

2026

**INTERIM
MEETING**

2025 Annual Report

2026 FAWCO Interim Meeting
Malta—March 20–22, 2026



FAWCO Annual Report 2025

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President's Message

Uncertainty and Strength

"What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."

– Jane Goodall (April 3, 1934–October 1, 2025)

FAWCO has been navigating in uncertain times during 2025. Our global network has supported each other time and again with strength when the need arises. Our community of volunteers and members of international and American organizations spans the globe. We live and work on six continents and each place our clubs exist, our members are engaged in activities that strengthen each other and their communities.

It has been the aspiration of FAWCO since 1931 to bring together members from around the world to advocate for a better world. Every project, plan, meeting and activity that FAWCO Member Clubs and volunteers engage in is a step towards being united in strength and advocacy for the greater good. The lights of positive action help weaken the darkness and uncertainty around us. The reports here share the actions of FAWCO volunteers and FAWCO Member Clubs in 2025. Thank you to all our members and to all of you for all you do to bring light to the world. We look forward to a celebration in 2026 of FAWCO's 95th Anniversary!

Ann Marie Morrow (AWC Finland)
FAWCO President 2023–2025, 2025–2027

Note on Parliamentary Procedure

Note on Parliamentary Procedure

The 2025 Biennial Conference took place in Annapolis, Maryland from March 26–30, 2025. The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised governed the Annual Meeting on all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with our Bylaws and Administrative Guidelines.

FAWCO Member Clubs are entitled to send up to three (3) delegates to a Biennial Conference. Each Club has one vote, which is cast by the FAWCO Representative. If she is unable to serve, then the Club President, or another Club member who has been approved as the appointed representative, will cast the vote. Member Clubs unable to send a delegate to the Biennial Conference may send in a vote, in writing, on the matters submitted to them prior to the Meeting.

Although the Board of Directors, Counselors, Committee and Task Force Chairs, Liaisons, Regional Coordinators, FAWCO Foundation, FAUSA and all club participants and Individual Members have no voting rights, they may participate fully in all Annual Meeting floor discussions.

If you wish to speak during a floor discussion, please wait to be recognized by the Chair and for the microphone to be brought to you. Before proceeding with your remarks, **state the name of your Club and your name.**

Please address all remarks through the Chair. Discussion by an individual on any question will be limited to one comment of two minutes duration. If a motion is made, it must be seconded before discussion is allowed. Any amendments proposed and seconded must be voted on (in reverse order) before the vote on the original motion. No more than two amendments can be on the floor at the same time. The maker of a motion may answer any questions posed, may withdraw the motion, and may speak again in rebuttal and in conclusion.

For voting purposes, each delegation has been provided with a club sign. When voting, please **raise your sign clearly and wait for completion of the count before lowering it.**

The FAWCO Organization

FAWCO was founded in 1931 when seven Clubs came together to form the Federation of American Women's Clubs in Europe, which evolved into the broader-based Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas in 1935.

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 US citizens overseas; and
- to mobilize the skills of its membership in support of global initiatives for education, the environment, health and human rights.

The FAWCO Board of Directors

President	Ann Marie Morrow, AWC Finland
First Vice President for Communications	Mary Dobrian, AIWC Cologne
Second Vice President for Member Clubs	Belen Monasterio, AWC Madrid
Third Vice President for Global Issues	Mary Manning, Heidelberg IWC
Secretary	Sheila Doucet, AAWE Paris
Treasurer	Kathy DeBest, AWC The Hague/ FAUSA
Parliamentarian	Laurie Richardson, AWA Vienna (10.2025–)
Parliamentarian	Tricia R Saur, AIWC Cologne (3.2025–9.2025)
FAWCO Foundation President	Janet Davis, AIWC Cologne

Board of Representatives

One FAWCO Representative from each Member Club

Council

Board of Directors
Board of Representatives
Delegates
Assistant Treasurer*
Committee Chairs *
Liaisons*
Regional Coordinators*
Counselors (Past FAWCO Presidents)
President of The FAWCO Foundation
President of FAWCO Alumnae USA (FAUSA)
** Appointed with the approval of the FAWCO President*

FAWCO Counselors

Past FAWCO Presidents serve in an advisory capacity.

FAWCO Committees, Teams and Programs

The FAWCO Committees, Teams and Programs give Member Clubs and members from the Clubs a chance to participate in FAWCO's work worldwide in an area of specific interest.

Administrative Committees

- Archives
- Events
- Finance
- Special Committees and Task Forces

Global Issues Teams

- Education
- Environment
- Health
- Human Rights

Global Issues Programs

- Target Program
- Youth Program

US Issues Committees

- US Citizenship
- Tax & Banking
- US Voting

Presidential Appointees (non-Board members)

Reporting to the President

- Counselors' Coordinator
- Events Team
- Conference Accountant
- Conference Chair
- Conference Registrar
- Finance Chair
- Special Committee and Task Force Chairs
- Strategy & Sustainability Task Force
- Co-UN Liaisons
- US Liaison
- Deputy US Liaison

Reporting to the 1st Vice President

- Sponsorship Co-Chairs
- Inspiring Women* Magazine Editor
- Digital Media Chair
- Social Media Manager
- Web Hosting Coordinator
- Web Registration Coordinator
- Website Manager
- Website Content Administrator

Reporting to the 2nd Vice President

- Club Presidents' Coordinator
- Cross Clubs Events Coordinator
- Membership Chair
- Regional Coordinators
- Under 40 Chairs

Reporting to the 3rd Vice President

Global Issues Team Chairs
Education
Environment
Health
Human Rights
Target Program Chair
Target Application Chair
Youth Program Chairs

Reporting to the Treasurer

Assistant Treasurer

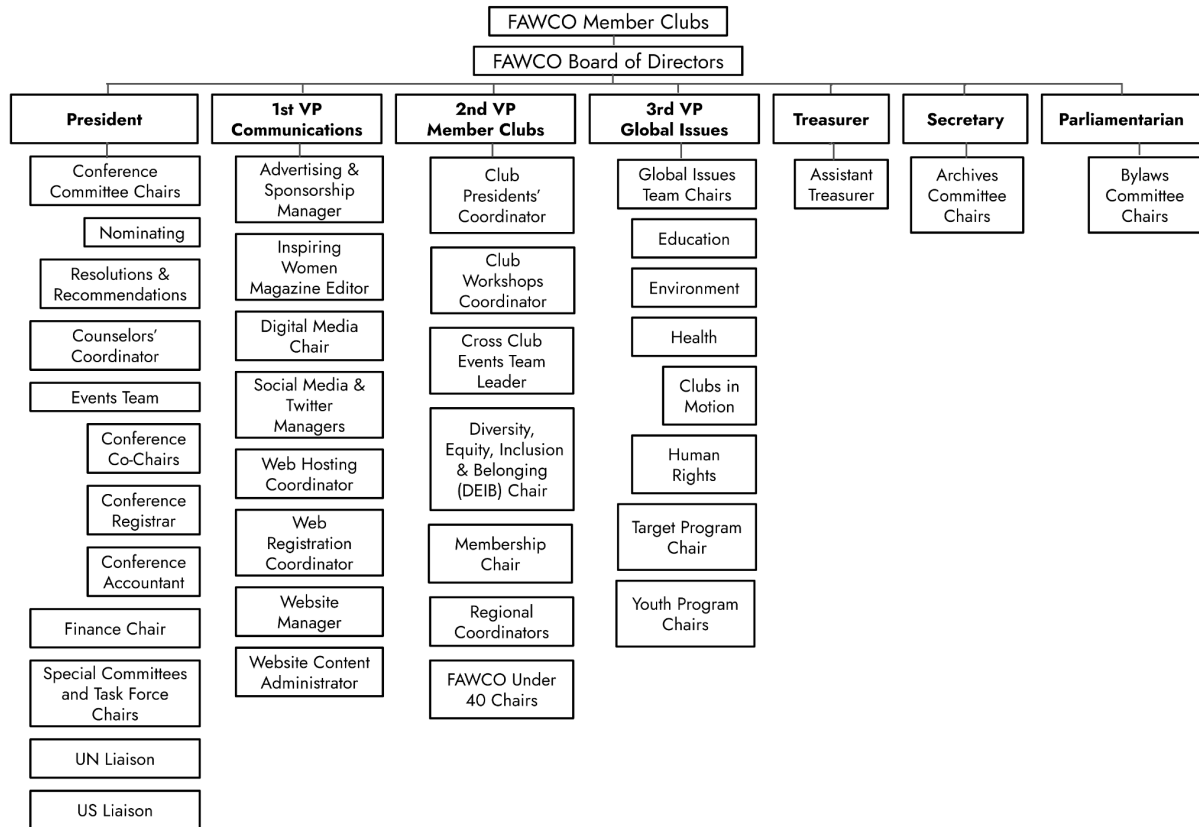
Reporting to the Secretary

Archives Committee Chair

FAWCO Regions

Region 1: England, Ireland, and Scotland
Region 2: Nordic Countries and Russia
Region 3: France and Spain
Region 4: Belgium and the Netherlands
Region 5: Austria, Germany, Moldova and Slovakia
Region 6: Liechtenstein and Switzerland
Region 7: Africa
Region 8: Greece, Italy and Malta
Region 9: Middle East and the Americas
Region 10: Asia/Pacific

FAWCO Organizational Chart



FAWCO Officers' Reports

President's Report

It has been an honor to serve FAWCO again this year. The community is vibrant, passionate and very active. I was again not at full speed, but I was pleased to attend several inspiring events including the Biennial Conference fabulously hosted by FAUSA in Annapolis in March. One member commented, "The conference showed the power of collective impact. That when we come together—sharing ideas, resources, and support—we can drive meaningful, lasting progress. It reinforced the idea that our individual efforts matter, but when aligned with a shared purpose, they become even more powerful."

Biennial Conference 2025 in Annapolis hosted by FAUSA

My full report is below.

69th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW69) in NYC in March 2025

I was excited and inspired to attend my second CSW in person. We had FAWCO's largest in-person delegation attend over the two weeks of meetings at the UN. It was a celebration of the 30th anniversary of Beijing's Declaration and Platform for Action. As well it was full of presentations, workshops, discussions for continued action for equality and justice. It was a proud moment to attend the FAWCO-sponsored and organized parallel event about deepfakes and their digital harm. The panel of high-profile, influential speakers' messages was strong and inspiring to all in the packed room. It was an impressive panel that informed and pushed us all to take action. Read more in the UN section below.

Appointments

We welcomed some new people to volunteer roles: FAWCO Parliamentarian, Laurie Richardson (AWA Vienna); Strategy and Sustainability Task Force Chair, Patricia Lawrence (FAUSA); FAWCO Interim Meeting 2026 Conference Chair, Stephanie Matlock Allen (AWC Hamburg); FAWCO Target Chair for Human Rights, Jody

McBrien (AWG Paris); Regional Coordinator for Region 8, Bessie Sioutas-Vasilopoulou (AWO Greece); Club Presidents' Coordinator, My-Linh Kunst (AWC Berlin); Co-Chair Health Team, Lucy Andrews (AWAquitaine); Co-Chair Environment Team, Rosie Deane (AW Berkshire Surrey); Co-Chair Environment Team, Maria Psarianou, (AWO Greece); Deputy US Liaison, Laureen Sharps (AIWC Frankfurt); Social Media Manager, Dana Cognetta Fritchie (AIWC Frankfurt); and Sponsorship Co-Managers, Jordan Beck Wagner (AWC Hamburg) and Ginny Trowman (Heidelberg IWC). Appointments made at the Biennial Conference can be found in the full conference report below.

Membership

At the beginning of 2025 FAWCO welcomed the Association of International Women in Malta as a new FAWCO Member Club. Dhaka American Women's Club in Bangladesh joined FAWCO in September as our newest club. It is great to see FAWCO connections grow. Unfortunately, news was received that North American Connection (NAC) in England has disbanded as an official club and therefore is no longer a FAWCO Member Club. We wish Sunny Eades and others from the long-standing club well as they reorganize for the future.

Resolutions & Recommendations

R&Rs Chair Shweta Gupta (FAUSA, AWC Berlin) and her committee presented the R&Rs for 2025–2027 at the annual meeting in March and they were approved.

Nominating Committee

Chair Sallie Chaballier (AAWE Paris) led the Nominating Committee which presented a full slate of nominees for the FAWCO board at the annual meeting. The slate was elected.

Many thanks to Shweta, Sallie and all the volunteers on their committees. Your work is so important and appreciated.

Strategy and Sustainability Task Force

The FAWCO Strategy & Sustainability Task Force was initiated in March at the 2025 Biennial. It was established to do a review of FAWCO and offer strategies to ensure that FAWCO remains healthy, relevant, and vibrant as it approaches its 100th anniversary and beyond. "What Lasts, Evolves" is how Chair Patricia Lawrence (FAUSA) describes the process. You can read more about the process in the full report below. They will share their report with the board and at the Interim Meeting. Thank you very much to Patricia and all members of the task force for their work supporting FAWCO's sustainability.

Regionals and other meetings

It was great to be able to meet members at several meetings throughout the year. In September during FAWCO's in-person board meeting in Cologne, Germany, FAWCO's board met with members of AIWC Cologne for dinner and lively conversation. We look forward to meeting them again in November 2026 when they will host Region 5's Regional Meeting. This year, Heidelberg IWC hosted a fantastic Region 5 Meeting that included great presentations and activities. Other regional meetings in 2025 included: Region 6 clubs hosted a regional in Valbella, Switzerland in September; Region 7, AWC Casablanca, Morocco, hosted a regional in October; and AWC Brussels hosted the Region 4 meeting in November. These were attended by VPs and other board members to share the connection with members worldwide. Thank you to all involved in creating these amazing meetings of connection.

US Liaison

Johanna Dishongh (FAUSA, AWC The Hague) helped organize Overseas Americans Week (OAW) in person in May in Washington DC. She was joined in part by Cathy Farnan (FAUSA, AWG Paris). They worked tirelessly to make connections and bring the concerns of FAWCO members to decision-makers in DC. Meeting with seven agencies, such as the Taxpayer Advocate Services, and 40 congressional offices. Read more in the US Liaison report below. At the end of 2025, we welcomed Laureen Sharps (AIWC Frankfurt) as Deputy US Liaison. There is a lot of ongoing work in the area of US Issues and Laureen will be a valuable asset to the team. During the year, Johanna supported connections that have led to increased cooperation of FAWCO with other organizations supporting overseas Americans. This includes her joining the board of Tax Fairness For Americans Abroad. She also supported FAWCO's joining other organizations' statements of support for rights of overseas voters, as we continue to defend voting rights for all US citizens including those overseas. The whole US Issues Team worked

hard throughout 2025 to support the rights of overseas Americans and we thank them for their critical work. A full report is below in the US Issues section.

Co-UN Liaisons

Karen Castellon (FAUSA, AWC Berlin) and Alex Vo (FAUSA, AWG Paris) led FAWCO's UN program throughout the year. 2025 was a significant year for the UN, including the 80th anniversary of the United Nations and the 30th anniversary of the Beijing Platform for Action. FAWCO's UN Team had record participation at the 69th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW69) with 27 delegates from 10 different clubs. FAWCO sponsored an in-person parallel event through NGO CSW Forum titled "Tackling Image-Based Sexual Abuse Online." The event was standing room-only and covered critically important issues.

The 30th UN Climate Change Conference (COP30) took place in November in Belem, Brazil. FAWCO is proud to have supported the attendance of Co-UN Liaison Alex Vo to ensure civil society organizations such as ours have a voice at these crucial climate meetings. FAWCO members can be proud of the work that FAWCO's UN Co-Liaisons, Reps, delegates and team members do as they advocate for the issues important to creating a more just, equal and fair world. During her trip, Alex was able to meet with members of FAWCO Member Club International Women's Club of Bogotá. Read more in the UN Liaison section.

FAWCO Programs

The Target Program for the environment came to a close at the Biennial Conference in Annapolis. An amazing sum of \$211,095 was donated by clubs, members and other supporters for Target Project Awesome Blossoms, a project of Safe Spaces Kenya! It was a record-breaking amount to support sustainable urban agriculture, and the women and children of the Mathare area of Nairobi. Congratulations to the director of Safe Spaces, Peninah Musyimi, for all her work supporting women and girls and the environment. Read more in the Target section below. Thanks also to everyone who donated and to Lauren Mescon (FAUSA), Target Fundraising Chair, for supporting the financial goals of the project. Thank you to Amanda Drollinger (AWCC Scotland), Target Chair, for leading us all on this groundbreaking journey. What a great job you have done!

Literacy Is Our Legacy: A Celebration

This initiative has continued to blossom over the year bringing in new authors, writers and connections celebrating literacy. A collaboration with the International Women's Writing Guild brought extra benefits and connections to members. The de Groot Foundation *Literacy Is Our Legacy Aspiring Writers Award* is a new FAWCO Foundation Member Education Award for 2026.

Publications

As President, I prepare and distribute the bulletin *Connections – Letter from Headquarters*, and this year it was published in January, May, October and December. Additionally, I contribute to the monthly *News in Brief*. I also prepared all the conference *Spotlight* publications for Annapolis that went out to conference registrants.

FAWCO's mission is one of connection, advocacy and support. Simple, but powerful. So many are doing good work together. Thank you to all the volunteers, Member Clubs, members and leaders who help move us forward in our mission. I want to especially thank the FAWCO Board—Mary Dobrian, Belen Monasterio, Mary Manning, Kathy DeBest, Sheila Doucet, and Laurie Richardson—for all they do. Tricia R. Saur served as Parliamentarian from March until September; she was a pleasure to work with and helped set the new board on a solid, organized and fruitful path. These women come together from all over the world with one mission—to serve the FAWCO community. It has been an honor to serve with them. FAWCO Counselors also continued to give advice and support when needed, and I am eternally grateful for their kindness and deep knowledge. The three organizations, FAWCO, The FAWCO Foundation and FAUSA came together as one in Annapolis and I am so happy to be sharing this journey with Brenda Brinkley, FAUSA's president, and Janet Davis, The FAWCO Foundation president. We will again meet in person in Malta and we look forward to welcoming you there and connecting throughout the year as we celebrate FAWCO's 95th Anniversary!

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Marie Morrow (AWC Finland)
FAWCO President 2023–2025, 2025–2027

First Vice President's Report

The First Vice President's responsibilities include overseeing all FAWCO communications, publications, the FAWCO website, web services, FAWCO virtual meetings, public relations, digital and social media, advertising and sponsorship activities. I am supported on the Communications Team by wonderful women who contribute their skills and passions to keep FAWCO moving forward as technology and means of communication evolve. I absolutely could not do it without them, and I am immensely grateful and proud to be working with them.

We had some changes on the team in 2025, with Ginny Trowman and Jordan Wagner coming on as Sponsorship Co-Chairs after longtime chair Elsie Bose stepped down at the end of 2024. Ginny and Jordan have had big shoes to fill and a big learning curve, but they are positive, proactive and very willing to learn, and have done a great job so far. By the end of the year, they had secured a Diamond Sponsor and TWO Gold Sponsors for the 2026 Interim Meeting in Malta, which is a major help in keeping costs low for that event. See their report below.

Dana Cognetta Fritchie joined the team as Social Media Manager in the fall, and she has been a most wonderful addition. She is far more creative and savvy in this area than I am, and by taking on this responsibility, she took a big burden off of me in what was a difficult year personally. Dana is enthusiastic, thorough and intelligent, a huge FAWCO fan, and a perfect fit for the job. See her report below.

Publications

We use a publications calendar in Google Workspace to schedule all of the various publications FAWCO distributes. Once again in 2025, we used Mailchimp to distribute all of our newsletters and bulletins. We now use templates created in Mailchimp's "new builder" for all publications except the *News in Brief* (NiB). Converting that template was one of my resolutions for 2025, but due to a variety of other circumstances, it never got done, and the NiB was still being produced with the "legacy builder" as of the end of 2025. Hopefully I or another member of the team will have the time and patience to tackle the conversion of our most complex publication in 2026.

Subscription rates for all publications have continued to rise or remain steady. Seven publications are in regular production. As in the previous year, there were no *UN Liaison Bulletins* published in 2025; however, the UN Team has used other means such as blogs and Zoom presentations to regularly inform our membership about their work at COP, CSW and other UN events.

We continue to stress our guidelines and best practices and share communications guidelines with the teams; all are willing to follow these once they understand the reasons for them. We still struggle to keep the *News in Brief* actually "brief"; however, some progress has been made in this regard. We urge editors and contributors to make use of links in the publications and draw readers to more in-depth content on the website. I am very grateful to Mary Manning, Ann Marie Morrow and Sallie Chaballier for their regular assistance in proofreading and checking publications before they go out into the world. Each of us tends to spot different kinds of errors, so it is very helpful to have a skilled and multi-pronged proofreading team.

2025 Publication Distribution via Mailchimp: *Target Bulletin*, second Tuesday monthly, 11 issues; *News in Brief* (NiB), third Tuesday monthly, 11 issues; *Global Issues Digest* (GID), last Tuesday monthly, 10 issues; *US Liaison Bulletin*, four issues; *Club Presidents' Post*, one issue; *Connections – Letter from Headquarters*, four issues; *Inspiring Women* (IW) magazine, four issues, plus *Highlights* issue; special mailings, 10 issues (seven 2025 *Spotlight* FAWCO Biennial Conference – Annapolis, one Holiday Greeting).

INSPIRING WOMEN LOOKING INSPIRED (Submitted by Michele Hendrikse DuBois, *Inspiring Women* Editor)

FAWCO publishes a quarterly online magazine free of charge to members and non-members. *Inspiring Women* profiles the lives of members of FAWCO clubs throughout the world who use their skills and talents to make an impact locally and globally. We know the people within our clubs, whose life stories we think are amazing! *Inspiring Women* introduces readers to these members.

Since 2017, the *Inspiring Women* team has:

- Published 36 quarterly issues and a special 5-year Anniversary issue
- Published and printed an annual "Highlights" magazine for the conference
- Shared over 500 stories about FAWCO and FAUSA members

Inspiring Women currently has 1,067 subscribers and over 645 Facebook followers.

During 2025, *Inspiring Women* spotlighted 57 FAWCO and FAUSA members from across all the FAWCO regions and FAUSA. In our “A Club Inspires” feature we shared city tours and club stories from FAUSA/Annapolis, AWC Brussels, AWC Korea and AWC Philippines. In our regular “Inspiring Reads” feature and the special feature we ran in our Women Working With Words – Part 2 issue, we shared 11 FAWCO and FAUSA writers and their books with our readers. A highlight from the 2025 issues was a special feature in our Phases of Womanhood issue where 24 women shared very personal glimpses into their current Phase of Womanhood.

The 2025 Issues:

- Women Working with Words – Part 2
- Women in the UN and Multilateral Diplomacy
- The Phases of Womanhood
- ArtWorks – Women in the Visual Arts

The 2025 the *Inspiring Women* team included:

Editor in Chief, Michele Hendrikse Du Bois: iw.editor@fawco.org

Assistant Editor, Connie Philipot: iw.assted@fawco.org

Founder and Contributing Editor, Elsie Bose: iw.coned@fawco.org

Layout Coordinator, Kristin D. Haanæs: iw.layout@fawco.org

Features Coordinator, Carol-Lyn McKelvey: iw.features@fawco.org

Profiles Coordinator, Shaza Gahiga Bwakira: iw.profiles@fawco.org

Marketing Manager, Hollis Vaughen: iw.marketing@fawco.org

Inspiring Women also has a dedicated team of proofreaders. The 2024 team included Jill Amari (AAWE Paris), Laurie Brooks (FAUSA), Barbara Bühling (AIWC Düsseldorf), Mary Stewart Burgher (AWC Denmark), Sallie Chaballier (AAWE Paris), Janet Davis (FAUSA), Judith Harley (AWA Vienna), Liz Janson (FAUSA), Gail Johnsen (AWC Madrid), Janis Kaas (AAWE Paris), Carol-Lyn McKelvy (FAUSA), Stacey Papaioannou (AWOG), Laurie Richardson (AWA Vienna), Lesleigh Rizzi Brown (AIWC Genoa), Shawn Watson (AWC Bern), Sally Webersinke (AIWC Cologne), Teddie Weyr (AWA Vienna) and Roberta Zöllner (Munich IWC).

Inspiring Women continues to reach out to clubs and their members to educate them on how the magazine is a benefit to them and how they can be highlighted in the magazine. Club boards and FAWCO leadership change and, in order to keep up the high quality of the magazine and continue strong readership, it is important for the IW Team to reintroduce itself to club leadership. As part of this effort, we regularly post our current issue, upcoming events and deadlines in the *News in Brief*, FAUSA Newsletter and on our Facebook page. *Inspiring Women* highlights were included as part of the FAWCO presentation at 2025 regional meetings and the FAUSA Getaway. We also attended the monthly TLC Zoom call to share current news with the participants.

2026 themes:

- **Women Behind the Scenes**
Issue published: Thursday, January 29, 2026
- **Women in STEM – Driving the Future**
Nominations due: Monday, March 23, 2026
Issue published: Thursday, June 4, 2026
- **Women Supporting Human Rights**
Nominations due: Monday, June 8, 2026
Issue published: Thursday, September 24, 2026
- **The Power of Special Friendships**
Nominations due: Tuesday, September 29, 2026

Google Workspace and FAWCO Documents

The Google Workspace platform gives FAWCO volunteers the ability to work effectively and collaboratively with the tools it offers such as Gmail, Meet, Drive, Docs, Forms, among many others. Archiving, standardization and harmonization of documents continues on an ongoing basis. Emily van Eerten (AWC The Hague) does an excellent job administering FAWCO's Google workspace; I greatly appreciate her vast knowledge, reliability and promptness. FAWCO's operating documents are tracked in a spreadsheet by FAWCO's Board and especially by the Parliamentarian. The archiving of all FAWCO publications continues.

Website, Web Services, GDPR and Compliance

Website Manager Catherine "Cat" Conner (AWC Hamburg) is responsible for the technical side of the website, and she is indispensable in providing support and technical knowledge with kindness, patience, good humor and great attention to detail. Cat is a joy to work with, and I am extremely grateful for her vast knowledge and availability. In 2025, Cat created conference registrations for the Biennial Conference in Annapolis in March, as well as launching registration for the 2026 Interim Meeting in Malta. Support for the web content management system used for FAWCO's website, Joomla 3.10, was terminated in 2023. Cat transferred our website to Joomla 4.0 in October. In the meantime, Joomla has already released a 5.0 version, so another update will not be far in the future.

Liz Slaughter-Ek (AIC Malmö) continues her behind the scenes work with registrations for the website and updating FAWCO's world map of member clubs.

Remaining compliant with all privacy, copyright and GDPR policies on the website, behind the scenes and within all communications on the website and on social media platforms is imperative and a main focus. We regularly update FAWCO's Communications Guidelines and share them with all incoming volunteers.

In 2025 the FAWCO website had 110,399 sessions (site visits) and 227,246 page views by 87,312 users. Sessions increased by 4.88% and users increased by 14.0% from the previous year.

Web Hosting

FAWCO Web Hosting services are offered as a benefit to all Member Clubs. Those who use this service experience continuity of service and ongoing connection with FAWCO's Web Services Team. Rheagan Coffey (AWC Dublin), Web Hosting Coordinator, oversees this; she is reliable, responsive and always willing to help. Wild Apricot's discount for FAWCO Clubs was renewed and updated in 2022. The discount (23–28%) is offered by Wild Apricot to FAWCO Member Clubs.

FAWCO Web Hosting services: 31 domain names registered with us (down by three from 2024); 11 websites hosted via FAWCO; 24 Clubs availing of the Wild Apricot discount (up by four from 2024); four Clubs with email hosting only (down by two from last year).

Virtual Meetings

There were over 50 scheduled virtual meetings, events, workshops and online conferences held in 2025. We continue to use the Google workspace extensively, and many of our meetings for FAWCO operations and groups also take place on Google Meet, including Board meetings; monthly TLC calls for Reps and Presidents (now held at two different times of day in order to reach clubs in a wider range of geographic regions); Presidents-only calls; U40 Happy Hours; and team and committee meetings.

We maintain our subscription to the Zoom platform and make great use of it. Zoom events open to FAWCO members in 2025 included Phases of Womanhood health webinars presented by the Health Team and Dr. Veronica Ventura (Bern); Healthy Aging workshops presented by Dr. Lucy Andrews (AWAquitane); eight Open Human Rights Team meetings covering the 12 Critical Areas of Concern from the Beijing Platform for Action review; four Global Issues Book Discussions; a Target 5 workshop on Kenyan cooking; open informational meetings on the application process for Target Project 6 – Human Rights; UN Team presentations on COP29, the FAWCO UN Team's review of the Beijing Platform for Action +30, What Happened at CSW69 and a reboot of the UN Team's powerful panel discussion from CSW69: Combatting Image-based Sexual Abuse (open to the public);

sponsor workshops and webinars from the State Department Federal Credit Union (SDFCU), Launch Education Advisors, My Expat Taxes and Ponte Travels; and one workshop presented by a potential sponsor. Under the umbrella of Literacy Is Our Legacy: A Celebration, we also collaborated with the International Women's Writing Guild (IWWG) on two virtual writing workshops especially for FAWCO members as well as a presentation and reading of the 2025 Write Forward Anthology, which included work by six FAWCO members. Several meetings were held at two different times (usually 7 pm CET and 1 pm CET) to allow for attendance by club members in the Asia/Pacific region.

Ginny Trowman (Heidelberg IWC) organizes our Cross-Clubs Events Calendar, allowing individual FAWCO clubs to include members of other clubs in their virtual events. Two clubs also opened up virtual Human Rights events to the full FAWCO membership: AWC Madrid, on Rwanda's Healing Journey from Genocide, and AWO Greece on Human Rights and Violence against Women; AAWE Paris also invited FAWCO members to its virtual series "Real Women, Real Stories."

Digital and Social Media Team

We continue to use the templates created by Adelina Matinca for our public social media platforms. We publish primarily on Facebook and Instagram, using Canva Pro to create images highlighting important dates or FAWCO news and content. I created most of the posts on Facebook and Instagram until the fall of 2025, when Dana Cognetta Fritchie came on board as our dedicated Social Media Manager. Dana is a wonderful asset to the Communications Team. She is tech and social media-savvy and was very quick to understand the FAWCO social media guidelines so that she needs very little supervision. She creates lovely and creative visuals and thoughtful texts, posting approximately three times per week on FAWCO's public social media, as well as creating internal informational posts for the members' Facebook groups. We track social media posts on a Google Form, which allows us to keep a record of the posts made each year. I can see and approve the posts Dana creates and subsequently posts using Meta Business Suite. Ann Marie Morrow creates reels for Facebook and Instagram Stories and LinkedIn. Ellie Badanes continued in 2025 as our Twitter (X) Manager, although we have greatly reduced our use of X.

We monitor our platforms and encourage engagement. At the end of 2025, the main social media platforms of engagement were: FAWCO Members Private Facebook group, 1,366 members; FAWCO Public Facebook page @fawco, 2,000+ followers; FAWCO Inspiring Women Public Facebook page @FawcoIWMagazine, 646 followers; FAWCO Instagram @fawcoofficial, 1,159 followers; FAWCO LinkedIn, 833 followers. All platforms saw growth in followers and overall engagement as a whole was steady or increased.

Social Media Manager's Report (submitted by Dana Cognetta Fritchie)

Since October 24, 2025, I have created 34 posts across Facebook and Instagram (as of January 1, 2026) as FAWCO's Social Media Manager. I have truly enjoyed learning from Mary Dobrian, FAWCO Vice President of Communications, and I am eager to continue deepening my understanding of how social media can help advance FAWCO's mission.

Through these platforms, we are able to build stronger support networks for our American and international membership; raise awareness of issues affecting women and girls worldwide; and highlight FAWCO's advocacy and global initiatives in education, health, the environment, and human rights.

Thanks

FAWCO Board positions turned over at the Biennial Conference in March 2025. Ann Marie Morrow, Mary Manning and I stayed on in our positions, while Kanika Holloway (VP Member Clubs), Cathy Farnan (Treasurer), Laureen Sharps (Secretary) and Patti Meek (Parliamentarian) departed. I dearly miss the latter four, who were all kind, supportive and a joy to work with – not to mention being very good at what they did. However, they were replaced, respectively, by Belen Monasterio, Kathy DeBest, Sheila Doucet and Tricia Saur (later Laurie Richardson), who are also wonderful. The 2025–2027 board is a great group, and it was a very good experience to finally get together in person at our Face2Face meetings in September. Every member of this board is dedicated, hardworking and easy to work with, and I consider all of them wonderful friends as well as co-workers. I am extremely grateful to all of them and look forward to another year+ of working together and getting to know everyone even better.

Huge thanks also to all the fantastic volunteers I have already mentioned above: Ginny, Jordan, Dana, Sallie, Michele, Emily, Cat, Liz, Rheagan, Ellie and all the many Team volunteers!

As I have for the past years, I must extend special thanks to Ann Marie. She is always available, supportive, kind and generous, no matter how busy she is with her own work. She is a good leader who finds a balance between wrangling all of us volunteers to get FAWCO's important work done while remaining human and compassionate, remembering that we are all volunteers with messy lives. I love my "short chats" with her—that are not always short(!) – and I continue to learn a great deal from her.

It has been a great honor for me to serve as FAWCO VP Communications for another year. I had major crises in my personal life in 2025 and could not always be as present as I wished, but I always knew that my FAWCO colleagues had my back. I continue to cherish FAWCO and the values it represents, and I look forward to the year to come.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Dobrian (AIWC Cologne)
FAWCO 1st Vice President – Communications

Second Vice President's Report

In a year marked by global challenges and rapid technology advances, FAWCO's community continues to provide connection and support as well as opportunities for involvement. The Member Clubs team is instrumental in providing our clubs support and in fostering the connection and engagement with the FAWCO organization at large.

Throughout 2025, our focus has been on increasing FAWCO awareness and engagement across our network of clubs and helping members connect more fully with the many opportunities and initiatives across our FAWCO organization including FAWCO Foundation and FAUSA. 2025 was also the year we welcomed Dhaka American Women's Club, our newest member club to FAWCO, joining our Region 10 – Asia Pacific, an exciting addition to our global community. Communication and engagement were strengthened through expanded Team Leadership Calls (TLC) reaching all time zones, the long-standing monthly *News in Brief* newsletter and Regional Coordinator communications. Initiatives such as Club in Focus, the Sister Club pilot program and FAWCO 101 sessions encouraged cross-club connections, collaboration and member engagement.

The following provides an overview of 2025 across our member clubs, highlighting both the activities of the clubs and the work of the Member Clubs team.

Member Club Highlights

Our member clubs are the heart of FAWCO. They cover the globe from the Caribbean to Australia. All are volunteer-based organizations and mostly social and philanthropic focused. Club sizes range from 26 to close to 700 members. The following represents a few highlights from some of our FAWCO member clubs in 2025. Their individual club reports will offer an even deeper appreciation of our vibrant global network.

- We welcomed Dhaka American Women's Club to our FAWCO family.
- American Women's Club of London offers varied and extensive programming and organized over 500 events for its more than 350 members.
- American Women's Club in Finland hosted cultural and diplomatic speakers, including Finland's Ministry for Foreign Affairs representative discussing NATO negotiations.
- AAWE Paris manages a highly engaged club of almost 700 members, the largest in the network with 38 active WhatsApp groups.
- American Women's Club of Amsterdam raised significant funds for FAWCO's Target Project through its best in class "Share Your Gifts for Good" fundraising program.
- American Women's Club of Antwerp produced over 1,000 heart pillows for breast cancer patients through its long running Caring Hearts project.
- AWA Vienna strengthened partnerships with city leadership while expanding cultural and social programming.
- AIWC Frankfurt organized more than 300 events and welcomed 57 new members, reflecting exceptional growth.

- AILO Florence raised significant funds through its Christmas Bazaar which was attended by over 3,000 visitors.
- AIWC Genoa participated in an international environmental initiative addressing marine pollution.
- American Women's Club of Korea continued its remarkable success with its annual charity gala that benefited several local organizations.
- American Women's Club of the Philippines worked closely with local foundations, healthcare professionals and community organizations on initiatives addressing nutrition, women's health and poverty.

It is great to see the synergies across the network and how ideas are being shared and built upon.

This year there were four regional meetings. **Clubs from Region 6** which covers Liechtenstein and Switzerland met in Valbella, Switzerland and shared experiences including a very popular long-standing interest group on contemporary issues, volunteer experience with Inspiring Women magazine and updates from a recent Artificial Intelligence conference. **Clubs from Region 5**, covering Austria, Germany and Moldova held their regional in Heidelberg, Germany with the theme of "Shaping a Better Future Together." It was a busy weekend with many guest speakers including Heidelberg's Deputy Mayor Stefanie Jansen who spoke about the importance of collaborative efforts for social change. **Clubs from Region 4**, which covers Belgium and the Netherlands, met in Brussels, Belgium for an inspiring program on resilience and healing featuring Brussels bombing survivor Karen Northshield and cellist and music therapist Claire Oppert. **Clubs from Region 7** met in Casablanca, Morocco under the theme of "Human Rights: Access to Technology and Safeguarding Women and Girls" with guest speakers Stephanie Willman Bordat and Wissal Khadrouf. They talked about cyber violence and digital inclusion in Morocco. All regionals included FAWCO representatives and presentations which always helps to bridge the awareness gap about membership, FAWCO Foundation award and grant opportunities and our global community.

The gift of time and talent from volunteers is what sustains our member clubs and the FAWCO organization year after year. Thanks to this dedication our clubs are enduring. In 2025 the following clubs celebrated milestone anniversaries: **American Women's Club of The Hague** for 95 years; **American Women's Association of Rome** for 70 years; **International Women's Club of Torino** for 65 years; **American Women's Club in Finland** for 55 years; **American International Women's Club of Naples** for 55 years; **American International League of Florence Onlus** for 50 years; **AW Surrey International Group** for 50 years; **Association of American Women of Aberdeen** for 40 years; **American Women's Group Languedoc-Roussillon** for 40 years; **Munich International Women's Club** for 35 years! Each milestone is a significant achievement and represents years of contributions women have made to their communities.

Every year, we invite Club Presidents to nominate the FAWCO Reps that have made a difference for their club in their role as liaison, helping their members make the most of their FAWCO membership and serving as a bridge between their club and the wider FAWCO organization. The recipients of the 2025 FAWCO Rep Appreciation Award were: **Julia Hutt**, American Women's Club of Amsterdam; **Natalie Malis**, American Women's Club of The Hague; **Connie Philipot**, AWA The International Women's Club of Vienna; **Veronica Ventura**, American Women's Club of Bern. We thank them for their outstanding service to their clubs and to FAWCO.

Member Clubs Team

As I stepped into this role, I was fortunate to build on the strong foundation and momentum established by my predecessor, Kanika Holloway. I am grateful for her support and kindness.

Member Clubs Team Initiatives

In April, we conducted a survey to get an up-to-date understanding of the priorities for member clubs. Sixty-eight percent of the Club Presidents and FAWCO Representatives responded, providing us with a solid understanding of their most important concerns. We highlight the top four:

- Improvement of FAWCO **awareness** among their members – the strongest response
- Membership **growth**, especially younger members, is a top priority
- Filling **volunteer** and board positions is a long-term challenge
- Club management and volunteer **development** is a priority

Based on the survey results, the Member Clubs team prioritized strengthening communications to improve awareness of FAWCO events, resources and opportunities for engagement. We also highlighted our member clubs and encouraged cross-club connections and information sharing.

