Interim Meeting - The Whirlwind Effect
By Monica Jubayli (AWC Lebanon), FAWCO President 2015-17

The first FAWCO Interim Meeting (IM) to be held since 1998 took place in Frankfurt March 11-13, 2016. (replacing the Interim Conferences as a scaled-down two day event) On the occasion of FAWCO’s special 85th anniversary, Rick Chizmadia, FAUSA Vice President of Communications, updated the FAWCO slide show/visual history and the FAWCO Red Book was re-edited and published, as well, thanks to Georgia Regnault and Nancy Thornley.

With a record number of first-time attendees, 35, the Interim Meeting got off to a busy start with an overview of FAWCO, The FAWCO Foundation and FAUSA followed by Face2Face where delegates had a chance to find out what FAWCO is all about. Committee and Task Force chairs joined the three sister boards, along with IM Bronze sponsor Janet

(Continued on page 6)

Rebranding FAWCO
By Kathleen Simon (AWC Bern), FAWCO Rebranding Task Force Chair

In March 2015, a Rebranding FAWCO Task Force was appointed; and together with internationally experienced brand consultants Edwin and Sanja Schmidheiny of Accent Brand Consultants Ltd. Zurich, a contemporary logo, tagline and Mission Statement were presented at the Interim Meeting in Frankfurt on March 11-13, 2016. The logo and tagline were approved by a vote of the FAWCO membership on March 13th. After modification in response to feedback, the Mission Statement was approved the same day.

Since no organization can remain static and survive, the FAWCO Board decided it was time to take a fresh look at FAWCO’s branding and documentation to ensure the organization’s future growth. The rebranding of FAWCO aims to promote the image of a contemporary organization, to align the brand with our current goals, and to address a younger and more international club membership.

(Continued on page 6)
The annual sessions of Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) provide advocates for women’s rights an opportunity to influence the UN agenda. 6,000 delegates from the 45 member states of the Commission, UN entities, and NGOs attended CSW60 in March 2016. FAWCO supported the UN’s commitment to emphasize and engage youth by including two college students in our delegation of 14 women.

FAWCO UN Liaison Laurie Richardson co-moderated an NGO Briefing, and made a statement calling for the protection of women refugees at a meeting attended by UN Women’s Executive Director. FAWCO co-sponsored a panel discussion with the NGO Committee on Migration, the Organization for Early Childhood Education, UNHCR and other organizations, entitled “Empowering Syrian Refugee Women and Children for a Better Future.” We also lent FAWCO members’ support to the campaign for a feminist woman as the next UN Secretary-General.

CSW60 Negotiations to Reach Agreed Conclusions

The theme of CSW60 was “women’s empowerment and its link to sustainable development”. This first CSW following the adoption of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), or Agenda 2030, put gender equality at the center. One speaker called this “the moment when the rubber hits the road,” when we determine how to implement not only Goal #5 on gender equality, but all of the SDGs. Agenda 2030 requires that we work across agendas, issues and stakeholders, and involve not just women’s, social, education and health ministries, but ministries of finance as well.

At CSW60, we had the opportunity to work with CSW Bureau Chair Antonio Patriota (Brazil), Vice-Chair and lead negotiator Andreas Glossner (Germany), and from UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka (South Africa), Deputy Executive Director Lakshmi Puri (India), and Civil Society Section Chief Lopa Bannerjee (India).

CSW operates by consensus, so the need for unanimous agreement on language is a constant challenge. However, by the second week, there was consensus on water and sanitation, poverty, education and humanitarians’ language. Discussions continued over the role of civil society, and prickly points like sexual and reproductive health rights. There was tension between global frameworks and national contexts, capacities and stages of development. While all UN member states signed on to the SDGs with great fanfare in September 2015, during CSW the burning question was the extent member states’ policies must align with the SDGs.

Sexual and reproductive health and rights are essential to achieve sustainable development and women’s equality. CEDAW requires governments to provide access to reproductive health services to all women, and women and girls, regardless of their citizenship, including refugees and internally displaced women.

Violence against women in conflict zones is used as a weapon. We must meet humanitarian needs, prevent gender-based violence and punish perpetrators. There can be no lasting peace without women, so we must empower women, prevent man-made disasters and work for peace.

These challenges demand that we work at the level of root causes to make the world safer and protect all people, not only women and girls. End poverty, improve education, reduce inequality, turn swords into plowshares, and continue to hope for a better world.

