. Responsibility includes conducting training sessions for both chief judges as well as election judges for the November general election.

**TB:** That's very important work in troubled times. Thanks.

**JB:** No need to thank me. The people whom you need to thank are those working the polls on election day, who do so for very long hours and for very little pay.



TB: How many judges are involved?

**JB:** About 4,000 election judges need to be hired for the primary election in July, just for Baltimore county. The same number will be needed for the November general election. All judges are required to attend a three-hour training session. Every polling precinct is required to have two Chief Judges – one Democrat and one Republic.

**TB:** How long do they work and what are they paid?

**JB:** Usually from 5:45 a.m. (before polls open at 7 a.m.) until after the polls close at 8 p.m. Chief judges are paid \$250 for election day, election judges \$185. Judges are paid \$40 for the mandatory training.

**TB:** Since you retired from the Bank, you have been running your own learning/training corporate consulting firm – "A Fool for Learning, LLC". Where does that name come from?

**JB:** I considered several names. In literature, the fool sees what most do not see, hears what most people do not, and tells the truth. When you combine these themes – honesty, insight, speaking your mind, love of something – it just seemed natural.

TB: What about the boy scout shirt?

**JB:** I am a Boy Scout leader and have been for over 35 years, both in New York City and Silver Spring. The badges are "KNOTS" and indicate various awards I have earned.

Joseph Barone joined the bank in 1991 as a consultant, later became full staff and then senior information officer. He retired in 2019.

## "Pierre's Choice"—A Captivating Novel of Love and Betrayal"



<u>That is the title of Bank retiree</u> **Felicia "Terry" Robinson's latest book**. She reports <u>that the novel, a</u> romance fiction available on Amazon, "is filled with twists and turns as the protagonist tries to juggle a relationship with two women – his injured fiancée and her nurse. With an unexpected ending, it reminds readers of the importance of openness and truth in a relationship." More information about the book and an earlier one, "Seven Letters to Heaven" can be found on Terry's website: <u>http://sevenletterstoheaven.com/</u>

Terry Robinson joined the Bank in 1985 as a temporary. She became regular staff (secretary) in 1986 and retired in 2008 as a senior program assistant.

## <u>Pakistan's First e-Book Company</u> By Maniza Naqvi

Its been three years after retirement and 18 months into my new start up, Pakistan's first e-book company, <u>The Little Book Company</u>, (TLBC). The start up combines all my skill sets—author, entrepreneur and ex-World Bank specialist in adaptive productive safety nets. So naturally, <u>TLBC</u> is now also helping out with flood relief in Pakistan by raising funds for relief organizations on the ground. The team at TLBC, takes an innovative novel approach by uploading a one page e-short story "<u>Driftwood</u>" in <u>English</u>, <u>Urdu</u> and <u>Sindhi</u>. The e-short story was written specifically for this flood relief funds drive. The full amount



or 100 percent of sales of <u>Driftwood</u> go for flood relief. This has been a collective effort across time zones. This e-short story was written anonymously for TLBC and then translated to Urdu and Sindhi by an acclaimed Urdu and Sindhi poet. Behind the scenes The Little Book Company team of digital experts worked to get the e-short story uploaded on August 30th, within 12 hours of it being written and translated. At the time of submitting this update, The Little Book Company has raised and transferred to relief organizations more than a million rupees through the sale of <u>Driftwood.</u>"

Maniza Naqvi joined the Bank in 1990 in environment and social development. She was in Social Protection from 1996 onwards. She took early retirement in 2019.

## **Another Action-Packed Thriller from Thomas Torrens**



*"Thomas who?, you may wonder." That's the pen name retired Bank lawyer* <u>*Bill Onorato*</u> uses for his novels.

"The Viking Sands: Endgame" Is a sequel to the original thriller, "<u>The Viking Sands</u>." The plot unfolds amid global chaos: Global oil crisis; widespread economic and political turmoil; devastating nuclear exchange in the middle east. The two books are available as a dual e-book on Amazon Kindle and in paperback from major outlets.

Bill Onorato lives outside Santa Fe, New Mexico where he has discovered that writing fiction is wonderful after years of writing Bank back-to-office reports. When not writing, he hikes and treks almost daily in nearby mountains.

