



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WELFARE

## NORTH AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN REGION NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2018

### LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Hello Everyone,

How quickly the year is slipping by. We have all been very busy over the past few months and we hope to share some of our activities with you in this newsletter. We regret having to say goodbye to US Council Chairman and member, Lt. Col., Ardis Fuge. She has retired from the Salvation Army after many years of service and has been indispensable as Chair of the ICSW-US Committee. We wish God's Speed to Ardis and her husband Walter as they enjoy a well-deserved, time of travel and leisure.

The US Committee welcomes our new-

est member, Lt. Col., Michele Matthews representing the Salvation Army on our Steering Committee. Congratulations to Saffrey Brown, the new Vice President, North American Caribbean Region.

We have also said goodbye to Founding member Kenneth Carpenter. You will find our salute to Ken included inside this edition.

The US Committee had an opportunity to meet with ICSW President Eva Holmbert-Herrström in February 2017 as she visited the US and was able to share a dinner meeting as well as give a citation to the work and wonderful contributions to

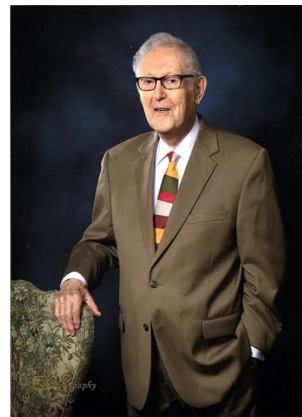
ICSW from Margaret and Kenneth Carpenter. Such a special legacy they have left for us.

There is much work to do in making our appeal to Social Welfare Issues known and to bring on board additional new friends and partners who will work with us on the local, national and global



#### Our Mission

In keeping with the mission set forth by the International Council of Social Welfare, the U.S. Council is committed to the advancement of social development, social welfare and social justice. Our priorities include subjects such as food insecurity and improving the nutrition of children and the elderly, reducing poverty, improving education and promoting affordable housing. The U.S. Council is also involved in issues relating to economic development, both in the U.S. and around the world, social justice and encouraging community participation.



In Memory of Kenneth Carpenter page 2

vision that moves us forward.

We are excited by the challenges before us and we are working to develop a strategic plan to establish immediate goals for the ICSW-US. We are hopeful for the future and look forward to work with our neighbors in the North American and Caribbean Region.

*Patricia Martin-O'Meally, Chair ICSW-US*

#### North American and Caribbean Region, ICSW

Joyce Higashi, President,

Saffrey Brown, Vice President

#### ICSW – US Committee

Patricia Martin-O'Meally, Chairman ICSW-US

Dr. Cudore Snell, Treasurer

Helen Whetzel, Secretary

Robert Arnold

Dr. Bernice Harper

Dr. M.C. Hokenstad

LT. Col. Michele Matthews

#### Canada Committee

Awaiting Activation

## IN MEMORIAM: KENNETH STEPHEN CARPENTER (1924-2018), Past Chair, ICSW-US Committee

Longtime ICSW-US leader Kenneth S. Carpenter died May 16, 2018. He was 93.

Ken along with his wife, the late Margery Carpenter (1920-2017), were active for many decades in the International Council on Social Welfare and they each served as Chairs and longtime members of the U.S. Committee.

Over the years, Ken and Margery worked with many of the leading national and international social work leaders, including: Jane Hoey, Jim Dumpson, Whitney Young, Ellen Winston, Dorothy Lally, Margaret Berry, Kate Katzki, Katherine Kendall, and Dr. Bernice Catherine Harper.

From 1952-2008, he and Margery attended 18 biannual international conferences, more ever than any other individuals.

1952 – Madras, India

1956 – Munich, Germany

1958 – Tokyo, Japan

1964 – Athens, Greece

1966 – Washington, DC, USA

1968 – Helsinki, Finland

1970 – Manila, The Philippines

1972 – The Hague, The Netherlands

1974 – Nairobi, Kenya

1976 – San Juan, Puerto Rico

1980 – Hong Kong

1982 – Brighton, England

1984 – Montreal, Canada

1986 – Tokyo, Japan

1988 – Berlin, Federal Republic of Germany

1996 – Hong Kong

2002 – Rotterdam, The Netherlands

2008 – Tours, France

In 2016, Ken and Margery both received a major honor from ICSW when they were both elected ICSW Distinguished Fellows. In early 2017, the Global President of ICSW made a special trip to Washington, DC to meet with the US Committee and to present the certificate to Margery and Ken, in recognition of their many contributions to international social work and social welfare.