A Future for Syrian Refugee Women

by Laurie Richardson (AWA Vienna) and Jane McCall Politi (ARWA Rome)

“Empowering Syrian Refugee Women for a Better Future: Challenges and Innovative Solutions in Early Childhood Development” was an event at CSW60 organized by the NGO Committee on Migration and the World Organization for Early Childhood Education, co-sponsored by UNHCR, PEACE Foundation and FAWCO. UN Rep Jane McCull Politi, PhD, member of the NGO Committee on Migration, helped organize this timely event. Over 70 people attended on the final day of CSW60 including FAWCO UN Reps Erica Highsbe, Jane Politi and Laurie Richardson.

Agnès Hurwitz, Senior Policy Advisor, UNHCR, spoke about the UNHCR priority to make education available to refugees at every age. Of 4.8 million registered refugees from Syria, 2.7 million are in Turkey, only a small percentage in camp settings. Over 4 million refugees live in urban settings. Over 50% are children. School enrollment in non-camp settings is less than 30%. The UNHCR’s Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) partners with over 200 humanitarian organizations and other organizations in Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Egypt to promote social cohesion. They hope to enroll 350,000 children in early childhood education. The problems refugees face include destitute women heading households, children begging or dropping out of school at risk for sex and labor slavery, as well as child marriage or recruitment into armed groups. Host communities are also strained.

Ambreen Qureshi of the Arab-American Family Support Center described their Arabic-speaking trauma-informed neighborhood settlement houses with 6,000 clients at four sites in New York. They build community, facilitate integration and decrease isolation. Faith and feminism are promoted in culturally sensitive ways to combat illiteracy and inequality.

Patricia Talisse, a UN Youth Representative of Close the Gap and a student at Fordham University who migrated from Syria three years ago, remains traumatized by what is happening in her home country. She feels safe in the US, but said, “we see our homes destroyed, our friends and families dying.” Misery drives people to seek new lives, “we want to go home and restore the peace.”

Eline Caillaud from INSAN Association spoke about the needs of Syrian refugees who are 25% of the population of Lebanon. Public schools have afternoon shifts for Syrian children, but only half (200,000) can attend because schools are full. INSAN prepares children for school with language classes and psycho-social support. They offer English and IT classes, legal counsel for women and a play center for children under five. Their staff travels to remote areas to provide recreation for children and psycho-social services to mothers.

Selcuk Sinir, PhD from the Migration Policy Institute and New York University’s Department of Applied Psychology, reported on his research in Jordan and Istanbul. According to UNICEF, 109 million children live in crisis zones, and nearly 24 million are out of school. Eighty percent of children under 18 experienced a death in the family and 45% of children met the criteria for PTSD. About 50% are clinically depressed. There is hope; children are resilient. They draw pictures of war, but dream of becoming doctors and nurses when they grow up.

In Turkey, education, integration and psycho-social problems remain unaddressed. Half a million children are not enrolled in early childhood education and refugees are leaving for Europe because their children cannot go to school. Even since refugees reached Europe, there is greater awareness of the need for increased resources. Recently, Jordan announced a $500 million investment in early childhood education.

In the lively discussion, participants raised the need for early childhood education to give children a sense of cultural identity, belonging and home. We must empower mothers to be protagonists for their children’s right to education and should be supported in their role of transmitting cultural values, behaviors and language to their children, so mothers and children can be agents of peace.

In UNHCR, creates awareness, a “ hopeful moment” has been achieved. Empowering Syrian women can lead to wider change, giving them a voice. They can become agents for change, uniting their nations for education and peace. FAWCO is proud to be a part of this venture.”
By Cora Lee Findley (AW Eastern Province)

This year, FAWCO and AARO (Association of Americans Resident Overseas) went to Washington with only one position paper, the “Unintended Impact on Overseas Americans by the Passport Revocation Provisions in the ‘Fast Act’ Provisions in this Act stipulate that the IRS can ask the State Department to revoke or refuse issuance of the passport of any American owing over $50,000 in taxes and/or fines. Our position argued that Americans living and working abroad are more seriously impacted by the Fast Act. These American citizens depend more heavily on their passports than residents of the United States. Because of FATCA, it is possible for them, from mere ignorance, to incur significant fines for relatively minor errors in financial reporting.

