



THE FORUM

Newsletter of the Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas Inc.

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www.fawco.org

Eleanor Roosevelt - the Driving Force behind the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Paula Daeppen
un.rep@fawco.org

Celebrating 60 years of Human Rights

*To leave the world richer—
that is the ultimate success.*
----Eleanor Roosevelt

On December 10, 1948, the General Assembly of the United Nations passed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) that set the standards for all of the human rights treaties and conventions used today around the world. Eleanor Roosevelt, then US representative at the United Nations, served as chair of the Human Rights Committee, and it was her leadership that was the major factor ensuring the passage of the convention. Historians agree that without her, the convention would probably never have passed. Madame Roosevelt's leadership brought the 18 other members of the Commission together to cooperate effectively despite political differences, cultural barriers and personal rivalries.

The year 2008 will mark the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights has proclaimed a one year

celebration recognizing the principles of human rights and fundamental freedoms spelled out in this document.

The UN NGO CSW (Committee on the Status of Women) Geneva has established a special task force to recognize Eleanor Roosevelt as the driving force behind the creation and adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The task force will spearhead an information

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UN Photo: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

The Americans Abroad Caucus – growing, growing!

Lucy Stensland Laederich
usliaison@fawco.org

With the arrival in October of Susan Davis (D-CA), the Americans Abroad Caucus had grown in a few short months to 16 members representing both “sides of the aisle” and a variety of viewpoints on America’s overseas population.

A larger-than-usual contingent of FAWCO delegates joined ACA and AARO once again in Washington in June 2007 for “Overseas Ameri-

cans Week.” President Celeste Brown and US Liaison Lucy Laederich attended meetings along with Washington representative Dale Koepenick, Voting from Overseas Co-Chair Mary Stewart Burgher from Copenhagen, Sharyn Crabtree from England and, for two days, Membership Co-Chair Mary Brunowsky from Cologne. The prime focus of the week was enlarging the caucus: most delegates visited their own Representative in addition to members of certain key committees like Appropriations. By the end of the week, Caucus membership had grown from six to nine and very positive feedback had been received from a number of other offices.

The current members are both veteran members of Congress and “freshman” Representatives; they are Republicans and Democrats from such powerful committees as Oversight and Government Reform, Rules, Appropriations as well as House Administration that oversees the federal election process. They represent states as “small” as Maryland and as “large” as California and even a territory, the Virgin Islands. They come from the east – New York, the west – California, from the north – Massachusetts, and

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From l-r: US Liaison Lucy Laederich, FAWCO President Celeste Brown and Congressman Joe Wilson (R-SC)

FAWCO is a network of independent American and international volunteer organizations representing private-sector citizens overseas. Founded in 1931, FAWCO is a non-partisan, not-for-profit U.S. corporation with over 75 Member Clubs representing more than 15,000 individuals throughout the world. A recognized non-governmental organization (NGO) since 1995, FAWCO was granted special consultative status to the Economic and Social Council of the UN in 1997.

President: Celeste Brown (president@fawco.org) ❖ Editor: Genette Eysselinck (editor@fawco.org) ❖ Advertising: Frauke Rademacher-Heidemann (advertising@fawco.org)

Mary Walker Mag Hasse — 1911-2007

Lee Iacovoni Sorenson
Foundation Counselor

Mary Walker Mag Hasse, FAWCO President (1965-69), whose board established The FAWCO Foundation as the philanthropic arm of FAWCO, passed away just before turning 95, on August 21, 2007, in Oakland, California. Mary served briefly as The Foundation's first president (February-March, 1967), and subsequently for two terms (1970-1975). She was named honorary president in 1981. Mary received the FAWCO Circle of Honor Award at the 2007 Lyon Conference, and current Foundation President Arline Coward and former President Lee Iacovoni Sorenson, presented the award to her in Oakland, CA, just before her death. The Mary Walker Mag Memorial Award for Asian Studies and/or Asian Languages to honor the life of this remarkable woman has been added to the list of The FAWCO Foundation 2008 awards. The field of Asian Studies has been chosen to commemorate Mary's ground-breaking career, both as a professional and as a volunteer in Asia.