## IFC Lawyer Turned Biographer By Jennifer Cockburn

I retired from IFC's Legal Department in 2008 with a plan to pen a biography of my father, Stewart

Cockburn (1921-2009), a prominent Australian journalist. I was inspired to do so because of his fascinating and peripatetic career, his fearless and committed journalism and the rich archive of letters and diaries that he left behind. He began the old-fashioned way, as a 16-year-old copy boy with Adelaide's morning newspaper *The Advertiser*, going on to have a 45-year career that encompassed newspaper, radio and TV work. His restless nature first took him to Melbourne and the Canberra Press Gallery with the *Herald*, then overseas to post-war London to work at Reuters and the *Herald*'s cable office (these jobs arranged courtesy of Sir Keith Murdoch, father of Rupert). On his return to Australia in 1950, he was recruited to be Prime Minister Robert Menzies's press secretary, accompanying Menzies on two overseas trips to the US and the UK, including for Queen Elizabeth's 1953 coronation. In 1961 Cockburn took his



family to Washington, DC, where he was the press attaché at the Australian Embassy for two years. During his final decade as a feature writer back at the Adelaide *Advertiser*, he won a coveted Walkley Award for an investigatory series on pyramid selling, wrote trenchant opinion columns and, with another investigatory series, prompted a Royal Commission that exonerated a man wrongly convicted of murder. He also wrote a best-selling book, *The Salisbury Affair*, and two well-received biographies:

of Sir Mark Oliphant, the eminent Australian nuclear physicist, and Sir Thomas Playford, the longestserving Premier of South Australia.

I was fortunate to find a publisher, Australian Scholarly Publishing, in 2021, and my book, *WRITING FOR HIS LIFE: Stewart Cockburn, Crusading Journalist*, was published in May this year. I have been gratified by the warm and positive response to the book, described as 'engaging and meticulous' by a reviewer in the *Weekend Australian*. All the effort was worth it, and an important record of a journalist, his work and his times has been preserved. You can find out more about the book and its subject, including links to my recent Australian book events, on my website, <u>www.jennifercockburn.com</u>. The book is available for purchase at a variety of online bookstores. For Washington area residents, it can also be ordered through Politics & Prose.

Jennifer Cockburn joined the IFC Legal Department in 1986 and retired in 2008.

#### Land of Temples and Spices By Shiva Makki

My wife, Geetha, and I traveled to India in June/July and visited two enchanting southern states: Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. Tamil Nadu is Geetha's home state and I am from Karnataka. Tamil Nadu is known for temples built during Chola and Pandyan Empires between 8th and 12th centuries. Tamil is still one of the major languages on Indian Ocean countries from Indonesia to South Africa. You also see South Indian style temples in most Indian Ocean countries. Tamil Nadu temples were mostly untouched by the Moguls. British, on the other hand, nurtured the temples as a source of revenue to the Crown. Below is Madurai Meenakshi Temple (built during the 11th Century). Granite stone was used to build the bottom portion, while limestone was used for towers. This is where Geetha and I got married in 1993.



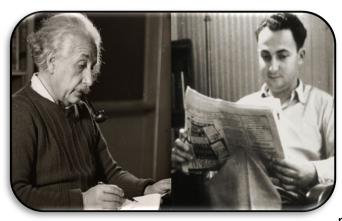
I traveled to Karnataka myself as Geetha returned to Washington. Karnataka is the land of spices, coffee and rice paddy. I visited my hometown Sakleshpur. The region produces black pepper, cardamom, cloves, cinnamon and many other spices. Sakleshpur is the town where I went to school in the 1960s and 1970s. This is the town that receives nearly 150 inches of rainfall in a year, of which 120 fall in three months between June and September. In contrast, my hometown in Virginia records an annual average of about 50 inches, I was there in the middle of monsoon season and enjoyed reliving my childhood memories.

Shiva Makki joined the Bank in 2004, worked in Development Economics research and retired in 2020.



## **MEMBERS' CORNER**

#### **The Famous Einstein Letter**



**Editor's Note:** On Monday, September 12, a group of people, including some Bank retirees, gathered at the Jewish Museum Berlin (JMB) to celebrate a letter. It was written 80 years earlier, to the day, by one of the most influential physicists of all time, Albert Einstein. Letter recipient was a 19 year old German Jewish refugee in Chile – Hans Kaufmann, father of <u>Bank</u> retiree Dani Kaufmann. Dani provided most of the back story in a recent social media posting and a subsequent email.

"It is 1942, midst of WWII carnage. A 19-year-old recent German Jewish refugee in Chile has the

audacity to write a prominent 62-year-old living far away (Princeton University). In it he asks the elder to consider leading an organization which would protect the Jews and promote a project of a national home. Even though the 62-year old letter recipient didn't know the youngster, he replied. Substantively so.

The young man became my father almost a decade later. (Hans Kaufmann). The correspondent was Albert Einstein. In the letter, he agreed with the basic idea but expressed skepticism about the prospects of such an initiative given divisions among different Jewish groups. Yet he stated that he would be willing to work for its realization if a possibility arose.

We (the Kaufmann family) donated the Einstein letter to the Jewish Museum Berlin (JMB), which determined that it is a unique document, and decided to host a symposium on the letter and related topics. Details on their JMB webpage: <u>https://www.jmberlin.de/en/symposium-einstein</u>

"It was very touching how many former World Bank colleagues related to this, and even attended (the JMB symposium)—some traveling from afar, in addition to the 30 family members from seven countries. The event went very well..." (Among the Bank retirees who attended were Paul Cadario, Arntraud Hartmann, Christine Wallich, Caio and Maritta Koch-Weser, Peter Eigen, Avi Braverman.)



