



What's Happening

A Quarterly Newsletter From the World Foundation
for Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, Inc.

May 2024

Springing into Summer!

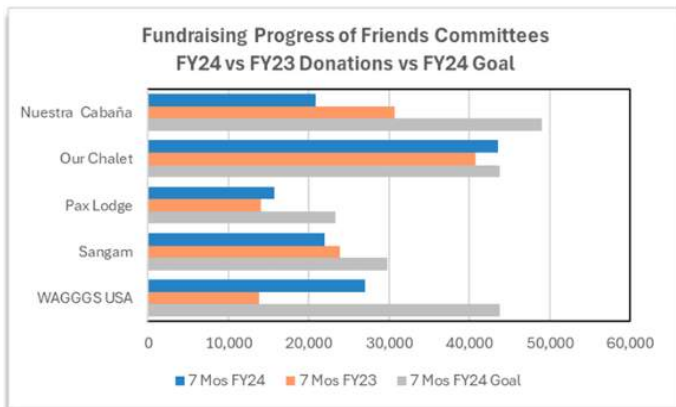
It has been a busy spring quarter for the World Foundation, and we are excited for all the summertime joy coming up! World Thinking Day in February saw great events and inspired gift giving. In March the Board of Directors met at Edith Macy. Big topics of the weekend included leadership transition and strategy as a new triennium begins. Throughout the spring months, Friends committees and World Centres have been hosting and planning exciting events. May also saw the return of Program Coordinator Valerie Pierpoint after her maternity leave.

As we roll into the summer, we look forward to starting the season off with **WAGGGS Giving Day** on June 5 and 6! You can support any of four key areas of WAGGGS work:

- Where the Need is Greatest
- Creating Global Connections in the WAGGGS World Centres
- Thriving Member Organisations, Thriving Movement
- Leadership Skills and Opportunities



If you'd like to do even more, you can become a **Giving Day Champion** to help spread the word. For more information about WAGGGS Giving Day and how you can support, visit <https://www.waggs.org/en/support-us/waggs-giving-day-2024/> to become a Champion, register for a June 2 Webinar, and more!



Treasurer's Fundraising Report

Fundraising is just getting underway for most of the Friends Committees. Committee members' donations, both large and small, satisfying their annual donation requirements, have also been helpful.

For the first seven months of the fiscal year, fundraising is ahead of last year. The Friends Committees in total are up 6% over last year at this time, but the bad news is

that only 40% of the total goal of \$325,000 has been raised while we're 60% through the fiscal year. All committees except Nuestra Cabaña are ahead of or close to last year this time, but only Our Chalet is matching its 7-month goal. The Total for all funds, excluding the Save Nuestra Cabaña special campaigns, is up 18% over last year. WAGGGS Development Fund has picked up with certain large gifts for Giving Day, the Squirrel House at Our Chalet, as well as OB-PS members contributing, or

joining, ahead of ceremonies in Denmark in August. The special appeal honoring Barbara Schliebe boosted the Global Initiatives Fund in February.

Above is the chart of Friends Committees' fundraising results to date, and below is the table with all funds raised in April and fiscal year to date in both 2023 and 2024.

FUNDRAISING REPORT FOR APRIL							
FUND	12 Month FY24 Goal	Fiscal Year to Date			Latest Month		
		FY2024	FY2023	YOY	FY2024	FY2023	YOY
Nuestra Cabaña	84,000	20,809	30,639	-32%	1,221	3,300	-63%
Our Chalet	75,000	43,543	40,769	7%	24,105	10,012	141%
Pax Lodge	40,000	15,701	14,063	12%	3,910	720	443%
Sangam	51,000	21,985	23,860	-8%	1,770	4,203	-58%
WAGGGS USA	75,000	27,022	13,850	95%	786	380	107%
Kusafiri	-	1,567	200	683%	1,515	200	658%
FRIENDS COMMITTEES	\$325,000	\$ 130,627	\$ 123,380	6%	\$ 33,308	\$ 18,816	77%
WAGGGS Dev Fund		242,833	201,079	21%	78,983	25,544	209%
Girl Scouts USA		2,030	-	-	-	-	-
Global Initiatives		44,827	22,822	96%	4,634	7,152	-35%
WF Operating		1,075	11,727	-91%	25	540	-95%
WF Endowment		7,369	5,546	33%	-	-	-
Save Nuestra Cabaña		18,540	220,630	-92%	1,734	23,930	-93%
Endow for Nuestra Cabaña		13,318	4,198	217%	-	912	-100%
TOTAL FUNDS RAISED		\$ 460,619	\$ 589,381	-22%	\$ 118,685	\$ 76,895	54%
TOTAL EXCL SAVE NUESTRA CABAÑA		\$ 428,760	\$ 364,553	18%	\$ 116,951	\$ 52,052	125%

Updates from the Board:

The World Foundation Board of Directors met March 1-3, 2024 at Edith Macy Conference Center.