Mary was an exceptional woman, leader and friend. As FAWCO President Celeste Brown recently wrote, "Mary lived an inspirational life and was a shining example of deep commitment and passionate involvement." In addition, I might add, of high principles, mature leadership and unique determination. A reading of an interview for The Forum in 1995 leaves no room for doubt. Following her personal philosophy: "I do feel that if you are going to be working, you have to be challenged intellectually, and women were not being challenged intellectually," Mary set her goals high. At a time when her classmates were either marrying or entering the few careers open to women college graduates, Mary embarked on the career path she had established for herself while still in junior high: to obtain a college degree in physical education (she was a gifted athlete her entire life), teach school, become head of the P.E. department, and then dean of girls. In order to achieve the first of those goals, she had to work very hard at various on-campus jobs to pay for her college education at Mills College, which she had chosen over UC Berkeley because of illegal sorority rushing there.

Following her game plan, after a short stint on the Mills staff, the prestigious Episcopalian Bishop's School for Girls in La Jolla, California hired Mary, and she taught hockey and tennis until her appointment to the long-desired position of dean of girls. Eight years later, she returned to Mills College in a key administrative position, learning some of her skills from a new assistant professor, Dean Rusk. While there, the Committee for Free Asia (now the Asia Foundation) recruited her to set up and manage their office in Japan. The Asia Foundation is a non-profit NGO consisting of a network of 17 offices throughout Asia that supports programs to

help improve civil society, women's empowerment, and international relations.

In 1952, with the outbreak of the Korean War, Mary arrived in Tokyo where she established the office, trained the staff, and studied Japanese at 7 a.m. In her few hours of free time, she worked as a volunteer with the administrators of local university and college student organizations, as well as the Girl Scouts and Camp Fire Girls, teaching them democratic principles.

In 1955, Mary broke the administrative "glass ceiling" in non-profits long before the term was invented when she was transferred to Seoul, Korea, to become the acting resident representative. She became a ground-breaking female manager in a male-dominated profession and culture. Before she left in 1957, Ewha Women's University in Seoul awarded her an honorary doctorate in recognition of her accomplishments. Her career continued its brilliant course when she was made



the assistant representative of three offices in Pakistan: Karachi, Lahore, and Dacca (now in Bangladesh). Shortly thereafter, the prime minister of Afghanistan approached the Asia Foundation, asking for someone to go to his country to start a physical education program for girls. Mary accepted the challenge and set up the first health and physical education program for girls in that country. Firmly believing that you cannot know the culture unless you know the customs and language, after learning Japanese in Tokyo, Mary learned to speak Farsi well enough that she was able to teach in Afghanistan without an interpreter.

In 1960, when she was 48, Mary left the Asia Foundation to marry Edward Mag, a Yale-educated lawyer and a first secretary at the US Embassy in Rome. They had met eight years earlier in Tokyo, and Ed had never forgotten that tall, slender, intelligent young woman, nor, it seems, had she forgotten him. Ed retired, they were married and Mary moved to Rome. As Mary laughingly said, although she learned Japanese, Farsi and Italian and studied painting, she never

learned to cook!

Mary's leadership qualities and winning personality were quickly recognized by AWAR Rome, which elected her president in 1963. At her first FAWCO conference, Madrid 1963, she was elected first vice president, then to two terms as president (1965-1969). Mary searched for an idea to make the 22-member organization grow and hit upon "...a fundraising program for the good of the Federation, where individual clubs could apply, e.g., a scholarship program or anything like that.... And that's exactly what happened." Under laws in effect at that time, the Federation could not legally raise tax-exempt funds, so another solution was necessary. With her usual determination, Mary led her board to success, overcoming many obstacles. In 1967 The FAWCO Foundation was incorporated as the philanthropic arm of the Federation. A \$1,000 contribution to The Foundation for a scholarship by a former member of AWA Rome marked the beginning of the awards program.

Mary served briefly as The Foundation's first president, but stepped down to better fulfill her duties as FAWCO president as at that time the boards, and presidencies, were the same. She was re-elected Foundation president in 1971 and served two terms.

