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STAND UP Against Human Trafficking

by Mary Adams, AWC The Hague

Being “rescued” from human trafficking is not a guarantee of freedom, economic independence or personal empowerment. Our positive experience with the FAWCO Target Project, Free The Girls, encouraged us to do further research into the critical success factors for “sustainable rescue.” We learned that individuals, communities, the private/public sectors, universities, NGOs and governments are already implementing an impressive human trafficking eradication tool set. In 2015, a decision was made to



Symposium Co-Chairs Mary Adams and Johanna Dishongh

make this information public through the joint effort between FAWCO and The FAWCO Foundation in a symposium: STAND UP Against Human Trafficking. The Hague, city of International Peace and Justice was selected as the venue.

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The FAWCO Experience

by Mary Adams, AWC The Hague

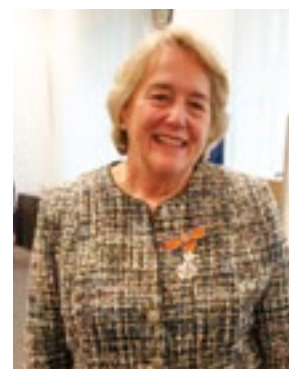
Prostitution is legal in the Netherlands. Do prostitution laws really protect women or do they create a fuzzy line between legal sex work and human trafficking? A precursor to the STAND UP Against Human Trafficking Symposium, the FAWCO Experience was a members-only program developed to give a deeper understanding of the journey trafficked survivors take from rescue to empowerment (within Dutch borders).

(Continued on page 8)

Georgia Regnault Honored

by Emily van Eerten, AWC The Hague

At the closing of the STAND UP Symposium, longtime AWC The Hague member and FAWCO Counselor Georgia Regnault (pictured right) was presented, by the Mayor of The Hague, Jozias van Aartsen, a with Royal Dutch recognition naming her a Knight in the Order of Oranje-Nassau.



(Continued on page 6)



by Monica Jubayli, AWC Lebanon, FAWCO President 2015-2017

Last year FAWCO went through a significant exercise - "rebranding". This resulted in the introduction of a new and inspiring logo with tagline, as well as a refreshed Mission Statement. After the adoption of the rebranding package, the Strategic Planning Task Force (SPTF) was created to

keep the momentum of FAWCO's movement forward into the future.

Cora Lee Findley (AW Eastern Province), and the task force members Christine Funke (AIWC Cologne), Jodi Gentilozzi (AWA Qatar and Treasurer, The FAWCO Foundation), Anne van Oorschot (AWC The Hague), Rick Chizmadia (FAUSA), and acting as advisor, FAWCO Counselor Celeste Brown (AWC The Hague) are taking a deep dive into what is FAWCO by studying all areas of association. By examining FAWCO's purpose, as outlined in the Bylaws and the Mission Statement, the task force will spell out the goals FAWCO wants to achieve, identify the action steps necessary to achieve them (including individual resources as well as time and financial support required) and a timeline.

This process will take much time and effort, but the rewards will be many-fold as FAWCO will be able to

- Address the needs of its Member Clubs and how FAWCO brings value to their organizations.
- Be more proactive than reactive.
- Understand how The FAWCO Foundation and FAUSA fit in with FAWCO's goals.

Ultimately, the goal is to put in place a strategic plan that will help FAWCO concentrate its efforts and direct the energy of its volunteers. All will be working together to achieve our common goals that support the Mission Statement.

In the days ahead, the SPTF will continue its review and research to complete their analyses of FAWCO programs, committees and task forces. They will be asking to hear from you, both clubs and members. A survey is in the works to be sent out in mid-January. In the meantime, remember that in the wake of the rebranding process, our goal is to team our new look with a solid plan for FAWCO's future direction.

What a significant six months FAWCO has had!

- The FAWCO 1st VP-Communications, Sallie Chaballier, and her team have been working hard since the Interim Meeting last March to update all FAWCO's communications materials with our new logo.
- FAWCO Youth Cultural Volunteers visited Dublin, Ireland June 7-12. (See article page 7.)
- The Biennial Conference Committees have been working since the summer. The Nominating Committee is putting together a slate for the next term's Board, while the Resolutions and Recommendations (R&Rs) Committee has been reviewing the 2015-2017 R&Rs and will be proposing R&Rs for the 2017-2019 term.

- The Strategic Planning Task Force has been meeting regularly since July. (See President's Message on this page.)
- Conference information has been available since August, with the launch of the dedicated conference newsletter, Spotlight on Mumbai. It has been sent out to help FAWCOites plan and prepare to attend the Biennial Conference in Mumbai in March 2017. (See article on this page.)
- Conference registration went live on September 1st.
- The FAWCO Experience held in Amsterdam October 6th and 7th was a sold-out event. (See article page 8.)
- FAWCO and The FAWCO Foundation successfully hosted the Symposium: STAND UP Against Human Trafficking in The Hague October 8th and 9th. (See article page 8.)
- FAWCO co-sponsored a panel on Human Trafficking at a Side Event of the UN conference on Transnational Organized Crime in Vienna on October 19th. (See article page 5.)
- The Region 5 meeting was hosted by AWC Berlin November 11-13. (See article page 10.)
- It has been non-stop for the Global Issues Task Forces as they publish regular bulletins.
- US Liaison, Lucy Laederich, and Mary Stewart Burgher, US Voting from Overseas Committee chair, reminded all of us, several times, to register to vote. (See article page 3.)