During his long career, Ken worked for the US Federal Government in the field of criminal justice for 55 years until his retirement in 2004 at age 80.

Ken was a charter member of NASW in 1955 and active throughout his life. He was a leader of the NASW Minnesota Chapter and later the DC Metro Chapter of NASW, which awarded him its Lifetime Achievement award in 1996. He was elected an NASW Social Work Pioneer®,

After his retirement, he devoted much of his time to volunteering for ICSW-US, the NASW Foundation's Legacy Project (NASW history), and the Pioneer Program.

Ken was active in the alumni programs of the Columbia University School of Social Work and served as president of the Columbia University Club of the Metropolitan Washington Area.

“He will be sorely missed because of his contributions to many professional organizations including NASW and the International Council on Social Welfare,” said fellow ICSW-US Committee member and NASW Social Work Pioneer® Bernice Catherine Harper. “He was a man of justice and lofty principles.”

“Ken was an accomplished social worker who generously contributed his time, energy, and resources to advance social work. He was the consummate gentleman and will be missed by his many friends and colleagues across the country and around the world,” said Bob Arnold, member of the ICSW-US Committee and Director of the NASW Foundation. The US Committee is going to miss Ken.

Ken and Margery were acknowledged for their key role in ICSW-US in *90 Years of History: The ICSW at the Forefront of Conceptual Thinking, Social Practice and Transnational Advocacy*, by Sergei Zelenev, 2018.

He and Margery were generous donors to ICSW and many other organizations.

Memorial services were held in Minneapolis, MN and Washington, DC. A video of the Washington, DC service is posted at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oc9ejbK5fZ4>

Donations in memory of Ken Carpenter may be made to ICSW-US.



Global President of ICSW, Eva Holmberg-Herrström from Sweden, presents Ken (and Margery) Carpenter with letter of election as ICSW Distinguished Fellows, February 2017, Washington, DC.



Kenneth and Margery Carpenter at the 1980 ICSW conference in Hong Kong.

### **Lt. Colonel Ardis Fuge**

On September 1, 2018 Lt. Colonel Ardis Fuge officially retired from active service after 44 years as a Salvation Army officer. Lt. Colonel Ardis Fuge was commissioned an officer in 1974 in the Followers of Christ Session. She was a Corps Officer in three Corps in Hawaii: Lahaina, Kahului and Leeward. Then she was appointed to Divisional Headquarters in three Western Territory Divisions: Northern California and Nevada, Alaska and Southern California before being appointed to the Western Territorial Headquarters where she served in a variety of appointments including Silver Star Secretary, League of Mercy/Community Care Secretary, World Missions Secretary and Retired Officers Services Director. Lt. Colonel Fuge was then appointed to International Headquarters where she was the Assistant Under Secretary for the Americas and Caribbean Department as well as the IHQ Chaplain and City of London Liaison Officer. Her final appointment was at National Headquarters where she served as the National Social Services Secretary.

Under her leadership the National Social Services Department expanded its role to include public policy. The department established a new mission statement: "Engage federal policy makers in The Salvation Army's fight against poverty". She has participated in multiple boards and collaborated with many organizations during her tenure.

Lt. Colonel Ardis Fuge served as chairperson on the US International Council on Social Welfare Steering Committee for 3 years where she worked extremely hard to keep the ICSW vision moving forward. The members of the US International Council on Social Welfare Steering Committee attended Lt. Colonel Ardis Fuge's retirement at The Salvation Army National Headquarters on June 27, 2018 where they presented her with a few tokens of their appreciation.