We added an additional Team Leadership Call (TLC) so that between our two TLC meetings we reach all of our clubs' time zones. It has increased our reach and improved communications and collaboration across our network, particularly in Region 10 (Asia-Pacific). In 2025, we usually had 60 to 70 attendees between the two TLC calls, and have found that what had started as a way to connect during the pandemic continues to be an important point of contact in strengthening the relationship among clubs and with the FAWCO global organization. I appreciate the FAWCO leaders from across FAWCO, the FAWCO Foundation and FAUSA who make these calls valuable and informative and who also contribute to our monthly News in Brief newsletter, a key source of information for Club Presidents and FAWCO Reps.

We maintained the monthly newsletter, News in Brief, on a monthly basis with a few exceptions. The newsletter provides updates from the FAWCO leadership (FAWCO, FAWCO Foundation and FAUSA) and serves as a key communication tool and reference for the FAWCO Reps in their roles. I again thank all the areas for their support and input month after month.

One new initiative we started is "Clubs in Focus." In our monthly Team Leadership Calls, a club president or FAWCO Rep presents their club, their priorities and what they do best, including tips and suggestions for other clubs. We very much thank **American Women's Club of Berlin, American Club for International Women Mumbai, American Women's Club of Antwerp, American and International Women's Club Venice, American Women's Club of the Philippines and American Women's Club of Korea** for presenting their clubs in 2025 and generously sharing suggestions for other clubs, some of which are highlighted here.

- Maintaining a presence across multiple communication channels (i.e., Instagram, Facebook, club website), including on local specific networks (i.e., Kakao) – AWC Korea
- Offering a partner affiliation program to support local businesses and partners while providing member discounts – AWC Korea
- Setting up and maintaining WhatsApp communities for a club's interest groups, club management and general communications - AWC Berlin
- Staging of both day and evening events to reach broader membership demographics – AWC Berlin
- Using smart AI tools to lessen the administrative load (i.e., Fireflies, Gamma, Gemini) – AWC Mumbai
- Adding your club's account to your Google calendar to keep up with meetings and events. Adding Google calendar as a widget to your home screen. Single email for everything club related – AWC Mumbai
- Using Wild Apricot to streamline and automate management processes – AWC Antwerp
- Organizing a membership resource list to provide important and useful contacts for members – AIWA Venice
- Automating the new member onboarding process – AIWA Venice
- Developing your community network (helpful in recruiting and awareness) – AWC Philippines
- Posting on social media often and early and with a variety of posts/reels/stories/videos/shares – AWC Philippines
- Providing work skill opportunities for younger members – AWC Philippines

It is great seeing ideas shared, ideas implemented and the ripple effect across clubs.

A new cross-club initiative, the Sister Club Program, was piloted in the fall based on an idea that came out of the March Biennial Conference. Our objective was to strengthen our network by pairing clubs for shared activities, such as a board or member online meet and greet, a joint online speaker event or a friendly joint Club in Motion activity or whatever they like. Nineteen clubs participated in the pilot and extended it from the original three-month plan to the end of January 2026 to accommodate the clubs' need for more time, due to the proximity of the holiday season and all the fundraising events clubs prepare at that time. In February 2026, the participating club feedback will determine whether we roll the program out and how. To date, the informal feedback has been very positive.

This year we offered virtual FAWCO 101 presentations and discussions with Member Clubs so that we could reach as many clubs as possible to review membership benefits and opportunities available for their club and members. These have been enjoyable and beneficial all around.

Through our WhatsApp communications, many Regional Coordinators maintained open lines of communications with clubs and shared timely information and reminders of events and programs to share with their members. This helped improve information flow to club members by making it easier to share information.

The Under-40 team continued with member favorite Happy Hours, informal virtual get-togethers where members connect, often with an interesting presentation followed by fun discussions. The travel-themed session remains one of the most popular among members.

The involvement and support of leaders across FAWCO, the FAWCO Foundation and FAUSA strengthen club engagement and our global community. Their time and dedication to supporting member clubs, along with their monthly participation in and contributions to the Team Leadership Calls (TLC) and *News in Brief* (NiB), demonstrate the strength of FAWCO as a global organization. Thank you!

Member Clubs Team

The Member Clubs team supports clubs in many ways, from welcoming new clubs joining FAWCO to providing opportunities to connect regionally and globally, whether with fellow Club Presidents, members Under 40 (or those with the mindset), or those interested in DEIB.* Another important role is supporting our FAWCO Reps in their role as liaison between their clubs and FAWCO. The team also responds to requests for workshops* led by FAWCO volunteers. We encourage cross-club events, information sharing and connections. The team also responds to membership inquiries from prospective clubs and engages in outreach as priorities allow. Heartfelt thanks to this outstanding team for all their dedication and contributions.

Area & Program Chairs

Membership Chair	Rebecca de Fraités
Club Presidents Coordinator	Shweta Gupta (to October), end of year transition to My-Linh Kunst
Cross Club Connections Team Leader	Ginny Trowman
Club Workshops Coordinator	Open position
DEIB Chair	Meredith Mani (to March), position open
Under-40 (U40) Co-Chairs:	Karen O'Shaughnessy and Jordan Beck Wagner

Regional Coordinators

R1	Cynthia Holden
R2	Jonelle Lemcke
R3	Sandra Gogel
R4	Rozanne Van Rie**
R5	Angelika McLarren
R6	Veronica Ventura
R7	Cynthia Smith-Ayed
R8	Bessie Sioutas-Vasilopoulou

****And RC-at-large**

** The Workshops Coordinator and DEIB Chair positions are currently open and are wonderful volunteer opportunities. One supports the development of our members, while the other helps create a space for members to explore important DEIB topics and support one another.*

This year also included several leadership transitions within the team. I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to Shweta Gupta who served as Club Presidents Coordinator for the past several years; Karen O'Shaughnessy, long-time Under-40 (U40) chair/co-chair who helped launch the U40 group in 2020; and Meredith Mani, DEIB Chair who helped launch the DEIB initiative in 2020, for their dedication and contributions. I am grateful to My-Linh Kunst who has stepped into the role of Club Presidents' Coordinator, and to Jordan Beck Wagner, Under-40 (U40) co-chair, who is taking the reins of the U40 network.

Looking Ahead

Looking ahead, we will continue supporting member clubs, helping them benefit from being part of FAWCO's global community. We will work to connect them with opportunities and resources across the organization. We will encourage information sharing and cross-club engagement, strengthening both individual clubs and the broader FAWCO network. Supporting club leadership remains central to this effort, particularly as clubs pursue long-term growth and sustainability. We also look forward to further expanding and strengthening FAWCO's global network and presence.

In closing, I would like to express my gratitude for the opportunity to serve as 2nd VP Member Clubs. The chance to get to know our member clubs and to work alongside so many dedicated women has been a great experience. I am especially grateful to work with the Member Clubs team, a group of women with diverse talents whose contributions are reflected throughout this report. Please be sure to read the Member Clubs and team reports as well. They demonstrate how each contributes to our global community. I am also thankful to serve on the Board with a group of women whose talent, commitment and heart strengthen both our work and our community.

Respectfully submitted,
Belen Monasterio (AWC Madrid)
FAWCO 2nd Vice President – Member Clubs

Third Vice President's Report

The Third Vice President oversees FAWCO's four Global Issues Teams in the areas of Education, Environment, Health and Human Rights as well as the FAWCO Youth and Target Programs and Clubs in Motion. She is responsible for the publication of the monthly Global Issues Digest and contributes to the monthly *News In Brief* publication and the Target Bulletin.

I have the pleasure of working with a truly remarkable and dedicated group of women who are the co-chairs of the Global Issues Teams:

Clubs in Motion – Maggie Palu (AW Aquitaine)

Education – Gabi Maier (AIWC Düsseldorf) and Lindsay Nygren (AWC Central Scotland)

Environment – Rosie Deane (AWBS International Women's Club) and Maria Psarianou (AWO Greece)

Health – Lucy Andrews (AWAquitaine) and Dawn Parker (AWAquitaine)

Human Rights – Mary Adams (AWC The Hague) and Marelle Manders (Heidelberg IWC)

Target Program 6 – Jody McBrien (AWG and AAWE Paris)

Youth Program – My-Linh Kunst (AWC Berlin) and Stacey Harris Papaioannou (AWO Greece)

This was a transition year for the Global Issues Teams, as we welcomed several new co-chairs. These women have enthusiastically stepped into their roles and brought fresh perspectives and renewed energy to our work. The Global Issues Teams are always looking to supplement their numbers with members bringing new ideas.

Target Program 5 concluded at the Biennial Conference in Annapolis in March. The FAWCO community raised a record-breaking \$211,095 for the Awesome Blossoms project, supporting hydroponic farming and female entrepreneurship in Nairobi, Kenya. My sincere thanks to Amanda Drollinger (AWC Central Scotland) for her tireless work as the Target Program Chair. She dedicated countless hours to engaging clubs across the FAWCO network, wrote compelling Target Bulletins that informed and inspired our community, and tirelessly supported fundraising events that helped us achieve this remarkable milestone.

At the same time, we launched Target Program 6 – Human Rights: Advancing Dignity, Equality and Freedom for Women and Girls, with Jody McBrien announced as the new Target Program Chair. The Target Project Selection Committee was also named, and the application process for selecting the Target Project was opened. The Selection Committee selected a shortlist of three projects that were presented to the FAWCO Member Clubs for voting. The new Target Project 6 will be announced at the Interim Meeting in March 2026. Jody has already begun her work of education and awareness raising through the monthly Target Bulletin focusing on human rights issues until the Target Project is announced.

The Global Issues Book Discussion series continues to be one of our most popular events, with the hosts of the discussion rotating between each of the four main teams—Human Rights, Environment, Education and Health—but the books chosen demonstrate the intersectionality of these issues. These discussions are always thought-provoking and well attended.

In February, the Human Rights Team hosted a discussion on *We Need New Names* by NoViolet Bulawayo, which follows 10-year-old Darling from a Zimbabwean shantytown called Paradise to America, capturing the displacement caused by political oppression, extreme poverty and health crises including AIDS. The novel also examines the complex reality immigrants face when opportunity in a new country comes at the cost of cultural identity and belonging.

In April, the Environment Team hosted a discussion of *Doughnut Economics: Seven Ways to Think Like a 21st-Century Economist* by Kate Raworth, which seeks to address how to build a modern economy which thrives for all, without ruining the planet.

In September, the Education Team hosted a discussion of *The Offing* by Benjamin Myers, telling the story of Robert, a young man trying to escape his destiny as a coal miner, and Dulcie, an eccentric older woman in post-WWII England. The friendship opens up a world of poetry, literature, and the beauty of nature.

In November, the Health Team hosted a discussion of *In the Wars* by Dr. Waheed Arian, who founded Arian Teleheal, a global telemedicine charity that brings life-saving medical advice into war zones and low-resource countries.

Other events included:

Environment Festival – October 28–31. After last year's successful Youth Cultural Volunteers Program, which included a visit to the Dundreggan Rewilding Centre in the Highlands, Amanda Drollinger organized a trip open to the entire FAWCO community. The event included a nighttime bioluminescent walk through the forest, bushcraft fire-starting and bannock-making, dyeing with lichens over fire, a viewing of the film *Why Not Scotland: The Rewilding Nation* documentary, and, of course, participation in preparatory steps involved in the rewilding process and tree planting.

Health Team Phases of Womanhood series:

Healthspan vs. Lifespan: Living Long AND Living Well with Dr. Lucy Andrews (AWAquitane)

Navigating Menopause: Protecting Your Bones & Health with Dr. Veronica Ventura (AWC Bern)

Cervical Cancer Screenings: Recommendations and new advice regarding HPV and Pap smears with Dr. Veronica Ventura (AWC Bern)

Menopause: The history of hormone replacement therapy – from discovery to current trends with Dr. Veronica Ventura (AWC Bern)

Human Rights – 12 Critical Concerns of the Beijing Platform for Action series. The Human Rights Team chose to focus their meetings on the work done for the civil society review of Beijing+30. Specifically, each month they addressed a different critical concern, showcasing the expertise of the women who worked with the NGO CSW Geneva. These meetings were open to the entire FAWCO membership.

February – Women in Power and Decision-making with Connie Philipot (AWAVienna);

March – Women in Conflict with Marelle Manders (Heidelberg IWC);

May – Human Rights of Women with Mary Manning (Heidelberg IWC);

June – The Girl Child with Karen Castellon (FAUSA, AWC Berlin, AWAquitaine);

September – CEDAW (the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women) and the situation of women in Afghanistan, with Jessica Buchleitner (FAWCO UN Team), Corinne Dettmeijer, Vice Chair of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (UNOHCHR), Elahe Amani, Human Rights Activist, Expert on Iran and Afghanistan, and Marelle Manders (Heidelberg IWC), Lecturer in Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

October – Health and the Environment with guest speaker Sabine Peters, Zonta International UN Representative

November – Kristallnacht: Remembering the Lost Voices with Jennifer Sturgeon (AWC The Hague)

December – 2025 Advocacy in Review

The themes of the Beijing Platform for Action were also reflected in the series entitled “Diverse Voices: Trauma, Empowerment and Collective Action,” compiled by the Human Rights Team. It focused on the contributions of six FAWCO members to the 2025 International Women’s Writing Guild (IWWG) Anthology: *Write Forward*, which used the power of storytelling to illuminate the 12 Critical Areas of Concern—from education and health to climate justice and human rights. The pieces included:

“Elsa’s Memories,” a poem by Marjorie Kantor (AWC Madrid)

“Count and Recount” by Jawahara Saidullah (AIWC Düsseldorf)

“No, I’m Not Like These Women Victims” by Zefi Dimadama (AWO Greece)

Excerpt from *Lessons in Hope: A New Era for Maasai Women in Tanzania* by Juliet Cutler (FAUSA) telling the story of women entrepreneurs in the clean energy sector

“Just Facts” by Rosemary Amato (AIW Malta and AWC Amsterdam) contemplates the difference between facts and data intelligence in decision-making. Rosemary reflects on her career and personal life, realizing that simply gathering “facts” is insufficient for making informed decisions.

“We must gather our voices” by Mary Adams (AWC The Hague) is a metaphorical poem that emphasizes the power of collective voices emerging from grassroots movements calling for equality, advocacy and community.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Manning (Heidelberg IWC)
FAWCO 3rd Vice President – Global Issues

Secretary’s Report

I am honored to have begun my first assignment on the board last March. The duties are essentially creating, circulating and preserving monthly online board and Annual Meeting minutes (such as at Interim Meeting 2026 in Malta) in order to have an accurate record of our proceedings, concerns and challenges to inform future leaders. However, through this, I am gaining an overview of how the disparate units of the FAWCO Community come together under one umbrella to serve the needs of our member clubs scattered across the globe and how

this work is constantly evolving based on personal initiatives and perceived needs. The Secretary is also responsible for updating the Directory, a tool which encourages transparent communication so that members are free to interact with team leaders.

I also interact with the Archives Committee, which is an ambitious, labor-intensive, multi-year project to create an easily accessible, digital source of FAWCO artifacts—including minutes, scrapbooks, gala programs, correspondence, etc. in association with the Expatriate Archive Center located in The Hague. We are extremely fortunate to have Emily Van Eerten at the helm. Her steadfast commitment over the years guaranteeing consistency and rigor in the selection and processing of our precious memories is to be saluted. Thank you, Emily, for all that you do for this endeavor. What a marvelous undertaking in light of this year's 95th Anniversary! Happy Birthday, FAWCO! **We stand on the shoulders of Visionaries.**

Respectfully submitted,
Sheila Doucet, (AAWE Paris)
FAWCO Secretary

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's responsibilities include oversight and management of FAWCO's financial asset accounts, the maintenance of the financial records and preparation of the financial reports, coordination of an annual objective review of the financial statements and general oversight of the financial and internal controls of FAWCO.

2025 Financial Highlights

2025 financial results were incredibly strong. As a non-profit organization, FAWCO annually budgets to break even and also plans a breakeven budget for the annual conference and yet in 2025, FAWCO experienced a surplus of \$23k due to unusual circumstances.

• Membership (1)	\$ 1,000
• Operational (2)	\$11,600
• Advertising/Sponsorship (3)	\$ 1,000
• Interest Income (4)	\$ 800
• Conference Sponsorship (5)	\$ 3,800
• Donations (not budgeted)	\$13,000
• Conference Stipends (6)	<u>\$ (8,200)</u>
○ 2025 Unbudgeted Surplus	\$23,000

- (1) Membership Dues were \$1,000 over budget as FAWCO added 2 new clubs in 2025 and the ever changing club membership numbers.
- (2) Operational savings were significant due to lower contractual accounting and web services fees along with reduced travel expenses.
- (3) Sponsorship efforts continue to exceed expectations with the Sponsorship Team continuing to identify new partnerships.
- (4) Interest rates in the USA are beginning to dip back down but are continuing to provide a much needed alternate source of income.
- (5) The 2025 Annapolis Biennial Conference was budgeted at a loss, however we had stellar sponsorship support, and significant tax savings due to Cathy Farnan finding and taking advantage of available Maryland state tax provisions. The 2025 Conference ended with a surplus of \$3,826
- (6) As part of FAWCO's contribution to the 2025 conference, the board agreed to provide voting delegates a stipend to help offset the costs of traveling to the US. These funds did not come out of the conference budget but were funded with previously undesignated funds.

While the 2025 financial results were positive, the long term financial outlook for FAWCO is complicated by the increasing financial pressure on Club Dues, increasing operational expense (due to inflation), declining interest income (due to anticipated changes in USA interest rates), and increasing foreign currency exchange rates.

Identifying other revenue sources will need to be carefully considered to offset future increasing operational expenses while not incurring potential US income taxes on unrelated business taxable income.

FAWCO Fund Balances

Fund	December 31, 2025	December 31, 2024
Board Designated Funds		
CCB Fund	\$ 31,130	\$ 9,647
Founders Circle	\$ 30,010	\$ 30,010
Quasi Endowment	\$ 83,200	\$ 83,200
Operational Reserves	\$ 48,000	\$ 48,000
Total Designated Funds	\$ 192,340	\$ 170,857
General Funds	\$ 116,419	\$ 114,562
Total Fund Balances	\$ 308,759	\$ 285,419

Changes to Fund Balance

The CCB Fund, in honor of our founder Caroline Curtis Brown, is to support the needs of our Clubs, encourage Conference attendance and build towards FAWCO's future, including the celebration of FAWCO's 100th anniversary in 2031. Individual members, FAWCO Clubs and corporate benefactors are welcome to contribute to this fund to provide additional financial support (outside of our annual budget) for Clubs, Conferences and building the future of FAWCO.

- The board voted to designate most of the 2025 surplus to the CCB Fund including all donations and the conference surplus, leaving a small portion as undesignated.

The Founders Circle Fund was created by the 2003–2005 FAWCO Board to provide members the opportunity to contribute funds (outside of the annual budget) to support FAWCO's Global Issues Teams, UN and US Teams, and the work of the Board. FAWCO members, Clubs and corporate benefactors are also welcome to contribute to this fund.

The Operational Reserves Fund has been established by the Board in order to set aside monies in case of future economic uncertainty or unexpected future expenses. The initial funding was calculated as two years of FAWCO's annual expenses (excluding Conference expenses).

The Quasi-Endowment Fund originated from a bequest from the estate of Elaine Senigallia, FAWCO President 1981–83. While the bequest did not have any restrictions from the donor, the FAWCO Board, upon receipt of those funds in 2011, created a board-designated fund called Quasi-Endowment. It has provided a base of funds invested in CDs, providing much needed revenue from the interest. I recommend that the FAWCO Board periodically review this fund and its purpose.

Financial Assets

FAWCO's financial assets consist of cash and certificates of deposit held in bank accounts as well as online accounts (PayPal, Quickbooks, Stripe and Wise) to facilitate online international transactions, specifically for Member Clubs to pay their annual membership dues and conference registration fees. The Treasurer and President of the FAWCO Board have signatory authority on and access to all bank and online accounts.

Cash Balances, as of December 31, 2025:

- SDFCU (State Department Federal Credit Union): \$240,082
- Chase Bank: \$ 2,409

- Online Accounts: (PayPal, Quickbooks, Stripe, and Wise) \$ 32,582
- Total Cash Assets \$ 275,073

Share Certificates of Deposit and Interest Income

In order to take advantage of the current high interest rates, the FAWCO Finance Committee advised that FAWCO invest funds in SDFCU share certificates of deposit with rolling maturity dates. As a non-profit organization, FAWCO does not hold investments other than Share Certificates of Deposit. SDFCU Share Certificates of Deposit are federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration up to \$250,000.

Share Certificates of Deposit, as of December 31, 2025:

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| ● 12 Month, expiring 02/01/2026, 4.2% APY | \$ 36,364 |
| ● 15 Month, expiring 10/25/2026, 4.05% APY | \$ 54,205 |
| ● 15 Month, expiring 03/05/2027, 3.9% APY | \$ 30,082 |
| ● 36 Month, expiring 07/25/2026, 4.40% APY | <u>\$ 111,275</u> |
| ○ Total Share Certificates of Deposit | <u>\$ 231,926</u> |

Approximately 84% of FAWCO's total cash is invested in interest bearing share certificates of deposit resulting in \$10,753 of interest income in 2025. As of December 31, 2025, FAWCO has approximately \$43K in funds immediately available without penalty which is more than sufficient to cover FAWCO's annual expenses (not including the Conference) of approximately \$32K. FAWCO carefully manages overall cash flow to maximize the availability of interest income without compromising the cash needs of the organization.

Financial Records and Preparation of Financial Reports

FAWCO's financial records are maintained by the Treasurer using QuickBooksOnline, a non-profit version. The 2025 preliminary Financial Statements have been prepared by the Treasurer and will be presented at the 2026 Interim Meeting in Malta. Monthly financial reports and bank reconciliations were performed in 2025 and presented to the Board. FAWCO's Finance Committee convened semi-annually during 2025 to provide additional oversight and guidance. The draft 2024 Financial Statements were presented at the Biennial Conference in Annapolis. Open Finance Meetings were available to all FAWCO members to discuss the 2024 financial results as well as to review the 2025 budget.

Annual Review of FAWCO's Financial Statements

In an effort to save costs (\$2,500 and \$3,500 for 2025), it was determined by the board and agreed upon by the Finance Committee that because of the in depth review of the books and processes that takes place during a transition of treasurers, not to have a professional review done on the 2024 books. The Finance Committee and I are addressing the requirements in our governing documents and what is truly beneficial to the organization. Upon completion, we will make a recommendation as to how this should be handled going forward.

In Closing

I would like to thank all the Clubs for their timely payment of Membership Dues, the Finance Committee for their guidance and Patricia Aeby, FAWCO Conference Accountant. In addition, a huge thank you to Cathy Farnan for her guidance through our transition and beyond, and the FAWCO Board for their patience and assistance during this past year.

For further financial or treasury information, please do not hesitate to contact me at treasurer@fawco.org.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy DeBest (FAUSA, AWC The Hague)
FAWCO Treasurer

Parliamentarian's Report

The Parliamentarian is a Presidential appointee and a non-voting member who serves the Board over their two-year term. She attends all Board meetings, ensuring proceedings are conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order, and that all actions are in accordance with FAWCO Bylaws and Administrative Guidelines. The

Parliamentarian is also responsible for maintaining the Administrative Guidelines (AGs) and related Handbooks. The Parliamentarian also has duties around facilitating voting both virtually, in the case of approving the annual FAWCO Budget, and at our Annual Meetings.

In March 2025 at the Biennial Conference in Annapolis, MD, Tricia R. Saur, AIWC Cologne, was appointed Parliamentarian for the 2025–2027 term. She worked with the Board to make editorial adjustments to the Bylaws and Administrative Guidelines. As these modifications did not change the substance of the documents, the changes were made and accepted at the Board level.

For personal reasons, Tricia R. Saur resigned from the position in October 2025. Laurie Richardson (AWA Vienna) was appointed to serve as Parliamentarian for the remainder of the Board term.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Richardson (AWA Vienna)
FAWCO Parliamentarian

2025 Biennial Conference Report

2025 FAWCO Biennial Conference Report

Annapolis, Maryland, USA

Hosted by FAUSA and supported by The FAWCO Foundation

Fill Your Sails in Annapolis



The 2025 FAWCO Biennial Conference (BC) was hosted by FAUSA in Annapolis, Maryland, USA from Wednesday evening, March 26 to Sunday morning, March 30, 2025 at the Hilton Graduate Hotel. Almost one hundred members and 54 guests from around the world dropped anchor and attended FAWCO's annual meeting to connect, network and "fill their sails" in the safe harbor of the FAWCO community.

Optional tours for members and guests started on Tuesday with a full-day tour of nearby Washington DC. Other tours included visits to the Maryland State House, the US Naval Academy, walking tours of historic Annapolis, the Women of Achievement and African American Heritage tour, the Colonial Stroll with a tour of the William Paca House, and a scenic harbor cruise.

FAUSA had an impressive turnout with a record-breaking 42 members in attendance. On **Wednesday night** FAUSA hosted a welcome event with the theme of *Cheers to 25 Years!* in honor of their 25th anniversary. FAWCO President Ann Marie Morrow presented the FAUSA board with a cake to commence the celebration of FAUSA's anniversary.

Thursday morning Conference Co-Chairs Rick Chizmadia and Liz Janson, along with FAUSA's President Brenda Brinkley, welcomed FAWCO delegates and conference participants from around the world including from Colombia, Germany, Italy, Kenya, Malta and Morocco.

The conference was opened by FAWCO President Ann Marie Morrow (AWC Finland). The roll call by Secretary Laureen Sharps (AIWC Frankfurt) welcomed delegates from 26 clubs, and Parliamentarian Patti Meek (AWC Dublin) reviewed parliamentary procedure for the meetings. The FAWCO President shared highlights of the year, such as AIWC Malta joining FAWCO. Their club president Kim Smith was present as well as member Hope Moore, who is a previous FAWCO board member. A special welcome was given to them by Membership Chair Rebecca DeFraités (AWG Paris). Ann Marie also highlighted the successful year that Literacy is Our Legacy (LIOL) has had since its launch in March 2024. LIOL Chair Elsie Bose (FAUSA, AWG Paris) was commended for her initiative.

A memorable introduction to The FAWCO Foundation's (TFF) report and their board was delivered through a creative performance set to the tune of the *Gilligan's Island* theme song. TFF President Janet Davis (AIWC Cologne) reported that for 2025, the Foundation is making 21 awards: 12 Education Awards (EAs) and nine Development Grants (DGs). She noted that due to donor generosity, they were able to raise the amount of the awards in 2025. Janet reported that the Foundation has reached a milestone in 2025 with \$2,044,000 million in disbursements just for EAs and DGs.

FAUSA's President Brenda Brinkley announced that 2025 marks FAUSA's 25th anniversary. She noted FAUSA's involvement in philanthropy and activities during the past year, including that FAUSA raised \$56,000 at their last conference. FAUSA has 229 members plus 33 partners. She invited all to join the FAUSA Getaway/AGM in Milwaukee in October.

Nominations for the 2025–2027 FAWCO Board were presented by Nominations Chair Sallie Chaballier (AAWE Paris). Nominations for the FAWCO Board were President, Ann Marie Morrow (AWC Finland); VP Communications, Mary Dobrian (AIWC Cologne); VP Member Clubs, Belen Monasterio (AWC Madrid); VP Global Issues, Mary Manning (Heidelberg IWC); Treasurer, Kathy DeBest (FAUSA, AWC The Hague); and Secretary, Sheila Doucet (AAWE Paris). As well, nominations for the 2025–2027 FAWCO Foundation Board were presented by Lauren Mescon (FAUSA, AWC Amsterdam). The FAWCO Foundation slate comprised the same members as the 2023–2025 slate, and all were nominated to continue in the same roles for another term. The proposed Resolutions & Recommendations (R&Rs) for 2025–2027 were presented by R&Rs Chair Shweta Gupta (FAUSA, AWC Berlin).

Parliamentarian Patti Meek (AWC Dublin) presented Laurie Richardson (AWA Vienna) with the Caroline Curtis Brown Award as a FAWCO UN icon, recognizing her outstanding contributions to expanding and cementing FAWCO's connection with the UN.

UN Co-Liaisons Karen Castellon (FAUSA, AWC Berlin) and Alex Vo (FAUSA, AWG Paris) highlighted some of the UN events attended by FAWCO members and their children including: UN 62nd Commission on Social Development; FAWCO parallel event at the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW68), Empower Youth: Recognizing the signs of healthy and unhealthy relationships; Pam Perraud (AAWE Paris, FAUSA) spoke at the close of CSW68; UN Civil Society Meeting in Nairobi; NGO CSW Geneva Beijing Platform for Action +30; COP29 in Azerbaijan; and the recent CSW69.

Keynote Speaker Val Ackerman, Commissioner, Big East Conference, presented an impressive talk on Girls and Women in Sports: A Strategic Global Imperative. The FAWCO Foundation Parliamentarian Barbara Böhling (AIWC Dusseldorf) introduced Val, who has been a friend of Barbara's for decades.

Treasurer Cathy Farnan (FAUSA, AWG Paris) reported that the 2025 budget was approved by member clubs at the end of 2024. Overall fund balance increased by \$19K in 2024. She highlighted the newly-created CCB Fund in honor of FAWCO's founder Caroline Curtis Brown, to support clubs, conferences and build for the future.

VP Communications Mary Dobrian (AIWC Cologne) presented updates on the FAWCO website, publications and online virtual meetings. Mary thanked Elsie Bose for her eight years as Sponsorship Chair. Elsie shared her report detailing the current sponsors and how much their support means to FAWCO and its members. Special thanks to Launch Education Advisors Founder Sara Bittner (AWC Amsterdam). Her company has supported Target Program 5 and will continue supporting Target Program 6 as a sponsor. *Inspiring Women* magazine Editor-in-Chief Michele Hendrikse Du Bois (FAUSA, Munich IWC) shared highlights from the year's issues. A hard copy of 2024 *Inspiring Women* Highlights was presented to each conference attendee.

VP Member Clubs Kanika Holloway (AWC Antwerp) reported on highlights for the year including club anniversaries, and welcomed the Benvenuto Club of Milan and AIWC Malta to FAWCO. FAWCO Rep Appreciation awards were given to Julie Hutt (AWC Amsterdam), Natalie Malis (AWC The Hague), Connie Phlipot (AWA Vienna), Sonia Talukdar (ACIW Mumbai), and Veronica Ventura (AWC Bern).

A lovely tribute to the late Arline Burns Coward (Barcelona WN) was shared by FAWCO Counselor Emily van Eerten (AWC The Hague). Arline was one of just a few women in FAWCO history to have been both a FAWCO Counselor and FAWCO Foundation Counselor.

FAWCO Foundation Vice President Programs, Christine Riney (AWC Hamburg, AWC London) spoke about Education Awards (EAs) and Development Grants (DGs). Three new EAs have been added this year, and nine DGs will be awarded. Christine showed a video of award recipients' progress reports and a montage of DG projects in progress.

The plenary session ended with Diamond Conference Sponsor State Department Federal Credit Union (SDFCU) representative Rachel Rust, speaking about SDFCU services. FAWCO very much thanks its conference sponsors which also include: Gold Sponsor Torino Accounting Group, Silver Sponsor American Groceries Europe and Bronze Sponsor London and Capital. As well, FAWCO is deeply grateful for the support of FAUSA, The FAWCO Foundation and individual FAUSA donors including: Sue and Hugh Ripps, Janet Darrow, and Aurora Silvestri.

The opening dinner on Thursday evening was sponsored by the State Department Federal Credit Union and held at Acqua al 2 restaurant.

Friday, Day 2, started with 27 club delegates responding to the roll call. Literacy is Our Legacy (LIOL) Chair Elsie Bose (AWG Paris, FAUSA) reported on the success of the celebratory initiative. Highlights include an updated website showcasing books by members and clubs. Last October, at the Region 3 Regional in Paris, six of the region's authors appeared in a showcase panel. Collaboration with International Women's Writing Guild included a complimentary one-year membership in IWWG as well as webinars for FAWCO members.

Bill Fritchie, owner of the Torino Accounting Group, introduced his work as a certified tax planner. Torino Accounting Group was a Conference Gold Sponsor.

US Liaison Johanna Dishongh (AWC The Hague) reported on current US Issues. FAWCO has been working hard to protect the rights of overseas American voters. Actions over the past year have included strong advocacy at Overseas Americans Week and voter registration initiatives and articles about the spread of false information during elections. Currently focus is on working to prevent the SAVE Act from passing in Congress as there are provisions that would make voter registration more difficult for overseas voters. Johanna then introduced Keynote Speaker Elizabeth Gracon, Managing Director, Overseas Citizens Services, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Department of State. Ms. Gracon presented on Protecting and Serving US Citizens Abroad. The bulk of their work is dealing with arrests, deaths, crises, and passports. In 1990, only 5% of US citizens had a passport and now over 50% have them. Elizabeth noted that they launched a new version of Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) with advisories, alerts and other resources.

FAWCO VP Global Issues Mary Manning (Heidelberg IWC) shared highlights from the Global Issues Teams. She said one of FAWCO's greatest accomplishments in the past year was FAWCO members' participation in the NGO CSW Geneva review of the Beijing Platform for Action +30. She also shared a video of Environment Team Chair Sheila Doucet (AAWE Paris) detailing the team's work to support the environment. A special experience Sheila shared was from her time at COP29 where she met an indigenous activist who was highlighted in a film their team watched earlier in the year.

FAWCO Youth Co-Chairs My-Linh Kunst (AWC Berlin) and Stacey Harris-Papaioannou (AWO Greece) shared information about the 2024 Youth Cultural Volunteers Program in Scotland. Twelve FAWCO Youth and Stacey attended the program, which was led by FAWCO's Target Chair, Amanda Drollinger (AWCC Scotland). Education Team Co-Chair Michelle Miller (AIWC Cologne) presented highlights from the team's work in 2024, especially work supporting the Target Program. A highlight reel of the year's Clubs in Motion submissions was played by Coordinator Maggie Palu (AWAquitaine).

The Target Program Environment wrapped up at the end of February 2025. A record-breaking total of \$211,095 was raised for the Awesome Blossoms Target Project for the environment. Everyone was humbled by the generosity of all the donors, clubs and individuals. The goal of sustainable growth has been achieved for Safe Spaces with the ability to purchase their own land for their organization. The installed vertical farms will continue to supply nutrition and healthy food grown in a sustainable way long into the future. Economic support from the farms will also help to empower and enable all the Awesome Blossom Project participants. We can all be proud of the impact that FAWCO Member Clubs and Members can achieve when working together.

Special thanks was given to Target Chair Amanda Drollinger (AWCC Scotland) for her leadership and bringing about the completion of this amazing program. Thanks was also given to The FAWCO Foundation's Lauren Mescon (FAUSA) for her work as Target Fundraising Chair. It was celebrated as an accomplishment for all and many thanks were given to all.

Target Program 6.0 was launched with the theme Human Rights: Advancing Dignity, Equality and Freedom for Women and Girls. VP Global Issues Mary Manning noted that cumulatively close to a million dollars has been raised for Target Projects. This cycle will focus on Human Rights, which intersect with many different global issues. The appointed Target Chair is Jody McBrien (AAWE and AWG Paris) and Mary will act as Target Selection Chair.

A diverse array of workshops were offered on Friday afternoon providing valuable insights and fostering engaging discussions. They included: Banking Overseas: Hosted by the State Department Federal Credit Union (SDFCU); FAWCO R&Rs; Building Resilient Food Systems in a Climate-Impacted World; FAWCO at the UN; Dutch and Flemish Women Artists; How to Change the World from Where You Sit by Rebecca Hershey, Senior Vice President of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging at the Human Rights Campaign; Potpourri: From Recruiting to Retention, an open forum for Club Presidents; as well as a workshop for Presidents, RCs and Reps.

Friday evening featured The FAWCO Foundation's (TFF) themed event, "Sea Beyond... A Nautical Night." Attendees embraced the nautical theme with creative attire, and awards were presented to the top three best-dressed participants. There was a DJ, dinner and dance floor. Highlights of the evening included the silent and live auctions that support TFF's Education Awards and Development Grants. In a heartfelt gesture, the FAUSA board welcomed and hosted Ginny and Pat Treanor in memory of Judy Treanor, honoring her legacy and contributions.

Saturday morning started off with elections and voting for the updated R&Rs, which were accepted unanimously. The Foundation Friendship Quilt raffle winner was announced as Margie O'Rourke (AWC Dublin). Foundation Night Results were reported by TFF President Janet Davis with updates later in the day, which brought the total to just over \$40,000. Everyone was thanked for their generosity and support.

Workshops continued, including: Lighthouse Shelter; FAWCO Foundation; Maryland's Cultural Cuisine; Fostering Connections with DEIB; Chesapeake Bay Commission; Empowering Girls Through Sports; Pathway to Progress: Gender Equality; US Issues; and Part 2 of the workshop for Presidents, RCs and Reps.

In the afternoon plenary session, Michelle Miller (AIWC Cologne), Education Awards Administrator, announced the recipients of the 2025 Education Awards. Tracy Moede (AWC Hamburg), Development Grants Administrator, announced the recipients of the Development Grants for 2025.

FAWCO President Ann Marie Morrow honored FAWCO Parliamentarian Patti Meek with the prestigious Caroline Curtis Brown Award, recognizing her exceptional service and dedication over the years to both FAWCO and The FAWCO Foundation.

The election results were announced and both boards were installed. Ann Marie announced Malta as the location of the 2026 Interim Meeting (IM), which will take place March 20–22, 2026. She noted that the FAWCO board is responsible for organizing Interim Meetings and there is no host club at IMs.

Closing

Ann Marie thanked everyone who helped to make the conference a success—all volunteers, sponsors, board members, counselors and attendees. She spoke about the importance of hope, resilience and aspiration to action. She thanked Angie Aebersold, Patricia Aeby, Cat Connor, Cathy Farnan and many others including Elsie Bose. She also thanked Liz Janson and Rick Chizmadia for their amazing job as Conference Co-Chairs and FAUSA for hosting.

Appointments: FAWCO Parliamentarian, Tricia R. Saur (AIWC Cologne); Region 8 Regional Coordinator, Bessie Sioutas (AWO Greece); Target Program Human Rights Chair, Jody McBrien (AWG Paris, AAWE Paris); new Sponsorship Co-Chairs, Jordan Beck Wagner (AWC Hamburg) and Ginny Trowman (Heidelberg IWC). A new Strategy and Sustainability Task Force was also initiated.

FAUSA host club's President Brenda Brinkley thanked FAWCO and The FAWCO Foundation for supporting the conference in Annapolis and welcomed members to celebrate FAUSA's 25th anniversary at their Getaway.

Attendees were also welcome to join an informal *Dine Around*: Dinner on your own. Suggestions and signups for small groups were available through SignUpGenius.

Sunday morning included an optional open brainstorming session led by President Ann Marie Morrow, where participants discussed a range of development and sustainability topics relevant to clubs and FAWCO. The keynote speaker on Sunday was open to guests as well. Skye Perryman, President and CEO of Democracy Forward, spoke via an online link as she was unable to attend in-person due to scheduling changes. Democracy Forward is a nonpartisan, national legal organization that promotes democracy and progress through litigation, regulatory engagement, policy education and research. Many who attended walked away with a sense of hope.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Marie Morrow (AWC Finland)
FAWCO President



UN Liaison Report

2025 Annual Report for FAWCO United Nations Team

2025 was the 80th anniversary of the United Nations, the 30th anniversary of the Beijing Platform for Action, the 25th anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and the 50th Commemoration of International Women's Day. It was a year for reflection on progress, pushbacks and revitalization. For FAWCO, it was another banner year for the UN Team in terms of participation and growth. CSW69 saw a record number of participants and FAWCO hosted a packed parallel event on image-based sexual abuse online. We challenged ourselves by submitting an official statement against Child Marriage for CSW70. Additionally, we participated in a wide variety of UN meetings around the world, including sponsoring a delegate to attend a Latin American climate change conference for the first time, COP30 in Brazil. The UN Team gratefully acknowledges the diligence of the FAWCO Board in approving important statements and sponsoring valuable events.