After 17 years in Rome, Ed suffered a stroke and they returned to the U.S. With her usual determination, Mary oversaw his physiotherapy before he passed on in 1980. Mary decided to move to the San Francisco area to be closer to family. She commented to a relative that there were "...so many old people with canes, walkers and wheelchairs..." there that she set about finding an activity that would keep her from becoming one of those old people. She decided to try lawn bowling and, with her usual flair, she excelled, winning many tournaments. Just shy of her 76th birthday, she competed for the National Singles Lawn Bowling Championship, a competition in which there are no age categories. After bowling seven hours a day for three days, she came in third, making her the third best female lawn bowler in the nation! She fell in love with a fellow lawn bowler, Leo Hasse; they were married in 1988. Leo passed away in 2002, but they had continued to bowl into their 90's.

Mills College recognized Mary's achievement and presented her with their Alumnae Athletic Achievement Award in 1989.

Mary was an inspiration to her family, to her many friends, and to generations of FAWCO members. Among many other "firsts," Mary's FAWCO board established the Peace through Knowledge program because of her conviction that by learning the language of the host country and its customs, and by teaching those of the US in return, knowledge does, indeed, promote peace. ♦



Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas
FAWCO 2008 Conference
Seoul Korea



The American Women's Club of Korea will host the 2008 (FAWCO) Conference from March 5 - 9, 2008.

This event will mark the first time the FAWCO Conference will take place in Asia. We are honored to show attendees and their guests the wonders Korea has to offer.

Registration information is available at www.fawco.org.

A WEEKEND IN BARCELONA

Monica Jubayli
 AWC Lebanon

When I attended my first FAWCO Conference in Lyon last March, one of the highlights was participating in the FAWCO Foundation's auction. I knew that I wanted to win the 'Weekend in Barcelona,' a city I have never had a chance to visit. The picture was inviting and the idea of spending some time in that amazing city was too tempting. Unbelievably, my bid was the highest and I could not wait to tell my husband that we were going to Spain!

Well, now we have been to Barcelona, and have enjoyed the warmth and hospitality of Arline Coward, FAWCO Foundation president and our hostess with the mostest! The next few days were a wonderful mix of making new friends: Arline and her husband, Corwin and their son, Alex, and playing the tourist. We enjoyed their company, going out on the town for a traditional dinner of 'tapas' and tried out the 'Hop on, Hop off' city tour bus. The two highlights of our visit were having cocktails on Corwin's sailboat, and exploring the amazing city of the Modernist architect of the early 20th century, Antoni Gaudi.

I would definitely recommend that if you attend the Seoul 2008 Conference this March, you should bid on one of the vacation offers. Just think you can have a great time while supporting the FAWCO Foundation Development Grants and Educational Awards. ♦

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The FAWCO Committee of the Chilterns American Women's Club (CAWC)



Vershonn McIntosh
 FAWCO Rep CAWC Chilterns

On Thursday, October 18, 2007, the newly formed CAWC/FAWCO Committee held its first event of the year in support of Breast Cancer Care at the beautiful home of club and committee member, Macarena Dearie, and her husband David. Committee/club members, Andrea Edwards, Deb Yonker-Hecht, Macarena Dearie and Vershonn McIntosh, FAWCO Rep/Committee Chair, took care of all activities leading up to the event so that everyone could have a great time supporting a great cause. At the **In the Pink** Party, members, spouses and friends of the CAWC, sipped pink cocktails, ate pink finger foods, including a strawberry-flavored pink cake, baked in the shape of the breast cancer ribbon by one of the club's members, Lucia Strigi.

There was a contest for the best pink outfit, a tombola game with lots of fabulous pink surprises and an **In the Pink** quiz with the animated Deb Yonker-Hecht officiating. Participants had to guess the answers, all of which included something pink. Limited edition "Pampered Chef" pink items were also on display, and sold by registered Pampered Chef Representative and club member Hetty de Vries with proceeds going to support the Breast Cancer Care Foundation. A £5 donation to the Foundation was all that was needed to attend. On the night, we welcomed over 30 participants and raised over £400 (approximately \$800) in support of the project. Not bad for a little get together before the half-term break! We're off to a good start, and we are planning more events for the year. ♦

(Continued from P. 1 - Eleanor Roosevelt)

and publicity campaign and is directed by a small group of women of various nationalities representing international NGOs. This will be a worldwide campaign which has the support of the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights.