The FAWCO Board and all its volunteers are working hard to better serve its members and their clubs.



In March 2017, AWC Mumbai (AWCM) will be hosting FAWCO's 43rd Biennial Conference, the first to be held in Region 11. AWCM President Meenakshi Advani (Biennial Conference Chair) has been working with Dottie Wagle, AWCM Conference Planning Chair, and their team to put together a very special conference including The FAWCO Foundation Night celebrating its 50th anniversary, local speakers, pre- and post-conference city tours, optional dinners, a chance to meet AWCM members who will buddy up with FAWCO delegates to show them their fascinating city... and a little bit of Mumbai Masti (mischief). This year there is a lot of pre-conference information available in the monthly issues of *Spotlight on Mumbai*, a newsletter with practical tips, details about tours and activities, fun facts about India, as well as conference business updates. You can find all of this and more on the FAWCO conference webpages available to registered users of the FAWCO website. Go to www.fawco.org and click on the Conference logo to register.

FAWCO and the Overseas Voter

by Lucy Laederich (AAWE Paris), FAWCO US Liaison



2016 was the third presidential election (the fifth federal) for which FAWCO benefited from the advanced user-friendly technology and support of Overseas Vote Foundation (OVF), now officially U.S. Vote Foundation.

The dedicated FAWCO-OVF registration and ballot request website only attracted 467 users this year (down from 724 in 2012), but they offer one thumbnail view of the overall overseas voting population. In some cases, the statistics generated by the FAWCO-OVF website closely parallel overall US statistics while in others, they tend interestingly to tell us just as much about FAWCO itself (large FAWCO presence in some countries like the UK and Germany; high proportion of long-term residents firmly rooted in their host country; and even the dedication of certain active FAWCO Reps!).

Historically low voter participation

US voter participation is known to be low compared with other countries. According to Pew, turnout in the 2012 presidential election was only 53.6%. Another indication of low voter engagement is that, according to the Census Bureau, only about 65% of the US voting-age population (and 71% of the voting-age citizenry) was registered in 2012, compared with 91% in Canada and the UK, 96% in Sweden and nearly 99% in Japan.

Overview of FAWCO-OVF website users

For the United States as a whole, *the six countries with the most "overseas US" voters* are Canada, Britain, France, Israel, Japan and Australia. Those with the most users of the FAWCO website, however, are, in descending order, Germany, France, the UK and the Netherlands, followed by Denmark, Columbia and

Switzerland. Despite the preponderance of FAWCO clubs in western Europe, the website attracted users from around the globe, including Morocco, Saudi Arabia, the Bahamas, Mexico, Qatar, China, Colombia, Panama, Australia and the UAE.

As the media continually reminds us, Florida is the state where the overseas absentee vote counts most: it is thought to have tipped the scales in 2000. As in Virginia, however, the statistic for Florida includes a high number of military voters not corresponding completely to the FAWCO population. The *states with the highest numbers of overseas voters* over the FAWCO-OVF website (CA, NY, TX, MA, PA, NJ, FL, GA, VA, MI, NC) closely parallel population statistics for the United States as a whole (CA, TX, FL, NY, IL, PA, OH, GA, NC, MI) which, in turn, reflect electoral college votes.

FAWCO voters appear to be predominantly long-term *overseas residents* (51.6%, as opposed to 42.4% temporary). It is encouraging to see the proportion of users in the "second-generation overseas" population (6%), showing how important it is for our community that, as things now stand, 36 states plus the District of Columbia allow Americans born abroad to US citizen parents to vote in the voting state of their eligible citizen parent(s).

In terms of age, the largest voting group (33.61%) is between 51 and 65, with ballot requesters evenly divided between the 25-40 and 41-50 age ranges. 12.31% are over retirement age; 9.8% are in the young age range (18-24) so avidly courted by the political campaigns, and one eager voter even registered and requested his/her ballot before reaching the age of 18 on November 8!

(Continued on page 4)

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

by Tricia R. Saur, AIWC Cologne, FAWCO Target Chair

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

The first year of the program was launched with an awareness raising campaign, featuring a blog series *Let's Get Schooled* and a monthly Target Bulletin. Both have been well received by FAWCO and FAUSA members. *Let's Get Schooled* explores issues related to education for women and girls on the global front - such as barriers to girls' education, the devastating and all-encompassing impact of poverty, and global education policy makers and the role data plays in influencing their decisions. The Target Bulletin keeps you up to date on program developments, links to our blog on the FAWCO website, and features how Member Clubs and FAWCO Task Forces are raising awareness about the importance of women's and girls' education. Sign up to receive the bulletin through the "Subscribe" button at the top of the FAWCO home page.

Preparation for the second phase of the Target Program began in May with the release of the Target Project Application. By the September 30, 2016 deadline, 18 applications were received from ten Member Clubs and FAUSA. The Selection Committee is presently reviewing the applications and will announce a shortlist of proposals on January 6, 2017. Member Clubs will have the opportunity to vote for the Target Project in early February. The winner will be announced at the Biennial Conference in Mumbai, India.

The announcement in Mumbai will mark the launch of the fundraising phase of the Target Program. The FAWCO Foundation, under the leadership of the Target Fundraising Coordinator Sahar Elhallak (AIWA Rabat), will kick off the fundraising campaign running from April 2017 through February 2019.