- The UN Team had record participation at CSW69 with **27 delegates** from **10 FAWCO clubs** including Australia, Jordan, Europe, US and Latin America. For COP30, there was participation from **14 delegates** from **7 FAWCO clubs** in **13 countries**.
- In addition to regular meetings with NGO CSWs in NY, Vienna and Geneva, delegates participated in **eight official UN meetings**: [CSocD63](#), [CSW69](#), [CCPCJ34](#), [ECOSOC Youth Forum](#), [ECOSOC Forum on FFD4](#), [SB62](#), [UNGA80](#), [COP30](#).
- The Team hosted **five webinars and two in-person events**: "What Happened at COP29 Baku" webinar; two CSW69 Orientation webinars; "Tackling Image-Based Sexual Abuse Online" in-person parallel event at CSW69; in addition to the annual report, a workshop at the FAWCO Conference in Annapolis; "CSW69 Debriefing" webinar; and "CSW69 Reboot: Combatting Image-Based Sexual Abuse, Real or AI Generated" webinar.
- In June, the UN Team submitted the required **Quadrennial Report 2021-2024** to the Economic and Social Council's Committee on NGOs to be compliant with its Special Consultative status. It is a brief report of activities every four years which includes information about contributions of FAWCO to the work of the United Nations.
- We were proud that the **June 2025 issue of Inspiring Women** featured our team members in [Women in the UN and Multilateral Diplomacy](#)
- In November, Mary Adams (AWC The Hague) authored the [FAWCO CSW70 Statement](#) (March 2026) against Child Marriage. Alexandra Vo, UN Liaison (FAUSA) edited and submitted it with sponsorship

from the Childhood Education International, End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes, Inc, Graduate Women International and the US Women's Caucus.

- The UN Team posts in the following social media: [FAWCO Members Private Group \(FB\)](#); [FAWCO at the UN \(FB\)](#); [FAWCO](#) on LinkedIn; and [Alexandra Vo's LinkedIn](#) as UN Liaison in addition to the dedicated [United Nations section](#) on the FAWCO website. The Team is the administrator of the WhatsApp groups CSW-FAWCO and FAWCO at CSW69.
- FAWCO co-sponsored events and signed advocacy statements:
 - **CSocD63 Event:** [NO TIME TO WASTE: The Urgent Need to Build Inclusive Social Protection for Children in Vulnerable Situations. The Role of Early Childhood Education and Care](#) (February 11, 2025) and oral statement.
 - **HRC60 Statement:** [Human Rights and the UN Crisis: Protecting Women, Security, and the UN System](#)
 - **SB62 Statement:** [Civil Society Groups Letter to the IPCC Ahead of 62nd Session: A Call to Center Equity, Real Solutions, and End Reliance on Highly Speculative Technologies](#).
 - **50th Anniversary of IWD:** [CoNGO, Soroptimist International, and over one hundred NGOs join in a statement on International Women's Day 2025](#)
 - **CSW69 Statement:** [Beijing +30 Parallel Report Submission by the NGO CSW/NY to UN Women on the occasion of the 69th Commission on the Status of Women \(CSW69\)](#) Prepared by the Advocacy & Research Group of the NGO CSW/NY
 - **CSW69 Statement:** [Soroptimist International](#)
 - **CSW69 Statement:** [Graduate Women International](#)
 - **CSW69 Statement:** [NGO CSW Vienna](#)
 - **CSW69 Statement:** [Zonta International](#)
 - **CSW69 in-person parallel event:** Tackling Image-Based (AI and real) Sexual Abuse (IBSA) Online (March 12) by FAWCO
 - **CSW69 NGO CSW NY Forum:** Empowering Migrant Mothers: Providing Critical Education Pathways for Young Children (March 10) by NGO Committee on Migration subcommittee on Children Migration
 - **CCPCJ34 virtual side event:** [Family and Non-Family Non-State Torture \(NST\), Human Trafficking and Femicidal Risks: a Person/ Victim-Centered Approach \(May 23\)](#)
 - **NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security Statement:** [2025 Open Letter to Permanent Representatives to the United Nations in advance of the annual Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security](#)
 - **COP30:** [10th Edition of the Gender Just Climate Solutions](#)

UN Duty Stations and NGO CSWs

- **NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Geneva (NGO CSW Geneva) and UN Geneva Duty Station**
NGO CSW Geneva serves as the civil society body that interacts with the UN in Geneva. Sallie Chaballier (AAWE Paris) was appointed the FAWCO representative for NGO CSW Geneva in October 2022. Since April 2024, she has served as Executive Secretary. Paula Daeppen (AWC Zürich) was the Parliamentarian and Assistant Treasurer of NGO CSW Geneva until January 2026. Sallie Chaballier represented FAWCO at the [UNECE Region Civil Society Consultation on Emerging Issues for CSW70 \(Oct 8\)](#) wherein UN regional entities consulted with civil society.
FAWCO representatives to the UN Geneva Duty Station are Ann Marie Morrow (President); Alexandra Vo (Chief Administrative Officer); Paula Daeppen (AWC Zürich); Sallie Chaballier (AAWE Paris); Rachel Thibodeaux (AWC Zürich); Ann Riz-Sandweiss (AWC Bern); Veronica Ventura (AWC Bern).
- **NGO Committee on the Status of Women, New York (NGO CSW New York) and UN New York Duty Station.** NGO CSW New York is the civil society body that interacts with the UN in New York, specifically UN Women. Alexandra Vo (UN Liaison, FAUSA, AWG Paris) is the FAWCO representative for NGO CSW New York. The FAWCO representatives to the UN New York Duty Station are Ann Marie Morrow

(President); Alexandra Vo (Chief Administrative Officer); Pam Perraud, President, USWC (AAWE Paris); Jane Politi (AWC Rome); Karen Castellon (FAUSA, AWC Berlin); Prachi Shah (FAUSA, AWC Berlin); Erica Higbie (FAUSA).

- **NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Vienna (NGO CSW Vienna) and UN Vienna Duty Station**
NGO CSW Vienna serves as the civil society body that interacts with the UN in Vienna. Laurie Richardson (AWA Vienna), former FAWCO UN Liaison and Chair of NGO CSW Vienna, represents FAWCO on the committee.

63rd Commission on Social Development (CSocD63), New York and the NGO Committee on Migration (NGO CoM) Jane Politi (AWC Rome) serves on the NGO CoM as Co-Chair of the Subcommittee on Children in Migration. FAWCO co-sponsored the side event: [NO TIME TO WASTE: The Urgent Need to Build Inclusive Social Protection for Children in Vulnerable Situations. The Role of Early Childhood Education and Care](#) and oral statement.

Commission on the Status of Women (CSW69) in New York. The focus of the 69th Session was “the review and appraisal of the implementation of the [Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action](#) and the outcomes of the [23rd special session of the General Assembly](#).” FAWCO delegates attended the two-week meetings in New York City and shared their experiences and learnings via blog posts on the UN Advocacy page of [FAWCO.org](#). Additionally, FAWCO sponsored the in-person parallel event at the NGO CSW Forum, “Tackling Image-Based Sexual Abuse Online” on [March 12, 2025](#). To a packed room, the event was moderated by Jessica Buchleitner (Munich IWC) with panelists: Breeze Liu ([Alecto AI](#)); Susanna Gibson ([MyOwnImage.org](#)); Andrea Powell ([Alecto AI](#)); Noelle Martin ([NoelleMartin.org](#)) and via video Dr. Silvia Semenzin ([SilviaSemenzin.it](#)). The co-sponsors were NGO CSW Geneva, the US Women’s Caucus, Alecto AI, and My Own Image. On May 13, 2025, the UN Team hosted a “CSW69 Debriefing” webinar for FAWCO members to hear directly from some of the delegates.

- 27 FAWCO Delegates to CSW69:
 - Alexandra Vo (Co-UN Liaison, FAUSA, AWG Paris)
 - Karen Castellon (Co-UN Liaison, FAUSA, AWC Berlin, AW Aquitaine)
 - Jessica Buchleitner (Munich IWC)
 - Laureen Scharps (AIWC Frankfurt)
 - Kirsten Wolf-McKeon (guest)
 - Tildabeth Doscher (guest)
 - Anna Roberts (guest)
 - Veronica Ventura (AWC Bern)
 - Michelle Roberts (FAUSA)
 - Alice Finno (guest)
 - Prachi Shah (FAUSA, AWC Berlin)
 - Meg Brew (AWC Amsterdam)
 - Laura Martinez-Fonts (AWC Berlin)
 - Connie Philipot (AWA Vienna)
 - My-Linh Kunst (AWC Berlin)
 - Kate Lee (guest)
 - Ann Marie Morrow (FAWCO President, AWC Finland)
 - Gernot Warmuth (guest)
 - Pam Perraud (AAWE Paris)
 - Sallie Chaballier (AAWE Paris)
 - Patty DuCharme (FAUSA)
 - Tricia R. Saur (AIWC Cologne)
 - Amanda Lane (guest)
 - Noelle Martin (panelist)
 - Jennifer Padfield (FAUSA)
 - Daniela Vega-Lira (guest)
 - Maureen Kemunto Miruka (guest)
- Several delegates attended the [UN Townhall with Secretary-General Guterres on March 11, 2025](#)

- FAWCO endorsed the following statements:
 - [Beijing +30 Parallel Report Submission by the NGO CSW/NY to UN Women on the occasion of the 69th Commission on the Status of Women \(CSW69\)](#) Prepared by the Advocacy & Research Group of the NGO CSW/NY
 - [Soroptimist International](#)
 - [Graduate Women International](#)
 - [NGO CSW Vienna](#)
 - [Zonta International](#)

2025 FAWCO Biennial Conference, Annapolis, MD

Alexandra Vo and Karen Castellon, Co-UN Liaisons, presented the UN Annual Report and hosted an interactive workshop: “FAWCO at the UN.”

[ECOSOC Youth Forum, New York](#) and [2025 ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development & 4th PrepCom for FFD4, New York](#). Prachi Shah (FAUSA, AWC Berlin) was our Youth UN Representative. She networked and explored how youth (18-35) can make a difference. She attended an exceptional joint meeting by the President of ECOSOC and the co-chairs of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee to foster political momentum for the 4th International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4).

[80th Session of the General Assembly, New York](#) Alexandra Vo, UN Liaison (FAUSA, AWG Paris) follows the news coming out of the annual General Assembly and progress with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Climate Change Advocacy through the [UNFCCC](#), the UN climate change treaty. FAWCO is a member of the [Women and Gender Constituency](#), one of nine NGO constituencies recognized by the UNFCCC.

- **COP29 Webinar:** On January 22, 2025, the UN Team hosted the “What Happened at COP29, Baku” webinar for FAWCO members. Alexandra Vo reviewed the key outcomes while COP29 delegates Ayuska Motha (AIWC Cologne), Sheila Doucet (AAWE Paris), and Meg Brew (AWC Amsterdam) related their diverse experiences and take-aways. We also heard from guest delegates: [Anisa Abibulloeva](#) (Little Earth), [Iman Berry](#) (Green Ummah), [Bianca Garvin](#) (YOUNGO). There are blogs in the UN Advocacy page at [FAWCO.org](#).
- **[62nd Subsidiary Bodies \(SB62\), Bonn](#)** These smaller intermediary meetings take place every June in Bonn, the secretariat of the UNFCCC. Ayuska Motha (AIWC Cologne), our head UNFCCC representative, attended as she has for the past seven years.
- **[The 30th Conference of Parties on Climate Change \(COP30\) in Belém, Brazil](#)**. From November 10-21, 2025, FAWCO’s delegation of 14 representatives attended both in-person and virtually. FAWCO was allotted five in-person badges and ten virtual badges. Due to the distance, cost and lack of housing options, only one FAWCO delegate, UN Liaison Alexandra Vo attended COP30 in-person. The extra badges were assigned to our sister coalitions. With the assistance of Ayuska Motha, we prioritized participants who were female, youths (up to age 35), indigenous people, from the global south, and/or have a disability. Ayuska Motha was once again a juror for [Gender Just Climate Solutions competition \(GJCS\)](#) where the winners were recognized at COP30. Awesome Blossoms, FAWCO’s Target Project 5, was once again featured in the [10th Edition of the Gender Just Climate Solutions](#).

In-Person Representatives:

- Alexandra Vo
- Maria Araújo (Indigenous Leader, ANMIGA Brazil)
- Veronica Luna (WECF, Argentina)
- Daniela Cantarey (Mexico)
- Camile Cortez (Amnesty International, South Africa)
- Nouran Elmarsafy (Greenish, Egypt)

- Jhanela Tuanama (MANTHOC, Peru)
- Evke Bakker (Press, Debt for Climate, Germany)

Virtual Representatives:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ○ Maggie Palu (AWAquitaine) | Meg Brew (AWC Amsterdam) |
| ○ Rebekka Klingshirn (Heidelberg IWC) | Ayuska Motha (AIWC Cologne) |
| ○ Sonia Talukdar (ACIW Mumbai) | |
| ○ Amanda Drollinger (AWCC Scotland) | |

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Castellon (FAUSA, AWC Berlin)
Alexandra Vo (FAUSA)
FAWCO Co-UN Liaisons

US Issues

US Liaison Report



Overseas Americans Week

The largest event of the year for the US Liaison is planning and participating in Overseas Americans Week. FAWCO, along with our long-term partner, AARO (Association of Americans Resident Overseas), held our annual Overseas Americans Week May 12–16, 2025. By expanding our team with the addition of Cathy Farnan (AWG Paris, FAUSA), FAWCO was represented in every meeting. Over the course of five days, we visited over 40 Congressional offices and seven agencies. We did have fewer appointments in the House this year than normal, as the [Budget Reconciliation Bill](#) was released in sections on the Friday and Sunday just prior to our visit. There were marathon committee markups during the week, some lasting more than 24 hours, and with over 1,100 pages to cover, many staffers were consumed with providing information to their Members.

The atmosphere in Congress was more positive than we had expected. We found fewer offices who have no idea of the issues faced by Americans abroad. It seems that the years of running the halls and visiting these offices is paying off.

Although the SAVE Act had already passed in the House, we continued to express our frustration at the excessive burden on Americans abroad to be required to produce proof of citizenship in person at their local election office. Ironically, this was a surprise to a few offices. Fortunately, the bill did not make it out of committee in the Senate.

We brought members' attention to the [Senate TAS Act](#) and the need for a companion bill in the House. We also discussed the [FIRM Act \(H2702\)](#), which addresses access to banking, and asked that Americans abroad be included in that segment of "law abiding citizens" protected in this bill. We also supported the [Fair Access to Banking Act \(S401\)](#), which goes even deeper than the FIRM Act.

Depending on committee appointments, Medicare was also discussed with the concept that government-sponsored healthcare abroad should be considered as coverage and eliminate the Part B penalty

for Americans who enroll “late” if they move back to the US after age 65 and did not enroll when they were first eligible.

The agency visits had a completely different posture. Although they all attempted a positive outlook, the feeling was despondent. It seemed as if the constant change and loss of staffing they have been experiencing is wearing them down.

The week began on Monday with Erin Collins, National Taxpayer Advocate, [Taxpayer Advocate Service](#)), and her team. The [Taxpayer Assistance and Services Act](#) was the first item discussed. Other topics addressed were excessive penalties for inadvertent FBAR errors, gift tax, payments to/from the IRS, the Executive Order stating that the IRS would go paperless by September 2025 and loss of resources within the IRS. There was additional concern that in the 2024 National Taxpayer Advocate Annual Report to Congress, four of the ten Most Serious Issues within the IRS had to do with staffing, and that the current administration plans to cut the IRS by 25–40%. When questioned on this, she indicated that all workloads and processes were under review to be as efficient as possible.

The National Taxpayer Advocate also mentioned that she plans to have an international focus section for this 2025 Annual Report and asked for input on the biggest issues Americans abroad face with the IRS. At the time of writing, their Annual Report has not been published.

Our next meeting was with Tom Hick, Commissioner of the Election Assistance Program. Our immediate concern was with the SAVE Act and its requirement that to register to vote, citizens would be required to produce proof of citizenship IN PERSON to their “local election official,” as well as President Trump’s Executive Order, which also requires proof of citizenship to vote. The Commissioner said that he could not discuss the Executive Order due to pending court cases. He indicated that he expects there to be continued attacks on voting rights through 2026.

Finally, we met with Michael Gullette (Senior VP–Tax & Accounting) and Joey Connor (VP–Tax Policy) of the [American Bankers Association](#) (ABA). We discussed the same topics that we bring up to the ABA every year: Americans without a US address having difficulty obtaining/maintaining banking and financial services within the United States due to banks’ strict interpretation of the Patriot Act’s KYC (Know Your Customer) provision. Fortunately, FAWCO Members now have access to accounts at the State Department Federal Credit Union.

We also met with Elizabeth Gracon and her team at the [State Department Consular Services Division](#). Elizabeth was a keynote speaker at the Annapolis Conference. She acknowledged that the trend is not to provide in-person services at Consulates abroad. She is hopeful that online passport renewal will soon be available for internationals. Domestic reorganization of the department is ongoing, and they have no information yet regarding international divisions. The State Department overall has been on a hiring freeze since January 20, 2025; however, given that Foreign Service training is a one-year program, the effects of this freeze have not yet been felt. Visa processing for the FIFA World Cup is a current priority. Customs and Border Patrol agents inform visa holders how long they can stay at the point of entry; this is outside of State Department control.

Agencies are being pushed with hard deadlines to implement all Executive Orders. The State Department is working with the Department of Homeland Security on an “E-Verify” website for employment and Real ID verification. This could potentially be used for local election officials to verify citizenship.

The last agency meeting was with the [Federal Voting Assistance Program](#) (FVAP). We brought up concerns about ballots from abroad being caught in customs. FVAP indicated that their focus is more on outreach for voters.

Other Activities

US Liaison facilitated FAWCO’s participation in several Amicus Briefs to the Supreme Court with Brennan Center for Justice, mainly on voting issues.

US Issues hosted a series of webinars to inform our American members on where they can get answers to questions particular to Americans living abroad, and to assist non-Americans with questions that relate to US Issues: Banking for Overseas Members-Using SDFCU Technology – Your Questions Answered; Webinar for

College Bound Families-Admissions Insights – A Global Overview of the US, UK, and Europe; Remote Services For Struggling Learners – The Brave New World Of Telehealth for Kids and Teens; and Updates in the US tax system — Tips for filing your 2024 US tax returns.

FAWCO US Liaison joined the board of Tax Fairness for Americans Abroad (TFFAA), which has provided direct insight into ongoing efforts for legislative changes to the current US tax policy. The board meets biweekly with the principal consultant from Brownstein, Mark Warren, who spent more than two decades serving as congressional tax counsel spanning four administrations.

In December, Laureen Scharps, AIWC Frankfurt, joined the US Issues Team as the Deputy US Liaison. Laureen's experience with FAWCO started in 1994 when she became the FAWCO Rep for AWC Düsseldorf and later served two five-year terms as Rep for AIWC Frankfurt. She has held a number of positions including FAWCO Board Secretary. From 2018 to 2024, Laureen joined the FAWCO US Voting Committee and wrote voting articles published on the FAWCO website. She also organized voter registration events and made thousands of calls to US voters living abroad to help them register to vote absentee. Laureen will be supporting the US Liaison with publications, website review and Overseas Americans Week.

Reports follow from the three US Issues Committee Chairs – Tax & Banking, Voting from Overseas, and US Citizenship. I would like to take this opportunity to thank outgoing Co-Chairs, Ann Birot-Salsbury (AAWE Paris) and Tracy Moede (AWC Hamburg) for their years of service to the US Tax & Banking Committee and wish them well on their future endeavors within FAWCO.

Respectfully submitted,
Johanna Dishongh (AWC The Hague, FAUSA)
US Liaison

US Citizenship Committee Report



This past year, it has become mandatory nationwide in the US for all driver's licenses and state issued identification cards to be "REAL ID" which can be used as proof of lawful status in the US and necessary for travel on US airlines. While some identification documents are proof of US citizenship, the state- issued identification is proof of lawful status, like permanent residency, in the US.

The UK and other European countries now require the equivalent of the US visa waiver/ESTA application prior to travel. Please consult the European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) website for more information.

An exclusive citizenship bill that would require dual nationals to renounce their non-US citizenship has been introduced just prior to the end of the year. It is being reviewed by the Senate Judiciary Committee, but appears to be unconstitutional, problematic and unpopular. Implementation would be difficult and there are many dual citizens of the US and Israel, Ireland, the UK and many (mainly) European countries.

Renunciation of US citizenship is being considered by some due to the US tax laws, because the individual no longer lives in the US on a permanent basis, or other personal reasons. Please consult a tax advisor and possibly an attorney prior to renunciation. This is permanent and should the individual decide s/he wants to be a US citizen again, they would have to apply for permanent residence first like any other foreign national. Also do not renounce US citizenship without citizenship in another country to avoid becoming stateless.

Travel restrictions are constantly being imposed and changing. The best advice is to check with the State Department website prior to any travel outside of the US.

A number of US Consulates were closed around the globe. Please check the Department of State website prior to traveling to a particular consulate to make sure of schedules and services.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith K. Furukawa (FAUSA)
Chair, US Citizenship

US Voting Report



Events in 2024–2025 clearly showed that “the old days,” in which FAWCO and its US Voting Committee worked in an environment that encouraged and supported overseas voting, are gone. Now we face an increasingly hostile environment with escalating attacks on overseas voting rights, working largely through the courts. As these attacks can only be expected to increase, FAWCO Member Clubs should do everything possible to protect US members’ rights and encourage them and other overseas Americans to ensure that they exercise those rights in the 2026 US elections.

The US Voting Committee did its utmost to promote and assist voting by overseas Americans through October 2024, and then supported FAWCO’s US Liaison in responding to unusual and unwelcome attacks on overseas voting just before Election Day and well into 2025. Towards the end of 2025, the Committee started to gear up for the 2026 US elections. In particular, the Committee Chair

1. regularly updated the US Voting section of the FAWCO [website](#), published monthly [articles](#) on both regular and special elections, the struggle for the survival of US democracy and calls for action against escalating attacks on overseas voting rights, arising from lawsuits, legislative proposals, a petition to the Election Assistance Commission and an executive order;
2. worked with the FAWCO US Liaison and outside partners – particularly the US Vote Foundation, the Association of Americans Resident Overseas and the Brennan Center for Justice – to respond to and mobilize action to oppose threats to overseas voting rights,
3. encouraged overseas voters to take the US Vote Foundation’s survey of their voting experience in the elections, and conveyed reports of failures of ballot delivery in various states, as well as problems with local election officials, to the US Liaison for use in [Overseas Americans Week](#);
4. contributed material to the *US Liaison Bulletin* and *News in Brief*;
5. circulated monthly email messages to Committee members;
6. communicated and worked with FAWCO partners the [US Vote Foundation](#) and the [Federal Voter Assistance Program](#); and
7. answered questions sent to the voting@fawco.org address.

The Committee Chair and members spoke at FAWCO and club events, and promoted and assisted overseas voting through their clubs. Unfortunately, the Committee still does not have a member in every FAWCO club; volunteers should contact the Chair by email to voting@fawco.org.

The FAWCO US Liaison’s leadership in responding to attacks on overseas voting have been outstanding, and partners have welcomed FAWCO’s participation in efforts to protect voting rights.

Continuing problems

The Committee Chair continued to pass reports of problems with local election officials and missing ballots to the US Liaison, so that they could be raised with US lawmakers during [Overseas Americans Week](#).

Since 2020, the Committee has increasingly included a new activity – active support of US democracy – to its traditional work of promoting voting by overseas Americans. As the new threats to US democracy continue, so will the Committee's work to defend the rights of US citizens. Those threats increase the importance of voting by all Americans, everywhere.

New problem: attacks on overseas voting

According to [FVAP's analysis](#), turnout of overseas American voters is only 7.8%. If we do not bother to vote, why should lawmakers listen to our concerns?

Low participation, however, did not shield overseas voting from multiple attacks in 2025, detailed in [articles](#) on the FAWCO website. The first attacks were defeated in court, and the second wave was dropped as the outcome of the election became clear. Additional attacks have followed, however, and overseas voters should expect additional attempts to use that arrow in the quiver of voter suppression.

Overseas voters have only had the right to vote in US elections for a little over 50 years; the best way to keep it is to use it.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Stewart Burgher (AWC Denmark)
US Voting Chair



US Tax & Banking Report

The primary focus of the US Tax & Banking Committee continues to be reducing the “fear factor” by making information and support available. The Tax & Banking Committee provides confidential support and encouragement, perspectives on how others are handling these issues, and suggestions for “Go To” banks, where available. We correspond with members regarding banking issues, loss of overseas accounts, tax questions, tax advisors, estate planning help, etc. FAWCO members are always encouraged to seek professional help and to comply with reporting requirements to the federal authorities.

The comprehensive review of the US Tax & Banking section of FAWCO's website is ongoing, and the section now has the most current information on such topics as filing deadlines, IRS links, FATCA/FBAR, DC advocacy, and tax, financial and estate planning resources for internationally mobile US persons overseas. Content for these pages of the FAWCO website continues to expand.

We published articles in *News in Brief*, *US Liaison Bulletin*, on the FAWCO website as well as Facebook posts to inform FAWCO members. Topics included the FBAR, tax filing requirements, financial document retention regulations, and tax-friendly retirement destinations for American expats.

The State Department Federal Credit Union (SDFCU) is a full-service financial institution founded in 1938 by Department of State employees. They welcome US Citizens and Green Card holders who are members of FAWCO to their field of membership. SDFCU is committed to providing banking products and services to accommodate overseas Americans' needs and help them reach their financial goals.

Goals for 2026

1. Assisting Clubs in organizing Tax & Banking Seminars (carried over from 2023, 2024 and 2025)
2. Continued efforts to encourage FAWCO members to become more active in their overseas financial situations through articles in the *US Liaison Bulletin* and posts to the FAWCO members-only Facebook group
3. Continued content management on specific topics on FAWCO Tax & Banking web page

4. Supporting the FAWCO US Liaison as needed during Overseas Americans Week (OAW)
5. Supporting the argument that for Americans residing overseas (i) the FBAR filing threshold should be raised, from foreign financial account aggregate value of \$10,000 to \$50,000 like IRS Form 8938 (Statement of Specified Foreign Financial Assets); and, (ii) Americans residing overseas should not be required to report our accounts located in our tax-base country that hold the funds needed to pay taxes and bills, save for retirement, pay mortgages, receive salary, etc.

Both Co-Chairs have announced they will be stepping down from their positions after the Malta Interim Meeting to dedicate their time to other FAWCO interests. It has been an enlightening and beneficial learning opportunity.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Birot-Salsbury (AAWE)
Tracy Moede (AWC Hamburg)
Tax & Banking Co-Chairs

Member Clubs Teams

FAWCO Club Presidents' Coordinator

As Club Presidents' Coordinator, I have helped to facilitate communication and connection between and among Club Presidents and FAWCO. Over this past year, I have published the Club Presidents' Post and held online meetings exclusively for and with FAWCO Club Presidents. Through these communications and interactions, I sought to provide useful information to club presidents for the management of their clubs. The online meetings in particular were an opportunity for open discussion and an exchange of ideas on topics of particular interest or challenge for clubs—from membership engagement to recruiting future club leaders. Additionally, in my capacity as Club Presidents' Coordinator, I held a workshop for club presidents at the FAWCO Biennial Conference in March 2025, in Annapolis, Maryland. Also at the 2025 Biennial Conference, as Club Presidents' Coordinator, I was part of the workshop spearheaded by FAWCO's 2nd VP of Member Clubs—designed for Club Presidents, FAWCO Representatives and FAWCO Regional Coordinators and focused on mentorship. Throughout my time serving FAWCO as Club Presidents' Coordinator, I sought to strengthen and improve my communication and relationship with FAWCO Club Presidents and to be a source of support and partnership—all with the ultimate goal of continuing to strengthen FAWCO Member Clubs. It has been an absolute pleasure to serve as FAWCO Club Presidents' Coordinator and on the Member Clubs Team.

Respectfully submitted,
Shweta Gupta
FAWCO Club Presidents Coordinator

FAWCO Cross Clubs Events Coordinator

During 2025, Cross-Club activity supported both event sharing and more intentional connections across the FAWCO network. While the Cross Club Events Calendar remained a key tool for visibility and participation, additional initiatives helped deepen relationships between member clubs. The Cross Club Events Calendar continued to serve as a central hub for sharing events across the FAWCO network, promoting connection, learning and collaboration among member clubs throughout the year. Events were advertised consistently from January through December, reflecting a broad and active program.

Over the course of the year, 84 events were shared including a strong mix of FAWCO-organized meetings, FAUSA activities, member club initiatives and sponsor-led webinars. All FAWCO teams contributed events, ensuring regular, varied and engaging content throughout the year. Event themes covered human rights and advocacy, health and well-being, finance and life abroad, education and literacy and community building and cultural exchange. The Calendar also included the FAWCO Biennial Conference, Regional Meetings, book discussions, writing workshops, finance and tax webinars and numerous club-hosted social and cultural events. Feedback remained positive, with members valuing having all FAWCO and cross-club events captured in one accessible location.

In addition to the Events Calendar, the first Sister Club Pilot was launched to encourage deeper connections between member clubs. Nineteen clubs signed up, creating international pairings across regions. The pilot saw encouraging engagement, with clubs connecting at different paces depending on schedules, geography and capacity. Clubs met online to share information about their locations and exchange ideas, initiatives and activities, generating very positive feedback. To allow additional time for collaboration, the pilot was extended until 31 January. Feedback will be collected at the conclusion of the pilot to evaluate the program and guide future development.

Event sharing by clubs has been helpful, but consistency remains a challenge. Sharing events across the network can strengthen relationships across FAWCO and increase event attendance. Continued promotion at FAWCO TLC meetings has proven effective and will remain a focus going forward to support club event sharing.

Overall, both initiatives—cross-club activity promotion and the Sister Club Program—have strengthened cross-club engagement within the FAWCO community.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Trowman (Heidelberg IWC)
FAWCO Cross Clubs Coordinator

FAWCO Membership

In 2025, my work as Membership Chair remained consistent with previous years, centering on the review of Individual Membership applications and ongoing communication with prospective and transitioning members. This entails following up on all Individual Membership applications which arrive sporadically. These inquiries can be classified in three categories: the ineligible, the confused and the potential.

In the first case, we often receive requests from people, often men, who have never been a member of a FAWCO club. I research the closest FAWCO club in their continent and send them a reply with that information. Despite being ineligible, these people are often members of NGOs and are already doing human service work in their areas.

In the second case, members of existing FAWCO clubs apply to become Individual Members. This is a simple matter of referring them back to their home club and copying their president and/or FAWCO Rep. No matter how many times we emphasize that each FAWCO club member is automatically a member of FAWCO, it's not intuitively obvious. I think it is useful to reply to these members individually because they are demonstrating interest beyond their home club and may choose to join a broader FAWCO team.

The third type of request is from a member of a FAWCO club who has moved to a new place. Occasionally, there is a FAWCO club in their area and I can point them in the right direction. If there is not a club in their area, I write to them and tell them their application is being forwarded to the FAWCO president and that it will almost certainly be approved. This correspondence includes a long note about the benefits of forming a FAWCO club. At the moment, I am currently in contact with two such members, one based in Hua Hin, Thailand and the other in Ottawa, Canada. While prospects remain uncertain, I will continue to pursue this into 2026. There was some confusion about whether Canadian clubs could become FAWCO clubs or local FAUSA chapters, but this has been cleared up. They are clearly eligible to become FAWCO Member Clubs.

As Membership Chair, I maintain oversight and communication with paid-up Individual Members, whose status is communicated to me at the end of the year.

Looking ahead to 2026, I look forward to working with a new volunteer to research and contact international and American women's clubs in locations without FAWCO representation. Personally, I have stepped down from one of my volunteer positions and may have a little more time to work on this. I have done this in the past, and there remain many clubs that have not yet been contacted.

I thank the FAWCO board and, especially Belen Monasterio, Second VP, for their continuing support.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca DeFraités (AWG Paris)
FAWCO Membership Chair

FAWCO Under 40

The Under 40 (U40) group was in transition in 2025! At the end of the year, Karen O'Shaughnessy (FAUSA)—the long-time co-chair and founder of the U40 group—stepped down from her role. We are so appreciative of all the time and work she has put into this group over the last 5+ years!

During this transition and while reframing how we would like to see U40 continue in 2026 and beyond, a few well-attended U40 Happy Hours were held. Even in this time of change, participation continued to grow and involvement in events increased. These Happy Hours continued to focus on self-growth, education, and the pursuit of personal passions. Our most popular meetups focused on member clubs' social media strategies and attracting younger members.

Looking ahead to 2026, the U40 group aims to expand online programming through a small, regionally diverse team, strengthen collaboration with Member Club Teams and interest groups on topics of broad member interest—including financial and health-related issues—and establish a more regular meeting rhythm while maintaining engaging and inclusive Happy Hours for connection and conversation.

Whether you're under 40 or just feel like you're under 40 (!), our group strives to build a vibrant, supportive community that celebrates growth and connection!

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Beck Wagner (AWC Hamburg)
Karen O'Shaughnessy (FAUSA, AWC Hamburg)
FAWCO Under 40 Co-Chairs

Additional Member Clubs Team Roles

The following roles were unfilled this term and are a priority for the coming year.

Club Workshops Coordinator – This role is designed to support Member Clubs through shared learning, leadership development and skill-building.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) Chair – This role supports inclusion and belonging across FAWCO's global community.

Global Issues



Education Team Report

In 2025, the FAWCO Education Team supported learning and dialogue across the FAWCO network through articles and programming addressing key global education topics. The Team hosted a Global Issues Book Discussion in September on *The Offing* by Benjamin Myers, bringing members together to reflect on themes of personal growth, continuing education, and connection across generations. Throughout the year, Education Team members contributed articles exploring emerging issues in education, including “From Homework to Language Learning: A Guide for Useful AI Tools,” “Equal Access and the Power of Representation in Education,” and “Royal Support for Literacy and Reading – The Queen’s Reading Room.” These articles highlighted themes that continue to guide the Education Team’s work, including digital learning, equitable access to education, and the importance of literacy.

The Education Team is currently exploring ways to serve as a clearinghouse for practical resources and action-orientated toolkits that would help clubs translate awareness into meaningful action. We follow education issues around the world, tie them to moments that matter on the calendar, and make it easy for FAWCO Member Clubs to engage, whether that's through a book discussion, a local event, or an advocacy campaign.

The Team will continue strengthening its role as a bridge between global education challenges and local club engagement, with particular attention to literacy/numeracy, inclusive education, and digital learning opportunities (and risks) for women and girls. In doing so, the Education Team hopes to support FAWCO clubs in advancing education as a pathway to opportunity, economic independence, while also fostering digital and AI literacy and a strong sense of global citizenship.

Respectfully submitted,
Lindsay Nygren (AWC Central Scotland)
Dana Cognetta Fritchie (AIWC Frankfurt)
Education Team Co-Chairs

Environment Team Report



With the target year of 2030 fast approaching and only a handful of years remaining to meet the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), there is an increased urgency to connect, enlighten and stimulate action. In 2025, the 34 members of the Environment Team were dedicated to raising awareness for a more sustainable world.

The year began with the important question “**What happened at COP29?**” Team members, part of the FAWCO delegation present at the climate conference in Azerbaijan, shared the outcomes and their thoughts via two articles and their participation at the FAWCO UN Team report back panel in January. 2025 was also a milestone year with the successful completion of the three-year **Environment Target Project Awesome Blossoms (TP5)**, chaired by the Team’s own **Amanda Drollinger** (AWC Central Scotland). With the support and enthusiastic fundraising of FAWCO clubs worldwide, the record breaking total of \$211,095 was raised and formally announced in March at the Biennial Conference in Annapolis, where the torch was also officially handed over to the Human Rights Team.

The annual **Global Issues Book Discussion** hosted by the Environment Team was held in April in celebration of World Earth Day. Kate Raworth’s book *Doughnut Economics: Seven Ways to Think Like a 21st-Century Economist* and her groundbreaking approach to environmentally sound economic systems was examined and analyzed in a lively discussion.

In June, **Sheila Doucet** (AAWE Paris) stepped down from her position as Team Chair after four years of dedicated service. A big thank you to Sheila from the Team for her untiring and enlightened leadership and also from the two new Co-Chairs **Rosie Deane** (AWBS IWC Berkshire & Surrey) and **Maria Psarianou** (AWO Greece), for her warm welcome and structured initiation.

A very rewarding **Environment Festival** took place in October, at the Dundreggan Rewilding Centre in the Scottish highlands. We think Sheila said it best when sharing her Festival experience *“Rewilding. Tree planting. Ecosystem restoration. Gentle hikes. Stargazing. Learning. Doing. Exchanging. Bonding friendships. Healing ... a sampling of what brought eleven hearty souls representing six countries from eight FAWCO Clubs together in late October for the Environment Team’s first in-person Environment Festival.”*

Finally, COP30 was attended virtually by several members of the Team who shared their views with the rest during the last Team meeting of the year.

Keeping the Environment Team tradition alive, the articles submitted throughout the year were in abundance:

- **January** – [Our COP29 Delegation](#) and [Mirror, Mirror on the Wall, Who’s the Dinosaur Leading All?](#)
- **February** – [Eating a Plant-based Diet to Combat Climate Change](#)
- **March** – [Luxury Brands and the Circular Economy: A Florentine example](#)
- **April** – [Acequias: Ancient Solutions for Spain's Modern Water Crisis](#)
- **May** – [A Doughnut for a Sustainable Future](#)
- **June** – [The Climate Reality Leadership Corps Training: An Insider's View](#)
- **September** – [Mother Earth vs. Big Tech: How AI is supercharging the climate crisis](#)
- **October** – [Trouble in a North Woods Paradise](#)
- **November** – [Environment Festival at Dundreggan Rewilding Centre](#)
- **December** – [Fawco Environment Team - 2025 In Review](#)

The Environment Team ended the year with their eyes set on the future with optimism and fierce determination. Fulfilling one of the Team’s main objectives, information on climate impacts will continue to be communicated. **There’s a lot to be done, but it’s not enough to know what the problems are and where they are, we have to speed up and take action, inspiring and inviting others to join us!**

Respectfully submitted,
Rosie Deane (AWBS IWC Berkshire & Surrey)
Maria Psarianou (AWO Greece)
Environment Team Co-Chairs

Health Team Report



The FAWCO Health Team had a busy and productive year in 2025. We extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to Dr. Tharien van Eck (AWC Antwerp) for her outstanding leadership and vision for both the Health Team and FAWCO. As she steps into her new role as President of the AWC Antwerp, she also “retires” from her position as Co-Chair of the Health Team. We are deeply grateful for her many contributions and lasting impact.

Dawn Parker (AWAquitaine) has continued in her role as Co-Chair, and Dr. Lucy Andrews (AWAquitaine) stepped into the Co-Chair position in 2025. Together, the team developed an education plan to expand health programming for all FAWCO members beginning in 2026.

Throughout the year, the Health Team hosted well-attended webinars on menopause, healthy aging and longevity, and hosted the successful November FAWCO Global Issues Book Discussion. Special thanks to Dr.

Veronica Ventura (AWC Bern) for her education on women's health, and to Dr. Tharien van Eck for her numerous articles and guidance.