Ellen Lebelle (AARO), Tim Ranier (AARO) and Cora Lee Findley (FAWCO) met with 21 staffers from the House of Representatives and seven staffers from the Senate; four of the offices visited were those of Presidential candidates. We also met with two individuals from The Tax Foundation, one from the American Bankers Association, the Vice Chair of the Election Assistance Commission and a civilian originally from Brazil, and now a US citizen, who considered returning to Brazil only to discover how complicated it might be for an American.

Our meetings with the staff of the Co-Chairs of the Americans Abroad Caucus were encouraging. We were given a copy of the draft letter to be presented by Caucus members to Secretary of State John Kerry concerning our position on the Fast Act. This letter has since been refined and sent.

Most of the people we met with were familiar with the issues our organizations wanted to discuss, no doubt due to the continued presence of members of AARO, FAWCO and ACO who visit them on an annual basis. This confirmed just how important FAWCO’s participation is in Overseas Americans Week. Without this annual presence, it would be all too easy for our issues to be forgotten. Much legislation is passed with little concern for the unintended consequences on the American community abroad. It was also invaluable to meet with the Tax Foundation and the American Bankers Association. Both organizations responded favorably to our bringing our concerns to their attention.

The key question was “How many Americans have actually had a problem with these issues?” It might be useful in the future for FAWCO to develop a survey to address this very question and provide concrete evidence. The FAST Act only became law at the end of 2015 so we have not yet heard of any actual cases of people losing their passports as a result.

Contemplating the future of “Overseas Americans Week” and FAWCO’s participation, we might consider a few recommendations:

- Continue to send a delegation every year (even during an election year when all eyes appear to be only on the polls and the primaries).
- In a year of major Congressional change, it is imperative that a larger delegation be present. We need the manpower to visit not only Congressional staff members and members of the Caucus, but all staffers on the key committees.
- Focus on meeting with congressional offices we have never met with – particularly in the year following an election. The more new staff know about our issues, the better.
- The Washington delegation (and all interested members of FAWCO) need to be armed with a few facts (on a business card) to share, specifically the current number of Americans residing outside of the United States and the fact that given this number, overseas Americans (today) would be the equivalent of the 12th largest State; the ratio of the overseas vote to the total vote in the United States; and the names of larger US companies employing Americans overseas and the economic impact they have on bringing new money into the United States.

Nina E. Olson, the National Taxpayer Advocate, has organized a series of “public forums” on the “Future State Vision” for the IRS for various communities representing a range of taxpayers with special needs, as well as professionals, statisticians, government representatives and advocacy groups. For the forum organized in Washington on May 17, Ms. Olson asked FAWCO, AARO and ACO to prepare a presentation on overseas US taxpayers. Marylouise Serrato, Executive Director of ACA, gave testimony prepared by the three organizations, presenting our concerns about the unintended consequences of FATCA and FBAR reporting, the loss of IRS services abroad and the absence of Taxpayer Advocate offices outside the US, the deadlines and requirements often hard to respect for overseas taxpayers, and more.

Demographically, the overseas American population is diverse: business executives in both US and International corporations, independent contractors and consultants, missionaries, aid workers, academics, clergy, housewives, retirees… As found in a 2012 study by Democrats Abroad, over 50% earn less than $99,000 annually; a high percentage are dual-nationals, including many married to host-country nationals who resent having joint accounts reported to the IRS.

How does this relate to the “future state” of the IRS? We are a population disproportionately impacted by the loss of IRS offices abroad:

1. A population needing face-to-face service: All too often, mail from the IRS finally arrives in the taxpayer’s mailbox after the deadline incurring penalties. For taxpayers needing (and willing) to call the IRS, extended wait times can generate high costs and end in “courtesy disconnects” – and this at a time when the IRS Commissioner himself predicted that, even in the US, 50% of calls would go unanswered due to insufficient manpower. And for many US taxpayers with inadequate knowledge of English (including the recently identified numbers of IRS agents who can speak a language other than English), an expert able to speak a language one understands is crucial. As Ms. Serrato pointed out in her testimony, IRS online information is currently available in Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese and Russian only.

2. A population frequently facing technological challenges: Many live in “low-tech” regions where access to up-to-date software/hardware and an importantly reliable power and internet access are not assured.

3. A population with historically superb IRS services: Before the last offices were closed, the four remaining were in London, Paris, Frankfurt and....Beijing, hardly reflecting the global distribution of Americans overseas.

