



serving overseas Americans  
and the international community since 1931

## Connections

### Letter from Headquarters



Kathleen Simon

FAWCO President  
AWC Bern



**Dear Kathleen,**

As we are starting a new decade, I can only repeat my message of hope and encouragement for a new decade full of opportunity.

We have the power to start this decade positively. Our first occasion is to respond to the FAWCO Emergency Relief Fund (ERF) for Haiti. Having recently voted to permit speedy activation of the ERF at the Board's initiative, we reacted quickly so that funds will be available for immediate relief. The FAWCO ERF offers our members and clubs the opportunity to join forces in a FAWCO-wide humanitarian effort.

The FAWCO Board voted to send all donations to **Oxfam America**, a highly respected and recognized charity based in Boston, with over three decades of experience in Haiti. They are on the ground now and have the logistics in place to put our funds to work immediately, and have already started to provide clean water, shelter, and sanitation to the victims. **Oxfam America** is given a top 4-star rating by Charity Navigator, ensuring that every penny will be used wisely.

## Welcome to our three new Member Clubs

With the recent addition of three new clubs, we start the decade numbering seventy-five independent member associations with a membership of 15,000 individuals in thirty-eight countries worldwide.

**Münich International Women's Club** (Münich IWC) was warmly welcomed to the FAWCO family last month as an associate member club promoting understanding and friendship between English-speaking women of diverse nationalities. Like many FAWCO clubs this support is coupled with charitable activities to benefit women and children and, in particular, battered women. Founded in 1990 with more than 170 members, Mary Lynne MacKay is Club President and Roberta Zöllner the FAWCO Rep.

We are equally delighted to welcome **American Women's Club of Lagos** (AWC Lagos) in Nigeria and **American Women's Association of Dubai** (AWA Dubai) in the United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.).

In 2004 the acting U.S. Consul General in Lagos praised AWC Lagos as an invaluable resource and mainstay in Lagos, applauding their remarkable efforts which have led to a strong sense of community. Membership is 155 and growing with Mary Walker as Acting Club President, Marla Kunfermann as FAWCO Rep and Julie Detomo as Treasurer.

AWA Dubai was founded in 1991 and has 200 members, and with at least 60% American membership, has joined as a Regular member with FAWCO. Barbara A. Grub and Monica Jubayli are the President and the FAWCO Rep, respectively.

I sincerely hope the new clubs will be represented at the 2010 FAWCO Conference in Boston. Annual conferences are a fantastic opportunity to experience the real value of FAWCO that is best realized with face-to-face contact and networking at the conference.

## Farewell to Alice Grevet

Alice Grevet (AAWE Paris) has been the FAWCO Web Manager for seven years, and it is with regret that I have accepted her resignation though I know it is time to give this fantastic volunteer the opportunity to step down from a job that has placed extraordinary demands on her time and skills.

Alice was appointed Web manager in 2003, and dedicated herself to building the FAWCO website; she maintained it and sought new solutions and software. She took the website through several upgrades, mastered new technology and satisfied FAWCO's ever burgeoning needs, finally arriving at our current professional and dynamic website.

At our Seoul conference Alice spent midnight hours in Wisconsin, while we were bright and sunny in Seoul, uploading the daily conference events for all our members at home to share this exciting event. This was the first time we were able to put the conference live on-line, and Alice was determined to make it happen.



On top of all her FAWCO duties, Alice has also served as the Web Manager for The FAWCO Foundation until 2008.

In recognition of her many years of service, dedication, loyalty and total commitment to FAWCO, Alice was awarded the Circle of Honor in 2009 at the Vilnius Conference. This acknowledgement is one of the highest awards in our association, given to those whose service to FAWCO has been exemplary and inspirational.

When told of her award, Alice said:

"In 2003 I had very little experience, and volunteering with FAWCO offered me a chance I could only have dreamed of in a not-for-profit world.... I highly value the work of FAWCO and the causes we champion.... I am proud of the milestones that have been achieved over these six years with the help of the web team.... Thank you all! I appreciate this affirmation from the bottom of my heart."

Congratulations, and thank you so much for everything you have done for FAWCO. We are deeply indebted to you, Alice!