We look forward to 2026 and beyond and welcome member participation and feedback. We wish everyone a healthy and happy 2026.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Parker (AWAquitaine)
Lucy Andrews (AWAquitaine)
Health Team Co-Chairs

Clubs in Motion



Rules have changed. Perhaps some clubs don't realize that, since COVID, Clubs in Motion wants to hear about and share not just group activities, but also individual members' MOTION. Munich IWC sets an example by collecting the info about MOTION by individual members, and submitting that along with the info about the group walks.

There was more MOTION at the Biennial Conference in Annapolis than at any conference I can remember. There were morning walks before breakfast, a walk to and from a restaurant for lunch and dinner, as well as pre-Conference tours on Tuesday and Wednesday. We even had a false alarm fire drill, which meant taking the stairs in the hotel.

There was plenty of MOTION at the Region 5 meeting in Heidelberg in November, including guided walking tours, before-breakfast 3.5 km walks along the Neckar River on Saturday (in the fog) and Sunday (in the rain), a 15-minute "Let's Move – Cardio and African Beats" session on Saturday afternoon, and, for some participants, a walk to and from the Saturday dinner venue, which was 3+km from the conference hotel. (It was good for digestion!)

There was also some Clubs in MOTION nocturnal activity in September, in Cologne, Germany, when some FAWCO Board members walked to dinner following all day meetings. Several clubs and regions were represented and there's a video with a voice-over "Clubs in Motion, at night, anywhere, anytime, GO FAWCO!"

Thirty-one clubs, one of them new to FAWCO, and FAUSA reported MOTION by their members in 2025.

[Read the full report here.](#)

Respectfully submitted,
Maggie Palu (AWAquitaine)
Clubs in Motion Chair

Human Rights Team Report



In February, as part of the FAWCO Global Issues Book Discussion series, the Human Rights Team selected the book *We Need New Names* by NoViolet Bulawayo. This is the story of 10-year-old Darling who escapes poverty in Zimbabwe and moves to America to live with her aunt. Her vision of a new paradise brings its own set of challenges. As she forges a different life, Darling becomes a powerful observer of global identity. The Human Rights Team invited FAWCO members to read the book and discuss key points on poverty, empowerment and community.

Co-Chairs Marelle Manders (Heidelberg IWC) and Mary Adams (AWC The Hague), as well as other FAWCO members, participated in NGO CSW Geneva 2024 project to develop advocacy tools to address the Beijing Platform for Action 12 critical concerns. The team decided to further showcase and promote the work and outcomes of the project as the agenda for open meetings for all members. In 2025, the concerns addressed included: Power & Decision-Making (Connie Philipot, AWA Vienna); Women and Conflict (Marelle Manders, Heidelberg IWC); Women and Human Rights (Mary Manning, Heidelberg IWC); Girl Child (Karen Castellon, FAUSA, AWC Berlin); CEDAW Panel (Marelle Manders, Heidelberg IWC; Jessica Buchleitner, FAWCO UN Team; Corinne Dettmeijer, Vice Chair CEDAW; and Elahe Amani, Women's Intercultural Network); the Nexus of Health & Environment (Sabine Peters, Zonta International UN Representative); and Remembering the Lost Voices (Jennifer Sturgeon, AWC The Hague). The team finished the year with an Advocacy in Review session in December.

The 16 Days of Activism to End Gender-Based Violence, from November 25 through December 10, 2025, was a collaborative effort that included daily action posts on FAWCO's internal and external Facebook groups and pages. As a result of the critical concerns sessions, on December 10, the Human Rights Co-Chairs launched *The Living Stones Project*, which provides guidance for all clubs to learn how to clean *Stolpersteine*. These stones are small brass memorial plaques set into pavements to honor victims of Nazi persecution. Stones are placed on public property outside the victims' last freely chosen residence. The inscription on each stone begins "Here lived," followed by the victim's name, date of birth, and fate. The brass top of the *Stolpersteine* oxidizes over time, causing them to discolor from brown to black. The Human Rights Team is proud to launch the Living Stones Project for FAWCO Member Clubs to learn how to properly clean existing stones. Cleaning *Stolpersteine* is not just maintenance—it's remembrance through care.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Adams (AWC The Hague)
Marelle Manders (Heidelberg IWC)
Human Rights Team Co-Chairs

FAWCO Youth Program



Launched in 2013, the FAWCO Youth Program's mission is designed to promote cultural understanding and raise awareness of global issues in our youth and help them develop into responsible and caring global citizens.

This year, the American Women's Club of Hamburg generously volunteered to host the Cultural Volunteers Program. The week had been planned for June 2025; however, due to an insufficient number of applicants, the program regrettably had to be cancelled.

Outreach efforts included presentations at both the Annapolis Biennial Conference in March and the Region 5 Regional Meeting in Heidelberg in November, as well as monthly calls for host clubs in the *News in Brief*. As of this report, conversations are underway with IWCM- Moldova regarding the possibility of hosting the Cultural Volunteers Program in 2026 and we have received verbal interest from Heidelberg IWC to host the Cultural Volunteers Program in 2027.

The AMERICANA program continued to be promoted, however no inquiry was received.

Respectfully submitted,
My-Linh Kunst (AWC Berlin)
Stacey Harris-Papaioannou (AWO Greece)
Youth Program Co-Chairs

FAWCO Target Program



Target Project 5 – Awesome Blossoms 2025 Report

FAWCO Target Program 5: Environment 2022–2025

Our Natural Environment: Empowering Women and Girls to Ensure a Sustainable Future

The 2023–2025 Target Project, Awesome Blossoms: Edible Fresh Fields for Sustainable Life in the Slums, a project of Safe Spaces Organization, was announced at the Biennial Conference in Bratislava on March 25, 2023. At the same time, The FAWCO Foundation officially began its fundraising campaign for the project. The application was submitted by Leslie Janoe, who along with Sherrie Zvail Enderman and Loretta Simon Helms (all members of AWC Amsterdam), attended the conference as part of the Target Project Education and Awareness Team. They created the Awesome Blossoms logo used for t-shirts and other promotional fundraising tools for clubs, working with the Target Project 5 Fundraising Coordinator Lauren Mescon (FAUSA).

The Target Bulletin publication and Target Blogs were the main communication tools for sharing news about Awesome Blossoms with the FAWCO community. Target Bulletins are published each month by email. They highlight the work of the project and focus on a UN Sustainable Development Goal, with supporting articles from the FAWCO Global Issues Teams as well as the progress of the Target Project on the ground in Mathare, Kenya.

The Target Project Team, with the support and in conjunction with the Global Issues Teams, published a wide range of articles about and related to the work of Awesome Blossoms and the location and conditions in Mathare, Nairobi, Kenya where the project was based. These articles are on the FAWCO website and shared in the Target Bulletin and Global Issues Digest. Virtual education and awareness meetings were also organized.

In March 2025, the final total amount of funds raised for Awesome Blossoms was announced at the FAWCO Biennial Conference in Annapolis, Maryland. FAWCO Member Clubs, individual members, and FAUSA raised just over \$211,000. This represents an incredible 150% of our original fundraising goal and includes the generous matching grant of \$10,000 contributed by the De Groot Foundation. Outcomes achieved to date for Target Project 5 – Awesome Blossoms:

- Awesome Blossoms education and awareness meetings and launch events held in Mathare with the local community and potential entrepreneurs.
- Applications were received and 75 women entrepreneurs were selected from the local community for Awesome Blossoms Safe Spaces Farms.
- Financial Literacy Training sessions were held with Trinity Credit, Safe Spaces staff and Awesome Blossoms entrepreneurs.
- The first two Awesome Blossoms Safe Spaces farms were installed and planted at Our Lady of Mercy Primary School, Mathare, Nairobi, Kenya, containing 1,000 gardens.
- Following the flooding in Mathare, Nairobi, Kenya in the spring of 2024, the new delivery vehicle was purchased earlier than planned after the loss of their existing vehicle in the flood damage.
- Farm 3 was installed at Heshima Primary School with 500 gardens.
- The purchase of a parcel of land, an 80 x 60-meter area, for a permanent home for Awesome Blossoms training and Safe Spaces Awesome Blossoms outreach.
- Fencing the new land to secure the area.

Purchase of Land

Having exceeded our initial fundraising goal, we were able to expand the impact and longevity of the project with a permanent, long term and Safe Spaces-owned home. Awesome Blossoms Safe Spaces was able to purchase a parcel of land to fence and develop a program of education around hydroponic farming in the urban environment.

Target Program 5 Members Survey Report

Thank you to all those that responded to the Target Program 5 Member Survey. This is a wonderful opportunity to express your reaction to the Target Program so we can continue to improve. The overall reaction to Target Program 5 Environment was positive, but there is always room for improvement and your ideas are important to the process with all FAWCO Member Clubs, individual members, and FAUSA welcome and encouraged to share their ideas for success.

There were several beautiful written responses to the Program, and we'd like to share a few:

"I think what really stands out about the 2022–2025 Target Program and Project (Awesome Blossoms) is how it shows the power of local action to create a global ripple effect. By combining environmental sustainability with real social empowerment, FAWCO's Target Program for 2022–2025 hasn't just supported communities on the ground—it's also moved us, the international FAWCO community, forward in our commitment (both on an individual member level and on a club level) to the environment in a way that's thoughtful, innovative, and deeply compassionate."

"Our club was energized by Target 5 and we were proud of the FAWCO Environment Team's good work."

"Awesome Blossoms was an exceptionally compelling and strong program, weaving together not only environmental concerns but also FAWCO's other three areas of focus: education, health and human rights."

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Drollinger (AWC Central Scotland)
Target Program Chair, 2022 – 2025

FAWCO Target Program 6: Human Rights 2025–2028

Target Issue Education and Awareness

Target Program 6 Human Rights: *Advancing Dignity, Equality and Freedom for Women and Girls* was launched at the Biennial Conference in March. Jody McBrien (AWG Paris) was announced as the new Target Program Chair and Kanika Holloway (AWC Antwerp) will be the Target Fundraising Coordinator for The FAWCO Foundation,

while Mary Manning (Heidelberg IWC) assumed the role of Target Selection Chair. The Target Selection Committee was also named (see below), and the application process for selecting the Target Project was opened.

The first year of Target Program 6 focused on broad human rights education and awareness raising. The Target Bulletin covered several topics over the course of the year: definitions, historical roots, LGBTQ+ rights, refugee rights, feminist perspectives on human rights, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, some UN history and UN conventions supporting human rights, as well as female human rights champions such as Eleanor Roosevelt, Malala Yousafzai, Harriet Jacobs, Maria Montessori and Sima Bahous. FAWCO members were encouraged to consider ways in which these topics, as well as international observances, can enrich their daily lives and practices, and to encourage club discussions around these topics.

Target Project Selection

The Target Project Application Packet was published on April 15 and included the guidelines and instructions for submitting a project proposal. The TP6 selection process was once again a two-phased approach with the due date for the Phase I information on August 29 and the due date for the Phase II information on November 3.

Nine project proposals were received by the August 29, 2025 deadline:

- *Advancing Dignity Through Water*, submitted by Maggie Palu, AWAquitaine;
- *Ascend's SHE Program: Strong Healthy Empowered (SHE) Young Women in Afghanistan*, a project of Ascend Leadership Through Athletics, submitted by Stephanie Biery, FAUSA;
- *Economic Equality: Empowering Refugee Women for Economic Equality*, a project of Refugee Assistance Alliance, submitted by Jennifer Padfield, FAUSA;
- *EVA: Empowering Voices & Agency: Women and Girls Leading Safely in Civic Spaces*, a project of COSPE NGO, submitted by Elena Piani, AILO Florence;
- *Mobile Clinic & Ambulance Program*, a program of MamaBaby Haiti, submitted by Stephanie Matlock Allen, AWC Hamburg;
- *Period Power: Empowering Girls Through Menstrual Education*, a project of WingWoman Lebanon, submitted by Monica Jubayli, AWC Lebanon;
- *Power Her Path: Reintegration of Trafficking Victims*, a project of Pacific Links Foundation, submitted by My-Linh Kunst, AWC Berlin;
- *ShelTHErsuit*, a project of the Sheltersuit Foundation, submitted by Liebeth Faglia, AWC Antwerp;
- *TailorED Futures*, a project of Hope for Women and Girls, submitted by Elaine Rothman, AAWE Paris;

After several months of thorough review and careful due diligence, The Target Selection Committee presented the shortlist for Target Project 6. Each of these initiatives reflects strong potential for success and aligns closely with Target Program 6 Guidelines.

The shortlisted projects are (in alphabetical order):

- **Period Power: Empowering Girls through Menstrual Education**
- **Power Her Path: Empowering Trafficking Survivors & Vulnerable Migrants to Thrive**
- **SHE (Strong, Healthy, Empowered) Young Women in Afghanistan**

A nine-member Target Project Selection Committee represented a cross section of FAWCO with members from a number of FAWCO regions, representing numerous interest areas of FAWCO and The FAWCO Foundation, was appointed by FAWCO President Ann Marie Morrow (AWC Finland):

- Tracy Dolan, AWC Finland;
- Amanda Drollinger, AWC Central Scotland;
- Kanika Holloway, AWC Antwerp;
- Mary Manning, Heidelberg IWC
- Renuka Matthews, FAUSA;
- Lauren Mescon, AWC Amsterdam, FAUSA;
- Jody McBrien, AWG Paris;
- Christine Riney, AWC Hamburg/ AWC London;
- Laureen Scharps, AIWC Frankfurt Taunus Rhein-Main;

- Prachi Shah, AWC Berlin/FAUSA;

Each proposal was evaluated in Phase 1 and rated in four areas: The Project (40%); The Organization(30%), and Budget and Fundraising (30%). The task of the Selection Committee was to select a shortlist of three projects to present to FAWCO Member Clubs.

The three shortlisted projects, as determined by the Selection Committee, were:

- *Period Power: Empowering Girls through Menstrual Education*, a project of WingWoman Lebanon (WWL), submitted by Monica Jubayli, AWC Lebanon;
- *Power Her Path: Empowering Trafficking Survivors and Vulnerable Migrants to Thrive*, a project of Pacific Links Foundation, submitted by My-Linh Kunst, AWC Berlin
- *SHE (Strong, Healthy, Empowered) Young Women in Afghanistan*, a project of Ascend Leadership Through Athletics, submitted by Stephanie Biery, FAUSA.

The shortlisted projects were announced on January 9, 2026 via a Special Target Bulletin, on social media and through the FAWCO website. Project summaries were made available to members to learn more about the projects. Following the announcement, the Selection Committee provided feedback to applicants whose projects were not shortlisted.

On February 1, 2026, ballots were sent to all FAWCO Representatives for them to cast a vote on behalf of their club by February 15, 2026. The new Target Project will be announced at the Interim Conference in Malta in March 2026. The Target Project Fundraising will officially begin at that time, with the FAWCO Foundation launching the fundraising campaign.

Respectfully submitted,
Jody McBrien (AWG Paris)
Target Program Chair, 2025 – 2028

Mary Manning (Heidelberg IWC)
Target Program Selection Chair

Special Initiatives

FAWCO Literacy Is Our Legacy – A Celebration



Elevating our Member Authors

Our “List of Books by Members” on the FAWCO website continues to grow. In 2025, we added 11 new authors, bringing the current total to 59. Our members write in all genres. Many are award winners. Some have written bestsellers. And they are prolific writers! In December, the list grew to 100 titles.

Each new title is announced in a FAWCO Facebook post. Each month we feature a different author and title on our Books by Members webpage of the FAWCO website. I encourage clubs to periodically promote the list as a source for their club’s book club.

Encouraging Aspiring Writers

The Literacy Is Our Legacy Team was very excited to team up with The DeGroot Foundation and The FAWCO Foundation and created The FAWCO Foundation’s newest members’ Education Award, The de Groot Foundation Literacy Is Our Legacy Aspiring Writers Award. This \$5,000 award is open to all writers who are members of a

FAWCO club or FAUSA and have a clearly defined writing project in progress—fiction, nonfiction, poetry or experimental. The de Groot Foundation has agreed to fund this award for three years. The first recipient will be named at the FAWCO Interim Meeting in Malta.

We also continued our relationship with the International Women’s Writing Guild (IWWG). In addition to the complementary membership for registered FAWCO members, IWWG opened two of their workshops free to all FAWCO members. Unfortunately, IWWG will disband in 2026. The Literacy Is Our Legacy (LIOL) Team will host its first writers’ workshop at the Interim Meeting in Malta. We hope this will be a springboard for workshops in the future.

Reading is “Lit”

Connie Philipot (AWA Vienna) has initiated a new program for our members: a Beta Readers Group. One of a writer’s greatest challenges is getting honest and constructive feedback, especially for a completed and edited work that you are not sure is ready to submit to a publisher. The Beta Reader reads the finished book and gives the author an overall critique. The main qualification is a passion for good literature and a commitment to providing serious, but loving advice. We promoted this idea in the LIOL June Newsletter, and volunteers have stepped forward to be part of the Beta Readers Group. Connie is coordinating the program and the official rollout will be sometime in 2026.

We encourage clubs to add at least one book from our Books by Members list. The added benefit is if a book club wants to hear from the author, the LIOL team can arrange that via our “Author Speakers Bureau.” This year, FAUSA hosted Juliet Cutler, author of *Lessons in Hope: A New Era for Maasai in Tanzania* at their September Speakers Series event.

Literacy Is Our Legacy in the FAWCO Clubs

AWC Madrid held a Literacy Is Our Legacy event for their members in May at their clubhouse. Twenty-one members came to hear author Daniel Dilla discuss three 20th-century classics and how they influenced his own first novel, just published in January. They continue to support LIOL through their book clubs.

During Banned Book Week, Chloé Chandler (AAWE Paris), Chair of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging, and the best selling author Janet Skeilein Charles (AAWE Paris) organized Banned Books & Bold Voices: An Evening of Literary Freedom. The event was a celebration of the written word and a reminder of the importance of reading freely. They were joined by authors Lucy Mushita and Anne Korkeakivi.

The current Literacy Is Our Legacy Community has approximately 132 participants.

Respectfully submitted,
Elsie Bose (AWG Paris, FAUSA)
Literacy Is Our Legacy Founder and Coordinator

Administrative Committees and Task Force

Archives Committee Report



Work on the FAWCO Archives continued in 2025. I have scanned three decades of scrapbook material, as well as a considerable number of loose documents. Although this is a mere fraction of our materials, FAWCO now has digital, searchable, access to increasingly complete categories of records:

Annual/Conference Reports 2005-2025

Conference Minutes: 41 conferences

Histories: 1954, 1963, 1971, 1981, 1991, 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021, 2026

Newsletters: 1930s, 1950s, 1960s mostly complete. 70s-90s incomplete, 2000+ exist digitally, but not collected

Pamphlet Series (1967-1978): complete

Publications: 1983 and 1989 Handbook for American Family Abroad, 1987 Citizenship Fact-Sheet for Americans Overseas, 1999 Resource Manual for Clubs, Students Who Learn Differently Reports

Resolutions & Recommendations: 27 years worth

Scrapbooks: 1931-1975

Once all of our archives have been scanned, our partner Expat Archive Center of The Hague, will make the digital archive available online. Searchable access to these materials I have scanned personally has allowed me the opportunity to review and correct some of the factual information published in our 2021-2025 *Red Book History Update, Back to the Future*, and on our website, particularly with respect to our (former) member clubs and FAWCO board members. Together with President Ann Marie Morrow (and proofreading from 1st VP Mary Dobrian), I compiled the five-year updated history which was printed and will be distributed to member clubs in Malta. A digital version is on the website and additional physical copies are available for sale, please contact archives@fawco.org to order a copy.

The death of FAWCO Counselor (President 1987-89) and former Archives Chair Georgia Regnault in November was a significant loss to FAWCO's living history. She was an editor for the 2001 history update, as well as a driving force behind the hardcover FAWCO *Red Book* comprehensive history in 2006 and subsequent updates in 2011, 2016, and 2020. Georgia was a personal friend and mentor and I will miss her dearly.

Respectfully submitted,
Emily van Eerten (AWC The Hague)
FAWCO Archives Chair

FAWCO Counselors' Coordinator Report

All the Counselors were deeply saddened by the loss of Georgia Regnault in November 2025. Georgia was a force to be reckoned with, and she has touched us all. Steadfast, wise, and endlessly generous with her time and spirit. She was always there to guide and mentor the latest board. Her FAWCO legacy has left an indelible mark on our organization and on each of us personally.

Georgia's FAWCO career spanned over four decades in various executive roles (1985–1987, Treasurer; 1987–1989, President; 1999–2000, Parliamentarian). Under her tenure as President, FAWCO received its 501(c)(3) status. Over the years, she led the Finance Committee and co-chaired the Archives Committee. In 2005 she received the Circle of Honor, the highest award given by FAWCO which recognizes distinguished years of service to the goals and ideals of the Federation in both elected and appointed positions.

We also honor her extraordinary contribution to the FAWCO Red Book. Thanks to Georgia's dedication and vision, FAWCO's rich history has been preserved for future generations to read, reflect, and be inspired. This year's Red Book is dedicated to her as it celebrates 95 years of FAWCO history.

The FAWCO Counselors, former FAWCO Presidents, are always ready to advise the current FAWCO Board, acting as a sounding board. Using a WhatsApp group to stay in touch, the Counselors also meet during annual conferences. Several Counselors continue to volunteer in various FAWCO positions. Active Counselors are listed below, with the dates of their presidencies and their current additional roles.

Emily van Eerten (AWC The Hague) 2019-2023 and 2005-2007: Google Administrative Coordinator, Chair FAWCO Archives

Sallie Chaballier (AAWE Paris) 2017-2019: Advisor to the Strategy and Sustainability Task Force, FAWCO UN Rep – Geneva, Web Content Administrator

Monica Jubayli (AWC Lebanon) 2015-2017: Regional Coordinator – Regions 9 and 10, Counselors' Coordinator

My-Linh Kunst (AWC Berlin) 2011-2015: Club Presidents' Coordinator, FAWCO Youth Co-Chair

Celeste Brown (AWC The Hague) 2007-2009

Rebecca Tan (AWC Hamburg) 1995-1997

Barbara Johnson (AWG Paris) 1993-1995

Kay Miller (AWC Brussels) 1989-1991

Stevie Coppin (AWC Brussels) 1979-1981

Thank you to all the Counselors who continue to spread FAWCO Fever.

Respectfully submitted,
Monica Jubayli (AWC Lebanon)
FAWCO Counselors' Coordinator

Strategy & Sustainability Task Force

The FAWCO Strategy & Sustainability Task Force was established to ensure that FAWCO remains healthy, relevant, and vibrant as it approaches its 100th anniversary and beyond. Through extensive research including environmental analysis, SWOT exercises, and over 30 personal interviews with organization members, the task force has developed seven key strategies with tactical suggestions for implementation over one-, three-, and five-year timeframes.

The overarching finding from all interviews is that FAWCO has been consistently praised for its mission, outreach, activities, and results. The challenge now is how to evolve strategically to continue this positive impact for the organization's next century.

"What Lasts, Evolves"

The Strategy & Sustainability Task Force was initiated by President Ann Marie Morrow at the Biennial Conference in March in Annapolis and the team held a kick-off meeting on June 4, 2025.

Team Members

- Patricia Lawrence – Chair, FAUSA
- Sallie Chaballier – Advisor, AAWE Paris
- Jonelle Lemcke – AWC Denmark
- Mary O'Melia Stange – AWC Oslo, IWC Bogotá, FAUSA
- Marelle Manders – Heidelberg IWC
- Sonia Talukdar – ACIW Mumbai
- Ann Marie Morrow – Ex Officio, AWC Finland

The team members came from diverse backgrounds, geographic locations, and life stages to ensure a diverse range of opinions and perspectives.

The Task Force employed a comprehensive approach:

1. **Meeting Schedule:** Met every 2-3 weeks from June 2025 through the end of the year
2. **Environmental Analysis:** Conducted environmental analysis and SWOT exercise to determine areas of strength and opportunity
3. **Personal Interviews:** Conducted over 30 one-on-one interviews with members of the organization using a standardized questionnaire
4. **Strategy Development:** Members crafted seven key strategies and worked in pairs to develop suggested tactics for implementation in one-, three-, and five-year timeframes
5. **Consensus Building:** Strategies and tactics were reviewed and discussed with the entire group to gain consensus
6. **Validation:** We are conducting a quantitative Awareness, Attitude, and Participation Survey among all FAWCO members to validate strategies and suggestions
7. **Adjustments:** Based on survey results, adjustments will be made as needed.

Summary - Tactical Recommendations and Implementation Timeline

The Task Force recommends implementing seven strategies with tactical suggestions across three time horizons:

Year 1 for Immediate Priorities, Year 3 for Medium-Term Goals and Year 5 to fully implement the Long-Term Vision

The Task Force is currently validating these strategies with a quantitative survey. As we analyze survey results, we will recommend the tactics to implement in Years 1, 3, and 5 based on survey feedback, budget and organizational capacity.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia R. Lawrence (FAUSA)
Strategy & Sustainability Task Force Chair

Regional and Club Profiles

Region 1: England, Ireland and Scotland

Region 1 FAWCO Member Clubs remained active throughout 2025, offering a wide range of social, cultural, and philanthropic activities across England, Ireland and Scotland. Clubs continued to adapt to changing demographics and member needs while maintaining strong programs and community connections. During the year, North American Connection–Midlands advised that it no longer operates as a formal membership club and has decided to withdraw from FAWCO. All Region 1 clubs submitted their annual reports with the exception of Aberdeen, which had not responded at the time of reporting.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Holden (AWC Central Scotland)
Regional Coordinator for Region 1

AWBS International Women's Club

AWBS is located in Berkshire & Surrey, catering to a community of international women, returning expats and those seeking international friendships. Numbers have dropped slightly this year, as many expats have left the UK, but we are encouraging more local women to join us and our membership is currently around 190.

We offer monthly meetings in a variety of local venues, from Ascot Racecourse to Sunningdale Park—an historic venue where the Sunningdale Agreement—the precursor to the Good Friday Agreement—was signed. We have had some fascinating speakers come to our meetings this year, from celebrity photographer Alistair Morrison to Wendy Holden, former foreign correspondent for *The Telegraph*, who poignantly talked about her recent book *The Teacher of Auschwitz*, just after the 80th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration camp.

Our activities remain very popular with regular Country Walks, English History lectures, visits to Glorious Gardens and theatre trips to London and local theatres, amongst others. This year our philanthropy team is supporting the Baby Bank—to ensure essential supplies for local families in extreme need—and Mane Chance, a wonderful horse sanctuary in Surrey which offers comfort to young people with life challenges.

Rosie Deane, FAWCO Representative

AWC London

I am pleased to share some highlights from the American Women's Club of London for 2025.

As President of AWC London, I can proudly report that our club has a membership of 350. We are supported by a dedicated Board of 16 members who contribute a tremendous amount of time and effort to the organization. The strength of our club truly lies with our members, and their commitment resulted in 502 planned events this year alone.

Our activities are diverse and cater to varied interests, including games such as pickleball, Mexican train dominoes and mahjong. We regularly organize social gatherings, including coffees, lunches, afternoon teas, dinners and three active book clubs. We also host many tours of London's famous landmarks and lesser-known boroughs.

Community support is a core component of our mission. Our members actively volunteer and fundraise for local charities, including the Ronald McDonald House and The American International Church soup kitchen.

In addition to our activities, the club hosts three major annual social events—a Holiday Party, 4th of July party and a Founders' Day Lunch—as well as free monthly general meetings for all members.

Finally, we are noticing a shift in our demographic. While the majority of our members are mature women, we are seeing an increase in younger, working women joining the club. We have added events to weekend days. This demonstrates that regardless of one's stage of life, AWC London provides an opportunity to find involvement and friendship in this expansive city.

Kathy McNamara, President

North American Connection (NAC) – Midlands

North American Connection (NAC) in the Midlands of England is a friendly social group founded in 1964 and became a "serious club" in 1998 when we then joined FAWCO. We were most active in our early years with FAWCO, with notable members such as Kathleen Simon (FAWCO Counsellor, FAWCO President, FAWCO 2nd VP, RC1) and Sunny Eades (FAWCO 3rd VP, Biennial Conference Chair 2005, participant in the 2011 Tabitha Homes for Hammers in Cambodia house build and RC1).

Currently, there are 26 members, 23 of whom are active within their local communities. Our social club hub is through flash notices on "NAC WhatsApp." We downsized our admin and overheads in 2019. Our three officers are Treasurer, Membership and Social Chair and their ad-hoc committees. We are a small group of under 50 members; our friendly club has waived membership dues since 2020. Our Fundraising in 2025 was done on an individual volunteer basis rather than raising funds in a big club effort.

Despite our colorful history with FAWCO and considerable fundraising efforts of the early years, we are now a simple informal social group of old friends who sometimes meet. We are no longer a members' club. We have no income and no need for a website. So, it is with a heavy heart that this year we have decided to withdraw our membership from FAWCO. Perhaps in the future, we could have a fresh start with relevant structure and drive to reapply for active membership worthy of such a dynamic organization as FAWCO again.

Sunny Eades, FAWCO Representative (Retiring)

AW Surrey

AWSurrey International serves nearly 200 members who reside primarily between West London and Guildford in Surrey, England. This marks our club's 50th year of offering activities, fostering community and supporting local charities. During this past club year, AWSurrey has planned more than 100 activities for our members and raised over £11,000 for non-profits in our area.

We are finding the demographics in Surrey shifting as there are fewer American expats living in the area, and local international schools are increasingly marketing to British families. Additionally, traditional ways of getting information out to prospective members, such as guidebooks and school fairs, appear to be less effective than social media and word-of-mouth. We are embarking on a board-led exploration of ways in which to keep the club ahead of the trends we are seeing. Our sense is that we are not alone in rethinking the structure of an international women's group.

Jane Phillips Widroe, Club President

AWC Dublin

2025 began with The FAWCO Team of Margie O'Rourke and Carol Lovelett (deputy) continuing their support of the Awesome Blossoms Target Project with monthly "Change for Change" collection and a February combined bake sale and raffle. In March, Margie attended the Annapolis Biennial Conference in the US. While there, Margie received the FAWCO Rep Appreciation Award as well as winning the FAWCO quilt. Since 2024 the AWCD newsletter includes FAWCO news submissions to increase member awareness of FAWCO. AWCD continued their annual support of a Dublin charity, electing and raising funds for Dog's Trust running until June 2025.

In September the new FAWCO Team became Carol Lovelett and Tania Miller (deputy). September 2025 also began a new charity year. Jigsaw, a youth mental health charity became the focus. AWC Dublin has begun participating in the TLC program and looking to Dublin community needs. During the September–April time frame between Target Projects, Carol Lovelett began a Nappie Drive to support low-income mothers through the Capuchin Center of Dublin, and Tania Miller joined the Philanthropy Committee to support the Jigsaw charity.

Ongoing activities for the year included two monthly meetings (morning and evening) which allow for our demographic shift to having many working members. There are now three book clubs, weekly park walks, couple events, a coffee and culture morning with museum visits, an annual Christmas Luncheon, Afternoon Tea to support the current charity and a planned year-end luncheon.

Recently a new WhatsApp group has been formed to allow AWCD members to get more FAWCO news. We are looking ahead to the FAWCO Interim Meeting in Malta in March, with both Carol and Tania scheduled to attend.

Carol Lovelett, FAWCO Representative

AWA Aberdeen

Report not received at time of publication.

AWC Central Scotland

The American Women's Club of Central Scotland has 85 members, the majority of whom are permanent residents living across central Scotland and Fife. Our primary fundraisers are the annual Thanksgiving dinners in Edinburgh and Glasgow, which include a silent auction and a raffle, respectively. At our annual general meeting, we presented £1,300.00 to our selected charity, the Glasgow Food Train. This amount was raised from our 2023–2025 Thanksgiving fundraisers and our charity events. We raised \$462.80 in 2025 for the FAWCO Target Project Awesome Blossoms. Our new charity for the 2025–2027 cycle is Amina MWRC – Sahara Scotland, which provides vital support, advocacy and community engagement programs for Muslim, Black and minority ethnic women across Scotland. Our recurring club activities, including Coffee Mornings, monthly Birthday Bashes, virtual Quiz nights, Fourth of July picnic, Halloween party, Thanksgiving dinners and auction, and President's tea, continued as opportunities for connection and fellowship. We modernized our website to a more polished aesthetic with streamlined navigation. This change also enhanced our online presence for potential club members. We started the year with our new president Victoria Holloway, but she has unfortunately stepped down due to family bereavement. We look forward to welcoming a new president at our next AGM.

Lindsay Nygren, FAWCO Representative

England



AWBS International Women's Club

Website: awbs.org.uk

Founded: 1981

Joined FAWCO: 1995

Membership Total: 189

Dues: Over 80 BGP

Mission: To welcome and assist all newcomers and their families, to promote friendship and interactions among members and improve their knowledge and understanding of England.



American Women's Club of London

Website: awclondon.org

Founded: 1899

Joined FAWCO: Founding Member

Membership Total: 360

Dues: 140 GBP

Mission: Founded in 1899, the American Women's Club of London has for over 100 years provided a welcoming atmosphere to expatriates living in London. The purpose of the American Women's Club of London is to provide social, cultural, educational and philanthropic activities for our members living in London.



North American Connection

Website: naconnect.com

Founded: 1964

Joined FAWCO: 1998

Membership Total: 30

Dues: 10 GBP

Mission: The Club provides assistance with integration into the

English community, as well as opportunities for social and charitable activities.

American Women of Surrey



Website: awsurrey.org

Founded: 1975

Joined FAWCO: 1985

Membership Total: 197

Dues: 95 GBP

Mission: To welcome and assist newcomers and their families; promote friendship and cooperation among members; to further members' knowledge and understanding of England; and to give financial and material support to philanthropic projects.

Ireland



American Women's Club of Dublin

Website: awcd.net

Founded: 1972

Joined FAWCO: 1980

Membership Total: 175

Dues: €95

Mission: The purpose of the Club is to foster and encourage American-Irish relations and cross-cultural understanding among American women and their families living in Ireland, through its educational and philanthropic activities.

Scotland



Association of American Women of Aberdeen

Website: awaaberdeen.org

Founded: 1985

Joined: 1986

Membership Total: 20

Dues: 45 GBP

Mission: We are united in our interest to foster and develop a fun, welcoming environment for newcomers and expatriates in Aberdeen, Scotland, while integrating into the local community by supporting a local charity.



American Women's Club of Central Scotland

Website: awccs.org

Founded: 1974

Joined: 1993

Membership Total: 75

Dues: \$46

Mission: We have a high percentage of permanent residents living in Scotland, not connected to American businesses. Most of our club members are employed. We try to maintain a close relationship with the US Consulate and through them help to support American non-club members living in the area.

Region 2: Nordic Countries

I am proud to present the 2025 FAWCO Region 2 Annual Report for the clubs: American International Club (AIC) Malmö, American Women's Club (AWC) Denmark, American Women's Club (AWC) in Finland, American Women's Club (AWC) in Stockholm, American Women's Club (AWC) of Gothenburg, American Women's Club (AWC) of Oslo. Each club offers a common core of activities to its members based on traditionally American themes, but each Club acknowledges its increasingly international base through recognizing its specific local/cultural target groups through its activities and focus. In addition, international collaboration has been heightened through FAWCO's new "Sister Club" initiative. AWC Denmark (Barcelona Women's Network), AIC Malmö (Benvenuto Club of Milan), AWC Stockholm (Heidelberg International Women's Club e.V.) are all excited to be part of this and have begun initiatives towards creating viable relationships.

Both large clubs and small clubs are found in Region 2. There's a demographic determinant that dictates the proportion of young families, singles, older members, retirees and expats among the different Region 2 Clubs. This has been an evolving situation over the past five years due to political changes, business cycles and development, etc. The growth and waning of clubs is under discussion amongst all of us, with emphasis on trying to understand and determine our local needs. Who is our public in 2026? Are we locating those potential members who would contribute to, appreciate and benefit from our groups/FAWCO? How do we find potential members and vice versa? Is social media the answer? Should we be interested in the new AI initiatives?

In summary, I refer to a famous commercial from the 1980s where a weary corporate president announces to his staff that he has purchased airline tickets for them all ... because they are going to personally visit every business contact in their files. Nothing replaces eye-to-eye contact, the warmth of a hug or handshake and the chance for human connection. FAWCO offers this through clubs, which are hubs of connection around the world and partners in progress.

Respectfully submitted,
Jonelle Lemcke (AWC Denmark)
Coordinator, Region 2

AWC Denmark

AWC Denmark has experienced a year of changes, with new projects being put forth and executed as we come out of our 90th Anniversary year. A new dues payment system is in place, and those living outside of a 1.5-hour radius of Copenhagen receive a discounted membership fee. We are also exploring ways to assist members with decreased mobility or who may need extra attention/help from the group. A new Membership Officer has come on board to facilitate all initiatives, increase membership, etc. The membership officer and FAWCO Rep are working together to introduce old and new Club members to navigating the benefits of Club membership. Attendance is good and consistent at activities. Joint membership in The English-Speaking Union is a benefit. A new feature in our monthly newsletter is a spotlight interview of a Club member, not necessarily a new member!

Members participate in FAWCO's online events and programs. Both AWC Denmark's President and FAWCO Rep attended the 2025 annual meeting held in Annapolis. The State Department Federal Credit Union (SDFCU) is a FAWCO sponsor and was present. AWC Denmark was able to connect with them and follow up by hosting them in Copenhagen a month later. Follow-up discussions continue, and we hope to increase SDFCU membership within the Club and FAWCO-wide.

AWC Denmark actively supports FAWCO. This year \$500 was raised to support the Target Program. One member has sponsored an Education Award in her mother's name for several years. Our club has also received a Development Grant. We actively work in the areas of US Issues/Voting, making expertise available to all FAWCO members for advice and direction.

The establishment of "Sister Clubs" is an initiative from the Annapolis meeting. AWC Denmark's sister club is Barcelona Women's Network. We have had some productive conversations at the FAWCO Rep level and are planning joint activities for the coming year... online and hopefully in person!

Jonelle Lemcke, FAWCO Representative

American Women's Club (AWC) in Finland

The AWC in Finland provides women of American heritage and international members (with interest or connections to the USA) with support, information and opportunities to connect through programming and interest groups. In 2025, club membership reached nearly 200 members. Fundraising efforts in 2025 were again directed to Kaivo Espoo, a center that supports Ukrainian refugees who have arrived in Finland since the commencement of the Russian/Ukrainian war.

2025 began in January with the traditional wine and cheese evening at the Fullbright Foundation premises. In the spring, one capstone meeting featured a presentation by Moomin Characters, the iconic Finnish brand, discussing penetration of the US market through long-term brand building and licensing strategy. Other monthly meeting highlights were Arja Miller, the Director of HAM Helsinki Art Museum and Heli Hautala, Head of the Unit for North America at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland. Ms. Hautala shared insights from Washington, DC, during Finland's NATO negotiations, offering a firsthand perspective on diplomacy during this historic moment. The December meeting offered a catered holiday lunch and fundraiser.

AWC Finland also organized interesting and well-attended tours throughout 2025, including visits to the Didrichsen Art Museum, the Tamminiemi Museum, Hämeenlinna Castle, Villa Gyllenberg, a Mindful Nature Walk with Jeanette, a visit to OP Bank headquarters, and a guided tour of the fabulous Helsinki Oodi Library.