4. A population with special security challenges: In addition to the risk of identity theft already widespread within the US, the potential lack of secure internet service abroad represents a major problem and unlike domestic residents, overseas filers in some regions may even be identified and targeted for terrorist actions.

5. A population dealing with multiple tax systems and great complexity: Because “US persons” are taxable on their worldwide income, most are subject to the rules of at least two tax systems. In addition, overseas taxpayers are covered by specific rules compounding an already complicated US Tax Code, with special regulations as to foreign tax credits, reporting of foreign investments, etc.

This is the first time that our advocacy organizations have been officially asked to discuss the unique challenges faced by overseas taxpayers. While many IRS services are beginning to move service closer to the overseas population, with specially designed informative videos and webinars, there is much yet to be done, at a time when penalties for non-compliance are increasingly daunting.

We applaud the efforts of the National Taxpayer Advocate to give us a voice in helping to shape the “Future State” of the IRS.

The “Overseas” Perspective on IRS Services

By Lucy Loelderich (AAWE Paris), FAWCO US Liaison

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Did you know that many elections for the US Congress have been decided by a margin smaller than the number of ballots cast by absentee voters? Follow a few simple steps to make sure that you can vote in the 2016 U.S. elections. To do this, use online resources available to you, including:

- the dedicated FAWCO site (https://fawco. overseasvotefoundation.org/vote/home.html)
- the site of FAWCO’s partner, the U.S. Vote Foundation (formerly the Overseas Vote Foundation - https://www. overseasvotefoundation.org/vote/home.html)
- or the Federal Voting Assistance Program (https://www.fvap.gov)

1. Request your ballot

You must complete a new ballot request after January 1, 2016 to ensure you receive your ballot for the 2016 elections.

- Request your ballot form online. The online voting assistant will ask you questions specific to your state. We encourage you to ask your local election officials to deliver your blank ballots to you electronically. Include your email address on your form to take advantage of the option for electronic ballot delivery, and to allow your local election official to contact you if necessary. The instructions accompanying your form will give the name and contact details of your local election official. It is a good idea to contact him or her before you’ve submitted the form, to ensure that you are registered.

2. Receive and complete your ballot.

States are required to send ballots to overseas voters 45 days before a regular election for federal office and states generally send out ballots at least 30 days before primary elections. For most states, you can confirm your registration and ballot delivery online.

If your state requires you to return paper voting forms or ballots to local election officials, you can do so free of charge at the nearest US embassy or consulate. Place your ballots in postage-paid return envelopes or in envelopes bearing sufficient domestic US postage, and address them to the relevant local election officials.

You can also return your form/absentee ballot to your local election officials via international mail or professional courier service at your own expense. If you send the ballot by post, we recommend you send it registered mail to ensure delivery.

3. If your ballot does not arrive in time, send a write-in ballot.

If your ballot has not reached you by October 14, go back to the website where you filed out your registration form, and generate a federal write-in absentee ballot (FWAB). If your regular ballot arrives after you have sent off your FWAB, vote and send it, too, and let the local election official decide which one to count.

Remember, your vote counts! Your country needs to hear your voice.
Conference, Mumbai, India, was greeted with enthusiasm.

Of a Strategic Planning Task Force to help lead FAWCO into the future, chaired by Carolene Curtis Brown, and continues to “work towards international goodwill and the preservation of world peace, to help one another solve problems common to all.” FAWCO is its Member Clubs, and they must remain strong for FAWCO to stay strong, which is why the Board sought:

- To reinvigorate existing Member Clubs by helping them to increase their membership.
- To look for new audiences.
- To emphasize the growing international structure of our membership and our efforts to improve the lives of women and girls worldwide.
- To communicate FAWCO’s strengths and market them more effectively.

**Rebranding Action Plan**

The Task Force members were introduced to Edwin and Sanja Schmidheiny, internationally experienced branding professionals of Accent Brand Consultants Ltd. in Zurich, who donated their time to develop the FAWCO brand with the rebranding team.

