

FAWCO Annual Report 2014

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2014 – The year FAWCO “took center stage” at the UN

Twenty years ago, seven FAWCO women attended the UN-organized 4th World Conference on Women in Beijing, where Hillary Clinton famously said “*Women’s Rights are Human Rights*”. This conference produced a Platform for Action (BPfA) which was *foundational in its unapologetic call for gender equality*. The BPfA highlighted 12 Critical Areas of Concern, set strategic objectives and outlined specific actions for each.

Twenty years on, from November 3 to 5, 2014, FAWCO played a prominent role in the organization of the Geneva NGO FORUM Beijing +20 UN ECE Regional Review. It was an opportunity for civil society (over 600 NGO representatives and women’s rights advocates) to give input to the review process in the UN ECE Region (Europe, Central Asia, North America). The NGO Forum produced a Declaration and Recommendations which were communicated to the UN ECE Government representatives to consider in their own review meetings immediately after the Forum.

The Forum was organized by the NGO Committee on the Status of Women (NGO CSW) in Geneva. FAWCO UN Liaison Sara von Moos, as Vice-President of CSW Geneva, was part of the Forum organizing committee. FAWCO delegates served as Rapporteurs for three sessions including the opening session. FAWCO’s Youth Ambassador Julia Goldsby (the youngest woman in attendance) and her mother Robin took center stage to perform their original song “Maybe It’s You” at the closing session of the Forum. With 16 delegates from 11 Clubs, FAWCO had one of the largest delegations (at least among the top five). The Clubs represented were AWC Basel, AWC Berlin, AWC Bern, AIWC Cologne, AWG Languedoc-Roussillon, AWC Lebanon, AAWE Paris, AWC The Hague, AWA Rome, AWA Vienna, and AWC Zurich.

As a next step, an unprecedented seventeen (!) FAWCO members will attend the 59th UN Commission on the Status of Women in New York in March 2015, where the focus will be on “Implementing the Beijing Platform for Action”. The FAWCO delegation includes club members from Europe, Australia and FAUSA.

More than ever, FAWCO is the voice of our members and represents their interests at the UN in the community of international NGOs working to achieve women's rights.



Respectfully submitted,

*My-Linh Kunst
FAWCO President 2011-2015*

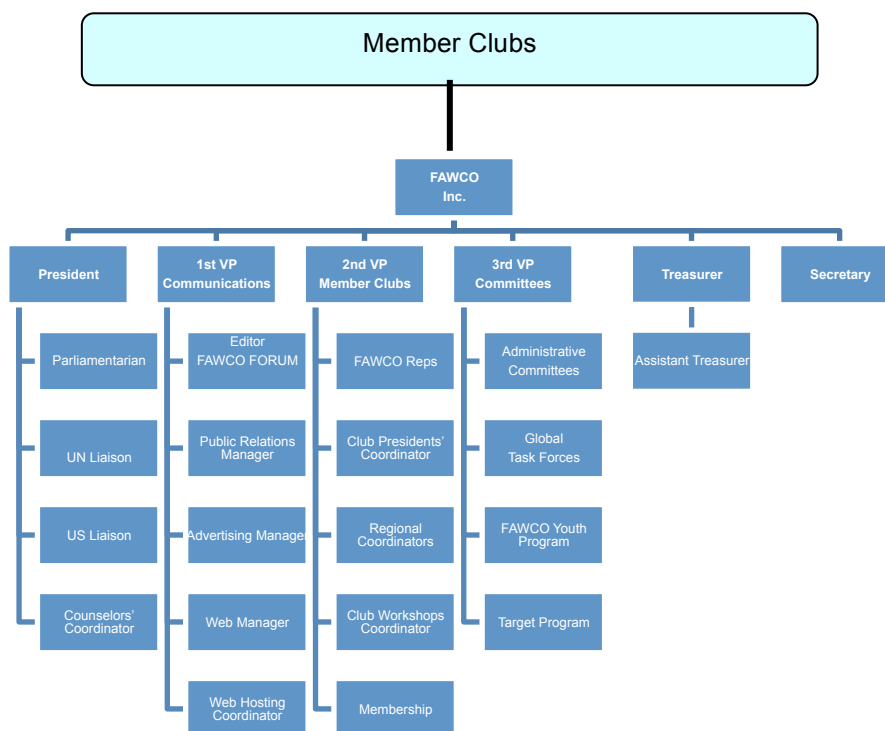
THE FAWCO ORGANIZATION

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

- ☑ To serve as a resource and channel of information among its members;
- ☑ To provide a voice for American women abroad and to support the rights of all Americans worldwide;
- ☑ To contribute actively to the global community with a specific focus on education, the natural and human environment, multicultural understanding and international goodwill.

Structure of FAWCO



FAWCO and The FAWCO Foundation have continued the practice of one president participating in the other’s board discussions.

The FAWCO Board of Directors 2013-15

President
 First Vice-President for Communications
 Second Vice-President for Member Clubs
 Third Vice-President for Committees
 Secretary
 Treasurer

My-Linh Kunst, *AWC Berlin*
Monica Jubayli, *AWC Lebanon*
Sallie Chaballier, *AAWE Paris*
Laurie Richardson, *AWA Vienna*
Patricia Meek, *AWC Dublin*
Cora Lee Findley, *AWEP*

Board Appointments (non-voting)
 Parliamentarian
 FAWCO Foundation President

Susanne Hirschberg, *AWC Düsseldorf*
Michele Hendrikse Du Bois, *Munich IWC*

Board of Representatives

One FAWCO Representative from each Member Club

Council

Board of Directors
 Board of Representatives
 Committee/Task Force Chairs*
 Liaisons/Club Presidents' Coordinator*
 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*

Conference Procedures

The FAWCO President, the three Vice-Presidents, the Secretary and the Treasurer are elected at the Biennial Conference and serve for a two-year period, as do their appointees. Elections and terms of office are governed by the Bylaws. All voting that takes place during a Biennial or Interim Conference is limited to one vote per regular (at least 60% American membership) or associate (English the predominant language and consistently active participation of Americans in the leadership) Member Club. The Board of Representatives at a Conference must vote on the budget, all changes in dues and amendments to the Bylaws. The financial records of FAWCO are open to inspection by Member Clubs.

FAWCO Counselors

Past FAWCO Presidents serve in an advisory capacity.

FAWCO Committees and Task Forces

The FAWCO Committees and Task Forces give Member Clubs and individual Clubs Members a chance to participate in FAWCO's work worldwide in an area of specific interest.

Administrative Committees

Archives
 Bylaws and Administrative Guidelines
 Finance
 Membership
 Nominating
 Resolutions and Recommendations
 Event Planning

Global Issues Task Forces (report to 3rd VP but liaise with UN Liaison)

Education
 Environment
 Health
 Human Rights
 Target Program
 FAWCO Youth Program
 Resources for International Living
 - Americana
 - College Guidance
 - Students who Learn Differently
 - Sharing Cultures

US Issues Committees (report to US Liaison)

US Citizenship
 US Tax and Banking
 US Voting from Overseas

Presidential Appointees (non-Board members)

Reporting to the President:

UN Liaison
 US Liaison
 Counselors' Coordinator
 Conference Co-Chairs

Reporting to the 1st Vice President:

Advertising Manager
 Public Relations
 Social Media Manager
 Forum Editor(s)
 Website Manager
 Web Update Coordinator
 Web Hosting Manager

Reporting to the 2nd Vice President:

Club Workshops Coordinator
 Club Presidents Coordinator
 Regional Coordinators
 Membership Chair

Reporting to the 3rd Vice President:

Task Force and Committee Chairs
 Biennial Committee Chairs (Nominating, Resolutions and Recommendations, Finance)
 FAWCO Youth Program Chair
 Target Program Chair

Reporting to the Treasurer:

Assistant Treasurer

FAWCO Regions

Regions

Region 1:	United Kingdom and Ireland
Region 2:	Nordic Countries and Russia
Region 3:	France and Spain
Region 4:	Belgium, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands
Region 5:	Austria and Germany
Region 6:	Liechtenstein and Switzerland
Region 7:	Africa
Region 8:	Greece and Italy
Region 9:	Middle East
Region 10:	The Americas
Region 11:	Asia Pacific

FAWCO OFFICERS' REPORTS

President's Report

It is my privilege to have served as FAWCO President from 2011-2015 – a double term. While staying true to our founder Caroline Curtis Brown's belief that *enlightened women, working cooperatively throughout the world, could do much to help achieve international peace*, FAWCO has evolved over the past four years to become more focused, more consequential, more nimble and youth-oriented. I am grateful for the passion and hard work of our volunteers, and am particularly proud of their work to accomplish the following:

I. HIGHLIGHTS

GLOBAL ISSUES

More focus, more activism at the UN

The focus of FAWCO's UN work has been sharpened to "improving the lives of women and girls in the areas of education, environment, health and human rights" and the Global Issues Task Forces are aligned with these four areas. For the first time, we sponsored a high-level UN Human Rights Council Panel (2011) and helped organize the Beijing +20 NGO Regional Review Forum in Geneva with 700 NGO representatives in attendance (2014). FAWCO is on the Boards of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women in Geneva and Vienna and Chair of the Advocacy Committee of the Working Group on Girls in New York.

FAWCO Club Members' interest and participation in UN events has reached unprecedented numbers: sixteen women attended the Beijing +20 Review Forum in Geneva and seventeen women from FAUSA, Europe and Australia will be attending the UN 59th Commission on the Status of Women (March 2015).

We became a member of UN Women and continue to explore partnerships with like-minded NGOs. Thanks to the leadership and dedication of UN Liaisons Pam Perraud (2005-2013) and Sara von Moos (2014), FAWCO has gained more visibility and credibility in the United Nations network.

Engaging the Next Generation

In 2013, the FAWCO Youth Program was launched with the mission to promote cultural understanding and raise awareness of global issues in our youth and help them develop into responsible and caring citizens, expanding the FAWCO "global family". The Youth Program has three modules: 1) Cultural Volunteers Program - a weeklong program hosted by a FAWCO Club with hands-on volunteerism and exposure to the local culture; 2) Youth Ambassador – a gap year program for a high school graduate to travel the world and promote the FAWCO Youth Program, hosted by FAWCO Member Clubs; and 3) UN Youth Rep - FAWCO currently have two UN Youth Reps in New York, Gavin Higbie and Vali Mitsakis, attending meetings and blogging about them. The Cultural Volunteers Program hosted 7 teens in Dubai (2013) and 15 teens in Shanghai (2014). FAWCO Youth Ambassador Julia Goldsby has traveled to Asia, Europe, the Middle East and Morocco. Thank you to all the Clubs who hosted and supported our Youth Program. You have given our young people unforgettable experiences and new perspectives on the world.

Global Issues at the Local Level

Seventy-eight percent of our Clubs participated in the Target Water Program, and many are collecting bras and donating money for the Target Program - Human Rights for Women. FAWCO Clubs were mobilized by the Human Rights Task Force to join in global campaigns such as Join Me on the Bridge, 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, and One Billion Rising.

For the first time, FAWCO Club Members participated in hands-on volunteering at a Regional Meeting. I had the honor of attending Region 9 (Middle East)'s first Regional in 2011, but regret to have missed this year's productive meeting in Amman. The focus was on the refugee crisis in the region: participants not only discussed this serious humanitarian crisis with high-level experts and each other, but they also volunteered at a refugee community center.

New tagline: FAWCO – empowering women worldwide since 1931

FAWCO embraced our newly sharpened focus by changing our tagline from "*serving overseas Americans and the international community since 1931*" to "*empowering women worldwide since 1931*". Since our founding, FAWCO has empowered women – from Club Members to women in need - now, we make it part of our identity.

US ISSUES

Hard to believe that four years ago, Tax and Banking was not such a critical issue for Americans overseas. In 2012, Margaret Spethmann volunteered to chair the FAWCO Tax and Banking Committee and brought the Committee's work to another level with regular bulletins, resource links and workshops. Margaret stepped down this year due to family obligations, but her committee continues with several members from AWC Düsseldorf.

Tax and Banking workshops and webinars have been in demand by FAWCO Member Clubs. Club Workshops Sponsor Esquire Group presented workshops at many Clubs in 2014. Also this year, FAWCO's advertiser Greenback Expat Tax Services held a free webinar for FAWCO Club Members.

FAWCO continues to be a trusted source of information for our members and their voice in Washington. This year, for Overseas Americans Week (March 2015), FAWCO will have a delegation of five, also an unprecedented number. At the time of this writing, we plan to meet with our representatives, the State Department, the Treasury Department, the American Bankers Association and the Women's Caucus.

MEMBER SERVICES

Value-added member services

FAWCO leveraged new technology to better support our Member Clubs:

- Successfully implemented in 2011, the FAWCO Best Practices online library now holds 75 best practices from 36 Clubs.
- The Club Workshop Program was successfully relaunched (2013) with Coordinator Mary Adams. There are presentations on the UN, global issues, US issues, Club management, and general information on FAWCO/TFF/FAUSA. Club Presidents' Coordinator Leslie Collingridge conducted the first FAWCO webinar on Conflict Management (2014). These are all free of charge and available upon request to FAWCO Member Clubs.

Four successful annual conferences

I thank the host clubs – AWC Dublin (2012), AWC Bern (2013), AWC Brussels (2014) and AWA Rome (2015) – for their tireless and passionate work to ensure that FAWCO members enjoyed four inspiring, content-rich and fun conferences. We had some special moments such as in Dublin when President Michael D. Higgins of Ireland applauded the work of FAWCO in a targeted 25 minute speech, in Bern when US Ambassador to the UN Betty King “joined FAWCO on the Bridge” on International Women's Day, or in Brussels when six fourth graders talked about Human Rights and brought the audience to tears. These annual global get-togethers are important for our family of FAWCO clubs to exchange, share and experience the wonderful atmosphere of empowerment and sisterhood that we call “FAWCO Fever”.

Club outreach – the personal contact

Every year, I have had the pleasure of attending at least four Regional Meetings, interacting with about half of our Clubs in the process. Regionals are an important channel for FAWCO networking and I would like to thank the Clubs who hosted. It was good for me to get to know each Region's character as well as to understand what challenges Clubs in each Region are facing and how FAWCO can help. Since 2013, webpages have been created for the meetings to share presentations, videos and photos with members at home.

There are two other times in the year when I have had personal, albeit written, contact with every Club. Since 2013, the Club President and FAWCO Rep have received a personal email from me at membership renewal time, thanking the Club for their FAWCO membership and listing the highlights for the year, focusing particularly on member benefits. By January of each year, I also send a personal invitation to every Club which has not registered for the Conference. In general, the feedback has been that Clubs enjoy these personal touches.

I wish I could have made more personal visits to individual Clubs, but with small children, a commuting husband, and a limited travel budget, it was not possible. For that, I relied on fellow FAWCO Board members to make personal contacts with Clubs when they travel.

PHILANTHROPY

Disaster Relief

In 2011, the Emergency Relief Fund was renamed **Disaster Relief Fund (DRF)** to alleviate the "emergency" requirement and allow for support of recovery as well as rebuilding projects. There are four new requirements: the requesting Member Club 1) must have full support of the Club's Board, 2) must contribute to the Fund, 3) will be asked to research and suggest at least one recipient organization/ project, and 4) should have a personal connection with the disaster or the recipient organization.

During the past four years, we initiated four DRFs and raised \$5600 for Japan earthquake victims, \$3000 for Hurricane Sandy in New York, \$8500 for the victims of Typhoon Haiyan in The Philippines, and \$1578 plus direct donations of € 2250 from AIWC Cologne and AWC Zurich for support of families and survivors of Ebola in Liberia.

Target Program

By all accounts, the first Target Water Program (2009-2013) was a resounding success. The final donation amount was over \$168,000, resulting in the creation of 268 Family Wells and 371 Field Wells, with 78% club participation in either awareness raising activities and/or fundraising. Target Chair Anne van Oorschot received a Caroline Curtis Brown Spirit Award in 2013 for her tireless work during the previous two years.

The second Target Program “Human Rights for Women” (2013-2016), with Johanna Dishongh as Chair, had an active year in 2014 with education and awareness through presentations at Regional Meetings and Clubs, publication of monthly Target Bulletins, and activity on the Target Facebook Group. *Free The Girls* was announced at the Brussels Conference as the Target Project and The FAWCO Foundation launched their *Backing Women* Fundraising Campaign. By the end of 2014, nearly \$67,000 has been raised (over half the goal) with Club donations at 39% (with the rest being individual donations, boutique purchases and other fundraising activities by TFF). I encourage Clubs to plan more fundraisers in 2015 and help *Free The Girls* become sustainable and expand their program into new countries.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Being a virtual organization with volunteers all over the world, we needed to institutionalize our administrative processes. We created handbooks for all the Committees and Task Forces, as well as Communication Guidelines. We captured conference statistics for the last 10 years and updated the Conference Planning Manual. The Board thoroughly edited the Administrative Guidelines twice (2012, 2014), and the website was redesigned and upgraded twice (2011, 2013) to increase user-friendliness and improve content. We also successfully implemented online Club profiles and the online membership renewal system to facilitate these tasks for our Clubs.

The FAWCO Archives found a permanent home at The Expatriate Archive Centre (EAC) in The Hague. With Board approval, I signed the contract in January 2015 and the physical transfer of the archives will take place in early 2015. Archives Chair Emily van Eerten will volunteer to assist during the archive preservation process by providing first-hand knowledge of our history. She hopes to enlist the help of other FAWCO Counselors living nearby.

The concept of an Interim Meeting (IM) between the Biennial Conferences was re-introduced to reduce costs and efforts. While the Biennial is a 4-day conference with external speakers and guest programs, the IM will be held for two days over a weekend and will focus on FAWCO and Club business. The meeting fee will be kept under €300. The Sites Committee’s name has been changed to “Event Planning Committee” and its responsibilities expanded to include the planning and execution of IMs.

SEAMLESS COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE SISTER ORGANIZATIONS

Effective collaboration has been facilitated by increased communication and clear responsibilities among the three sister organizations. FAWCO and The FAWCO Foundation’s (TFF) Presidents continue to attend each other’s Board meetings as a non-voting member, providing needed input into Board discussions. While being clearly a separate organization, TFF demonstrated goodwill and integration with FAWCO by realigning their Development Grant Program with FAWCO’s four areas of focus on global issues. The two Boards jointly selected the Target Issue (Human Rights for Women) and clarified roles and responsibilities for the Program with TFF embracing Target fundraising and FAWCO responsible for education and awareness. FAWCO reached out to FAUSA to engage FAUSA members in Cities for CEDAW, a UN Women-driven initiative in the USA. FAUSA continues to send the largest delegation to FAWCO conferences and is one of the strongest financial supporters of TFF’s programs.

I would like to extend my appreciation to The FAWCO Foundation Presidents Melissa Mash (2010-2012) and Michele Hendrikse DuBois (2012-2015), and FAUSA Presidents Lee Sorenson (2011-2013) and Janet Darrow (2013-2015) for their generous support. I look forward to the continued friendship and collaboration between our organizations.

II. CHALLENGES

Membership

One challenge for FAWCO continues to be Membership. Chair Elizabeth Abbot has been very proactive in reaching out to past FAWCO Clubs, AWCs and IWCs which are not FAWCO members– in 2014 alone, she was in communication with over 60 potential Clubs. The long process of joining FAWCO starts with getting to know each other through an ongoing conversation.

FAWCO has two sources of income: advertising and membership dues. With advertising down and no change in the price of dues in the past twenty years, it is critical that FAWCO increases the number of Member Clubs. Unfortunately, during these last four years, we have seen a considerable reduction in the number of our Clubs – due mostly to uncontrollable factors: Club closure, Club change of focus, or government regulation. But there were those who did not renew because they did not see the benefits of FAWCO for their Club. We must work even harder to “bring FAWCO to the Clubs” and bring the global benefits to the local level – investing in new and enhanced technology for more personal, albeit virtual, contact.

The Board decided to make an investment with a special offer to new Clubs to give them enough time and opportunity to see the benefits of FAWCO. The offer is 1) pay for one year and get two years’ membership, and 2) a rebate of membership fee or \$100 whichever is less should the Club send a representative to the FAWCO conference in their first year of membership.

With all this effort, we are happy to welcome AWC Oakville (Ontario, Canada) in 2014, adding another country to our roster.

Financial Sustainability

FAWCO is financially very stable with a large reserve and an Endowment Fund; however, we do face challenges to remain in the black each year. Advertisers are more savvy and with other options of online ads (eg. Google ads) being so affordable and targeted, FAWCO advertisers have become more selective. We have also experienced a decrease in conference sponsorship as companies decide to spend their marketing budget more on targeted ads with higher immediate returns than goodwill sponsorship. With the reduced advertising, sponsorship and membership, FAWCO needs to be more creative about our revenue sources to maintain sustainability.

III. THANK YOUs

For 2014, I thank our departing volunteers: Sara von Moos (UN Liaison), Kristina Didouan (PR Manager), Debbie Hastings (Web Host Manager), Margaret Spethmann (US Tax and Banking Committee Chair), Leslie Collingridge (Club Presidents' Coordinator), Eileen Green-Doyle (Region 1 Coordinator), Celeste Brown (Region 4 Coordinator), Jonsi Andrews (Region 6 Coordinator), Arline Coward (Region 7 Coordinator), Shannon McCarthy (Region 8 Co-Coordinator), Nancy Ward (Health Task Force Co-Chair and Sites Committee Co-Chair), and Erica Higbie (Human Rights Task Force Chair).

I would like to welcome our new appointments: Laurie Richardson (UN Liaison), Danielle Diamond (PR Manager), Veronica Opladen (Web Host Manager), Yvonne Veger (Region 1 Coordinator) Susan Ailleris (Region 4 Coordinator), Kathleen Simon (Region 6 Coordinator), Sahar Elhallak (Region 7 Coordinator), Kathi Savoury (Region 10 Coordinator), Jane McCall Politi (UN Rep NYC), Elisabeth von Sachse (UN Rep Geneva), Vali Mitsakis (UN Youth Rep), Deborah Gutowitz (College Guidance Chair), Aranddeep Degun (Education Task Force Chair), Therese Hartwell (Human Rights Task Force Chair) and Madeline Hendricks (Human Rights Task Force member).

I wish to thank every FAWCO volunteer who gives her time, talent and dedication to help FAWCO pursue our mission, every FAWCO Club Member who has contributed to our programs one way or another, and every FAWCO Friend and Sponsor who supports our work. Lastly, I am deeply grateful to my fellow Board members for their unfailing support. They constantly amazed me with their dedication, professionalism, intelligence and wisdom.

I finish my double-term, thankful for the privilege of contributing to this formidable organization, and through it, of making a difference in the lives of those we touched. It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as your President.

Respectfully submitted,

*My-Linh Kunst (AWC Berlin)
FAWCO President 2011-15*

First Vice President's Report

FAWCO Communications

The goal of FAWCO's **Communications Team** has remained the same this past year, to keep FAWCO Member Clubs connected to FAWCO and updated with all of the latest FAWCO news. The team continues to keep the website user friendly and up to date, to deliver quality publications, to promote FAWCO and share our achievements through timely press releases and the social media, to find quality sponsors and advertisers to help fund the expenses of running the organization, and to work behind the scenes to ensure a smoothly run conference. The following report details the hard work that it takes to keep FAWCO communications on track.

FAWCO's Website Manager, **Catherine "Cat" Conner** (AWC Hamburg) has guided FAWCO and the 29 Clubs that webhost with FAWCO through an unseen change to a new webserver. Rather than a reseller account we have chosen a managed virtual private server (VPS) which allows for more performance and a better ability to control how our server resources are used as our account has outgrown a shared solution. Additionally, BigScoots, our new webserver, offers multi-PHP support. All of this means that FAWCO website visitors enjoy a better performing website. Helping Cat through the migration to the new server were Web Hosting Manager, **Debbie Hastings** (FAUSA) who stepped down last Fall, ably assisted by her replacement, **Veronica Opladen** (AIWC Genoa). When members read new articles on the website or new members register, they are seeing the more visible work of Web Update Manager, **Kristin Haanaes** (AWC Oslo) and **Elizabeth Slaughter-Ek** (AWC Malmo), Registration Manager.

Also highly visible are FAWCO's **Publications**.

- Two issues of *The Forum*, edited by **Kristina Didouan** (AAWE Paris) and layout done by **Kristin Haanaes** (AWC Oslo) were published in 2014. The Summer issue had 844 downloads (from June 2013 until January 2014) while the Winter issue had 166 downloads (from December 2013 until January 2014).
- 718 subscribers received four issues of *Connections – Letter from Headquarters* in 2014, January 2014 (1461 website views) Spring (1211 website views), Fall (348 website views) and Winter (154 website views as of January 15, 2015).
- During 2014 eleven issues of *News in Brief* were published and sent to 450 subscribers with an average of 545 hits.
- In addition, there have been *E-Bulletins* sent to interested subscribers from the **UN Liaison** (two issues with an average 53.5% open rate), the **US Liaison** (four issues with an average 57 % open rate) the **Target Program** (seven issues with an average 52.5% open rate), the Global Issues Task Forces: **Environment** (5 issues with an average 51.6% open rate), and **Human Rights** (eight issues with an average of 50.75% open rate), as well as the **Club Presidents' Post** (three issues with an average 68% open rate)
- The FAWCO logo tag line has been updated: "empowering women worldwide since 1931".
- The *Communication Guidelines* as well as the *Press Kit* webpage have been updated and expanded to include templates for FAWCO documents as well as detailed instructions for FAWCO editors. These are all found on the FAWCO website under "Admin Documents."

The Public Relations Manager **Kristina Didouan** (AAWE Paris) stepped down at the end of the year and **Danielle Diamond** (AWC Luxembourg) took over the PR duties. The PR Manager and the **Social Media** team work hard to keep FAWCO visible to not only members but the public as well. Under "FAWCO in the News" in 2014, FAWCO was mentioned seven times in various publications including The Wall Street Journal, The American Hour, American in Britain Magazine, and UNHCR Stories.

Facebook Manager **Melissa Roy** (FAUSA) has reported that there have been 123 posts throughout 2014, with an average reach of 74 people per post. The post with the highest reach, 748, was this post in November: "FYA Julia Goldsby's Impressions from UN NGO CSW Forum in Geneva". The average total impressions were 143 (meaning many people saw the posts more than once) and average interaction was just under 5 per post (this includes likes, shares, comments, link clicks and "other clicks").

Ellie Badanes, Twitter Manager, reports that there have been 69 tweets sent, 23 tweets retweeted, FAWCO was mentioned in 65 tweets and retweeted 33 times. Ten of our tweets were favorited, and we picked up 73 new followers. Since we joined Twitter in 2009, FAWCO has sent 187 tweets and has 184 followers. The bottom line for 2014 was a strong year for FAWCO on Twitter. We elevated our presence on the platform, gained followers and saw @fawco favorited, mentioned and retweeted.

Hoping to be visible to FAWCO members are our **Advertising** partners. 2014 has been a better year, but unfortunately, we are still under budget (\$11,172.58 out of a budgeted \$15,000). Another setback is that there is no Advertising Manager. In spite of these challenges, during 2014 we had three sponsors and four advertisers: Clements and Expat Tax Services are our Diamond Sponsors while College Goals, School Placement Consulting, Green-back Expat Tax Services, and Artio Partners are our Advertisers. Esquire Group is our first-ever Club Workshop Sponsor. There has been a lot of interest from tax preparation services: four of our advertisers are in this field. To keep FAWCO competitive, the Ad Rate Card has been updated. Unfortunately, at the end of 2014, Clements informed FAWCO that they will not be renewing their sponsorship.

Working behind the scenes, the conference Communications Team ensured that the Brussels conference got high visibility. Thanks to Christine Funke (AIWC Cologne), Dan Mulcahy and the all of the AWC Brussels volunteers, there was a daily newsletter, photos, recorded presentations and workshops that were all uploaded to the FAWCO website so that those unable to attend were able to share in the excitement of catching “FAWCO Fever.” During the year the **Conference Communication Guidelines** continue to be refined to ensure the online and on site presence at the annual conference works seamlessly.

Without the hard work and dedication of the **Communications Team**, none of this could have been achieved. Many thanks to all of the volunteers who make this possible.

Respectfully submitted,

*Monica Jubayli
First Vice President, Communications*

Second Vice President’s Report

Member Clubs

In my second year as FAWCO Second Vice President, I worked to inform and support our network of FAWCO Reps and Presidents as well as Regional Coordinators. FAWCO is continually expanding its activities, for instance through the Youth Program and the UN team, thereby increasing the value of FAWCO membership to our Clubs. My goal has been to help clubs become aware of and take advantage of the benefits available to them through the FAWCO Network.

Member Club Support and Communications

Member Club Support is one of FAWCO’s four “pillars” and of paramount importance. The FAWCO network provides resources, information and ideas to help our Member Clubs thrive. The Club Development Workshops program became fully operational, and the online Best Practice Library expanded by another ten entries from six Clubs. Our challenge lies in motivating Clubs to avail themselves of these free resources.

A key part of my job entailed keeping in touch with Club Reps and Presidents, as well as welcoming and giving orientation to new Reps and Presidents. Online Club profiles are now nearly universally understood and updated, making our lines of communications more effective. I published 11 “News in Brief” newsletters in 2014 (monthly except for a combined Summer issue), sending the latest news from the FAWCO Board, UN and US Liaisons, Target Chair, Youth Program Chair, FAWCO Foundation President and FAUSA to all Club Presidents and Reps, all RCs and a subscription list of around 460 people.

