



# CIV Newsletter

Volume VII - No. 1

Newport, RI

Winter 2008

## Letter from the President

As the new year of 2008 begins we can look back on many successes for CIV in 2007. These included, first and foremost, sponsorship and hospitality by our members for many international visitors to the Newport area. These efforts of person-to-person diplomacy serve as the core mission of our organization and are an important resource for international programs at the Naval War College, the Surface Warfare Officers School, the Defense Institute of International Legal Studies, and Salve Regina University. Last winter we sponsored eight seminars based on the Great Decisions topics as published by the Foreign Policy Association. In the spring and summer we provided support to the Tall Ships Rhode Island 2007 committee for the visit to Newport in late June of many magnificent tall ships from around the world. This included hosting a reception at an ideal site beside the harbor for the crews of the international tall ships. It was a memorable event!

At the annual dinner meeting in September we enjoyed excellent food and fellowship at Canfield House as well as a fascinating presentation by Keith Stokes, Executive Director of the Newport County Chamber of Commerce. Keith's topic was "American Irony: Religious Freedom and Slavery in Colonial Newport" a subject of particular relevance to the interaction of different cultures, for better and for worse, in this area. At the meeting we elected three new members to the CIV Board of Directors, John Bagwill, Marika Terlecky, and George Wardwell. They replaced Farnum Brown, Peggy Phelan, and Walter Wasowski whose terms on the board had expired.

In the area of educational programs and cultural activities we will, once again, sponsor the Foreign Policy Association Great Decisions seminar series. There will be eight sessions, all conducted on Wednesday evenings at the Newport Public Library (lecture room on the ground floor) starting at 7:00 PM. The sessions will take place on every Wednesday evening in February and March, that is, every Wednesday beginning February 6 and ending March 26. Each session will be led by a speaker/moderator well qualified in the topic of the evening. I encourage all CIV members to attend these very interesting sessions. They are always enriched by larger attendance and active participation in the discussions.

There will be a Great Decisions Kickoff Reception on Wednesday, January 30 at 7:00 Pm at the Elks Lodge, 141 Pelham St., Newport. The event is free – cash bar. Members are encouraged to bring a friend who may be interested in becoming a CIV member and an international student/visitor if you are sponsoring. Prof. Vincent Mocini, Dean, International Programs and Maritime Security Cooperation at the Naval War College, will speak at the Kickoff Reception. Please plan to attend this event and, if possible, bring your favorite hors d'oeuvre to share.

Best wishes to you all in 2008, Peter Tarpgaard

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### Editor's Note

Your comments, suggestions, and articles of interest are welcome. Write to:

CIV Newsletter  
P.O. Box 3032  
Newport, RI 02840

or [info@newportciv.org](mailto:info@newportciv.org)





## COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL VISITORS 2008 Officers and Directors

### Officers

<b>President:</b>	Peter Tarpgaard	848-5142	president@newportciv.org
<b>Vice President:</b>	Judy Terry	683-1950	vicepresident@newportciv.org
<b>Secretary:</b>	Patricia J. Callahan	847-1482	secretary@newportciv.org
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Barbara Fenlon	846-4939	treasurer@newportciv.org

### Directors

John Bagwill	Tony Cercena	Barbara Fontaine	Anne Huot	Paul Marshall
Dana Scott	Marika Terlecky	George Wardwell	Merrilee Zellner	

### Committee Chairpersons

<b>Entertainment:</b>			entertainment@newportciv.org
<b>Great Decisions:</b>	Dana Scott	846-1428	greatdecisions@newportciv.org
	Judy Terry	683-1950	greatdecisions@newportciv.org
<b>Membership:</b>	George Wardwell	619-3899	membership@newportciv.org
	Anne Huot	847-9992	membership@newportciv.org
<b>Newsletter:</b>	Anne Huot	847-9992	newsletter@newportciv.org
<b>Publicity:</b>	Paul Marshall	295-9952	publicity@newportciv.org
<b>Sponsorship:</b>	Barbara Fontaine	789-1665	sponsorship@newportciv.org
	Peggy Phelan	846-1640	sponsorship@newportciv.org
	Merrilee Zellner	369-0243	sponsorship@newportciv.org
<b>Corporate Funding:</b>	John Bagwill	847-1643	funding@newportciv.org
<b>Web Master:</b>			webmaster@newportciv.org

## Website Corner

As of January 31 we will be saying goodbye to our webmaster par excellence, Walt Wasowski.

Walt has been phenomenal in getting our website up and running, current and especially diligent with emailing our members with updates and the Newsletter. We will miss his excellent can-do attitude. Thank you, Walt.

So HELP, we need a new webmaster! Walt has kindly offered to do some quick training. If you are interested please contact us at webmaster@newportciv.org as soon as possible. Our web-site is one of our most valuable member resources.

# YOU'RE INVITED

## Great Decisions Kickoff Reception

January 30

at 7:00PM

Elks Lodge

141 Pelham St.

Guest Speaker: Prof. Vincent Mocini, Dean, International Programs and Maritime Security Cooperation at the Naval War College, will speak on the subject of international programs at the War College. The event is free – cash bar.

## Sponsorship Committee

The next SWOS class will be coming in April 2008. Attendees for the courses have not been selected as yet. We will inform you as we receive the countries and dates. The sponsors of the last class received plaques at the graduation reception and much fun was had by all.

The January Staff College Class 72 is starting today at the Naval War College. As of right now Cindy Martin is all set with sponsors for this group.