**Cadet Ardis Muus**  
**Eureka, California**



### **Lt. Colonel Michele Matthews**

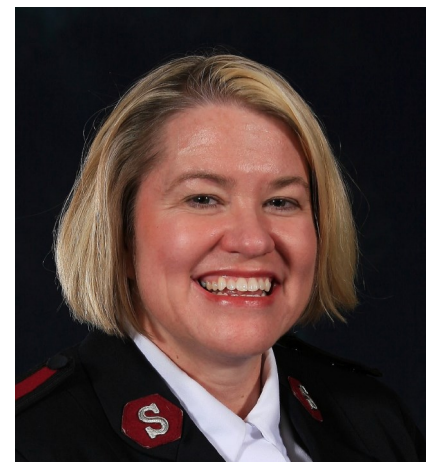
The Salvation Army's National Social Services Department welcomed Lt. Colonel Michele Matthews as the new National Secretary for Social Services. In her new role she will serve on several internal and external boards and working groups.

Lt. Colonel Matthews grew up as a child of Salvation Army officer parents. She obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree from Asbury College with a double major in psychology and social services. She later obtained a Bachelor of Science in nursing from The Johns Hopkins University. After working for a few years as a registered nurse in the critical care field and then meeting the love of her life, Lt. Colonel Matthews entered The Salvation Army Training College. She was commissioned as an officer in June 1999 and married Ward Matthews the next day.

Lt. Colonel Matthews served as a Corps Officer in Greensboro, NC, and then as Area Commander in Charlotte, NC. She then served at Territorial Headquarters for the Caribbean Territory, located in Kingston, Jamaica as the Chief Development Officer (Projects Officer in Army lingo), responsible for developing, monitoring and reporting on the many community development projects that the Army was implementing throughout 16 countries in the Caribbean. She quickly learned the importance of community buy-in, community strength and sustainability, which are so important as Pathway of Hope is implemented throughout the territory.

Upon returning to the US from Jamaica in 2009, Lt. Colonel Matthews took up her new appointment as the leadership team of the Army's work in the DFW (Dallas/Fort Worth) Metroplex. In June of 2015, she was appointed to the USA Southern Territorial Headquarters in Atlanta, GA, as the Territorial Pathway of Hope Director, responsible for the implementation of this new national initiative that is working to break the cycle of inter-generational poverty.

In January of 2018, Lt. Colonel Matthews was appointed as the Director of White House Relations before taking her role as the National Secretary for Social Services in July.





# ICSW Celebrates 90 Years at Dublin Conference

The biennial Joint World Conference took place in Dublin, Ireland from JULY 4-7, 2018. This gathering of the three global sister organizations of the profession: the International Association of the Schools of Social Work (IASSW), the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW), and the International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW) met under the theme of “Environmental and Community Sustainability: Human Solutions in an Evolving Society.”

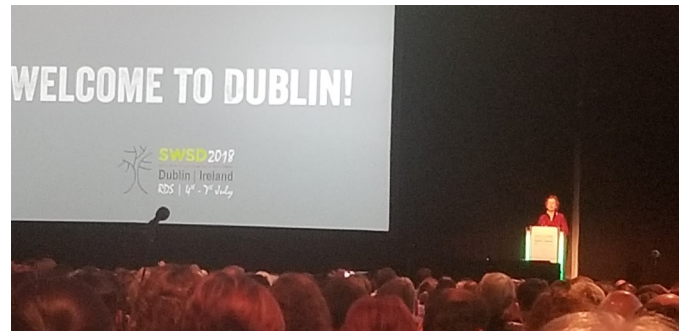
Three of our Board Members from the US Committee attending the conference included Robert Arnold, Director of the National Association of Social Workers Foundation; Dr. Cudore Snell, Assistant Provost for International Programs and Professor in the Howard University of Social Work; and Joyce A. Higashi, Licensed Clinical Social Worker practicing in Washington, DC and Arlington, VA.