Facebook continues to be an informal forum for discussion and sharing ideas, especially in the closed group I moderate for Presidents and Reps, which currently numbers about 80 members from over 50 Clubs.

Regional Meetings/Club Visits

I had the privilege of attending and speaking at four of FAWCO’s five Regional Meetings in 2014, as well as the first Inter-Club Meeting of the three FAWCO Clubs in Morocco, hosted by AIWC Casablanca last February. More recently, in January 2015 I attended and addressed the second Moroccan Inter-Club Meeting, hosted by AIWA Rabat. The Region 1 meeting was hosted by AWC of Central Scotland in September, Region 2 hosted by AWC Oslo in October, Region 4 hosted by AWC The Hague and Region 5 hosted by AWC Hamburg, both in November. Region 9 met in Amman, Jordan, in December with other regional Clubs not part of FAWCO but shar-

ing common goals and interests. In addition, I visited the Chilterns AWC last March and made a presentation to AAWE Paris in December.

Reps and RCs

The FAWCO network depends on the Representatives designated by our Member Clubs to keep information flowing between the Clubs and the Board, Liaisons, Task Forces and other Chairs. Regional Coordinators provide vital help and support to the Reps in their Region and assist with Regional Meetings. I am happy to report that, as of January 2015, all 11 FAWCO Regions now have Regional Coordinators."

At the Interim Conference in Brussels in 2014, Rep Appreciation Awards were given to Mary Adams (ANCOR), Catarina Clemente Kersten (Augsburg IWA) and Maggie Palu (AWG Languedoc-Roussillon).

Membership and Outreach

Membership Chair Elizabeth Abbot has been very active in contacting prospective American Women's Clubs as well as International Women's Clubs and following up with them. FAWCO was delighted to welcome one new Club in 2014, returning member AWC Oakville (Ontario, Canada), but sad to lose AWC Auckland and AWC Thailand. At the end of 2014, FAWCO's membership stood at 65 Clubs in 34 countries. We launched a pilot program of accepting individual members from Region 9 (Middle East) in 2014 for areas where a FAWCO Club is not available due to country restrictions and have welcomed several individual members.

Club Presidents' Coordinator

Leslie Collingridge (Chilterns AWC) ably continued in her third year as Club Presidents' Coordinator, sending messages to Club Presidents and acting as a resource for Club Presidents' questions and challenges which require advice and/or support.

She continued to offer "for Presidents only" conference calls, providing a forum for Club Presidents to discuss their challenges with fellow Member Club Presidents and Leslie. Leslie also conducted the first web-based presentation of the Conflict Management presentation she delivered at the Brussels conference. She also participated in the Region 1 meeting held in Edinburgh in September.

Club Development Workshops and Presentations

The Club Development Workshop and Presentation Program, impeccably coordinated by Mary Adams (AWC The Hague), aims to raise awareness, share information and empower Clubs to take full advantage of the FAWCO experience. In August of 2014, FAWCO welcomed Esquire Group as a sponsor for the overall program.

Workshops are designed to help Presidents and Boards tackle finance, by-laws, conflict resolution, team-building and improving presentation skills, while presentations aim to raise Club awareness of various aspects of FAWCO. Each workshop and presentation has an information sheet on the FAWCO website describing its purpose, objectives and benefits. In 2014, the most effective venue for presentations was onsite at Regional Meetings by FAWCO members.

FAWCO/TFF - seven meetings (Regions 1,2,4,5,9, Morocco and to AAWE and CAWC)

Target Program – six meetings (Regions 1,2,4,5,9 and ANCOR)

Youth Program – four meetings (Regions 1,2,4,5)

UN/NGO Issues – one meeting (Region 2)

In 2014, two US Tax and Banking Issues presentations were given. Greenback Expat Tax Services held a free webinar for FAWCO Club Members, with approximately 72 participants from France, Germany, The Netherlands and the United Kingdom. Member feedback supported the use of a webinar as a conferencing tool. The Esquire Group made the second presentation to AWC Amsterdam's October general meeting.

Thanks

I would like to thank everyone who helped me to be as effective as possible on the job, in particular Regional Coordinators Eileen Green Doyle (Region 1), Kara Fairchild (Region 2), Kim Mousseron (Region 3), Celeste Brown (Region 4), Angelika McLarren (Region 5), Jonsi Andrews (Region 6), Arline Coward (Region 7), Ann De Simoni and Shannon McCarthy (Region 8), Louise Greeley-Copley (Region 9) and Kath Balfour (Region 11), as well as Club Workshops Coordinator Mary Adams, Club Presidents' Coordinator Leslie Collingridge and Membership Chair Elizabeth Abbot. FAWCO Website Manager Cat Conner has been a model of patience, wisdom and instruction. Last but not least, my friends and colleagues on the FAWCO Board as well as The FAWCO Founda-

tion Board have been unfailing sources of support, ideas and feedback. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve as FAWCO 2nd Vice President: I have learned so much from the many women who work tirelessly to make FAWCO ever more relevant, and I have been inspired by their example.

Respectfully submitted,

*Sallie Chaballier, AAWE Paris
Second Vice President, Member Clubs*

Third Vice President's Report Committees and Task Forces

In 2014, FAWCO's Global Issues Task Forces, the Target Program and the FAWCO Youth Program continued their excellent work.

The four Task Forces – Education, Environment, Health and Human Rights, in line with FAWCO's four priority areas of focus – provided information and raised awareness of these priority issues among FAWCO Member Clubs around the world, engaging Clubs in various activities, for example, suggesting that Clubs organize local book discussions, video showings, and other campaigns. Details of Task Force activities in 2014 are included in the separate Task Force Reports.

The 2013 – 2016 Target Program: Human Rights for Women continues to be a focal point for education, awareness and fundraising in FAWCO Clubs. In March 2014 at the Brussels Conference, **Free The Girls** was announced as the winning Target Project, and The FAWCO Foundation launched fundraising with the **Backing Women** campaign. Target Program Chair Johanna Dishongh (AWC The Hague) is the central point of contact for the program; her Target Program Report for 2014 provides more information.

FAWCO's Youth Program was launched in 2013 at the Bern Conference to promote volunteerism, community service and cultural awareness among FAWCO members' teenagers. Barbara Bühling (AWC Düsseldorf) continued to serve as Youth Program Chair in 2014, and Robin Meloy Goldsby (AIWC Cologne) joined the team as Co-Chair in early 2014. Fourteen FAWCO teenagers from eight countries participated in the second Cultural Volunteers Program in Shanghai in July 2014. Thanks to AW Shanghai for hosting another successful week. The Youth Program added a new module in 2014: the FAWCO Youth Ambassador, and we had two FAWCO Youth Reps at the UN in New York. See the Youth Program Report for details.

FAWCO Administrative Committees provide the essential support that keeps the organization running smoothly, from maintaining archives for posterity, to keeping the Bylaws and Administrative Guidelines current, to monitoring finances, and recruiting new Member Clubs. In 2014, the Nominating Committee and Resolutions and Recommendations Committees were appointed to identify candidates for the 2015-2017 FAWCO Board and draft Resolutions and Recommendations for the new term. Details on each Committee's activities in 2014 are included in the Committee Reports. In 2014, the Board voted to approve several organizational changes to streamline Committee work and clarify reporting relationships. The Membership Committee now reports to the 2nd Vice President for Member Clubs. US Issues Committees on Citizenship, Tax and Banking, and Voting now report to the US Liaison.

FAWCO's Global Issues Task Forces and Administrative Committees are open to Club Members, and I encourage you to get involved. We are seeking volunteers to co-chair and team members to support the Education Task Force and the Health Task Force. By participating in US and global issues advocacy work, you can share your knowledge, expand your influence, and help make the world a better place. Please contact vp-committees@fawco.org if you share our passion for this important work.

Respectfully submitted,

*Laurie Richardson (AWA Vienna)
Third Vice President, Committees and Task Forces*

Secretary's Report

I began my second year as Secretary to the FAWCO Board by taking and circulating minutes from the General Meetings at the 2014 Interim Conference in Brussels. I continued taking minutes of Board meetings and Skype calls and collecting any relevant material for archiving. Additionally, I maintained the volunteer database and the lists of Presidents' and FAWCO Representatives' email addresses in Constant Contact. About once a quarter, I updated the Directory of Volunteers and published it on the website. The last duties of my term are to compile the annual report, to take minutes of our final in-person Board meeting, to take and circulate the minutes of our General Meetings in Rome and to ensure that all relevant materials from the term are archived.

It has been a great honor to serve on the Board of 2013-15 and I thank you for giving me this wonderful opportunity.

Respectfully submitted,

*Patti Meek (AWC of Dublin)
FAWCO Secretary*

Treasurer's Report

As you can see from the financial statements presented, FAWCO continues to remain financially healthy. We are fortunate to have an Endowment Fund and a healthy fund balance.

Summary of Fiscal Year End April 30, 2014

In June 2014 the Board was informed the Brussels Conference would realize a loss of €3,656.36. This payment along with the €3,000 stipend exceeded the excess reserves set aside for conferences. The year-end books were closed and tax returns were prepared, based on this information. In September, the Board received the final report from the Conference Chairs which resulted in a loss of €2,744.85 not the €3,656.36 previously presented. Please note that because the books were closed, tax reports filed and FAWCO books under professional review, the reduction of the deficit will be reflected in the current fiscal year vs. last fiscal year.

The reported loss, on the Profit and Loss Statement is due to the following:

- Advertising came in under budget by \$11,000. It was not only difficult to attract advertisers, but as our accounting is done on an accrual basis, we no longer recognize the entire amount in the year received, but spread it over the term of the agreement.
- Membership dues came in under budget by \$1,000. This is a reflection of Clubs having fewer members.
- Operating expenses came in under budget by \$660.
- Web services were over budget by \$1,000. This was a result of updating our website.
- The overall travel budget was under budget by \$800.

Although we approve a two year budget, only one year is presented, in this report. The Finance Committee has reviewed actual income and expenses, in relationship to the approved budget. They have identified areas that require attention and will be addressed in their report. Following is what is included in each category.

- **Contributions Received Income:** Represents monies received that FAWCO turns around and donates, i.e. Disaster Relief Fund (DRF). Because we never know if we will receive contributions from Clubs, individuals or in-kind, this line item is not budgeted.
- **Sales:** This is made up of FAWCO items sold i.e., eye glass holders, pins and re-usable bags. The Cost of Goods Sold represents the cost of the items being sold.
- **Program Income:** Represents the sum of Membership Dues, Web Hosting Fees, and Domain Registration Fees.
- **Conferences:** Represents the cost for speaker and volunteer gifts, as well as stipends to Committee Chairs and/or Regional Coordinators.
- **Operations:** Reflects most other costs of running the organization, i.e., printing, postage, bank fees, supplies, etc.

Summary of Fiscal Year End April 30, 2015 as of January 31, 2015

Advertising started with a balance of \$9,216.33 from prior year distributions. This fiscal year \$4,213 has been secured from advertisers in addition to Constant Contact which has contributed \$352 as of January 31, 2015.

Operating expenses are where they should be as well as contract Services.

Pay Pal fees are a direct result of receiving the Advertisers payments via PayPal.

We have changed our service providers for Domain Registration and Hosting. The new provider will be able to provide better services to our Clubs.

The Exchange Rate Gain is a direct result of the Brussels Conference 2014.

This past November it was voted to establish a DRF for Ebola victims in Liberia. I am happy to report we raised and paid out a total of \$1,578.56 in addition to what the AIWC Cologne and AWC Zurich provided.

As of January 31, 2015 we are still missing data concerning dues owed for four Clubs. Keeping this in mind our dues revenue will look low in comparison to previous years. Again, this is a result of lower membership in many Clubs.

Included in this Annual Report are the Balance Sheet as of January 31, 2015 and a comparison of Profit and Loss, Budget vs. Actual for the same period. Also included is the Annual Report for FAWCO's fiscal year May 1, 2013 through April 30, 2014, including a statement of review and approval by an independent auditor.

Respectfully submitted,

*Cora Lee Findley (AW of the Eastern Province)
FAWCO Treasurer*

02/04/15

The Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
 May 2014 through January 2015

	May '14 - Jan 15	Budget	Over Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Contributions Received			
Club Contributions	498.56		
Individual Contributions	4,250.30		
Gifts in Kind	649.32		
Total Contributions Received	5,398.18		
Advertising	13,428.91	15,000.00	-1,571.09
Investments			
Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	61.18	150.00	-88.82
Total Investments	61.18	150.00	-88.82
Other Program Income			
Domain Registration Fees	611.59	450.00	161.59
Web Hosting Fee	2,869.75	2,700.00	169.75
Miscellaneous	214.30	0.00	214.30
Total Other Program Income	3,695.64	3,150.00	545.64
Membership Dues	11,845.94	15,350.00	-3,504.06
Sales			
FAWCO Pins	0.00	20.00	-20.00
Smart Bags	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Smart Pin	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Total Sales	0.00	620.00	-620.00
Total Income	34,429.85	34,270.00	159.85
Cost of Goods Sold			
Cost of Goods Sold			
FAWCO Pins	0.00	20.00	-20.00
Smart Bags	0.00	44.00	-44.00
Smart Pin	0.00	255.00	-255.00
Total Cost of Goods Sold	0.00	319.00	-319.00
Total COGS	0.00	319.00	-319.00
Gross Profit	34,429.85	33,951.00	478.85
Expense			
Operations			
Banking Fees	44.95	250.00	-205.05
Postage, Mailing Service	462.71	600.00	-137.29
Printing and Copying	996.92	1,000.00	-3.08
Supplies	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Headquarters	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Taxes	0.00	50.00	-50.00
Regional Coordinators Expenses	0.00	800.00	-800.00
Miscellaneous	70.42		
Total Operations	1,575.00	3,000.00	-1,425.00
Contract Services			
Accounting Fees	325.00	325.00	0.00
Web Hosting Services	0.00	400.00	-400.00
Web Managing Fee	1,932.76	4,000.00	-2,067.24
Total Contract Services	2,257.76	4,725.00	-2,467.24
Travel and Meetings			
Event Ticket	0.00	700.00	-700.00
Hotel	1,143.52	3,660.00	-2,516.48
Meals	191.68	700.00	-508.32
Transportation	5,856.37	13,750.00	-7,893.63
Conference, Convention, Meeting	3,079.07	5,250.00	-2,170.93
Travel and Meetings - Other	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total Travel and Meetings	10,270.64	24,360.00	-14,089.36

02/04/15

The Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
 May 2014 through January 2015

	<u>May '14 - Jan 15</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Over Budget</u>
Merchant Fees			
Pay Pal Fees	133.87	225.00	-91.13
Total Merchant Fees	133.87	225.00	-91.13
Business Registration Fees	318.41	320.00	-1.59
Domain Registration	302.81	305.00	-2.19
Reseller Hosting Fee	1,131.73	800.00	331.73
Total Expense	15,990.22	33,735.00	-17,744.78
Net Ordinary Income	18,439.63	216.00	18,223.63
Other Income/Expense			
Other Expense			
Exchange Gain or Loss	-1,081.69		
Total Other Expense	-1,081.69		
Net Other Income	1,081.69		
Net Income	19,521.32	216.00	19,305.32

02/04/15

The Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas
Balance Sheet
As of January 31, 2015

	Jan 31, 15
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Washington Federal	
Washington Federal Master	87,477.01
Washington Federal Checking	6,525.68
Total Washington Federal	94,002.69
UBS	62,053.35
Total Checking/Savings	156,056.04
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable - EUR	3,820.15
Accounts Receivable	386.38
Total Accounts Receivable	4,206.53
Other Current Assets	
Prepaid Expense	860.46
Undeposited Funds	1,231.04
Total Other Current Assets	2,091.50
Total Current Assets	162,354.07
Other Assets	
Inventory	
FAWCO Pins	184.00
Smart Bags	372.08
Smart Pin	1,133.31
Total Inventory	1,689.39
Marketable Securities	
Washington Federal CD 18 mo	12,017.92
Washington Federal CD 12 mo	85,543.07
Total Marketable Securities	97,560.99
Total Other Assets	99,250.38
TOTAL ASSETS	261,604.45
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable - EUR	53,342.66
Accounts Payable	25.00
Total Accounts Payable	53,367.66
Other Current Liabilities	
Deferred Income	1,977.08
Total Other Current Liabilities	1,977.08
Total Current Liabilities	55,344.74
Total Liabilities	55,344.74
Equity	
Fund Balance	98,098.03
Temp. Restricted Net Assets	
Conference Excess	2,819.69
Founders Circle	4,650.39
Quasi Endowment Fund	80,511.12
Total Temp. Restricted Net Assets	87,981.20
Unrestricted Net Assets	659.16
Net Income	19,521.32
Total Equity	206,259.71
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	261,604.45

THE FEDERATION OF AMERICAN
WOMEN’S CLUBS OVERSEAS

Independent Auditor’s Review Report,

&
Financial Statements

For the Year Ended April 30, 2014

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

To the Board of Directors of the Federation of
American Women's Clubs Overseas ("FAWCO"):

I have reviewed the accompanying balance sheets of the Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas at April 30, 2013 and 2014, and the statement of revenues, expenses and fund balance, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. My responsibility is to issue a report on these financial statements based on my review.

I conducted my review in accordance with the International Standard on Review Engagements 2400. This Standard requires that I plan and perform the review to obtain moderate assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. A review is limited primarily to inquiries of company personnel and analytical procedures applied to financial data and thus provides less assurance than an audit. I have not performed an audit and, accordingly, I do not express an audit opinion

Based on my review, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that the accompanying financial statements do not give a true and fair view (or are not presented fairly, in all material respects) in accordance with International Accounting Standards.



Patrick D. Hamner, CPA
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia
October 8, 2014

THE FEDERATION OF AMERICAN WOMEN'S CLUBS OVERSEAS

<u>BALANCE SHEET AS OF APRIL 30,</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
	<u>ASSETS</u>	
NON-CURRENT ASSETS:		
Inventory	1,689	1,927
Marketable Securities	<u>97,561</u>	<u>97,279</u>
Total Non-Current Assets	99,250	99,206
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash	112,752	96,220
Accounts Receivable	0	9,368
Other Current Assets	<u>0</u>	<u>1,677</u>
Total Current Assets	112,752	107,265
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 212,003</u>	<u>\$ 206,470</u>

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

FUND BALANCE:		
Fund Balance	98,098	106,930
Temporary Restricted Net Assets	<u>85,162</u>	<u>98,190</u>
Total Fund Balance	183,260	205,120
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Accounts Payable	19,527	1,350
Other Current Liabilities	<u>9,216</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>\$ 28,743</u>	<u>\$ 1,350</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	<u>\$ 212,003</u>	<u>\$ 206,470</u>

See notes to financial statements.

THE FEDERATION OF AMERICAN WOMEN'S CLUBS OVERSEAS

**STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND FUND BALANCE
FOR THE YEARS ENDED APRIL 30,**

	2014	2013
REVENUES:		
Contributions	\$ 13,031	\$ 9,136
Advertising	3,234	11,802
Sales		
FAWCO Pins	3	
Scarves	-	
Smart Bags	10	
Smart Pins	260	
	<u>273</u>	1,898
Cost Of Goods Sold		
FAWCO Pins	3	
Scarves	-	
Smart Bags	4	
Smart Pins	133	
Total COGS	<u>140</u>	<u>1,565</u>
Gross Margin	133	333
Investment income	333	371
Web and Domain fees	3,465	3,153
Membership Dues	14,312	15,475
Miscellaneous Income	233	61
	<u>34,742</u>	<u>40,331</u>
EXPENDITURES:		
Operations	2,340	2,768
Contract Services	5,726	3,506
Travel and Meetings	24,415	22,258
Professional Organization Fees	0	0
Donations	8,500	3,175
ER Girl's Leadership Workshop	0	2,000
Merchant Fees	208	348
Conference expenses	659	607
Other Expense	1,290	2,444
	<u>43,138</u>	<u>37,107</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	(8,397)	3,224
RECLASSIFICATION TO UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	(436)	0
RECLASSIFICATION TO TEMPORARY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	0	(5,074)
FUND BALANCE --MAY 1,	<u>106,930</u>	<u>108,780</u>
FUND BALANCE --APRIL 30,	<u>\$ 98,098</u>	<u>\$ 106,930</u>

See notes to financial statements.

FEDERATION OF AMERICAN WOMEN'S CLUBS OVERSEAS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. THE FEDERATION AND ITS OPERATIONS

Founded in 1931, FAWCO is an international network of independent volunteer clubs and associations. There are more than 75 member clubs in 40 countries worldwide, with a total membership in excess of 15,000. FAWCO serves as a resource and channel of information among its members, promotes the rights of U.S. citizens overseas; is active as a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) with consultative status to the UN Economic and Social Council; and contributes to the global community through its Task Forces and The FAWCO Foundation, which provides development grants and education awards. FAWCO and The FAWCO Foundation also collaborate on emergency funding for disaster relief.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented, unless otherwise stated.

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). The financial standards have been prepared under the accrual basis using historical cost convention.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgment in the process of applying the association's accounting policies.

b) Inventories

Inventories are stated at historical cost.

c) Cash and cash equivalents

In the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks

d) Accounts receivable

Accounts receivables are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business. If collection is expected in one year or less, they are classified as current assets.

e) Temporary Restricted Net Assets

Temporary restricted net assets represent those assets which either have a restricted use or have been designated for a specific purpose. This restricted nature prohibits them from being used in the normal course of business. As a result, management has elected to present these assets in the Fund Balance section and classify them as a reduction in Fund Balance. These assets are stated at historical cost.

f) Foreign currency translation

The U.S. dollar, the currency in which substantially all sales are priced, is the functional currency for FAWCO's operations. Non-U.S. dollar asset and liability accounts are translated at year-end at the U. S. State Department average rate of exchange during the fiscal period reported. Income statement transactions in currencies other than the U.S. dollar are recorded at rates prevailing at the time of the transaction.

2014 CONFERENCE REPORT

41st Interim Conference – Brussels, Belgium “A World of Possibilities”

With the theme of *A World of Possibilities*, FAWCO held its 41st Interim Conference in Brussels, Belgium (March 13-15, 2014) with over 110 full delegates from 43 Clubs representing every region except Region 11 (Asia and Australia).

Financials and Changes to AGs:

Due to the high costs of putting on a meeting in Brussels, the conference was shortened to 2.5 days. The conference fee was €550, with an early bird special of €460 (deadline January 10th) and a group discount for Clubs with three or more full participants. The Day Rate was €190 (without dinner) and guest fees were €175. Early bird and group discount fees were subsidized by €3000 from FAWCO. This Conference experienced a loss due to two reasons: the minimum delegate number required by the venue was not met and the lack of sponsorship. Because FAWCO is ultimately responsible for the financials of the conferences, the FAWCO Board has voted to make several changes to the AGs, most notably putting in a requirement that the main contracts for our conferences (ie. venues, hotel, etc.) be reviewed by the FAWCO President before they are signed by the Host Club.

Conference Report:

Delegates received updates on all aspects of FAWCO, as well as interacting with one another in Club Presidents only sessions and FAWCO Reps sessions. The Club Presidents talked about conflict management and discussed other Club management issues while FAWCO Reps discussed challenges and shared ideas on how to effectively bring FAWCO to their Clubs.

Three FAWCO Reps received the **FAWCO Rep Appreciation Award** for their ongoing commitment and dedication in bringing FAWCO to their Clubs: Mary Adams - American Netherlands Club of Rotterdam, Catarina Clemente Kersten - Augsburg International Women's Association, and Maggie Palu - American Women's Group of Languedoc-Roussillon.

Development workshops were given by FAWCO Counselor Celeste Brown (AWC The Hague) on *How to Make a Presentation with Confidence and Impact* and by Danielle Diamond (AWC Luxembourg) on *Is Social Media using You?* FAWCO Parliamentarian Susanne Hirschberg (AWC Düsseldorf) moderated a session on *Sharing Best Practices*.

FAWCO recognized Pam Perraud (AAWE) for her five years of service as FAWCO UN Liaison and her successor Sara von Moos (AWC Bern) made a strong first impression with FAWCO delegates in her session “FAWCO and the UN”. The UN Team made an impressive showing at the Conference with seven Representatives present and three attending by video.

Target Program Chair Johanna Dishongh (AWC The Hague) announced the selected Target Project: **Free The Girls (FTG)**, then Founder Kimba Langas and National Director Melissa Watson made an impassioned presentation about their organization. Free The Girls is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that works to provide jobs to women rescued from sex trafficking in developing countries by helping them set up micro enterprises selling bras (www.freethegirls.org). Marie-Bénédicte Luxem (AWC Zurich) launched the beautiful and exciting Target fundraising campaign “Backing Women”.

Keynote speakers were Emmy Takahashi, head of the unit Global Issues for the EU United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and Klaus van der Pas, former Director-General of the European Commission. Ms. Takahashi raised FAWCO's awareness of the plight of the 35 million refugees, asylum seekers, stateless and displaced people who compose the populations of concern to UNHCR around the world. Her presentation touched many hearts and inspired several FAWCO members living in the region impacted by the Syrian refugee crisis to get involved. In May 2014, Therese Hartwell (AWEP Saudi Arabia) went to Jordan to volunteer at a refugee camp.

Mr. van der Pas gave an impassioned speech about gender equality in developed countries. He started with the good news that equality is guaranteed by constitutions, laws and international conventions, promoted in programs and strategies, recognized as a human right and as an indispensable tool to ensure economic and social development, highlighted the continuing inequalities that remain in pay, type of work, and expectations at home. He then talked about a need to change attitudes at home, at work and in society as a whole and concluded with his

personal wish that “sooner rather than later, we will raise our eyebrows when someone wants to make a speech about equality, asking ‘Why, what’s the problem?’.

Other speakers included Dr. Amanda Klekowski von Koppenfels, who gave an informative and fascinating presentation entitled *Migrants or Expatriates? Americans in Europe* and Peta Chow, Marketing Manager for the Expatriate Archive Centre (EAC) based in The Hague. FAWCO has recently reached an agreement to transfer the FAWCO archives to the EAC on permanent loan. Our documents and photos will be meticulously digitized and indexed for researchers, as well as being preserved physically using state of the art archival methods. Peta did a great job with her animated presentation to promote the services of this organization dedicated to preserving the memoirs and artifacts of life abroad.

Conference attendees were introduced to interesting cultural aspects of Brussels, most notably an introduction to *Brussels 1900 Art Nouveau* by Chris Bourne and Ken Nesbitt’s fascinating presentation on *The Battle of Waterloo*.

The FAWCO Foundation raised over \$40,000 at the conference including their traditionally fun FAWCO Foundation dinner and auction on Friday night, themed *Around the World in 80 Bids*. FAWCO members were dressed in traditional costumes of their host country or where they are from. A portion of the money raised was donated to the conference charity STOP THE TRAFFIK (www.stophetraffik.be), a global movement of individuals, communities and organizations fighting to prevent human trafficking around the world.

The Conference was “online” so that FAWCO members at home could enjoy it from the comfort of their computer- go to www.fawco.org and click on the Brussels Conference logo for presentations, videos and pictures.

On behalf of the FAWCO Board, I would like to thank host Club AWC Brussels, Conference Co-Chairs Pam Showalter and Wendy Warren and their team of volunteers for this wonderful conference. We all left with new friends, a renewed sense of “FAWCO Fever”, and the inspiration, energy and empowerment needed to go forth and make a difference.

Respectfully submitted,

*My-Linh Kunst
FAWCO President 2011-15*

INTERIM MEETING: Special Task Force Report

The Task Force was formed by the FAWCO President to investigate the necessity of holding a conference in the interim year between FAWCO election years.

Background

FAWCO holds a biennial conference to elect a new Board, vote on new Resolutions and Recommendations and a new budget. The gathering in the intervening year is called the “interim conference” and used to include elections for The FAWCO Foundation Board. Over the years, the two gatherings have become indistinguishable. Since 2012, all elections have been synchronized and will be held at the biennial conference so that there is no administrative need to hold interim conferences. In recent times, conference attendance has decreased, sponsorship has been lacking and costs continue to rise. It is becoming increasingly difficult to find host Clubs to take on the workload and the financial challenges. The FAWCO Board has made efforts to reduce costs by cutting the length of the conference and by offering subsidies but these strategies are not sustainable.

Task Force Mission and Analysis

The mission of the Task Force was to explore the possibility of eliminating, replacing or re-designing the interim meeting without detriment to FAWCO or The FAWCO Foundation. If we proposed any changes to the status quo, we were asked to provide the Board with a viable plan of action. We were asked to consult both Boards on the matter and to try to address any concerns arising. We were also encouraged to seek out external information or expertise that we needed to complete our task.