Dana Freling, FAWCO Representative

AWC Oslo

January 2025 began as a continuation of AWC Oslo's celebration of 90 years as a club. In cooperation with the American Lutheran Church, the club hosted a community concert featuring The Radcliff Pitches, an a cappella choir from Harvard. The concert was followed by our annual chili cook-off. The end of January featured a trip to the Gothenburg Film Festival. It was our 10th year making this fun trip, in which one of the highlights is dinner with AWC Gothenburg members. February through April were filled with interesting speakers at our monthly meetings and events with our book lovers and wine groups. AWC Oslo was proud to award a 100,000 NOK scholarship to Dr. Pernille Bjerre Trent in May. The award was celebrated with a lovely reception filled with food, music and a presentation by Dr. Bjerre Trent on her plans to spend two years as an International Gynecologic Oncology Fellow at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in NYC. Summer for AWC Oslo was busy, with a club dinner at a lovely Italian restaurant and participation in the annual 4th of July celebration, which is a big fundraiser for our scholarship fund. AWC Oslo members came back after summer vacation with renewed energy and a desire to focus on strengthening community and connection. In October the club met to sew 65 heart pillows for women with breast cancer. November was a busy month with our annual Thanksgiving dinner, new members brunch, and Christmas market. Thanks to the efforts of many club members these events were a great success. The year ended with a cozy gathering at our December meeting to sing Christmas carols and enjoy delicious cookies that members baked.

Diane Garsjø, FAWCO Representative

AWC Gothenburg

We began the year with our annual January meet-up with friends from the AWC in Oslo, who once again visited Gothenburg to attend the Gothenburg Film Festival. Throughout the remainder of the year, we experimented with alternating weekday evening and weekend morning monthly meetups to determine what timing encouraged the strongest participation, and hosted gatherings both in members' homes and at social events such as wine and cheese evenings. For the first time, the club participated in the Pride Parade as an official organization, proudly marching with our own banner, and we also marked seasonal moments together with Easter celebrations and a highly successful Thanksgiving event that welcomed nearly 50 guests. Member engagement remained a key focus, supported by a handwritten letter initiative to reconnect with inactive members and encourage newer members to participate, as well as a New Member Mingle. Our Monthly Book Club continued to be one of our most popular and well-attended activities, highlighted this year by reading and discussing a book written by one of our own members, Adrienne Lind.

Cassie Berndtsson, FAWCO Representative

AIC Malmö

The American International Club Malmö is located in the south of Sweden and currently has 153 members, 78% of whom are US citizens. In total, the club represents 16 nationalities. Its aim is to bring together Americans and other international expats residing in Sweden to gain companionship, support and friendship among the members.

The AIC Malmö runs activities, several of which have an American theme, throughout the year for the members. The club has regular and monthly activities: Bookworms, our book club discussions; Let's Do Lunch; Baby and Toddler Club; and our monthly meeting at the end of the month. Other club activities during 2025 were: the Trivia Night and Media Sale; a Super Bowl night; Galentine's day drinks (celebrating female friendship); a Bowling Night; St. Patrick's Day dinner; Nobel Prize in Physics 2023 guest speaker, Professor Anne L-Huillier; a potluck Pie Night; a Paint by Numbers evening; a Karaoke night; Mother's Day brunch; a canal boat tour in Malmö; Våruset Women's 5K Run/Walk; paint your own pottery night; picnic and volleyball at the beach; the AIC Independence Day BBQ and summer picnic; a Malmö festival lunch in the summer; a summer mingle; Annual General Meeting (AGM); K-pop Demon Hunters Sing-Along; a Clothes Swap Party; a Halloween Saturday Night Social; a Halloween Picnic Trick or Treat party; a Halloween outing to Vellingeblommen; a board game night; a Christmas card family photoshoot; a bookbinding workshop; Thanksgiving potluck dinner; AGM and Holiday Cookie Exchange; a wreath-making workshop; a Christmas market outing; Fika with Santa; a Christmas and a Mulled Wine party; mingle events and After Work evenings.

Additionally, we took part in the FAWCO pilot sister club project this year. Our sister club is the Benvenuto Club of Milan, and we met up for a virtual meeting in November. We have plans to continue our collaboration in the future and very much look forward to it.

So it has been a busy year again!

Tania Stanton, FAWCO Representative

AWC Stockholm

The American Women's Club in Stockholm has continued to grow and thrive in 2025. The club's membership remains relatively stable at approximately 249 members. As expected, a few fell off, lapsed members rejoined and new members continued to find us.

We offer a variety of monthly events during our regular club year, which is set from September through May. As a bonus, we even had a few activities during the summer months this year. Each month we hold a club luncheon, a coffee meetup, a book club meeting, one or more movie get-togethers, and after-works. In addition, we offer two or three new member mingles per club year, extra evening events, tours of local museums, galleries, and sites, along with talks and lectures, and, weather permitting, occasional outdoor activities. Occasionally, our moms' "play dates" group meets for get-togethers with their young kids to play together, form friendships and celebrate American traditions.

We continue to collaborate with other American clubs, including the American Club, the Chamber of Commerce, the American Embassy, as well as the International Women's Club in Stockholm. Once again, we successfully co-sponsored a joint event with the American Chamber of Commerce in Sweden, the American Club of Sweden, US Embassy personnel and the American Ambassador.

AWC 2025 highlights include starting a webshop for AWC Stockholm merchandise and a successful Thanksgiving luncheon. Key accomplishments are the continued support of our Scholarship Foundation. We've connected with FAWCO through the Cross Club Connections – Sister Club Pilot. We are partnered with Heidelberg IWC and have shared photos from various activities and participated in several communications.

AWC Board meetings continue to be mostly remote, as it is the most convenient meeting method for many of the Board members. Our Board has been stable throughout the year, although we anticipate some shifts in 2026. At present, we are still performing an analysis of our technical requirements to better integrate our information management platforms.

We are looking forward to next year with preparing a questionnaire to develop an AWC member profile, as well as organizing a celebration to commemorate 115 years of AWC Stockholm, which was founded in 1911.

Kimberly Andersson, FAWCO Representative
Judith Baird Johansson, Club President

Denmark

American Women's Club in Denmark



Website: awcdenmark.org

Founded: 1934

Joined: 1934

Membership Total: 105

Dues: \$45

Mission: Fun, friendship and philanthropy. Our vision for the members and guests of AWC Denmark: to deepen our commitment to working and playing together; to share our laughter and tolerance in our daily lives.

Finland



American Women's Club in Finland

Website: awcfinland.com

Founded: 1970

Joined: 2001

Membership Total: 150

Dues: €35

Mission: To provide a means for social interaction for women of American nationality or heritage residing in Finland and to promote the furtherance of knowledge and mutual understanding between women of the United States of America, the Republic of Finland and other countries.

Norway

American Women's Club of Oslo



Website: awcoslo.org

Founded: 1934

Joined: 1935

Membership Total: 142

Dues: \$60

Mission: The American Women's Club of Oslo is a nonprofit organization whose members participate in social and philanthropic activities. The club provides an opportunity for American women to connect, network, and socialize while living in Oslo. The term "fundraising" in our club is usually applied to efforts to raise money for the American Women's Club of Oslo Scholarship, our primary philanthropic activity.

Sweden

**American Women's Club of Gothenburg****Website:** awcgothenburg.com**Founded:** 1948**Joined:** 1987**Membership Total:** 69**Dues:** €9**Mission:** To keep our American traditions alive for ourselves, our children and our grandchildren.**American International Club Malmö****Website:** aicmalmo.com**Founded:** 1997**Joined:** 1998**Membership Total:** 147**Dues:** 250 SEK**Mission:** American International Club Malmö was founded November 1997 (originally American Women's Club Malmö) to bring together Americans and other international expats residing in Sweden, to gain companionship, support and friendship among the members.**American Women's Club in Stockholm****Website:** awcstockholm.org**Founded:** 1911**Joined:** 2000**Membership Total:** 249**Dues:** 400 SEK**Mission:** To foster friendship among American women and help them assimilate into Swedish life.

Region 3: France and Spain

Region 3 brings together seven dynamic clubs across France and Spain, representing more than 1,250 members collectively. The region includes large, long-established organizations in Paris and Madrid; rapidly growing mid-sized clubs in Lyon, Montpellier and Barcelona; and smaller but exceptionally active regional groups such as AWAquitaine. This diversity is one of Region 3's greatest strengths. Across the region, membership trends are positive, with multiple clubs reporting significant growth or retention at historic highs. Engagement remains strong, driven by innovative activity programming, WhatsApp-based micro-communities, hybrid meetings and robust philanthropic work in local communities.

FAWCO involvement is deep and multi-dimensional. Members serve on global FAWCO teams, lead awareness campaigns, participate in CiM walking initiatives, promote Education Awards, and support both the current and upcoming Target Programs. Cross-club relationships—including Barcelona's links with AWC Denmark, Aquitaine's contributions to The FAWCO Foundation projects, Madrid's structured Education Awards outreach, and wide participation from Paris-area clubs—reinforce the region's collaborative spirit.

In 2025, Region 3 clubs delivered hundreds of activities: cultural outings, walking groups, author talks, hybrid AGMs, holiday celebrations, philanthropy initiatives, fundraising dinners, and extensive community service. Digital engagement, especially through WhatsApp groups, has become a hallmark of the region and a model for other RCs.

Region 3 remains one of FAWCO's most vibrant and interconnected communities.

Looking ahead to 2026, Region 3 will continue strengthening:

- Inter-club cooperation
- Awareness and participation in FAWCO global programs
- Leadership support for growing clubs
- Regional identity and communication

Respectfully submitted,
Sandy Gogel (AWG Paris, AAWE Paris)
Regional Coordinator (RC3)

AW Aquitaine

AWAquitaine membership more than doubled in 2025; there were 12 members at the start of the year and 26 by mid-November. The really big news is that we were able to organize several in-person events in 2025, which is quite an accomplishment since we are not located in a city like other clubs, but are spread out over an entire region that spans more than 33,000 kilometers (almost 21,000 miles). In February we had our first in-person AGM since pre-COVID days. It was held at the home of a member and was preceded by a delicious potluck luncheon, and a group walk around the village to aid digestion. The meeting itself was hybrid, with a few members joining via Zoom. We had a 4th of July potluck barbecue and picnic at the home of the club's president and invited American women from associations in Bordeaux and Bergerac. Twenty-one people attended and we acquired three new members. In October and November, we organized visits to the greenhouses and wine tastings at the ESAT center for the visually handicapped that was awarded a 2023 FAWCO Development Grant. (The ESAT also sends wine to the FAWCO Silent Auctions each year.) We're still small but mighty, and FAWCO is still our "raison d'être." Two members are Co-Chairs of the Health Team and write articles that are shared on the FAWCO website; one member is on the Human Rights Team, and one is coordinator for Clubs in Motion. In addition, two members submitted paragraphs to the Fall 2025 issue of *Inspiring Women* magazine about their "current phase of womanhood," and the club submitted eight blocks for the 2026 FAWCO Friendship Quilt. AWAquitaine had first a Sunflower and then a Tulip medallion on The FAWCO Foundation Donor Wall for Target 5, Awesome Blossoms, and has already contributed to Target Program 6, Human Rights, though the project has not yet been announced. We raise money thanks to FUNdraising dinners, such as our Kentucky Derby dinner in May, and from the sale of used books and rubber earrings. We share info via e-mail and have a public Facebook page.

Maggie Palu, President and FAWCO Representative

AWG Languedoc-Roussillon

As of May 2025, The American Women's Group of Languedoc-Roussillon (AWG-LR) proudly counts 84 members: 54 Members, 24 Associate Members, 4 Non-Resident Members, 1 Student Member, and 1 Honorary Member. This year we welcomed 15 new members and achieved a 10% net membership increase, reflecting an engaged and growing community.

A highlight of 2025 was deepening our relationship with La Table d'Anouk, a soup kitchen in Montpellier where we now contribute weekly volunteer hours and ongoing financial support. This partnership has strengthened our club's commitment to local service and created meaningful opportunities for members to connect with our wider community.

AWG-LR remains a vibrant and active social club thanks to our members, who plan and lead a wide variety of activities. Our Walking Groups—the Beach Babes and the Walking Group—met twice monthly throughout the year, covering countless kilometers together. Members also gathered regularly for Coffee Chats and language-exchange "Talk & Sit" sessions, with twenty meet-ups taking place on Montpellier's café terraces.

Our Book Group read ten titles and hosted two author visits, while Writer's Bloc provided a creative space for writers to meet monthly and share their work. The Cook & Eat group enjoyed ten delicious gatherings, preparing and sharing three-course meals in good company. Cultural outings, clubhouse game days, and a series

of special events—including holiday celebrations, fundraisers, literary events, and our 39th Anniversary Lunch—rounded out a rich and rewarding year.

AWG-LR continues to thrive through connection, creativity, and community engagement, both within our club and the greater community.

Noel Gaussens, FAWCO Representative

AAWE Paris

Our President Susan Maine-Descamp and Board are eagerly planning AAWE's 65th Anniversary in May 2026. We are delighted to report that our membership has grown to 673. The Open House Rentrée Soirée at Palais de la Femme was a well-attended fall party, followed by the Banned Books reading in October. Innovations in fundraising are spearheaded by our Development Chair Evelyn Isaia, and are very varied: a Platinum Fundraiser "Food & Wine," "In her Lane" (a Women-owned business fair), "She Means Business," a Fireside Chat with Female Entrepreneurs, the Bazaar (re-invented), offering elegant accessories, boutique and home decor items, a Champagne and home-made dessert counter, Red Wheelbarrow Books, and the all-time favorites, the AAWE Handicrafters table. Surplus from fundraising covers operations, and we make annual donations to philanthropic organizations supporting women and children. We have a myriad of WhatsApp chat groups (38 in total!), hosting a wide range of discussions from yarn to voting, housing and estate planning. The Children and Grand-Children of Members had events too: a Halloween party at the Jardin d'Acclimatation in Bois de Boulogne and a Christmas Party featuring Santa at the American Church in Paris. One of our challenges is not having a clubhouse to call our own since our move out of the Mona Bismarck American Center. We still love meeting face-to-face, despite technology, and while we have some exceedingly generous members who regularly open their homes to events and there are a plethora of venues in Paris, it would be ideal to have a Women's Clubhouse/Lodge.

Tamara Rigaud, FAWCO Representative

American Club of Lyon

Leadership: Board elections were held in July via an online voting app. The elected board includes President Adam Falk (1st term), Treasurer Zoe Robert (1st term) and Secretary Emilie Sendra (1st term). The club is further supported by a strong non-elected leadership team, including Jaime de Brebisson as VP Membership, Dari Goldman as Webmaster (who recently redesigned the website), Amy Glancy overseeing the newsletter, and Becky Reynaud serving as FAWCO Representative.

Member Engagement & Communication: Creating WhatsApp groups has been a real game-changer for member engagement. Last year there were seven different WhatsApp sub-groups, known as "Circles of Interest," and this has now grown to 17, ranging from a parents' group to Wine Lovers and Taxation. These groups allow members to connect around shared interests, arrange spontaneous get-togethers and outings, and provide invaluable support to newcomers, who can easily seek advice from more established members. WhatsApp has proven far more effective than Facebook for this type of informal, real-time interaction.

Activities & Events: The number of activities and overall attendance remained very high in 2025, following a bumper year in 2024. The new president, Adam Falk, has adopted a more relaxed leadership approach, and members are enthusiastically organizing activities without board oversight, which has been a welcome and sustainable shift for the club.

Membership: The annual membership renewal period took place in September, and the club continues to stand at 180 households, matching the historic high reached last year.

Overall, the club remains strong and active with a solid foundation for the year ahead.

Becky Reynaud, FAWCO Representative

AWG Paris

This past year, our club membership grew by 11%. Our activities included offerings such as Monday walks & coffee, wine & cheese tastings, and museum & special exhibit tours. Member-led special events such as neighborhood walks and lunches, and a pot-luck Thanksgiving dinner continue to be well attended. Our members continue their generous support for local causes such as La Trinity Soup Kitchen, sandwich making at Feed-the-City and Yes Akademia, which both assist refugees in the Paris area, as well as sponsoring English-language summer programs for local youth in a disadvantaged suburb. Our international support includes donations for on-line education classes for young women in Afghanistan and the FAWCO Target Project 5.

Julien McKinney Young, FAWCO Representative

Barcelona Women's Network

The Barcelona Women's Network (BWN) has been very active, beginning with the election of a new board in May. The board includes five dynamic women of five different age groups, five different nationalities (even though three are Americans) and five different work experiences. We had many challenges, especially in bringing the club up to date with the laws of the local authorities, but we achieved it. We had a big turnaround in our membership but gained lots of new young members at the same time. With these young members we are seeing lots of activity in coaching, physical activities and socializing in general. We voted on and chose the new Charity that we will support for the next two years – CASALS DELS INFANTS.

On October 25, we participated, with more than 100 other expositors, in the annual Barcelona International Community Day (BICD) Event. This is a full day of networking, learning about the kinds of events and services that are available to the international community in Barcelona and surrounding areas. We had more than 100 people stop at the BWN stand to learn about this organization and subsequently be informed about the FAWCO/BWN relationship. The event was very well organized and attended by hundreds of people. There were conferences, workshops, cafeteria service and events for children. We had a few people join the BWN from this event.

We now have an official BWN/FAWCO Committee and are in contact with our sister club AWC Denmark. We hope to have a shared event in early 2026.

Gwen Gilmore de Comas, FAWCO Representative

AWC Madrid

AWC Madrid currently has 168 members and offers a wide range of activities designed to engage diverse interests, including monthly speaker events, cultural visits, philanthropic initiatives, book and film clubs, bridge and canasta groups, handicrafts, and more. Participation in FAWCO-inspired activities continues to grow, supported by a dedicated committee overseeing US Liaison, CIM, Target Project fundraising and awareness, and FAWCO Foundation Education Awards and Literacy Is Our Legacy.

This year's US Liaison program featured a well-attended visit from the US Consul, who addressed passports, grandchildren's citizenship, and Medicare. Our CIM initiatives included neighborhood walks, weekly Sunday park walks, and our annual summer challenge, during which members collectively completed a virtual Pacific Crest Trail through walking, swimming, and exercise. We will close the year with our traditional Christmas lights walk through central Madrid.

We actively promoted The FAWCO Foundation Education Awards through three events: an introduction for new applicants, an evening honoring a past winner to inspire teens, and a Zoom workshop on completing the application. For the first time, AWC Madrid will also submit a Development Grant application on behalf of a long-serving charity.

Literacy Is Our Legacy was highlighted through several events, including talks on the centenary of works by Kafka, Fitzgerald, and Woolf, and a lecture by Claire Messud. We continue to promote the International

Women's Writing Guild membership, FAWCO global reading events, and FAWCO authors at our monthly book club.

Our new Kids Program offers virtual sessions focused on movement, US knowledge, and reading. The Human Rights group, formed in anticipation of the upcoming Target Project, has hosted talks on digital literacy, human rights, and Rwanda's post-genocide recovery, and publishes monthly awareness articles. At the club's annual bazaar, the committee hosted a children's activity table; their drawings and writings were assembled into a mural now displayed at the clubhouse.

Gweneth Johnsen, FAWCO Representative

France



American Women in the Aquitaine

Founded: 2017

Joined: 2017

Membership Total: 22

Dues: €15



American Women's Group Languedoc Roussillon

Website: awglr.org

Founded: 1985

Joined: 1987

Membership Total: 79

Dues: €25

Mission: AWG-LR is a friendly network of American and Anglophone women integrating into French society, using our joint skills to enrich our lives. We read, hike, cook, garden, write, blog, enjoy wine-tasting, share our knowledge about France and the Languedoc-Roussillon, and work with local charities.



American Club of Lyon

Website: americanclublyon.org

Founded: 1987

Joined: 1996

Membership Total: 180

Dues: €70

Mission: The American Club of Lyon was founded in 1987 to bring American expatriates together to share their common cultural background and to share American traditions with our members, their families, and friends in the Rhône-Alpes region.



American Women's Group in Paris

Website: awgparis.org

Founded: 1921

Joined: 1931

Membership Total: 250

Dues: €90

Mission: AWG Paris is a secular, non-profit volunteer organization. Our purpose is to foster and encourage social, education and cultural activities among English speaking women in France and to assist in furthering Franco-American relations. One of our principal goals is to support organizations that serve women and children in need.



Association of American Women in Europe

Website: aaweparis.org

Founded: 1961

Joined: 1965

Membership Total: 637

Dues: €92

Mission: AAWE is a non-profit volunteer association of American women who, as permanent residents of France, share interests specific to bicultural living. AAWE's mission is to: – support its members at all stages of life – provide information relevant to their evolving needs, including bilingualism, education, citizenship, voting and legal rights – create bonds, lifelong friendships and support networks – maintain American cultural heritage and promote its transmission to members' children – contribute to the wider community through public events, publications

and community service – encourage cross-cultural understanding. AAWE’s vision is to be the reference for women with strong American ties looking for a cultural “home”, an advocacy base, an information source, a support and social network, and an avenue for community service.

Spain



Barcelona Women’s Network

Website: bcnwomensnetwork.com

Founded: 1998

Joined: 1999

Membership Total: 110

Dues: €65

Mission: The purpose of the BWN is to foster friendship, goodwill and understanding among women of all nationalities, to provide a support network for women living in Barcelona and environs, and to engage in educational, cultural, social activities and fundraising for charities. We socialize with a social purpose.

American Women’s Club of Madrid

Website: awcmadrid.club

Founded: 1954

Joined: 1956

Membership Total: 168

Dues: €125

Mission: The American Women’s Club of Madrid is a social and charitable organization. A diverse offering of activities is held both in the Club and in the Madrid area. Activities cover a spectrum of interests, including social, cultural, historical, charity, and well-being. The Clubhouse functions as a home away from home for those Americans and others who are now living here, temporarily or permanently. Our Mission - To help women adapt to the challenges and stresses of living in a new country through support, encouragement and friendship - To provide an opportunity for interaction between women of all nationalities - To help members understand and appreciate the Spanish culture and - To engage in charitable activities emphasizing the needs of women and children.

Region 4: Belgium and The Netherlands

The Clubs of Region 4 have had a very busy year! With almost 700 members across four clubs, we have experienced enthusiasm and energy that flowed into our many club and philanthropic activities. Our clubs are filled with dynamic women eager to learn, play and serve, and all four clubs—Amsterdam, Antwerp, Brussels and The Hague—have expressed enthusiasm and optimism as we complete the year 2025. Each club offers a plethora of activities for a wide range of special interests, many tied to the American calendar, continuing throughout the year. Charity events and programs that raise awareness and support FAWCO’s SDGs are a frequent occurrence.

This year Brussels hosted a magnificent Regional Meeting where guest speakers highlighted positivity and ways to address emotional pain, and attendees left with ideas they could immediately apply within their own families. We continue to work hard to attract new and younger members. In Antwerp, a recent social gathering held in a “home office” setting resulted in three new members joining, with philanthropy and FAWCO’s role at the UN cited as key reasons. We also continue to utilize our WhatsApp group to share information and stay

connected across clubs, including updates from our VP Member Clubs Belen Monasterio. Our sister clubs coordinated events throughout the year, welcoming participants from Germany, and all clubs encouraged members to take advantage of The FAWCO Foundation's Education Award and Development Grant Programs. Fundraising efforts will continue as the new Target Project is introduced.

All in all, a very good year looking forward to new beginnings as newer members join and older members work hand in hand to make our clubs an enjoyable and effective environment.

Respectfully submitted,
Rozanne Lofaso Van Rie (AWC Antwerp)
Region 4 Coordinator, RC at Large

AWC Brussels

Club Highlights and Activities Our Brussels club is composed of dedicated and friendly volunteers who are focused on friendship and teamwork! Our club has several events that are always well attended—coffee mornings and our twice monthly Hearts for Hope meetings. Another popular event is our Independence Day BBQ. We have also focused on adding more day and weekend trips throughout Belgium and France. Our club had a special 3-day trip to Paris in September 2025 where we explored Hidden Paris through our member (and President) Florence's eyes of having been a Paris resident. We organized a weekend trip to Bastogne focusing on WWII history in early spring 2025, and another is planned to the Burgundy region of France in late spring 2026. Future day trips include trips to various museums and activities popular in Belgium, such as the Hallerbos forest, history walks in Brussels, visit to tapestry factory/museum, and more!

Charitable Initiatives The Angel Tree project is our annual project for the holidays. Our members purchase presents for multiple charities, such as the Red Cross Alseberg Refugee Center, Cite Joyeuse Orphanage and Oasis (helps women and children fleeing domestic violence or sexual servitude in Belgium). Hearts for Hope project—we now provide heart-shaped pillows to several hospitals in our region. We've welcomed a lovely new member who joined our club because she was deeply touched by receiving a pillow as she was recovering from breast cancer surgery. Relay for Life—our club members baked goods to sell and walked in the annual Relay for Life event in Waterloo in June.

Special Moments or Creative Approaches FAWCO's Region 4 Meeting hosted by AWCB in November 2025: The conference theme was Renewal and featured inspiring speakers Karen Northshield and Clarie Oppert. Karen Northshield is a Belgian-American athlete who survived the 2016 Brussels Airport bombing. She had a near-zero chance of survival but has shown amazing resilience and now inspires others. Claire Oppert is a cellist and art therapist (and music teacher in nearby Waterloo) who has used her music for over 20 years to help people such as children with autism, people with neurodegenerative diseases and palliative care patients.

Sisterhood Activities with Other Clubs The AWCB and AWC Antwerp have had several joint events— a day visit and lunch visiting the historic St. Ursula Institute and Winter Garden and a walk focusing on jewelry in Antwerp. We're working on creating more opportunities for a museum visit and tapestry factory visit in the spring. Also, the AWCB and AWCA book clubs are discussing a joint book to read and then discuss, either over Zoom or at a member's home.

Kristen Crosson
FAWCO Representative and Treasurer

AWC Antwerp

2025 has been a vibrant and successful year for the American Women's Club of Antwerp. We began in January with a warm New Year's gathering that brought members, partners and potential newcomers together for an evening of food, conversation and laughter. This set the tone for a year filled with meaningful activities and community engagement. Members enjoyed several memorable excursions, including trips to The Hague for the

Christian Dior fashion exhibition and to Paris for a special tour of Notre Dame. Throughout the year, we continued our twice-monthly pillow parties and supported two active book clubs. Our newest initiative, Learning Ladies, offered stimulating sessions on topics such as the impact of US tariffs in Europe, humanitarian work and Flemish inheritance laws.

Our Walking and Hiking Group organized a month-long walkathon supporting our signature charity, Caring Hearts, achieving over 1,100 kilometers and raising €200. The Caring Hearts Pillow Project marked its 16th year by producing more than 1,000 handmade pillows delivered to five Antwerp hospitals. We also participated in the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, beginning with an Indonesian Rice Table lunch and continuing with awareness messages and an orange-inspired dress code for our Christmas luncheon.

Communication and connection flourished through our many WhatsApp groups supporting book clubs, well-being, hiking, art classes, writing, film and a wide variety of social activities. A major milestone this year was hosting our first-ever recruitment event in Antwerp, emphasizing women's empowerment, networking and our affiliation with FAWCO. Despite ongoing challenges with membership, renewed leadership and fresh programming have energized both the Board and the Club as we continue to honor American culture while embracing a diverse and growing community.

As a founding member of FAWCO, we remained active in regional and international meetings, contributed articles and publications, and advanced grant and scholarship initiatives. Approaching our 97th year in 2026, we look forward to building on this momentum and celebrating our long legacy as one of Belgium's oldest philanthropic and social clubs.

Rozanne Lofaso Van Rie
FAWCO Representative

AWC Amsterdam

The American Women's Club of Amsterdam (AWCA) experienced a year of renewed energy, strengthened governance and deep community impact. With a new President in the fall of 2025 and a largely refreshed Executive Board, we have focused on continuity and renewal—building on past achievements while exploring what a modern women's community should look like, including AI literacy, inclusivity for younger members, networking for members with businesses and those looking to enhance skills and contacts, and more meaningful member engagement.

Governance was a major priority this year. The Board reviewed the Articles, Bylaws and Standing Rules, and introduced a revised communications policy to ensure equal access to information through official channels such as Wild Apricot, Tulip Talk, email and the website. These updates strengthened transparency, clarity and organizational stability.

Membership has grown rapidly this fall with an increase of almost 20% in our membership across Amsterdam, Haarlem and 't Gooi. This is supported by redesigned Coffee Chats and a rich calendar of activities including walking groups, cooking clubs, book discussions, cultural outings, Mix-and-Mingles, philanthropy, speaker series and beloved traditions like Halloween, Thanksgiving and the Winter Fair.

Philanthropy continued to define AWCA's mission. Members supported De Kloof, De Blijf and Stem in de Stad. Share Your Gifts for Good (SYGFG), our major fundraising program for the FAWCO Target Project was a huge success. We held it twice in 2025—in January and in November—and raised over €26,000 to support FAWCO's Target Project. The Carolyn Korthals-Altes Scholarship awarded three €1,000 scholarships.

AWCA enters 2026 with renewed momentum, a commitment to modernization and a clear focus on connection, service and community.

Key areas include:

- Completing governance document updates
- Strengthening membership engagement and growth
- Expanding philanthropic reach and formalizing an annual fundraising calendar
- Increasing FAWCO participation
- Enhancing communication and technology literacy
- Continuing to build a modern, inclusive, resilient international women’s community

Through friendship, service and global connection, AWCA remains committed to uplifting women, supporting families and fostering a meaningful community—locally in the Netherlands and across the world through FAWCO.

Estelle Roux-Stevens
Co-FAWCO Representative

AWC The Hague

Our Club thrives with energy year after year, bringing together 205 members representing 20 nationalities and a wide range of ages. Celebrating our 95th anniversary has brought a new website and logo, both created by our incredibly talented members. A planning committee is working hard conceiving and coordinating several events: historical publications, community events and multi-media presentations. One of our most beloved members, Georgia Regnault, passed away this year, and our Club paid her a wonderful and well-deserved tribute.

Our philanthropic efforts continue growing: Heart Pillows, Meals for the Homeless, Vliet en Burgh, BRIBOS, Stolperstein Project, DASHA among others. Twelve *Stolpersteine* have been sponsored by AWC members and will be placed in the Benoordenhout community in the spring of 2026. A cleaning guide, sample biography template and instructional video were created and shared with interested European FAWCO Member Clubs.

Several of our creative members have been featured in *Inspiring Women* magazine as well as in the Clubs in Motion reports. We are proud of the engaged members who participate in many of the activities we offer. Some others have been involved for many years and still work tirelessly for FAWCO in several disciplines (Environment, Human Rights, FAUSA...). Others have offered to lead some FAWCO workshops that will take place next year.

Eleven members from our Club attended the Regional Conference in Brussels (“Renewal and Sisterhood”) where they learned, shared and met amazing women. Hope to bring a good number to Malta in 2026!

Bibiana Andújar
FAWCO Representative

Belgium



American Women’s Club Antwerp

Website: awcantwerp.org

Founded: 1929

Joined: 1931

Membership Total: 90

Dues: €80

Mission: Our purpose is to create a center for social, cultural and philanthropic activities for American women in the Antwerp area.



American Women's Club of Brussels

Website: awcb.org

Founded: 1949

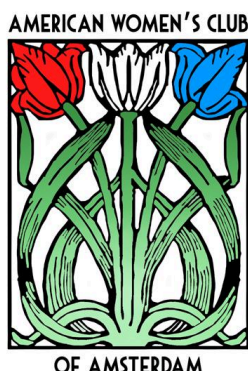
Joined: 1950

Membership Total: 84

Dues: €100

Mission: Create a welcoming and supportive community where members and their families share interest in American Culture and the English language. Provide social, cultural, and philanthropic activities to help our members and their families achieve their fullest potential. Encourage an awareness and understanding of Belgian culture.

The Netherlands



American Women's Club of Amsterdam

Website: awca.nl

Founded: 1927

Joined: 1971

Membership Total: 308

Dues: €100

Mission: The AWCA emphasizes a cohesive and nurturing community for American women and international women with close American ties. The Club works closely with local charities and liaises with Dutch/American businesses and organizations. The AWCA is about: Experiencing the Netherlands while honoring American traditions • Involving members in the community and with philanthropic causes • Participating in cultural, educational, sport, and family activities • Supporting one another and building lifelong friendships • Networking with other professionals



American Women's Club of The Hague

Website: awcthehague.org

Founded: 1930

Joined: 1931

Membership Total: 207

Dues: €125

Mission: Our primary goal is to serve as a support network for American women living and working in The Netherlands.

Region 5: Austria, Germany, Moldova and Slovakia

All clubs in Region 5 remain active and strongly engaged with FAWCO and The FAWCO Foundation. While attendance at the Biennial Conference in Annapolis was lower than at previous meetings, this was largely due to distance and cost rather than a lack of interest or commitment. In contrast, participation at the Region 5 Meeting in Heidelberg in November was excellent, with club presidents, FAWCO Representatives and members attending from across the region, including Moldova.

Most clubs in the region are directly connected with FAWCO and The FAWCO Foundation through board roles or active participation on committees, reflecting a high level of ongoing engagement and leadership. Unfortunately, the club in Bratislava is currently experiencing a challenging period and we have not had direct communication with them during this reporting cycle.

Overall, Region 5 continues to demonstrate dedication, collaboration and strong involvement at both the regional and FAWCO levels.

Respectfully submitted,
Angelika McLarren (AWC Berlin)
Region 5 Coordinator

AWA The International Women's Club of Vienna (AWA Vienna)

The new board, elected in late 2024, began its work committed to outreach, increasing membership and cost-cutting. This board (except for the Treasurer) was re-elected in November 2025. The effort helped to attract 37 new members. As part of the outreach, the board initiated contact with the mayor's office and all heads of Vienna city districts. Subsequently, two of the districts have designated representatives to meet with u,

and a Vienna City representative accepted our invitation to attend our recent crafts bazaar. In the next year, we will intensify efforts to expand cooperation with the city administration.

For communications, we instituted WhatsApp groups to speed up exchange of information on activities and events as well as to improve overall communication among members. We revamped the website to be more attractive to potential members. Two members have joined the 1st VP for Outreach to keep this important channel of communication with the public regularly updated. We've adopted several changes to the publication of our club magazine, *Highlights*. Reducing the number of pages and going from monthly to bimonthly publishing resulted in savings on printing, mailing, time and money without diminishing the value of the publication as an advertising and communication vehicle.

Top Events: Beverly Minor & Friends Gospel concert earned over €500; two makeup workshops were very popular and appreciated. The annual Christmas Crafts Bazaar was held on November 17. Other significant events included a Wine Quiz Fundraiser, ten sessions about dementia, an Indian Evening with sari draping, an AI for Everyone Talk, a United Nations Women's Guild Kiosk Market at the clubhouse and a Waltz & Quadrille on The Graben in central Vienna.

New groups: Trail Sisters (periodic hikes in Vienna and nearby), monthly Wine Thursdays, Cook & Share Potluck. New free activities include German Conversation, Finding your Voice (singing), Line Dancing, Bridge and Coffee at the Clubhouse.

Three AWA members attended the FAWCO conference in Annapolis, where Connie Phlipot received a FAWCO Rep Award, and Laurie Richardson the Caroline Curtis Brown Award. Three of our members were profiled in *Inspiring Women* issues on Art Works and Women in International Diplomacy. Four club members (plus one husband and out-of-town relative) took part in the FAWCO project begun by AWC The Hague to clean *Stolpersteine* in commemoration of victims of the Holocaust. A small group met virtually with our new FAWCO sister club, Munich IWC, and made tentative plans for a group trip to Salzburg in early March 2026.

Connie Phlipot
FAWCO Representative

The American Women's Club of Berlin (AWC Berlin)

Founded in 1894, The American Women's Club of Berlin (AWC Berlin) is the oldest FAWCO Member Club. This year, we celebrated the 10th anniversary of our relaunch in 2015 with a redesigned logo and website introduced at our AGM in December. We updated our Constitution to better reflect our international membership, modernize communication, and expand the board of directors to add the FAWCO Rep and Philanthropy Chair. AWC Berlin presently has 322 members with 50 new members in 2025. Americans (with US passports or having direct family holding US passports) make up 65% of our membership, while the remaining 35% come from 35+ different countries.

In 2025, 46 members organized 289 events listed on Wild Apricot. This does not include our Neighborhood Groups and WhatsApp Interest Groups activities. Eighty-five percent of our members registered for at least one event. Our events are mainly in-person meetings, except for some activities organized by our non-resident (alumni) members, contact with our FAWCO Sister Club in Naples, and organizational meetings of special interest. These take place on our club's Pro-Zoom account. Members enjoyed eight Monthly Membership Meetings, as well as special events including the July 4th BBQ, the Speakers Series focusing on US issues, and the AGM which included a Holiday dinner. Our newly created women's activist group, Women Who Gather for Democracy and Human Rights celebrated Constitution Day with an event. AWC Berlin is also participating through social media in the 16-day campaign against gender-based violence.

In 2025, our donations totaled €9,824: €5,126 to benefit our local charity Donya Residence, a temporary home with 24/7 support for girls (ages 12–21) who are survivors of sexualized violence; €2,863 to sponsor an apartment at the Ronald McDonald House Berlin-Wedding and cooking quarterly for families there; and lastly, €1,835 (Thanksgiving Aid) to benefit US service members stationed in Germany.

Our community service this past year included, but was not limited to, volunteering at the Berliner Tafel five times, cooking quarterly for the families at our long-term local charity, the Ronald McDonald House Berlin-Wedding and at Christmas, we collected for the Mittens Tree hats, gloves and scarves to donate to the

Berliner Stadtmission.

Veronica Riffle
FAWCO Representative

American International Women's Club of Cologne e.V. (AIWCC)

In 2025, the American International Women's Club of Cologne sponsored a contest among students studying graphic design to create a new logo for the club. The winning design was submitted by a young woman in the class who is originally from Bolivia. As part of the prize, we were pleased to offer her a one-year membership in the Club.

As always, we offered a wide variety of monthly activities for our members, including coffee hours held throughout our region, a hiking group, urban sketchers, writing women, stitch and bitch and book discussions in both English and German. In addition, we hosted a Rosenmontag party in March to celebrate Karneval, an Earth Day spring clean-up, a summer kick-off and 4th of July barbecue, a Welcome Back brunch, a Halloween party and a Christmas brunch held in conjunction with our annual general meeting.

In 2025, we continued to support our two charities: the 2023–2025 Target Project, Awesome Blossoms and innatura, a Cologne-based nonprofit that provides factory-new goods to nonprofit organizations at deeply-reduced rates. Both initiatives focus on environmental sustainability. Innatura supports sustainable business practices by helping companies distribute to charitable organizations quality products that would otherwise be destroyed due to issues such as typographical errors on packaging. In March, we held a Social Day at innatura.

Additional fundraising activities included emergency fundraising to support families impacted by the wildfires in Los Angeles, a Cards and Cocktails evening, a series of wellness activities in May, and a raffle held during our Christmas brunch.

Participation in FAWCO continues to be highly valued by many of our members. In 2025, we were proud to hold the following FAWCO and FAWCO Foundation positions: FAWCO Foundation President, FAWCO Vice President of Communications, FAWCO Parliamentarian, UN Representative to Bonn, and FAWCO Foundation Education Awards Administrator. We were also pleased to once again help sponsor the Environment Development Grant. Finally, we announced at the 2025 Region 5 Meeting in Heidelberg that AIWC Cologne will host the FAWCO Region 5 Meeting in November 2026. Enthusiastic planning is already underway.

Michelle Miller
FAWCO Representative

American International Women's Club of Düsseldorf (AIWC Düsseldorf)

AIWC Düsseldorf continues to thrive and is holding a relatively steady membership around 220. Our events calendar is full of opportunities including hikes, art and city tours, book groups, German conversation and Mahjong. Most of our activities are in small groups, but we surprise ourselves at the high turnout for our traditional Thanksgiving dinner, Fourth of July picnic, Halloween and Easter Egg Hunt.