The Target Program follows a three-year cycle of issue awareness and education, project selection, fundraising, project monitoring, review and evaluation. The Target Program demonstrates the power of FAWCO Member Clubs working together toward a common goal to create change and to increase knowledge and awareness of the global issues impacting women.



Ghana School Girls
Source: Action Aid UK



Cambodian School Girls
Photo credit: https://www.globalgiving.org/pfil/3885/ph_3885_28894.jpg

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FAWCO and the Overseas Voter

Overseas voters as an important voting block

According to one of the most reliable sources for voting statistics, the U.S. Election Project, approximately 58.2% of eligible US voters cast ballots in this year's presidential election. This was down only slightly from 2012, when turnout was 58.6%, and well above 2000's rate of 54.2%. Turnout may actually end up higher than in any presidential election year between 1972 and 2000.

The Election Project's Michael McDonald, associate professor at the University of Florida, estimates the voting-eligible population (VEP) as a whole at 231,556,622, and considers that 4,739,596 of these are "overseas eligible".

The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP), which calculates the overseas vote at approximately 4% of the total US vote, estimated that 2.6 million overseas Americans might vote in 2016 and expected increased turnout from 2012. If the Democrats Abroad primary was any indication, they appeared to be right: 34,570 voted this year, up from the 22,715 who participated in the 2012 primary.

Voters registering and requesting ballots over the FAWCO-OVF website cannot help but be aware of the importance of this voting block and the *impact of the overseas absentee vote* in many elections (including Florida in 2000). In addition to the highly visible presidential results, several close Senate and House contests over the past decade were won by margins smaller than the number of overseas ballots received, including those won by Senators Jim Webb in Virginia in 2006 and by Al Franken in Minnesota two years later.

FAWCO is therefore proud to contribute to encouraging and facilitating the overseas vote and grateful, once again this year, for the invaluable assistance of its partner, U.S. Vote Foundation.

Updates from the FAWCO UN Reps Team

by UN Liaison Laurie Richardson (AWA Vienna) and the UN Reps Team

Vienna

Laurie Richardson, UN Liaison: I serve on the Executive Committee of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women (NGO CSW) in Vienna. We organize special programs and events associated with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), especially related to their work on preventing human trafficking. I recently spoke on a panel on "Preventing Trafficking, Trade and Exploitation of Women and Children" in connection with a UNODC conference on transnational organized crime, where I reported on the FAWCO/FAWCO Foundation **Symposium STAND UP Against Human Trafficking**. With NGO CSW Vienna, I work on joint statements for the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and collaborate with local schools on a program to study the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). And yes, there are lots of acronyms to keep track of when you work around the UN.

New York

Erica Higbie, UN Rep: I am Treasurer of NGO Committee on the Status of Women in New York, and chair the Advocacy and Budget Committees. As a Director on the Executive Committee of the NGO Department of Public Information (DPI), I head up a mentoring initiative for NGOs new to the UN, and work on fundraising for the next DPI Conference. I am involved with the Working Group on Girls, but taking a leave from the Steering Committee this year to focus on my other roles. Planning will begin soon for the 61st Commission on the Status of Women. I hope to see FAWCO there in numbers like the past two years.

Valia Mitsakis, Youth Rep: At the start of the year, I attended the UN Youth Forum and the Winter Youth Assembly. In March, I joined the FAWCO delegation at the CSW60 and participated in the Youth Forum. I attended the Summer Youth Assembly with another member of FAWCO Youth and then in September,



Sammy Witt (L) and Valia Mitsakis (R) at the UN Summer Youth Assembly

I reported on the UN General Assembly for the radio station where I work. I attended press briefings with foreign leaders and observed meetings, especially concerning the refugee crisis.

Jane McCall Politi, UN Rep: I am Vice Chair of the NGO Committee on Migration. My work on the Subcommittee on

Migrant/Refugee Children's Issues focuses on early childhood development (education and care) for children in emergency situations in host/resettlement countries. I helped draft a position paper, "Positive Effects of Innovative Early Childhood Development Programs on Refugee Youth Resilience" for the UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) NGO Consultations in June. Preparations for the Summit on Addressing Large Movements of Migrants and Refugees in September included consultations and high-level meetings with the civil society action committee.



Celebration of International Day of the Girl October 11, Place des Nations, Geneva
FAWCO's UN Rep Stacy Lara was one of the organizers of this event

Geneva

Stacy Dry Lara, UN Rep: Again this year, I covered Human Rights Council sessions at the UN in Geneva in March, June and September. Months of planning led to the NGO CSW Geneva flashmob on October 11 to celebrate the International Day of the Girl. The flashmob was a huge success with support from the Permanent Missions in Geneva of the US and Canada, UNICEF, UN Office in Geneva, the OHCHR, and Plan International.

Anne Riz, UN Rep: I am Treasurer of NGO CSW Geneva which has been instrumental in the Committee's work to clarify its objectives and procedures. In October, NGO CSW Geneva, in partnership with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, hosted a forum "Economic Empowerment of Women and Girls in A sustainable Development Perspective," including panels and discussions on women in decision-making, equal pay, unpaid care work, and government procurement.