The goal of the task force, in which FAWCO has a leading role, is to inform and educate people worldwide about human rights—their rights—while highlighting the unique and indispensable role played by Eleanor Roosevelt in the formation and adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In addition, a fitting memorial to Eleanor Roosevelt will be dedicated near the United Nations in Geneva, which is the international “home” for human rights organizations and treaty bodies.

FAWCO is pleased to be taking the initiative in creating, sponsoring and hosting a special Eleanor Roosevelt website for the international and NGO community <http://www.erooseveltudhr.org>. Watch both the

FAWCO website and the special website honoring the human rights contributions of Eleanor Roosevelt for ways to become involved in this initiative.

In addition, FAWCO will be funding a \$3000 award for the Eleanor Roosevelt Workshop for Girls. Every year, 60 girls between the ages of 14 and 16, usually 10th or 11th graders, spend nine days in July at Val Kill (ER’s personal NY retreat) and at NY UN headquarters, meeting with accomplished women leaders. The program is designed to encourage and mentor young women who are serious students and who have demonstrated commitment to social justice. FAWCO is pleased to support the human rights issues that are addressed in this workshop and hopes that daughters of our members will apply.

We urge everyone to join in this international effort to promote worldwide recognition of Eleanor Roosevelt’s leadership role and awareness for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This is a reminder that

the US has yet to join the other 185 countries of the world that have ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). Adopted in 1979 by the UN General Assembly, CEDAW is often described as an international bill of rights for women. Consisting of a preamble and 30 articles, it defines what constitutes discrimination against women and sets an agenda for national action to end discrimination.

Sixty years after the UDHR and all of Eleanor Roosevelt’s efforts, women are STILL waiting for their rights. ♦

(Continued from P. 1 - Americans Abroad Caucus)

the south – Florida.

They are a group of legislators who have declared an interest in overseas Americans and said that, at the very least, they are open to listening to our concerns. The very first thing that the Caucus Co-Chairs, Carolyn Maloney (D-NY) and Joe Wilson (R-SC), did officially was to urge their Congressional colleagues to make a small change on their Congressional websites to make them more user-friendly for their overseas constituents. Their letter to their colleagues, announced at a reception honoring the creation of the Caucus on Capitol Hill in June of this year, reminded them that their overseas constituents face hurdles in corresponding with their legislators, because letters with foreign addresses are often quickly discarded. According to Maloney and Wilson, “In addition to upsetting constituents who feel they are being ignored, these misunderstandings often prevent overseas constituents from obtaining timely casework services.” Their recommendation to their colleagues in the House of Representatives was:

The leaders of overseas citizen advocacy organizations regularly advise members of their organizations to begin their letters by reminding Members that they do vote in their district. Please alert your Legislative Correspondent to watch closely for letters that begin in this manner.

Please ensure that your website enables overseas U.S. citizens to submit their information and concerns online to you.

Their initiative, now being followed by a number of Congress persons, not only makes it easier to write to Washington but also sends a strong signal, as we head into a crucial election year, that they want to hear the concerns of overseas citizens and members of the Armed Services who vote absentee.