During our discussions and consultations we identified the following concerns about eliminating an annual FAWCO meeting:

1. Club Presidents and FAWCO Reps are usually elected to a one-year term of office so half will never get to attend a FAWCO conference as a voting delegate. In some Clubs, the report on the annual conference provides the only opportunity to share information and generate excitement about FAWCO.
2. Some Regions do not hold Regional Meetings, or hold them infrequently. The annual conference is the only opportunity some members have to experience FAWCO. A Regional meeting is not an adequate substitute for a FAWCO conference because regions set their own agendas with the result that FAWCO and TFF can't be guaranteed sufficient time to communicate their message.
3. As a mostly "virtual" organization, FAWCO only comes into tangible existence once a year at our conferences. These meetings allow the organization to maintain relations with its committed members and improve relations with those who are new to FAWCO or uncertain about the benefit of membership. It provides the opportunity to showcase the work that has been accomplished for the members and by the members and to facilitate vital networking. Most importantly, it creates a wonderful atmosphere of empowerment and sisterhood that we call "FAWCO Fever".
4. We can not underestimate the damage that eliminating biennial meetings will cause in lost momentum. "Out of sight, out of mind" is a simple way to sum it up.
5. The FAWCO Foundation raises the overwhelming portion of its income and good will at the annual meeting. Awards and grants are presented annually. Donors and volunteers are identified at the annual meetings.

Recommendations

The best way forward is to hold a redesigned meeting in the interim year. The meeting, while open to the membership, will be scaled down in every sense: time length, hotel standard, number of presentations and, most especially, cost. The Interim Meeting will be held for two days, over a weekend. It should include a Welcome reception, two dinners, two lunches, two coffee breaks per day as well as a plenary meeting room, two break-out rooms and sufficient AV. The venue should be a small hotel or meeting hall near a large city with good transport links.

The "no-frills" model would eliminate printed materials and Guest programs. The Foundation might see some fundraising opportunities in providing conference bags, printed materials and pre and post tours for an additional cost. As there will be no Market Place or optional evening events, The Foundation Night will have less competition for the delegates' discretionary spending.

The Task force concluded that FAWCO can hold a two day interim meeting for less than €300 per delegate (excluding travel and accommodation). We believe that this can be accomplished with or without a host Club. The Task Force provided sample agendas and identified a number of venues, in various European locations, that fit all of the agreed parameters.

The FAWCO Board voted to approve these recommendations after they were presented at the Brussels Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

The Interim Meeting Task Force

Patti Meek (AWC Dublin, FAWCO Secretary, Chair IMTF)
Terri Knudsen (AWC Denmark, FAWCO Membership Co-Chair)
Lee Sorenson (Foundation Counselor, FAUSA Counselor)
Angelika McLarren (AWC Berlin, RC Region 5)
Angie Aebersold (AWC Bern, 2013 Conference Chair)
Celeste Brown (AWC The Hague, RC Region 4, FAWCO Counselor)
Becky Tan (AWC Hamburg, FAWCO Counselor)
Melissa Mash (AW Surrey, Foundation Counselor)
Louise Greeley-Copley (AW of the Eastern Province, RC Region 9, FAUSA Counselor)

GLOBAL ISSUES

UN Liaison's Report

2014 was an outstanding year for FAWCO at the UN. The UN Team grew in size and scope, reaching a new level of involvement at the UN and also achieving several “firsts” for FAWCO: our first UN Youth Rep, our first UN Rep to a UN agency, two executive bureau appointments to NGO CSW committees, and our first time organizing a major event at the UN.

As a primary responsibility, the FAWCO UN Team, a corps which now totals ten, collectively attended hundreds of UN meetings in New York, Geneva, Vienna and Athens, and regularly reported on outcomes to the FAWCO membership via blogs, articles on the FAWCO website, in the FAWCO Forum, FAWCO UN and Global Task Force Bulletins, and local Club newsletters, as well as posting regular entries on FAWCO's UN Friends Facebook page.

Additionally, the FAWCO UN Team stepped up its level of commitment to issues and involvement in UN committees, working groups, and initiatives, all of which led to raising FAWCO's profile at the UN to an unprecedented level. Below find highlights of the UN Team's 2014 commendable activities.

New York

As FAWCO's Main UN Representative in New York, **Erica Higbie (AWC Perth / FAUSA)** attended meetings at UN headquarters and participated in NGO committee work throughout the year.

Some of the outstanding 2014 events included the DPI/NGO Annual Conference in August, a High Level Thematic Debate on Closing the Inequality Gap, the CoNGO Membership Meeting, Open Working Group Meetings that will impact the Post 2015 Sustainable Development Goals, an interview with Nobel Laureate Joseph Stiglitz, a Panel Discussion with the five Women Security Council Ambassadors including Samantha Powers, and an International Women's Day Event on Turning Inspiration into Action with Chelsea Clinton, Melanne Vermeer and Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, and the 58th Commission on the Status of Women: Implementing the MDGs for Women and Girls.

Other sessions on topics important to FAWCO were Women Peace and Security, The Private Sector: Empowering Women Globally, Education for Global Citizens, Migration Law, CEDAW, and the 25th Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Erica disseminates information on these and other important developments at the UN in reports, presentations and through the FAWCO Human Rights Task Force, which she chairs.

Erica also continues to represent FAWCO as the Chair of the Advocacy Committee for the Working Group on Girls. In 2014, she organized meetings with over 25 Permanent Missions to the United Nations to discuss pressing issues, such as Female Genital Mutilation, Child Marriage, Trafficking, Girls' Education, and Sexual and Reproductive Rights with government representatives.

Pam Perraud (AAWE Paris / FAUSA), who retired as UN Liaison in 2013, stayed on as UN Rep for New York and Geneva and continued to provide invaluable guidance to the UN Team. Pam became the UN Team's focal point for CEDAW and took on the task of exploring potential partnerships for FAWCO. In NY, Pam joined Erica for the 3-day Annual DPI/NGO conference and attended sessions such as Global Partnerships for Sustainable Development, Fostering Women's Entrepreneurship in the Post-2015 Agenda, and Social Media, Surveillance and Information Wars. While in Geneva, she attended the First Observation of the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, convened by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. Pam also served on FAWCO's Resolutions and Recommendations Committee, providing a UN perspective in the review and realignment of the RandRs with FAWCO's current mission and objectives.

One of the year's highlights was **Gavin Higbie (son of Erica Higbie, AWC Perth and FAUSA)** joining the UN Team as our first UN Youth Rep. Gavin brought a fresh perspective to issues, a quality which shone through in his informative yet entertaining blogs. He attended both the winter and summer Youth Assemblies in NY, together with thousands of youths from around the world, to discuss the role of young people as the UN moves towards the sustainable development agenda. Gavin joined the team when the conflict in Syria became critical and was thus able to witness and report on some of the negotiations brokered at the UN, including important interventions made by the women of Syria on their participation in the peace process and recommendations for a peaceful way forward. Gavin also attended UN youth events, panel discussions on a variety of topics and the General Assembly's Open Working Group on the Sustainable Development Goals.

The addition of a UN Youth Rep to the UN Team created a positive synergy with FAWCO's growing Youth Program, who received and read Gavin's blogs, so a second FAWCO youth, **Valia Mitsakis (AWO Greece)**, was selected to join the UN Team in 2015. Valia's experience includes attending the Eleanor Roosevelt Girls Leadership Worldwide, the Global Youth Leadership Conference, representing the USA at a Youth Parliament Session in Greece and founding a Model UN Club at her high school in New York.

Geneva

In 2014, the spotlight was put on Geneva where planning was already underway for the NGO Committee on the Status of Women Geneva (NGO CSW Geneva) to host the Beijing+20 Geneva NGO Review Forum for the UNECE Region, possibly the biggest civil society gathering ever at the UN Geneva to review the progress of the Beijing Platform for Action, on November 3-5.

In February, FAWCO, as represented by UN Liaison, **Sara von Moos (AWC Bern)**, was elected Vice-President of the NGO CSW Geneva – a network of about 40 NGOs working to advance women's human rights and empowerment through engagement with the UN. Previously, in November 2013, Sara had been appointed one of the Forum's four Task Force Chairs. These two appointments put FAWCO in the center ring of this momentous event. UN Reps **Anne Riz (AWC Bern)** and **Stacy Lara (AWC Bern)** joined Sara, employing their expertise and devoting much time and energy to the organization of the Forum, Anne with a focus on finances and Stacy on communications. FAWCO Youth Ambassador, **Julia Goldsby (daughter of Robin Goldsby, AIWC Cologne)**, joined the team as an intern during the Forum, helping with a multitude of tasks both behind scenes and during the plenaries with great ease, ability and poise.

Among the Forum's 700 delegates, 16 FAWCO members were in attendance, with several playing important roles during the Forum: **Paula Daeppen (AWC Zurich)**, **Laurie Richardson (AWC Vienna)** and **Sallie Chaballier (AAWE Paris)** served as Rapporteurs for plenaries and round tables and **Robin Goldsby (AIWC Cologne)** and daughter **Julia Goldsby** composed and performed the Forum theme song, *Maybe It's You*, during the closing ceremony.

The Forum, which was a major success and was said to have re-energized the women's movement in the UNECE region, resulted in a declaration and its recommendations, which was presented to and accepted by UNECE Member States during their Beijing+20 review meeting on November 6-7. It is hoped that the content and language of this important document will continue to be incorporated as the global Beijing+20 review process continues, leading up to CSW59 and ultimately, the Post-2015 agenda.

While UN Liaison, Sara von Moos focused her attention on the organization of the Beijing+20 Forum and leadership of the NGO CSW Geneva, UN-Geneva Reps Stacy Lara, Anne Riz, Enid Burki and Paula Daeppen covered UN happenings, attending major events and any meetings pertaining to their individual focus areas.

Stacy Lara (AWC Bern), UN Team focal point for the Human Rights Council, ensured that FAWCO members received complete and thorough coverage of Geneva's most important UN body which meets three times yearly for a month at a time in March, June and September. Stacy was present during all three sessions and reported on every briefing, panel discussion and meeting that she attended and blogged weekly. To read Stacy's blog and reports on the many interesting human rights issues that were on the HRC agenda in 2014, such as contemporary slavery, right to privacy in the digital age, combating violence against journalists, female genital mutilation, the global ageing population, and the death penalty go to <http://www.fawco.org/fawco-the-un/what-we-do/current-initiatives/human-rights/human-rights-council>. Stacy will continue to cover the HRC in 2015 and deepen her involvement. She has already taken a first step by joining the Gender Issues Network, made up of Member States, UN agencies and NGOs which meets before every HRC session to draft resolutions on women's human rights issues and lobby Member States on these issues during the HRC.

Anne Riz (AWC Bern), UN Team focal point for Women's Health, attended monthly NGO CSW Geneva meetings and also sought out health related networks in Geneva. She joined a WHO working group and networked with other NGOs with health interests. Anne, who is very active in AWC Bern, organized several talks on topics such as trafficking and violence against women for Club Members interested in global issues, as well as a One Billion Rising V-Day flash mob event. Anne also promotes the White Ribbon Campaign aimed at men to end violence against women.

Enid Burki (AWC Bern) joined the UN Team in 2014 as the focal point for Women's Education. A passionate advocate of education as a fundamental human right, Enid regularly followed and reported on education trends and the activities of UN agencies taking the lead on education, such as UNESCO and the World Bank. Enid shared whatever information she came across with the UN Team, FAWCO's Education Task Force and on FAWCO's Facebook UN Friends Page. Enid also attended the Beijing+20 NGO Forum.

Covering issues that go hand-in-hand, **Anne and Enid** often attended the same UN events, such as Too Young To Wed – a high-level debate on child, early and forced marriage; The Power of Empowered Women – an interactive dialogue on the link between women’s empowerment and economic development; and the Future Policy Award – celebrating laws and policies that contribute to ending violence against women.

Paula Daeppen (AWC Zurich), served as FAWCO UN Liaison for 8 years and continues to contribute her time, knowledge and experience as the UN Team focal point for the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and for Women and Food Security. As the CRC is yet to be ratified by the US, Paula strives to educate people, especially Americans about this convention, writing articles and giving presentations on the International Day of the Child, on International Women’s Day, at the annual FAWCO conference, at AWC Zurich and other international women’s associations, always emphasizing the importance of writing to one’s congressperson.

As a board member of Biovision, Paula attends and organizes symposia on sustainable agriculture. She shares her knowledge on the subject as relevant to FAWCO members by writing articles and giving presentations on topics such reducing food waste, sustainable shopping and environmental protection.

Paula also attended the Beijing+20 NGO Forum, serving as Rapporteur for the Opening Ceremony.

Vienna

Laurie Richardson (AWA Vienna) is FAWCO’s Representative to the UN’s Vienna Office, which houses the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and Commission on Criminal Justice and Crime Prevention (CCPCJ) and thus, deals primarily with issues related to drugs, crime and trafficking.

In 2014, Laurie was elected to the Executive Committee of the NGO CSW Vienna and serves as Deputy-Secretary representing FAWCO. In her capacity, Laurie attends monthly CSW meetings, assists in the development of CSW co-sponsored side events pertaining to NGO CSW Vienna’s focus areas of violence against women and human trafficking, and takes part in the drafting of CSW Statements which are presented to the UN Commission on the Status of Women with copies sent to the Austrian Foreign Ministry and relevant embassies in Austria.

In 2014, Laurie attended symposia, panel discussions and other awareness-raising events including The Situation of Women in Afghanistan, A Safe Place for Victims of Violence in Armed Conflicts, The Evolution of UN Policies, Report on Violence Against Women in Europe, Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict, Preventing and Combating Labor Trafficking and Exploitation, Organized Crime and Sustainable Development, and Targeting Women in War.

Laurie also serves as 3rd VP for FAWCO, overseeing the Global Task Forces. She regularly attends and presents at Regional Meetings, and attended the Beijing+20 NGO Forum in Geneva where she served as Rapporteur for the Women and Economy Round Table.

Athens

Grace Christovasilis (AWO Greece), who, for years, has volunteered as a FAWCO UN Advocate in Athens with tremendous energy and enthusiasm, became FAWCO’s first representative to a UN Agency. Due to her engagement in social issues and Greece’s strategic location as a pathway for migrants and refugees, Grace was assigned to the UNHCR office in Greece and became the UN Team’s focal point for Refugees and Migration.

Grace immediately established relations with the UNHCR office in Athens to explore possibilities for collaboration. Amongst other initiatives in the works, Grace orchestrated an inspiring collaboration between the Martha Graham Dance Company and UNHCR, inviting an Afghan refugee to take part in a World Tour MasterClass. The result was a big success and this otherwise unlikely collaboration will continue, giving more refugees hope and a chance to realize their dreams. To read the full story, go to <http://stories.unhcr.org/abduols-story-greece-p31966.html>

Thanks to Grace’s UNHCR contact in Athens, it was possible to secure a speaker on the topic of human rights for the Brussels FAWCO Conference from the Brussels UNHCR office, who, in turn, inspired and galvanized Region 9 conference delegates, led by **Therese Hartwell (AWEP)**, to get involved in the refugee crisis resulting from the conflict in Syria. Therese went on to do volunteer work with refugees in Jordan and then visited the UNHCR office in Athens together with Grace. Grace’s contact helped arrange for a UNHCR speaker for a Region 9 meeting held in Amman, which offered FAWCO members the opportunity to do volunteer work with refugees. Building on the success of FAWCO’s collaboration with UNHCR, it is an objective for 2015 to explore similar opportunities in other cities where there are UN Offices and FAWCO Clubs, such as Paris (UNESCO), Rome (FAO) and Bonn (UNFCCC) - an ideal way to expand the UN Team and get more FAWCO members involved. The UN Team also looks forward to CSW59 next March, when the spotlight will be put on NY, with a record seventeen FAWCO delegates in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,

*Sara von Moos (AWC Bern)
UN Liaison*

Education Task Force Report

In 2014, the new Education Task Force had an encouraging start. During the summer, as part of International Literacy Day on September 8, and in recognition of the 2015 deadline for the UN Millennium Development Goal #2 to achieve universal primary education, the Task Force joined World Education's #Pages4Progress campaign and encouraged FAWCO Club Members worldwide to make their summer reading count. We received a great response from avid readers in FAWCO Member Clubs.

With experienced educators on board, the Task Force will be involved in various projects. In collaboration with AIWC Cologne, we are working on a pilot project to increase awareness of global issues through education. It will involve students from the local Cologne community and include workshops on Bridging Cultures, connecting through technology with their peers in Kisumu, Kenya; World Wise School/ Community; and Walking for Water. The workshops will be held from April to July 2015. Educators from the AIWCC and the Task Force will help conduct and provide advice. The workshops will be held at the Internationale Berufsakademie (IBA) in Cologne. As this pilot project involves the local community and is designed to enhance international educational relationships, the IBA will allow us to use a fully equipped lecture room for the workshops.

Future plans of the Task Force include a book drive and an exchange of information and experiences among FAWCO Clubs with projects volunteering at schools in their local communities.

Respectfully submitted,

*Arandeep D. Degun (AIWC Cologne)
Education Task Force Co-Chair*

Environment Task Force Report

The goal of the Environment Task Force is to increase awareness of environmental issues/problems as well as to provide suggestions for positive actions that Clubs and individuals can take. Bi-monthly bulletins are published on a variety of environmental topics and strive to be interesting and informative as well as personal. The goal is for Club Reps to copy and paste the information for use in their Club newsletters, enabling them to easily pass environmental awareness onto a wider group of FAWCO Members.

The September Bulletin on Climate Change was sent to 145 subscribers with an opening rate of 47.5%. In November, the Environment Bulletin gave information on the distressing link between climate change and gender, as well as providing numerous ideas for environmentally friendly (holiday) gifts. The November Bulletin went to 193 subscribers and had an opening rate of 50.3%. The goal is to increase the number of subscribers and, while an opening rate of around 50% seems rather discouraging, it is on par with other newsletters with the highest recent opening rate for non-Conference Bulletins at 62.9%. As of this writing, bulletins are planned in January, March and May 2015, with topics still to be determined.

Task Force membership was strong in the past; however, in 2014, many of those members have resigned for a variety of reasons leaving the Task Force with two members and two Co-Chairs. A larger Task Force team makes the work load easier, and getting input from a wider range of individuals adds a positive impulse to the topics. The goal is to increase the number of participating Task Force members in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

*Anne van Oorschot (AWC The Hague)
Kara Fairchild (AWC Gothenburg)
Environment Task Force Co-Chairs*

Health Task Force Report

Clubs In Motion - A program of the Health Task Force:

Since its inception in March 2014 at the Brussels Conference, eleven Clubs have signed up to participate, many of which have multiple walking and running groups. Collectively, these Clubs have walked nearly 13,000 kilometers while talking and supporting each other, and creating new friendships. Walking is not only good for the body, but for the mind and soul as well. All the more reason to sign up your club for Clubs In Motion as we walk our way around the world, with a goal of 40,000 kilometers, TOGETHER. Sign your Club's walking group up today at clubsinmotion@fawco.org.

We are looking for volunteers to join the Health Task Force and welcome your input and recommendations.

Respectfully submitted,

*Regina Menefee (AW Eastern Provence) and Nancy Ward (AWC Dublin)
Health Task Force Co-Chairs*

Human Rights Task Force Report

2014 was a year of transition for the Human Rights Task Force. In February, FAWCO's Ending Violence Against Women and Children (EVAWAC) Task Force was restructured and renamed to realign with FAWCO's newly identified areas of focus. Four committees are incorporated into the task force; Women, Peace and Conflict, Political Empowerment of Women, Economic Empowerment of Women, and Ending Violence against Women (domestic violence and global issues of violence), each with its own Chairperson (Therese Hartwell, Erica Higbie, Betsy Speer, Karen Lewis and Tonya Teichert respectively). Each Committee pursues relevant initiatives but coordinates activities, participating in monthly meetings and contributing to the Human Rights Bulletin.

The Task Force accomplished several key projects in 2014:

- Compiled Information/Resource Sheets for each of the areas of Human Rights for Women, available on the FAWCO website (Betsy Speer),
- Promoted Paula Lucas' book Harvesting Stones raising awareness about domestic violence and the work of the Americans Overseas Domestic Violence Crisis Center (Karen Lewis),
- Celebrated FAWCO member activism for Human Rights for Women with the Inspiring Women Project on International Women's Day at the FAWCO Brussels Conference (Erica Higbie),
- Provided ongoing support for the Target Project: Free the Girls (All), and
- Organized the Region 9 Syrian Women Refugee Volunteer Project (Therese Hartwell).

In addition, the Task Force continued its participation in the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence Campaign with the focus in 2014 on displaced women refugees. FAWCO Clubs embraced the initiative by attending women's conferences, raising funds, screening the film "Beyond Right and Wrong", supporting the UN Women Orange initiative, supporting the Target Program, collecting handicraft items for the Region 9 volunteer efforts, and last, but far from least, participating in the Region 9 Syrian Women Refugee Volunteer Project.

The Mission of the Human Rights Task Force is to support and encourage activism,. One of its key goals is to raise awareness about human rights for women, which was achieved in the following ways:

- Promoted One Billion Rising Campaign,
- Provided members with information about initiative such as HeForShe, Open a Door, LuminAID, E-rickshaw, World Trafficking Day, and Mosaic Mentors,
- Kept members informed about related global issues and news from the United Nations, and
- Suggested relevant books and book clubs.

A new committee member, Madeline Hendrick (AWC Amsterdam) joined the Task Force in December. She will participate on the Women, Peace and Conflict Committee with Therese Hartwell.

Respectfully submitted,

*Erica Higbie (AWC Perth, FAUSA)
Human Rights Task Force Chair*



FAWCO Youth Program

In its second year, the FAWCO Youth Program continues to grow and thrive. Robin Meloy Goldsby joined Barbara Bühling to co-chair this program. This year's activities included the second Cultural Volunteers Program held in Shanghai, Julia Goldsby as the first FAWCO Youth Ambassador, and Gavin Higbie as the first FAWCO Youth Representative to the UN Youth Assembly. There appears to be great interest and enthusiasm for the overall FAWCO Youth program and, because it is a work-in-progress, we anticipate further growth and development in 2015.

Youth Cultural Volunteers

The second FAWCO Youth Cultural Volunteers Program took place July 18-27, 2014 when fourteen FAWCO teens travelled to Shanghai for the week-long program hosted by AC Shanghai. The teens were from Germany, the Netherlands, Ireland, Austria, France, Qatar, Switzerland and the UAE. The teens were hosted in AC Shanghai members' homes and had the opportunity to do hands-on volunteering in four local charities. Participants had the opportunity to receive community service credits for their IB program, if desired. The program included cultural learning about China, as well as experiencing the sights and sounds of a new country.

The 2014 Cultural Volunteers Program participants were:

Jacob Barnes (son of Laura Barnes, AWC Dublin)
 Alexandra Brisseau (daughter of Susan Brisseau, AWA Qatar)
 Justine Denavit (daughter of Gillian Denavit, AAWE Paris)
 Renger van Eerten (son of Emily van Eerten, AWC The Hague)
 Laith Ellis (son of Sandi Ellis, FAWCO member, resident in Ajman, UAE)
 Julia Meloy Goldsby (daughter of Robin Meloy Goldsby, AIWC Cologne)
 Lucas Kimmig (son of Stacey Kimmig, AIWC Cologne)
 Charlotte Knopp (niece of Mary Jo Willemseon, AWC The Hague)
 Sarah Leser (daughter of Mia Vieyra, AAWE Paris)
 Benjamin Maher (son of Suzanne Mumma, AWC Dublin)
 Alison Moede (daughter of Tracy Moede, AWC Hamburg)
 Eric Ohlund (son of Sheila Ohlund, AWC Zurich)
 Sariah Roberts (daughter of Lynn Roberts, AWC The Hague)
 Lilian Urbancik (daughter of Catherine Milian, AWA Vienna)

Participants created a team video and wrote individual essays reflecting on their experiences. The video and essays can be viewed on FAWCO's website. Heartfelt thanks to AC Shanghai President Angela Anderson who took on the challenge of hosting fourteen teens, to the AC Shanghai host families who generously contributed to the success of the program by welcoming FAWCO Youth into their homes, and to Carol Kamphius for setting up an interesting and diverse volunteering program for the teens.

A number of Cultural Volunteers spoke at Regional Meetings and showed the Shanghai Cultural Volunteers video to inspire other teens to take part in future Programs.

FAWCO Youth Ambassador

FAWCO extends heartfelt thanks to the Clubs who participated in our FAWCO Youth Ambassador pilot program. The FYA launch was rewarding for everyone involved, and promises to be an integral part of our FAWCO Youth future plans.

In June 2014, Julia Meloy Goldsby (AIWC Cologne) was selected as the first FAWCO Youth Ambassador (FYA). The 2014 pilot program started with her accompanying the 2014 Youth Cultural Volunteers to Shanghai. Working with AC Shanghai, Julia, a veteran of the 2013 Cultural Volunteers Program in Dubai, helped with activities and produced a short film about the trip. As a future film student, Julia produced a short film for every Club that she visited. Visit Julia Goldsby's YouTube Channel to catch up on her travels and to learn more about your sister Clubs.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCN_EL449Wye575MwefgVc2Q.

Besides her films, Julia contributed in many different ways to the Member Clubs who hosted her by:

- Assisting in preparations and logistics for Regional Meetings in Regions 1, 2, 5,
- Volunteering at Club charities and charity events
- Presenting the FAWCO Youth Program to Club Members and their teens,
- Working on Club projects,
- Conducting Photography Workshops,
- Performing at a benefit concert for the Target Project,
- Serving as an Intern at the UN CSW Beijing+20 NGO Regional Forum in Geneva,
- Co-writing and performing the theme song for the UN Forum, presented at the closing ceremony.

Between June-December 2014, FYA Julia Goldsby visited the following Clubs: AWC Korea, AWC Dublin, AWC Central Scotland, AWC Oslo, AWC Bern, AWC Hamburg, and AAWWE Paris, and participated in the following FAWCO events: UN CSW Beijing+20 NGO Regional Forum, Region 1, 2 and 5 Meetings.

Upcoming travel for our FYA from January - June 2015 includes visits to AIWA Rabat, AIWC Casablanca, AIWA Marrakech, AWA Qatar, Dubai, AWA Rome and AWO Greece.

“I can’t think of any better way to see the world than through the eyes of FAWCO. Thank you to all of the wonderful families who have hosted me this year. This has been the opportunity of a lifetime. I’ve made so many new friends around the globe while learning about new cultures. FAWCO has been empowering women since 1931, and now they are empowering me!”

FAWCO Youth Ambassador Julia Goldsby

“Everyone just adored FAWCO Youth Ambassador Julia Goldsby, her smiling face, her cool composure and willingness to help out with anything.”

Sara von Moos, FAWCO UN Liaison

“Julia is a hard worker and really did a lot to help our club. I can't wait to see the film she'll put together for us. She handles herself supremely, and was friendly and respectful to everyone at the regional meeting. She rocks!”

Tracy Moede, AWC Hamburg

FAWCO UN Youth Rep

Gavin Higbie (son of Erica Higbie, FAUSA and AWC Perth) served as our Youth Rep at the UN in New York in 2014, and blogged about UN events he attended. His blogs are on the FAWCO website. More information on his activities is included in the UN Liaison report. In November 2014, Valia Mitsakis became FAWCO’s second Youth Rep at the UN in New York. She will be attending meetings at the UN and reporting back. Her mother is a member of AWO Greece.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Bühling (AWC Düsseldorf)

Robin Meloy Goldsby (AIWC Cologne)

FAWCO Youth Program Co-Chairs



Target Program

The year began during the voting period for the Target Project. With 53 of 64 Member Clubs casting their vote, **Free The Girls** – Providing Economic Opportunity for Survivors of Human Trafficking, was selected to be the beneficiary of the Target Program’s fundraising efforts. Free The Girls Executive Director, Kimba Lingas and National Director, Melissa Watson, along with Betsy Cook Speer and Catherine Marland from the nominating Club AW Surrey, were present at the 2014 Brussels Conference for the announcement.

After an inspiring presentation by both Kimba and Melissa, the official **Backing Women** fundraising campaign with a goal of \$120,000 was launched by The FAWCO Foundation. The goal was set lower than the achievement of past Target Programs to take into account the lower FAWCO membership number (fewer Clubs, and many Clubs experiencing lower membership) and shorter fundraising period (24 months for current program vs. 30 months for the previous). However, the Boards of both FAWCO and The Foundation had hoped that this goal would be achieved entirely through Club and individual donations and any additional fundraising effort by the Foundation would bring the end result to surpass the goal.

Two Clubs, two regions and FAUSA sponsored early fundraising activities, which when combined with early individual donations, allowed the campaign to begin with a balance of over \$4,500. Throughout the remainder of year, 23 Club donations and one regional meeting (Region 1 – UK, Ireland) contributed an additional \$20,829.93 to the campaign. In addition, the FAWCO Foundation’s support of matching fund grants, live and silent auction items and the Backing Women Boutique Sales, elevated the total funds raised to nearly \$67,000 as of December 31, 2014). The following FAWCO Member Clubs made donations through the FAWCO Foundation to the Target Program in 2014: AW Surrey, AWA Antwerp, AWA Vienna, AAWE (Paris), AWBS IWC, AIWC Cologne, AIWC Genoa, ANCOR (Rotterdam), AWC Denmark, AWC London, AWC Luxembourg, AWC Perth, AWC The Hague, AWC Zurich, AWG Languedoc-Roussillon, AWG Paris, Chilterns AWC, FAUSA, IWC Torino, North American Connection (England).