Daniel "Dani" Kaufmann joined the Bank through the Young Professionals program in the 1980s, was the first chief of mission to Ukraine, later a fellow at Harvard, back to the Bank in 1997 working on governance and anticorruption issues, retired in 2008. He then worked at the Brookings Institution, is President Emeritus of the Natural Resource Governance Institute and a member of several prominent economic/development think tanks.

## **Mostar Bridge: Resurrecting a Global Treasure**

*Editor's Note:* For more than 400 years, the Mostar bridge (also called Stari Most) dominated a city of the same name in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The bridge was considered an exemplary piece of Balkan Islamic architecture and a powerful symbol of inter-cultural and religious harmony. It was destroyed in 1993 by Croatian miliary during the Croat-Bosniak war. Thanks to an international cultural heritage restoration initiative that included

<u>World Bank financing</u>, the bridge was rebuilt and opened in 2004. <u>Three Bank retirees</u>, who know the bridge and its story from personal experience, offer their perspectives on this extraordinary effort. Because of space limitations, their contributions have had to be condensed and edited slightly.



<u>Ashok Khanna</u> (who took the accompanying photo) recently visited Mostar as part of a larger Eastern Europe tour. He wrote a travelogue, most of which can be accessed <u>here</u>. Following are a few excerpts about the Mostar experience. "We arrived at Mostar. It was hot as hell. Our restaurant was close to the bridge's entrance. I walked down to the pebbly bank where several young people were eating lunch, some swimming. I walked the span of the bridge. The stones were polished smooth and slippery. Divers searched for the original stones and supplemented them from a nearby quarry. Wolfenson (late Bank President) attended the opening ceremony."

Larry Hannah, task manager for the Bank-financed part of the project, wrote in an email: "It was not a typical Bank project. Its main objective was political – reconciliation between ethnic factions in Bosnia, restoration of the bridge (and some nearby buildings) as a symbol of shared cultural heritage, financing/technical support from many sources besides the Bank: Local community, national and regional governments, UNESCO, World Monuments Fund, the Aga Khan Trust for Culture. Project governance was also novel, and a challenge. UNESCO was tasked to establish an International Committee of Experts (ICE) who were charged with deciding what type of restoration should be used. Options ranged from "do nothing" (leave the old bridge debris in the river) all the way to constructing a brand new bridge. Ultimately, the choice was to build a replica of the original 16<sup>th</sup> century structure at the exact same location using materials and techniques true to the original as much as possible. Some of the original bridge stones were in the river but could not be used because of damage from the war and earthquakes over the centuries. A compromise was to use stones from the original quarry near Mostar. In the end, I believe the Bank's 'convening power' and financing leadership helped greatly. All physical objectives were met. Tourism has recovered and the restored bridge was inscribed in the UNESCO list of World Heritage sites.

<u>Joe Ingram</u>, who at the time was Bank country director in Sarajevo. "I was deeply involved in the project. There is a wonderful book published in 2004 title 'Mostart: A Bridge Story,' which recounts the reconstruction with lots of photos. Mary Lou (Joe's wife and a Bank retiree) and I have visited the new bridge several times. It is a beautiful masterpiece of architecture and construction – something I am privileged to have been associated with."

## Stymying Cultural Genocide in Ukraine By Martha Jarosewich-Holder



Ukraine's cultural heritage has been under coordinated, targeted, and unabashed attacks since the Russia Federation's February 24, 2022, invasion on Ukraine's sovereignty. Museums, places of worship, libraries, have been suffering widespread destruction. Glimmers of hope lie with a coalition of international donors and Ukraine-based organizations that have been tirelessly working to protect these endangered cultural sites.

My first World Bank consultancy in 1994, in my bilingual-capacity, was part of a reconnaissance mission to Lviv, Ukraine, to assess Lviv's historic city center as a potential UNESCO cultural heritage site. In 2009, Lviv was recognized as the country's Cultural Capital for its urban fabric and its architecture, as it has an outstanding example of the fusion of European architectural and artistic traditions. Renowned for its rich literary history and printing legacy, it is undeniably a city of writers, publishers, and readers who benefit from the city's 174 libraries. I valued Lviv's historic identity, and had the opportunity to once again work in this cultural gem on the Lviv Vodokanal (water infrastructure project) from 1997-1999.

Some years later, I became involved on the Board of the <u>Foundation to Preserve Ukraine's Sacral Arts</u> (FTPUSA.ORG), based in Washington, DC, with a mission to train local Ukrainian craftsmen to preserve Ukrainian wooden churches and sacral arts, and to serve as a catalyst for transferring expertise on heritage protection to forgotten and less fortunate communities.