(Continued on page 7)



UN Rep Jane McCall Politi (R) at UNHCR NGO Consultations in Geneva

Spotlight on the Human Rights Task Force

by Therese Hartwell, AW Eastern Province and FAUSA, FAWCO Human Rights Task Force Chair

The FAWCO Human Rights Task Force (HRTF) publishes a monthly bulletin to raise awareness on human rights issues for women and girls in the areas of economic and political empowerment, peace and conflict, and violence against women. In addition, the task force encourages FAWCO member clubs and FAUSA groups to participate in activities throughout the year related to these topics.

In the fall of each year, the HRTF asks members to participate in the **Rutgers 16 Days Against Gender-Based Violence Campaign** from November 25 to December 10. The 2016 theme for the campaign was "From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World: Make Education Safe for All!" The theme coincides with the FAWCO Target Program's current focus on education. Given the worldwide refugee crisis and its relevance to this year's theme, the HRTF recommended that groups collect school supplies for local refugees; hold a book discussion on *The Moon is Low*, by Nadia Hashimi, a moving novel about an Afghan refugee family; and/or provide books about refugees to children in the local community.

Countries facing violent conflicts have the worst education indicators in the world, especially for girls. According to UNESCO, girls in conflict areas are almost two and a half times more likely to be out of school in general and 90% more likely to be out of secondary school. Yet, education can actually help prevent conflict. The UNESCO report also states that: "... doubling the percentage of youth with secondary education from 30% to 60% has the potential to halve the risk of conflict." Ironically, access to education is the least likely to be available to children in conflict zones who need it most.

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Georgia Regnault Honored



Georgia receiving her medal from the Mayor of The Hague

AWC members Emily van Eerten and Greetje Engelsman spearheaded the group who prepared the application for Georgia's nomination. The group researched Georgia's volunteer history, interviewing people in a variety of organizations. With a mountain of information, a strategic decision was made to focus on Georgia's service to the local community, over the years both helping Americans

and others integrate into Dutch society and showcasing Dutch society to the international community. The AWC of The Hague, FAWCO, the Benoorderhout Neighborhood Association, and a former US Consul General in The Hague all contributed excellent and enthusiastic letters of recommendation in support of the application.

Refugee children are particularly likely to miss years of schooling. Of the nearly 20 million refugees under the care of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), half are children under the age of 18. According to UNHCR, only one in every two refugee children attends primary school, only a quarter are in secondary school and only 1% have access to tertiary education, putting an entire generation at risk.

In the spring of each year, the HRTF encourages members to commemorate V-Day and One Billion Rising, global movements to end violence against women and girls, which take place on February 14th. For 2017, the HRTF is recommending that FAWCO/FAUSA groups help address root causes of gender-based violence by screening and discussing two films from **The Representation Project** with young people in their community. *Miss Representation* addresses the misrepresentation that "... girls' and women's value lies in their youth, beauty, and sexuality and not in their capacity as leaders" and *The Mask You Live In* focuses on the message to boys that their success is "... tied to dominance, power, and aggression."

Boys and men face their own challenges from gender inequity, including harmful and unrealistic expectations about masculinity. The limiting beliefs that males are taught not to feel or empathize, to be stoic and tough and judge their manliness based on their sexual conquests, lead directly and indirectly to gender-based violence, the rape culture on college campuses, and many other problems. In addition to endangering women and girls, these norms do a grave disservice to men and boys, robbing them of their humanity.



Georgia surrounded by the "instigators" of her award from AWC The Hague

The majority of "Lintjes" (Royal ribbons) are bestowed on the King's birthday in April during the so-called "Lintjes Regen" (Rain of Ribbons). The Mayor's office graciously agreed to expedite the announcement of Georgia's award to coincide with the Symposium sponsored by FAWCO and the FAWCO Foundation, two organizations who benefited from Georgia's ongoing volunteer commitment. Georgia's husband, Peter, her three children, Alexander, Lara and Philippe and many of Georgia's long term FAWCO friends were able to raise a glass in celebration of this extraordinary recognition.

FAWCO YOUTH - The Cultural Volunteers Program: Dublin!

by Barbara Bühling, AWC Düsseldorf, FAWCO Youth Program Chair

The FAWCO Youth Cultural Volunteers Program flourished in its fourth year as seven of our seven FAWCO cultural volunteers travelled to Dublin for a week in June. They were hosted by AWC Dublin members and joined by Carson and Ian, two local youth volunteers. The enthusiastic feedback described the week as an "unforgettable experience."

The teens representing FAWCO, all between the ages of 13-17, were from AIWC Cologne, IWC Torino, AWC Hamburg and AWC Berlin. Thanks to the organization and energy of the Dublin Club President Rheagan Coffey and her capable team, the group enjoyed a fun week including both sightseeing and volunteering.

The FAWCO Youth program, which seeks to raise the awareness in today's youth of the world around them encouraging them to become responsible global citizens, offered a different program this year. Volunteer work involved clearing out the gardens of two local residents, which took a lot of time and energy. It was, as reported by Pascal Shrady (AIWC Cologne), "hard work," but "really fun!" He said he learned "how much little things can have a huge impact."

Tanja Janssen (AIWC Cologne) wrote "... when you're working together with other people about your age, you get closer through the shared work...it was just a really comfortable environment: working together, sharing cookies at the lunch break and seeing the smile on the man's face as he enjoyed his garden for the first time in probably several years."

The teens visited Malahide Castle and Kilmainham Gaol, experience a Ghost Tour and saw some of Dublin, discovered Irish history and even had an Irish dancing lesson! Their hosts did a wonderful job planning a diverse week of activities for the group. As we have come to discover in the FAWCO Youth Program, the group melded together effortlessly. Giulia Schwartz (IWC Torino) described it like being "surrounded by siblings."