As we begin a new triennium, it was an opportunity to both conduct business and explore strategic issues for both our board and organization.

The weekend agendas included a discussion of board ways of work led by the Board Development Committee, an opportunity to engage with the GSUSA Global Strategy process as well as to examining our

strategic environment and priorities for the new triennium. An enduring key priority is strengthening relationships with our friends and supporters.

During the official meetings we held elections:

- Alice Hahn** and **Barbara Schliebe** were elected board members
- Officers: **Linda Foreman**, President, **Sandy Thomas**, Vice President
- Proxy: **Sue Mc Nab**, GSUSA

We recognized and thanked retiring board member Kristen Grennan and celebrated retiring board

president, Barbara Schliebe. Over \$30, 000 was contributed to the Global Initiatives Fund in her honor.

Highlights of the President’s annual report included; the hiring of Valerie Pierpoint as Program Coordinator for the World Foundation and participation in the GSUSA National Council and Phenom and the World Conference. Total income was \$2,334.444 and \$823, 399 was disbursed in grants to WAGGGS and GSUSA. WAGGGS projects included support to the World Centres, leadership programs, capacity building, Ukraine emergency funds and funds for Campfire and visibility. GSUSA projects included a camp at Our Chalet, support for virtual troops and community camps.

We received updates from GSUSA, USAGSO and WAGGGS.

In addition, we made final decisions on current grant applications and funding, received reports and had discussions related to finances, fund development priorities and planning, board development needs and opportunities and initial Gathering planning.

The board is grateful to all of our friends and supporters who power the work of the World Foundation,

Linda P Foreman, President

News from the Friends Committees:



Friends of WAGGGS USA

Since the committee was formed, funds have been granted to both WAGGGS and GSUSA for programs that promote and enable global experiences for girls and

young women. Here are two examples of projects funded by Friends of WAGGGS USA,

Kusafiri will host a Regional Experts Pool Training for Free Being Me and Action on Body Confidence for members of the Africa Region in the last week of June. We are excited to welcome the participants and member of the delivery team to Kusafiri for this training. We are also preparing to be one of the host World Centres for the in-person component of the JLS later this year. The event has already kicked off online and participants are already starting to engage with each other and will complete their 100 Girls Projects before they attend their in-person events.

This year WAGGGS applied for funding for a project called: Strengthening Leadership Facilitation. At this stage, we were granted partial funding not the whole amount with the opportunity to receive the balance.

So what is the Strengthening Leadership Facilitation project:

“Meaningful international connections for girls and young women to develop leadership and active global citizenship” is one of the top three areas where Member Organisations feel WAGGGS should focus our resources. Our successes in this space, from the most impactful World Centre programmes, our global and regional training offer, to flagship experiences like the Juliette Low Seminar, are rooted in our approach to facilitation using our non-formal educational method and, in more recent years, our Girl Guide and Girl Scout Leadership Model.

This project will deliver a much needed and demanded injection of new energy into WAGGGS’ facilitation work and create new opportunities for Movement members to learn the craft of facilitation in a global context. It will open the eyes of hundreds of leaders to new perspectives on how Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting can empower girls, young women and the adults that support them, and respond to a high demand for this work from the Africa, Arab and Asia-Pacific Regions in

particular. WAGGGS Facilitators are the heart of our global team – they deliver all our training and learning initiatives, and the majority of our current active global volunteers have touched the facilitation journey in one way or another. We want to open this space up to more women, diversify our reach with a particular focus on equity of access and language diversity, as well as raise awareness of the extra value and unique strength of our approach using the Girl Guide and Girl Scout Leadership Model.