For a number of years the Foundation fulfilled its mission quietly throughout western Ukraine; and our efforts were recognized within the local preservation, professional, and political communities. Russia's invasion starting February 24, disrupted our operational paradigm. On March 1, our local counterparts galvanized to establish the Center to Rescue Ukraine's Cultural Heritage, based in Lviv. FTPUSA is their American counterpart.

So proud of our Center's counterparts, an ad hoc, volunteer initiative of museum professionals, preservationists and Lviv Oblast Council officials who have appealed to international organizations, museums, and cultural institutions for much-needed equipment and materials to preserve and store museum and sacral artifacts throughout Ukraine. Their effort was recognized in a full page article in the New York Times Style section on August 10, 2022.

To date, the Center has received and distributed three rail cars and four truckloads of fire-proofing packing materials and fire extinguishers, donations coordinated by the Committee for Ukrainian Museums in Warsaw, Poland. These included donations from Blue Shield Denmark & Museumstjenesten, the University Museum of Bergen, Norway, and several museums in Latvia. Close to 70 museums in Ukraine are recipients of this aid, or financial assistance, to purchase materials. In addition, in a joint Foundation to Preserve Ukraine's Sacral Arts /World Monuments Fund project, 440 water-mist fire extinguishers were distributed by the Center to Ukraine's historic wooden churches – including the eight churches on the UNESCO World Heritage List of Wooden Tserkvas of the Carpathian Region in Poland and Ukraine. The next phase of the Center's work is focused on the digitization of museum and private archives. This is so important, providing a documented validity of Ukraine's sovereign cultural identity, despite the targeted, unabashed and coordinated attacks on Ukraine's cultural heritage.

For 25 years, Martha was a consultant at the Bank, working throughout Eastern Europe, Central Asia, West Africa, and Middle East North Africa in the fields of social development/technical governance and due diligence; water infrastructure and water resources development. Her WB development experience has allowed her to foster and promote the activities of FTPUSA.ORG, a 501 (c)(3) public charity based in Washington, D.C.

## Can Weakened Democracies Survive Global Warming?

This is the provocative and timely question <u>Bank retiree Joe Ingram</u> and his scientist friend <u>Bernard</u> <u>Schutz</u> pose in an essay published in the Ottawa Hill Times. For their take on possible answers <u>read</u> <u>here.</u>

## <u>Potpouri</u>



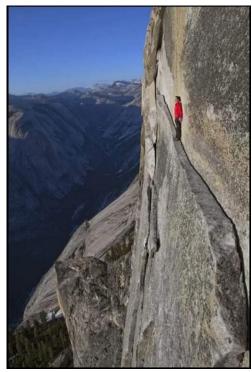
Historic Hiking: Sandra Hadler (the smiling blond in second row, second from right) led a tour/trek for Bank retirees to Northumberland, UK in July. They are posing before the remains of Dunstanburgh castle, built in the 14th century.

## Sign of the Times



Munich Airport, July, 2022. Courtesy of Paul Cadario.

## Feet Don't Fail Me



**Yosemite National Park** 

**Guy Pfefferman** found this beauty in his Chevy Chase MD backyard. "Seems to be a blue trumpet vine," he said. "A species of Thunbergias, also known as **Blue skyflower**."



That's Some Marlin



Bank retiree **Peter Cordukes' son David** caught this one off Cairns, Australia.

## WORLD BANK HISTORY

## <u>"The Way we Were"</u> Excerpts from the transcript of oral history interview with William "Bill" Diamond held on April 12, 1993

## Early and Later Bank Cultures

When the World Bank started, almost everyone came from Europe or the United States. There were very few people from the developing world. Also, virtually everyone who arrived in those first 10-15 years had experience working someplace else before, in government or in business.

Today, on the other hand, you have a different situation. I don't know what the exact percentages are, but the proportion of Americans and Europeans is much smaller than it was in the early years. The number of people from the developing world is far greater. But what may be a greater difference is that, if you take a look at the senior people in the World Bank today, most of them started life in the World Bank. They never worked anywhere else. This situation, it seems to me, is a bad thing. On the one hand they have the experience of the Bank, but it is more an intellectual experience. They lack the life-based experience of having worked elsewhere.

I believe that, in the first 20 years or so, people liked working in the Bank. They felt that they were doing something important and that they had a say in it. I certainly felt that. To some extent, this was because the Bank was starting out and most things were being done for the first time. Also, it was small, so you could see operations moving or not moving, as the case may be. There was a general feeling that this was a special place to work.

Judging from what I hear from Bank friends that I see frequently, that is no longer the case. This attitude is to some extent a consequence of the Bank's size, and to some extent a consequence of its complexity. It is hard to know the whole Bank, even for an insider, to say nothing of an outsider, because there is such diversity in the matters dealt with by the Bank, such a diversity of products that it offers.