Fundraising for the Target Project will continue until February 2016. Meeting the Target goal is vital for Free The Girls to improve their infrastructure and strengthen their organization, enabling program expansion to other countries and support more trafficking victims. For further details, please refer to the FAWCO Foundation’s Fundraising Report.

Awareness and Education of the Target Issue “Human Rights for Women” continued throughout the year. Monthly Target Bulletins were published, in coordination with the Human Rights Task Force. Presentations were made at all Regional Meetings (Regions 1, 2, 4, 5 and 9). Club support in the form of presentations, Target workshops and magazine/newsletter articles was also provided. Clubs in every region with the exception of Region 10 reported having some form of awareness article series or special presentation on the Target Issue during the year.

Although not officially part of the Target Program, 16 Clubs reported holding bra drives collecting over 1,600 bras, which have been forwarded directly to Free The Girls.

Respectfully submitted,

*Johanna Dishongh (AWC The Hague)
Target Program Chair*

Resources for International Living

The work of the Committees on Americana, College Guidance, Students who Learn Differently, and Sharing Cultures is now included in the Resources for International Living section of our website.

College Guidance has a new Chair as of late 2014, when Deborah Gutowitz (IWC Torino) volunteered.

Sue van Alsenoy (AWC Antwerp), Chair, Students Who Learn Differently, attended the Brussels Conference and generously offered her book Learning without Borders to FAWCO members.

Sharing Cultures continues to add to A Day in Your City, where Club Members offer insider tips on 26 cities from Aberdeen to Stockholm – useful ideas when you're planning city getaways.

In 2015, we plan to re-organize these resources, and are seeking volunteers to assist with this project.

Respectfully submitted,

*Laurie Richardson (AWA Vienna)
Third Vice President, Committees and Task Forces*

US LIAISON AND COMMITTEES' REPORTS

US Liaison's Report

The US Liaison both reports to the membership on recent and upcoming changes in legislation important to Americans abroad, and coordinates with other overseas advocacy organizations, particularly in organizing our annual Overseas Americans Week (OAW). She is also responsible for coordinating the work of the "US Issues" committees (see the Citizenship, Tax and Banking, and Voting From Overseas reports in this Annual Report). We sincerely regret the resignation of Margaret Spethman, who devoted tremendous energy to creating a helpful Tax and Banking section on our website, and thank Elaine Terlinden for accepting to monitor, update and feed that section since Margaret's departure.

In the past year, FAWCO has continued to work with its traditional partners AARO (Association of Americans Resident Overseas), ACA (American Citizens Abroad) and OVF (Overseas Vote Foundation) to inform legislators and policy-makers about certain specific burdens on overseas citizens. In the current Congressional climate, there appears to be no hope that we will see progress in *Medicare* coverage abroad, though FAWCO supports AARO's recommendation that people moving to the United States on retirement not be penalized by the *surcharge for Medicare Part B* required of those who have not been paying into Medicare since reaching retirement age (providing they have been covered by recognized plans abroad).

Overseas voters

In 2014, we once again benefited from advanced OVF technology to offer our members a totally secure, dedicated *voter registration and ballot request website*. We are proud of this ongoing partnership with the only non-partisan, non-governmental voter registration website. We are disappointed, however, by the very low participation rate: while close to a thousand voters have used the FAWCO site since it was created, participation in 2014 was only 13% of that in 2012 (admittedly a presidential election year).

We in FAWCO heard virtually no reports of problems in voting this year and feel this indicates both that the revised FPCA, with language proposed by FAWCO and its partners, was well received by voters and that the states continue to work to comply with the requirements of the 2009 MOVE Act, particularly with respect to ballot mailing deadlines.

The *Uniform Military and Overseas Voters Act (UMOVA)* is now the law in 13 states and the District of Columbia, and currently 30 states (one more than last year) plus the District of Columbia now allow young Americans born abroad who reach voting age before establishing residency in the United States to vote in the district of their eligible parent(s).

Overseas Americans Week

In March 2014, Washington Liaison Dale Koepenick and I joined a small team from AARO for an OAW devoted primarily to meetings with government agencies and outside organizations that help to determine US policy. We felt this would be more productive than meeting with legislators with their eye on the November calendar. ACA did not participate in 2014 due to the fact of their year-round presence now in Washington.

In addition to our customary meeting with *State Department* representatives, focusing essentially on citizenship questions, we met with the *Joint Committee on Taxation* (JCT), representatives from the *Treasury Department*, and *National Taxpayer Advocate* Nina Olson. In all of these meetings, we strongly advocated a *redefinition of the concept of “foreign” accounts* to exclude those held by US citizens in countries where they are fiscally domiciled. This would eliminate FATCA reporting on the accounts we must maintain abroad to pay our taxes, mortgages and utility bills and to save for retirement and our children’s education.

In a meeting with senior members of the *American Bankers Association*, we focused on the closing of *accounts in the United States held by US citizens residing abroad*. The bankers found it hard to believe that Americans are being deprived of access to financial services in this way and echoed a recommendation from the JCT that we survey our members to get hard facts to back up our concerns.

FATCA – FBAR

This was the first year that *e-filing of the “FBAR”, now FinCEN Form 114*, was mandatory. For many of our members, from Kenya where internet access and reliable power sources are not a given, to retirees less savvy with computers or not in possession of the latest version of the only software allowed, this posed a major challenge. We will now make specific *recommendations to Treasury* on how that process (and online or paper form) can be improved.

The issue clearly of most concern to FAWCO members continues to be the *Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA)* and its unintended and sometimes disastrous consequences on dual-national marriages, joint ventures with non-Americans, Americans with majority partnerships in international companies, US entrepreneurs overseas, the “accidental Americans” who have only recently learned they were legally “US persons”, the “non-willful non-compliant” who want to enter the system and become compliant but face exorbitant back taxes and penalties.

FATCA must however be seen as merely one facet of a global effort to fight tax fraud and ensure transparency in international banking. In addition to the FATCA InterGovernmental Agreements now signed with over 100 countries, there is a Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement (MCAA), developed within the framework of the OECD, which essentially puts an end to bank secrecy. 93 jurisdictions have already committed to implementing by 2017 or 2018 the Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI) standard that the OECD has developed with all G20 countries.

Maloney bill on Overseas Americans issues

Americans Abroad Caucus Chair Carolyn Maloney’s bill calling for the creation of a *bipartisan federal commission* “to study the *impact of government policies on Americans living and working abroad*” has languished in Congress. It attempts to solve a multitude of problems facing overseas Americans and requires the approval of many committees. We recommend that Congresswoman Maloney pare down that bill and reintroduce it in the 114th Congress in more focused form, perhaps attracting more support and winning committee approval. FAWCO will work with Congresswoman Maloney’s office and with partners ACA and AARO to prioritize and target the 2-3 most urgent issues, with a view to having a new, more streamlined bill introduced early in this Congressional session.

In conclusion...

The FAWCO US team continues to try to keep you informed and to represent your interests. Please let us know your concerns and, when we call on you to contact your legislators, *please do!*

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy Stensland Laederich (AAWE Paris)
FAWCO US Liaison

US Citizenship Committee Report

The “hot topics” for US citizens living abroad continue to be the effects of the implementation of FATCA, filing FBARs and thus the question of renunciation of US citizenship because of the disclosure issues. These topics now cross-over with taxation issues because the number of US citizens living abroad seriously considering/actually renouncing US citizenship is increasing, despite the dramatic hike in renunciation form filing fees.

- More and more foreign banking institutions are choosing one of two paths to deal with the implementation of FATCA (Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act) that requires disclosure of the accounts held by US citizens. One is to not open accounts for US citizens and/or in the case of those USCs married to foreign nationals, remove their names from the accounts. Other banks have agreed to disclose the information to the US government. Various organizations representing US citizens who live abroad have looked in to lobbying for amendments or repeal of FATCA. Due to what the US government sees as “success” in finding offshore accounts held by US citizens, it is not likely that any changes will happen soon.
- FBAR (Foreign Bank Account Report) forms require US citizens to submit information for all accounts held in a foreign bank if the aggregate of all accounts exceeded \$10,000 even for one day. This need to disclose has caused or can cause problems when the non-US citizen spouse refuses to provide this information to a foreign government (in this case, the US government). Pressure to renounce US citizenship to avoid this reporting obligation has occurred in marriages of non-USC and USC spouses.
- Although the filing requirements for FATCA and FBAR forms have brought attention to US taxation of world-wide income, they did not cause it and this issue needs to be looked at separately. The US has taxed its citizens on world-wide income since the American Civil War. Changes to FATCA or FBAR, should they occur, are highly unlikely to have any effect on worldwide taxation of US citizens.

Among the requirements prior to the approval of an application for renunciation of US citizenship is to show that all back taxes are paid. There also may be a significant “exit” tax. The US government must also be convinced that the renunciation is not based on tax evasion; “tax avoidance” is okay as long as all money owed has been paid. Prior to renunciation, the individual *should* also have citizenship in another country, so s/he does not render him/herself stateless. The State Department does not require that the individual have citizenship in another country, so people should consider the possible implications of statelessness.

FAWCO views the decision to renounce to be personal and the individual should be fully informed of the possible negatives of renunciation and not only think of escaping the financial reporting and tax issues. For the vast majority of those who renounce, re-entering the United States legally should not be a problem, but clearly any application for admission will be carefully scrutinized.

Respectfully submitted,

*Judith Furukawa (AWC Brussels)
Chair, US Citizenship Committee*

US Tax and Banking Committee Report

The main focus of the Tax and Banking Committee is on reducing the “fear factor” by making information and support available. The Tax and 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. Members are always encouraged to seek professional help and to report to the federal authorities.

In 2014, we held an informational session and participated in Face-to-Face at the Brussels Conference. Since then, the Tax and Banking Committee has continued to help FAWCO Clubs organize seminars and Club workshops, including several held with FAWCO advertiser Greenback Expat Tax Services and Club Workshops Sponsor Esquire Group Expat Tax Services; networking with tax and banking professionals; and updating the FAWCO website.

In July 2014, Tax and Banking Committee member Elaine Terlinden, AWC Düsseldorf, offered to incorporate her list of “expat tax resources” into the Tax Return Preparer Directory recently launched by FAWCO’s partner organization American Citizens Abroad (ACA). Since then she has continued to collect tax preparer names from FAWCO members, as well as their rates, and any member reviews for those tax preparers/advisors they have used.

In the fall Margaret Spethmann resigned as Tax and Banking Chair due to family obligations. We are in the process of recruiting a new Chair, as well as a Co-Chair. For the moment, the committee consists of FAWCO members in Germany who have volunteered to join the team: one for reorganizing our Internet presence, web pages and social media issues; one for details on tax code changes and updating; one, a former Hill staffer, for possibly becoming involved in DC advocacy work.

The US Tax and Banking section of FAWCO's website is an important resource on such topics as filing deadlines, IRS links, DC advocacy, tax, financial and estate planning resources for internationally mobile US Persons overseas, videos, handouts and suggestions for structuring local seminars.

Goals for 2015 are to recruit a Chair and Co-Chair for the Tax and Banking Committee, as well as additional volunteers to help organize the Tax and Banking webpages so that they are searchable by topic; make more frequent web postings; improve access to information available through social media; have committee members responsible for updating content on specific topics; and assist Clubs in organizing Tax and Banking Seminars.

Having encouraged FAWCO members to participate in the AARO surveys on denial of financial services and e-filing of the FBAR, the Tax and Banking Committee’s focus for the 2015 OAW will be sharing those survey results and supporting the argument that for Americans residing overseas (i) the FBAR filing threshold should be raised, e.g. from aggregate \$10,000 to \$50,000 like IRS Form 8938 (Statement of Specified Foreign Financial Assets); and, (ii) we should not be required to report our accounts located in our tax-base country, needed to pay taxes and bills, save for retirement, pay mortgages, receive salary, etc.

Respectfully submitted,

*Elaine Terlinden (AWC Düsseldorf)
US Tax and Banking Committee Member*

US Voting from Overseas Committee Report

The Voting from Overseas Committee sent monthly messages to “voting volunteers” in FAWCO Clubs, designed for direct use in Club newsletters and promoting both *the FAWCO voter services site and that of our partner Overseas Vote Foundation*. The committee also took part in OVF's post-election survey. FAWCO officers, particularly those responsible for communications, and the US Liaison were very helpful in posting messages on the FAWCO website and thus increasing their impact.

The committee does not have a voting volunteer in all FAWCO Clubs, and would welcome *participation* by more. If a Club cannot find one volunteer to disseminate voting news and assistance, we would welcome the email address of the newsletter editor to send information for publication in the Club’s newsletter.

The low *election turnout figures* were very disappointing. I feel that overseas Americans missed an important chance to maximize their impact on policy-makers by proving their strength in elections. The only way that overseas Americans have to influence policies affecting us is to show policy-makers that our participation can affect their employment chances. At a time when burdensome legislation is encouraging increasing numbers of Americans to renounce their citizenship (and when the State Department has more than quadrupled the fee for processing renunciations), it is more important, not less, that overseas Americans speak up in the only way shown to get results.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Stewart Burgher (AWC Denmark)
Chair, US Voting from Overseas Committee*

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES

Archives Committee Report

In 2013, the Archives Committee, chaired by Emily van Eerten, learned about a service for expatriate archives – The Expatriate Archive Centre (EAC) in The Hague – and explored this possibility for permanent maintenance of FAWCO's archives. EAC made a very well-received presentation about the importance of preserving archives at the Brussels Conference in 2014. In 2014, we discussed terms of the arrangement with EAC and had several reiterations of contract review and revision. In early 2015, the Board voted to approve the EAC-FAWCO Agreement. We will begin to transfer the archives to the Expatriate Archive Centre and several FAWCO Counselors who live nearby will volunteer to provide first-hand knowledge of our history during the archive preservation process.

Respectfully submitted,

*Laurie Richardson (AWA Vienna)
Third Vice President, Committees and Task Forces*

Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee, whose members include: Wendy Leyland (AAWE Paris), Frauke Rademacher-Heidemann (AWC Hamburg), Renuka Matthews (FAUSA), Kim Mousseron (AWG Languedoc-Roussillon), and Cora Lee Findley (AWEP) as the Treasurer Advisor, made the following recommendations regarding the 2013-2015 budget period:

- Advertising – due to difficulty obtaining new advertisers during this period, the forecasted revenue be lowered by \$7,000 compared to the originally budgeted amount.
- FAWCO Board Conference Registration Fees – to help cover the projected budget deficit during this two year period, it was recommended that funds be transferred from the restricted account holding previous conference year's profits.
- Travel Expenses – after the 2013-2015 Budget was determined, both the Treasurer and the UN Team positions were changed due to unforeseen circumstances. As a result, higher travel expenses were required in each area. Therefore, it was recommended that \$750 be taken from the Founder's Circle to help fund these additional travel expenses.

To summarize, during the 2013-2015 budget cycle, FAWCO is experiencing a significant loss of revenue from advertising while at the same time travel expenses have increased significantly. These two factors explain the majority of the projected deficit for the fiscal year April 2013-May 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

*Wendy Leyland
FAWCO Finance Committee Chair*

Bylaws and Administrative Guidelines Committee

In 2014, the Board approved many amendments to the Administrative Guidelines (AGs). Significant changes are as follows:

Section 1 – Membership:

- The Individual membership definition was updated *to a limited number of American women living abroad, who do not have a FAWCO Club to join in their area, may be invited by the FAWCO President*

to become individual Members of FAWCO. They are entitled to all of the rights and privileges of regular members, but may not vote or hold elective office.

- The designation of official voting delegate for Member Clubs at AGMs was clarified as either the FAWCO Rep, the Club President or a designee by the Club President.
- The non-voting members of the Council were granted the right to make, amend and second motions and participate in the discussions at AGMs.
-

Section 5 – Responsibilities of Officers: Various changes to the 1st VP Responsibilities were made to clarify and bring in line with the current structure.

Section 6 – Presidential Appointments was extensively reworked to reincorporate relevant rules that were moved to the Handbooks, to update the positions in accordance with current organization structure, clarify roles and responsibilities and to reorganize the section into a logical order. The significant changes are highlighted here:

- With membership in a FAWCO Club, FAUSA members can chair Committees or Task Forces (limited to 10% of total Chairs) and be members of Committees (limited to 25% of Committee members).
- Neither the Chair nor any committee member of the Nominating Committee may be a current Board member of either FAWCO, The FAWCO Foundation or FAUSA.
- The US Liaison, UN Liaison and Conference Chair now report to the President.
- The Membership Committee now reports to the 2nd VP.
- The Regions were adjusted. Spain was moved from Region 7 to Region 3 with France. Region 10 was renamed “The Americas” to include Canada.

Section 8 – Financial Policy:

- Guidelines for Regional Coordinators and President appointees were clarified to highlight that Presidential Appointees who expect expenses must submit in advance a detailed budget request to the Board for approval. No amount will be reimbursed without prior Board approval unless it is specifically allowed for in the budget, and that at the discretion of the Board and funds permitting, a portion of the Interim and Biennial Conference fees may be reimbursed to the Regional Coordinators and Presidential Appointees attending these meetings.
- The Meeting/Conference Organizers must get approval of any contracts with the meeting/conference venue and hotel from the FAWCO president before signing.

Section 9 – Philanthropy: the purpose of the Founders’ Circle was expanded to “support FAWCO to follow its mission” rather than be limited to “supporting Committees’ work”.

Section 10 – Conference and Meeting Planning:

- All instances of “Interim Conference” in the AGs should be changed to “Interim Meeting”.
- Note: in 2014, the Board voted to approve that the Sites Selection Committee’s name be changed to Conference Planning Committee and its responsibilities be expanded beyond site selection to acting as “in-house” conference and interim meeting planners; however, AGs changes have not been made because revised responsibilities of the Committee still have to be developed and approved by the Board.

Several versions of the AGs were produced. The current version dated January 2015 is available on the FAWCO website.

The Committee did not receive any requests from the Clubs for amendments to the Bylaws. With the amendment of AGs to change the wording to Interim Meeting, a similar change in the Bylaws was needed. A wording change is allowed without an amendment as stated in Article XVI Sec. 1c of the Bylaws: *Any grammatical correction and/or word changes that do not alter the meaning of the content of this document may be adjusted as the Bylaws and Administrative Guidelines Chair and the Board of Directors deem necessary without having to obtain approval from the Council.* Thus, I recommended the wording change which was approved by the Board. The updated version of the Bylaws is available on our website.

Respectfully submitted,

Susanne Hirschberg (AWC Düsseldorf)

Parliamentarian and Bylaws and Administrative Guidelines Committee Chair

Membership Report

It is a pleasure to welcome AWC Oakville back to FAWCO. We now have a renewed presence in Canada and a new Club in Region 10 while bringing the FAWCO network to 65 Clubs in 34 countries. Sadly, two Clubs did not renew their FAWCO membership in 2014: AWC Auckland and AWC Thailand.

In 2014, Club Presidents of 63 potential Member Clubs around the world received updated introductory materials and a promotional incentive offering a two-year membership with first year dues. These Clubs included: 12 former FAWCO Clubs, 11 new American Women's Clubs (for regular membership) and 40 new International Women's Clubs (for associate membership) for a total of 20 AWCs and 43 IWCs. Regional Coordinators and individual members assisted in identifying potential Clubs.

Next steps are to seek out personal contacts within the FAWCO network and follow up through these channels, focusing first on the Clubs that really should belong to FAWCO – the American Women's Clubs of the world, particularly former FAWCO members and Clubs close to FAWCO in Region 11 (Asia) and 9 (the Middle East): AWA Bristol, AWC Seville, AWL Kuwait, AWA New Delhi, AWA South Australia, AWA Singapore, AWA Hong Kong, DAWC Bangladesh, AWA Jakarta, AWG Oman, AWA Bahrain AWA Abu Dhabi, NAWA Budapest, NAWA Ghana, AWA Barbados, AWC Grand Bahamas.

In addition, the 43 IWCs that have received a first mailing will be contacted again. I have received positive first responses from several of these Clubs.

The long process of joining FAWCO starts with getting to know each other through an ongoing conversation. If there are any FAWCO members who can facilitate a direct conversation with a potential Club, please contact me at: membership@fawco.org.

Many thanks to those of you who have provided support and assistance over the year: Laurie Richardson, Sallie Chaballier, Susanne Hirschberg, Monica Jubayli, Lucy Laederich, Louise Greeley-Copley, Cynthia Abi-Habib, Didem Kennan, Eileen Doyle, Melissa Mash, Kim Mousseron, Elizabeth Kennedy and, of course, My-Linh Kunst.

Respectfully submitted,

*Elizabeth Abbot (AILO FLorence)
Membership Chair*

Nominating Committee Report

The FAWCO Nominating Committee began its work at the 2014 Interim Conference in Brussels. FAWCO members were informed about the nomination process through three different communication avenues (articles in the monthly *News In Brief* from the 2nd VP Member Clubs, articles in the quarterly *Connections/Letter from Headquarters* from the President, and a personal letter directly from the President) and were encouraged to nominate themselves or another FAWCO member for a position on the 2015-2017 FAWCO board. Deadline for nominations was June 30, 2014.

Following the nomination deadline, candidates were contacted to discuss their interest in a board position. All candidates were interviewed twice by different members of the committee, and the Nominating Committee met regularly via Skype throughout the process.

In December 2014, the slate of candidates was announced by FAWCO President My-Linh Kunst. Candidates for the 2015-2017 FAWCO board are:

President: Monica Jubayli (AWC Lebanon)
1st VP Communications: Sallie Chaballier (AAWE Paris)
2nd VP Member Clubs: Leslie Collingridge (Chilterns AWC)
3rd VP Committees and Task Forces: Johanna Dishongh (AWC The Hague)
Secretary: Lesleigh Rizzi (AIWC Genoa)
Treasurer: Patricia Martinez Aeby (AWC Bern)

I want to thank the women who volunteered their time for Nominating Committee Skype calls, calls with candidates, writing reports, etc. They made the nominating effort, which plays a vitally important role in FAWCO, fun and a joy to be a part of. Warm thanks go to Elizabeth Abbot (AILO Florence), Janet Darrow (FAUSA), Betsy Greene (AWC Zurich), Hope Moore (Munich IWC), and Nancy Ward (AWC Dublin). Other thanks go to Kathy Araujo (AWG Paris) for setting up the Google Drive we used throughout the process.

Respectfully submitted,

*Celeste Brown
Nominating Committee Chair*

Resolutions and Recommendations 2015 – 2017

In March 2014, Tricia Saur (AIWC Cologne) was appointed Chair of the Resolutions and Recommendations Committee for 2015 – 2017. The Committee presents the following proposed Resolutions and Recommendations to be approved for 2015 – 2017.

FAWCO Resolutions and Recommendations are adopted at Biennial Conferences to serve as guidelines for FAWCO and Member Club action for the next two-year term. They reflect FAWCO's commitment to women's rights, concerns of overseas Americans, and a better and more peaceful world.

Proposed Resolutions and Recommendations 2015 – 2017

1. Resolved: To improve the lives of women and girls worldwide, especially in the areas of education, the environment, health and human rights.

Recommended:

- 1.1 Support the United Nation's mission and goals, particularly those that address women and girls.
- 1.2 Increase FAWCO's engagement on global issues through our work as an accredited UN NGO by supporting UN Women and the UN Commission on the Status of Women, actively participating on the NGO Committees on the Status of Women, sponsoring UN NGO events and developing partnerships with like-minded civil society organizations.
- 1.3 Focus Global Task Force efforts to promote the well-being of women and girls worldwide and engage members through global campaigns and regular newsletters focused on global relevance.
- 1.4 Promote the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) by the US Senate and advocate for the inclusion of American women living overseas in the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). Support Cities For CEDAW campaign in the USA.

2. Resolved: To advocate for the rights of US persons living overseas (US citizens and US permanent residents living abroad) and keep FAWCO members informed on issues arising in the US which may impact US persons living overseas.

Recommended:

- 2.1 Serve as a recognized voice in Washington, DC for US persons living overseas; work with the Americans Abroad Caucus in the US Congress, the Departments of State, Treasury and Defense, and partner organizations to shape US legislation and regulations that address the special needs of US persons living overseas, including voting rights, citizenship rights, taxation and banking.
- 2.2 Advocate for more effective representation in Washington for US persons living overseas.
- 2.3 Disseminate overseas voter registration information, promote and facilitate voting from overseas, and encourage active citizenship.

2.4 Provide workshops and resources to empower US persons living overseas to more effectively manage the tax, banking and legal complexities of living abroad.

2.5 Work to alleviate the impact of FATCA on US persons living overseas; collect information on its unintended consequences to be provided to Washington policy-makers; actively defend FAWCO members in situations of particular distress due to non-willful non-compliance, "accidental" citizenship, or excessive financial hardship.

2.6 Contribute to efforts to obtain reliable statistics on US persons living overseas.

3. Resolved: To support, strengthen and expand the FAWCO network.

Recommended:

3.1 Develop a proactive campaign to promote the value of information exchange; encouraging members to utilize FAWCO Workshops, exchange of information between Member Club Presidents and FAWCO Representatives, sharing best practices, and learning from one another's experiences in order to develop and sustain more successful Member Clubs.

3.2 Maintain an informative and user-friendly website where members can access ideas, information and resources for individual and Club development.

3.3 Stay abreast of the latest available technologies to communicate and promote FAWCO programs.

3.4 Encourage FAWCO members to actively participate in conferences, interim and Regional Meetings, programs, workshops, committees and Global Task Forces.

3.5 Seek to further engage geographically distant FAWCO members and expand the FAWCO network by attracting new American and international Clubs.

4. Resolved: To practice good global citizenship and create a better and more peaceful world.

Recommended:

4.1 Provide opportunities for FAWCO members to get involved in FAWCO's work on global issues and philanthropy.

4.2 Champion the role of the UN in promoting world peace and improving lives; raise awareness among FAWCO members of UN endeavors and encourage participation in UN events.

4.3 Promote cross-cultural understanding: encourage FAWCO members to be informed about customs and legislation in their country of residence that affects their rights and responsibilities as international citizens living abroad; encourage FAWCO members to participate actively in their communities and to collaborate with other civic organizations.

4.4 Promote cultural understanding and raise awareness of global issues in our youth and help them develop into responsible and caring global citizens.

4.5 Promote awareness of the environment and the impact of climate change on peace in society and encourage responsible environmental stewardship.

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia R. Saur (AIWC Cologne), Resolutions and Recommendations Committee Chair

On behalf of the Resolutions and Recommendations Committee:

Pam Perraud (FAUSA, AAWE Paris)

Sylvia Behrman (AILO Florence)

Tracy Moede (AWC Hamburg)

Jill de Witt Hamer (AWC Amsterdam)

Sites Selection Committee Report

The Sites Selection Committee is primarily responsible for finding sites for FAWCO annual conferences and assisting conference chairs to complete a viable budget and get started with conference planning. In 2014, the Committee's goals have been three-fold:

Support hosts of future conferences: One European Club has recently contacted the Sites Committee with questions concerning hosting in 2017. We have been in touch with this Club and will continue to support them by answering their questions, working on budgets and giving advice.

Complete FAWCO Conference Planning Chart: The FAWCO Conference Planning Chart, a daunting compilation of statistics, has been completed for Birmingham, Berlin, Lyon, Seoul, Vilnius, Boston, Marrakech, Boston, Dublin and Bern. This allows point by point comparison of the yearly conferences and will help future host Clubs organize FAWCO Interim Meetings and Biennial Conferences. In order to facilitate completing the statistics chart, the FAWCO Conference and Planning Manual has been updated by adding a questionnaire for the conference planners as part of the post-conference summary.

Support Conference organizational difficulties: In general, the difficulties that each host Club has faced in the past still plague current and future host Clubs. The financial aspect and banking seem to be the largest obstacles.

At the Brussels Conference, the Board-appointed Interim Meeting Task Force, chaired by Patti Meek (AWC Dublin), presented the recommendations that the interim conference cannot be eliminated but should be redesigned. The recommendations were that the meeting should be 2 days long and take place over a weekend. The cost will be less than €300 per delegate for meeting rooms, two dinners, four coffee breaks and a reception. To achieve this, the agenda will be more focused on FAWCO and Club business while the venue will be outside the city center in a smaller hotel or meeting hall.

The FAWCO Board voted after the Conference to approve these recommendations, and at the end of 2014, the Board voted to change the name of this Committee to "Conference Planning Committee" (CPC). The new CPC will continue to find sites and support host Clubs for the Biennial Conferences, but in addition, is responsible for organizing the FAWCO Interim Meetings, which will no longer have a host Club.

The structure, responsibilities and composition of the new CPC will be further developed in early 2015, but in the meantime, Angelika McLarren and My-Linh Kunst have been appointed to chair the Interim Meeting 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Moede (AWC Hamburg), Sites Selection Co-Chair

Nancy Ward (AWC Dublin), Sites Selection Co-Chair

REGIONAL AND CLUB PROFILES

Region 1: United Kingdom and Ireland

The **American Women's Club of Dublin** had a very active year, updating all technology, and membership remains strong. The Club sends monthly emails to members and has an active closed Facebook group. The Charity of the Year was The Solas Project, which helps socioeconomically and/or educationally disadvantaged children and young people in Ireland. At the Club's Gala Event in May and through bake sales, pub quizzes and other events, they raised money to help The Solas Project by offering meals, tutoring, clothing and a toy drive near the holidays. The 2015 charity is Ruhama, which supports women affected by prostitution and trafficking in Ireland. While most every year AWCD chooses a new Irish Charity, this year the membership decided to extend its fundraising period to two years to maximize efforts. The Club has also donated over 200 bras to the Free the Girls campaign. AWCD has a very active social diary. For both new arrivals and long term residents in Dublin, there truly is something for everyone, every week in the AWCD.