The rebranding process included the following steps:

- Finding a brand position that reflects the global mindset of the FAWCO woman, one that balances our American heritage with our international lifestyle and work. FAWCO is inclusive, defining FAWCO women not by where they come from, but based on the women they have become and where they are going. FAWCO challenges all of us to make a difference and harnesses the energy of women from our member clubs into a strong force for global action.
- Creating a branding proposal which clearly promotes FAWCO’s international agenda and position: FAWCO is a Global Gateway. The Accent Brand Consultants Ltd. proposed that the new logo be used by all three organizations: FAWCO, The FAWCO Foundation and FAUSA creating a “family brand”. After some research it appeared that, unlike a commercial organization with its own foundation, FAWCO and its sister organizations are three separate, independent, legal entities and therefore, each should have its own distinct visual symbol.
- Defining the FAWCO values, which are personal commitment, American spirit and global perspective.
- Developing and proposing a new FAWCO logo to better communicate who we are and what we do.
- Reviewing and refreshing the Mission Statement.
- Crafting a new tagline.

**Circle of Honor Award by Monica Jabuly, FAWCO President**

The “Circle of Honor” is the highest award given by FAWCO. The Circle of Honor recognizes distinguished years of service and dedication to the goals and ideals of FAWCO in both elected and appointed positions.

This year’s award was given to a person who has been an exceptional leader. Kathleen Simon (AWC Bern), FAWCO Counselor, has put an enormous amount of time and energy into so many FAWCO projects. She has held positions on the Board as well as chaired numerous committees and task forces. While 1st VP she stepped in as acting President and then went on to be an outstanding President in her own right.

As the Chair of the Rebranding FAWCO Task Force, Kathleen devoted countless hours to the project making sure to include everyone’s ideas and working closely with the consultants. As always, she did a top notch, professional job.

She continues to volunteer to steer FAWCO into the future and was credited in the 2017-19 Nominating Chair. Kathleen was presented the Circle of Honor Award at the 2016 Interim Meeting in recognition for her leadership and outstanding work as the Rebranding FAWCO Task Force Chair.

**FAWCO IM AND REBRANDING FAWCO**

Darrow Global Property Specialist and F2F sponsor, London and Capital. The Annual General Meeting focused on highlights from 2015 and a look at FAWCO’s future. The Year in Review covered a report from The FAWCO Foundation, a summary of the Target 2.0 program and the 2015 Cultural Volunteers Program (CVP) hosted by AWC Mumbai. Julia Goldsby, former CVP participant and FAWCO Youth Ambassador, presented her film project, The World of FAWCO. The FAWCO Youth Program announced that the 2016 Cultural Volunteer Program will be held in Dublin, Ireland.

We discovered how The FAWCO Foundation’s Education Awards and Development Grants awarded in 2015 made a difference in the lives of your children and projects worldwide and how the efforts of individuals, member clubs and The FAWCO Foundation resulted in raising over $170,000 for the Target Project, Free The Girls. FAWCO’s Financial Future Task Force conducted a presentation “How to Build FAWCO’s Ideal Budget” an explanation of how FAWCO’s finances reflect what FAWCO will be able to do in the future. With the launch of the Target 3.0 Program, Education – Empowering Women and Girls through Knowledge and Skills, FAWCO will be raising awareness on this issue during the next twelve months while accepting applications for the next Target Project.

**FAWCO Mission Statement**

FAWCO is an international federation of independent organizations whose mission is:

- to build strong support networks for its American and international membership;
- to improve the lives of women and girls worldwide;
- to advocate for the rights of U.S. citizens overseas; and
- to mobilize the skills of its membership in support of global initiatives for education, the environment, health and human rights.

**2016 FAWCO Rep Appreciation Awards**

Sahar Elhalk, AIWA Marrakesh has gone “beyond the call of duty” both as FAWCO Rep and Regional Coordinator, nearly single-handedly organizing a Regional meeting in an area with local political challenges, an extremely limited budget and a more-than-usual challenge getting clubs within the region to participate. Deborah Lillian, AAFE Paris organized a successful Regional meeting, and is an excellent fundraiser. Deborah’s club president recommended her as the best FAWCO Rep ever! And wrote: “Within our club, she has done much to promote FAWCO, …and has made it fun as well!”

Marie-Bénédicte Luxem, AWC Zurich Zurich believes in FAWCO and this year organized a very successful Regional meeting. Inspired by her enthusiastic promotion of FAWCO, many of her fellow club members acknowledge that without her commitment and effort it would not have happened.