As part of the program, the teens were asked to write about their experiences. Laura Wilhelm (AIWC Cologne) summed up her observations beautifully: "The Cultural Volunteers trip was definitely eye-opening. It allowed me to meet many new people and to learn and experience new, interesting things... With friends, both garden work and exploring a new city were suddenly much more fun! This experience is one I will remember and treasure."



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Updates from the FAWCO UN Reps Team

Paula Daeppen, a long-term member of the UN Reps team based in Geneva, serves as an Advisor to NGO CSW Geneva.

Athens

Grace Christovasilis, UN Rep: Since May 2016, UNHCR has a Main Office in Greece. UNHCR in Athens runs the Interagency Forum of over 25 NGOs. I attend meetings of the Interagency Forum, where we will soon discuss winterization for refugee camps, including replacing tents with containers and providing winter clothing. In November, in conjunction with UNHCR Spain, we will facilitate sports events for male refugees age 18-25 from refugee camps in Ioannina. If the events are successful, we will ask for similar programming for young women.

Global Programs

Pam Perraud, UN Rep At Large: I work with the Education Task Force writing a regular column for their bulletin promoting UN Educational, Social and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) activities related to education. I am a member of the Target Project Selection Committee short-listing candidates for the Target Project on Education for women and girls.

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STAND UP Against Human Trafficking

Symposium Co-Chairs Mary Adams and Johanna Dishongh spent one year researching and interviewing different organizations to create a balanced program highlighting the tremendous efforts underway to fight human trafficking at each level. The goal of the Symposium was to raise awareness about human trafficking and to motivate and inspire the audience that tools existing at each and every level. The theme of the Symposium became: Be an Everyday Hero.



Lisa Cohen (L) of CNN with Mary Adams (R)

The two-day event was well attended by FAWCO members as well as the general public. Day One featured the role of government with the keynote address delivered by the Dutch National Dutch Rapporteur, Corinne Dettmeijer. Describing her unique independent role for policy recommendations and forming common goals through international knowledge exchange networks, she reminded us, "Behind every policy and statistic is the story of a human being."

A representative from the US Embassy discussed the Trafficking In Persons report, a diplomatic tool that is creating a common language and measurement system for national "trafficking track records." Lucy Laederich, FAWCO US Liaison, presented an overview of three US anti-trafficking campaigns and how US departments are working together to stop human trafficking. The following sessions shifted from government to NGO actions and solutions. Three organizations were highlighted: Free The Girls for their individual retail economic empowerment; Not For Sale where a for-profit company funds a not-for-profit foundation to job training in the culinary industry; and The Bijlmer Project's Bridge2Hope, a unique collaboration between Webster University's Behavioral Sciences department, Christian Aid & Resources Foundation and social entrepreneurs to focus on the psychosocial needs of victims of sex trafficking.

The remainder of the day was devoted to labor trafficking. Stop the Traffik associated the power of consumers with "action heroes" fighting for clean supply chains in industry. FairWork described labor exploitation and the signs of labor trafficking. The final activity was a group exercise using an online survey on how to be a conscientious consumer by linking your personal goods with slave trafficking.

Day Two shifted to the transformation of media from mere reporting to a proactive anti-trafficking toolset. Lisa Cohen of the CNN Freedom Project delivered a keynote speech focusing on how their news stories have pressed governments to enforce laws and pressured businesses to ensure slave-free supply chains, showing millions of viewers that everyone can make a difference in the fight against modern day slavery.

CoMensha, a Dutch NGO, described their collaborative support model linking organizations throughout the entire sustainable rescue chain from shelter to prosecution, health and advocacy, skill training and repatriation. The Director of La Strada International shared her watchdog role monitoring governments to comply with their own human trafficking policies by collecting evidence, data and feedback on how to improve implementations. The Deputy Director of the International Victimology Institute (INTERVICT) at Tilburg University described the victim-centered research conducted by the Institute as applied in criminal courts and support organizations, busting the stereotypes of the ideal victim for trafficking.

We then focused on the private and public sectors and how Dutch organizations comply and promote the United Nations Global Compact in the private sector. A filmmaker shared his innovative technique in participatory video with an awareness film for hotel staff to report suspected sex trafficking. The grand finale was the public-private partnership in the financial sector where a Dutch bank is collaborating with government-led investigations to "follow the money" of traffickers, as well as a new service for their clients ensuring a clean supply chain.

The success of the Symposium was made possible through the volunteers and support from our FAWCO clubs and sponsorship from O3B Networks, London & Capital, and The American Women's Club of the Hague.

(Continued from page 1)

The FAWCO Experience

Dignita, a Not For Sale restaurant in Amsterdam, provides a unique training ground for trafficked survivors who wish to be trained as culinary workers. Net profits directly fund certifications for trainees. The group enjoyed dinner as they learned more about the next steps to economic empowerment.

After dinner, the group went to the famous Red Light District to visit one brothel (now a for-profit museum on the history of prostitution) and a second, now a store/soup kitchen which is part of Not For Sale's social enterprise model, where net proceeds fund this foundation to stop human trafficking. Walking among the crowd leering at the women behind the red windows, a social worker shared the stark reality of the women.