The **American Women's Association of Aberdeen** continues its good work, providing social connections for 190+ expatriate women from North America and several other countries. In addition, it made a significant contribution to its 2014-2015 Charity, The ARCHIE Foundation, through its various philanthropic endeavors including the annual craft fair and auction.

The **American Women's Club of Central Scotland** has a high percentage of long term residents in Scotland, not connected to American businesses. Most Club members are employed or retired professionals. AWCCS tries to maintain a close relationship with the US Consulate and through them help to support American non-Club members living in the area. The Club supports Riding for the Disabled as well as the Edinburgh women's rape and sexual abuse centre.

The **American Women's Club of London** has more than 36 separate activities. The Travel Group is popular with trips to China, Christmas Markets in Vienna and a "Foodies" Trip to the Cotswolds. Members support Ronald McDonald House and a local soup kitchen each month. AWCL also aids Benjamin Franklin House and the Woodland Trust. Various charities are chosen for special campaigns and to benefit from our monthly 50/50. This year the Club collected and sent 302 bras to Free The Girls. The active AWC London Facebook page has proven to be a great way to build a community, and the Club now publishes its "London Bridge" magazine online.

It has been an exciting year for the **American Women of Surrey** as its proposed nominee, Free the Girls, was chosen as the FAWCO Target Program. The Club's fundraiser for this charity raised £700 (\$1,060) as well as collecting over 250 bras. The President and 2 other Board members attended the Region 1 meeting held in Edinburgh. President Kathy O'Neal and FAWCO Rep Melissa Mash presented wreaths for Remembrance Day at the Brookwood American Cemetery. The Holiday Gift Fayre, Holiday Home Tour and other fundraisers raised over £20,000 for 4 charities: Oakleaf, Transform, Peterson's Fund for Children and FAWCO. Their 300 members are offered more than 35 different activities from which to choose on a monthly basis. AW Surrey is celebrating their 40th anniversary this year with a gala event.

A group of North American and International women who call the area home, either temporarily or permanently, **Chilterns American Women's Club** offers the opportunity to network with other "transplants" through meetings, outings, social occasions and charitable events. In 2014 CAWC supported the Epilepsy Society, Horizons Sports Club, and the FAWCO Target Project. The Club's annual Christmas bazaar raised just over £14,000 for the Epilepsy and Horizons sports club. This past year CAWC made a strong effort to "bring FAWCO to our Club", collecting bras throughout the year and planning a first-ever helping handbags auction in January 2015 to benefit Free the Girls. Members also contributed several squares for the Friendship Quilt.

The **North American Connection** has been quite busy this year. The Club's primary charity focus this year has been the AODVC and is currently at 60% of its 5000 GBP goal, with at least three more fund raising events scheduled before the end of the Club year in June 2015. Paula Lucas, author of *Harvesting Stones* and founder of AODVC, participated in a monthly book club discussion of her book via Skype. The Club continues to bring baked goods and entertainment materials to the Fisher House UK in Birmingham, which provides a home for family members of US soldiers returning from conflict yet still requiring hospitalization in the UK. Several NAC members are involved in the Samaritans Purse--Operation Christmas Child charity, volunteering their time to work at the OCC Warehouse in Birmingham. Club Members donate throughout the year their extra toiletries, soaps, office supplies, and small toys to serve as "fillers" in the warehouse for Christmas 2015.

The American Women's Club of Berkshire and Surrey changed its name this year to **AWBS International Women's Club** to reflect its growing international membership. The Club has 250 members and is active in five local

charities helping the disabled, women, children and young adults/teens. Members also collected a large shipment of bras for Free the Girls. A successful annual Christmas Fayre at Ascot Racecourse raised over £10,000 for these local charities. Other events include the Hats and Handbags social, The Ho Ho Homes tour at Christmas as well as high teas, holiday luncheons, garden parties, trivia nights, Manicure Mondays, and even a polo match. The AWBS FAWCO Representative attended the Region 1 meeting in Edinburgh.

Respectfully submitted,
Eileen Green-Doyle
Region 1 FAWCO Coordinator

England

AWBS International Women's Club - Berkshire and Surrey

Website: www.awbs.org.uk **E-mail:** fawco@awbs.org.uk

Year founded: 1981 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1995 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 250

Dues: 55 Other

Club 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.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

ABC to Read (Children's Education) Donation: 1500 EUR (€)

Acot Day Centre, Donation: 1380 EUR (€)

Bracknell and District Citizens Advice Bureau (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 1000 EUR (€)

Eikon (Children's Health) Donation: 4660 EUR (€)

Your Sanctuary (Gender Equality) Donation: 1500 EUR (€)

Chilterns American Women's Club - Chilterns

Website: www.cawc.co.uk **E-mail:** fawcorep@cawc.co.uk

Year founded: 1987 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1993 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 105

Dues: 85 Other

Club mission: To welcome and assist newcomers and their families; to promote friendship and cooperation among members; and to give financial support to philanthropic projects. We are a group of North American and International women who call this area home, either temporarily or permanently. Our Club offers the opportunity to network with other "transplants" to the Chilterns through meetings, outings, social occasions and charitable events. We are a great resource to newcomers and our returning members have made lifelong friendships and connections.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Horizons Sports Club

Epilepsy Society

American Women's Club of London - London

Website: www.awclondon.org **E-mail:** awc@awclondon.org

Year founded: 1899 **Year joined FAWCO:** Founding Member **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 280

Dues: 120 GBP

Club 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.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Ronald McDonald House, Donation: 2000 USD (\$)

Cancer Research UK, Donation: 1000 USD (\$)

Benjamin Franklin House, Donation: 500 USD (\$)

American Church Soup Kitchen (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: Time Donation Only



American Women of Surrey - Surrey

Website: www.awsurrey.org **E-mail:** awsurreyfawcorep@gmail.com

Year founded: 1975 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1985 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 283

Dues: 95 regular, 55 for over 60s, 157 couples USD (\$)

Club 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.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Peterson's Fund for Children (Children's Health)

Oakleaf (Children's Education)

Transform Housing and Support (Poverty and Hunger)



North American Connection - West Midlands

Website: www.naconnect.com **E-mail:** info@naconnect.com

Year founded: 1964 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1998 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 58

Dues: 40 GBP, Renewal Dues 35 GBP

Club mission: The Club provides assistance with integration into the English community, as well as opportunities for social and charitable activities.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

American's Oversea Domestic Violence Crisis Center, Donation: 2000 GBP (£)

Fisher House, Donation: Time Donation Only



Ireland

American Women's Club of Dublin - Dublin

Website: www.awcd.net **E-mail:** awcdnews@gmail.com

Year founded: 1972 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1980 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 190

Dues: 60 EUR (€)

Club 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.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Ruhama, Donation: 10000 EUR (€)



Scotland

Association of American Women of Aberdeen - Aberdeen

Website: www.awaaberdeen.org **E-mail:**

Year founded: 1985 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1986 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 185

Dues: 40 GBP

Club mission: The primary purpose of the AWA is to help expatriates adapt to their new environment and to integrate into the expat community in the Aberdeen area by providing social and cultural contacts. Another major purpose of the AWA is to support a local charity.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Befriend a Child 2011-2012 (Children's Health) Donation: 6000 USD (\$)

The Cyrenians - Aberdeen 2012-2013 (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 5000 USD (\$)

Riding for the Disabled 2013-2014, Donation: 7000 USD (\$)

The Archie Foundation 2014-2015 (Children's Health)

American Women's Club of Central Scotland - Central Scotland, Glasgow, Edinburgh

Website: http://www.awccs.org **E-mail:** info@awccs.org

Year founded: 1974 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1993 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 61

Dues: 46 USD (\$)

Club 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.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

FAWCO Target (Gender Equality) Donation: 445 USD (\$)

Edinburgh Women's Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (Gender Equality) Donation: 400 USD (\$)



Region 2: Nordic Countries and Russia

Play for purpose, play for fun. This year, the AWC of Oslo hosted ladies from all over Region 2 and FAWCO for a fun-filled weekend of play. The theme of “play” proved to be an interesting common thread bringing various elements and stages of human life together into an easily relatable package.

Play in the form of music frees elderly patients with dementia from their trapped minds. Play therapy does the same for children. Word play by stringing words and letters together helps expat women express their life journeys in a way that we all can relate to.

But it wasn't all fun and games. In fact, one of the most powerful moments of the conference was when we, after a day of hearing about the benefits of play, settled in for a presentation about a stark reality for millions of women in the world today. The world of carefree play and expression does not exist for women and girls who have been forced into the world of sex trafficking. Free the Girls, the focus of the Target Project, isn't about play, but it is about empowerment, dignity and honoring the will to improve one's life. As FAWCO women, Region 2 members proudly stand passionately behind projects that make women stronger. At the end of the conference day, it was a powerful call to action.

Respectfully submitted,

Kara Fairchild
Region 2 Regional Coordinator

Denmark

American Women's Club Denmark -

Website: <http://www.awcdenmark.org> **E-mail:** info@awcdenmark.org

Year founded: 1934 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1934 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 125

Dues: 35 USD (\$)

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

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Information is not available.

Finland

American Women's Club in Finland - Helsinki

Website: www.awcfinland.com **E-mail:** info@awcfinland.com

Year founded: 1970 **Year joined FAWCO:** 2001 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 196

Dues: 30 EUR (€)

Club 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 and the Republic of Finland.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Rajaseutuliitto Ry (Children's Education) Donation: 1650 EUR (€)

DUV, Donation: 1650 EUR (€)

Norway

American Women's Club of Oslo - Oslo

Website: www.awcoslo.org **E-mail:** info@awcoslo.org

Year founded: 1934 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1935 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 170

Dues: 75 USD (\$)

Club 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.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

The AWC Scholarship, Donation: 12500 USD (\$)

Oslo Crisis Center, Donation: Time Donation Only

Norwegian Cancer Society- Heart Pillow Project, Donation: Time Donation Only

The Target Program- FAWCO (Environment) Donation: 333 USD (\$)



Russia

American Women's Organization of Moscow - Moscow

Website: www.awomoscow.org **E-mail:** awomoscow@gmail.com

Year founded: 1993 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1993 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 150

Dues: 66 USD (\$)

Club mission: We provide a support group to North American and international members through coffees, couples events, annual crafts festival and celebration of US holidays.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Nastenka Foundation (Children's Health)



Sweden

American Women's Club Malmö - Malmö

Website: www.awcmalmo.com **E-mail:** membership@awcmalmo.com

Year founded: 1997 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1998 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 165

Dues: 29.40 EUR (€)

Club mission: The American Women's Club Malmö was founded November 1997 to bring together Americans residing in Sweden and those with ties to America, for the purpose of gaining companionship, support and friendship among their fellow Club members.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Ariel's Girls, Kenya (Children's Education)

Kvinna till Kvinna

Friends of Paraguay (Poverty and Hunger)



American Women's Club in Stockholm - Stockholm

Website: www.awcstockholm.org **E-mail:** muhlin@juniper.net

Year founded: 1911 **Year joined FAWCO:** 2000 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 300

Dues: Ordinary membership renewal- 295 USD (\$)

Club mission: To foster friendship among American women and help them assimilate into Swedish life.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

AWC Scholarship (Children's Education) Donation: 1200 USD (\$)

Dining for Women (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 1800 USD (\$)

Mamma Norah's Education Center in Wagwe Kenya (Children's Education) Donation: 1825 USD (\$)

Tabitah - Water project (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 3900 USD (\$)

Tyresö Women's Shelter, Donation: 400 EUR (€)

American Women's Club of Gothenburg - Gothenburg

Website: www.awcgothenburg.com **E-mail:** contactus@awcgothenburg.com

Year founded: 1948 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1987 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 49

Dues: 24 USD (\$)

Club mission: Meets at the Emigration House in central Gothenburg, where thousands of Swedes departed for the United States in the 1800-1900s, thereby completing the circle. "Social with a Cause" best describes AWC Gothenburg.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Heart Pillow Project of Gothenburg, Donation: 76 USD (\$)



Region 3: France

The four fabulous FAWCO Clubs of France continue to be as dynamic as ever. The Association of American Wives of Europeans (AAWE), American Women's Group in Paris (AWG Paris), American Club of Lyon (AC Lyon), and the American Women's Group Languedoc-Roussillon (AWGLR) are active Clubs, offering their members a variety of activities and events – both social and charitable. Region 3 Clubs are all dedicated to global issues and organizations yet remain extremely committed to their local communities.

By reading on, you'll see that Region 3's four fantastic FAWCO Reps, Deborah, Rebecca, Becky and Maggie, are all busy spreading FAWCO news, organizing fundraisers and creating FAWCO fever.

Although Region 3 did not reunite this year for a regional meeting, plans are in the making for a fun and informative get together in 2015.

AAWE

AAWE had a fruitful FAWCO year. They began their bra drive well before the Target Project was selected, and ultimately sent over 200 bras to Indiana by June. Many of these were collected at their "Bra-cktail Party," to which guests had to bring at least one bra. The decorations and refreshments that evening were created to match the theme of the evening, from the flower arrangements to the hors d'oeuvres to the Wonderbra punch. Monetary donations were requested at the event, and it was gratifying to collect almost €250 from the 50 women in attendance. As AAWE was determined to achieve matching donation status, they held a Helping Handbag silent auction just before the summer holidays, and raised about €1200 that evening! Many thanks to Emily van Eerten of AWC The Hague for coaching this project to success. AAWE is beginning 2015 with exciting fundraising plans for Free the Girls, so watch for more AAWE news soon!

AWG Paris

To observe the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, AWG Paris organized a successful lunch fundraiser at the well-known Les Petites Sorcières restaurant (the chef of course being a woman, the celebrated Ghislaine Arabian) in Paris on November 25. Because of the size of the bistro, numbers were limited but AWG Paris did invite members of sister Club AAWE. In addition to the cost of the lunch, attendees were asked to make a donation to the FAWCO Target Project, Free the Girls. The person who made the largest donation received a nifty gift courtesy of the FAWCO Foundation boutique. AWG Paris hopes to hold a fundraising luncheon every couple of months for the length of the Target Project.

In addition, AWG Paris has established an IT Education Award and funded it for three years.

AC Lyon

The American Club of Lyon has seen a lot of changes in leadership since the annual meeting in July. Co-President Jennifer Benner returned to the US in the fall and John Heller is now sole President. Their Membership VP, Agnieszka Morillon, has taken over the additional task of Treasurer and their Webmaster and Newsletter Editor has stepped up to be 1st VP, while continuing his previous duties. The position of Secretary has been taken over by a relatively recent member, Meghan Fleming.

In addition, there are new faces on Events Organization, Kim Johnston and Lisa Arsac, who organized a lovely Thanksgiving potluck and got a French chef to cook the turkey properly! Both of them are new to the Club. With the top board members now taking on more duties, and the other functions held by newcomers, the Club is going through a period of adjustment. ACL hopes to be able to get back in the groove with more events soon.

FAWCO Rep Becky Reynaud is mainly focusing on getting a piece in the newsletter every month or so, with the aim of making members a bit more aware of all the things FAWCO does for expats. But because the Club is actually only 60% US expats, and only 50% women, some of the issues addressed by FAWCO do not resonate much. Sincere thanks, though, to FAWCO for all the info on Voter Registration. It is quite sure that Americans in Lyon were not getting that info from other sources.

AWG-LR

AWGLR continues to live up to its reputation of being “that small but mighty Club from the south of France”. They have been active in:

Fundraising - Since the Brussels conference, AWGLR has continued to collect bras for Free the Girls, and had a Celtic Evening in March that brought in €1043. That amount was matched by a sponsor, thanks to the Challenge. AWGLR also donated €400 to the Disaster Relief Fund to aid victims of Ebola in Liberia and collected handicrafts notions to send to Region 9 for their efforts with refugee women from Syria.

Global Issues - AWGLR FAWCO Rep Maggie Palu was part of the FAWCO delegation at the NGO Forum Beijing+20 at the UN in Geneva in November. Some AWGLR members wore orange and got together to watch the film Beyond Right and Wrong as part of the 16-Day Campaign to End Violence against Women. They will be making more Heart Pillows as part of their participation in One Billion Rising on February 14th and will be joining with other women on a bridge on International Women's Day, March 8th.

Five AWGLR members are planning to join the FAWCO Rep at the Rome conference. That represents almost 10% of their small Club, which is quite impressive.

Congratulations to all of the wonderful Region 3 Club members for your continued energy, enthusiasm and creativity!

Respectfully submitted,

*Kim Mousseron (AWG Languedoc-Roussillon)
Region 3 Coordinator*

France

American Women's Group Languedoc Roussillon - Montpellier and surrounding region

Website: www.awglr.org **E-mail:** awg.grapevine@gmail.com

Year founded: 1986 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1987 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 70

Dues: 45 EUR (€)

Club 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, blog, enjoy wine-tasting, share our knowledge about France and the Languedoc-Roussillon, discuss life issues and work with local charities. We have many families with young children who convene for family-related activities, and our annual Thanksgiving luncheon brings everyone together. More than half of our members are long-term residents of the Languedoc-Roussillon region. Recent successful fundraisers have included wonderful in-home dinners, a Celtic ceilidh with music and dancing, on annual Thanksgiving raffle, and the sale of used books. We continue to run our service bank, Flamingo Friends, which allows members to help each other, while at the same time raising funds for local charities.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

FAWCO Foundation, Donation: 202 EUR (€)

TARGET Project Free the Girls (Gender Equality) Donation: 1043 EUR (€)

Resto Bébé (Montpellier) (Children's Health) Donation: 273 EUR (€)

Water for Mentawai (Indonesia)(Children's Education) Donation: 200 EUR (€)

Les Amis de Kiéché (Niger) (Children's Education) Donation: 100 EUR (€)

AODVC (Gender Equality) Donation: 333 EUR (€)

Coup de Pouce (Children's Education) Donation: 200 EUR (€)

Disaster Relief Fund Philippines, Donation: 400 EUR (€)



American Club of Lyon - Lyon**Website:** www.americanclublyon.org **E-mail:** president@americanclublyon.org**Year founded:** 1987 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1996 **Membership Type:** Regular**Membership total:** 140**Dues:** 50 EUR (€)**Club 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.**What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?**

Information is not available.

**American Women's Group in Paris - Paris****Website:** awgparis.org **E-mail:** awginparis@gmail.com**Year founded:** 1949 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1953 **Membership Type:** Regular**Membership total:** 240**Dues:** 90 EUR (€)**Club 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 woman and children in need.**What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?**

FAWCO Free the Girls (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 2000 EUR (€)

Ceour des Femmes, Donation: 500 EUR (€)

Breast Cancer (Maternal Health) Donation: 250 EUR (€)

Nepal Orphans Home (Children's Education) Donation: 4700 EUR (€)

Global- Potential (Children's Education) Donation: 4700 EUR (€)

FAWCO Grant, Donation: 3000 EUR (€)

**Association of American Wives of Europeans - Paris****Website:** www.aaweparis.org **E-mail:** aawe@wanadoo.fr**Year founded:** 1961 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1965 **Membership Type:** Regular**Membership total:** 508**Dues:** 85 EUR (€)**Club 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.**What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?**

Association Halte Aide aux Femmes Battues (Gender Equality) Donation: 1500 EUR (€)

SOS Help, Donation: 200 EUR (€)

Mouvement Ni Putes Ni Soumises (Gender Equality) Donation: 700 EUR (€)

DePaul France (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 600 EUR (€)

American Aid Society (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 200 EUR (€)

Friday Mission Lunch Program (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 800 EUR (€)



Region 4: Belgium, Luxembourg and The Netherlands

Region 4 is an active and committed group of FAWCO Clubs in Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. The 2014 Regional Meeting (theme: “*Reach Out, Lift Up*”) was organized by AWC The Hague and attended by 50 enthusiastic women representing five of the six Region 4 Clubs. The weekend started with a collaborative Heart Pillow session which produced not only 13 pillow packages in one hour, but also highlighted the Region 4 Heart Pillow Best Practices document organized by Mary Adams. Three local teens who participated as FAWCO Youth Cultural Volunteers in Dubai and Shanghai talked about their experiences, and a traditional Indonesian Rijstafel buffet, a Dutch specialty, wrapped up the evening.

Saturday sessions included:

- “Reaching Out” interactive workshops on *Region 4 Shared Communications, Region 4 Shared Activities and Dreams*, and *How to Bring FAWCO Fever to Region 4 Clubs*;
- FAWCO presentations by FAWCO and FAWCO Foundation officers;
- Keynote speaker David Ellero from Europol who spoke about the ongoing fight against human trafficking in Europe;
- Panel discussion by FAWCO women who attended the Geneva NGO Forum for Beijing +20 UN ECE Regional Review;
- “Lifting Up” interactive workshops on *Membership/Membership Satisfaction, Recruiting and Keeping Volunteers* and *Club Integration of US and International Members*;
- “The Road to Rome” Italian dinner that paved the way for the next FAWCO conference in Rome, Italy.

On Sunday morning, a guided tour of the famed Mauritshuis Art Museum ended the weekend.

As AWC Antwerp FAWCO Rep Rozanne Van Rie said, “*Thank you for the ability to brainstorm with so many dynamic women. The Hague Regional Meeting was amazing!*”

There has been a notable increase in communication among the Region 4 Clubs throughout the year in sharing Club activities, special events, newsletters, personal plans, etc. The strength, enthusiasm, energy, collaboration and FAWCO fever in Region 4 continues forward into the future!

AWC Antwerp

The American Women’s Club of Antwerp had a special and busy year in 2014. As one of the founding FAWCO Member Clubs, we celebrated the milestone 85th anniversary at the Antwerp City Hall. In its 7th year in our Club, the Heart Pillow Project mobilizes about 25% of our 100 members to make about 800 pillows a year, donating them to 6 hospitals. We also collaborate with sister Club ANCOR to create the FAWCO Regional Pillow Project Workshop Guidelines. In addition, we raised cancer awareness at a local Belgian high school and collaborated with COCO-MAT, the Greece-based company that began donating pillows to some of our sister Clubs.

We continued to contribute to The FAWCO Foundation’s Friendship Quilt and holiday stays for the live auction. Our Kerstmarkt raised over €3000 and will continue with a major Tombola.

AWC Brussels

- Hosted FAWCO “A World of Possibilities” Interim Conference in March 2014.
- Supported (with volunteer hours and donated items) many local charities including Red Cross Refugee Center in Alseberg, the orphanage La Cité Joyeuse, Centre Nos Pilifs for at-risk children, Home Leopold for the elderly, and Grain de Vie - a bakery providing employment to disabled persons to promote social integration - as well as supported the FAWCO Target Campaign “Backing Women” with a bra drive collecting over 400 bras and a Christmas Cocktail fundraiser.
- Served an under-served American and English-speaking community with a multitude of social events and enrichment classes.
- Bestowed a Community Service award to a graduating student of St John's International School in June 2014.
- Held Breast Cancer Awareness Run/Walk and luncheon with subject-matter-expert guest speaker to promote self-exams and health awareness in October 2014.
- Hosted 49th annual Holiday Bazaar in November 2014 to promote community festivity as well as to raise funds for AWCB sustainability, our charities mentioned above, and 2015 grant applications.

AWC Luxembourg

2014 was a year of change for the American Women's Club Luxembourg with new board elections taking place mid-year, clubhouse renovations and many new members joining. Throughout all the changes, we remained a busy Club with a lot of activities ranging from book clubs, hiking clubs, sewing clubs, photography, day trips, local wine tours, language classes and many many more. We have an extremely active Facebook site which enables all our members to keep in touch, find out about AWCL events and help newcomers settle in. We proudly support the FAWCO Target Project and achieved Gold level status in 2014 donating over \$1,200 in addition to many other local projects that we support. We danced the "Dance of Justice" to support One Billion Rising and donated 80 bras to Free the Girls. It's been a busy, successful year and we look forward to another in 2015.

ANCOR (American Netherlands Club of Rotterdam)

2014 was a pivotal year for the American Netherlands Club of Rotterdam with the growth of our philanthropy and communications programs in collaboration with Region 4 sister Clubs. In philanthropy, our Board voted to monetarily support the Target Project, proudly gaining Gold Donor status. In January 2014, ANCOR began monthly Heart Pillow workshops to support Rotterdam hospital patients; collaborated with sister Clubs AWC The Hague and AWC Brussels to create a regional FAWCO workshop guide; and developed a partnership with COCO-MAT to increase our ability to better serve local pillow needs. During 2014, Team ANCOR, our micro lending program through KIVA, made an additional 17 loans to help women make a better life for themselves and their children. This raised our total loan count to 41 (\$1175) in 20 countries. In communications, we gained new Club sponsors for member benefits and launched a FAWCO-branded website. In December 2014, we bade a sad farewell to our founding member, Sandra Wepster, whose vision and leadership gave birth to ANCOR.

AWC Amsterdam

In 2014, AWCA actively tried varied avenues of membership communication and engagement. We also adjusted activities to reach working members, added a new sub-group to reach the young members, and held a FAWCO Tax and Banking workshop.

We restructured our Philanthropic activities into a three-armed framework:

- 1) *International/FAWCO arm*: focus on the FAWCO Target Project with FAWCO Rep as Co-Chair helping to organize and guide projects specifically aimed at Free the Girls.
- 2) *Local arm*: focus on three to four local projects evenly throughout the year.
- 3) *Organic arm*: composed of philanthropic actions and charitable causes not necessarily supported by the AWCA, but with heavy AWCA member involvement.

Philanthropic activities for 2014 included a Charity Ball that raised raised 18,000€ for the building of a women and children's shelter (Blijf Groep), the highest fundraising amount for Blijf Groep's runners in 2014, donations to the Backpack project for children of the Leefkringhuis, and two AWCA scholarships at 1000€ each.

AWC The Hague

AWC The Hague continues to be a busy and vibrant group with activities and projects to attract a diverse membership, mixed with newcomers and long term members, Americans and international members. The Club offers many ongoing activities as well as special events, tours and workshops. Newcomers are offered additional get-togethers to learn more about negotiating their lives in The Hague.

Our FAWCO committee organized a fun and profitable Helping Handbags Auction in April with proceeds going to the FAWCO Target Project. In June, the Club hosted a successful "Hearts and Minds" Gala that benefited special needs education: recreational therapy for sick children and trained dogs helping children with disabilities. In November we hosted nearly 50 regional women from FAWCO's Region 4 Benelux area for a "Reach Out: Lift Up" weekend meeting. Our annual Holiday Bazaar was again a great success and the philanthropy committee was busy throughout the year with activities benefitting a variety of local groups. In the 2013-14 fiscal year, the AWC The Hague distributed in total nearly 90,000€ to charitable causes.

In 2014, we reevaluate existing Club policies and regulations related to Associate (non-American) members and the Club voted to increase the allowable percentage of Associate members, allow Associate members to serve in certain positions on the board and vote.