On July 11 of this year, the House formally adopted House Resolution 287 “Celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the first use of the name *America*.” The Resolution was introduced by AAC member Alcee Hastings (D-FL) and co-sponsored by six other Caucus members, and commemorates the map dated April 24, 1507, on which the word *America* was used for the first time to designate the recently discovered continent no longer referred to as “Terra Incognita”

(Continued on P. 5)



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Regional Reports—Highlights

Region 1 Meeting Report

Sunny Eades
rc1@fawco.org

LOOKING FORWARD—‘to positively affect our planet’

F.A.W.C.O. R1 - REGIONAL 2007ⁱⁱ

Thirty delegates were infected with FAWCO Fever in St. Andrews, Scotland when Co-Chairs Tahitia McCabe (AWC of Central Scotland) and Kathleen White (AWA of Aberdeen) produced a professional Regional Meeting themed “Looking Forward!” The Regional Meeting raised £245/€350 for ‘Trees for Life’ www.treesforlife.org.uk (restoring the Caledonian forest) and £125/€180 for ‘Bits and Bobs’ www.bitsandbobsscrapstore.org.uk (a recycling project that passes on unwanted eco-friendly arts and crafts supplies and gives them a new lease of life.)

FAWCO Environment Co-Chair Valerie Garforth introduced us to ‘An Overview of FAWCO Environmental Initiatives,’ while Peter Garforth enthused us with his presentation on ‘Critical Sustainability and Climate Change Issues Facing the 21st Century Global Community.’ Furthering this theme was a panel presentation of ‘Sharing Responsibility for Global Stewardship of the Environment.’ The panel consisted of Dr. Rehema H. White a lecturer at the University of St. Andrews school of Geography and Geosciences who advised, *Reduce, Reuse,*

Recycle—every action counts!; Mr. Adam Powell, Ground Flora Projects Co-ordinator—Trees for Life at Findhorn whose advice was twofold: *Eat a deer; save a tree!* and *You need your forest and your forest needs you!*; and, Dr. Vilma McAdam, Landscape Garden Architect—Eco Garden Design who told us to *Reuse first!*

An old Native American proverb states: “We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children.” They understood what we ignore at our peril. Our modern lifestyle is largely responsible for the difficulties our children will face. This is a collective problem that needs a collective solution. Albert Einstein is quoted as saying “The significant problems we face cannot be solved at the same level of thinking we were at when we created them.” So, as participants we enhanced our thinking and our ‘being’ and have been emboldened to take the crucial steps needed in order to secure a world worthy of our children. We’ve begun the journey to a brighter future...we are ‘Looking Forward.’ Are you? ♦



Region 1 in the classroom

(Continued from P. 4—Americans Abroad Caucus)

(see photo). FAWCO Vice President Marline Holmes traveled in April to St. Dié, France, with Vera Thiers, former President of AWC of the Taunus, to join US Liaison Lucy Laederich and other overseas Americans from France and Switzerland for a day of events celebrating the anniversary.

What can you do?

Write to your Congress person and urge him/her to visit the website of Carolyn Maloney or Joe Wilson and follow the example of their “contact me” page which has a single sentence added that makes it easy for them to be contacted by military and overseas voters.

See the US Liaison section on the FAWCO website www.fawco.org and send your Representative a message urging him/her to join the growing Americans Abroad Caucus! ♦



Map dated April 24, 1507, the first to designate the newly discovered continent as ‘America’

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Regional Reports—Highlights

Region 2 Meeting Report

Terri Knudsen
vp-reps@fawco.org

'Putting a Face on FAWCO'

The Nordic Region 2 annual Regional Meeting put a face on FAWCO and sought to answer the question, 'What is FAWCO?' On the weekend of September 28-30, 2007, forty women were welcomed by host club AWC Denmark to Copenhagen. FAWCO 2nd VP, Terri Knudsen, stressed that FAWCO is for everyone and outlined the FAWCO Board's goals and achievements: new website; individual registration; subscription to all Newsletters and Bulletins; 'Vision for the Future' task force and the Club Membership Survey as well as increased Club Support. Birgit Bolata and Terri demonstrated how to use the website features. One guest asked how she could become a member of FAWCO and another participant responded rightly, 'we are all members of FAWCO.' More FAWCO talent was on display as Mary Stewart Burgher, Voting from Overseas Co-Chair supplied voting registration details to take back to our clubs; Birgit Bolata, Sharing Cultures Co-Chair sought ideas for her committee, followed by a quiz on American culture from the ACE for Kids Committee. AWC Denmark club members were

also invited to speak and Arthur Buchman led an interactive workshop on the power of 'yes' and 'no.' These two words signal various levels of commitment and understanding that once recognized can help at work, home and within our clubs. Nancy Friis-Jensen, also a member from AWC Denmark, spoke of 'Women Making a Difference: Locally and Globally' and told of her 'heart pillow' project for women with breast cancer who have had a mastectomy.