Laurie Richardson, AWA Vienna is a past club president and current FAWCO Rep who has also served on the FAWCO Board. Laurie also leads FAWCO’s work with the United Nations and is very involved in and passionate about women’s issues. Her work with refugees is inspiring and motivating.

Ann De Simon, AIWC Geneva is a FAWCO Rep who has been an active member of her club for well over 20 years, working in virtually every area. She welcomed new members with great enthusiasm, as a skilled fundraiser and has always been a strong supporter and participant in FAWCO.
Successful Conclusion to Target Program - Human Rights for Women
By Johanna Dishongh (AWC The Hague), FAWCO 3rd VP and Target Program Chair, 2013-2016

In March 2013, Human Rights for Women – Protecting the Rights and Improving the Lives of Women and Girls Worldwide, was announced as the overarching theme for the FAWCO Target Program 2013 – 2016, a program launched in 2009 to bring a critical global issue to the attention of FAWCO Clubs, their members and the world.

Member Clubs selected Free The Girls: Providing Economic Opportunity for Survivors of Human Trafficking as the Target Project. The two-year fundraising campaign culminated February 28, 2016. The FAWCO Foundation Target Fundraising Coordinator, Marie-Bénédicte Luxem, has announced contributions totaling $172,089.33 with participation across every region of FAWCO.

FAWCO’s financial support has provided Free The Girls the opportunity to lay the foundation for future success by allowing them to fine-tune staff positions and provide much needed space for streamlined, efficient operations. Free The Girls Executive Director Courtney Skiera-Vaugh in their annual report stated that her organization will be forever grateful to the members of FAWCO for the financial support which allowed them much needed breathing room as a start-up non profit. Free The Girls now has the time and resources to more fully focus on what they are really about – the women they profit. Free The Girls Executive Director Courtney Skiera-Vaugh, in their annual report, stated that her organization will be forever grateful to the members of FAWCO for the financial support which allowed them much needed breathing room as a start-up non profit. Free The Girls now has the time and resources to more fully focus on what they are really about – the women they profit.

FAWCO and The FAWCO Foundation Want You to Save the Date
October 7 - 9, 2016

FAWCO and The FAWCO Foundation are pleased to announce a jointly sponsored Symposium dedicated to the sustainable rescue of victims of human trafficking to be held October 7-9, 2016. The Symposium will be held at the International Press Club of The Hague. To register go to www.fawco.org/symposium.

The Power of Education at Marrakech Regional
by Dawn Schwartz (AIWC Casablanca)

Region 7 came together in January in Marrakech with a large group in attendance, about 20 from Casablanca, 10 from Rabat, 8 from Marrakesh and three ladies from Dubai. Unfortunately, distance prevented representatives from the other countries in the region, Kenya, Nigeria and Angola from attending.

We were warmly greeted at the City Hall by Sahar Elhallak (Coordinator for Region 7 and AIWA Marrakesh FAWCO Rep) with Renate Al-Sabri, AIWA Marrakesh President, introducing the delegates. FAWCO President Monica Jubiaryl (AWC Lebanon) then gave a presentation describing FAWCO as “a group of enlightened women striving for world peace.” She was followed by Andy Dilbert, Economic Officer at the US Embassy, who discussed what the US is doing in Morocco in the field of education. We then broke out into small groups and discussed topics of interest to our clubs. One of the suggestions made by the FAWCO delegates was that inter-regional workshops should be organized for geographically widespread regions such as ours.

AC Shanghai Celebrates Club History
by Angela Anderson (AC Shanghai), FAWCO Rep

The American Women’s Club Shanghai (AWCS) was formed in 1899, when most of the American women in Shanghai were wives of missionaries, businessmen or diplomats. A few single women were living in the city, most serving as missionaries or Protestant denominations.

Elizabeth Goodnow, the wife of the US Consul General arrived in Shanghai in 1899. Mr. Goodnow was a lawyer from Minneapolis who had assisted in William McKinley’s presidential campaign. Shortly after the election, Mr. Goodnow was appointed Consul General to Shanghai. The couple married in 1899 in Yokohama, Japan, during their journey to Shanghai.

Shortly after their arrival, Elizabeth Goodnow held a small meeting in her home and the American Women’s Club was created to “promote higher and broader culture – intellectual, social and moral, and to unite more closely the women of the American community in Shanghai.” The club’s formation set the stage for a foreign country. American women and other international women residing in the treaty ports along China’s coast soon joined the club’s ranks. The club’s formation set the stage for a friendly community for the rebuilding cause. In the first meeting of the club, a book drive was held. The collection became the start of the city’s library system.