With funding generously donated by Friends of WAGGGS we are delivering:

Digital Facilitator Training (6 months)

Develop our digital training space and materials to enable fully online training for potential facilitators. This will include:

1. a set of self-guided courses, open to all and available in all WAGGGS languages, to be completed by all prospective facilitators
2. A real-time online training for at least one cohort of potential facilitators each year. At least one cohort of facilitators will pilot the real-time online training during 2024.

FoWAGGGS USA continues to support the mission of the World Foundation by our commitment to make a personal donation as well as solicit funds from outside sources. We are hopeful that we will add new members this year and look forward to meeting again at the Gathering.

Kandi Lancaster, Chair

Gail Lamotte, Vice Chair



Friends of Our Chalet

Our Chalet hosted the 16th Helen Storrow Seminar in March 2024. With the theme “Leading Change Through Sustainable Outdoor Adventure”, the seminar welcomed 21 participants from over 15 countries. As well as facilitated educational sessions taking place onsite at Our Chalet, this year Our Chalet’s programme team led three sustainable adventure days enabling participants to experience Switzerland and see sustainable outdoor adventure in action.



Participants visited the largest glacier in the Alps (it’s 22km long!), took a tour of the United Nations headquarters in Geneva, and went kayaking (in nice warm dry suits!) on glacier-fed Lake Brienz. Travel was by public transport for all the outings – over three days participants rode 16 trains, eight buses, and three cable cars!

Participants went home not only having experienced a Swiss adventure, witnessed sustainability in action, and developed a change project to implement in their own community, but also with a new network of international friends. Here two participants explain the impact of the Seminar:

“The Helen Storrow Seminar is more than just a seminar to me; it is a home for young girls and women who are dreaming of making change for their country and contributing to environmental sustainability. We are taught by well-trained facilitators from different countries, which truly enhances and deepens my leadership mindsets, which mainly focus on application to make change in the environment.

I believe that it made all of us, the attendees, change-makers as we went back to our countries with our own story to share, equipped with the skills, knowledge, and a platform to initiate our own environmental project.” – Ciarra, Philippines



“There are no words that could describe my gratitude and joy. This seminar was one of the best experiences of my life. One of the reasons

why I decided to come to the Helen Storrow Seminar was that I wanted to find out what Guiding really means to me. I am glad to say that it means more than just an organisation of good people or a community full of love. On the last day of the seminar I received a gift from one of my friends, it was a bracelet with a quote which I definitely relate to now: “Once a Girl Guide - forever a Girl Guide.” It is something that stays with you forever.

The impact of this seminar is huge and immense. I believe that I can make a difference, I am able to be different and I can be courageous. I no longer feel alone, I have friends from all around the world!” – Cornelia, Ukraine



We would like to say a huge Merci Vielmales (Thank You!) to Friends of Our Chalet USA, we are grateful for your ongoing support and donations that allow us to grant scholarships to Helen Storrow Seminar participants. Thanks to your generous aid young women from all over the world were able to take part in this hugely impactful programme.



Friends of Pax Lodge

The Friends of Pax Lodge USA have had a very busy spring. Pax is again hosting our annual virtual event early in 2024! Instead of a Tea Party we are having a UK Camp Day! The event is June 8th from 2 PM Eastern - 4 PM Eastern Time on Zoom (1 PM Central, Noon Mountain, 11 am Pacific).

Included in the registration fee (\$25) is an event patch and a pdf booklet with activities and recipes. You will learn how camping with UK Guides differs from GS Camping and how they are the same! Songs and challenging games delivered by Girl Guides and Girl Scouts from North America and Europe will be featured as well as an online auction with a wide array of Girl Scout items. Registrants will hear a live update from London on news and information from Pax Lodge. Please join us for an entertaining and informative afternoon by using this link for registration: <https://worldfoundationgggs.salsalabs.org/plukcampday>

Updates from Pax Lodge, London Total bed nights for Q1: 2955 (of these 1635 were GG or GS. The remainder of 1320 are non-Guiding, including independent travelers and several school groups)

Pax Lodge currently has 6 volunteers:

- Pearl – Canada
- Claudia – New Zealand
- Shakirah – Uganda
- Donatella – Ghana
- Lisa – Nigeria
- Kuke – Argentina (she is our Marketing and Communications Intern)

In February we celebrated World Thinking Day with approximately 300 participants

At the end of May we're excited to be welcoming 31 participants to our JamBrownee event: 21 of those are Girlguiding UK and 10 are from the Bharat Scouts and Guides (India). Activities will be on the theme of conservation and biodiversity.