Break-out groups for FAWCO Reps were led by Regional Coordinator Christine Bjørnhage while Darshana Mathews, President of AWC Denmark, led the Presidents' session. A mini-FAWCO Fair complemented the sessions by offering more time to ask lots of questions. Details on the FAWCO 2008 Conference in Seoul included prices, an outline of pre- and post-conference tours and guest activities. Everyone agreed FAWCO must reach out to members in the Far East and South Pacific. The weekend's success was captured by the comment from AWC Finland's President, Linda Korpeinen. "The women I have just met were dynamic and fun and I feel energized from the experience." FAWCO Fever strikes again! ♦

To see the Regional Reports in the entirety, please visit the Regional Meetings page on our website at:
<http://www.fawco.org>

Region 4 Meeting Report

Karen Lewis
rc4@fawco.org

'Learning from the Talent within Our Clubs and Sharing Experiences'

Hosted by AWC Amsterdam on October 5-7, 2007, the Region 4 Regional Meeting was a wonderful, action-packed weekend of activities and programs initiated by Karen Lewis and her team. With twenty-six participants, every club in Region 4 was represented as well as the FAWCO Board, AWG Paris and AWC Stockholm. One of the meeting's highlights was the session on 'Sharing our Experiences' whereby each club listed an activity representing their identity. The feedback was a list of great ideas and valuable suggestions to take home.

Another significant aspect was that all speakers were FAWCO members which boosted and shaped the camaraderie of this Regional Meeting. Members praised the variety of speakers and were thrilled that the energy and impressive talent was found within our own clubs and FAWCO. After Karen Lewis's welcome, AWC Amsterdam President Michele Hendrikse DuBois gave some background on the host club. Celeste Brown, FAWCO President gave a keynote speech on 'Vision+Value=FAWCO,' Judy Treanor, 1st VP of The FAWCO Foundation brought us up to date on its fund raising plans; Anne van Oorschot, Environment Co-Chair spoke on the 'One Member-One Tree' challenge; Melanie Salava, Education

Co-Chair addressed the issue 'What is the Model Ideal Anyway?' and 'Bibi Jann' Mitchell presented 'Grandma-2-Grandma: The House that Love Built.'

The third important focus had participants breaking into groups and discussing Club development issues, such as: increasing membership, encouraging volunteerism, organizational structure and philanthropy. Each group submitted their ideas to Karen Lewis and these will be available for future reference. ♦

"Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home - so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any maps of the world. Yet they are the world of the individual person; the neighborhood he lives in; the school or college he attends; the factory, farm, or office where he works. Such are the places where every man woman and child seeks equal justice, equal opportunity, equal dignity without discrimination. Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere. Without concerted citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in the larger world."

Eleanor Roosevelt



Region 4 women sharing experiences

CORRECTION TO SUMMER 2007 ISSUE

Textual revisions have been made to the "Americans Abroad Caucus" article, page 2, last paragraph and the "Grandma-2-Grandma" article, page 6, and the word 'Committee' has been added to the header on Page 6.

Regional Reports—Highlights

Frauke Rademacher-Heidemann
rc5@fawco.org

Region 5 Meeting Report

FAWCO's presence at the UN and its role as a UN/NGO

Almost 50 attendees enjoyed Region 5's meeting in Vienna where host club AWA Vienna welcomed visitors from every club in their region, plus AWC Bern and other international guests. Organizer and FAWCO Rep Barbara Edwards, with Janet Darrow-Winter did an exceptional job of showcasing their city and providing for an interesting, successful and well-organized weekend. Since Vienna is home to one of the four UN headquarters, it presented the perfect location to highlight UN themes as well as FAWCO's presence at the UN and responsibilities as a UN NGO.