## Presidents Black, Woods, and McNamara

These were three very different people. With Black I think the main feeling inspired among staff was affection. With Woods the main feeling inspired among staff, I am told, was dislike. But he was very different from Black. Finally, about McNamara, I suppose the main feeling was respect, tinged with a bit of fear; respect/fear, something like that.

Black was a very gentle and soft-spoken person. Neither Board members nor staff had to argue with him too much. He would listen and go his own way. I don't think it made a great deal of difference to him, certainly not in the early years, what Board members thought.

In the case of Woods, he argued aggressively with Board members. He was very blunt and outspoken. He was from the city streets, from Brooklyn. He kept staff at arm's length.

McNamara was all automation, a numbers cruncher; I guess that phrase has been used for him very frequently.

I feel that Black's main contributions were something that had to be done at the very beginning and that was to assure that the Bank would have an adequate supply of capital. He focused on the development of the Bank's liabilities and on their management. In due course, Black also became interested in expanding the range of the Bank's activity. There was a big difference between Black in

his first five years and Black in his last five years. He had already become what was called the development statesman. He was also beginning to be interested in broadening the Bank's horizons.

While Woods was President, you find a great broadening, not so much of the volume of Bank commitments, but of the range of activities that the Bank dealt with and the creation of the economic staff which he felt was absolutely essential in order to justly and fairly allocate IDA resources. This, I think, was Woods' contribution.

McNamara's contribution, for better or for worse, was, first, making the elimination of poverty the central mission of the world Bank. I remember people saying, you don't find poverty in the Articles of Agreement. That is true. It doesn't appear there. But it was his interpretation, the meaning that he decided to give to development. There was justice in that, and it was quickly and broadly accepted.

## The Development Process

The Bank always has been a development-oriented institution. You go back to the early days, once the Bank switched from reconstruction to development, which was in 1948, to the earliest speeches of Black and other senior people and you can see that development, raising the level of living of the developing world, was seen as the Bank's underlying mission.

What changed, however, was the conception of the development process and how you go about stimulating that improvement in living conditions. In the early days, senior Bank staff, and officials were very much oriented towards the private sector, as they are today; but it was an orientation based, not on experience of the developing world, but largely on ideology and also on what they had seen in the United States, especially in the 1920s and 1930s. Today, the orientation towards the private sector has a somewhat different basis. The primary factor has been the Bank's own experience of the developing world.

Now, I say there has been a big change in the orientation of the Bank over the last 46 years, but one must not think of this as something that happened suddenly on April 1, 1968, the date on which McNamara became president. On the contrary, there was a gradual transformation through the Black and Woods administrations. Without losing its focus, without reducing its lending on projects, the Bank devoted more attention to education, health, and matters related to a productive environment. If McNamara did anything in this regard, he articulated them into a single thesis focused on improving human resources and reducing poverty and insisted on measures to raise the Bank's image to the public and in the eyes of members governments. The size of the Bank's activity grew under his impetus. Its weight and its influence increased. This was, it seems to me, McNamara's main and most important contribution. The re-articulation of the Bank's mission and the quantum leap in its volume of lending took place over a period of at least five, and maybe 10 years.

*These excerpts have been lightly edited for clarity.* The entire interview can be accessed here: <u>https://oralhistory.worldbank.org/transcripts/transcript-oral-history-interview-william-diamond-held-april-12-1993</u>

Bill Diamond joined the Bank when it was young – 1947. He worked in the then Department of Operations for Europe, Africa and Australasia before moving on to senior positions in different parts of the Bank Group, including IFC. He retired in 1978 as a senior fellow in the Economic Development Institute (EDI).

75 Years Ago	
October 22,	Bank-Fund Parking Lot
1947	Arrangements for a joint parking lot for the Bank and Fund are announced. The parking
	lot was located at the corner of 20th and E Streets, N.W., and could accommodate 80
	cars—40 for the Bank and 40 for the Fund.
70 Years Ago	
November	List of Staff Members and Current Addresses Available
26, 1952	"In order to help staff members who plan to send Christmas cards to friends in the Bank
	and to eliminate the necessity of calling the Personnel Division for addresses, we have
	prepared a list of staff members and their current addresses. Copies are available in the
	Records and Reports Section of the Personnel Division and may be picked up in room
	1213". William F. Howell, Director of Administration. Administrative Circular, no. 27.8
65 Years Ago	
November	Christmas Cards
26, 1957	"As in previous years, questions have been asked about exchange of Christmas cards
	among staff members. The management of the Bank and Corporation wish to make
	two points clear: No staff member need feel under obligation to send Christmas cards
	to other staff members. Those who nevertheless wish to send cards to other staff
	members should not send them to their offices. In past years Christmas mail has
	imposed a very heavy workload on the Mail Room." William F. Howell, Director of
<u> </u>	Administration. Administrative Circular, no 23.
60 Years Ago	
November 1,	First Female Executive Director
1962	Alice A. Brun of Denmark became the first female Executive Director. She served until
	October 31, 1964. For more information see:
	https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/572621468915554602/pdf/Internatio
	nal-Bank-notes.pdf
December 31,	President Eugene R. Black Retires
1962	President Eugene R. Black retires as World Bank President. For more information see:
	https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/703801468915659068/pdf/619200N
	EWS0Ban00BOX309621B012-01-62.pdf
55 Years Ago	
November	Executive Directors Agree to Offer World Bank Presidency to Robert S. McNamara
29, 1967	The Executive Directors of the World Bank Group agree to offer the presidency of World
	Bank to Robert S. McNamara. He became President on April 1, 1968.
45 Years Ago	
December 15,	Bank Approves First Loan Entirely for Rural Water Supply and Waste Disposal
1977	The Bank approves its first loan entirely for rural water supply and waste disposal in
	Paraguay. The project provided basic sanitation services over a four-year period for 42
	villages in the Central, Cordillera, and Paraguari departments.