Our summer will be the usual busy time welcoming GSUSA groups traveling with EF Tours for a short 2-hour introduction to Pax Lodge session.

Our Summer Events (JTL) will have 277 participants across 6 weeks exploring London, developing their leadership skills, and learning more about our wonderful movement.

Applications are open for volunteering in 2025. This year we have only had one application from GSUSA for our Autumn/Winter season. We'd love to see many more apply for next year!

Maureen K. Lienau and Sarah Edwards, Interim Co-Chairs, Pax Lodge



Friends of Our Cabaña

As part of Friends of Nuestra Cabaña tradition and guidelines, a tree is planted in honor of members who have achieved 25 years as a member in good standing. At our February 2024 meeting, we planted trees in





honor of Mary Jane Craig, Katrina Jameson, and Pat Haight. Additionally, our wonderful staff member Rodolfo, has now kept the Nuestra Cabaña grounds in beautiful condition for 25 years and a tree was planted in his honor. Congratulations to all and thank you.

Nuestra Cabaña’s Kaleidoscope, created by the inspirational Julie Dawson, is now hanging in a place of honor above the outdoor fireplace at Mixcoacalli Program Centre. Shown with the kaleidoscope are Martha Concha, WCM, and Sue Sola, 1963 Juliette Low Session participant at Nuestra Cabaña under Julie’s leadership.



After tremendous work by WCM, Martha Concha, Magdalene Thomas, and our **temporary** guest services coordinator, Rae Ann Dougherty, the Nuestra Cabaña “Make Booking Request” link on the WAGGGS website is now functioning. Rae Ann is reaching out diligently to all who submitted booking enquiries. Sadly, this means very few bookings for summer 2024. Reopening a World Centre is challenging...

Please make plans to visit this wonderful centre and participate in a session. You are invited to attend the 67th Annual Friends of Nuestra Cabaña Meeting February 5 – 9, 2025.



OB-PS

This year OB-PS is celebrating 40 years! At the World Conference in Tarrytown NY in 1984, it was voted into being. The original idea came from our own Bonnie Jean Fetridge. We know many of you were there in New York – we would love for you to share your memories with us. We also have a PowerPoint created by Blakely Fetridge Bundy, Bonnie Jean’s daughter, about her family’s Girl/Boy Scouting heritage and their friendship with the Baden-Powells. We’re happy to share if you are interested.

The OB-PS Board presented us with the 40:40 challenge at our meeting in Malaysia last year to commemorate the occasion – 40 new members in each of the 3 membership categories and 40 folks donating enough to take them to the next recognition level. Thanks to the World Foundation and their collaboration with WAGGGS, members in the US have gone above and beyond. We alone have almost reached the 40 members reaching the next donation level. We will have a wonderful time in Copenhagen celebrating 40 years of supporting WAGGGS initiatives, thus empowering literally millions of girls and young women.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can help OB-PS make the world a better place, we would be happy to have a conversation!

Karen Saenz, karensaenz.obps@gmail.com Sue Goldsmith, suegoldsmith.obps@gmail.com

USA Co-coordinators

News from the Members:



WAGGGS

Reason to celebrate – WAGGGS HIGHEST MEMBERSHIP FIGURE TO DATE. This marks the second consecutive year that WAGGGS has experienced membership growth.

Every year WAGGGS conduct a census to count the total amount of members in our Movement. The figures presented in this report reflect the number of members in Member Organisations (MOs) as of 31 December 2023.

Although we've seen significant growth this year and experienced a record-breaking membership total, data suggests that this increase is primarily due to the growth of five Member Organisations. (Ghana, Malawi, Nigeria, India, Philippines) who reported a combined increase of 1,979,260.

The full detailed report can be found here:

<https://view.genially.com/664b68914f07820015d686c7/presentation-englishwaggggs-census-report-2024>

The World Foundation grants and generous support for WAGGGS Capacity Building, Strategic Development and Member Organisation Hardship Fund, which helps our Member Organisations in difficulty to keep going, has resulted in the above news that we celebrate. Thank you!

Extraordinary General Meeting- September 2024

We are pleased to share with you this first circular giving details about the plans and preparations for an

Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) to be held online on Saturday 14 September 2024 .