Upon the foundation Mrs. Cooper provided, the American Women’s Club Shanghai blossomed. The membership of AWCS grew along with the influx of new business development in Shanghai. The club was active from 1899 until after World War II. It was re-established in 1996, when a few members reorganized the American Women’s Club Shanghai. Within a year, the club's growth accelerated, and it became a focal point for social and cultural activities.

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2016 Development Grant and Education Awards
Recipients Announced

By Patti Meek (JAWC Dublin), The FAWCO Foundation President

Development Grants
The FAWCO Foundation Development Grants are grouped into four categories, in alignment with FAWCO’s four areas of focus: Environment, Education, Health and Human Rights. The 2016 DG ballot contained 28 submissions for eight available grants. The recipients, chosen by FAWCO Member Clubs, were announced at the Interim Meeting in March, with each recipient receiving $4,500.

EDUCATION:
AW OF SURREY HOPE THROUGH EDUCATION
Recipient: Mentawai Boarding School
Location: Indonesia
Nominating Club: AWG of Languedoc-Roussillon
Parent Organization: N/A
Website: www.ybtuniversal.org

PAM DAHLGREN EDUCATING AFRICAS CHILDREN
Recipient: Hope Alive Foundation (HAF) – Mary Handley Initiative on Child Health and Education (MHI)
Location: Malawi
Nominating Club: AWA of Rome
Parent Organization: N/A
Website: N/A

ENVIRONMENT:
MOTHER EARTH, sponsored in part by AC Shanghai
Recipient: Solar Powered Showers for Health and Academic Excellence in Northern Ethiopia
Location: Ethiopia
Nominating Club: AW of Zurich
Parent Organization: Rainbows4Children Foundation
Website: www.rainbows4children.org

HEALTH:
CRITICAL HEALTH CONCERNS, sponsored in part by Renuka Matthews
Recipient: Eye Surgery and Placement of Prosthetic Eye
Location: Philippines
Nominating Club: AIL of Florence
Parent Organization: Gabriel’s Symphony Foundation
Website: www.gabrielsymphony.com

THE COUGHLAN FAMILY FOUNDATION’S SUPPORT IN SICKNESS & HEALTH
Recipient: Mothers Averting Aids
Location: Republic of South Africa
Nominating Club: AIL of Florence
Parent Organization: Art Aids Art
Website: www.ArtAidsArt.org

HUMAN RIGHTS:
BREAKING THE CYCLE, sponsored in part by AWEP and AIL of Florence
Recipient: Growing Guayule To Fight Aids And Provide Bio-Fuel (arkla/ Condoms, Cash, and Cooking Fuel)
Location: Republic of South Africa
Nominating Club: AWG of Languedoc-Roussillon
Parent Organization: University of the Western Cape, RSA, in collaboration with The Ohio State University, USA
Website: www.guayulelab.cs.ohio-state.edu

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Parent Organization: N/A
Website: N/A

ENVIRONMENT:
MOTHER EARTH, sponsored in part by AC Shanghai
Recipient: Solar Powered Showers for Health and Academic Excellence in Northern Ethiopia
Location: Ethiopia
Nominating Club: AW of Zurich
Parent Organization: Rainbows4Children Foundation
Website: www.rainbows4children.org

HEALTH:
CRITICAL HEALTH CONCERNS, sponsored in part by Renuka Matthews
Recipient: Eye Surgery and Placement of Prosthetic Eye
Location: Philippines
Nominating Club: AIL of Florence
Parent Organization: Gabriel’s Symphony Foundation
Website: www.gabrielsymphony.com

THE COUGHLAN FAMILY FOUNDATION’S SUPPORT IN SICKNESS & HEALTH
Recipient: Mothers Averting Aids
Location: Republic of South Africa
Nominating Club: AIL of Florence
Parent Organization: Art Aids Art
Website: www.ArtAidsArt.org

HUMAN RIGHTS:
BREAKING THE CYCLE, sponsored in part by AWEP and AIL of Florence
Recipient: Growing Guayule To Fight Aids And Provide Bio-Fuel (arkla/ Condoms, Cash, and Cooking Fuel)
Location: Republic of South Africa
Nominating Club: AWG of Languedoc-Roussillon
Parent Organization: University of the Western Cape, RSA, in collaboration with The Ohio State University, USA
Website: www.guayulelab.cs.ohio-state.edu

Education Awards
The FAWCO Foundation has been supporting education since it offered its first education awards in 1972. Created by and for FAUSA and FAWCO club members and their children, the program recognizes and honors academic excellence and all-around achievement. There were 37 applicants for the 2016 Education Awards and the recipients were announced in March at our conference near Frankfurt.