Stephanie Poirier, Surveillance Specialist at the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency), started the program with a presentation on 'Atoms for Peace' and the work of the IAEA to promote safe, secure and peaceful nuclear technologies www.iaea.org. Her comments piqued our interest for the United Nations tour the following day, after which the Honorable Gregory L. Schulte, a US Amb-



Region 5 Meeting participants in front of the UN in Vienna

Mercy is on top of the world and sends her thanks to FAWCO

Paula Daeppen
un.rep@fawco.org

This is a great day, not just for me, but for the whole Pokot community," said Mercy, accepting the award. *This prize is for all women in this marginalized region. It shows that women from West Pokot are able to start something that finds its way to other parts of the world. Please send your girls to school; send all your children to school. That gives them the chance to improve their life, like I did. I would like to say thank you to all my supporters and especially to FAWCO who nominated me for this prize and also BioVision for their contributions.*



Mercy with her award
Photo: BioVision/ Christof Sonderegger

Mercy Kiyapyap of West Pokot, Kenya was chosen for the **2007 Prize for Women's Creativity in Rural Life**, sponsored by the Women's World Summit Foundation (WWSF). The prize is an acknowledgement of Mercy's exceptional courage, dedication and creativity in promoting the rights of women and a validation of her efforts in trying to bring the people of West Pokot out of poverty. ♦

sador to the UN in Vienna, addressed us. His presentation focused on open diplomacy, the global threat of weapon proliferation, criminal networks and human trafficking.

Paula Daeppen, FAWCO NGO Director, continued the theme 'FAWCO at the United Nations' with an update on FAWCO's project for malaria eradication. Since 2005, FAWCO members, in partnership with BioVision, have been supporting an integrated approach to malaria prevention, mainly with the purchase and distribution of insecticide treated bed nets. The two BioVision pilot projects in Nyabondo and Malindi, Kenya have significantly contributed to health improvement and saved many thousands of lives. Results have shown a malaria prevalence reduction of 66% in Nyabondo and a 50% reduction in the newer Malindi project. This success encourages us all to continue with FAWCO's adopted Resolution and Recommendation to focus on malaria with a commitment to world-wide malaria prevention in support of the UN Millennium Development goals <http://ngo.fawco.org/malaria> and www.biovision.ch.

Paula then talked about plans for the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of

Human Rights in 2008 and the special NGO Committee on the Status of Women task force to recognize Eleanor Roosevelt as the driving force behind the creation and adoption of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

Continuing FAWCO's NGO focus the AWA Vienna announced their efforts in support of the United Nation's *Plant for the Planet – Billion Tree* campaign. They have collected money for 50 trees to be planted by the City of Vienna Forestry Department in the 21st District near the Marchfeld canal.

Lucy Stensland Laederich, FAWCO U.S. Liaison, reported on this year's Overseas Americans Week and her work in Washington. She talked about the new Americans Abroad Caucus in the House of Representatives and strongly urged Regional participants to contact their legislators, asking them to join. The moral of a "bedtime story" she told her listeners was that while FAWCO members might feel powerless on their own, the backing of the Federation gives them credibility and gradually, seeds are being sown which, with nurturing, will grow into a "bouquet" of friends in Congress. ♦

FAWCO's Region 5 visit to the UN in Vienna

Michelle Miller
AWC Cologne

The Honorable Gregory L. Schulte, a US Ambassador to the UN in Vienna welcomed participants in the FAWCO Region 5 Conference to the United Nations. He explained the workings of the UN, focusing particularly on the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which is a UN specialized agency. This means that although it is an autonomous body, it works under contract to the UN. Most of the questions directed to Mr. Schulte focused on the role of the IAEA in preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons around the world. Those present expressed concern about how nations can work better together to assure our common future. Some questioned the actions of the US as one of

the five nuclear weapon states. During his presentation on US efforts to meet treaty obligations to destroy its nuclear weapons, Mr. Schulte asserted that the US has been steadily destroying its stockpiles of these weapons. Whether the US policy on nuclear weapons is satisfactory was left for each individual to decide. ♦



The Honorable Gregory L. Schulte, a US Ambassador to the UN in Vienna addresses FAWCO