40 Years Ago	
October 7, 1982	Shirley Boskey to Retire in January 1983 The Bank announces that Shirley Boskey, Director of the International Relations Department, will retire in January 1983 after 29 years of service. Ms. Boskey was the first woman Director in the World Bank Group. For more information see:
October 25, 1982	<u>https://oralhistory.worldbank.org/person/boskey-shirley-e</u> <b>Ibrahim F.I. Shihata Appointed Vice President and General Counsel</b> brahim F.I. Shihata is appointed Vice President and General Counsel of the Bank, and as a member of the Managing Committee. He served in this position until 1998. Mr. Shihata was influential in the establishment of MIGA, and played key roles in the founding of GEF and also served as the Secretary General of ICSID. Mr. Shihata retired from the Bank in 2000, and died in 2001. For more information see: <u>https://oralhistory.worldbank.org/person/shihata-ibrahim-f-i</u>
35 Years Ago November 11, 1987	Unusually Heavy Snow in Washington Closes Bank Unusually heavy snow in Washington closes the Bank. Ian Hume, Director, issued guidance to managers covering staff attendance. Late arrivals were allowed on November 11. By mid-morning it was obvious that weather conditions were deteriorating so it was decided to close at 2:00 pm (staff could use their lunch hour to leave earlier). Late arrival was allowed on November 12, but liberal leave policy could be selectively applied.
30 Years Ago October 16, 1992	<b>Bank Reorganization Announced</b> World Bank reorganization is announced. The Vice Presidency for Sector and Operations Policy (OSP) was replaced by three new vice presidencies: Human Resources Development and Operations Policy (HRO), headed by Armeane Choksi; Finance and Private Sector Development (FPD), headed by Jean-Francois Rischard; and Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD), headed by Ismail Serageldin. All research was consolidated under the Chief Economist and Vice President for Development Economics. Regional Technical Departments were made smaller, and the sector operations divisions were strengthened.
October 23, 1992	<b>Board Considers Sardar Sarovar Review Panel Recommendations</b> The Bank's Board meets to discuss the Sardar Sarovar projects on India's Narmada River. The Board reviewed the recommendations of the Independent Review panel headed by Bradford Morse, and the Bank Management's proposals for next steps to be taken. The Morse Commission was appointed in June 1991 at the recommendation of Bank President Barber Conable and conducted the first independent review of a Bank project. The Independent Review stated that "performance under these projects has fallen short of what is called for under Bank policies and guidelines and the policies of the Government of India." Bank participation in the projects was canceled in 1995. For more information see: <u>https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/777211468249297544/pdf/28514.pd</u> <u>f</u>

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November 3,	Report of Task Force on Portfolio Management (the "Wapenhans Report")
1992	Transmitted to Executive Directors
	The report of the Task Force on Portfolio Management (the "Wapenhans Report") is
	transmitted to the Executive Directors. The impact of the report was enormous, with
	both internal and external repercussions. The report was a major factor in the Bank's
	impetus to re-double its efforts toward effective implementation of lending projects.
	For more information see: https://timeline.worldbank.org/#event-independent-task-
	force-submits-wapenhans-report-to-the-executive-directors
N	
November	First Funding for Russian Federation
16, 1992	First funding for Russian Federation: Loan 3513 Rehabilitation Loan Project. The
	Rehabilitation Loan Project provided foreign exchange to finance imports needed in
	support of Russia's program of stabilization and economic reform.
20 Years Ago	
October 7,	Washington sniper attacks
2002	In the wake of the beginning of the Washington sniper attacks, Bank staff who needed
	to fetch their children from school are allowed to leave early.
15 Years Ago	
October 4,	Robert Zoellick Appoints Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala as Managing Director
2007	World Bank President Robert B. Zoellick announces the appointment of Ngozi Okonjo-
	Iweala as a Managing Director. Dr. Okonjo-Iweala joins Managing Directors Juan Jose
	Daboub and Graeme Wheeler, Executive Vice Presidents Lars Thunell (IFC), Yukiko
	Omura (MIGA), and Chief Financial Officer Vincenzo La Via at the top level of Bank
	Group management.