AWG PARIS IT AWARD FOR YOUNG WOMEN
$4,000
Recipient: Sarah Rugger. Her mother is a member of AW of Zurich.

SCIENCE AWARD
$4,000
Recipient: Aashna Iyer. Her mother is a member of AW of Mumbai.

FAUSA SKILLS ENHANCEMENT AWARD
$4,000
Recipient: Kelly Snow. She is a member of Chilterns American Women’s Club.

Women in Technology Award
Recognizing the diverse roles of our members, their achievements and their never-ending quest for knowledge and self-improvement.

AFC of Basel Award for University Degree Study Programs
$5,000
Recipient: Erin Newby. She is a member of AW in Paris.

FAWCO and FAUSA Member Awards

June is the season for weddings, graduations and anniversaries. Mark the occasion with a donation to one of the FAWCO Foundation’s programs! You can honor your friend or family member by supporting education, bettering health, backing women’s pursuit of equal access to human rights, or improving the environment in their name. Upon request, along with your acknowledgement, you will receive a certificate which can be personalized with the name of the honoree(s) and presented to that special person. Simply go to our website and under Donations and How Can I Donate, select the program you wish to support. Please email president@ fawcofoundation.org to arrange for a certificate to be created. This is truly the gift that gives! All the details about our programs and how to donate are on our website. Visit us today at www.fawcofoundation.org.

AC Shahangri Celebrates Club History

member membership had grown to over 100. By 2012, membership had reached a high of 800. In 2014, members voted to change the club name to the American Expatriate Club Shahangri (shorted to ACS in common usage). We will celebrate an anniversary of sorts in the fall of 2016, the 20th anniversary of our reorganization after the re-opening of China. Recent decades have brought many changes to Shahangri and to the expatriate population as well. Our club mission remains the same - to assist Americans and international residents in this huge, chaotic and exciting city!
The Target Program demonstrates the power of FAWCO Member Clubs working together towards a common goal to create change and increase knowledge of the global issues impacting women. The Target Program follows a three-year cycle of issue awareness and education, project selection, fundraising, project monitoring, review and evaluation.

At the FAWCO Interim Meeting in Frankfurt (March 2016), **Education – Empowering Women and Girls through Knowledge and Skills**, was announced as the overarching theme for the FAWCO Target Program 2016 - 2019.

Over the next three years, we will take a deep dive to learn what matters in girls’ education. In our monthly *Blog: Let’s Get Schooled* we will explore the issues which prevent millions of women and girls from receiving quality education; become familiar with the goals established by world leaders in education to remedy this injustice; and look at the impact educating women and girls have on their lives, their families, their communities and society.

The Target Project is a way for FAWCO members to make an actionable investment to empower women and girls through knowledge and skills. Through the support of The FAWCO Foundation we will employ the energy and generosity of our Member Clubs by fundraising for a single project supporting women’s and girls’ education. We will be accepting applications for project proposals through September 30, 2016. A Selection Committee will present a short-list of proposals to Member Clubs to vote on and the winner will be announced at the Biennial Conference in Mumbai, India.

To follow our *Blog: Let’s Get Schooled* please visit the FAWCO website [www.fawco.org](http://www.fawco.org) and click on the Target Program: Education Quick Link. You can also sign up for the Target Program: Education Bulletin to stay up to date on program developments.

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**FAWCO Target Program 2016 – 2019 Education – Empowering Women and Girls through Knowledge and Skills**

By Tricia R. Saur, (AIWC Cologne), Target Chair 2016-2019

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**At home around the world**

Connecting communities around the world and providing a platform for its members to make a meaningful difference, FAWCO is a truly global brand.

When FAWCO asked us to support its rebranding project, we felt honored to apply our international experience to a brand committed to make the world a better place. As specialists in global branding, we helped FAWCO express its authentic heritage and its attitude with a clear positioning, a set of brand values and a new, modern brand design.

**accent**

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