The next morning, the last stop in Amsterdam was a shelter for women rescued from trafficking, The Amsterdam Trafficking Coordination Center, which provides shelter, counseling and information to victims of trafficking. The Director welcomed us with a short presentation and then a tour of the facility to experience how the center gives tough love with a generous heart.

The rest of the Experience took place at one of The Hague's most unusual museums, Humanity House. The group spent the afternoon in three sessions: a workshop to learn how to detect labor trafficking provided by FairWork; a test on human rights and FAWCO's involvement; and the museum's reality experience as a refugee into the unknown.

AWC Hamburg Celebrates Diamond Jubilee

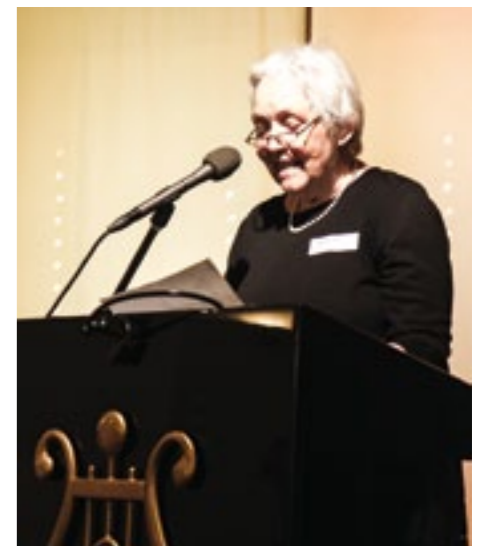
by Carol Strametz, AWC Hamburg, FAWCO Rep

This year AWC Hamburg is celebrating 60 years since being reestablished in 1956. Originally founded in 1931, the club disbanded in 1939. In 1938 our club proudly hosted the 7th FAWCO Conference in Hamburg, attended by Caroline Curtis Brown, the founder of FAWCO. The year 2016 also marks our 40th anniversary of rejoining FAWCO.

The club's 127 members have been honoring this jubilee. The first celebration was an exclusive piano concert with Robin Meloy Goldsby in June at the Steinway House in Hamburg. Robin's concert Home and Away included the song Blue, dedicated to our club. September 24-25 was the celebration weekend. A Gala dinner was held at a historic location in Hamburg's City Hall. The program featured guest speaker US Consul General Richard Yoneoka, FAWCO greetings from Sallie Chaballier (FAWCO 1st VP) and Angelika McLaren (Region 5 Coordinator), live Japanese drumming, vocal performances, and disco dancing. Proceeds from a fun raffle at the gala are earmarked for the next FAWCO Target Project.

A Ladies' Brunch followed at the Hotel Fairmont Vier Jahreszeiten, with a spotlight on our club's history highlighted with a slide show of member testimonials and acknowledgements. With glorious blue skies, we followed with a boat tour on Hamburg's Alster Lake.

FAWCO Counselor Becky Tan of AWC Hamburg



Gala Full House



Upcoming FAWCO Regionals

There will be three FAWCO Regional Meetings in early 2017. Region 7 will meet in Casablanca in mid-January, Region 1 will meet in London in early February, and Region 2 will meet in Helsinki in mid-April. Please contact the relevant Regional Coordinators (email addresses on the FAWCO Website) for exact dates and details.

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.

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FAWCO Region 5: Setting Records and Refugee Crisis Opportunity

by Angelika McLaren, AWC Berlin, Region 5 Regional Coordinator

The fourth Regional Meeting in Berlin broke a few records: a total of 51 attendees (and some spouses) from 16 clubs and 8 countries participated, including 7 of the 8 clubs in Region 5. The fun began on Thursday night with a special benefit concert by Robin Meloy Goldsby at the Steinway Haus. Friday was dedicated to Berlin sights and history, including an excursion to Potsdam and a visit to the Stasi Museum.

The Regional officially began with a tour of the Allied Museum followed by an interesting personal report of life in the GDR and the Stasi oppression. Afterwards there was the first chance for clubs to talk about their biggest achievements and challenges and their involvement with refugees.

On Saturday we had the honor of presentations by the Presidents of FAWCO and The FAWCO Foundation and we were able discuss our regional issues. The current refugee crisis was addressed in a substantive panel discussion moderated by AWC Berlin member Molly Moylan Brown. Aging Gracefully and Social Media Success workshops were on the agenda for Sunday. This weekend showed again that we can have fun and work hard, share, motivate and bond. In other words: Region 5 rocks!



Region 5 meeting group photo



Participants in panel on educating refugees (Molly Moylan Brown at left)

Volunteering with Refugees*

by Molly Moylan Brown, AWC Berlin

Begin by imagining yourself in relationship with a stranger – in this case a refugee. Dwell there for a moment and imagine how our refugees' perception of themselves as part of a WHOLE has been undermined through war, death, exile and families divided. It is human behavior to want first to wait to feel safe, to stand apart, before creating the conditions for empathy and compassion. We must instead use our intelligence to overcome this fear of the "stranger," bravely reach across to them and embrace "difference." The more diversity in our life, the more empathetic we become.