## 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.

Ahmed Abdelsalam Arun Arya – India Oscar Avalle – Jamaica Samar Ayoubi Safiatou Ba-N'Daw Lakhdeep Babra – Thailand Joseph Barone Garo Batmanian – Brazil Pilar Bhatia – Philippines Virginie Bocard Simone Braithwaite Jean-Pierre Chauffour – France Françoise Clottes Eric Crabtree **Delanson Crist** Albert Anthony Cruz Maria Dakolias Peter Darvas Marilyn Davy Asli Demirguc-Kunt Joao Lucas Duchene Mark Dutz Frank Fariello Jr. Karin Finkelston Wolfram Fischer Elizabeth Forder Caren Grown Sara Guerschanik Calvo Aurelio Menendez Garcia Taiyeba Granier William Gwinner Margaret Hanson **Tamille Hawkins** Marie How Yew Kin Jingdong Hua – Canada Wilhelmus Janssen

Buchenau Juan Gwendolyn Junod Jesper Kjaer – Austria Dragan Kolevski – North Macedonia Gloria La Cava Glaura Lage Temy Maher Sunil Mathrani – France Khatouri Mohamed Xiomara Morel Gordon Myers Juan Navas-Sabater – Spain Ayodeji Odutolu – United Kingdom **Olga Olivares** Rigobert Pinga Pinga – France Margaret Png **Rimas Puskorius** Soledad Rothschild – Chile Sandra Samuel Pedro Sanchez Gamarra Ellen Schwab Luis Schwarz Andreas Seiter Susan Shen Diane Smith-Brown BogdanSrdanovic Andy Tembon Jeffrey Thindwa LuquanTian – United Kingdom Andrei Tolstopiatenko Jennifer Trotsko Anne Turcotte – Canada Walter Vergara Gregor Wolf – Mexico Aissata Zerbo



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.

Dorothy V. Aaby, 86, of Fullerton, CA, on May 16, 2022. Ms. Aaby retired from the Bank in 1986.

Ajai Kumar Bararia, 82, of Gurgaon, India, on June 24, 2022. Mr. Bararia retired from the Bank in 1996.

Amos Ben Mayor, 86, of Misgav, Israel, on August 9, 2022. Mr. Ben Mayor retired from the Bank in 1998.

Karin H. Blanc, 83, of Paris, France, on July 20, 2022. Ms. Blanc retired from the Bank in 1986.

**Gerard P. Boulch**, 80, of Viols Le Fort, France, on August 31, 2022. Mr. Boulch retired from the Bank in 1999.

Anna W. Bos, 79, of Falls Church, VA, on August 27, 2022. Ms. Bos retired from the Bank in 1999.

**Belen Coronado-Garcia**, 83, of Haymarkett, VA, on July 27, 2022. Ms. Coronado-Garcia retired from the Bank in 1998.

Gautam Datta, 75, of Bethesda, MD, on August 6, 2022. Mr. Datta retired from the Bank in 2009.

Werner J. Dobisch, 93, of Rodgau/Nieder-Roden, Germany, on August 17, 2022. Mr. Dobisch retired from the Bank in 1991.

Evelyne Dumesle, 77, of Alexandria, VA, on June 28, 2022. Ms. Dumesle retired from the Bank in 1999.

Ramon Falcon, 73, of Bethesda, MD, on July 18, 2022. Mr. Falcon retired from the Bank in 2008.

Peter R. Fallon, 76, of Sussex, U.K., on September 11, 2022. Mr. Fallon retired from the Bank in 2001.

**Fances Ann Foltz**, 94, of Harrisonburg, VA, on August 14, 2022. Ms. Foltz retired from the Bank in 1988.

**Dely P. Gapasin**, 81, of Pleasant Hill, CA, on August 15, 2022. Ms. Gapasin retired from the Bank in 2002.

**George Geevaratne**, 95, of Annandale, VA, on September 22, 2022. Mr. Geevaratne retired from the Bank in 1988.

Mary Green, 73, of Washington, D.C., on September 4, 2022. Ms. Green retired from the Bank in 2010.

Orville F. Grimes, 79, of Mclean, VA, on August 12, 2022. Mr. Grimes retired from the Bank in 2000.

Melba D. Harmon, 88, of Piedmont, CA, on July 6, 2022. Ms. Harmon retired from the Bank in 1987.

Mounira Hayati, 81, of Sterling, VA, on June 6, 2022. Ms. Hayati retired from the Bank in 1999.