From left Annamaria Campanini (President, IASSW), Lynne M. Healy (Main UN Representative for IASSW), Sergei Zelenev, Joyce Higashi, Bob Arnold, Dr. Cudore Snell (Assistant Provost for International Programs, Howard University)



Sergei Zelenev,  
Executive Director  
of ICSW and Alice  
Mbiyu, IFSW  
African Regional  
Vice President

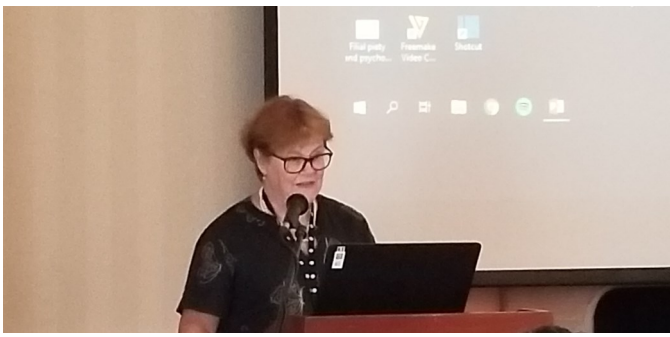


Main Session w/Former Irish President Mary Robinson keynote speaker.

In the hours preceding the 90th Birthday Celebration of the International Conference on Social Welfare, the United States Committee hosted a Regional Reception for members from our Region, i.e. Canada, Jamaica, and the United States. The reception, which featured Irish Coffee and scones with clotted cream and strawberry jam, was attended by about 75 persons who participated as friends and neighbors relaxing together in conversation, whether sitting on the floor in pods or standing informally in open groupings. Americans were grateful that political tensions of the previous year did not disrupt our natural desire for friendship with our closest friends and neighbors.







Global President Eva Holmberg-Herrström.

Global President Eva Holmberg-Herrström presided at the Birthday Party for ICSW and the booklet on *90 Years of History: The ICSW at the Forefront of Conceptual Thinking, Social Practice and Transnational Advocacy* by Executive Director, Sergei Zelenev was distributed. An informative program followed with exceptional speakers. One session was particularly instructive to Americans as it covered social development projects and activities in India, the UK, Finland, Poland, and South Africa. The theme of social protection was dominant and it was also encouraging to see the work being done in Scandinavia around this issue. We have much to learn and to replicate in the United States to ensure a safety protection floor for all our citizens. Our past focus on the “safety net” is becoming less viable as programs once assumed to be untouchable are discontinued, often without notice or adequate replacements.

Karene-Anne Nathaniel-DeCaries, President NACASSW with Dr. Cudore Snell



From right Bob Arnold, Susan Rubin, Joyce Higashi, Suzanne Dworak-Peck (IFSW Ambassador), Cudore Snell, Kathy Wehrmann (IFSW North American Region VP)

Our thanks to our US participants at the conference who presented papers or exhibits. We hope for upcoming conferences that US presenters and exhibitors will inform us of their acceptance as presenters or exhibitors so that we will be able to include this information in our newsletters. At this time, we do know that Bob Arnold, Director, and Susan Rubin, Assistant Director of the NASW Foundation and International Programs, did present a session on the National Association of Social Workers Foundation.

Our sister organizations are offering us a choice for international conference attendance in 2020 with IASSW and ICSW sponsoring a conference in Rimini, Italy focused on the theme of The Importance of Human Relationships. The Calgary University School of Social Work and ISFW will be hosting an international conference on the future of social work practice. More information to follow



Exhibit and Event area.





Royal Dublin Society, Dublin, Ireland



Dr. Aracelis Francis of US Virgin Islands and Dr. Cudore Snell, Provost for International Affairs, Howard University, Washington DC



Joann Tilley with Joyce Higashi at the ICSW North American Region Reception



From left  
Sabrina Kiser  
and Hope  
Wilson from  
The Salvation  
Army US  
National  
Headquarters  
and Bob  
Arnold

Nelsida Marmolejos on right



Jan Christianson Wood of  
Canada and Ron Wiman of  
Finland



Joyce Higashi on right and Chinchai Cheechoen from Thailand



## ICSW – US Members Attend The 35<sup>th</sup> Social Work Day at the United Nations

Topic: **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS: CLIMATE CHANGE AND SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE**