Respectfully submitted,

*Celeste Brown
Region 4 Coordinator*

Belgium

American Women's Club Antwerp - Antwerp

Website: www.awcantwerp.org **E-mail:** info@awcantwerp.org

Year founded: 1929 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1931 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 96

Dues: 80 EUR (€)

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

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

University Hospital Edegem/Caring Hearts, Donation: 13000 EUR (€)

Caring Hearts, Donation: Time Donation

American Women's Club of Brussels - Brussels

Website: www.awcb.org **E-mail:** awcb@awcb.org

Year founded: 1949 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1950 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 225

Dues: 175 EUR (€)

Club mission: The Club's primary objectives have remained the same throughout the years: to organize a center for philanthropic, social and cultural activities for its members, to engage in welfare and cultural activities which will contribute to closer Belgo-American understanding, and to foster fellowship for the American women resident in Brussels and environs.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Home Leopold

Alsemberg Refugee Center

Battered Women's Shelter (Gender Equality)

Pink Ribbon (Maternal Health)

Free the Girls (Gender Equality)

Relay for Life



Luxembourg

American Women's Club of Luxembourg - Luxembourg

Website: <http://www.awcluxembourg.com> **E-mail:** clubhouseawcl@gmail.com

Year founded: 1959 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1961-65, 1985 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 380

Dues: 50 EUR (€)

Club mission: The American Women's Club of Luxembourg was founded in 1959. Its mission is to foster and encourage social, educational, cultural and philanthropic activities among its members in Luxembourg and to assist in furthering American-Luxembourg relations.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Fischer House, Donation: 21000 EUR (€)

International Bazaar, Donation: 1000 EUR (€)

Handi Chien, Donation: 2500 EUR (€)

Make-a-wish, Donation: 2000 EUR (€)

Toys for Tots, Donation: Time Donation Only

Misc. Charitable Donations: 250 EUR (€)

The Netherlands

American Women's Club of Amsterdam - Amsterdam, t' Gooi, Haarlem regions

Website: www.awca.nl **E-mail:** info@awca.nl

Year founded: 1927 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1971 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 250

Dues: 90 EUR (€)

Club 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

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Blijf Groep (Gender Equality) Donation: 21500 EUR (€)

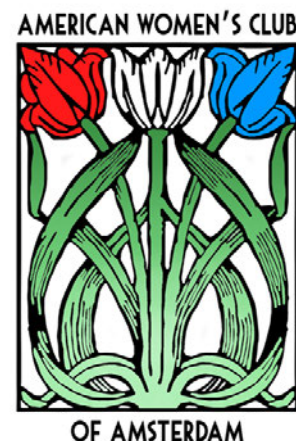
Habitat for Humanity (Poverty and Hunger)

Leefkringhuis, Donation: 600 EUR (€)

FAWCO Water Target (Environment)

FAWCO Human Rights Target (Gender Equality) Donation: 350 EUR (€)

Scholarships, Donation: 2000 EUR (€)



American Women's Club of The Hague - The Hague

Website: www.awcthehague.org **E-mail:** info@awcthehague.org

Year founded: 1930 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1931 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 155

Dues: 110 EUR (€)

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

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

FAWCO Water Project (Global Partnership for Development) Donation: 2721 USD (\$)

Lighthouse Special Education (Children's Education) Donation: 3500 EUR (€)

Heart Pillow Project, Donation: Time Donation Only

Ipse de Bruggen (Children's Education) Donation: 2500 EUR (€)

Laat Ze Maar Lachen (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 2000 EUR (€)

Tak Tiek Keramiek (Children's Education) Donation: 1000 EUR (€)

Het Residentie Orkest (Children's Education) Donation: 500 EUR (€)

Stichting Willem-Alexander Kinderfonds (Children's Health) Donation: 1000 EUR (€)



American Netherlands Club of Rotterdam - Rotterdam

Website: www.ancorotterdam.com **E-mail:** fawcorep@ancorotterdam.com

Year founded: 1955 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1976 **Membership Type:** Associate

Membership total: 47

Dues: 70 EUR (€)

Club mission: The purpose of this Club is to promote and encourage friendship and understanding between women who are citizens of the United States of America and women from The Netherlands. We also welcome women of other nationalities who reside in The Netherlands. English is the language of the Club. ANCOR also supports various charities through the Club's Philanthropic endeavors.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

TARGET Program (Gender Equality) Donation: 1000 EUR (€)

Heart Pillow Workshops, Donation: Time Donation Only

KIVA Microlending (Gender Equality) Donation: 100 USD (\$)



Region 5: Austria and Germany

2014 was another successful year for our rocking Region 5. Highlights of the individual Clubs include:

AWA Vienna: AWA Vienna celebrated their 50th Anniversary and the publication of the 9th Edition of their book *Living in Vienna*, launched at the anniversary gala. They continued to support a homeless shelter, Frauenhaus (women's shelter) and made donations to the FAWCO Target Project.

AIWC Frankfurt Taunus Rhein-Main: The Club changed its name to American International Women's Club Frankfurt Taunus Rhein-Main (AIWC) to reflect the changing demographics of its membership. They held major fundraisers to support charity projects like the "Schmetterling" organization, which provides counseling to cancer patients and their families. Bras and funds were also sent to the Target Project.

AWC Berlin: the AWC Berlin is still very small, but is very involved with the Ronald McDonald Haus. They organized a benefit concert at the Steinway Haus starring Robin Goldsby. AWC Berlin also got involved with the Heart Pillow Project.

Munich International Women's Club: MIWC members believe that one of their Club strengths is their many activities, approximately 15 a week, to attract members with different interests. They held a successful Auction of Talents which provided support of their charities and many fun events.

AWC Hamburg: The AWC Hamburg's main goal is helping women regardless of nationality. 2014 was a very busy year for the Club. The new digital version of their magazine, *Currents*, was introduced. With all their ongoing activities, collecting funds for FAWCO and supporting the Heart Pillow project, they also hosted a splendid Regional Meeting.

AIWC Cologne: While celebrating every German and American holiday and doing a lot together, the AIWCC also does a lot for others. Supporting a local women's shelter and soup kitchen, raising awareness of issues that women face in post-war Liberia, the Club has become very involved with FAWCO issues. They achieved Gold Donor status for the Target project, sponsored a NEEED Scholarship and several of their members serve in FAWCO positions.

Augsburg IWA: The AIWA is a very international Club. They organize a lot of events to bring the members and their families together. They are also proud to be serving their community throughout the year in supporting the local Women's Shelter and "Gluehwurmchen", an association which provides help for families with children diagnosed with a life-threatening illness.

AWC Düsseldorf: The Club is a means for Americans and English-speaking people to network and socialize while living in the greater Düsseldorf area. With their focus on helping improve the lives of women and children they have chosen Friedensdorf International - a citizen's initiative to help children in areas of war and crisis - as their major charity project, but they also support FAWCO's Target Project, heart pillows and several other organizations.

The **Regional Meeting** was held in Hamburg in November. Topics included education in Germany and the difficulties of obtaining and keeping dual citizenship. As always the participants enjoyed a very informative, inspiring and bonding weekend.

Respectfully submitted,

*Angelika McLarren (AWC Berlin)
Region 5 Coordinator*

Austria

American Women's Association of Vienna - Vienna

Website: www.awavienna.com **E-mail:** awa@awavienna.com

Year founded: 1924 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1931 **Membership Type:** Associate

Membership total: 250

Dues: 96 Regular, 60 Senior (over 60) or Student, 125 Family EUR (€)

Club 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.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

FAWCO Target Project (Gender Equality) Donation: 1000 USD (\$)

Clemens Reutter Foundation (Children's Education) Donation: 1300 EUR (€)

Caritas (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 2000 EUR (€)

Die Gruft Homeless Shelter (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 500 EUR (€)

Frauenhaeuser Vienna (Gender Equality) Donation: 5000 EUR (€)



Germany

Augsburg International Women's Association e.V. - Augsburg

Website: www.augsburg-iwa.org **E-mail:** kercl@gm.de

Year founded: 2010 **Year joined FAWCO:** 2010 **Membership Type:** Associate

Membership total: 36

Dues: 50 EUR (€)

Club mission: The Augsburg International Women's Association e.V. (AIWA) was founded in 2010 to bring together women of all nationalities who reside either temporarily or permanently in Augsburg and to adjust newcomers to their life in Augsburg and Germany. It promotes social and cultural exchange between women of all nationalities in the spirit of mutual friendship and understanding through meetings, activities and presentations. AIWA is a non-religious, non-political and non-profit organization, and membership is open to women of all nationalities and ages. The working language of the Club is English. AIWA offers a wide range of activities and services to our members, including social, cultural and professional enrichments. All of these activities and programs are designed to get members involved and connected. In joining the Club and participating in its activities, women can meet other members from around the world reflecting their varied interests, talents, experiences and professions.



What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Gluehwurmchen Lauf (Children's Health) Donation: 50 EUR

American Women's Club of Berlin - Berlin

Website: www.awcberlin.org **E-mail:** president@awcberlin.org

Year founded: 1931, 1994 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1994 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 10

Dues: 50 EUR (€)

Club mission: Further social contact, provide information about the community, reach out to German hosts and promote charitable programs

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Ronald McDonald House (Children's Health) Donation: 900 EUR (€)

V-Day (Gender Equality) Donation: Time Donation Only

VFW of the US, Donation: Time Donation Only



American International Women's Club of Cologne - Cologne

Website: www.aiwccologne.org **E-mail:** fawco@aiwccologne.org

Year founded: 1961 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1971 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 250

Dues: 60 EUR (€)

Club 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 "steuerbeguenstigte 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 which help people in need, especially women and children, by providing them assistance to find the means to help themselves (e.g. via clothing, book and money donations). B. The Club is a non-profit organization. It does not pursue economic gain as its primary goal. Funds of the Club shall only be used in pursuit of the purpose stated above. Members shall receive no compensation from the Club that is not in accordance with the purpose of the organization nor receive disproportionately high compensation for services rendered to the Club.



What specific charities has the club supported during the past year?

Association of Women's Shelters in Germany (Gender Equality) Donation: 2300 EUR (€)

Frauen Helfen Frauen - women's shelter (Gender Equality) Donation: 3500 EUR (€)

FAWCO DRF - Philippines (Global Partnership for Development) Donation: 1320 EUR (€)

Medica Mondiale (directed corporate donation)(Gender Equality) Donation: 6800 EUR (€)

The FAWCO Foundation - NEEEDS (Gender Equality) Donation: 1270 EUR (€)

Target Project: Free the Girls (Gender Equality) Donation: 1100 EUR (€)
 AOVDCC - Hotline (Gender Equality) Donation: 500 EUR (€)
 Notruf Köln - legal svcs for women (Gender Equality) Donation: 500 EUR (€)

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

Website: www.awcduesseldorf.org **E-mail:** info@awcduesseldorf.org

Year founded: 1959 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1971 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 200

Dues: 65 EUR (€)

Club mission: Our Constitution states: The purpose of the Club is: •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; • 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).

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Friedensdorf International (Children's Health) Donation: 2500 EUR (€)

Frauenberatungsstelle Neuss, Donation: 2500 EUR (€)

German-American Friends Niederrhein, Donation: 500 EUR (€)

International Library, Donation: 500 EUR (€)

HiSKO (Maternal Health) Donation: 500 EUR (€)

Frauen Helfen Frauen Düsseldorf, Donation: 500 EUR (€)

Knackpunkt (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 500 EUR (€)

Youth Compass (Children's Education) Donation: 500 EUR (€)



American Women's Club of Düsseldorf

American Women's Club of Hamburg - Hamburg

Website: www.awchamburg.org **E-mail:** pres@awchamburg.org

Year founded: 1956 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1976 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 137

Dues: 39 EUR (€)

Club 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, the care of the elderly, 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.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Heart Pillows for Breast Cancer Survivors, Donation: 200 EUR (€)

Ammnesty for Women Hamburg (Gender Equality) Donation: 1200 EUR (€)



Munich International Women's Club - Munich

Website: munichiwc.wordpress.com **E-mail:** fawco@internationalwomensclub.org

Year founded: 1980 **Year joined FAWCO:** 2010 **Membership Type:** Associate

Membership total: 230

Dues: 50 EUR (€)

Club 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 organisation have contact with other German groups, as well as those in other countries.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Frauenhaus, Donation: 5800 EUR (€)

NEEEDs Burkina Faso (Children's Education) Donation: 500 EUR (€)

FAWCO Foundation Target Project (Gender Equality) Donation: 1000 EUR (€)

Evan. Method. Friedenkirche, Donation: 2200 EUR (€)

Thomas Heinrich Scholarship Fund, Donation: 1000 EUR (€)

Shelter Box Germany, Donation: 750 EUR (€)



Dental Hygienists for India, Donation: 1000 EUR (€)

American International Women's Club Frankfurt Taunus Rhein-Main - Frankfurt am Main

Website: www.awctaunus.org **E-mail:** awctaunus@hotmail.com

Year founded: 1971 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1978 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 360

Dues: 75 EUR (€)

Club mission: The AWCT 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.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

2AID, Donation: 12000 EUR (€)

Region 6: Liechtenstein and Switzerland

There are two countries represented in our Region, Switzerland and Liechtenstein. However, this Region is greatly influenced by the countries around it...making each Club very special in its own way. The culture of the areas where are Clubs are located influences the structure and activities of our Clubs. German, French and Italian cultures beside our American roots make for an interesting variety within our small Region. The Clubs in Basel, Bern and Zurich are very strong and active groups, while a couple of Clubs are struggling with diminishing membership. But we are all optimistic about the coming year.

We all aim to act as ambassadors within our local communities and as a strong support group for our members. Online newsletters, Facebook pages and active websites have become an important part of most of the Clubs' communications. This offers a more efficient way to stay in contact within the area at the same time allowing each Club to be independent.

All the Clubs follow common interests and activities. Holiday celebrations such as Thanksgiving, Christmas and July 4th are traditionally celebrated. English book clubs and libraries, teas, fairs, children's activities, cultural events and philanthropy projects are among a few of the general activities.

With our busy Club schedules, FAWCO remains an important window of opportunity for all of us. We look forward to the possibility of meeting at the conferences and sharing our Club information among ourselves and our Region 6 information with the other FAWCO Regions.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonsi Andrews (AWO Ticino)

Region 6 Coordinator

Liechtenstein

American Women's Club of Liechtenstein - Liechtenstein

Website: www.awcliechtenstein.org **E-mail:** info@awcliechtenstein.org

Year founded: 1994 **Year joined FAWCO:** **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 21

Dues: 70 USD (\$)

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

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Frauenhaus FL (Maternal Health)

Doctors without Borders

Local Dental Health Support

Switzerland

American Women's Club of Basel - Basel

Website: www.awcbasel.org **E-mail:** fawco.awc@gmail.com

Year founded: 1947 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1952 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 150

Dues: 80 CHF

Club mission: Our purposes are to further social relationships among women of all nationalities with ties to America, to promote friendly relations with our host country and the greater English-speaking community in the Basel area, and to contribute financial aid primarily to Swiss philanthropic organizations. We offer a wide range of educational and social activities to our members.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

SAHARA (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 12000 CHF (CHF)

Future For Ritschow (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 5000 CHF (CHF)

American Women's Club of Bern - Bern

Website: www.awcbern.org **E-mail:** information@awcbern.org

Year founded: 1949 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1989 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 120

Dues: 60 CHF

Club 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 fund raisers.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

FAWCO Foundation (Children's Education) Donation: 500 USD (\$)

KIDS Support Groups (Children's Health) Donation: 500 USD (\$)

Profinic (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: Time Donation Only



Switzerland

American Women of Ticino - Ticino

Website: www.awot.ch **E-mail:** awotcontact@gmail.com

Year founded: 1990 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1991 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 50

Dues: 80 USD (\$)

Club mission: AWOT functions as a strong support group for members of the American community in Ticino.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Christmas food boxes (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: EUR (€)

American Women's Club of Zurich - Zurich

Website: www.awczurich.org **E-mail:** info@awczurich.org

Year founded: 1931 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1931 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 296

Dues: 175 CHF

Club mission: The AWCZ has a modern 600 sq. meter clubhouse in the center of Zurich with full-service English language library. The clubhouse is the venue for most Club activities including member events, celebrations (Thanksgiving/Halloween/Visit Santa), lectures, presentations, cocktail parties, local artist exhibitions, fundraising and community service programs, language and continuing education classes and children's programs. Additionally, the clubhouse is a popular venue for private usage by members and nonmembers, local businesses and other social or religious organizations.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

FAWCO Target - Free The Girls (Gender Equality) Donation: 3500 (CHF)

Tischlein Deck Dich (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 3800 (CHF)

FIZ (Advocacy and Support for Migrant Women and Victims of Trafficking)

Terre des Femmes (Gender Equality)

Flying Croissant (Poverty and Hunger)



Region 7: Africa and Spain

Through 2014, Region 7 comprised the two FAWCO Clubs in Spain plus the six Clubs in Africa. From January 2015 on, the two Spanish Clubs have been incorporated into Region 3 along with the four Clubs in France, and Region 7 henceforth spans the continent of Africa. This large and geographically dispersed Region has diverse Clubs with a wide variety of activities and charitable projects. Although the distances involved have precluded a full-scale Regional meeting, the three Clubs in Morocco held their first Inter-Club Meeting in February 2014, hosted by AIWC Casablanca. The meeting was so successful that AIWA Rabat volunteered to host the second annual Inter-Club Meeting, held in January of 2015.

AWA Kenya has been working diligently this year to support its projects in country. Over the course of the year, evening fundraisers took place monthly. Events with the US Embassy, called Share the Spirit, brought further participation to the Club as members planted trees at a future children's home and donated dry food to a project to feed the elderly. The US Ambassador, Robert Godec, participated in the tree planting. Fun Zumba-thons and bake sales wrapped up the year as AWA Kenya gave away over \$5,500 it raised to support local charities, hundreds of kilograms in dry food donations, and planted 288 trees. Members look forward to raising more funds in the coming year.

The mission of the **American International Women's Club of Casablanca** is 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. During the past year, the Club supported eight charities:

- 1) "Douari dans le Développement Durable"/"Douari for sustainable development" aims to create revenue-generating activities for Moroccan rural women, and to train uneducated young girls in handicraft work.
- 2) "Amis de Spana" aims to vaccinate, treat and neuter stray animals, and help poor people take care of their injured and wounded animals.
- 3) Les Quartiers Idmaj – Centre Culturel Sidi Moumen is a cultural center for drop-out children and illiterate women from slum areas.
- 4) Nour Chebab is a center for informal education for drop-out children in the Hay Moulay Rachid area which now holds literacy and dressmaking classes for women and soon a cooking workshop thanks to the Club's donation. This workshop will enable women to learn cooking skills and bake or cook for ceremonies, thereby gaining new means of earning money.
- 5) AMARDEV - *Association Marocaine pour la Réadaptation des déficients visuels* is a games library for visually impaired children.
- 6) AMIS DES ECOLES provides infrastructure for schools in remote areas.
- 7) GOUTTE DE LAIT provides care for premature babies.
- 8) DAR ATFAL is an orphanage for boys in Sidi Bernoussi.

AIWA Marrakesh had a successful year in 2014. The Club applied for and won a Development Grant for one of the organizations it supports in Marrakesh. The Amal Women's Center was awarded the DG to help underprivileged females with proper restaurant training and job skills to face the real world. The Club has also been helping a very overlooked organization that trains and educates diabetic children, as well as their families and teachers, on coping with this disease.

Highlights of the past year for **The AWC - Lagos** included raising 1.1 million Naira (\$6470.00) through participation in the annual international song/dance/food "Small World" charity in Lagos which will be applied towards the purchase of ultrasound and a fetal heart monitor for the labor ward at the Lagos University Teaching Hospital. The AWC - Lagos continued the annual tradition of its Aso Ebi sale which raised over 200,000 Naira (\$1176.00) which will go towards Lagos charities. Aso Ebi is traditional Nigerian fabric which the ladies purchased and then each had sewn an outfit which they then wore to the annual membership tea. The ladies of The AWC - Lagos all looked gorgeous in their Aso Ebi outfits at the annual membership tea. In addition The AWC - Lagos held their first annual Art Action for Charity which brought in 800,000 Naira (\$4705.00) which will go towards Lagos charities.

The **Barcelona Women's Network** fosters friendship, goodwill and understanding among women of all nationalities in the Barcelona area. BWN provides a wide variety of social, cultural, educational, artistic and professional networking activities in addition to hosting special events. The majority of BWN's philanthropic donations are for local organizations which focus on the elderly, children, education, health issues, literacy, poverty reduction, and women's rights. Fundraising is conducted over a two-year period. Currently BWN helps the following three programs in Barcelona, financed by an annual Holiday Market or Party and a Spring Book Sale to raise funds:

- 1) Casal dels Infants: The centers work with poor children and their families to help them avoid social exclusion, create equal opportunities and integrate into society.

2) Fundacio Arc Musica Xamfra: Promotes the insertion in society of underprivileged children through workshops for learning and practicing music, dance, and theater, choirs for children, young people and women and music for mothers and their children.

3) Maggie's Place: Strives to meet the practical, emotional and social needs of people with cancer and anyone affected by cancer, including families, colleagues, and friends. This initiative is expected to have a great impact in an area not currently addressed in Barcelona. BWN has actively supported the FAWCO Millennium Forest in Morocco and participates in the Heart Pillow Project by organizing a monthly sewing group to make pillows for a local cancer hospital. Recently, the BWN FAWCO Committee launched a certificate campaign for The FAWCO Foundation's NEEDED Scholarship.

Respectfully submitted,

Sallie Chaballier (AAWE Paris)

FAWCO Vice President for Member Clubs

Angola

American Women's Association in Angola - Luanda

Website: www.awaangola.org **E-mail:** awaangola@gmail.com

Year founded: 2003 **Year joined FAWCO:** 2008 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 74

Dues: 60 USD (\$)

Club mission: The American Women's Association in Angola is a non-political, non-profit group organized to support American women in developing friendships and to help expatriates assimilate into the community by providing opportunities for social, cultural and philanthropic endeavors, thus fostering a positive experience living in Angola and resulting in a positive reflection on American women.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Arnaldo Jensen Orphanage (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 11300 USD (\$)

Kambamba Neighborhood (Children's Education) Donation: 5600 USD (\$)

Mussulo Day Care (Children's Education) Donation: 1200 USD (\$)

Meninos Pintores de Angola (Children's Education) Donation: 800 USD (\$)

Mama Muxima Orphanage (Children's Education) Donation: 300 USD (\$)

Kenya

American Women's Association of Kenya - Nairobi

Website: www.awakenya.org **E-mail:** awaofkenya@gmail.com

Year founded: 1958 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1980s **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 125

Dues: 30 USD (\$)

Club 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.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Information is not available.

Morocco

American International Women's Club of Casablanca - Casablanca

Website: www.casablancaaiwc.org **E-mail:** aiwccasablanca@fawco.org

Year founded: 1962 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1979 **Membership Type:** Associate

Membership total: 85

Dues: 55 USD (\$)

Club 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.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

AMARDEV- school for blind children (Children's Education) Donation: 3500 USD (\$)
 Goutte de Lait- premature infants (Children's Health) Donation: 4000 USD (\$)
 Amis des Ecoles (building toilets and sinks in rural schools) (Children's Education) Donation: 4000 USD (\$)
 Dar Al Atfal Orphanage for boys 6 and up (Children's Health) Donation: 1000 USD (\$)
 Nour Chebab- dressmaking workshop for women (Gender Equality) Donation: 3800 USD (\$)
 Sidi Moumen Cultural Centre- training and classes (Global Partnership for Development) Donation: 6000 USD
 SPANA- sterilizing of dogs and cats, Donation: 1000 USD (\$)

American International Women's Association of Marrakesh - Marrakesh

Website: **E-mail:** aiwamarrakesh@gmail.com

Year founded: 2011 **Year joined FAWCO:** 2011 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 14

Dues: 30 USD (\$)

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

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Association ILA NAJAH (Kids for Success is directed towards kids in very poor neighbourhoods in Marrakesh Medina) (Children's Education) Donation: Time Donation Only
 Amal Women's Training Center (Global Partnership for Development)
 ABEED (Children's Health) Donation: 300 EUR (€)

**American International Women's Association of Rabat - Rabat**

Website: www.aiwarabat.com **E-mail:** aiwa.rabat@gmail.com

Year founded: 1962 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1996 **Membership Type:** Associate

Membership total: 100

Dues: 60 USD (\$)

Club 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.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Information is not available.

Nigeria**The American Women's Club of Lagos - Lagos**

Website: www.theawclagos.com **E-mail:** communications@theawclagos.com

Year founded: 1961 **Year joined FAWCO:** 2009 **Membership Type:**

Regular

Membership total: 200

Dues:

Club 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.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Information is not available.

**Spain****American Women's Club of Madrid - Madrid**

Website: www.awcmadrid.com **E-mail:** awclubhouse@gmail.com

Year founded: 1954 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1956 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 189

Dues: 88 EUR (€)

Club mission: The American Women's Club of Madrid is a social and charitable organization. A diverse offering of activities are held both in the Club and in the Madrid area. Activities cover a spectrum of interests, including social, cultural, historical, charity, and well-being. Our fundraisers include a monthly second-hand sale at the Clubhouse, an annual book sale, and an annual Christmas Bazaar. 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 -To engage in charitable activities emphasizing the needs of women and children

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Information is not available.

Barcelona Women's Network - Barcelona

Website: www.bcnwomensnetwork.com **E-mail:** arlinecoward@gmail.com

Year founded: 1998 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1999 **Membership Type:** Associate

Membership total: 200

Dues: 60 EUR (€)

Club 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.



What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Casal de Infants (Children's Education)

XAMFRA (Children's Education)

Maggie's Barcelona Branch

Water Target Project, Donation: 4000 USD (\$)

Heart Pillow Project, Donation: Time Donation Only

Doctors Without Borders, Donation: 500 EUR (€)

NEEDS Scholarship

Region 8: Greece and Italy

Our Region includes one Club in Greece and six in Italy. Given the distance involved it is sometimes challenging for the Clubs to visit each other. It was decided not to hold a regional meeting in 2014 as the Biennial FAWCO Conference for 2015, themed The Eternal Woman: Equality, Protection, Empowerment, is being held in Rome and most of our Clubs will be represented at the conference. This is a wonderful opportunity for the Reps and Presidents of our region to meet and the conference will highlight several public and private organizations from our region working on issues related to human rights for women and girls, the underlying theme of the conference.

Co-RC Ann De Simoni was able to visit AILO Florence in December on the occasion of their Christmas bazaar. She held a meeting with the AILO President and FAWCO Representative and also had the opportunity to visit with many longstanding members she has known over the years. Seven other AIWC of Genoa members and their husbands came along and were able to do some bazaar brainstorming.

Co-RC Shannon McCarthy is the President of AWA Rome and Chair of The Eternal Woman conference. In this capacity, she received a visit from Suzanne Wheeler, VP of Fundraising for The FAWCO Foundation and separately, a visit from My-Linh Kunst, President of FAWCO.

Our most exciting news is that this year we were able to stay in contact by sharing our e-newsletters.

All of our Clubs have a variety of social and philanthropic projects in their local communities, and they are committed and continue their support to The FAWCO Foundation and its various programs and projects. There is something for everyone's interest.

The success and the strength of Region 8 is derived from the wonderful FAWCO women who continue to give of themselves. We are thankful for their support and friendship, and we want to acknowledge specifically the FAWCO 2nd VP for her dedication and excellent communications this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

*Ann De Simoni (AIWC of Genoa)
Shannon McCarthy (AWA Rome)
Co-Regional Coordinators Region 8*

Greece

American Women's Organization of Greece - Athens

Website: www.awogreece.org **E-mail:** awogoffice@yahoo.com

Year founded: 1948 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1952 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 270

Dues: 45 EUR (€)

Club mission: The Organization was formed in 1948 in order to help the people of Greece after World War II. It was founded by the then Ambassador's Wife, Mrs. Henry F. Grady, and sponsored by the then Secretary of State, George Marshall, of the Marshall Plan which was to help rebuild Europe. As the Club began to grow and as more Americans moved here, another purpose was added: to help acculturate the American ex-patriots living in Greece. Since then, the acronym AWOG has also come to mean A Way Of Giving! We are celebrating our 66th Anniversary as a cultural/philanthropic organization.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Amymone (Children's Health) Donation: 1000 EUR (€)

Kivotos tou Kosmos (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 2500 EUR (€)

Ag.Christoforos-help for persons w/ muscular dystrophy (Children's Health)

Donation: 1400 EUR (€)

Penelopean Day Care Center (Children's Education) Donation: 1000 EUR (€)

American Farm School Scholarship (Children's Education) Donation: 500 EUR (€)

Deree College Scholarship (Children's Education) Donation: 500 EUR (€)

American Girl Scouts (Gender Equality) Donation: 500 EUR (€)

Kalo Samaritis (Children's Health) Donation: 1000 EUR (€)



Italy

American International League of Florence - Florence

Website: www.aioflorence.org **E-mail:** ailo@aioflorence.org

Year founded: 1975 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1977 **Membership Type:** Associate

Membership total: 148

Dues: 80 EUR (€)

Club 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.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Banco Alimentare della Toscana (Poverty and Hunger)

LILT

ERAM (Children's Education)

Pro Animals

APES Onlus (Poverty and Hunger)

OASI

Associazione Insieme Onlus

Associazione Toscana Cure e Ricerche Oncologiche



*The American - International
League of Florence - ONLUS*

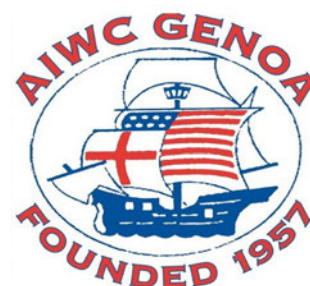
American International Women's Club of Genoa - Genoa

Website: www.aiwcgenoa.org **E-mail:** info@aiwcgenoa.org

Year founded: 1957 **Year joined FAWCO:** **Membership Type:** Associate

Membership total: 65

Dues: 90 EUR (€)



Club 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.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Casa Famiglia Belvedere, Donation: 4200 EUR (€)
 La Scalletta Nursery (Children's Education) Donation: 1200 EUR (€)
 Spina Bifida Department at Gaslini Children's Hospital (Children's Health) Donation: 5000 EUR (€)
 The Anglican Church in Genoa, Donation: 750 EUR (€)
 Le Piccole Sorelle dei Poveri Nursing Home, Donation: 1200 EUR (€)
 Project Girineza Burundi, Donation: 350 EUR (€)
 WOMEN for GIRLS (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 350 EUR (€)
 FAWCO Foundation Grants, Donation: 2000 USD (\$)

Benvenuto Club of Milan - Milan

Website: www.benvenutomilano.net **E-mail:** presidentbenvenuto@gmail.com

Year founded: 1967 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1978 **Membership Type:** Associate

Membership total: 214

Dues: 75, newcomers 65 EUR (€)

Club mission: We explore Italy's culture, history and food. We learn about our member's cultures through our many club activity groups.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Villaggio della madre e del fanciullo (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 3000 EUR (€)
 Associazione Kolbe (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 3000 EUR (€)
 Cena dall'Amicizia (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 3000 EUR (€)

American Women's Club of Naples - Naples

Website: www.facebook.com/AmericanInternationalWomensClubOfNaples

E-mail: aiwcnaples@gmail.com

Year founded: 1970 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1972 **Membership Type:** Associate

Membership total: 31

Dues: 33 USD (\$)

Club mission: AWC Naples thrives on the positive aspects of Naples, offering a haven for old-timers and a resource for bewildered newcomers.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Information is not available.