We had a number of membership shifts in 2025 which began when our very active President Jawahara Saidhulla returned to the US sooner than planned. We were fortunate that Vice President Anissa Wagner stepped up to fill the role for the remainder of the year. We are very grateful for Anissa's leadership and even more grateful for her willingness to be elected for another term!

Our club remains dedicated not only to community and friendship but also to philanthropy. Our Heart2Heart project has begun its second decade and we have enthusiastic participants at regularly scheduled sewing events. This past year we donated 524 heart pillows and 163 seatbelt hearts to local hospitals treating breast cancer patients. We are also proud of our fundraising efforts which enabled us to donate over €16,000 in 2025 to our favored local charities for the benefit of women and children.

Of special interest this year is our new publication *Willkommen: A Newcomer's Guide to Düsseldorf* which was spearheaded by Jawahara and written by members for the benefit of those new to the area. It combines our experiences, knowledge, and expertise in a guide to welcome all to Düsseldorf and help settle in. This publication, available both online and in paperback form, is in addition to our beautiful quarterly magazine *The Radschläger* which offers lots of interesting information about club activities, members and tips for living in Germany.

In November, eight members of AIWC Düsseldorf attended the Regional in Heidelberg. It was a special treat to see my club friends taking the chance to meet and share ideas with so many FAWCO friends!

Barbara Bühling
FAWCO Representative

American International Women's Club e.V. – Frankfurt, Taunus, Rhein-Main (AIWC Frankfurt)

From January through December 2025, AIWC Frankfurt continued its usual rhythm of connection and engagement. June brought the annual board transition, with several roles taken on by new faces, including newer members who stepped in with enthusiasm and learned quickly as they went. Over the course of the year, 57 new members joined the club, bringing total membership to 277.

It was an energetic year filled with activities and events. In 2025, the club hosted more than 318 gatherings. Highlights included the International Women's Day Brunch, AIWC Cares Wellness Week, the Charity Gala, Thanksgiving Lunch, and the Holiday Luncheon. On the fundraising front, led by 2nd VP Emily Read, the club raised approximately €18,000 for FIM eV, with a significant portion coming from the gala event held in November.

AIWC Frankfurt offers a wide range of interest groups that continue to be the backbone of member engagement. The Working Women's Group, under the leadership of Christen Chen, is quickly becoming one of the club's crown jewels and remains one of its best-attended groups, giving professional members the opportunity to connect, network, and enjoy time outside of work. The Tennis League, now in its 46th year and led by Calen Higgins, continues to serve as a reliable heartbeat of the club. Neighborhood Coordinators help weave together the smaller communities that form the club's larger whole, while Arts and Culture takes members to landmarks and exhibitions across the region. The Sole Sisters group brings members together for walking, hiking, and conversation and regularly contributes activity updates to FAWCO's Clubs in Motion initiative. The club also hosts two book clubs, one meeting in the Taunus and the other in Frankfurt, allowing members to join whichever location works best for them. Other interest groups, such as the No Drama Drama Group and The Sharp Hookers, encourage members to explore their creative sides through enjoyable, low-pressure activities. The Italian Conversation group, led by Gabriela Guercilena Jacobi, meets weekly for lively discussion.

Philanthropy remains a meaningful focus for AIWC Frankfurt. The Hopeful Hearts Project, which began only a few years ago, has grown into a quiet source of pride for the club. Members continue to support breast cancer patients by making mastectomy pillows. In addition, members of Hopeful Hearts and the general membership contributed quilt squares for the 2026 FAWCO Friendship Quilt, joining FAWCO friends around the world in this meaningful tradition.

FAWCO engagement continues to be an important part of club life. In March 2025, two members attended the FAWCO Biennial Meeting in Annapolis, MD, where the Close to Home grant proposal written by Dana Cognetta Fritchie, Lauren Scharps, and Rose Finlay was awarded by The FAWCO Foundation to the club's local charity partner, FIM eV's Project Wheel. In November, four members, including club president Cenita Ettl, Neighborhood Coordinator Nancy Pomeraning, former Membership Chair and former EB advisor Rose Finlay, and the club's FAWCO Representative, attended the Region 5 meeting hosted by Heidelberg IWC. In May 2025, AIWC Frankfurt and Heidelberg IWC co-hosted a lively brunch in Frankfurt, welcoming twenty-eight members from both clubs for a warm and spirited gathering.

Looking ahead, AIWC Frankfurt anticipates more of the same energy and rhythm that remind members that the club is not just a social organization, but a community in motion.

Dana Cognetta Fritchie
FAWCO Representative

American Women's Club of Hamburg

The American Women's Club of Hamburg had a great 2025! Our calendar was full of events, social meetups, and philanthropic activities.

In the first half of the year, we hosted our Annual General Meeting, the Easter/Spring High Tea, our popular pre-loved book sale, and a festive Fourth of July celebration. The second half of the year featured some of our most cherished traditions, including our members' Halloween celebration (with costume karaoke this year!), our family-friendly Thanksgiving dinner, a cookie exchange at the Consul General's residence, and our annual Holiday Party.

Our groups (Film Group, Currents Magazine, Book Club, Opera Club, Art Group, Walking Groups, Harbor Explorers, Mahjong Group, Quiltmakers, and Stitch 'n' Bitch) have remained active with a very full calendar.

Philanthropy continues to be at the heart of our club. We maintained strong support for Hanseatic Help e. V., one of our Development Grant recipients, through biweekly warehouse volunteering, donations of clothing and hygiene items, and awareness fundraisers. In addition, we established a Quiltmaker Group that produced more than 100 quilts for Hanseatic Help's baby bags. We also held our annual book swap event to raise funds for MamaBaby Haiti, another Development Grant recipient.

This year, members selected a new local charity: *Hinz & Kunzt*, Hamburg's street magazine supporting people experiencing homelessness. We organized events to spotlight their work, fundraise for their initiatives, provide food and essential items to vendors, and encourage member involvement.

Our own ongoing initiative, From the Heart Pillow Project, raised funds through our bagel sales for materials to create heart pillows and drainage bottle bags for breast cancer patients in Hamburg. As in previous years, we also held a Thanksgiving food drive for a local food bank and participated in a charity run supporting local women's shelters. Our autumn online auction raised approximately €2,000 for FAWCO's Target Project.

Our triannual digital/printed magazine, *Currents*, continues to highlight club activities, FAWCO updates, and member-driven themes and stories.

Members also remained active participants in events hosted by FAWCO, its member clubs, the US Embassy, and local organizations.

We had a fantastic 2025 as a club and are excited to see what 2026 holds for us!

Jordan Beck Wagner
FAWCO Representative

Heidelberg International Women's Club (HIWC)

In 2025, HIWC entered its seventh year under the continued leadership of Julia Rais-Morres (President), Beth Herzhauser (Vice President), Mary Manning (Treasurer) and Virginia Trowman (FAWCO Representative).

The year began with lively social gatherings in January, including our first DinnerClub at LiLo Restaurant in Weinheim and a fun Bowling Night at Firebowl, fostering camaraderie and joyful connections among members. February brought our Annual General Meeting at Heerlijk Bar, where the 2025 Executive Board was elected and

Ursula Wehrer was honored as Barbara Belosa Volunteer of the Year. Members also completed 130 heart pillows for breast cancer patients at NCT Heidelberg, exemplifying HIWC's ongoing commitment to meaningful community service.

In March, we celebrated International Women's Day and Women's History Month at a Networking Lunch hosted by Deputy Mayor Stefanie Jansen, followed by discussions on diversity, gender equality, and empowerment. Heart pillows were delivered to NCT, and members enjoyed a Spanish tapas evening at La Taperia Ole-Ole. April and May continued with Cooking with Julia sessions at refugee shelters, Dinner Club evenings, and a joint breakfast with AIWC Frankfurt, strengthening both local and international connections.

Summer months were filled with cultural and social highlights: June hosted the first Heart Pillow Project of 2025 at Schiller International University, cooking sessions with Kurdish families, Dinner Club gatherings, and participation in the NABU Summer Festival to support local charities. July featured MONNEM PRIDE, Dîner en Blanc, a wine-tasting excursion, and our summer picnic-style monthly meeting, all fostering community and friendship. August offered a relaxed Summer Special Dinner Club: Burger Night at the Marriott Terrace.

Autumn brought new international members, participation in the FAWCO Sister Club pilot project with AWC Stockholm, and preparation for the FAWCO Region 5 Meeting, which HIWC proudly hosted from November 7–9. The event welcomed members from across Europe for workshops, networking, and social gatherings, highlighting the warmth and impact of our club. November also included a Travel Slide Show, a joint Thanksgiving celebration, and a Christmas potluck party. We again finished the year with about 50 members.

Ginny Trowman
FAWCO Representative

International Women's Club of Leipzig e.V. (IWC Leipzig)

In 2025 the positive development of IWC Leipzig continued. New members joined, all the networking for the Club continued, as were all the activities described in the annual report 2024. Some new groups were added, including the Art Salon group that offers an exchange on art and architecture, and the Concert Crew focused on the wide range of classical music events in and around Leipzig—and in which members can offer tickets they can't use. There is also a new IWC Community Q&A group.

Topics in our speaker series were "All you need is love" on Valentine's Day, in which two of our members talked about their lives and passion for art, and "Singing is Care: A simple and unique way to connection and health." We also celebrated International Women's Day (focusing on the Gender Honor Gap) and had a beautiful morning with Leipzig's ballet director. We visited galleries and the 2025 European Culture City Chemnitz. We continued activities such as conversation groups, book and cinema clubs, a walking group and evening activities. A group of members of AWC Berlin came to Leipzig for a day. There was a public event in cooperation with Lancaster University Leipzig on Scams and Safety. And we enjoyed an IWC Women's Dance Night!

At the AGM in May, the new President Teta Moehs and her board were elected and the updated constitution was confirmed. The transition went smoothly and the new board took over on July 1. Updating administrative tasks continued including research on software/apps to help save money and (volunteer!) time in the future. A trial of a Swiss software ClubDesk with numerous useful tools took place and will be implemented soon.

At the core of our club's work is charity: IWC Leipzig now supports five local organizations. This is possible because of fabulous results through our Holiday Bazaars in 2024 and 2025 (for details see annual report 2024). In other charity activities, members took part in a charity run for victims of domestic violence and others took in-kind donations to shelters for victims of domestic violence and to homeless people.

We are proud to have joined FAWCO. Our collaboration began in December 2023 and was confirmed at the AGM by our members. We continued support for the Target Project; two of our members were featured in *Inspiring Women*; and a new IWC Leipzig FAWCO group was started to help share information and raise interest. Some of us took part in the great Region 5 Meeting in Heidelberg in November.

The successful work of our club is only possible because of all the contributions by volunteers such as all board members (both former and new board), along with many members who offer groups and activities, and all those supporting the charity work. *Chapeau* to all of them, including to our former FAWCO Rep Annemarie.

Ute McKendry

Former President and new FAWCO Representative

Munich International Women's Club (Munich IWC)

2025 asked us to grow in ways both tender and bold. The Munich International Women's Club continued to be a place where women from around the world find friendship, meaning, and steady ground. With 37 new members joining our community, the club felt infused with new energy and fresh perspectives.

Our members stayed wonderfully active. Together we walked 35,356 kilometers year round, a shared accomplishment that reflects not just movement, but connection. Whether through long hikes, spontaneous walks, or simple time outdoors together, these moments stitched our community even closer.

Our calendar was rich with cultural outings, language groups, creative workshops, and special events that made it easy to reconnect. Many of our members also participated in FAWCO activities this year, attending the conference in March and the Region 5 Meeting in November, strengthening cross-club relationships and bringing new inspiration back home.

Behind the scenes, this was a year of meaningful transition. With a board changeover, we began a thoughtful review of our internal processes. It's been meaningful work. We are looking closely at the systems that support our volunteers, our communication, and the way our club functions day to day. The goal is simple: make it easier for our members to engage, lead, and enjoy the community they love. It's steady work, but it's already bringing clarity and momentum.

Our fundraising efforts this year were a powerful expression of who we are. We hosted two benefit concerts, classical and jazz, each showcasing the remarkable talent within our membership and drawing our broader community together. Our biennial Auction of Talents and the annual November Bazaar were also tremendous successes. Together, these efforts raised nearly €20,000 for the charities we proudly support.

Through every season, MIWC remained a place where women gather to learn, contribute, and lift one another up. We close the year grateful for our members, proud of what we accomplished, and ready for the new possibilities ahead.

Angela Ahiskal

President

International Women's Club of Moldova (IWCM)

IWCM aims to be a social network and a bridge between local and expat women in Moldova with a heart for charity. Respect for multiculturalism and the desire to share goodwill are our unchanging values, on the basis of which we build an influential activity in the field of charity, assistance to children and women, support for people in need and refugees.

In 2025, IWCM remained active in promoting solidarity, cultural exchange and social support across Moldova. The highlight of the year was the 27th International Charity Bazaar, held in December at Palatul Republicii in Chişinău. The Bazaar brought together embassies, diplomatic missions, international organizations, sponsors, volunteers and members offering traditional food, handmade crafts, souvenirs, art objects, a raffle, children's workshops and a festive holiday atmosphere. Funds raised at the Bazaar will support charitable projects for women, children and vulnerable families.

Alongside the Bazaar, IWCM launched a 2025–2026 grant program: a Call for Charitable Concepts, inviting NGOs, foundations and public institutions to submit project proposals for social impact initiatives. Grants range

from €1,000 to €5,000 and are aimed at sustainable, community-driven projects benefiting women, children, the elderly and persons with special needs. Funds will be allocated after the Bazaar between February and May 2026.

Beyond charity work, IWCM maintained its tradition of cultural and social meetings. In September, there was a themed gathering “Mystique of Mehndi: Rhythms of Colorful India,” featuring Indian music, dance and henna art. It was an evening of cultural exchange, friendship and community building among diverse members.

In 2025, IWCM combined tradition, charity and community: from organizing the major international Charity Bazaar, to launching a new grant cycle, mobilizing volunteers and hosting cultural-social meetings. These activities reflect IWCM’s ongoing commitment to support vulnerable groups, foster inclusion and build bridges between cultures while creating real social impact across Moldova.

Maria Maronuta
Co-President

Austria



American Women's Association of Vienna

Website: awavienna.com

Founded: 1924

Joined: 1931

Membership Total: 216

Dues: €116

Mission: AWA Vienna is an international community of English-speaking women with over 250 members from 40 countries. Our purpose is to provide a social network for international women, and to enhance cultural exchange and cooperation between our members and our Austrian host country community. We also raise funds and provide assistance to community organizations that help women, children and families.

Germany



American Women's Club of Berlin

Website: awcberlin.org

Founded: 1931, 1994

Joined: 1994

Membership Total: 320

Dues: €60

Mission: is a social network with a charitable calling. The AWC Berlin provides a forum for women to share information and experiences, to meet friends and engage in inspiring and fun activities, all while helping and empowering others along the way.



American International Women's Club of Cologne

Website: aiwccologne.org

Founded: 1961

Joined: 1971

Membership Total: 139

Dues: €60

Mission: The American International Women's Club of Cologne e.V. ("Club") shall pursue, exclusively and directly, social and charitable goals relating to furthering understanding among peoples, within the meaning of the section of the German tax laws defining "steuerbegünstigte Zwecke" (tax privileged purposes). A. The purpose of the Club shall be achieved as follows: 1. The support of members and their families living in the Cologne area as they adjust to life in Germany, through information and advice relating to life in Cologne, as well as through the provision of contact persons with common cultural interests etc. 2. The provision of a forum in which to speak English. 3. The advancement of cultural exchange among Americans, Germans, and other nationalities via discussion and activities relating to themes of common interest, as well as through the offer to make instruction in the English language available to schools in Cologne. 4. The support of local and world-wide initiatives.



American Women's Club of Düsseldorf, e.V.

Website: awcduesseldorf.org

Founded: 1959

Joined: 1971

Membership Total: 220

Dues: 65 E

Mission: Our Constitution states: The purpose of the Club is: 1. To advance international understanding; to assist Americans and their families living in the Düsseldorf area; to provide support as they adjust to life in Germany; to advance cultural exchanges among Americans, Germans, and other nationalities; and to inform members about issues of interest to Americans; 2. To support education, the upbringing of minors, the care of the elderly, and the assistance of those in need within the scope of Section 53 of the German Tax Code (AO).



American International Women's Club Frankfurt Taunus Rhein-Main

Website: aiwcfrankfurt.org

Founded: 1971

Joined: 1978

Membership Total: 277

Dues: €75

Mission: The AIWC provides friendship and support amongst women and families, who are living in the Rhein-Main area, and facilitates their efforts to integrate into the German community and stay connected with a variety of activities, services, and social, sports, and hobby groups. Additionally, we take great pleasure and pride in serving our community throughout the year. Every year we raise money from our AWCT events, such as at our yearly Spring Charity Event, to give to local charitable organizations. Our members have volunteered in a variety of ways such as supporting children's pediatric units, training dogs for the disabled, establishing scholarships for local children and assisting women's organizations.



American Women's Club of Hamburg

Website: awchamburg.org

Founded: 1956

Joined: 1976

Membership Total: 212

Dues: €60

Mission: Our club purpose is to advance international understanding; to assist American women and their families living in the Hamburg area and to provide support as they adjust to life in Germany; to advance cultural exchanges among American, German and other nationalities; and to inform members about issues of interest to Americans. We support education, the upbringing of minors and the assistance of those in need within the scope of the German tax laws. The AWC Hamburg pursues, exclusively and directly, social and charitable goals.

**Heidelberg International Women's Club****Website:** heidelbergiwc.org**Founded:** 2018**Joined:** 2018**Membership Total:** 50**Dues:** €50

Mission: The Heidelberg International Women's Club is a club for English-speaking women living in Heidelberg and the surrounding Rhine-Neckar region. We are an all-volunteer, non-political, non-religious charitable nonprofit organization. Women of all nationalities, ages and backgrounds are welcome! In addition to being a connection point and support network for each other, we give back to our local and global community through volunteering and charitable fundraising. We support efforts that focus on women and girls and currently are engaged in a few charitable projects.

**International Women's Club Leipzig e. V.****Website:** N/A**Founded:** 1988**Joined:** 2023**Membership Total:** 120**Dues:** €65

Mission: Women support Women, supporting an international spirit in Leipzig, charity activities

**Munich International Women's Club****Website:** internationalwomensclub.org**Founded:** 1990**Joined:** 2010**Membership Total:** 200**Dues:** €60

Mission: The Munich International Women's Club e.V. (MIWC) is a social club acting as a source of contact to English-speaking women of all ages and nationalities living in Munich and the surrounding region. We became a member of FAWCO in 2010 and through this umbrella organization have contact with other German groups, as well as those in other countries.

Moldova**International Women's Club of Moldova****Website:** iwcm.md**Founded:** 2014**Joined:** 2022**Membership Total:** 48

Slovakia



INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S CLUB
OF BRATISLAVA

International Women's Club of Slovakia

Membership Total: 98

Region 6: Liechtenstein and Switzerland

We're proud to say that Region 6 is now a cohesive entity. Our group WhatsApp is active and frequently shares upcoming club events, which include invitations to the other clubs. We have two such interclub events scheduled this month alone: the Annual Onion Market in Bern and an opportunity to watch the women's hockey teams of Bern and Zürich face off. Fingers crossed we can turn the hockey match into an annual rivalry!

The outcome of our regional conference went above expectations. It was held in a lovely setting in a quaint spa that offered a relaxed, casual atmosphere for bonding! We're already excited about next year's conference—location to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,
Veronica Ventura (AWC Bern)
Region 6 Coordinator

AWC Liechtenstein

The American Women's Club of Liechtenstein is a social club with 33 members. We welcomed a few new members this year and enjoyed many special events with our strong group of existing members. In February, our President hosted a Galentine's fundraiser bingo night for Awesome Blossoms. We had spaghetti, played Swiss bingo, won cute prizes, and contributed to a great cause! In March, we held our Annual Meeting and decided upon implementing event planning groups to share idea generation and planning responsibilities. The aim was to alternate between Friday evening activities and a mixture of family-oriented weekend events. We started using Google for event planning and communications this year. Throughout the year, we went bowling, had a Schnitzel night, visited the Prinz distillery, had a pool night, rode the Floomzer Rodelbahn, and grilled together on a beautiful August day. In July, we had our annual 4th of July barbecue at one of our member's homes and two of our members visited the US Embassy in Bern for the 249th Independence Day Garden Party. In September, we attended the Region 6 FAWCO Meeting at the beautiful Valbella Resort in Lenzerheide. We had the opportunity to meet and build relationships with other American women living in Switzerland and learn more about FAWCO. In October, one of our members hosted the annual Halloween potluck and we enjoyed very spooky and creative dishes and drinks! We found a lovely new venue for our annual Thanksgiving dinner. The turkey and food were delicious and the atmosphere was very welcoming. This event is always a highlight for our members, but it is not always easy to find a location or restaurant that will prepare the buffet complete with whole turkeys! Our last event of the year was, as always, the White Elephant Gift Exchange at a member's home. We are looking forward to another event filled year in 2026!

Maria Mauri
FAWCO Representative

AWC Basel

2025 has been a lively and inspiring year for AWC Basel, marked by a growing membership, expanded programming and fresh initiatives that continue to connect, support, and energize our community.

In addition to long-standing favorites such as monthly lunches, the ever-popular mahjong, and engaging book reviews, this year introduced a host of new activities that underscore the vibrancy and diversity of our membership. Highlights included Mom's and Neighborhood Coffees, Boots & Banter hiking group, and the

Watch Party — a chance to enjoy classic and contemporary films in English, followed by lively conversations over drinks that sparked fresh connections and ideas.

Equally rewarding was our philanthropic success. In 2025, the club proudly exceeded its fundraising goal for the ThanksGiver Schweiz food bank, largely through the highly successful Kickoff Luncheon. Nearly 100 friends — both longtime members and newcomers — came together to enjoy delicious food, laughter, and spirited conversation, inspired by trailblazer Dr. Elena Filipovic, director of the Kunstmuseum Basel, home to the world's oldest public art collection. The event beautifully combined community spirit with cultural inspiration, leaving a tangible impact that will resonate well beyond the luncheon itself.

Collaboration was another defining theme of the year. Our club joined fellow AWC groups at the Region 6 Meeting and took part in a memorable joint trip to the Bern Onion Festival. These experiences offered opportunities to connect, learn from, and be inspired by remarkable women across our region, forging bonds that will continue to grow and strengthen in 2026 and the years ahead.

Louise Fogharty

FAWCO Representative

AWC Bern

AWC Bern continues to grow! Forty percent of our membership has joined within the last three years. New faces mean new ideas, and we have a lot planned for the upcoming year.

Our Regional Meeting in September 2025 achieved its desired goal: bringing the clubs of Switzerland and Liechtenstein together in one place to bond! Spillover effects from the conference include several interclub events, such as an Onion Festival in Bern, and in December, a professional women's hockey game between the rival Zürich and Bern clubs. We hope to make this an annual event with some good old-fashioned rivalry.

Other traditional favorites are planned for the next few months. These include our Thanksgiving dinner, which this year set a record for the number of attendees. Christmas lunch will likely reap the same success.

Next year's events are still to be determined, but if they are anything like this past year's, they will not disappoint.

Veronica Ventura

FAWCO Representative

AWC Zürich

Connection Community Philanthropy This year, AWC Zürich focused on strengthening communications, building community, and enthusiastically fundraising for our charities. We benefited from strong continuity of leadership, welcoming three new Board members while eight members were re-elected or bridged terms. Our clubhouse continued to serve as a vibrant cultural space with regular art exhibitions featuring both member artists and guests. Our English-language library continues to grow and now boasts a collection of upwards of 6,000 books.

We are proud to offer a full calendar of activities for women at every stage of life. Our core groups remain active and well-attended: weekly Walking Group, Day and Evening Book Clubs, Cocktail Club, First Friday! Apéros, and our twice-weekly Bridge Group. We welcomed new leadership to the Hiking Group, Art & Culture Guild, and the Professional Women's Group. Two new activity groups were launched to support young mothers. A monthly tween movie night has been especially popular, and our weekly fitness and language classes continue to draw steady participation.

To promote the AWCZ, we participated in international school events and city-run fairs, developed updated promotional materials, and strengthened our online presence. We also transitioned our bimonthly magazine

into a more agile and colorful newsletter, now both printed (primarily to promote the club) and emailed (to inform our membership). At all events, we continue to highlight our club's values of connection, community and philanthropy and encourage active participation. While we have a steady draw of members joining, we are working to promote engagement and member retention.

In addition to supporting FAWCO's designated charity, we primarily fundraise for Cancer Support Switzerland. Our annual Book & Bake Sale, Christmas Market, Workshop Weeks, and Photos with Santa, support our designated charities as do our large Easter and Halloween children's parties. We also hosted both a Chili Cook-Off and a Curry Cook-Off. With service at the heart of our mission, members sewed heart pillows for women recovering from mastectomies and collected personal-care items for a local organization that assists trafficked women rebuilding their lives.

As we prepare to celebrate our 95th year in 2026, we look forward to discovering new ways to support our members and further strengthen the AWCZ community as well as increase member engagement and strengthen our pipeline for new leaders.

Karyn Wynn

Club President

Liechtenstein



American Women's Club of Liechtenstein

Website: awc-fl.net

Founded: 1994

Joined: 1995

Membership Total: 31

Dues: 60 CHF

Mission: We are located in the Rhein Valley and have members from three countries: Liechtenstein, Switzerland and Austria.

Switzerland



American Women's Club of Basel

Website: awcbasel.org

Founded: 1947

Joined: 1952

Membership Total: 113

Dues: 100 CHF

Mission: The American Women's Club of Basel is a nonprofit social and philanthropic organization that was founded in 1947 and currently has about 82 members. It is a group of very diverse backgrounds, interests and ages, but all with a connection to the USA. Membership is open to English-speaking women that would like to participate in AWC Basel activities. Our members support a variety of philanthropic causes, have fun, make life-long friends and find the support they need while facing the challenges of living abroad.



American Women's Club of Bern

Website: awcbern.org

Founded: 1949

Joined: 1986

Membership Total: 132

Dues: 60 CHF

Mission: AWC Bern is a non-political organization sponsoring social, cultural and charitable activities in and around Bern, Switzerland. Major programs include coffee mornings, holiday celebrations, speakers, tours, family events, discussion groups and charity fundraisers.



American Women's Club of Zürich

Website: awczurich.org

Founded: 1931

Joined: 1931

Membership Total: 350

Dues: 200 CHF

Mission: Founded in 1931, the American Women's Club of Zürich welcomes US and North American citizens and women of all nationalities who appreciate the American way of life. We are a not-for-profit, volunteer-run organization dedicated to providing opportunities for friendship and personal development. We also actively engage in philanthropic and community service projects in the greater Zürich region, throughout Switzerland and in the larger global community.

Region 7: Africa

Africa includes four clubs located in distinct parts of the continent: two in northern Africa, in Morocco (Casablanca and Rabat), one in Lagos, Nigeria, and one on the east coast in Nairobi, Kenya. Communication amongst the clubs takes place through WhatsApp, Facebook, and email. As in previous years, a regional conference was held this year in Casablanca. Members of AIWA Rabat and AIWC Casablanca attended; however, the distance made it difficult for the other two clubs to participate in person. The theme of the 2025 conference was *Human Rights: Access to Technology and Safeguarding Women and Girls*. Two dynamic speakers presented on the challenges faced in Morocco and potential solutions. We look forward to engaging more members with FAWCO events in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Smith-Ayed (AIWC Casablanca)
Region 7 Coordinator

American Women's Association of Kenya

As we reflect on another rewarding year, we are proud to present our 2025 Annual Report. This year has been filled with friendship, culture, and community spirit, as we continued our regular Coffee Mornings, Out & About visits, General Meetings and quarterly support for our Food Program Projects.

The year began with a joyful Chinese New Year Celebration, followed by February's inspiring "Art from the Heart" event, introducing Sufism and Sufi Art, complemented by a Sound Healing session. Members also visited one of the projects we support and contributed much-needed blankets. In March, we celebrated Mardi Gras with a festive brunch, and one of our FAWCO Co-Representatives attended the FAWCO Biennial Conference in Annapolis, Maryland.

April featured our Annual General Meeting, which was well attended and marked by engaging discussions and positive outcomes. In May, members explored the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Temple and hosted a Vietnamese Cooking Class at one of our supported projects. June marked the start of our summer break, during which a few impromptu coffee mornings took place.

The second half of the year brought a lively 4th of July Barn Dance, a colorful Welcome Back Brunch in September, and an Out & About visit to one of our long-standing projects, which AWA Kenya continues to support with quarterly donations. A cheerful Sundowner rounded off the month.

In October, members attended a General Meeting on Cancer Prevention and Awareness and enjoyed a wonderful Diwali Lunch. To conclude the year, we organized a General Meeting on Nigerian Culture, our Thanksgiving Lunch, and a festive Christmas Celebration.

Our fundraising efforts and ongoing project support remain strong, thanks to the dedication and generosity of our members. We look ahead to 2026 with optimism and gratitude.

Fannie Kakonge
Club President

American International Women's Club of Casablanca

Throughout 2025, the Club offered a full program of meetings, charitable outreach, fundraising events, and regional engagement. Monthly general meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at the Churchill Club, an English-speaking social club. There is usually a speaker and information is sent out the previous week in the newsletter and on the Facebook page.

Generally, once a month there is a charity visit to one of the associations we support. These visits included the Oum Kaltoum Foundation, Maghreb Secours, a two-day visit to the Marrakech region, a center for children with cerebral palsy, a center for hearing-impaired children, and Silsila, reflecting the Club's ongoing commitment to hands-on support for local causes.

Major fundraising events included a Fashion Show, a Spring Fair, and a planned Winter Fair. Additional activities included a Ramadan Ftor during the month of Ramadan and a farewell tea at the US Consul General's residence prior to the summer break. Board elections were also held during the year, ensuring continuity in leadership.

The Club's engagement with FAWCO remained an important element of its activities. The Club hosted the FAWCO Region 7 meeting on October 18, with participation from members of the Rabat club. The meeting's theme was *Human Rights: Access to Technology and Safeguarding Women and Girls* and featured presentations by Stephanie Willman Bordat, a human rights lawyer based in Rabat and Wissal Khadrouf, a digital inclusion specialist working on issues related to technology access and online safety. The year concluded with the annual distribution of checks to the charities supported.

Cynthia Smith-Ayed
FAWCO Representative

American International Women's Association of Rabat

Throughout 2025, the American International Women's Association of Rabat focused primarily on fundraising, community development and educational programming, while continuing to offer members opportunities for connection through its monthly general meetings and guest speaker events. The Association organized a number of fundraising events and arranged a diverse range of interesting guest speakers for its monthly general meetings, reflecting its strong commitment to philanthropy, education, and support for local communities across Morocco. AIWA-Rabat also participated in the Region 7 meeting held in Casablanca, reinforcing its ongoing engagement with FAWCO and neighboring clubs.

In March 2025, AIWA-Rabat hosted a Wellness Symposium in the beautiful setting of the École de Jardinage. A panel of five health experts held health and wellness talks, sharing experience, evidence-based wisdom, and practical knowledge on nutrition, healthy lifestyles, and maintaining muscle strength. Emphasis was placed on the prevention of cancer and other diseases, as well as achieving the best outcomes following a cancer diagnosis. The symposium was well received and highlighted the Association's interest in promoting health education and well-being.

Fundraising remained a strong focus throughout the year. AIWA-Rabat enjoyed a joint fundraising event, the 70s Gala, with the International Club of Rabat in support of Education for All, an NGO that supports girls' education in the High Atlas Mountains by providing dormitory housing in Marrakesh. Education for All continues to rebuild following the destruction of its facilities in the September 2023 earthquake.

The Association's annual Christmas Bazaar was held at the Rabat American School, and Ambassador Talwar and his wife, Dr. Sarosh Sattar, opened the event alongside the school's director, Chris Andres. Ambassador Talwar and Dr. Sattar also hosted the AIWA Christmas party, during which members donated warm socks and clothing to the IKHAE Center for the Elderly. A farewell reception was also held in 2025 for Dr. Sattar, who had served as AIWA-Rabat's honorary president for nearly three years and whose support and friendship were greatly appreciated.

Through its Community Development Committee, AIWA-Rabat supported numerous local organizations in 2025, providing financial assistance, supplies, and in-kind donations. Organizations supported included:

- La Passerelle – Support for adults with autism in Temara
- AMOS – Preschool education and meals for children in disadvantaged communities
- ENSIAS – Winter relief donations coordinated through the school
- EMI Mohammedia – Winter relief support (first collaboration)
- ENCG Settat & Ahmed El Jariri School – Clothing, tracksuits, and shoes for underprivileged students
- BADIL – Insulin and medical supplies for diabetic children across Morocco
- Girls & Roses – Water and supplies for a solidarity rally
- Ramadan Baskets Initiative – Food assistance for families in need
- El Haouz Association – Continued support for families affected by the earthquake

AIWA-Rabat looks forward to continuing its work in support of its members and the communities it serves.

Nancy Lukas-Slaoui

AIWA Club President and FAWCO Representative

The American Women's Club of Lagos

The American Women's Club, Lagos continues to support American women living in Lagos through social events and networking. It focuses on fostering goodwill and mutual understanding between Nigeria, our host country, and the American community resident in Lagos. It thrives as a charitable organization promoting philanthropy, scholarship, and the rights of women and children.

The year 2025 has been a remarkable year. We have a new and vibrant president and an amazing new board. The year kicked off with our annual participation in the Small World fundraising event held on February 8, 2025. The Small World Organization is an international women's organization devoted to charitable activities and brings together women's groups in Lagos, Nigeria. Each group represents a country and hosts a booth. AWC represented the USA booth, where we showcased US drinks and food.

We made it more fun this year by all wearing the same fabric called *asoebi*. Asoebi in Nigeria is a uniform dress or dressing code traditionally worn by the Yoruba people from the southwestern part of Nigeria. It is an indicator of cooperation, camaraderie, and solidarity during ceremonies, events, and festive periods. We invited members of the US Marines to join us. For the event, we continued to support our chosen charity, Dreams from the Slum, an initiative committed to making the dreams of vulnerable persons living in remote and desolate communities a reality through education, empowerment, and mentorship. Over the years, and with funds raised, Dreams from the Slum has been able to expand and renovate their school, provide meals, and purchase needed school supplies, including computers to support technical literacy. We shall continue to support Dreams from the Slum, but next year our Charity Committee will pick another charity to support.

Our second major activity of the year was our annual Membership Tea, often held toward the end of the year. It brings together existing members and potential new members and serves as a membership drive. Since strengthening our relationship with the Consulate, we were privileged to hold the event once again at the US Consul General's Residence. Held on December 4, 2025, and labeled Tinsel and Tea, the event brought members, partners, and distinguished guests together for an afternoon of connection and recognition. We

welcomed our sponsors and awarded them plaques and certificates. Tinsel and Tea reaffirmed our commitment to empowering women and supporting the communities we serve and served as a reminder of the power of connection—women coming together with intention, leadership, and a shared desire to make a difference.

Our club president also championed bonding activities aimed at fostering camaraderie and sisterhood. On December 6, 2025, she invited members to watch the finals of the Lagos Polo Club Ladies competition, celebrating women's strength, style, precision and passion.

A focused membership drive during the year increased membership from about 60 to about 100. Although fundraising continues to be a challenge, 2025 showed a remarkable improvement. The Club has developed a clearer path and hopes to do better in 2026, raising funds to run the club and support its charitable initiatives.

Frances Mathews
FAWCO Representative

Kenya



American Women's Association of Kenya

Website: awakenya.org

Founded: 1958

Joined: 1992

Membership Total: 90

Dues: 3000 KES

Mission: American Women's Association of Kenya is a nonprofit, charitable organization – established 1958. We are "Focused on Uniting Women from around the world," by introducing new friends and enriching your time in Kenya through community services and volunteering opportunities in the Nairobi Area. We raise funds through our many social and educational activities.

Morocco



American International Women's Club of Casablanca

Website: aiwccasablanca.com

Founded: 1962

Joined: 1979

Membership Total: 98

Dues: \$75

Mission: To provide financial and other support to those, in Morocco, who are most vulnerable. To promote a better understanding of Morocco. To unite English-speaking women of all nationalities, especially in welcoming newcomers to our community.



American International Women's Association of Rabat

Website: aiwarabat.org

Founded: 1962

Joined: 1996

Membership Total: 100

Dues: \$60

Mission: AIWA-Rabat has a dual mission. The first is to support and encourage intercultural exchange and understanding. The second mission is to provide humanitarian assistance to those in need in the Rabat community.

Nigeria



The American Women's Club of Lagos

Website: theawclagos.com

Founded: 1961

Joined: 2009

Membership Total: 105

Dues: N 25.000

Mission: The American Women's Club (The AWC) strives to: provide a "soft place to land" for American Expatriate Women in Lagos. foster goodwill and mutual understanding between our Nigerian Host Country and the American Expatriate Community. promote philanthropy, scholarship and the rights of women and children.

Region 8: Greece, Italy and Malta

Region 8 spans Italy and Greece and is home to nine clubs: AILO Florence, AIWC Genoa, AIWC Naples, AIWM Malta, AIWAV Venice, AWAR Rome, AWO Greece, Benvenuto Club of Milan, and IWCT Torino. Together, these clubs represent around 1,400 members. Our clubs are located across the Mediterranean and Adriatic seas, bringing together diverse cultures, traditions, and perspectives.

This year, we proudly celebrated two special milestones—AILO Florence's 50th anniversary and AWAR Rome's 70th. Our region continues to be an active and inspiring community. Clubs offer a wide range of activities and programs, supported by strong social media engagement. From charity initiatives such as the Heart Pillow Project and environmental efforts to Christmas bazaars, fashion shows, cultural outings, galas, networking events and "Races for the Cure," the dedication and energy of our members are truly admirable. It is remarkable to see women come together to promote friendship, cultural exchange, volunteerism and personal growth.

Moving forward, I hope to encourage our clubs to host an annual Regional Meeting and develop stronger connections with FAWCO so that members can benefit more fully from all that FAWCO offers.

Our goals for 2026 include increasing membership—especially among younger and working women—continuing strong charitable support helping women and children across the globe, encouraging member engagement, and strengthening ties with FAWCO. We also aim to hold more FAWCO 101 sessions and our TLC meetings with our 2nd VP, Belen, have been informative, motivating and enjoyable. I continue to share a monthly newsletter with updates and upcoming FAWCO events.

We are especially proud that the 2026 FAWCO Interim Meeting will be hosted by our member club AIWM in Malta. We look forward to welcoming everyone and celebrating the spirit of FAWCO together.

Respectfully submitted,
Bessie Sioutas (AWO Greece)
Region 8 Coordinator

American Women's Organization of Greece

AWOG continued its mission of service, cultural enrichment, and connection throughout 2025, delivering meaningful impact across the community.

Community Service. Our Heart Pillow Project remained active, we supported Galilea Palliative Care Center with a bathroom wheelchair and provided a new washer and dryer to Ronald McDonald House Athens, a cooktop stove and juicer for a women's shelter and a monetary contribution to Floga - Parents Association for Children with cancer. AWOG sponsored 34 tickets for the annual fundraiser of the Panhellenic Association Against Type 1 Diabetes, assisted the Women's Circle of Care hygiene drive for the Caritas Church, and supported the Christmas fundraising for Estia, a cultural center for adults with disabilities, by supplying nuts for their holiday sweets. In

partnership with the Loukoumi Make a Difference Foundation, AWOOG sponsored the Good Deed Bus in Athens, highlighting our Heart Pillow Project. Members also joined the annual Race for the Cure.