Theodore Herman, 83, of Ra'anana, Israel, on July 22, 2022. Mr. Herman retired from the Bank in 2000.

**Margaret R. Hoyle**, 94, of Montgomery Village, MD, on July 17, 2022. Ms. Hoyle retired from the Bank in 1987.

Harold J. Islev-Petersen Jr., 83, of Chester, MD, on August 2, 2022. Mr. Islev-Petersen Jr. retired from the Bank in 1997.

**Daniel L. Johnson**, 88, of Ft. Washington, MD, on August 13, 2022. Mr. Johnson retired from the Bank in 1985.

Anne R. Kennedy, 91, of Washington, D.C., on July 3, 2022. Ms. Kennedy retired from the Bank in 1988.
Paul F. Knotter, 84, of Vienna, Austria, on June 15, 2022. Mr. Knotter retired from the Bank in 1997.
Colin John Kozloff, 89, of Vienna, VA, on August 17, 2022. Mr. Kozloff retired from the Bank in 1989.
Ping-Cheung Loh, 85, of Bellevue, WA, on September 6, 2022. Mr. Loh retired from the Bank in 1995.
Colin A. Lyle, 78, of Pereybere, Mauritius, on April 5, 2022. Mr. Lyle retired from the Bank in 2000.

Katharine McKee, 66, of Seattle, WA, on August 22, 2022. Ms. McKee retired from the Bank in 2019.

Bernard G. Montfort, 84, of Aix-En-Provence, France, on June 20, 2022. Mr. Monfort retired from the Bank in 1995.

Kathleen P. Mooney, 93, of Coram, MT, on July 17, 2022. Ms. Mooney retired from the Bank in 1991.

Guy Motha, 87, of Bethesda, MD, on September 8, 2022. Mr. Motha retired from the Bank in 1998.

**Hartwin Nickel**, 85, of Ottobrunn, Germany, on June 22, 2022. Mr. Nickel retired from the Bank in 1998.

**Robert H. Nooter**, 96, of Bethesda, MD, on September 3, 2022. Mr. Nooter retired from the Bank in 1988.

Jelena Pantelic, 70, of Chevy Chase, MD, on August 26, 2022. Ms. Pantelic retired from the Bank in 2013.

**Meenadchi K. Pillai**, 91, of Laurel, MD, on September 23, 2022. Ms. Pillai retired from the Bank in 1995.

John B. Ritson, 91, of West Burleigh, Australia, on September 16, 2022. Mr. Ritson retired from the Bank in 1982.

**Salvatore Schiavo-Campo**, 82, of Silver Spring, MD, on July 29, 2022. Mr. Schiavo-Campo retired from the Bank in 2002.

**Catherine Slappey**, 94, of Alexandria, VA, on September 11, 2022. Ms. Slappey retired from the Bank in 1980.

**Anna Danuta Staszewicz**, 67, of Washington, D.C., on June 24, 2022. Ms. Staszewicz reetired from the Bank in 2016.

**Townsend S. Swayze**, 85, of White River Jct, VT, on August 4, 2022. Mr. Swayze retired from the Bank in 1997.

**Enrique Miguel Vergara**, 102, of Colima, Mexico, on July 11, 2022. Mr. Vergara retired from the Bank in 1982.

Jose L. Vietti, 86, of Temperley, Argentina, on July 13, 2022. Mr. Vietti retired from the Bank in 1992.

Sarian Wilkinson, 75, of Ellenwood, GA, on August 27, 2022. Ms. Wilkinson retired from the Bank in 1998.

We are including the 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: Guido J. Deboeck Contact: Hennie I. Deboeck-De Zutter (spouse) Address: 3850 North River Street, Arlington VA 22207 Email: <u>hdeboeck1@gmail.com</u>

Deceased: Melba D. Harmon Contact: Lilly Guardia-Labar (daughter) Address: 27 Monte Av., Piedmont, CA 94611 Email: calicic@sbcglobal.net

Deceased: Ernesto Henriod Contact: Jill Brewis Henriod (spouse) Address: PO Box 25008, St Heliers, Auckland 1740, New Zealand Email: <u>jbrewis@xtra.co.nz</u>

Deceased: Anne Robertson Kennedy Contact: Mari Macintosh Boyes (cousin) Address: 4068 Keswick Dr. SE, Atlanta, GA 30339 Email: <u>mboyes@euromexga.com</u>

Deceased: H. Martin Koelle Contact: Verena Koelle (spouse) Address: Lenhartz Str. 7, 20249 Hamburg, Germany Email: <u>VKoelle@web.de</u>

## **1818 SOCIETY<sup>SM</sup> CONTACTS**





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hroperations@worldbank.org	1pension@worldbank.org	Email: <u>taxoffice@worldbank.org</u>
(ALWAYS include your UPI)	(ALWAYS include your UPI <b>)</b>	

## Responsibility Matrix 2021 - 2022

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