More challenges lie ahead for FAWCO and I hope that we will be able to find a new Web Manager to continue to explore and plan how to best meet the demands of ever-changing technology with our volunteer resources.

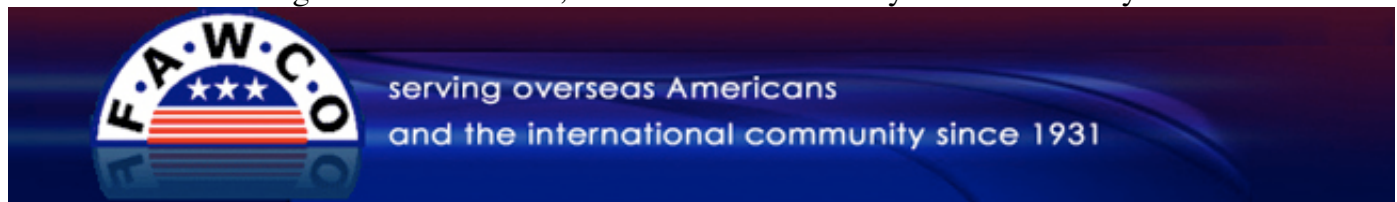
## A Look for the Future...

Anticipating the approach of a new decade, FAWCO embarked on a survey for a new tagline. After a selection process that included preliminary choices, a semi-final vote and a clear decisive vote for the grand champion is

"FAWCO... serving overseas Americans and the international community since 1931,"

which combined with our new logo, constitutes FAWCO's look for this decade.

Those of you who have visited the FAWCO site since the beginning of the year will have noticed our attractive new logo and blue banner, which we believe really enhances our dynamic web site.



designed for us by Rachel McNally (AWC The Hague) designed it for us. We are very grateful to her for the gift of her talent as well as her patience and constant striving to capture the "look" we were seeking for FAWCO. This banner will be used as FAWCO's web signature on our web page and heading our e-newsletters and e-bulletins. Thank you, Rachel for your enormous contribution.

To complement the web banner, we will use this white modified single line version on our letterhead:



serving overseas Americans and the international community since 1931

and a more compact, two-line version on business cards:



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## Boston Conference

**DEADLINES:** After January 31st Conference Fees will go up by 10% and the final date by which registrations are accepted is February 28, 2010. The cut-off date for accepting Boston Park Plaza Hotel reservations at the special FAWCO rate is February 8, 2010.

### Conference Updates

#### Leadership Workshop

Atema Eclai, Director of Programs at UUSC (The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee), which is a nonsectarian organization that advances human rights and social justice will be conducting a workshop entitled, "Leadership that works in non-profit organizations and in voluntary groups: examples from the ground."

#### Grameen Foundation Workshop

The Grameen Foundation will enlighten us on micro-financing, a small tool, but one which many people believe could help reduce poverty in the long run.

#### Twitter - Get started Now!!

Yolanda Henry (FAUSA) and Emily van Eerten (FAUSA) are our Boston 'Tweeties'. Emily has been posting blurbs about the conference using the hashtag #FAWCO2010. Thus if anyone wants to follow the conference, they can do a search for that. Once someone is set up in Twitter, they can "follow" Emily van Eerten at "EmvanE" and when making their own posts, they can add on the FAWCO Conference hashtag as well.

#### Conference Volunteers

I would like to introduce the wonderful FAUSA volunteers who are working eagerly on making this a fantastic conference!!!

*Chair* - Jane Indreland

*Treasurer* - Priscilla Dysart

*Registrar* - Pat Fennell

*Communications Center, Social Network Coordinator* - Yolanda Henry

*Speaker Manager* - Dale Koepenick  
*Local speaker contact* - Charlotte DeWitt  
*Information Desk* - Kay Miller  
*Annual Report Editor, "Tweetie"* - Emily Van Eerten  
*Directory, name tags* - Pam Dahlgren  
*Newsletter* - Marlene Holmes  
*Conference Photographer* - Paulette Fagen  
*Designer* - Debbie Hastings  
*Goody bags* - Eileen O'Duill

Come and join us in Boston!

Kathleen  
[president@fawco.org](mailto:president@fawco.org)

[www.fawco.org](http://www.fawco.org)

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