The Naval Staff College and Naval Command College invitations have just gone out to invitee nations for class starting in summer 08. Response deadline is in March for these countries to the invitation. Cindy Martin will be looking for sponsors in early spring for those Classes starting in July and August 2008. There will be 48 countries attending the Naval Command College and 42 attending the Staff College.

If you wish to call Cindy at 841-4782 to be a sponsor in future, she is always available or you can contact Board Member Anne Huot at 487-9414.

Email addresses for those wishing to sponsor are essential, so please update us with changes and corrections to your email address.

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## 2008 Great Decisions Seminar Series

The Foreign Policy Association “Great Decisions” seminar series will, once again, be presented in Newport. This is a series of seminars presented each year on significant national policy issues as selected by the Foreign Policy Association. For the 2008 series, there will be eight sessions, all conducted on Wednesday evenings at the Newport Public Library, 300 Spring Street, Newport (lecture room on the ground floor) starting at 7:00 PM. These seminars are sponsored by the Newport County Council for International Visitors. The sessions will take place each Wednesday evening in February and March, that is, every Wednesday beginning February 6 and ending March 26. Each session will be led by a speaker/moderator well qualified in the topic of the evening, and will consist of a presentation by the speaker followed by a discussion with the attendees. All sessions are free and open to the public.

### **Wednesday February 6 - 7:00 PM**

Topic: Iraq End-game A recurring question found in most public opinion polls and on the 2008 presidential campaign trail: What will be the end-game for the U.S. in Iraq? How will U.S. decisions about continued engagement affect Iraq itself, and the Middle East? **Speaker/Moderator: Qussay Al-Attabi, Roger Williams University**

### **Wednesday February 13 – 7:00 PM**

Topic: Russia During his two terms as president, Vladimir Putin has attempted to remake Russia into a major, independent world power. Some of his recent policies have provoked concern in the U.S. and Europe. With a 2008 Russian presidential election expected, what course will Russia take? **Speakers/Moderators: Prof. Lyle Goldstein and Gabriel Collins, Naval War College**

### **Wednesday February 20 – 7:00 PM**

Topic: Latin America: shift to the left? What factors have prevented the U.S. and Latin American countries from forging a strong relationship? What challenges confront U.S. policy in Latin America? Can the U.S. offer an alternative to the influence of left-leaning leaders like Venezuela’s Hugo Chavez? **Speaker/Moderator: Christopher Robinson, Northeastern University**

### **Wednesday February 27 – 7:00 PM**

Topic: U.S. defense & security policy The U.S. military is adopting new policies and methods for defending the U.S. and its interests abroad. What should U.S. priorities be? How should its forces be structured and deployed to meet new security challenges? **Speaker/Moderator: Marshall Hoyler, Naval War College**

### **Wednesday March 5 – 7:00 PM**

Topic: U.S.-China trade policy Recent product safety scares have thrown the spotlight on the enormous role China plays in supplying products to the U.S. Could the large and growing trade imbalance with China have an adverse effect on the U.S. economy? What role does the undervalued Chinese currency play? **Speakers/Moderators: Prof. Lyle Goldstein and Gabriel Collins, Naval War College**

### **Wednesday March 12 – 7:00 PM**

Topic: European Union at 50 Having reached the 50th anniversary of the great experiment in European integration, it is time to take stock of the united Europe. Has the integration of new members been successful? What does the debate on Turkey’s membership say about the future of EU integration and its changing demographics? **Speaker/Moderators: Panel of European Officers from the Naval War College**

### **Wednesday March 19 – 7:00 PM**

Topic: Private philanthropy Billionaire Warren Buffet’s June 2007 pledge to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation prompted headlines about the size of the gift and the impact it could have on global education and health initiatives. Can private donors be more effective than governments in tackling world problems? **Speaker/Moderator: Caroline Considine, Preservation Society of Newport County**

### **Wednesday March 26 – 7:00 PM**

Topic: Talking to our enemies How the U.S. deals with international challenges often depends on how it engages with allies, as well as enemies. How should the U.S. deal with countries like Cuba, North Korea and Iran? What approach should the U.S. take with groups like Hamas and Hezbollah? **Speaker/Moderator: John Enright, President, Enright Associates**

# Membership Committee

Chairperson: George Wardwell



The year 2008 membership cycle has already begun.

If you have not paid your 2008 dues, please do so immediately. Your dues are vital to the functioning of the Council and we value your membership.

If your name is high-lited on your address label, it means you have not paid for 2008.

Please complete the application below or bring your dues along to our Great Decisions Kick Off Reception on 1/30/2008. Also bring a friend to the Kick-off Reception - we would love them to come and find out about us and join. Last year's event was great!

*Our dues are the lowest anywhere. Membership provides you the best dollar value for the fun, education and opportunity to meet internationals from all over the world.*

*And you get to be a Citizen Diplomat for your country!*

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## Membership Renewal and New Member Application *(Make out checks to CIV)*

Mail to: **Council for International Visitors, P.O. Box 3032, Newport, RI 02840**

**Membership year:** 1 October through 30 September.

Membership Year \_\_\_\_\_

Single \$20.00     Family \$30.00     Donation \_\_\_\_\_ *(Please help with our operational cost)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Please indicate areas you would be interested in helping with:

- Newsletter     Finance     Special Events     Membership     Sponsorship     Great Decisions
- Other \_\_\_\_\_



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