New York City, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The cavalcade of flags stood at attention on a crisp Monday morning with a stiff wind blowing in from the Hudson River. Over 300 social workers and students were in attendance to celebrate this 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Social Work meeting at the UN. Four members of the ICSW-US were in attendance. Steering Committee President Joyce Higashi, Treasurer, Dr. Cudore Snell, Robert Arnold and Patricia Martin-O'Meally. Our group also included ICSW Executive Director Dr. Sergei Zelenev. Our members also took the opportunity on March 25<sup>th</sup>, to meet with Dr. Zelenev to discuss and plan for the July International Conference and to discuss important business regarding the Social Work Day Program on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Zelenev is a former employee of the United Nations and is extremely well versed in the ICSW and all things related to UN business and operations. A resident of the city, he also proved to be an excellent resource of eateries in the neighborhood.



The atmosphere at the UN was bustling with anticipation as we met and greeted friends and colleagues as we cleared security for entrance into the main building. We were welcomed by the International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW) President Annamaria Campanini, Professor of Social Work at Milano Bicocca University. The platform guests included: **His Excellency, Ambassador Teburoro Tito**, the Permanent Representative of Kiribati to the United Nations. Ambassador Tito has been a member of Parliament for South Tarawa since 1987. He spoke with great concern that we as human beings must have for each other as it relates to climate change. In his country, climate change is literally changing their way of life. Homes are destroyed, crops are destroyed as the rising sea levels and extended periods of dryness present serious challenges to their way of life. The effect is also emotional as citizens struggle to meet the disruption of their daily lives. They are receiving help from the Germans and Dutch to help with infrastructure needs. Their efforts require support from their tourist industry to support their efforts to bring investors in to address their economic issues.



Dr. Sergei Zelenev, ICSW Executive Director

**Daniel Thomas**, Special Advisor of Advocacy and Communications at UNICEF. He previously headed communications, mobilization and outreach for the UN Secretary-General's Climate Change and the UN Secretary General's Climate Summit. Dan shared that a friend of his has given up Face Book, makes the effort to talk to folks directly, shows them photos of his family and speaks to folks on the street, for Heaven's sakes. This friend has 4 followers, a psychiatrist, a minister, a homeless man and a social worker. Dan shared that the Climate Summit was to bring everyone to the table, especially heads of state to engage in Paris. He felt that countries themselves should determine what they can offer to become more climate aware. In addition, it allowed for climate issues to be addressed at the local/ community level. A 15-year Master Plan needed to sustain humans on earth, working with all parts of society, making change happen by engaging everyone is the goal. This is crucial in understanding the UNICEF report that 50 million children have been uprooted by climate change. Social Workers, he relates, have long taken risks to bring the importance of Climate Change as a global issue and to support the efforts of Sustainable Development Goals.

**Mariam Traore Chazalnoel**, Expert, United Nations Migration Agency, shared her focus that Climate Change has inflicted the migration of people within countries and across borders with devastating effect. She reports that the data indicates that climate change has an effect on over 24 million people worldwide and is a natural immediate disaster. She also reports the World Bank projects the 143 million in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Africa expect exceeding heat, so severe that people will not be able to function and therefore will migrate to cooler places. The efforts of the Paris Agreement and climate migration resulting in the displacement of people has drawn much more awareness to the impact of climate change. It has provided recognition of the need for policy development and ongoing discussion. These efforts are hoped to inspire and support people where they are. These efforts can lead to the development of programing that lessen the impact on conditions arising from regions that are becoming unlivable and to prepare magnet communities who can invest what they must to improve the situation elsewhere.