Empowering Women. Our Women's Day Workshop offered a full day of inspiration, self-care, and well-being through a series of four guest speakers.

Cultural Enrichment & Activities. Members enjoyed curated art exhibitions, guided visits to the Greek Parliament, the Ilias Lalaounis Jewelry Museum, the Presidential Guard Headquarters, the Industrial Gas Museum, and immersive experiences including Dali Cybernetics and Michael Rakowitz's "Allspice" at the Acropolis Museum.

Connection & Engagement. We held monthly citywide meetings, a Valentine's celebration, a disco outing, 4th of July seaside gathering, new year's events, an open-air theatre night, a Halloween celebration, and our major Fundraiser Gala.

FAWCO Engagement & Recognition. AWOOG members were featured in all FAWCO *Inspiring Women* issues and we will host a webinar supporting the UN 16-Day Campaign Against Gender-Based Violence. Four members were also nominated for the Greek International Women's Awards, and the AWOOG President participated in an online interview highlighting our work and visibility.

Katerina Sirouni

Club President

American International League of Florence

Since its founding in 1975, the American International League of Florence (AIFO) has been a proud member club of FAWCO and has continued to embody its mission, "The Spirit of Giving."

Fundraising and Community Impact. In April 2025, AIFO donated €21,900 to nine local nonprofits, representing the net proceeds of its major fundraising activities in 2024. An additional €1,000 donation was made to Nuova Aurora APS, in honor of a member-related charity that provided free storage for AIFO documentation and merchandise. In recognition of AIFO's contribution to the Florentine community, the International School of Florence made a lump-sum donation of €1,400 to AIFO in April 2025. Additional fundraising initiatives included the 2025 Pop-Up Shop, run by Judi Roselli-Cecconi and Claire Conway, which generated €1,332 in revenue. During the November 2025 Thanksgiving Luncheon at the Ugolino Golf Club, AIFO raised €481.00 for The FAWCO Foundation. AIFO's annual Christmas Bazaar remains its flagship fundraising event, welcoming over 3,000 visitors. The event involved dozens of AIFO members, families, and non-member volunteers from local schools and partner charities. Due to renovations at the Tepidarium, the 50th Christmas Bazaar was held from November 21–23 at the Visarno Hippodrome. Members committed to collecting quality goods for sale and raffle and stand managers actively recruited volunteers. Net proceeds reached approximately €17,940.

Member and Community Events. Several new members joined AIFO, bringing expertise in mental health, real estate, and the arts to the club's volunteer base. A "Good Luck–Potluck" luncheon brought together all neighborhoods to close out the official club year. The club celebrated its 50th anniversary on June 18, 2025, at the Ugolino Golf Club, with gifts for every member. A new website (<https://aifo-florence.org>) was launched in October 2025, improving outreach and transparency.

Specific Activities for FAWCO. AIFO's Vice President reported on the successful completion of the "Generation Z" project at NOSOSTRAS, funded by The FAWCO Foundation Development Grant awarded to AIFO. The project supported the integration of newly arrived children of legal immigrants through psychological support and community inclusion. In 2025, FAWCO Representatives Dania Scarfalloto Girard and Elena Piani continued to share FAWCO's Target 6: Human Rights program with members. Members were invited to participate in FAWCO virtual events, including Human Rights Team open meetings and the 2025 Environment Festival in Scotland. FAWCO newsletters, *Inspiring Women* magazine, and tax seminars were also shared to increase awareness and engagement.

AIFO encourages members to take on Board and committee roles and remains committed to FAWCO's focus on human rights, while exploring future fundraising and awareness-raising initiatives. AIFO has submitted a Target

Program proposal for its first selection phase, and members are invited to share stories related to foster care and child protection to support FAWCO's advocacy initiatives.

Dania Scarfalloto Girard
FAWCO Representative

American International Women's Club of Genoa

The American International Women's Club of Genoa is proud to say that in 2025 we were able to support a few more charities and see a slight increase in our membership. We also added a few travel activities to our programs, which were well attended by members and, in some cases, their husbands. Our commitment to the *Heart Pillow* project and our *Go Green* environmental project continued and remained among our favorites. We also held a gala *Garden Party* during which funds were raised to help the nuns in the childcare sector purchase a used car so that safe transportation could be provided for children to and from school and their extracurricular activities. The great news is that our finances remain healthy, allowing us to continue supporting our charitable initiatives.

We had to make changes to our constitution to be updated with the Italian laws for non-profits. This act was completed with the assistance of a notary service. Our treasurer also presented the recent updates to the by-laws, made to ensure full compliance with current Italian regulations. While the changes were minor, it was necessary to formally include them in our official documentation.

The new trilingual (Italian, English and Genoese) information totem was inaugurated in front of the Genoa Aquarium of Genoa's Old Port. The totem is dedicated to raising awareness about the environmental impact of discarded cigarette butts as part of the "The Sea Begins Here" project. It is promoted by the student-led partnership between the International School of Genoa and the Istituto Nautico San Giorgio, is funded by the European ProBleu program, and is sponsored by the Municipality of Genoa. It involves 15 partners, including: Porto Antico di Genova Spa, the Genoa Aquarium (Costa Edutainment), Municipio Levante 9, the Italian Institute of Technology, the University of Genoa, AMIU, the company that recycles cigarette butts into plastic, Re-Cig, the sports-environmental initiatives SAL and OUTBE, the American International Women's Club of Genoa, the American Women's Association of Rome, PuliAmo la Foce, the Pegli Bene Comune Committee, SEM engineering consultancy, and Jultap ress. The initiative is in collaboration with the Liguria Regional Committee for UNICEF and is recognized by UNESCO.

Ann De Simoni
FAWCO Representative

Benvenuto Club of Milan

The Benvenuto Club of Milan continues to thrive as a welcoming and dynamic international community. In 2025, the Club counted 350 active members representing more than 50 nationalities, with Americans, British, and Italians forming the largest groups.

Throughout the year, the Club remained dedicated to its three charities, Portofranco, Le Vele, and Cerchi d'Acqua, through sustained support and fundraising. Major events showcased the diversity and spirit of the community, including the Christmas Bazaar, the Fashion Show and the year-end celebration *Elegance in Motion* and the annual Christmas Lunch.

Regular gatherings helped nurture the Club's warm and inclusive atmosphere. Monthly Main Coffees, each centered on a different theme, welcomed approximately 100 participants. Weekly Drop-In Coffees remained a cornerstone of the Club's social life, drawing more than 25 attendees each time. Smaller NtN Zone Meetings were held monthly, averaging 10 participants and offering a more personal networking setting.

Numerous sub-groups, ranging from card games, Italian lessons, language exchange, and book clubs to professional women's activities, Zumba, and tennis, met regularly and continued to grow in popularity. Cultural

and special activities further enriched members' experiences and included exhibitions, excursions, cinema outings, performances at La Scala, and Lunch & Learn events, with an average of 20 activities held each month.

The Club also participated in FAWCO's Sister Club Pilot and was paired with the American International Club of Malmö. Together, we organized a virtual aperitivo open to members of both organizations. Benvenuto is also proud to take part in the Clubs in Motion initiative.

The Club's monthly magazine, *Benvenuto*, remained an important communication link, distributed electronically to all members and in print, with 130 copies produced each month.

As it looks ahead, the Benvenuto Club of Milan reaffirms its mission to foster friendship, cultural exchange and community among Milan's international residents.

Iva Cattapan
Vice President and FAWCO Representative

American International Women's Club of Naples

The AIWC Naples club year runs from September to June, but the following reflects activities and developments during calendar year 2025. AIWC Naples has around 40 members at present, following a turnover. Whilst some have lived here for many years, other members work as English teachers, or at the American Navy Base. We have a few Italian members who teach English and enjoy our meetings and activities as well as being great local resources for others.

Our Board is still composed of the same four members: Tricia Reynolds, Elaine Figg, Meredith Peters, and myself as President. We continuously look for a member to become our FAWCO Rep (currently held by Club President).

The hall we rent for our monthly meetings behind the English Church is located in the heart of Naples, where we prepare tea, coffee and croissants as breakfast for our members. Our rent has been raised, but we have maintained our €40 membership fee for this year. Depending on the festivity, we also provide a taste of traditional Neapolitan foods. We continue to hold our first and last yearly meetings (in September and June) in a gorgeous lounge café which has definitely helped to attract new members, as it allows the Board and long-standing members to freely mix, mingle and pass on enthusiasm to newcomers. Since the start of the year, on a monthly basis, we have regularly held a selection of these activities: aperitives get-togethers; fundraising walks in Naples guided by one of our amazing board members covering several hundred kilometers for Clubs in Motion; Pizza Nights and Coffee Mornings. Apart from these, in January our post-holiday meeting always offers a Stone Soup lunch to those present; we had an Italian writer present her book *FOOD TELLS THE STORY OF NAPLES* and in November held our Christmas Market stall. We support an animal rehoming charity, a safe house for needy pregnant women as well as the FAWCO Target Program.

With regard to our social media publicity, we continue to work towards increasing our membership even more as we have received amazing results in terms of interest and numbers due to our attractive and colorful flyers as well as by word of mouth. The flyers are posted on our Club's Public and Members-only Facebook pages, other Naples-based English-language Facebook pages by email to members and newcomers and by WhatsApp. This way we attract new members and many friendships have blossomed. We have also printed colourful Club brochures which are given to newcomers and placed in international environments (like the American Consulate and the American Navy Base).

Our goals for 2026 will again be to visit and support our local charities. We constantly aim to increase our membership numbers and involve our members more and more in our activities. Furthermore, since the average member's age is now lower than in previous years, hopefully we can encourage them to join U40 online gatherings and finally also find a FAWCO Representative.

Elizabeth Shine
Club President and FAWCO Representative

American Women's Association of Rome

This year marks a special milestone: AWAR's 70th anniversary. For seven decades, AWAR has fostered connection, purpose and community. Our membership has continued to grow and over AWAR's club year recorded a further 30% increase. Our regular monthly activities have close to doubled this last year, offering something meaningful for both our younger members and our longstanding ones.

We were honored that the project ManiGreen, promoted by the non-profit organization 2050 To People, received The FAWCO Foundation Development Grant during this important Jubilee year in Rome. The ManiGreen open-air exhibition, created in collaboration with world-renowned artist Maestro Michelangelo Pistoletto, was held in the gardens of Castel Sant'Angelo and coincided with the first Jubilee of the World of Education 2025. Over 1,200 elementary school children participated, together with 200 members of associations and elderly homes to create the artistic installations that filled the park along with a full day of educational workshops, labs and performances offered to the community free of charge.

AWAR experienced the 2025 Jubilee firsthand here in Rome. The Jubilee was a global invitation for people of every culture, generation, and faith to come together, reflect, and engage in dialogue about our environmental responsibility, while taking action on climate change for the future. Rome welcomed millions of visitors from around the world in response to this call.

Another gratifying moment was bringing the FAWCO spirit to life by supporting our sister club, AIWC in Genoa. Their sustainable community project with the International School of Genoa, called "Cigarette Butt," was a joyful way for us to show our solidarity. AWAR members contributed token donations to complete the beautiful puzzle sent to us by AIWC. Each puzzle piece was signed, symbolizing the spirit of our AWAR community and the FAWCO community that shows up in big and small ways to support one another every day.

Erica Zmitrovitch
FAWCO Representative

International Women's Club of Torino

The year 2025 has been a remarkable and memorable period for our club. The IWCT has welcomed many new members this year and is happy to report the diverse range of 39 nationalities within the club. Our regular, community-building activities such as Wine Club, Walking Group, Italian Language Learning, Moms Group, Book Clubs, Talent Lab and many others, have all contributed to our main goal of creating safe spaces for women to connect and empower one another.

Last spring, IWCT celebrated our 65th anniversary with a formal dinner dance featuring live entertainment. Long-time members shared their memories and a slideshow of past events played throughout the evening, highlighting the rich history of our organization.

As part of our mission to have a large impact in our community, the club votes on a local organization to support for a two-year period. Last year, our club elected to support ZeroTre, an organization dedicated to supporting the families of children with severe disabilities. We were able to raise over €12,000 for ZeroTre in 2025 through various fundraising activities, mainly our Winter Bazaar.

Our annual fall/winter events, Halloween in the Park and Thanksgiving dinner, were both very well attended by both members and non-members alike. We are so grateful for all our members and everything they bring to the club and we look forward to more friendship, connections, and togetherness in 2026.

Melanie Fick
FAWCO Representative

American International Women's Association of Venice

Founded in 2019, AIWAV is a vibrant organization dedicated to empowering and connecting women from diverse backgrounds around the world. The club serves as a hub for building meaningful relationships, sharing experiences and supporting members in both their personal and professional lives. Throughout 2025, AIWAV continued to grow and strengthen its foundations. In July, the club experienced a leadership transition with the appointment of Hermoine Bushong as President, Olivera Jovanovska as Vice President, Gina Giovaninni as Secretary, Irene Woodbury as Advisor and FAWCO Representative and Nicole McKeivitt as Advisor. This leadership team will serve a two-year term.

Membership currently stands at 43, double the size of the club two years ago, with a continued focus on growth in the coming year. Regular social activities help foster a sense of connection, including monthly social aperitivos held on the second Tuesday of each month at rotating venues, gallery and museum visits, bi-monthly dinners at local restaurants and coffee mornings, which began in 2025 and are planned to expand next year. Member-led groups continued to enrich club life. "Go Crab Go" focused on educating Venetians about the invasive blue crab in the Venetian Lagoon and Northern Adriatic Sea, creating events that encourage culinary exploration and recipe sharing. "Let's Cook" brought members together in an informal setting to prepare and enjoy a variety of foods.

Communication and connection were further strengthened through streamlined WhatsApp channels. Separate chats for Announcements, Activities, and Questions helped members stay informed, coordinate informal meetups, and support one another on topics ranging from English-speaking doctors and tax questions to local services and family activities.

The club's annual charity event, a Carnival Party featuring jazz music and a DJ set, welcomed more than 80 guests and raised over €800 through a raffle to support two local shelters assisting women who are victims of domestic abuse.

AIWAV remained actively engaged in FAWCO-related initiatives during the year. In October, members participated in a public reading of the US Constitution and the Declaration of Independence on Constitution Day in collaboration with Democrats Abroad. The club adopted two Stolpersteine and completed its first cleaning on November 10, alongside other FAWCO clubs, marking the anniversary of Kristallnacht, with a second cleaning planned for January 27, Holocaust Remembrance Day. During the 16 Days of Activism, daily updates and recommendations were shared with members to raise awareness of gender-based violence in Italy and globally.

Irene Woodbury
FAWCO Representative

Association of International Women in Malta

In 2025 the Association of International Women in Malta has continued to prosper. Key highlights include:

- 1) Forty-one new members joined in the past 11 months for a total of 222 members with 36 nationalities represented.
- 2) Members enjoyed 168 activities and events, covering a wide range of interests.
- 3) Total charitable fundraising amounted to over €15,000, from two principal events, a Fashion Show and an International Christmas Fair.
- 4) Over 90 members volunteered to create a successful fifth International Christmas Fair in late November, attended by the general public.
- 5) Our selected charities received a total of €3,099 funding for specific projects, tied to supporting women and children. The balance of our charitable donations are donated in late December.
- 6) Our Open Door affiliation continued with an exchange programme in April, hosted by International Women's Association - Prague.
- 7) We initiated our affiliation with FAWCO in January and created a new standing committee, called Global Connections Committee, to focus on global issues at our local level.

Naturally, there are a number of challenges we continue to confront:

- 1) Board of Directors: Since we elect our entire slate of our Board of Directors every year, our Nominating Committee must solicit members to stand for the positions which are being vacated. We rarely have

nominations voluntarily offered.

2) Member Participation: We need to expand member participation in organizing the activities and events offered to membership from what is now a relatively small group of volunteers.

3) Use of FAWCO Benefits: Since our affiliation is new, we need to increase awareness about the benefits that FAWCO brings to our members individually and as an association.

Regardless, we look forward to our 57th year of existence, building upon our aims: Community, Diversity and Giving.

Lindsay Mann
FAWCO Representative

Greece



American Women's Organization of Greece

Website: awog.gr

Founded: 1948

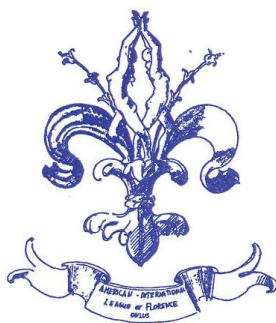
Joined: 1952

Membership Total: 130

Dues: €40

Mission: Founded in 1948, to help the people of Greece after World War II, by Lucretia Brady, wife of the US Ambassador to Greece, Henry F. Grady. Her efforts were supported by 1948 Secretary of State, George Marshall, who authored the Marshall Plan, to help rebuild Europe. As the Club began to grow and as more Americans settled in Greece, the club's scope stretched by bridging the cultural gap for the American ex-patriots living in Greece. Since then, the acronym AWOG has also come to mean A Way Of Giving!

Italy



American International League of Florence

Website: ailoflorence.org

Founded: 1975

Joined: 1977

Membership Total: 120

Dues: €100

Mission: The sole purpose of this non profit organization shall be to contribute to the community well-being through programs of social assistance and fundraising for charity.



American International Women's Club of Genoa

Website: aiwcgenoa.org

Founded: 1957

Joined: N/A

Membership Total: 75

Dues: €100

Mission: Founded 1957. Dedicated to fostering the appreciation of the cultural riches our host country has to offer and supporting the following Genoese charities: Patronato S. Vincenzo, Piccole Sorelle dei Poveri, G. Gaslini, La Scaletta and emergencies as they arise.



Benvenuto Club of Milan

Website: www.benvenutoclubofmilan.it

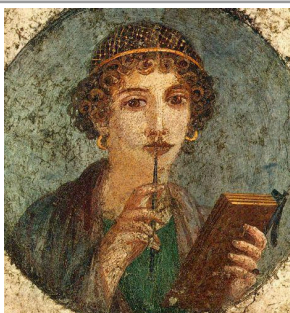
Founded: 1967

Joined: 2024

Membership Total: 284

Dues: €110

Mission: Our mission is to create a vibrant community for women in Milan, offering opportunities to build friendships, expand professional networks, and immerse in Italy's rich culture. Through social events, cultural excursions, networking activities, volunteering, and cultural exchange, we empower our members to thrive personally and professionally while enriching our community and broader society.



American International Women's Club of Naples

Website: facebook.com/AmericanInternationalWomensClubOfNaples

Founded: 1970

Joined: 1972

Membership Total: 40

Dues: €40

Mission: AWC Naples offers information on life, history and culture of Naples, offering friendship and socialization for long-standing members and helpful resources for newcomers to Naples.



American Women's Association of Rome

Website: awar.org

Founded: 1955

Joined: 1964

Membership Total: 162

Dues: €60

Mission: Promotion of friendship among its members and understanding between Italy and the United States through community service, cultural and social activities.



International Women's Club of Torino

Website: iwct.it

Founded: 1960

Joined: 1978

Membership Total: 273

Dues: €70

Mission: IWCT (since 1960) aims at strengthening the sense of belonging for the international community in Torino. Using the Club's diversity in all its richness as the key contributor to successful inclusion. IWCT makes you feel valued and appreciated; feeling at home in Torino.



American International Women's Association of Venice

Website: www.aiwav.org

Founded: 2019

Joined: 2019

Membership Total: 43

Dues: €40

Malta



Association of International Women in Malta

Website:

Founded: 1969

Joined: 2025

Membership Total 210

Dues: €35

Region 9: Middle East and the Americas

Region 9 remains the smallest of the FAWCO Regions with just three clubs in countries spread out from east to west covering over 10,000 km and seven time zones! Although our clubs are far apart, we manage to stay connected through our WhatsApp group.

I was lucky to have met the IWC Bogotá President (Tatiana) and one of its Co-FAWCO Reps (Connie) at the FAWCO Biennial Conference in Annapolis last March. It was wonderful to meet in person and close the distance and time gap. Another highlight for me was to be in phone contact with IWC Antigua & Barbuda FAWCO Rep, Kathi. Since I live in Dubai, I am not always able to join in my own club's (AWC Lebanon) various activities, but this year I managed to meet many members at the Mothers' Day luncheon in May and the October General Meeting. Because of the distance issue, Region 9 relies heavily on electronic communications to stay connected.

The Region 9 clubs remain active, doing what they can to engage their members and be of service to their local communities.

Respectfully submitted,
Monica Jubayli (AWC Lebanon)
Region 9 Coordinator

International Women's Club of Antigua & Barbuda

2025 was filled with friendship, fun, philanthropic endeavours and learning for the 60+ members of the IWC of Antigua and Barbuda. Many of our members travel off island between the months of May and October each year. Monthly General Meetings were often poorly attended during these months. The Board decided that we would henceforth hold our meetings from November–April (6 months). Our meetings often include a guest speaker, an artistic session, a field trip and/ or a party.

This past year, we learned about Antiguan horticulture, endangered Caribbean Sea turtles and beekeeping. We learned about Cricketing from a legendary Antiguan Cricketer, Sir Richie Richardson. Finally, some of us tried our hand at ceramic pottery painting.

We partied (in February) on an all-day boat excursion around Antigua, stopping for lunch and a swim at neighbouring Little Bird Island. In December, we met at a member's seaside home for a Christmas-themed potluck luncheon.

As in past years, we continued to support Antiguan and Barbudan women with educational scholarships. In July, we awarded four young women scholarships. Our other major philanthropic project takes place in December. We provide 216 sets of Christmas Hampers to needy seniors and single parent families across the island. Packing and delivery days are always a highlight. Members are encouraged to participate. Husbands and friends often join in to assist.

Our club continues to have a number of small groups such as Book Club, Mah Jong and Lunch Bunch.

Kathi Savoury

FAWCO Representative

International Women's Club Bogotá

The International Women's Club of Bogotá (IWC) highlights significant progress under new leadership. The organization has strengthened its strategic focus by developing communication policies, refining operational frameworks, and aiming for greater long-term impact. Membership has grown to 104 active members from diverse nationalities, with efforts underway to broaden outreach through embassies, schools, and potential digital tools like a membership app.

The club has optimized financial management by shifting investments and establishing transparent approval processes in order to ensure sustainability. Technologically, IWC has implemented comprehensive digital onboarding, launched a newsletter, and secured powerful tools like Google grants to enhance visibility and member engagement. Social service initiatives have flourished, strengthening ties with local foundations through site visits, programs, and donations supporting community projects. IWC also established a FAWCO committee to bolster international partnerships and visibility. Fundraising efforts, including a successful Bazaar event, have further expanded community involvement. Overall, the organization has laid a robust foundation across operational, social, and digital domains reaffirming its commitment to community support and cultural exchange, with ongoing initiatives to deepen its impact.

Tatiana Carrion
Club President

American Women's Club of Lebanon

This year, AWC Lebanon expanded its activities beyond the shy format adopted during the past six difficult years. Several monthly meetings were held in person at a hotel, featuring guest speakers and strengthening the sense of community among members. The club also conducted long-distance cultural, touristic, and culinary outings, integrating art into tourism. The cultural activity program was revitalized, offering enriching tours of galleries, studios, and heritage sites. In parallel, the Charity Committee was allocated small contributions to support three nonprofit organizations to reinforce our social mission.

AWC Lebanon remains committed to FAWCO through its participation in monthly online meetings, Region 9 Group discussions and Annual Conference. This year, the club also joined the Sister Clubs pilot initiative, establishing a WhatsApp group to facilitate communication and exchange experiences with the Madrid and Genoa clubs.

Under the updated bylaws, the Executive Board's term has been extended to two years, and membership criteria were broadened to include expatriates residing in Lebanon with international citizenships. As a result, the club continues to grow, reaching 74 members in 2025.

In parallel, AWC Lebanon maintains several ongoing initiatives, including online Board and Book Club meetings, the active What's Cooking and CakeFlare culinary groups, the much-loved Coffeelicious gatherings, continued contributions from our Material Girls to the annual FAWCO Quilt, and the Heart Pillow Project, through which members prepare pillows for breast-cancer patients at AUBMC.

Carole Hage
FAWCO Representative

Antigua and Barbuda

**International Women's Club of Antigua and Barbuda****Website:** iwcantiguabarbuda.org**Founded:** 1986**Joined:** 1990**Membership Total:** 60**Dues:** \$37

Mission: Our club membership is open to women of all nationalities. We gather to form new friendships, learn more about the history, culture and landscape of our twin island nation and to contribute to its future by funding worthy causes and projects that will benefit the people of Antigua & Barbuda.

Colombia

**International Women's Club of Bogotá****Website:** www.iwcbogota.org**Founded:** 1947**Joined:** 2003**Membership Total:** 115**Dues:** COP 200000

Mission: Our club is well known throughout the Colombian community for its fundraising and charitable activities.

Lebanon

**American Women's Club of Lebanon****Website:** awc-lebanon.org**Founded:** 1953**Joined:** 2000**Membership Total:** 74**Dues:** \$35

Mission: To give the AWC members an opportunity to contribute to Lebanese society through charitable activities as well as to bring a sense of American culture to AWC members.

Region 10: Asia/Pacific

Region 10 has just welcomed FAWCO's newest Member Club, Dhaka American Women's Club (DAWC), bringing the total to five clubs! From Mumbai to Dhaka (2200 km), Dhaka to Perth (6800), Perth to Manila (5200 km), and Manila to Seoul (2600 km), Region 10 spans nearly four time zones. Our WhatsApp group is an essential communication tool to build connections between the clubs.

I was fortunate to have been in Dhaka in September and was able to attend the opening meeting of the year when the DAWC board announced its membership in FAWCO. This visit reinforced the value of face-to-face meetings in establishing strong ties with clubs and FAWCO. The greatest challenge is how to engage these "far flung" clubs and instill a sense of belonging, especially with an eight-hour time difference between Europe and

the Far East. The FAWCO Board has been responsive to this issue by offering Team Leadership Calls (TLC) and some other virtual FAWCO events at a time more suitable for Region 10.

The clubs are generally young and vibrant, active, and enthusiastic promoting FAWCO to their members.

Respectfully submitted,
Monica Jubayli (AWC Lebanon)
Region 10 Coordinator

American Women's Club of Perth

Current membership stands at 61 members for 2025 for the American Women's Club of Perth. Annual dues are \$50 AUD with a mix of Americans, Canadians, Australians, and other nationalities represented. Activities for 2025 were as follows: We met most months including four general membership meetings; Social events such as Sculptures-by-the-Sea, a large local artistic community event; new member morning tea; Cancer Council Morning Tea fundraiser; a guided tour of the Western Australian Supreme Court in Perth; a 4th of July celebration held at a local American-style BBQ restaurant, with AWC members and other invited American expats; we held a small workshop about the benefits of art therapy and the value of doodling; hosted our 58th Founder's Day luncheon with our guest speaker, Roz DeSouza, Fremantle Citizen of the Year; Melbourne Cup Day gathering; a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner for members--and the American expat community at large; and finally, our year closed with a Christmas Lunch hosted with catering provided by a local American business owner.

Our most active group is a book club, which met monthly and was always followed by a well-attended luncheon.

Our outreach this year was The Australian Cancer Council Biggest Morning Tea, raising funds for cancer research and patient support. We also provided a generous donation to Starick, a 40-year-old community NGO providing housing and services for women and children who are victims of domestic violence.

Cynthia Ann Smith
FAWCO Representative

Dhaka American Women's Club

Dhaka AWC had a full and fantastic year despite a revolution in the country in August 2024. We operate on a September-May calendar. At our opening event for the year, a member of the new interim government spoke and a DAWC member presented a photo book she produced entitled "The Art of War" showcasing the graffiti art which was a key feature of the Bangladesh revolution. December saw us celebrate the holiday season with a "Let's Be Thankful and Merry" event attended by 80 members and friends. February saw us raise funds at a "Movie in the Garden" event where we screened a Bangla-language film called Rickshaw Girl and enjoyed a Q&A with the lead actress. Attendees donated more than 1,000 books for a mobile library organization we support. At our end-of year dinner in May we were joined by members of the Bangladesh women's national football team who have inspired many by winning international tournaments. We had a dance performance based on a story written 100 years ago by a Bengali female author and heard inspiring remarks by the head of the World Bank in Bangladesh about her career.

September saw us open the year with a members' mixer where we heard from the first female Bangladeshi to climb Everest and an in-demand local female DJ. We celebrated joining FAWCO at the event with the help of Monica Jubayli! In November we marked Mental Health awareness month with our "Unwind After Dark" fundraiser featuring Yin yoga and a sound meditation session. Finally, in December we held a Holiday Jazz in the Garden fundraiser, featuring a turkey dinner, jazz music and representatives from all the organizations we support. We have relationships with five inspiring groups helping women and children in Bangladesh and aim to deepen our support for each over a multi-year period. We look forward to an exciting 2026, which will be our first full-year as part of FAWCO!

Kerry Breen
FAWCO Representative

American Club for International Women – Mumbai

ACIW Mumbai began 2025 with a warm and successful Welcome Back event that brought our community together after the holidays. Our Book Club continued to thrive, meeting monthly to explore a diverse selection of thought-provoking titles that encouraged rich discussions and deeper member engagement.

This year, we also expanded our community outreach by visiting Bal Asha Trust, a remarkable NGO supporting abandoned and destitute children. Meeting the children and hearing their stories deeply moved our members and strengthened our commitment to supporting organizations that uplift Mumbai's most underserved communities.

Throughout the year, we enjoyed art gallery walks, curated city outings, vibrant member-hosted gatherings, and consistently well-attended coffee mornings that remained a cornerstone of our club's social life.

Our 13th Annual Holiday Fundraiser Mela was held on December 13th, our biggest yet. This year's Mela features 28 curated homegrown brands and social enterprises, 27 NGOs, and an expanded range of offerings including wellness brands, Christmas ornament stalls, family experiences, and interactive holiday workshops designed for both kids and adults. The event celebrates community, creativity, and charitable giving.

Our 2025 Target Project focuses on the JVS Menstrual Health Initiative, which aims to provide menstrual hygiene kits and open clinics serving over 400 women and girls in the Mankhurd region of Mumbai. Through this year's Mela, we aim to raise over USD 15,000 to support this essential work.

ACIW Mumbai remains committed to community building, cultural enrichment, and meaningful social impact.

Sonia Talukdar
FAWCO Representative

American Women's Club of Korea

This year, AWC Korea marked an exciting milestone: We welcomed our 200th member! Our group has grown quite a bit in recent years, and we're happy to see the community continue to thrive.

In 2025, we hosted about 55 events, including coffee mornings, happy hours, and holiday events such as our Thanksgiving Lunch and White Elephant gift exchange. This year we also offered several sets of talks, including health (menopause and skincare), fashion and shopping, and art (with visits to local exhibitions). Our book club read 10 books together, including a novel by AWC Korea member Erin Zhurkin and a recent translation of a novel by Nobel Prize winner Han Kang.

Our largest event this year was our annual charity gala, which took place in February with the theme of LOVE. We raised about \$45,000 via the event. Proceeds were donated to multiple local organizations, including ones which support the elderly, orphans, and those living with disabilities.

Our board and committees worked this year to grow our club partnerships, to identify local charities in need of support and to build out our website. Team members also explored technology options to amplify and manage aspects of our marketing, membership process and gala. We launched a new channel for members on local chat platform Kakao Talk, and we also enjoyed a chance to connect with other clubs via FAWCO meetings and calls.

As we head into 2026, we're excited to see what another year of working, exploring and growing together holds for our community.

Becky Bowman
FAWCO Representative

American Women's Club Philippines

In 2025, the American Women's Club of the Philippines (AWCP) dove into new initiatives. It was our first time to apply and receive the FAWCO 2025 Critical Health Concerns Development Grant for the Bukas Palad Foundation Nutrition Program. The grant money guaranteed that the program would continue to feed and to monitor the health of malnourished children for the entire school year.

Working with the local communities, medical residents and businesses, we launched our Period Poverty project, to educate impoverished women about women's health/hygiene and provide them with locally produced reusable pads.

This year's Hoedown raised funds to support the Muntinlupa Development Foundation Community-based Supplemental Feeding Program for a year; thus ensuring the underweight children would reach and maintain their age-appropriate weight.

We also strengthened relationships with our local expat community. In collaboration with the Australia/New Zealand, British, Latina and Indian women's clubs, AWCP hosted an International Women's Day cocktail that raised funds for the Period Poverty project. During the Galentine's Day event, US Ambassador Mary Kay Carlson gave us a personal tour of her home. This is the first time the ambassador's private residence was open to the public.

We became more active with FAWCO by joining the TLC meetings, hosting a Club Connection virtual social with The American International Women's Club of Cologne, attending webinars, presenting the AWCP as a Club in Focus and submitting an article to the *Inspiring Women* magazine. We look forward to participating more in the future.

The biggest challenge this year was to keep the cost of operating the charity bazaars reasonable, despite increased service charges. The charity bazaars provide a venue for many vendors to sell their products and to raise money for our charities. We will continue to find creative ways to ensure that the charity bazaars are successful.

Margie Go
FAWCO Representative

Australia



American Women's Club of Perth

Website: awcperth.com.au

Founded: 1967

Joined: 1968

Membership Total: 61

Dues: 50 AUD

Mission: To promote good fellowship and cooperation among American and Australian women of Western Australia. To promote & facilitate communication between American Women To sponsor social, recreational, cultural and welfare activities. To encourage and promote understanding and goodwill between the people of the United States and Australia. To do all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the objects and exercises of the powers of the club.

Bangladesh

DAWC

Dhaka American Women's Club (DAWC)

Website: not listed

Founded: 1970s

Joined: 2025

Membership Total: 60

Dues: not listed

Mission: The DAWC is a dynamic and independent organization committed to furthering fellowship within the American community, and also with the larger Bangladeshi community.

India



American Club for International Women – Mumbai

Website: aciwmumbai.org

Founded: 1928

Joined: 1954

Membership Total: 120

Dues: \$28

Mission: To promote social and cultural activities within the Club, to encourage members to support charitable and cultural activities in Mumbai and to welcome and assist all newcomers to Mumbai.

Korea



American Women's Club of Korea

Website: www.awckorea.com

Founded: 1964

Joined: 1987

Membership Total: 195

Dues: \$35

Mission: AWC Korea serves a dual role in Seoul. It is a community for expat Americans providing social, familial and daily living support as well as engaging in fundraising activities to support the local Korean community.

Philippines



American Women's Club Philippines

Website: <http://www.awcphilippines.net>

Founded: 1979

Joined: 1979

Membership Total: 96

Dues: \$42

Mission: A strong community based philanthropic club that supports local charities with enthusiasm and joy to help others.

The FAWCO Foundation Report



The FAWCO Foundation is the philanthropic heart of FAWCO and is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3), incorporated in the state of Missouri.

2025–2027 FAWCO Foundation Board of Directors

President	Janet Davis (AIWC Cologne, FAUSA)
Vice President Communications	Mary O'Melia Stange (AWC Oslo, IWC Bogotá, FAUSA)
Vice President Fundraising	Angie Aebersold (AWC Bern, FAUSA)
Vice President Programs	Christine Riney (AWC London)
Treasurer	Wendy Leyland (AWC London)
Secretary	Hollie Nielsen (AWC Central Scotland, AWC London)
Parliamentarian	Barbara Bühling (AIWC Düsseldorf) (<i>non-voting</i>)

Special Appointment to the Board (non-voting)

FAWCO President	Ann Marie Morrow (AWC Finland)
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Presidential Appointments (non-Board members)

Archive Team Lead	Patti Meek (AWC Dublin)
Counselors' Liaison	Patti Meek (AWC Dublin)
Development Grant Administrator	Tracy Moede (AWC Hamburg)
Education Award Administrator	Michelle Miller (AIWC Cologne)
Silent Auction Coordinator	Carol-Lyn McKelvey (FAUSA, AIWC Cologne)

2025 Board Reports

President

In March, 2025, we began our third year together as a board. We were all very enthusiastic about beginning a second two-year term as we truly enjoy working together and getting things done.

We gathered in Annapolis for a wonderful conference. Lovely venue, great little city and an excellent agenda. Of course, Foundation Night is our big moment and the evening did not disappoint. Once again, our VP Fundraising, Angie Aebersold, did an amazing job organizing the event. *Sea Beyond – A Nautical Night* brought together pirates, sailors, sea creatures (including a Rock Lobster!) and lots of blue and white bedecked participants. A great time was had by all and through the Live Auction, Silent Auction, quilt ticket sales, charm sales and a few very generous private donations, we raised around \$41,000 to support the programs of The Foundation, the Education Awards and Development Grants. We thank everyone who gave so generously.

After a conference ends, things at The Foundation usually settle down for a while. I use the spring and summer to contact our generous donors—both individuals and clubs—who help The Foundation do the work we do through their support. We have a number of faithful ongoing donors (individual and clubs) and as always, a few first-timers. Sometimes, these are individuals or clubs sponsoring an award or grant in honor of a special occasion or a loved one. This generosity is what sustains The Foundation. In 2026, we will be awarding 13 Education Awards and nine Development Grants! Again, this is due to the incredible generosity of the FAWCO community and our donors. Once again, the awards going forward will be valued at \$5,000. As a side note, The Foundation board also decided that due to rising costs of travel and general living expenses, the Dual Cultural Award will now also be valued at \$5,000.

The Foundation continues to find itself in very good stead due to some large donations in the last few years. We continue to seek additional ways to disburse the funds we have to further benefit women and children around the globe.

As I mentioned, our board thoroughly enjoys working together as we seek to move The Foundation forward. Being a global board, we relish our opportunities to meet in person, where idea sharing and problem solving are a bit easier. Due to crazy schedules this year, we were unable to physically get together this fall but managed a virtual Face2Face over two days in October. We already have dates on the calendar for next year, so we hope all goes well for that!

We were very excited to send out our FAWCO Foundation survey this fall. Thoughtfully put together by our VP Communications, Mary O'Melia Stange, the survey sought to get feedback from the FAWCO community about The Foundation: how much FAWCO members know about The Foundation, what they like or don't like, and areas where they think we're doing great or could perhaps improve or change! The response was excellent and we will share the results in detail at our conference workshop in Malta.

I was able to attend two Regional Meetings this fall—Heidelberg (Region 5) and then Brussels (Region 4). Both meetings were excellent with interesting agendas and speakers, and great opportunities for regional members to meet, connect, network, share ideas and socialize. Both Regionals were well-attended and I was grateful to be able to share information about The Foundation with both groups.

The Foundation Archives continue to be a work in progress. Patti Meek (AWC Dublin), Barbara Bühling (AIWC Düsseldorf) and I are slowly going through the digital files as we attempt to organize all the information so that it will be accessible, and more importantly, useful to future boards. We're getting there...slowly.

The Foundation board members are known to many of you but our "supporting players" serve crucial roles in the functioning of The Foundation. Many thanks to:

- Tracy Moede (AWC Hamburg), Development Grant Administrator
- Michelle Miller (AIWC Cologne), Education Award Administrator
- Carol-Lyn McKelvey (AIWC Cologne and FAUSA), Silent Auction Coordinator
- Patti Meek (AWC Dublin), Counselor Liaison
- Kanika Holloway (AWC Antwerp) was appointed as our Target Fundraising Coordinator for Target 6

We on the Foundation board continue to be so inspired by the giving spirit of our FAWCO club members and individuals and their commitment to serving the greater good. We have some incredibly generous long-time donors but remember, every member of FAWCO is a donor and supporter, be it of time, talent or financial means. On behalf of the board, I express my sincerest gratitude to each and every one of you as we work together to make a difference in the world.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Davis (AIWC Cologne)
President

Vice President Communications

This year in Communications was a year of consistency and strategic groundwork, with efforts focused on reinforcing our presence, listening to our members and laying the foundation for future growth.