The FAWCO Foundation



The FAWCO Foundation Announces Two 2008 Memorial Educational Awards and a New Development Grant

Arline Coward
president@fawcofoundation.org

The FAWCO Foundation 2008 Mary Walker Mag Hasse Memorial Award for Asian Studies is in memory of Mary Walker Mag Hasse, who served two terms as president of FAWCO, 1965 to 1969. In 1967 Mary and her board established The FAWCO Foundation as FAWCO's philanthropic arm. She served as The FAWCO Foundation's first president and later two additional terms, 1971-1975. Mary Mag served as President of FAWCO Member Club AWA of Rome and in 2007 received FAWCO's highest recognition, "The Circle of Honor." The field of Asian Studies has been chosen to commemorate Mary's ground-breaking career, as a professional and volunteer, in Asia. This award is for education in the fields of Asian Studies at the undergraduate or graduate level, or in specialized programs at a recognized institution or university.

The FAWCO Foundation 2008 Professor J. V. Rice Memorial Award is in memory of the husband of past FAWCO President Ellen Rice. Dedicated educator, scholar, historian and environmental activist, these are but a few of the terms that best describe the accomplishments of Professor J. V. Rice. The Award is offered to students seeking Master or Ph.D. level degrees in the Arts, Sciences, or Humanities.

THE "END of HIV/AIDS" Development Grant for 2008

In response to the increasing number of proposals from Member Clubs for HIV/AIDS programs and projects, The FAWCO Foundation is pleased to announce the "End of HIV/AIDS" Development Grant. Nominations should address projects and programs that will assist in halting and reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS, a United Nations Millennium Goal, through education, prevention, or treatment. ♦

You may support the Mary Walker Mag Hasse and Professor J.V. Rice Memorial Awards or the new "End of HIV/AIDS" Development Grant by contributing to The FAWCO Foundation at www.fawcofoundation.org/donation.html. Recipients of all Educational and Development Grant Awards will be announced at the FAWCO 2008 Conference in Seoul, Korea. ♦

The FAUSA/Foundation Kids Help "School Supplies" Project

Arline Coward
president@fawcofoundation.org

What is the "School Supplies" Project and how are we helping?

The importance of an education for all children cannot be overstated. The joint 2007-2008 FAUSA (FAWCO Alumnae USA) and The FAWCO Foundation Kids Help "School Supplies" Project will focus on the poorest neighborhoods in Bogotá, Colombia, a city and country located in FAUSA's geographical area of interest.

One of the factors that keep children from attending school in Colombia is the requirement that students provide their own school supplies. A \$15 donation purchases a "School Supplies" Certificate and provides a backpack filled with pencils, notebooks, crayons, rulers and other items needed by children from kindergarten through the eighth grade. Each backpack has the FAUSA and The FAWCO Foundation logos on the front, and Member Club AWC Bogotá's Social Services Committee will distribute them.

If you are looking for a special gift for a young

person in your life...a personalized Kids Help Certificate may be just the right choice! As a special incentive to make a difference in the lives of other children, participating high school students will receive a Letter of Recognition from FAUSA and The FAWCO Foundation recognizing their fund raising effort and support.

FAWCO clubs, members and their friends have enthusiastically embraced this project by organizing numerous and various fundraising efforts. Thank you to the children in the Benvenuto Club of Milan "Moms & Tots," to AWC of the Taunus, ICW of Torino, AWC of Basel, AILO of Florence, as well as

to students in Germany and the US, individual donors who organized events and collections, and for FAUSA's efforts at the 2007 FAUSA Annual Meeting in New York City...and many more!

Contact Kids Help Project Chair Ann De Simoni for more information and fundraising ideas at igadviser@fawcofoundation.org. ♦



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Arline Coward
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president@fawcofoundation.org

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www.fawcofoundation.org

The FAWCO Foundation is the philanthropic arm of FAWCO. It was created in 1967 as a not-for-profit corporation registered in the State of Missouri to administer all awards and grants on behalf of FAWCO. For more information, please contact info@fawcofoundation.org

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