**Panelist Mark Chambers**, Director of New York City Mayor's Office of Sustainability spoke of the impact of warmer waters expansion with no place to go. He pointed to South Africa's drought and the need for potable water. Hurricanes of the magnitude of Maria and Sandy are becoming a way of life for east coast cities such as New York and presses the need for problem solving for such major events. He relates that the Global community's fight for existence depends on our ability to come together around our common problem. New York is looking at the city's needs in the next five to twenty-five years. How is that view changing our relationships as we move away from being a single waste economy? How is it changing our relationship with our buildings and moving to turning lights off when we are not there? How can we move to divest in fossil fuels? Can the city move toward developing offshore windmills? A major factor will be considerations related to the city's transportation needs. Environmental Justice is another major consideration to be made with hopes of reducing greenhouse gases by 85% by the year 2050. Another major concern for the city is the U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Agreement January 1, 2017. Can we improve our odds of removing 1 million cars off our roads? What is NYC doing to influence change, building retrofits, pushing the urgency of action today and making sure that everyone understands their role in the Global Environmental Problem?

**Dr. Meredith Powers**, Professor at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, School of Social Work. Professor Powers interests are in conserving water resources, refugee resettlement, gaining an understanding of what we cherish and the development of environmentalist starting at a young age. She has spearheaded a project bringing together resources at the University of North Carolina and North Carolina A&T University, focusing on "Save the Children to Save the Trees". Dr. Powers is very involved in working for Environmental Justice. Saying that Social Justice is a strong social work value, equals social work efforts toward environmental justice. She sees the ecosystem functioning with an ability to refurbish itself and the ability to regenerate resources. She spoke of a project in South Carolina where the Gullah People are undertaking a program to develop the wetlands. She also spoke of the gradual death of the environment by being over taxed and overburdened, without consideration of what needs to be done to preserve these important resources. Professor Powers recognizes that this is a task that involves everyone and sees social work involvement in the establishment of efforts such as Greenspace, waste management and other initiatives. She recognizes these projects as identified as one of the "12 Grand Challenges of Social Work". It is the poor and disenfranchised who will suffer from the lack of clean water and fresh air and will need social work to promote community and environmental sustainability on their behalf.

**Dr. Roy Truell**, Secretary-General of the International Federation of Social Workers was our final Panelist. Dr. Truell, focused on "social and environmental justice". He identified the challenge of having communications between 50 different language groups. He identified the need for involvement at the National level and the development of Global Policies in ways that we can see how we are connected. He points to the 128 countries representing 3 million social workers and their principles and beliefs and that there is a need for a Global Agenda for Social Workers. He also identified the development of a Social Protection System that has a unique social work approach and allows communities to care for themselves. Having a social worker presence within a community results in reduced crime, improved health care and there is a financial return for the services provided by social workers in terms of "environmental justice". Social work trained students engage in the environmental sustainability agenda across the whole social work curriculum. Social Workers see first hand how the clients we work with are affected by the environment and how the viability of their environment affects them.

What an inspiring, move to action and an idea filled program! Surely, many in attendance have made personal and professional changes with their actions leaning toward a better, healthier environment for all. For example, the Washington Post, Tuesday March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in Science News the day following Social Work Day at the UN headlined: "150 million premature deaths would be avoided if carbon emission goals were met." We each recognize the suffering that continues in Puerto Rico and the communities of Houston and Florida resulting from the debilitating storms last year as we face the 2018 hurricane season. We must all do our part in lowering the impact of climate change on our lives.

*Article submitted by Patricia Martin-O'Meally with excerpts from the Social Work Day at the UN program.*



Patricia Martin-O'Meally





Work session in NYC, March 25, 2018. From left Dr. Cudore Snell, Joyce Higashi, Patricia O’Meally, Chair ICSW-US, ICSW Executive Director, Sergei Zelennev, Bob Arnold, ICSW-US, and Susan Ruben, NASW.



Dr. Snell and IASSW Representative, Darla Spence Coffey chat with NASW CEO, Dr. Angelo McClain



Bob Arnold, Joyce Higashi, Cudore Snell, and Patricia Martin-O’Meally



Lynne Healy and ICSW Executive Director, Sergei Zelennev.



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Washington, DC 20002-4241

Or email Helen Whetzel at [ICSW\\_US@naswdc.org](mailto:ICSW_US@naswdc.org)

## Embassy of South Africa Reception

Was held on

Wednesday, October 24, 2018

From 5:30 until after 8:00

Stories and pictures to follow in Spring  
2019 issue of the newsletter.