There is a saying, "The blessing is outside your comfort zone." We do not want the refugees' feelings of disconnect to re-seed a cycle of violence. This must be at the root of our volunteer work. We must listen to them with open hearts, work to understand them and make room for the gifts they have brought with them. While we continue to address the problems of their basic and material needs, we must also continue to enlarge our moral imagination to include the possibility of transformation – theirs and ours – through relationship. We must imagine and grow into the idea that we can be enlarged, made better by this stranger. This happens one person at a time, one relationship at a time. Though it is nothing comparable to the experience of refugees, as Americans and as foreigners, we bring a particular sensitivity to our volunteer work derived from living in different cultures and countries. We have experienced being the stranger, struggling as the outsider, trying to adapt, searching to find supportive relationships that will form our community and ultimately help us feel validated and vital in our new environments.

Being a neighbor is a moral concept, we share a collective responsibility for what happens. We have an opportunity as volunteers to help our refugees return to their fullest sense of aliveness, help them feel a sense of possibility and help them find agency in their lives moving forward. The real potential of pluralism in our communities can be realized when we bring our best selves to our civic participation and develop relationships. What good can we do for others? What network of strong and supportive relationships can we help them build? How can we contribute to the sense their life is worthwhile? What narrative do we want to be part of developing? The cornerstone of the healthy integration of refugees is relationship allowing for mutual exchange that can educate and enrich all parties.

This crisis is also an opportunity. When we roll up our sleeves to do this work, we are working in service to whole community. In doing so, we also fire up that moral molecule, oxytocin. Our hearts get ignited and progressively educated by the "other." Allow the positive good from your volunteer efforts pass back through the pipeline to your friends and acquaintances, let your energy and generosity become contagious.

*(adapted from my opening to FAWCO Region 5 Meeting's Panel on Refugees: Integration through Education)



FAUSA 2016 Scottsdale Getaway

by Janet Darrow, FAUSA President

The culmination of the FAUSA year is always celebrated at the FAUSA Getaway and Annual Meeting. These yearly gatherings, started 15 years ago in Provincetown, MA, span the US, last year going north of the border to Niagara-on-the-Lake Ontario. In 2016, Dolores Cuellar took on the challenge of wrangling 40+ FAUSA Members to share with them the beauty of the desert and the secret of why she calls Scottsdale, Arizona "The Southwest's most Western Town" home.

Former FAUSA Presidents, Mona Garcia, Dale Koepenick, Jane Indreland, Louise Greeley-Copley and Lee Sorenson arrived early to join the Board Meeting held before the weekend. FAUSA Members arrived and checked in and dropped off their silent auction items. Goody Bags, Programs and FAUSA's annual magazine *Highlights* were handed out to everyone who checked in. Name badges were put on along with cheerful pins commemorating the Getaway Anniversary.

The Scottsdale Getaway started with mingling during the Gainey Suites Happy Hour. Mona Garcia, FAUSA's Founder, graced the group with a few remarks on the history of FAUSA. A glass was raised to Mona, 15 years of Getaways and all of the attendees before moving on to a delicious Western style buffet dinner. A banner with the new FAUSA logo flew over the event. On Friday, FAUSA members boarded the bus for the Botanical Garden where we were given an informative tour of the extensive grounds. Our midday meal was at The Farm, a green area where a golf cart full of caterers arrived to set up a delicious gourmet meal. We headed over to Taliesin West, Frank Lloyd Wright's school and desert home. Our tour taught us a little about the man, his love of enclosed passageways that expanded to huge rooms (compress and release), and his penchant for wearing shoes with high heels to appear taller.

Our Annual Meeting on Saturday commenced with our two speakers: Collin Cunningham, Executive Director of Welcome to America, a group that works with community assistance to help refugees get settled in the local community, and Daniel Kelly, Program Manager from Catholic Charities Refugee Program. His organization works on the front end of helping refugees coming to the US. Therese Hartwell updated us on UN business and gave a moving presentation of the FAWCO Symposium on Human Trafficking in The Hague. Kathy Coughlan, FAUSA's Treasurer, spoke on behalf of The FAWCO Foundation. 1st VP Communications, Rick Chizmadia, presented the new FAUSA logo as well as the FAUSA videos that he put together for the FAWCO Interim Meeting.

We had two important votes which concluded the meeting. One was for the winner of the 2016 FAUSA Philanthropic Grant. The winner, announced by Philanthropic Chair Liz Hemminger, was a project nominated by Louise Greeley-Copley. 4Girls will become FAUSA's banner project until the 2017 Getaway. The second important vote was the culmination of the work of the FAUSA Bylaws Committee. They undertook a complete overhaul of our bylaws to be in accordance with the requirements for a



FAUSA at Taliesin West.

501(c)(3) organization. FAUSA has over the past several years supported a FAWCO Foundation Development Grant and Education Award, as well as our own FAUSA Grant. The Board and Counselors felt that it was time for members to enjoy a tax break for their generosity.

The annual meeting ended with enthusiastic discussion over the site for next year. The two locations that garnered the most applause were Nashville and New Orleans. Indications are that we will be heading down south in 2017. Capping off our festivities was a gala dinner at Camelback Country Club. While a slide show of our twitter hashtag #fausa2016 played in the corner, Arline Coward and Liz Hemminger set the tables with glittery gems and elephants to invoke some excitement for the next FAWCO conference in Mumbai. FAUSA will again have a large contingent attending the conference.