NEWS

We continued to use Mailerlite for our email communications, sending 12 email campaigns in total—double the number sent in 2024. Five of these supported the development, distribution and reminders for our 2025 Membership Survey. We also experimented with splitting the Fall Update into separate emails to give more space and visibility to both the slate of Education Awards/Development Grants and general Foundation updates.

Subscriber engagement remained strong, with open rates averaging in the mid-60s and some campaigns exceeding 70%. As of the end of the year, our subscriber count remains steady at just under 600.

Social Media

We adopted a more intentional approach to social media this year under the leadership of Rheagan Coffey (AWC Dublin), whose contributions were key in establishing a consistent brand voice and visual identity. The aim has been to build and elevate the Foundation's brand while experimenting with a variety of content types—from single-photo posts to reels and stories.

While total followers were down slightly from last year, we saw significant increases in both content interactions and link clicks, reflecting deeper engagement with the community and a shift toward more meaningful metrics of visibility and reach.

Website

This year's website work focused on maintenance, minor content improvements and continued support of core programs.

- We announced the final fundraising total for Target Project 5, including a coordinated web article and visual assets.
- The donor wall and medallion distribution pages were updated and managed throughout the year.
- A new Foundation Night 2026 page was designed and launched with a focus on mobile responsiveness, a design goal carried over from 2024.

Full mobile optimization of the site remains a priority and will be a focus in 2026.

Membership Survey

A major focus of this year was the planning, design, and execution of The FAWCO Foundation Membership Survey. This survey aimed to identify gaps in awareness, understanding, and engagement with Foundation activities and resources.

- A total of 202 responses were collected.
- Distribution included the email subscriber list and a coordinated social media push.
- Outreach depended heavily on FAWCO Reps and Presidents to spread awareness among club members.
- The survey was designed and led by the VP Communications, with input from the Board.

Initial takeaways are still being analyzed, and a full report will be delivered in early 2026, with results and recommendations to be presented at the 2026 FAWCO Interim Meeting in Malta.

Looking Ahead

2026 will be my final year in this role, and my focus will be threefold:

- Conduct a thorough analysis of the membership survey and identify actionable opportunities for improvement.
- Continue to build upon our social media strategy, with a focus on content quality, engagement and reach.

- Support the launch of Target Project 6, including website development and communications planning.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary O'Melia Stange (AWC Oslo, IWC Bogotá, FAUSA)
Vice President Communications

Vice President Programs

At year-end 2025, it is my pleasure to report that all tasks for the Development Grants (DGs) and Education Awards (EAs) were successfully completed, thanks to the invaluable support of the Development Grant and Education Award Administrators, and, of course, the support of the other members of the board.

Key activities included:

- **2025 SOAs:** All of the DG and EA Statements of Agreement (SOAs) were completed and paid out to recipients on time.
- **Database updates:** A thorough update of our databases in relation to funds donated was undertaken, however, given the timeframe and some missing information, there are still some “blanks” in our knowledge.

Refining the Application Process

The application process is an organic process and with feedback from the 2025 awards, we have moved the Development Grants to join the Education Awards as a Google form. The consistent format and the “as and when” nature of Google forms are hopefully going to ensure a smooth 2026 cycle.

I expect that with each year we will learn and enhance the experience for the applicants, admins and the reviewers.

A Team Effort

Yet again, I'd like to extend my gratitude to Tracy M. and Michelle M. for their hard work in ensuring our programs run well.

The 2026 Slates

Development Grants:

There are nine (with the potential of a 10th Discretionary Grant) Development Grants being offered for 2026.

There is a total of \$40,000 (potential \$45,000) to be awarded. The awards have remained at \$5,000 for the 2026 cycle.

The awards are significantly unchanged from 2025. It is an honor to work with so many FAWCO members who continually donate to these worthy projects.

1. Educating Women & Girls Worldwide, *sponsored by Renuka Matthews*
2. The Coughlan Family Education Grant, *in recognition of the generosity of the Coughlan Family*
3. Hope Through Education, *sponsored by Michele Hendrikse DuBois in memory of her parents Joan and Denis DuBois*
4. For the Health of Our Planet, *sponsored in part by AIWC Cologne*
5. Close to Home I, *sponsored in part by Ann Birot-Salsbury*
6. Close to Home II, *sponsored by the FAWCO Foundation*
7. Critical Health Concerns, *in memory of John S. Kobacker*
8. FAUSA Effecting Change for Women and Children at Risk
9. Breaking the Cycle, *sponsored by the FAWCO Foundation*

Education Awards:

There are 13 Education Awards offered for 2026! That is a big number.

There is a total of up to \$62,500 to be awarded with one very new and innovative award—a writers award. Given the nature of this award, there is a new review team who will specifically review the applicants and their writing. This award also has a very different application form and review process.

Notable changes to the awards include:

– Recognizing the high cost of sending a child to the USA, the Dual Cultural Award is now of equal value to other Education Awards.

–The awards for members will now have the language “up to” added to the award amount. This ensures courses that are well below the award amount are not overcompensated.

1. Arts Award, *sponsored by AWC The Hague in honor of Georgia Regnault’s birthday*
2. Sciences Award, *sponsored in part by AIWC Genoa and the Bacigalupo Family, in memory of Dr. Frieda Bacigalupo Natali*
3. Women in STEM, *sponsored by The FAWCO Foundation*
4. Humanities Award, *sponsored in part by AAWWE Paris, in memory of Gertrude de Gallaix*
5. Non-University and Technical Training Award, *sponsored by Whitney Edwards AWC London, in memory of Dr. John H. Hoagland & Carolyn Hoagland*
6. Dual Cultural Award, *sponsored in part by AWC Bern in honor of Donna Erismann*
7. Open Learning Jackie Isler Memorial Award
8. Shirley Kearney AWC Basel University Degree Award
9. FAUSA Skills Enhancement Award, *partially funded with donations in memory of Janelle Mason*
10. Skills Enhancement Award, *sponsored by The FAWCO Foundation*
11. Fine Arts Award, *sponsored by AIWC Frankfurt, Taunus, Rhein-Main, in memory of Barbara Merlino*
12. Continuing Education Award, *sponsored by Mary Stewart Burgher of AWC Denmark, in memory of Pauline “Pete” Arnold Schweppe*
13. NEW The de Groot Foundation Literacy is our Legacy Aspiring Writers Award

Ongoing Activities

Currently, we are focused on several key tasks:

- Preparing for the upcoming March 2026 conference, with a strong slate of 9 Development Grants and 13 Education Awards.
- Preparing the review of the outstanding achievements of past Development Grant and Education Award recipients, which is always a rewarding experience.
- Continuing to refine our processes to ensure we are delivering the best possible experience.
- The Target Selection Committee has completed the short list and is ready for voting in early 2026. The application review has been, once again, a rewarding and often difficult experience due to the caliber of the applications.

Planning for my final year in VP Programs Role

Reviewing my tenure in the role, changes made to the processes will need to be documented to ensure the next incumbent will have a smooth handover so they can hit the ground running and, of course, make their improvements along the way.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Riney (AWC London)
Vice President Programs

Vice President Fundraising

Since the last report, I have been busy with planning and implementing the 2025 Foundation Night in Annapolis and planning the upcoming 2026 Foundation Night in Malta.

Over the last few months, I have held monthly meetings with the new Target Fundraising Coordinator, Kanika Holloway. Once Target Project 6 is announced in Malta, I will begin monthly meetings with the rest of the Target Team (Kanika Holloway, Jody McBrien, Janet Davis). Time permitting, I attend the ongoing, monthly TLC Reps and Presidents Meetings (coordinated by Belen Monasterio, FAWCO 2nd VP – Member Clubs). In October 2025, I attended the Foundation's Face2Face Board Meeting which was held via Zoom this year due to board members' conflicting schedules. Nonetheless, we accomplished a lot of business. We were able to decide on a theme and logo for Foundation Night 2026 in Malta, the decorations for the tables and that the "Ducky Dip" from 2025 would become the "Go Fish" 2026. We decided on the direction our advertising would go and that Rheagan Coffey's on-line social media campaign will be expanded.

In September 2025, I attended the Region 6 Regional Meeting in Lenzerheide, Switzerland where I gave a presentation about The FAWCO Foundation. The presentation went wonderfully, with the attendees engaged and interested in what The FAWCO Foundation and FAWCO are and what we are doing.

I was not able to attend any other Regionals in 2025. I am hoping to be able to attend more in 2026 as I truly enjoy them.

At the end of September 2025, I went to Malta to check out the 2026 conference hotel. I was able to see where all of the Foundation spaces would be and get a good look at all of the spaces for the conference. I took pictures and videos for FAWCO and the Foundation.

I have been preparing for Foundation Night 2026 in Malta, which will take place at the FAWCO Interim Meeting. I have contacted past Live Auction donors and have received some amazing destinations for the 2026 Live Auction. We expect to have fewer Live Auction destination packages than in previous years.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our donors, whether your donations were made to the Live Auction, Silent Auction or the Benefactor program. Without you and your support, we could never accomplish everything that we do. Through your support, we are able to offer more Development Grants and Education Awards than ever before. Thank you so much!

Every year I do a lot of research on where the next conference is going to be and how we can incorporate that into our Foundation Night theme. In 2026, all Benefactors will receive a flower brooch of their choice. I have designed the Conference Charm for 2026 – the Maltese Cross which originally represented the Knights of St. John. At the Foundation's Face2Face meeting in October 2025, we finalized our theme for Foundation Night 2026. As we wanted to support FAWCO and help celebrate their 95th Birthday, we came up with the theme "A Glamorous Gala Celebration....Honoring 95 Years of FAWCO." Since then, I have been designing Facebook posts for everything relating to Foundation Night. Rheagan Coffey, our social media guru, has taken on the challenge of posting the information. Our VP Communications, Mary O'Melia Stange, has designed a "Foundation Night" page on our website that contains everything concerning Foundation Night — it looks FABULOUS!

Working with Carol-Lyn McKelvey, our Silent Auction Coordinator, we were able to have OneCause, the Silent Auction platform, up and running for the Region 5 Meeting in Heidelberg. Participants were then able to purchase Friendship Quilt tickets and pre-order their conference charms. By the time this is published, we will also have all of our Live Auction Destinations up on OneCause for preview. Below you will find a recap of the 2025 Foundation Night that was held in Annapolis at the Biennial Conference.

Interim Meeting and Foundation Night 2025

The 2025 theme was "Sea Beyond...A Nautical Night." There was an amazing DJ spinning tunes. The Silent Auction ran until dinner, with the Live Auction taking place after the meal. As usual, we danced until midnight

with practically everyone joining in! All told, we raised an astonishing \$41,701 that weekend. The funds raised go to support the programs of The FAWCO Foundation (Development Grants and Education Awards).

Live Auction:

There were eight items up for auction on Foundation Night, but in the end we sold 13 fabulous items: a seven-night stay in St. Andrews, Scotland from Hollie Nielsen; a one-week stay in the Sunshine Coast Australia from Kathy Banham; a six-night stay in De Haan, Belgium from Rozanne van Rie (sold twice); a two-night stay at the Hampton Court Snug in London from Betsey Cook Speer; a one-week stay for a Paris Adventure from Rebecca DeFrait (sold twice); a ten-day stay in Provence, France from Florence Jeannin (sold three times) and a one-week stay in Wengen, Switzerland from Patricia Aeby. We also offered three pieces of jewelry in the Live Auction: an amber necklace from Suzanne Wheeler, a pearl necklace and bracelet from Marilyn Tinsey; and an Amethyst ring from Cynthia Abi-Habib. Our auctioneer was Murray Frick from FAUSA. The Live Auction alone raised \$21,025!

Silent Auction:

Carol-Lyn McKelvey again worked tirelessly and successfully ran the auction on the OneCause platform. She was able to gather virtual and physical items, many of which were brought to Annapolis. The Silent Auction raised \$6,991!

Benefactors:

The Benefactors program continued on OneCause with a focus we adopted from the virtual days that “We can all be Benefactors!” A banner ran continuously on OneCause recognizing those who made a donation on the site. Benefactor donations started at \$20 and we raised an impressive total of \$9,885 with nine donors. We are grateful to all our donors.

Charms and Bracelets:

We stayed with the same supplier, Monterey Company (Bend, Oregon), so kept our costs low. Sales from this year’s charm, the Red Crab and Ship’s Wheel, raised \$800.

Foundation Lapel Pins:

We once again had a Foundation Pin for sale. It is a lapel pin that says “The FAWCO Foundation” and has our logo on it. We raised \$90.

Friendship Quilt Raffle:

The 2025 quilt —Octopus Oasis — comprised squares donated by 20 members from 11 clubs. The quilt was revealed at the Region 5 Meeting and tickets were immediately available on OneCause. The lucky winner was Margie O’Rourke (AWC Dublin). We raised \$2,400 in ticket sales.

The Lucky Dip “Ducky Dip”:

In 2025, we offered the Ducky Dip as part of our fundraising. We had a pool full of small duckies, some of which were marked with a symbol. If you chose a duck with a symbol, you won a goodie bag. Ducks cost \$5.00 and were the player’s duck to keep. We raised \$510.00!

Foundation Night Miscellaneous:

We went with the nautical theme. Tables were bedecked with fishbowl centerpieces along with sea shells and sea creatures resting on nautically-themed table runners. Each person received a “message in the bottle” to take with them.

Target Program**Target 5 Wrap-Up:**

With Target Fundraising Coordinator Lauren Mescon at the helm, the fundraising started off with a bang! Fundraising for Awesome Blossoms started even before the Target Project was announced. The original goal was \$140,000. As of the end of November 2024, FAWCO Clubs had raised \$141,046 for Awesome Blossoms.

What happened next? Another \$50,000 goal was set to help Safe Spaces (parent organization) purchase land of their own in order to make Awesome Blossoms truly self-sustaining. At the newly acquired location, they plan to create a “Center of Expertise” in order to teach their farming methods to as many participants as possible as well as to educate them on financial literacy. They had been limited to a virtual center, but obtaining their own land will now allow them to build an office, a place where the peer educators can work and a place where the community can come to learn.

Awesome Blossoms wrapped up at the Biennial Conference in Annapolis 2025 with the announcement of the incredible total of **\$211,095.98** raised for the project. We can only congratulate the incredible clubs and individuals who have, over this three-year period, donated their time, energy and money to this worthy cause.

Regions 4, 5, 6 and 7 Regional Meetings

At the 2025 Regional Meetings, we elected not to sell any merchandise. Once the new Target Project is announced, we will start selling items at the 2026 Regionals. Janet Davis, Foundation President, attended both the Region 4 and 5 meetings and gave presentations. I attended the Region 6 meeting, where I gave the Foundation presentation. For the Region 7 meeting, the organizers received a Foundation presentation that they gave on our behalf.

General Fundraising

Giving From the Heart:

We are still trying to push the Giving From the Heart Program. Giving From the Heart is a chance to recognize a special person, moment or event in your life such as: Anniversary, Life Milestones, Loss of a Loved One, Honoring a Friend, Giving Thanks or whatever is near and dear to your heart. All proceeds go to the Close to Home Development Grant.

Other Business

Rep and RC Calls:

We will continue to work with Belen Monasterio, FAWCO VP for Member Clubs, to ensure we remain part of the TLC calls for the Presidents, Reps, Regional Coordinators (RCs) and Philanthropy heads. Additionally, if FAWCO continues to hold regional gatherings virtually or in person for the Region’s Presidents, Reps and RCs, the VP Fundraising for TFF should be included.

Fundraising Analysis:

The ongoing database spreadsheet contains the data for the past several years and will continue to be maintained.

Respectfully submitted,
Angie Aebersold (AWC Bern, FAUSA)
Vice President Fundraising
The FAWCO Foundation

Secretary

FAWCO, The FAWCO Foundation (TFF) and FAUSA continued to thrive in 2025 through our global network. Our organizations have continued to meet virtually, with webinars and most importantly in person. As a team we have continued to support our programs and FAWCO members.

As Secretary I have accomplished the following in 2025:

- Added meeting date and time to TFF Board calendar
- Produced agendas for monthly meetings, which were conducted by Zoom
- Took minutes of TFF Board meetings
- Processed the minutes: checking content, formatting, attaching addenda, releasing for editing, adding action items, following up on action items, and processing all edits and suggestions. Once approved, converted the minutes into a PDF and confirmed all the monthly financial reports were attached.
- Maintained motions log and proxy form
- Completed 2025 annual registration with the state of Missouri
- Redirected mail when the incorrect email address to our domain was used and landed in TFF “catchall” folder
- Created backups of all folders in the Shared Drive to an external hard drive
- Supported the FAWCO Foundation mission by contributing ideas and making donations
- Attended the Biennial Conference in Annapolis, March 2025

Respectfully submitted,

Hollie Nielsen (AWC Central Scotland, AWC London)
FAWCO Foundation Secretary 2025

Parliamentarian

The Parliamentarian, appointed by the President, serves as a non-voting member of the Board.

In my role as Parliamentarian, I have:

- Assisted the Foundation President, as needed;
- Served in an advisory capacity to the Board;
- Conducted a thorough review of the current Administrative Guidelines checking for consistency and striving for clarity;
- Worked with individual board members to verify, edit and update their sections of the Administrative Guidelines which were then prepared for approval by the Board;
- Met regularly with the Archives Team to continue the archiving process

The Foundation Archive

The FAWCO Foundation Archive is moving forward at a very slow pace. We, the Archives Team Patti Meek (AWC Dublin), Janet Davis (AIWC Cologne, FAUSA) and I, work together to catalogue what Foundation documents we have and we conduct searches for documents that existed before digitalization. Our goal is to make it easy for future Foundation board members to access the documents they need. We have had lots of discussions about what documents are necessary and we have decided that the next year will include a review of the Document Retention Schedule.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Bühling (AWC Düsseldorf)
Parliamentarian

Treasurer

The following pages include the financial statements for The FAWCO Foundation for 2025, with a comparison to 2024. The Foundation accounts are reviewed each year by an independent certified public accountant (CPA). Each review is done in the following year, so the latest letter, reporting on the independent review for 2024 is attached.

Summary: The Foundation remains in sound financial condition, still benefitting from two large private donations in 2023 totaling \$300K.

The Foundation had \$673K of current assets (cash and CDs) at the end of 2025. \$407K are restricted funds and \$266K are unrestricted funds providing a solid financial basis from which to continue to administer and support the Foundation's programs. In 2025, the Foundation had income of \$167.9K and made disbursements totaling \$252K. The year-end result is a decrease in net assets of \$84.1K.

Balance Sheet

The Restricted Fund (\$407K) comprises two elements:

- Temporarily Restricted Funds (\$397.2K) representing donations from donors who have specified that the funds be used for specific Foundation programs (Education Awards, Development Grants and the Target Program) beyond the current year's end, with some disbursements to be made over several years into the future.
- Restricted – Endowment Funds (\$9.8K) are donations collected in the past in response to a call to establish an Endowment Fund. There has been no activity related to this Fund in recent years.

The Unrestricted Fund (\$266K) also comprises two elements:

- Board-Designated Reserve Funds (\$180.0K) established to provide a safety net to ensure the Foundation's programs would be funded for at least two years without any external donations. The Board increased the amount in 2025 from 123.5K to \$180K to cover the higher grant and award amounts.
- Unrestricted Funds (\$86K) is everything left after deducting the restricted and reserved funds from the total cash assets. Over time, these funds are used to supplement the Foundation's programs and operating expenses.

Income and Expense Statement

The Foundation is on the cash basis of accounting. This means that the income and expenses are recorded when the funds are received into, or paid out of, the Foundation's bank accounts.

There are three major categories of Income and Expenses: Donations/Programs, Fundraising and Administration.

To aid in program planning and budgeting, the Foundation's goal is to disburse funds in the year after the donations are received. With this donation information as a basis, the Foundation plans the number and level of disbursements (grants and awards) for the next year, as well as the level of additional funding that it will add on top of the donations received. The Foundation tops up the awards and grants from its Unrestricted Funds.

As The Foundation is on the cash basis, there can be large fluctuations from year to year due to large donations received in one year that are to be paid out over several years. This is the case with certain Education Awards and Development Grants, as well as Target funds collected for the last quarter of the year but not paid out until the following year.

Fluctuations in expenses are generally due to a change in the number or amount of Awards and Grants disbursed and timing of Target funds received and paid out.

The Net Surplus/(Deficit) in any year must be viewed in combination with the Restricted and Unrestricted Funds on the Balance Sheet to get an overall picture of the financial strength of the Foundation.

Income: Donations

- Administered Awards

The Foundation collects donations (one donor) and distributes Education Awards (two) for The Association of American Women in Europe (AAWE). The recipients go through the same application and evaluation process that all our Education Award applicants go through. The Foundation holds the donation as part of its Temporarily Restricted Funds until the disbursements are made over the period requested.

- Award and Grant Programs Donations

There is a continuous ebb and flow of funding for Education Awards and Development Grants. As one donor steps back we have been extremely fortunate to always have another willing to step in. In addition, we continue to have some very consistent and loyal donors each year, which are reflected in the Award and Grant sponsorship

The Foundation continues to supplement the funding of the Awards and Grants programs from Fundraising activities (mainly from Foundation night proceeds) and unrestricted funds, as described above.

- Target Project Donations

The Target 5 Project came to a close in March 2025 with a final distribution of \$69.1K. The total distributed over the course of the two-year fundraising effort to the project recipient, S.A.F.E Spaces, Awesome Blossoms, was \$211.1K.

The Target 6 Program kicked off in March with project applications being received and reviewed during 2025. A recipient will be voted on by the FAWCO membership and announced at the March 2026 Interim Meeting. However, fundraising efforts by FAWCO Member Clubs have continued during 2025, with a total of \$21.2K raised for the next Target Project recipient.

- In-Kind donations

In-Kind donations arise when an individual pays for a budgeted expense for The Foundation, and then does not request reimbursement. We did not record any in-kind donations during 2025.

Income: Fundraising

Income generated from the Foundation Night and Target merchandise sales was \$41.9K

- Fundraising on Foundation Night 2025 consisted of Silent and Live auctions, the Quilt Raffle, and sales of the conference charm. These funds (\$41.4K) are raised to support The Foundation and supplement our annual Awards and Development Grants.

Income: Other

The Foundation also receives income from interest on CDs and our other bank savings accounts. During 2025, as interest rates remained at relatively high levels on savings across the world, the income received on these deposits was \$24.3K. Although rates have slowed during 2025, we expect earnings to remain at good levels during 2026, as we will continue to monitor the market to optimize this type of income.

Expenses: Program Disbursements

- Administered Awards

As stated above, the Foundation currently administers an Education Award Program for one of our member clubs, AAWE Paris. Fully funded disbursements are made to the selected recipients who have undergone the same rigorous vetting process that we have in place for all of our Education Award applicants.

No grants were awarded in 2025, however, \$16K was received during 2025 to be disbursed during 2026 and 2027.

- Awards and Grants

\$106.5K was disbursed to award and grant recipients in 2025.

- Target Program

\$69.1K was disbursed to Awesome Blossoms – S.A.F.E Spaces in 2025.

Expenses: Fundraising

Fundraising expenses continue to be a reasonable percentage of the total raised (15%). In 2025, we spent \$6.4K on conference charms, Foundation Night items as well as the online auction platform.

The net fundraising funds are used to supplement the Awards and Grants programs, some of which are either partially or fully funded by The Foundation, as well as to support The Foundation's administration expenses.

Expenses: Operating

The total operating expenses for 2025 of \$32.3K were for the following main categories;

- Bank fees: \$4.7K – these include transaction fees for our online auction platform, Paypal, Stripe, Wise and other miscellaneous banking fees.
- Board Expenses: \$24.8K – includes conference fees and travel/accommodation costs for the annual conference and face-to-face board meetings.
- Miscellaneous: \$2.8K – includes annual auditor fees, web hosting and accounting package fees.

Net Surplus/(Deficit)

The net deficit for 2025 was (\$84.1K). This larger than historical deficit can be attributed to board decisions to increase the grant and award amounts from \$4,000 to \$5,000, as well as adding two additional grants in 2025. These increases are possible due to the large private donations made in 2023.

On the following pages are the Balance Sheets and Summaries of Income and Expense for 2025 and 2024. There are also two pie charts:

- **Sources of Income** shows source of support: from individuals, Member Clubs and Foundation fundraising efforts.
- **Disbursements and Expenses** shows spending for Programs, Fundraising and Administration.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Leyland (AWC London)
Treasurer (2025-2027)

The FAWCO Foundation Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2025

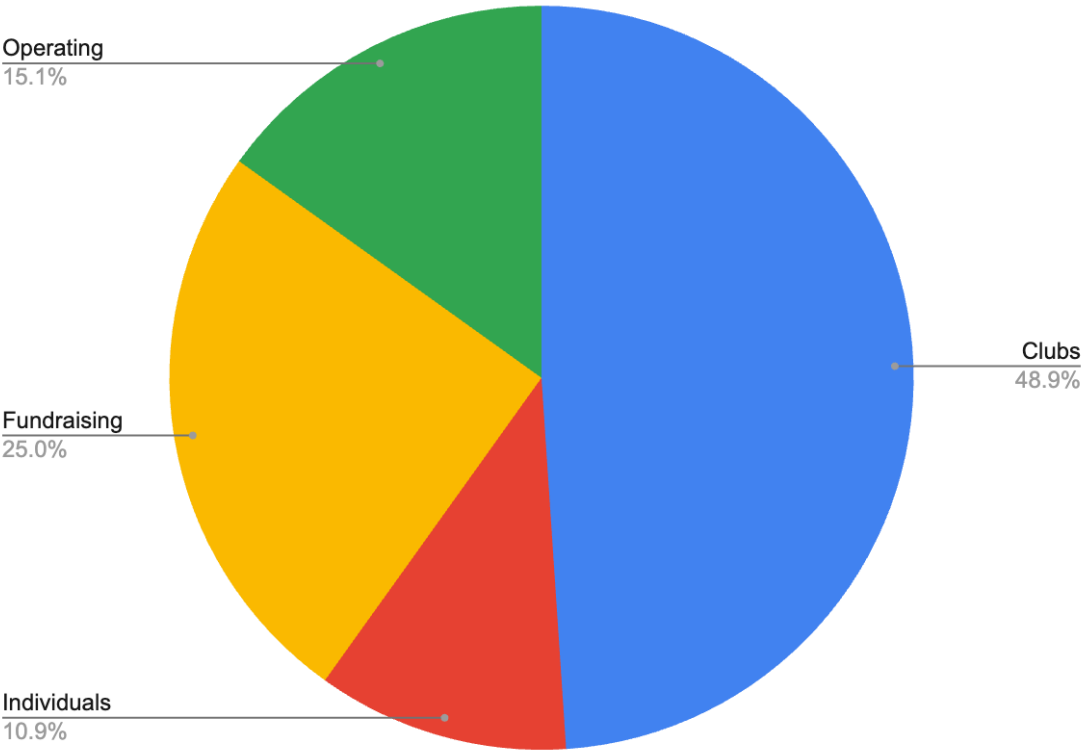
	2025 Unreviewed (USD)	2024 Reviewed (USD)
ASSETS		
Cash Accounts	161,748	242,374
Certificates of Deposit	511,224	514,730
TOTAL ASSETS	672,972	757,104
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted Funds	85,997	170,701
Board Designated Reserve Funds	180,000	123,500
Total Unrestricted	265,997	294,201
Temporarily Restricted Funds	397,184	453,112
Restricted - Endowment Funds	9,791	9,791
Total Restricted	406,975	462,903
TOTAL NET ASSETS	672,972	757,104

The FAWCO Foundation
Income and Expense Statement
For the 12 months ended December 31, 2025

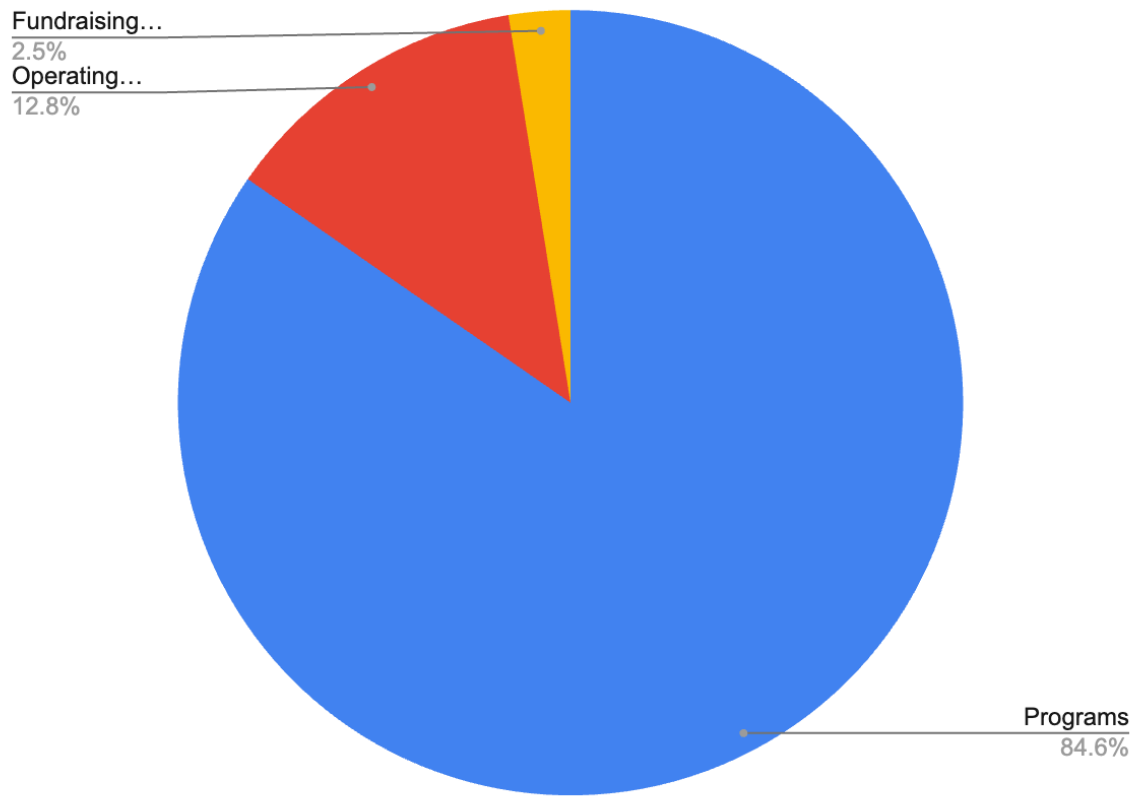
	2025 Unreviewed (USD)	2024 Reviewed (USD)
Income		

Foundation Donations		
Administered Awards	16,000	0
Education Awards	11,758	20,582
Development Grants	11,172	12,154
Target Program – Environment	40,423	59,501
Target Program – Human Rights	21,179	
In-Kind Donations	0	396
General Donations	0	426
Total Donations	100,532	93,059
Fundraising Income		
Fundraising Income	41,366	43,820
Fundraising Income - Target	620	4,635
Total Fundraising	41,986	48,455
Other Income	25,355	23,882
Total Income	167,873	165,396
Expense		
Foundation Program Disbursements		
Administered Awards	0	8,000
Donations to Host Club Charities	500	0
Conference Workshop Sponsorship	35,389	0
Target Program Matching funds	1,794	0
Education Awards	56,500	35,000
Development Grants	50,000	31,982
Target Program	69,120	61,988
Total Program Disbursements	213,304	136,970
Fundraising Expenses	6,376	5,394
Operating Expenses	32,326	25,165
Total Expense	252,005	167,529
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(84,132)	(2,133)

Income By Source 2025



Disbursements and Expenses 2025



FAWCO Alumnae USA Report



FAUSA - Globally Connected, Locally Active

FAWCO Alumnae USA (FAUSA) serves as a social and philanthropic network tailored for former FAWCO club members and other individuals moving to North America. As the sister organization to FAWCO and The FAWCO Foundation, FAUSA offers members a supportive community to those moving to the United States who may need a little help with the complexities of transitioning to life in North America. Members connect with others who share the unique experience of redefining "home," especially when "home" can also signify a place that was once outside of North America.

In 2025, we celebrated FAUSA's 25th anniversary — honoring our founders, past presidents, and the members who shaped who we are today — while continuing to welcome new members home.

We marked a milestone this year by hosting two major events. Forty-two FAUSA members attended the FAWCO Biennial Conference in Annapolis in March, and we held FAUSA's 25th Anniversary Getaway in Milwaukee in October. Both gatherings highlighted the strength of our connections and resulted in record participation and philanthropic support. In honor of our anniversary, we increased our grant funding and continued our support of The FAWCO Foundation's Development Grants.

2025 FAUSA annual grant recipients:

- [The Sewing Labs](#)
- [Food Hub/ Community Marketplace – Nourishing Families in a Food Desert](#)

2025 FAWCO Development Grants awarded to FAUSA members' causes

- FAWCO's Discretionary Grant for Education Support was awarded to Refugee Assistance Alliance (RAA): Nominated by FAUSA member Kristin Bloom

2025 FAUSA-funded FAWCO Development Grants and recipients:

- FAUSA Skills Enhancement Award: Alexandra Vo
- FAUSA Effecting Change for Women and Children at Risk: More "Hello Baby" Bags - Hamburg, Germany

FAUSA members enjoy opportunities to connect locally and participate in a wide range of virtual activities. They can also engage more deeply by joining committees, teams, and boards within FAUSA, FAWCO, and The FAWCO Foundation. These three organizations collaborate closely to achieve shared goals, fostering a sense of camaraderie rooted in the shared experiences of living internationally and navigating the unique challenges of expatriate life.

As of December 2025, FAUSA's membership was 290, which consists of annual, five-year, and lifetime members, and includes 34 partners. Our FUNdraising director and 3rd VP Philanthropy, Sue Frick, once again exceeded expectations, spearheading a remarkable fundraising effort at the Getaway event. Her leadership helped FAUSA achieve a record-breaking \$89,000 in donations to support its projects. Among the highlights was the quilt raffle, featuring a beautifully handcrafted quilt by Kathy Coughlan.

FAUSA's 2025–2027 Board members are:

- President: Brenda Brinkley (AWC Bern)
- 1st VP Communications: Jennifer Padfield (AWC Berlin)

- 2nd VP Membership: Linda Harvan (AWC Brussels, AWEF Saudi Arabia)
- 3rd VP Philanthropy: Kathy Limbaugh (AWC Shanghai, AWC Dublin)
- Secretary: Aurora Silvestri (Munich IWC)
- Treasurer: Cathy Farnan (AWG Paris)
- FAWCO Liaison: Carol-Lyn McKelvey (AIWC Cologne):
- Director of Activities and Events: Yolanda Henry (AW Surrey)
- Parliamentarian (appointed): Caroline Pekarek (Munich IWC, AWC Bern)

Key volunteers:

- Website Manager: Debbie Hastings (CAWC)
- Newsletter and Highlights Editor: Nicole Grillo (AIWC Frankfurt)
- Archives: Louise Greeley-Copley (AW Surrey, AWEF)
- Counselor Liaison (appointed): Liz Janson (Munich IWC)
- Sunshine: Jean Setser (AIWC Genoa)
- Historian: Nancy Thornley (AWA Rome)

Our virtual activities continued to thrive, connecting members through a wide range of interest groups, including games, crafts, fitness, book clubs, travel, regional meetups, speaker programs, partner gatherings, and our popular monthly cooking and wine groups.

FAUSA members have embraced the joy of exploring the world together, organizing group travel experiences that strengthen bonds and create lasting memories. These shared adventures offer an exciting way to reconnect with fellow members while discovering new destinations. In May 2023, 23 FAUSA members traveled from New York to Southampton, UK, on the Queen Mary II. In February 2024, 12 FAUSA members went on their second cruise around the Caribbean aboard the Windstar Windsurf. In May 2025 several members cruised down the Magdalena River with AMA Waterways. From October 23 - November 11, 2026, FAUSA will travel together for a tour of China. FAWCO members are welcome! Contact [Yolanda Henry](#), FAUSA's activities director, for more details.

FAUSA members (and their children) may apply for The FAWCO Foundation's Education Awards and propose projects for The Foundation's Development Grants and FAWCO Target Project. FAUSA supports projects that benefit women and children, offers Annual Grants which focus on work in the Americas, and votes on Education Awards and Development Grants offered via The FAWCO Foundation. FAUSA sponsors both an Education Award and a Development Grant for The FAWCO Foundation, as well as making significant donations to FAWCO's Target projects.

We've truly enjoyed meeting everyone at our Face2Face booth in Annapolis. Thank you for connecting with us. We look forward to many more conversations and continued connections.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Brinkley
FAUSA President 2023–2027





FAUSA's 2023–2025 board at FAWCO's Biennial conference in Annapolis, MD, March 2025



42 FAUSA members attended FAWCO's Biennial Conference in Annapolis, MD, March 2025

FAWCO Board



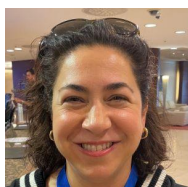
Ann Marie Morrow
FAWCO President

AWC Finland
president@fawco.org



Mary Dobrian
FAWCO 1st Vice President
Communications

AIWC Cologne
vp-communications@fawco.org



Belen Monasterio
FAWCO 2nd Vice President
Member Clubs

AWC Madrid
vp-memberclubs@fawco.org



Mary Manning
FAWCO 3rd Vice President
Global Issues

Heidelberg IWC
vp-globalissues@fawco.org



Sheila Doucet
FAWCO Secretary

AAWE Paris
secretary@fawco.org



Kathy DeBest
FAWCO Treasurer

AWC The Hague, FAUSA
treasurer@fawco.org



Laurie Richardson
FAWCO Parliamentarian

AWA Vienna
parliamentarian@fawco.org

The FAWCO Foundation Board



Janet Davis
FAWCO Foundation President

AIWC Cologne, FAUSA
president@fawcofoundation.org



Mary O'Melia Stange
FAWCO Foundation
Vice President Communications

AWC Oslo, IWC Bogotá, FAUSA
vpcommunications@fawcofoundation.org



Angela Aebersold
FAWCO Foundation
Vice President Fundraising

AWC Bern, FAUSA
vpfundraising@fawcofoundation.org



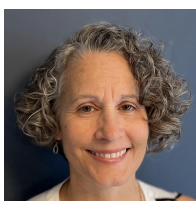
Christine Riney
FAWCO Foundation
Vice President Programs

AWC London
vpprograms@fawcofoundation.org



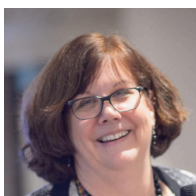
Hollie Nielsen
FAWCO Foundation
Secretary

AWC London, AWC Central Scotland
secretary@fawcofoundation.org



Wendy Leyland
FAWCO Foundation Treasurer

AWC London
treasurer@fawcofoundation.org



Barbara Bühling
FAWCO Foundation
Parliamentarian

AIWC Düsseldorf
parliamentarian@fawcofoundation.org

FAUSA Board



Brenda Brinkley
FAUSA President

president@fausa.org



Jennifer Padfield
FAUSA 1st Vice President
Communications

1stvp@fausa.org



Linda Harvan
FAUSA 2nd Vice President
Membership

membership@fausa.org



Kathy Limbaugh
3rd VP Philanthropy

philanthropy@fausa.org



Aurora Silvestri
FAUSA Secretary

secretary@fausa.org



Cathy Farnan
Treasurer

treasurer@fausa.org



Carol-Lyn McKelvey
FAWCO Liaison

fawcoliaison@fausa.org



Yolanda Henry
Director of Activities and Events

activities@fausa.org



Caroline Pekarek
Parliamentarian

parliamentarian@fausa.org