American Women's Association of Rome - Rome

Website: www.awar.org **E-mail:** office@awar.org

Year founded: 1955 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1964 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 230

Dues: 60 EUR (€)

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

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Oasi Celistina Donati
 Citta Della Ragazzi, Donation: 500 EUR (€)
 Alzheimers Association
 Casa di Kim,(Children's Health)
 Americans in Distress
 Differenza Donna



International Women's Club of Torino - Torino

Website: <http://www.iwct.it> **E-mail:** admin@iwct.it

Year founded: 1960 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1978 **Membership Type:** Associate

Membership total: 290

Dues: 55 EUR (€)



Club mission: The purpose of this self-governing, non-profit organization is to promote friendship and professional networking between its members and the Italian community as well as to provide social and philanthropic opportunities.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

IO STO CON IL REGINA MARGHERITA (Children's Health)

DONNE and FUTURO (Gender Equality)

Region 9: Middle East

Greetings from the sunny, warm and perpetually sandy Middle East.

Region 9 covers a wide geographical area from Lebanon on the Mediterranean to Qatar on the Gulf to Saudi Arabia on the Arabian Peninsula. The region continues to show robust growth and has a large population of expats from around the world. The current Clubs in the FAWCO network have listed their details in the profiles below.

The region's profile is changeable as regulations in many countries regarding group assembly are debated and new laws are enacted. There is progress as most host governments realize the benefits of the great philanthropic work our Clubs do in each country and the region. Despite the challenges, the members of Region 9 Clubs continue to network, fundraise, and provide social support with fun events for their Club members. Most Clubs have Facebook groups and other media to communicate. In all Clubs you will find myriad activities from social to serious. Region 9 members are very generous with their time and money in helping local organizations, Club members' chosen charities, the FAWCO Target Program and the FAWCO Foundation Development Grants.

Region 9 held a very successful conference in Amman, Jordan in December 2014 titled "The Displacement Dilemma: Focus on Compassion, Friendship, Peace and Expats Sharing Experiences." In addition to learning about the FAWCO global network and Foundation work, attendees shared best practices. Region 9 is home to several conflicts and the world's largest humanitarian crisis. Over three million people are refugees or displaced persons from Iraq, Palestine, and Syria. Jordan and Lebanon have been heavily impacted by the influx of so many refugees.

Therese Hartwell organized a volunteer group project and moderated the Panel of NGOs from refugee organizations for a discussion of displaced persons and needs.

Organizations represented: *US Embassy Regional Refugee Coordinator, Collateral Repair Project, Family Kitchen, Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors without Borders), Mercy Corps, Syrian American Medical Society, United Nations High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR).*

In addition to the volunteer project, the attendees brought collections of clothing, craft items and toiletries for various refugee groups. Participants from Dubai generously donated fabric shopping bags with which we filled for "Woman to Woman" goodie bags. Items included: soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, wipes, hand lotions, lip balm, tissues, notepads and pens, tea, chocolates, biscuits, airline kits, emery boards and scarves. Two hundred bags were delivered and distributed to women registered at *Collateral Repair Project* in Amman. Our group also visited a Palestinian refugee sewing co-op to bring sewing materials and threads. The conference included a great workshop on Personal Displacement organized by Tosin Arowojolu from Bahrain: *Empowering women and clubs in a time of crisis.*

In answer to FAWCO's Call To Action for the 16 Days Campaign of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, the American Women's Association of Qatar (AWAQ) scheduled a film screening of *Beyond Right and Wrong*, a moving documentary about conflict around the world. Attendees were given an orange scarf to represent ending violence against women. AWAQ also made the local Doha news with their heart pillow and drain bag tote projects. A dedicated team of 25 members have been busy this year.

AWC Lebanon continues to support refugees from Syria through various projects and fundraising. The needs of the refugee population are many and overwhelming. Consider partnering with the Club to help.

The AW Eastern Province has adopted the Heart Pillow project as our in-Kingdom philanthropic charity. This year, we have made 120 heart pillows that are being distributed to local hospitals in Saudi Arabia. This past year there have been several collections of gently used bras for "Free the Girls" organization to help victims of Human Trafficking. In April three charities were chosen to receive a donation of \$2000 each: **Aziza's Place** - is a home and learning center transforming lives of some of the poorest children in Phnom Penh's slums. **Collateral Repair** - a grassroots effort to bring assistance to refugees from Syria located in Jordan. **NWACUDO** - a village in Cam-

eroon striving to attain clean drinking water for its village. AWEF continues to sponsor the Skills for Life Development Grant (along with assistance from AILO Florence) again this year by organizing raffles at our monthly meetings.

We have introduced a pilot program for individual members in areas where a FAWCO Club is not available due to country restrictions. We continue to keep communications open to our sister Clubs not yet members of the FAWCO global network and hope that we can continue to share experiences and support one another.

Respectfully submitted,

*Louise Greeley-Copley
Region 9 Coordinator*

Lebanon

American Women's Club of Lebanon - Beirut

Website: **E-mail:** awc_lebanon@hotmail.com

Year founded: 1953 **Year joined FAWCO:** 2000 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 68

Dues: 100 USD (\$)

Club 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.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Alzheimer's Association, Lebanon, Donation: 1000 USD (\$)

The Amlieh Association for the Care of Orphans (Children's Education) Donation: 1000 USD (\$)

Restaurants du Coeur (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 1000 USD (\$)

SANAD (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 1000 USD (\$)

YWCA (Children's Education) Donation: 1500 USD (\$)

Compassion Services (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 2000 USD (\$)

The Child and Mother Welfare Society (Maternal Health) Donation: 1000 USD (\$)

Qatar

American Women's Association of Qatar - Doha

Website: www.awaqatar.com **E-mail:** president@awaqatar.com

Year founded: 1979 **Year joined FAWCO:** 2010 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 200

Dues: QAR 300

Club mission: The purpose of AWAQ shall be • to promote friendship and cooperation among American women living in Qatar and • to provide a voice for American women there, • to contribute actively to the local community by supporting education, the rights of women and children, the natural and human environment, • to promote multicultural goodwill, and • to work towards better understanding between the United States of America and other nationalities.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Breast Cancer, Donation: Time Donation Only

Community Schools Project (Children's Education) Donation: Time Donation Only

CRP in Amman, Jordan, Donation: Time Donation Only

Step by Step (Children's Education) Donation: 8700 USD (\$)

Girl Scouts (Children's Education) Donation: 3300 USD (\$)



Saudi Arabia

American Women of the Eastern Province - Eastern Province

Website: **E-mail:** awepksa@gmail.com

Year founded: 1993 **Year joined FAWCO:** 2003 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 93**Dues:** 40 initiation fee and 27 annual dues USD (\$)**Club mission:** To serve North American women in attaining a positive, dynamic living experience in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, by providing an atmosphere of assistance, learning, growth and community.**What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?**

FAWCO Foundation DG "Skills for Life, Donation: 3500 USD (\$)

Heart Pillows for Breast Cancer, Donation: 2000 USD (\$)

Aziza's Place Cambodia (Children's Education) Donation: 1100 USD (\$)

Women for Women International (Gender Equality) Donation: 1100 USD (\$)

Fistula Foundation (Maternal Health) Donation: 1100 USD (\$)

The Children's Place in Jordan (Children's Education) Donation: 1100 USD (\$)

Target Water: Wells for Cambodia (Environment) Donation: 1200 USD (\$)

Collateral Repair Project, Donation: 2000 USD (\$)



Region 10: The Americas

Region 10 consists of four Clubs in North and South America and the Caribbean, ranging from Canada to Colombia. AWC of Oakville (Ontario, Canada) rejoined FAWCO late in 2014, and we are delighted to welcome them back to the FAWCO family.

The **IWC Antigua and Barbuda** held monthly meetings and conducted excursions to Prickly Pear Island, a medical school, a local herb garden, to historic English Harbour and Nelson's Dockyard and an ecotour of North Sound Marine Park. With these outings, members learned more about their adopted country and its history, flora and fauna, wildlife etc.

Throughout the year, several members volunteered at a local hospice and/or thrift store (which raises funds for the hospice). In addition, the Annual Scholarship Awards were given to nine recipients totaling \$15,000.00 US. The Club also supported the "Back to School Project" which provided 40 needy children with backpacks and school supplies. The major fundraiser for the year was the Annual Golf Tournament with over 100 golfers. They ended the year with the Annual General Meeting, and the packing and distribution of Christmas Hampers to some 200 of the country's neediest seniors and AIDS patients.

The Club revised its constitution and bylaws and created a new website. They are also reviewing the best practices of other FAWCO Member Clubs for ideas.

The **AWC Bogotá** membership has undergone various changes during the past few years with an increase in young working members, causing the Board to hold a number of Board and General meetings in the evenings to accommodate these members. Activities began in February with a Go RED luncheon with over 100 in attendance. Members heard a presentation on the risks of cardiovascular disease for women highlighting preventative measures that each woman and man can take to prevent this disease. The AWC Bogotá's primary function is as a charitable organization providing milk and groceries and scholarships to 17 organizations serving children, the elderly and the handicapped. Over 85 million pesos (approximately US\$40,000) was distributed to these organizations. Three major fundraising events were held to finance these important activities: Bingo night with 400 participants in March, the Great Gatsby Gala with live and silent auction in May, and the annual Christmas Bazaar at the residence of the American Ambassador with over 20 vendors and lunch for over 175 people.

AWC Curaçao celebrated several events with the community, held a bake sale for the Animal Shelter, collected canned goods for a food pantry, hosted caroling at different special school and hospital settings, served a holiday dinner at the government-run dementia center and provided airline tickets for musicians who spent time on the island at local schools, and in turn, supported the national youth orchestra by holding fundraising concerts. The Club also funded art therapy lessons at the court-appointed juvenile detention center. In all, several small fundraisers brought in over \$6000 which was donated in a reception held at the US Consulate to 14 organizations that: help children and youth, support families, support special needs groups, provide activities promoting environmental awareness, provide shelter and care to abandoned animals.

Respectfully submitted,

*Sallie Chaballier (AAWE Paris)
FAWCO Vice President for Member Clubs*

Antigua and Barbuda

International Women's Club of Antigua and Barbuda - St. John's

Website: <http://www.iwcantiguabarbuda.org> **E-mail:** info@candw.ag

Year founded: 1986 **Year joined FAWCO:** **Membership Type:** Associate

Membership total: 62

Dues: 20 USD (\$)

Club 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 and Barbuda.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

IWC of Antigua and Barbuda Annual Scholarships for Women, Donation: 15000 USD (\$)

Annual Christmas Hampers for Needy Seniors, Donation: 8000 USD (\$)

Other Charities, Donation: 750 USD (\$)

Canada

American Women's Club of Oakville - Greater Toronto Regions of Halton and Peel

Website: www.awco.ca **E-mail:** info@awco.ca

Year founded: 1977 **Year joined FAWCO:** 2014 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 75

Dues: 50 CAD

Club mission: A non-profit organization founded in 1977, provides fellowship and social activities to members and encourages participation in service to the community, both civic and philanthropic, to Americans who live in or have recently relocated to the Greater Toronto Areas of Peel and Halton.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Information is not available.



Colombia

American Women's Club Bogota - Bogota

Website: www.awcbogota.com **E-mail:** membership@awcbogota.com

Year founded: 1947 **Year joined FAWCO:** 2003 **Membership Type:** Associate

Membership total: 294

Dues: Col 100,000 pesos or 55 USD (\$)

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

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Fundacion Amigos de Jesus y Maria (Children's Education) Donation: 5000 USD (\$)

Colegio NS Rosario (Children's Education) Donation: 5000 USD (\$)

Hogar Fervor (Children's Health) Donation: 5000 USD (\$)

Hogar San Migue (Children's Education) Donation: 2600 USD (\$)

Victorin Le Dieu, Donation: 2600 USD (\$)

Special Olympics, Donation: 1800 EUR (€)

Assoc. Paraplejicos, Donation: 2600 USD (\$)

Casa de la Esperanza (Poverty and Hunger) Donation: 2600 USD (\$)



Curaçao

American Women's Club of Curaçao -

Website: www.awc-curaçao.com **E-mail:** awc.curaçao@gmail.com

Year founded: 1989 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1989 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 45

Dues: 40 USD (\$)

Club mission: We focus on a tremendous amount of education for our members and our community.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Information is not available.

Region 11: Asia Pacific

Our Region consists of active Clubs in Mumbai, India; Perth, Australia; Shanghai, China; Seoul, Korea; and Manila, Philippines. We remain challenged to come together given the large distances between our Clubs and the ever-changing nature of our population. Although Region 11 did not meet face to face in 2014, we are hoping to organize a virtual meeting sometime in 2015.

Our Region experienced the normal changes in leadership and representatives during the past term. The FAWCO website continues to be a useful tool and a means to stay connected. Each Club tries to utilize content for Club newsletters. FAWCO communications are helpful summaries to share information with our Clubs. In addition to their own work, Region 11 Club members participated in such FAWCO projects as the Target Project, were encouraged to use iGive, and to apply for FAWCO Foundation Development Grants and Education Awards. Given our far flung locations, Region 11 appreciates the support of the FAWCO Board of Directors and we will continue to seek opportunities to connect with each other and our sister organizations worldwide.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kath Balfour (AWC Perth)
Region 11 Coordinator*

Australia**American Women's Club of Perth - Perth**

Website: www.awcperth.org **E-mail:** awcperthupdates@gmail.com

Year founded: 1967 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1968 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 210

Dues: 40 Regular 30 Retired Members AUD

Club mission: To promote good fellowship and cooperation among women of Western Australia. To promote and 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.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

FAWCO Foundation (Global Partnership for Development) Donation: 1500 USD (\$)

Relay for Life (Children's Health) Donation: 4000 USD (\$)

Guide Dogs WA, Donation: 11000 USD (\$)

Operation Xmas Child (Children's Education) Donation: 1000 USD (\$)

Royal Flying Doctors Service (Children's Health) Donation: 700 USD (\$)

Starlight Children's Foundation (Children's Health) Donation: 500 USD (\$)

Path of Hope (Maternal Health) Donation: 500 USD (\$)

Angel Flight Australia (Children's Health) Donation: 500 USD (\$)

**China****American Club Shanghai - Shanghai**

Website: www.acshanghai.org **E-mail:** president@acshanghai.org

Year founded: 1997 **Year joined FAWCO:** 2000 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 650

Dues: 75 USD (\$)

Club mission: AWCS is a non-profit social Club whose focal point is to assist expatriates in Shanghai with adjusting to, living in and embracing the new environment.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Giving Tree (Poverty and Hunger)



Morning Tears(Children's Health)
 Mifan Mama (Poverty and Hunger)
 Shanghai Sunrise(Children's Education)
 Eden Ministry (Gender Equality)
 Renewal Center (Children's Health)
 FAWCO Foundation Development Grant (Environment)
 TARGET Program (Gender Equality)

India

American Women's Club of Mumbai - Mumbai

Website: awcmumbai.org **E-mail:** awc.mumbai@gmail.com

Year founded: 1928 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1954 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 209

Dues: 18 USD (\$) joining fee

Club 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.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Information is not available.



Korea

American Women's Club of Korea - Seoul

Website: www.awckorea.com **E-mail:** awc.korea.seoul@gmail.com

Year founded: 1964 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1987 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 120

Dues: 40 USD (\$)

Club 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.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year? Information is not available.

Philippines

American Women's Club of Philippines - Makati

Website: www.awcphilippines.net **E-mail:** awcphilippines@gmail.com

Year founded: 1979 **Year joined FAWCO:** 1979 **Membership Type:** Regular

Membership total: 265

Dues: 58 USD (\$)

Club mission: A strong, community based philanthropic Club that supports local charities with enthusiasm and joy to help others.

What specific charities has the Club supported during the past year?

Kaibigan Ermita Outreach Foundation Inc (Children's Health)

Missionaries of Charity – Home of Joy (Children's Health)

Missionaries of Charity – Home for the dying and the destitute (Poverty and Hunger)

Concordia Children's Services Concordia Children's Services (Children's Health)

Gabriel Taborin (Children's Education)

St. Anthony's Boys School (Cavite) (Children's Education)

Sikat T'Boli (Cotabato) (Poverty and Hunger)

Welcome Home Foundation (Negros Occidental) (Children's Education)



AMERICAN WOMEN'S CLUB OF THE PHILIPPINES



THE FAWCO FOUNDATION REPORT

Annual Report 2014

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

2013-2015 FAWCO Foundation Board of Directors

President	Michele Hendrikse Du Bois	Munich IWC
VP Communications	Cynthia Smith-Ayed	AIWC Casablanca
VP Fundraising	Suzanne Wheeler	AAWE Paris
VP Programs	Nan de Laubadère	AAWE Paris, FAUSA
Treasurer	Kathy Coughlan	FAUSA
Secretary	Margaret Hilditch	Munich IWC
Parliamentarian	Elsie Bose	AWG Paris

Special Appointment to the Board (non-voting)

FAWCO President	My-Linh Kunst	AWC of Berlin
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The theme of the Rome Biennial Conference is “The Eternal Woman – Equality, Protection, Empowerment”. Joan of Arc, Queen Isabella, Pocahontas, Catherine The Great, Sacagawea, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Queen Victoria, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Florence Nightingale, Harriet Tubman, Clara Barton, Louisa May Alcott, Gail Laughlin, Helen Keller, Marie Curie, Sirimavo Bandaranaike, Benazir Bhutto, Rosa Parks, Wangari Maathai, Mary Wollstonecraft, Wilma Mankiller, Eleanor Roosevelt, Georgia O’Keeffe, Amelia Earhart, Margaret Chase Smith, Margaret Mead, Mother Teresa, Rosa Parks, Margaret Thatcher, Sandra Day O’ Connor, Jane Goodall, Gloria Steinem, Barbara Jordan, Madeleine Albright, Hillary Rodham Clinton, Oprah Winfrey. A *much* abbreviated list of the many women – Eternal Women - who throughout history have fought for equality, protection and empowerment.

FAWCO has been empowering women since 1931. Created in 1967, The FAWCO Foundation’s sole purpose is to put into action FAWCO Member Clubs’ stated interest in the global community by specifically aiding charitable, scientific and educational programs and supporting the rights of women and children throughout the world.

I want to thank The FAWCO Foundation’s amazing Board for their continued support and diligent work on behalf of The Foundation. We have shared a busy, challenging, fun and successful three years together. During our term, there have been moves (by almost every member), health issues for members and family, children’s weddings, grandbabies born, a few “big birthdays” and many other life events. Through it all, the Board worked together as a team, supporting each other when support was needed and making sure The FAWCO Foundation remained a healthy organization supporting the programs FAWCO Member Clubs want to support. I will miss working with these wonderful women and wish them success in their next endeavors.

The FAWCO Foundation had a very successful 2014, but we can only do what we do with the very generous support of individuals, FAUSA and FAWCO Member Clubs. As always, our heartfelt thanks go out to each and every one of you who support The FAWCO Foundation’s programs.

Here are a few highlights from 2014:

- Foundation Night 2014, with the theme of “Around the World in 80 Bids”, raised over \$34,000.
- All but one 2015 Development Grant was fully funded by direct donations.
- AWG Paris offered to sponsor the “IT Award for Young Women” for three years.
- The FAWCO Foundation added a new Member Award, “IT Award for Members” and increased the amount of the “Dual Cultural Award” to \$3,000.
- At least one Board Member attended all but one Regional Meeting (Region 9) and the FAUSA Getaway.
- A new format was created for The Foundation’s website making navigation easier.
- Since The Foundation started funding NEEDED Scholarships in 2010, 34 young women from Burkina Faso have been given the opportunity to pursue post-secondary education thanks to FAWCO members.
- The Board approved a complete update of the Foundation’s governing documents.

- The Board continued to develop the Backing Women Fundraising campaign supporting the Target Project. Total fundraising to-date is nearly \$67,000. Based on a timeline comparison with the previous Target program, Club support has not met the previous year-to-date donations. It is important to remember that the Target program was created as global club-based fundraising activity. The Foundation is optimistic that Clubs will focus on attaining their \$120,000 goal and it will continue to assist the Clubs in their efforts.

2014 BOARD REPORTS:

THE FAWCO FOUNDATION PROGRAMS – VP PROGRAMS, NAN DE LAUBADÈRE

DEVELOPMENT GRANTS (DGs)

The Interim Reports from the 2014 Development Grant recipients are due the end of January so at the time of this writing they are not yet available. Details of their progress will be announced in March at the conference in Rome. These projects in total received \$36,000, almost all of which was funded by FAWCO Clubs or from individual member support. The recipients and their sponsoring Clubs were:

AW OF SURREY HOPE THROUGH EDUCATION, *Hope for Haiti's Kids*, www.hopeforhaitiskids.org, *Nominated by AWC Bern*. This small non-profit organization was founded to respond to Haiti's earthquake.

PAM DAHLGREN EDUCATING AFRICA'S CHILDREN, *Mama Norah Education Center*, www.kenyaprojektet.se, *Nominated by AWC Stockholm*. This project funds a school built to educate orphans and extremely poor children in Wagwe, Kenya.

FAUSA WATER RUNS THROUGH IT, *The Kenya Project Clean Water Initiative*, www.kenyaprojektet.se, *Nominated by AWC Stockholm*. This project will install a water filter and pump house to provide clean drinking water for Wagwe citizens.

AWC SHANGHAI A WORLD OF POSSIBILITIES, *Madagascar School Run by Ursulinnes Nuns*, *Nominated by AILO Florence*. The grant will be used to install solar panels to allow children enough light to stay more connected with life, provide power for a refrigerator and possibly a computer.

AWC THE HAGUE CRITICAL HEALTH CONCERNS, *Jack and Jill Foundation*, www.jackandjill.ie, *Nominated by AWC Dublin*. The grant will provide home nursing care to brain damaged children up to the age of four.

THE COUGHLAN FAMILY FOUNDATION PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE, *Friedensdorf International*, www.friedensdorf.de, *Nominated by AWC Düsseldorf*. The grant will go to constructing a maternity and children's ward in Svay Rieng, Cambodia.

AMERICAN WOMEN OF THE EASTERN PROVINCE SKILLS FOR LIFE, Sponsored in part by AILO Florence, ***Amal Women's Training Center***, www.drosos.org, *Nominated by AIWA Marrakesh*. The Amal Women's Training Center gives underprivileged women a chance to learn a marketable skill in the restaurant industry.

AROUND THE CORNER, A WORLD AWAY, Sponsored in part by AIWC Genoa in memory of Carol Bordoni, ***Assertiveness/Self-Defense Training for Victims of Domestic Abuse***, www.frauenhaus-muenchen.de, *Nominated by IWC Munich*. The grant will cover assertiveness/self-defense workshops for women and children, victims of domestic abuse.

The Foundation thanks Kelly Al-Nashmi and her committee for overseeing the 2014 DG program.

In 2015 The FAWCO Foundation is pleased to be able to offer 8 DGs, each worth \$4,500, again almost entirely sponsored by FAWCO Clubs or individual members. These grants are:

AW OF SURREY HOPE THROUGH EDUCATION

PAM DAHLGREN EDUCATING AFRICA'S CHILDREN

FAUSA WATER RUNS THROUGH IT

AWC SHANGHAI A WORLD OF POSSIBILITIES

CRITICAL HEALTH CONCERNS, fully sponsored by an anonymous FAWCO Member Club

THE COUGHLAN FAMILY FOUNDATION PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

AMERICAN WOMEN OF THE EASTERN PROVINCE SKILLS FOR LIFE, sponsored in part by AILO Florence

AROUND THE CORNER A WORLD AWAY, sponsored in part by Julie Mowat, Laurence and Margaret Hilditch and AIWC Genoa in memory of Carol Bordoni

EDUCATION AWARDS (EAs)

Progress reports from the 2014 Education Award recipients are due the end of January so updates about them and their programs will be announced at the Rome conference in March. The recipients were:

SCIENCES AWARD \$3,500 Sponsored in part by AIWC Genoa, in memory of Frieda Bacigalupo Natali, and AWC Zurich.

Austin Gahrs, son of a North American Connection member, was planning to study Chemical or Computer Engineering hoping to focus on chemical interactions of nanoscale structures.

HUMANITIES AWARD \$3,500 Sponsored in part by AAWE, in memory of Gertrude de Gallaix.

Martha Masoero, daughter of a member of the IWC Torino was working towards graduating from Oxford University in July 2014 and then pursuing a Master's Degree in Social Policy.

VIOLA WHEELER ARTS AWARD \$4,000

Noah McGuire, son of a member of the AWA Rome, was expecting to graduate High School in May 2014 and then attend university in the US to study Music Production.

DUAL CULTURAL AWARD \$1,500 Sponsored in part by Donna Erismann and AWC Bern, in memory of Suzanne Erismann

Alexander Nielsen, son of a member of the AWC Denmark, a Danish and US citizen, was planning on spending the 2014-2015 school year at an American high school.

FAWCO and FAUSA Member Awards

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

Madaline Keros, a member of IWC Munich, was planning to become a "cultural integration specialist, working with Italians, French, Anglophones and refugees to help them feel more settled and integrated in the city so that they can make fruitful contributions of talent and expertise."

FAUSA SKILLS ENHANCEMENT AWARD \$4,000

Elizabeth Sanders, a member of AWA Rome, was planning to seek a Certificate in Botanical Art and Illustration from Wellesley College Botanic Garden, which would enhance her opportunities to share her expertise through educational courses and seminars as well as donations of her work.

The Foundation thanks Carmen Clarke and her committee for overseeing the 2014 Education Awards.

In 2015 The FAWCO Foundation is thrilled to offer seven Education Awards and they are:

AWG Paris IT AWARD FOR YOUNG WOMEN \$3,500

Viola Wheeler ARTS AWARD \$4,000

SCIENCES AWARD \$3,500, Sponsored in part by AIWC Genoa, in memory of Frieda Bacigalupo Natali, and AWC Zurich

HUMANITIES AWARD \$3,500, Sponsored in part by AAWE, in memory of Gertrude de Gallaix

DUAL CULTURAL AWARD \$3,000, Sponsored in part by Donna Erismann and AWC Bern, in memory of Suzanne Erismann

FAWCO and FAUSA Member Awards

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

FAUSA SKILLS ENHANCEMENT AWARD \$4,000

WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY AWARD \$3,500

NEED SCHOLARSHIPS

NEED is a program based in Burkina Faso which provides post-secondary education studies for girls in the fields of primary school teacher training, nursing, midwifery and university studies.

Generous donations totaling \$41,878 and a slightly higher exchange rate in 2014 enabled us to provide three university scholarships, three scholarships for midwifery training and three scholarships for primary school teacher training. The primary school teacher trainees this year expressed a desire to help their communities, brothers and sisters and encourage women to send their children to school, especially daughters, which is most encouraging. The Foundation wishes all the students much continued success.

FUNDRAISING – VP OF FUNDRAISING, SUZANNE WHEELER

I wish to thank all the fun-raising volunteers who through their contributions small and large, Club level or individual efforts, have made this a very successful year for our Foundation fundraising. My work has been made so much easier by having a fabulous caring team every step of the way.

2014 has again been a year of new initiatives for The FAWCO Foundation fundraising team. Tried-and-true programs continued to be the main avenue of income generation for the four core programs. Again trends were analyzed resulting in one major recommendation - an online auction - for improving the conference fundraising evening experience. We are testing it for the Rome auction. The in-house program allows for 20 items complete with photos, write-ups and videos. Colleen Gilbert as The Foundation's Online Auction Coordinator and Catherine Connor have been instrumental in building this feature.

Grace Christovasilis, working as The FAWCO Foundation Donor Development Coordinator, teamed COCO-MAT (a high-end linen and bedding store) with Clubs working on heart pillow projects. This relationship proved to be very beneficial to the participating Clubs providing working space, PR, and pillows to donate to the Clubs' chosen hospitals. This relationship also resulted in a donation from COCO-MAT for The Foundation's live auction. We thank Grace for her efforts on behalf of The Foundation.

The regional meetings, in addition to the annual conference, provide the best platforms for educating individuals about the Foundation's programs and fundraising options. This is borne out by the success of finding sponsors for EAs and DGs resulting from these presentations. We continue to see results from Foundation Board members attending and briefing during *each* Regional meeting as direct sales and contributions from these conferences continue to improve. In addition, these presentations have helped garner support for a Club's continuing interaction with FAWCO by explaining how the organization gives back to the Club. Foundation Night at the annual conference continues to be the most successful single avenue of funds' solicitation. On-line solicitation continues to have the weakest response; getting general membership to subscribe and then utilize the site is the challenge.

ON-GOING SALES:

Friendship Quilt Raffle – The 2014 quilt, “Endless Stairs” (72”x104”), designed and completed by Roberta Zöllner, included 63 donated blocks from 38 contributors from 17 Clubs and FAUSA, raising \$3,805 – an increase from 2013. Chris Czyszczewski donated the batting of this very large quilt. Margaret Hilditch, AWC Munich, was this year's excited winner.