Treasurer Kathy Coughlan created a beautiful quilt which was raffled off. There was vigorous bidding for the silent auction and Mac Watson, local radio talk show host and husband of Melissa Watson, was a terrific auctioneer for our four live auction prizes. A boot was passed around and filled with change and bills and checks. In all, over \$6,000 was raised for FAUSA Philanthropy. During the evening, Dolores Cuellar received a certificate of appreciation and congratulations to her committee. Kathy Tolchinsky, new FAUSA member and former President of AWA Vienna and Melissa Watson, formerly of Free The Girls were recognized for their hard work organizing the Getaway. Rick Chizmadia and Lee Sorenson were congratulated for the annual FAUSA *Highlights* magazine. Karen Snedeker, former Parliamentarian and Bylaws committee chair, along with our attorneys Kellie Kemp and Michael Vaughn, were awarded certificates in absentia. The gala was the official end to the Getaway but for the hardier souls, we offered an amazing extra day trip to Sedona.

The FAUSA Getaways are always educational and inspiring, a home-grown miniature version of the FAWCO conference. FAUSA Members are seen in number at the FAWCO conferences and we welcome FAWCO Members to join us at our Getaways. As always we are here to assist the members of FAWCO Clubs with their repatriation. www.fausa.org

by Patti Meek, AWC Dublin, The FAWCO Foundation President

The FAWCO Foundation supports the philanthropic goals of FAWCO by developing, administering and fundraising for programs that improve the lives of women and children worldwide.

2017 FAWCO FOUNDATION PROGRAMS

The FAWCO Foundation raises and administers funds to support our core programs: Education Awards, Development Grants and the FAWCO Target Program. This year we will be offering \$42,000 in Education Awards and \$31,500 in Development Grants, as well as launching our fundraising campaign for the FAWCO Target Program: Education - Empowering Women and Girls Through Knowledge and Skills.

2017 DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

The Development Grants program includes seven grants, each targeting an area of global concern outlined by the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The Development Grants program is open to all FAWCO clubs and to FAUSA, who each have the opportunity to nominate two charitable projects per year. Each grant of \$4500 will fund projects with an immediate impact for the people they support.

Health:

Critical Health Concerns, sponsored in part by Renuka Matthews
The Coughlan Family Foundation Support in Sickness and Health
AWG Languedoc-Roussillon Feeding the World

Education:

AW of Surrey Hope Through Education
Pam Dahlgren Educating Africa's Children

Human Rights:

Breaking the Cycle, sponsored in part by AILO Florence
FAUSA Displaced Women and Children

2017 EDUCATION AWARDS

The FAWCO Foundation offers Education Awards in three separate categories, Academic Studies Awards, a Dual Cultural Award and Member Awards. We are honored to announce a special award in the Member Award category, The FAWCO Foundation 50th Anniversary Members' Award for study in the field of Education, sponsored by the Counselors of FAWCO, FAUSA and The FAWCO Foundation.

For children of FAWCO and FAUSA members:

VIOLA WHEELER ARTS AWARD \$4,000

HUMANITIES AWARD \$4,000 sponsored in part by AAWE, in memory of Gertrude de Gallaix
CAROLINE NEWTON HUMANITIES AWARD \$4,000

AWG PARIS IT AWARD FOR YOUNG WOMEN \$4,000

SCIENCES AWARD \$4,000 sponsored in part by AIWC Genoa, in memory of Frieda Bacigalupo Natali

For children and grandchildren of FAWCO members:

DUAL CULTURAL AWARD \$4,000 sponsored in part by Lee Sorenson, in memory of Dudley Sorenson, and by Donna Erismann and AWC Bern, in memory of Suzanne Erismann

For FAWCO and FAUSA Members:

AWC BASEL AWARD FOR UNIVERSITY DEGREE STUDY PROGRAMS \$5,000 sponsored by Shirley Kearney

FAUSA SKILLS ENHANCEMENT AWARD \$4,000

WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY AWARD \$4,000 In honor of AWA Dubai's 21 years serving the international community in Dubai

The FAWCO Foundation 50th Anniversary Members' Award \$5,000, sponsored by the Counselors of The FAWCO Foundation, FAWCO and FAUSA

The FAWCO Foundation Turns 50

The FAWCO Foundation was established by FAWCO President Mary Mag-Hasse and her Board in 1967. During the 1960s, as its network of clubs expanded, FAWCO began fundraising for scholarships, both for European nationals to study in the US and for American students educated abroad to continue their studies in the States. In order for these donations to be tax deductible, and in order for these awards to be made to FAWCO members and their children, a separate foundation was created. The FAWCO Foundation was incorporated in the State of Missouri, holding its first Board meeting on February 26, 1967.

For five decades, The FAWCO Foundation has worked diligently to fulfill its purpose to implement FAWCO's philanthropic concerns and interest in the global community. While the Education Awards Program was the cornerstone of the Foundation's work, our Development Grants Program was initially established in 1997 in response to requests for emergency help in disaster relief efforts. The program has evolved so that we now fund ongoing humanitarian projects championed by FAWCO member organizations.

As of 2016, The FAWCO Foundation has made a difference in the lives of women and children around the world by giving more than \$1.3 million in grants and awards.



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The FAWCO Foundation is the philanthropic arm of FAWCO. It is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization registered in the State of Missouri. Direct donations to The Foundation are tax exempt to the fullest extent allowed by law. For more information please contact: info@fawcofoundation.org.

www.iGive.com

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The FAWCO Foundation is registered as a "cause" on www.iGive.com. Visit our website at www.fawcofoundation.org and follow the link to register. Then start shopping! A percentage of the purchase amount (before shipping and taxes) will be calculated and sent to The FAWCO Foundation at no cost to you.

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