Morganite Earrings Raffle – This is the third year we've run a high-end raffle. The response was up from last year netting \$4,194. The lucky winner was Maria Bartolomei, AIWC Genoa. This initiative's success is contingent upon receiving a suitable donation for the raffle far enough in advance to properly advertise the article. Three years of success confirms there is no conflict with the funding of the quilt raffle.

Charms and Charm Bracelets – The Brussels charm was a hand-casted world in a round blue-enameled sea. Ann De Simoni again worked with the jeweler in Genoa. Fifty charms were ordered with 46 being sold at the conference. This charm is now sold out. Overall the charm program netted \$1,815 for the year, down from the year before. This apparent decrease can be partially explained by the number of complete bracelet sets sold in the previous year with leftover stock. Another reason was the cost of making the charm had increased, as had the exchange rate €/\$, so the profit margin decreased by the sell date. It was decided not to increase the price of the charm this year as we were introducing quite a few other initiatives.

BRUSSELS CONFERENCE FOUNDATION NIGHT:

TFF's evening was titled “*Around the World in 80 Bids*” to reflect the theme of the conference and the diversity of FAWCO Clubs. Dress was host nation's costumes or one's own ethnic roots. Décor was national flags and world balloons attached to baskets filled with chocolates. Entertainment varied from taking a quiz to having regional photos. And who could forget our “dress” winner, Enid Burki of AWC Bern?

Live Auction – Sandy Gogel, along with Clydette de Groot and their team, auctioned off 15 lots with 3 items being offered to the 2 top bidders, for a net total of \$20,400 of which \$6,000 was designated to the *Backing Women* campaign. So although this showed an increase over recent years, because the funds went into 2 different “pots”, the General Fund take was less than the previous year. The auction of a week's stay in the Taj Properties was a banner bid of \$6,000 - the highest ever for a Foundation auction item. Taj Properties donated this with the understanding the monies would be contributed to the *Backing Women* campaign.

Silent Auction – Barbara Buehling led the Silent Auction Team, beautifully displaying over 200 items - down over the preceding year. Proceeds from this auction totaled \$8,160 including \$810 in the “By Women for Women” table supporting the *Backing Women* campaign. We cannot have this success without the continued support in both donations and “worker bees”.

Chocolate Box – This year's “Lucky Dip” was *The FAWCO Foundation Box of Chocolates: You Never Know What You'll Get*. We charged \$5/5€ per draw from the box; Barbara Paulhus and Judy Furukawa managed 150 donations, raising \$647. They sold 140 draws. Both the sales and inventory decrease from Bern can be explained

by Bern's *Wishing Well* being buoyed in both donating and purchasing participation by supporters of Eleanor Roosevelt Girls' Leadership Worldwide.

Benefactors – For the second time we tried a Benefactors program for this event, with a successful net showing of \$1,749. We included both quilt and high-end raffle tickets as an inducement for participation. This will be repeated for Rome.

OTHER SOURCES:

Other Donations – \$50,000 and \$20,000 was donated by a private source for use in various areas.

Land of the Midnight Sun Cruise – Ann De Simoni put her skills to work arranging a summer fun-raising cruise through the Norwegian Fjords. There were 56 guests sailing with The Foundation raising a total of \$6,500. Ann ran a bingo and a silent auction which contributed monies to this donation. Suzanne sold *Backing Women* boutique items. Ann's cruise program included a scavenger hunt for anyone under 18 and a welcome cocktail event.

TARGET PROGRAMS:

Human Rights for Women – As of the end of December 2013, \$2,586 had already been raised towards the 2014-2106 Target project. In anticipation of the Target Program, The FAWCO Foundation developed a fundraising campaign called *Backing Women* (BW). Christian de Laubadère generously donated a painting from his "Neck" series, which was used as the campaign's image. It is to be auctioned during the Rome Conference 2015. The BW campaign (and painting) was unveiled by Marie-Bénédicte Luxem and Suzanne Wheeler on Saturday of the Brussels conference after the announcement of the Target Project "Free The Girls". Marie-Bénédicte and her team developed an online boutique of unique branded items and sold Club Kits in Brussels for distribution to the Clubs to use as sample goods throughout FAWCO regions. Sales from this boutique have netted over \$8,000 with sales occurring during the Brussels conference, Regional Meetings, other Clubs' events, and via an on-line store. Special Mother's Day and Christmas products were advertised. Most items sold are hand-made by women entrepreneurs. All items sold include the *Backing Women* logo. A Club Matching Grant Challenge (\$10,000) and an Individual Matching Grant Challenge (\$5,000) were announced for 2014. Both challenges were met thereby netting an additional \$15,000 towards the campaign. Julie Meyerson administered a photo competition judged by an independent panel comprised of Dr. Amy Antin, Lorenzo Fiaschi, and Guillaume Estève, with the Grand Jury and the Viewer's Choice winners to be announced during the Rome Conference. 53% of the funds raised to-date comes from the FAWCO wide activities developed by The FAWCO Foundation. The success of the *Backing Women* campaign is measured by approximately \$67,000 having been raised by year's end through FAWCO Clubs' and the Foundations' efforts.

COMMUNICATIONS - VP COMMUNICATIONS, CYNTHIA SMITH-AYED

I have continued to use the archive feature of Constant Contact to post the News You Can Use (NYCU) on the Foundation, FAWCO, FAUSA and FAWCO Reps and Presidents Facebook pages making it easier for members to read and share. NYCU is emailed monthly to some 200 contacts including Club Presidents, Reps and donors. Any club member can sign up through a link on the home page of the website.

The website server was upgraded allowing for faster navigation on the website. The new template has been well received by the Board and readers. Information on the home page is by section and allows readers to easily find the information they are looking for. There are buttons for links to pages used most often and a highlight section for the most current information.

A great deal of information for the Target project was added to the website over the last year including fundraising resources for Reps, printable brochures and a new Donor Club page for the Clubs who have raised money for the Target project. Catherine Connor, the FAWCO Web Manager, has been very helpful with the technical aspects of changes and additions to the website. We are grateful to Cat for her time and patience.

PayPal buttons for quilt tickets and bracelet tickets have been added. Cat also set up a page for online auction bidding. Training was held for the various committee members and the site will be opened in January. With this and the PayPal option for raffle tickets it is hoped that more people will participate in conference fundraising initiatives.

Lastly, an attempt has been made to update all the pages of the website and edit them when necessary so that the handover to the new VP Communications will be smooth.

I would like to thank the extraordinary group of ladies I have worked with for the past three years for their dedication, patience and sense of humor. It has been an honor to serve with all of them.

SECRETARY – MARGARET HILDITCH

In addition to the normal activities of Secretary, 2014 has been busy with preparation for the 2015 handover to the new Board. I have set up a series of files for the collection of all the documentation required for handover. This will be determined in line with the Retention Policy Document. All minutes to date have been proofread and copies stored. A decision still needs to be taken concerning the storage of these in a cloud environment to ensure that the content is safe should any computer system crash.

Since the handover of the Archives from Roberta Zöllner, additional time has been spent reviewing the contents of the archives. I created an Excel spreadsheet to gain an overview of the already scanned documents on the hard drive and then proceeded to create new files with reports pertaining to registration, audit, annual budget, president, EA, DG, Fundraising and Minutes of AGMs and interim meetings. I have a separate box containing historical information and another with copies of reports and pamphlets relevant to the three years of service by the present board. It is my goal to list all scanned documents and insert labels defining the content within each file, with notes to my successor where appropriate.

Originally the Board thought that the scanning of the documents could be assigned to a student on an internship but we now know this would have been impossible to manage. I hope that the process will have moved forward by the end of my term and my successor can continue with the work that needs to be done in order to reduce the quantity of hard copies and ensure that the Archives of TFF are in a secure and accessible place.

My time as Secretary to TFF has been an incredible journey and I sincerely thank Michele and the Board of Directors for their friendship, patience and support during these three years. It has been a wonderful highlight of my life and a memory to be treasured.

PARLIAMENTARIAN – ELSIE BOSE

My roles in this position were to assist the President regarding the management of meetings using Robert's Rules of Order and to prepare draft revisions of the Bylaws and Administrative Guidelines if so requested. This was an extremely professional board of Directors. All of our meetings ran smoothly and according to "the rules". Since the Bylaws and Administrative Guidelines had not had a thorough review since 2010 the board asked me to review and recommend suggested revisions. This board had the unique opportunity to work together for three years so they were well positioned to advise on revisions to make the Bylaws and Guidelines more relevant documents.

Starting in early spring, I worked individually with each Director. I sent each of them a questionnaire and we followed up with a Skype call. I wrote draft revisions based on their feedback. Each Director worked with me until the drafts were complete. Once the entire draft package was complete, it was sent to the President for her approval.

Upon approval the AG package was presented at the December 2014 Board meeting and the revised edition was approved.

There were four important changes to the Administrative Guidelines:

1. The "Document Retention Policy" was revised. It is now a more detailed policy. It contains a comprehensive list of not only what documents must be retained but by whom, for how long and where the documents are to be stored. The President spearheaded this revision.
2. Information regarding DG and EA sponsorship was taken out of the "Job Description" section and revised as a policy.
3. Program Summaries were added as an aid to better understand the full breadth of The Foundation's core programs.
4. All of the job descriptions were updated to reflect each Directors' and Appointees' current responsibility. This should provide a reliable "road map" for future boards.

Target Project Participation:

I assisted the VP Fundraising and the Target Fundraising Coordinator on various aspects of the fundraising campaign.

Target Corporate Donor Coordinator- I prepared a donor package for potential sponsors. Since September 2013 I have mailed or distributed 11 packages and made follow-up calls and emails. I have not received any positive responses. There are a few reasons why we may not be getting any "traction" with corporate donors:

1. Some companies want the projects they support to be located in the US.
2. Many will not financially support administrative expenses as is the case with Free The Girls.
3. Donors do not understand why they would donate to FAWCO/Foundation and not directly to the project.

4. My “remote” location makes it difficult to meet with key CSR decision makers in person. It would be helpful to have a Corporate Donor, not only for the funding it would provide, but it might help to elevate the profile of FAWCO and the Target Program to an “outside” audience. However, this is a Club-driven fundraising project and the goals were set based on Club participation for Target One. It would also be helpful if I had access to suggested contacts for donors from FAWCO Member Clubs or their members. This might be something to highlight going forward.

“Backing Women” Fundraising Campaign for the Target Project.

The Target Program Feedback committee recommended that The Foundation create a “tool kit” to assist Member Clubs with fundraising. I wrote the content for the tool kit which was uploaded to USB sticks that were distributed at the FAWCO Conference in Brussels. The Target Fundraising Coordinator sent out USB keys to Clubs that did not attend the conference. The information was also added to The Foundation’s website. In early fall 2014 the tool kit and the revisions were added to the website.

I created a PowerPoint slideshow and co-presented the “Backing Women” fundraising workshop with the Target Fundraising Coordinator at the FAWCO Conference in March.

I developed a “Deep Dive Report” for the Target Fundraising Coordinator so that she can track all of her fundraising activity throughout the campaign. The report includes information from the Treasurer regarding individual and Club donations, a detailed tracking system for sales and inventory for all “Backing Women” Online Boutique and merchandise sales, and a timeline from Target One that helps us measure how the current campaign is progressing in relation to the last campaign.

Working with Sunny Eades (NAC), we created the medallions for Target Two. The medallions were developed originally at the end of Target One to send to Clubs based on the amount of their Club’s donation. It was thought that instead of certificates of appreciation (that would have probably ended up in a file folder) Clubs could use this medallion logo on their website, in their newsletters and other media as recognition of their hard work fundraising for the Target Project. For Target Two the medallions are now given out as Clubs achieve medallion levels.

I developed the publicity for the “Backing Women”, Mother’s Day and the “Backing Women” Holiday Collection announcement and the Holiday Catalog. The publicity was distributed to our main mailing list via Constant Contact.

Other:

I updated the FAWCO Foundation pamphlets this summer. These pamphlets were developed in 2013 for Reps and Presidents to aid in describing the work of the Foundation.

There are five pamphlets: 1. “Who We Are” which describes The FAWCO Foundation, 2. The Development Grants Fund Program, 3. The Education Awards Program, 4. The NEEDEDs Scholarship Program (Michele updated this one), and 5. The Target Program.

The revised pamphlets were updated on The Foundation website and now come in two formats: a printable version and a “scrollable version” for easy reading on computers.

TREASURER – KATHY COUGHLAN

On the following pages are the financial statements for the FAWCO Foundation. Our financial year follows the calendar year and we have included the most recent financial year (unreviewed) and the prior year (with the associated accountant’s review letter.)

Our revenues between years have increased by \$75,000. The Foundation was fortunate to receive two large donations from a private donor during 2014 totaling \$70,000. These donations are earmarked for specific programs. Revenues also increased for the Target Program which is in its initial year of fundraising. The net amount raised was \$67,000 composed to a large extent by Foundation projects which is expected as the Club-driven revenues should be seen during the coming year as fundraisers are held and monies remitted. To meet Free The Girls’ requested funding goal of \$150,000 there will need to be vigorous support from the Clubs over the next year.

Foundation Night revenues remained constant although on the attached financials they appear to have declined between the years. This is due to specific items in both the live and silent auctions being assigned directly to the Target Project in 2014 and reflected as Target income on the financial statement.

Interest rates have been very poor over the last two years. Expenses increased due to the release of monies received to specific programs. We included in-kind donations by the Board for expenses in which no cash reimbursements were made. In-kind expenses are understated in both years as the Foundation Board still under-reports

unpaid expenses. The Board reported unpaid expenses of \$14,973 in 2014 as compared to 2013 of \$13,710. During 2014 Board expenses of \$9,857 were paid as compared to \$9,342 in 2013. During the current year a Board member attended all but one (Region 9) of the Regional Meetings, which increased costs but allowed us to bring The Foundation's goals and benefits to many more people. The in-kind expenses of the Board will vary from year to year based on the physical location of each Board member. However I feel that we now have a good baseline for the expenses of this organization.

We have also included pie charts that show the sources of income in 2014 and the areas that we expended funds in 2014. The 2014 income sources show that our income is supported by Foundation events and individual and Club donations which are very much appreciated.

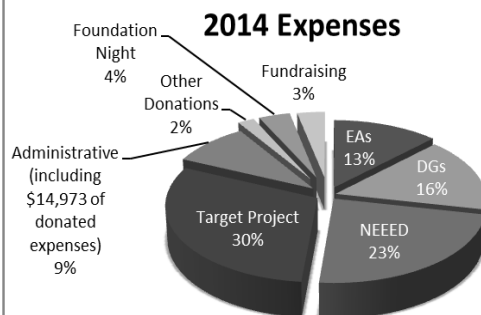
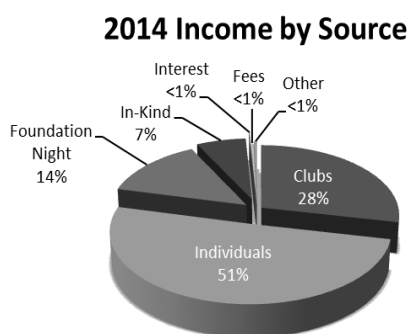
The FAWCO Foundation Profit and Loss January through December 2014 and 2013

	<u>Jan - Dec 2014</u>	<u>Jan - Dec 2013</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Foundation Donations	\$97,589	\$81,049
NEEED Donations	44,977	21,757
Target Project Donations	82,312	22,184
FAWCO Project Donations	2,335	2,802
Fundraising Income	34,048	43,040
Other Income	1,677	1,725
Total Income	262,937	172,557
Less Cost of Goods Sold	16,841	0
Gross Profit	246,096	172,557
Expense		
Foundation Program Disbursements	64,500	57,000
NEEED Disbursement	52,720	24,420
Target Project Disbursements	68,057	31,171
FAWCO Project Disbursements	2,335	2,802
FAWCO Foundation Donations	2,150	2,000
Fundraising Expenses	7,506	3,155
Operating Expenses	3,544	3,026
Conference Expenses	8,557	7,312
In-Kind Expenses Donated by Board	14,973	13,710
Contract Services	2,464	2,086
Total Expense	226,805	146,683
Net Ordinary Income	19,291	25,875
Net Income	\$19,291	\$25,875

The FAWCO Foundation Balance Sheets

As of December 31, 2014 and 2013

	Dec 31, 2014	Dec 31, 2013
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
Cash Accounts		
Chase Checking	\$50,887	\$38,006
Chase Savings	20,040	120,012
First Federal Money Ma	88,959	88,781
First Federal Checking	15,055	9,387
Paypal	509	0
Total Cash Accounts	175,449	256,187
Other Current Assets		
Account Receivables	30	0
Certificates of Deposit		
Chase CD	120,000	0
First Federal CD	125,678	125,678
Total Certificates of Depos	245,678	125,678
Boutique Inventory	7,798	0
Prepaid Assets	1,281	0
Total Other Current Assets	254,786	125,678
Total Current Assets	430,235	381,865
TOTAL ASSETS	\$430,235	\$381,865
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Current Liabilities		
Boutique Reserve	\$3,891	\$0
Due to Free the Girls	11,057	0
Due to NEEDED	10,183	0
Due to Vendors	3,949	0
Total Current Liabilities	29,080	0
Equity		
Endowment Fund	133,178	125,678
Equity	275,478	256,187
Total Equity	401,155	381,865
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$430,235	\$381,865





Cheryl Rohlf's & Associates, Ltd.

Certified Public Accountants

Independent Accountant's Review Report

June 11, 2014

To the Board of Directors
The FAWCO Foundation

We have reviewed the accompanying statements of assets, liabilities, and net assets - cash basis of The FAWCO Foundation (a Missouri nonprofit organization) as of December 31, 2013 and 2012, and the related statements of support, revenues and expenses - cash basis for the years then ended. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of Organization management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting and for designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements.

Our responsibility is to conduct the review in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance that there are no material modifications that should be made to the financial statements. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our report.

Based on our reviews, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with the cash basis of accounting, as described in Note 2.

Our review was made primarily for the purpose of expressing a conclusion that there are no material modifications that should be made to the financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The supplementary information included in the accompanying Schedules of Expenses- Cash Basis are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the inquiry and analytical procedures applied in the review of the basic financial statements, and we did not become aware of any material modifications that should be made to such information.

Cheryl Rohlf's & Associates, Ltd.

CHERYL ROHLF'S & ASSOCIATES, LTD.
Northbrook, Illinois

401 Huehl Road, Suite 2D • Northbrook, IL 60062 • Phone: 847-753-9200 • Fax: 847-753-9214

I want to thank the FAWCO Board for their support over the past year. Again this year, My-Linh and I (or a substitute board member) attended all of The Foundation and FAWCO Board meetings including the on-site meetings. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with My-Linh and her Boards over the past 3 years.

I would also like to thank FAUSA President, Janet Darrow for her continuous support of The FAWCO Foundation. FAUSA remains one of The Foundation’s greatest supporters sponsoring both an Education Award and Development Grant. We continue to look at different ways FAWCO, The FAWCO Foundation and FAUSA can work together.

As always, the final thank you belongs to you, our donors and Clubs, without whom we wouldn’t be here! Thank you for your continued generosity and thank you for making a difference in the world. The FAWCO Foundation is so very grateful for your support!

Michele Hendrikse Du Bois
FAWCO Foundation President 2013-2015
“Your projects, your passions, your Foundation”



2014 Friends of The Foundation

Thank you to our generous FAWCO Clubs, Members and friends!!

Benefactors (\$1,500 - \$100,000)	Patrons (\$750 - \$1,499)	Donors (\$250-\$749)	Supporters (\$150-\$249)
AAWE Paris AIWC Cologne AW of the Eastern Province AW Surrey AWC Perth AWC Shanghai AIWC Genoa AWC The Hague AWC Zurich AWG Paris FAUSA ☞ Kathy Coughlan Shirley Kearney Margaret and Laurence Hilditch Hugh and Sue Ripps Viola Wheeler	AWA Rome AWA Vienna AWC Luxembourg AWG Languedoc-Roussillon Chilterns AWC IWC Torino ☞ Louise Greeley-Copley Renuka Matthews Julie Mowat	AWBS International Women’s Club AWC Antwerp AWC London ☞ Massimo Bacigalupo Katherine Balfour Elsie Bose Deidre Brewster Barbara Bühling Mary Stewart Burgher Dolores Cuellar Nan de Laubadère Francoise Delannoy Johanna Dishongh Donna Erismann Michele Hendrikse Du-Bois Monica Jubayli Carol Kamphuis Jeffrey Kobacker John Kobacker Nancy Koster-Tschirhart Linda Lai Carol Lalani Patti Meek Sheila Ohlund Pam Perraud Georgia Regnault Laurie Richardson David Shopshire Sheryl von Blucher Teresa Wheeler	AWC Amsterdam North American Connection ☞ Celeste Brown Maureen and Carlo Cavo Sallie Chaballier Arline Coward Sara Crabtree Katelin Downing Amanda Drollinger Therese Hartwell Liz Hemminger Juliane Maggi Kathi Savoury Kathleen Simon Betsy Speer Cheryl Steenman-Bash Kathy Tolchinsky Sara Von Moos



FAWCO ALUMNAE USA REPORT

FAUSA is the alumnae arm of FAWCO, and is a not-for-profit 501(c)(4), incorporated in the state of Texas.

2013-2015 Board of Directors		
President	Janet Darrow	AWA Vienna
1 st VP Communications	Ellie Badanes	AW Surrey; AWC Denmark;
2 nd VP Membership	Carol Boren	AWA Rome
Secretary	Karen Snedeker	AWC Paris
Treasurer	Priscilla Dysart	AWG Languedoc Roussillon
Presidential Appointments (non-Board members)		
Sue Ripps	Philanthropy	AWC Vienna
Rick Chizmadia	Parliamentarian	AWC Zurich

FAWCO Alumnae USA (FAUSA) enjoyed yet another outstanding year as the third “sister” entity of the greater FAWCO organization.

Informally established in the late 1970s to encourage returning FAWCO Club Members repatriating to keep in touch with one another and to assist them by giving them current information on various issues pertinent to adjusting to life back home, FAUSA eventually went on to become a 501(c)(4) not-for-profit corporation in the State of Texas. It celebrated its tenth anniversary as a corporation in 2010. Like The FAWCO Foundation, FAUSA operates under its own bylaws, administrative guidelines, Board of Directors and financial responsibilities. It holds an annual meeting somewhere in North America and does not pay dues to FAWCO.

Despite the name, membership is not limited exclusively to previous, or current, members of a FAWCO network Member Club. Although most members are alumnae of those Clubs, FAUSA welcomes others who have lived abroad, have a global perspective and a passion to do their part to change the world for the better through keeping apprised of world events, contributing to educational and philanthropic endeavors, and volunteering to work toward those aims. Its members share a connection and have been changed by their experiences living outside of their home country.

THE FAUSA YEAR

COMMUNICATIONS:

Our FAUSA Board meetings are held monthly via freeconferencecall.com - a dial-in service which offers meeting recording and boasts a better connection than Skype. In order to remain viable, particularly as a Nationwide Network without a bricks and mortar presence, the Board is interested in exploring all available digital media tools. FAUSA will be offering a workshop at the Rome Conference which will discuss Club relevance in the digital age. There might be a possibility to include members in the US to participate via webinar internet broadcast of the workshop.

FAUSA communicates with its membership via ever growing presence on Facebook and Twitter. A Monthly Newsletter, distributed by Constant Contact, features local Metro content as well as national and global offerings. Constant Contact Email blasts is also used for important stand-alone announcements and its Electronic Survey feature was used for Membership vote on the yearly Philanthropic Award.

The Board approved a revamping of the website, changes to be unveiled in the spring. A FAUSA app for telephone and iPads is being investigated as a fresher way of delivering our message to members and prospective members.

Ellie Badanes serves as 1st VP-Communications and oversees all of these platforms. Lee Sorenson again served as Editor for Highlights and Clint Weber again published it. For the second year, Parliamentarian, Rick Chizmadia, has published a bound Getaway Program.

We plan to solicit advertising for the manual, the web site and most importantly Highlights. Full Rome conference participants will receive a copy of Highlights – to be shared with their Club Members. FAUSA brochures are also available at the conference and can be offered to repatriating Club members by printing them off of the FAUSA.org web site.

Erica Higbie has served as our conduit to the UN in New York. She has generously shared articles and also published repatriation stories.

MEMBERSHIP:

Concerned about stagnant membership, a tool kit for metro coordinators was developed at the Annual Meeting. In addition to individual and couple's membership options, a new five-year category was launched to help keep members longer. During December we offered the option of giving the "Gift of FAUSA" on our web site. This feature will continue and we want to encourage FAWCO Club members to give the "Gift of FAUSA" to members returning to North America at "Going Away" parties. We encourage Reps and Presidents to share our brochures and Highlights Magazine and spread the word about FAUSA to their members.

GETAWAY AND ANNUAL MEETING:

This year the Getaway was held at the beautiful Garden of the Gods Club in Colorado Springs, CO, organized by Carol Boren, 2nd VP of Membership. After a pre-conference meeting of Board Members and FAUSA Counselors, the first night included a mixer in a room facing Pikes Peak followed by a fun casual Western-themed Chuck Wagon Buffet Dinner.

Friday was "fun" day with a jeep tour of the area, a fascinating ride along a former train track and a visit to the Garden of the Gods. Some of us visited the resort spa while the more intrepid souls visited nearby Manitou Spring. Dinner was held at the famous Broadmoor Hotel followed by a fun singalong at the Golden Bee Pub.

On Saturday, after a group breakfast, we held our annual meeting. Highlights included a presentation by Suzanne Wheeler on the work of The FAWCO Foundation. Our more active metro areas reported on ideas and activities for gatherings that worked well in their local areas. We renewed our commitment to changing our tax status to a 401c3 (tax exempt status) and initiated the option of a Five-Year Membership. SafeHouse was announced as our 2nd Annual Philanthropic Grant winner. The FAWCO Foundation surprised us with a donation of \$500 for our previous Grant winner and Banner Project: The Girl's Prevention Program.

Dinner that night was at the Kissing Camels Golf Resort, a Fundraising Night which featured both a successful Silent and Live Auction and a raffle for Kay Miller's lovely Quilt. Kimba Langas and Melissa Watson of Free the Girls presented a moving film and great information on the organization and the women that they help. FAUSA Member, Carol Lalani, led a bra collection drive which, along with other contributions netted 220 bras .

Our 2015 Getaway and Annual Meeting is scheduled for October 1-4 in Niagara on the Lake, the Canadian side of Niagara Falls. It is a beautiful area next to the famous waterfall. Yolanda Henry will be organizing this event at the Oban Inn. FAWCO Club members traveling to North America are welcome to join us in Canada. Check on our web site in June for the details and registration for the Getaway.

Membership growth continues to be a paramount goal for FAUSA. We wish to continue our partnership with FAWCO and the Member Clubs to get the word out that FAUSA can be an invaluable resource for those returning to North America.

FAWCO AND PHILANTHROPY

FAUSA has maintained a close relationship with FAWCO and The FAWCO Foundation (TFF). After three years of fundraising, FAUSA members were able to fully sponsor the Water Runs through It Development Grant and the Skills Enhancement Education Award and 2016 commitments to TFF are well on the way to being met. We have been helped enormously by the generosity of FAUSA members Hugh and Sue Ripps and corporate matching funds from Coca Cola as well as successful live and silent auctions and the raffle of yet another gorgeous quilt created by Kay Miller, FAWCO Counselor.

Also for the third year, FAUSA members and their children are eligible to apply for The FAWCO Foundation's Education Awards. FAUSA members can also nominate projects for DGs and the Target Program. FAUSA members are eligible to serve on The FAWCO Foundation board, with the exception of the positions of President and 1st VP, and we may serve as FAWCO Committee/Task Force chairs, as well as members of these Committees. FAUSA member, Kathy Coughlan, has served as Treasurer for The Foundation for the past five years.

FAUSA offers an Annual Philanthropic Grant which is selected by members from projects submitted by members. The Houston Rescue and Restore Girls Prevention Program, nominated by FAUSA Traveling Ambassador Louise Greeley-Copley, ended a year as our banner project. Funds collected during the year were added to the original \$2,000 grant amount. This included a generous check from The FAWCO Foundation for \$500. We were honored to receive it.

Our second Grant was awarded to San Francisco SafeHouse, which helps formerly prostituted women develop the practical skills needed for success in the contemporary job market. The Internship Program helps build a woman's economic security and self-sufficiency both "job readiness" and job training. It allows a woman who may never have held a real job to become employable. SafeHouse will be our banner project for a full year gaining more attention from our membership and in addition to the \$2,000 Grant, SafeHouse will receive any grant funds raised during the course of the year

Philanthropic Chair Carolyn Ludwig stepped down at the Annual Meeting and Sue Ripps has agreed to be her successor.

In addition to changing to a tax-exempt status, the goals of the Board continue to be to grow our membership, by offering more benefits to members and by continuing the improved communications between FAWCO and the Member Clubs with regard to FAUSA.

It has been a great pleasure for the FAUSA board to work closely with the boards of both FAWCO and The FAWCO Foundation, and we look forward to expanding and deepening that relationship in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

*Janet Darrow-Winter
President 2013-2015
FAWCO Alumnae USA*