The EGM has been convened in response to Motion 12 passed at the 38th World Conference. Motion 12 tasked the World Board to prioritise the work on WAGGGS Strategy Outcome 3 ('a sustainable WAGGGS') and review the current membership fee model, considering WAGGGS's offer moving forward. Further, it called for an online EGM to be held by 31 December 2024 for Member Organisations to consider and, where appropriate, approve any changes in governance or the membership fee model.

Thanks to the support of the World Foundation, we have been able to offer all an accessible event fee model that enables all our Member Organisations a chance to participate.

Juliette Low Seminar 2024

Opening Ceremony for this year's JLS took place on April 27th! This event marked the beginning of an impactful journey where young women from across the globe are gathering to develop their leadership, explore global connections and embark on a mission to champion social change under the theme of peace.

As always it promises to be a very exciting month with online and in-person JLS activities. We are looking forward to sharing with you more as JLS gets under way.

WAGGGS 4th Giving Day

Taking place one 5-6th June. Join us for 36 hours of global giving, united together throughout the world. You can change her world. Give a young woman the opportunity to make global connections, see the world, thrive in her community and develop lifelong leadership skills.



More information on WAGGGS Giving Day Platform -
<https://givingday.waggs.org/coming-soon>

Sincerely yours,

*Inga Pikse, Head of Individual Giving and Philanthropy
at WAGGGS*

World Centre news

Our Chalet hosted the 16th Helen Storrow Seminar in March “Leading Change Through Sustainable Outdoor Adventure”, with 21 participants from over 15 countries.

We thank the World Foundation for Girl Guides and Girl Scouts and the Friends of Our Chalet USA; their support and donations allow us to granted scholarships to 25 young women from all over the world to come to Our Chalet and learn how they can create a positive impact for environment in their communities back home.

Sangam - We began the year with Discover Incredible India in January, in February we enjoyed the World Thinking Day with children from Pune Bharat Scouts and Guides, and in March we celebrated Holi.

These events included adventures, community actions projects and cultural activities that celebrated the richness and uniqueness of various global traditions including India.

With the STEM Discovery Day Programme we have impacted more that 400 girls aged 10 to 15 years old from our community partners around Pune.

We have some great upcoming events:

- Come Home 2024 - 50% discounted price
- Brave Space 2024 [NEW!] Scholarship available
- Diamond Countdown Two
- Discover Incredible India 2025
- Celebrating World Thinking Day 2025

Nuestra Cabaña - The long-awaited reopening took place in February, with the Friends of Nuestra Cabaña, Guías de México, volunteers from the Cuernavaca District, Candela González our World Board Char and Stefanie Argus the Western Hemisphere Committee Chair.

We also hosted the Friends of Nuestra Cabaña for their Annual Gathering and celebrated World Thinking Day with more than 80 Girl Guides from Mexico and Girl Scouts USA.

In March we had the first "Flavours of Mexico" event, with from Canada Girl Guides and Girl Scouts USA, where they were able to get to know different places, gastronomy and cultural heritage.

In addition, we began working on strategic alliances with various organisations in Cuernavaca, with training for our volunteers and key activities, to jointly carry out community service projects, which will be included in our events.

Pax Lodge - We keep the World Thinking Day spirit going all February with 311 people across 6 sessions, from Rainbows (aged 4-6) to Leaders and Trefoil members (aged 18 and over) and we celebrated Pax Lodge’s 33rd birthday in March with members of the World Board, who were staying with us for their World Board meeting.

Kusafiri - Your World Centre in the Africa Region – Kusafiri – has been busy working alongside the Ghana

Girl Guides Association to prepare for our two big events this year.

We are hosting a Free Being Me training for leaders from the Africa Region and later this year we will be one of the World Centres who host the face-to-face component of the Juliette Low Seminar.

We would also like to introduce you to our 2024 Kusafiri Volunteers. Rachael Graham from Scotland, Na Merley Laryea from Ghana and Maccie Mueni from Kenya.

They will be supporting the work of Kusafiri remotely during the first part of the year and will join in person to support the JLS in Ghana later this year.

Sincerely yours,

Magdalene Thomas, Head of International Operations

For additional information, contact:

Linda Foreman,
President

Email: lindapforeman@gmail.com

Phone: 919-623-7613

Website:

www.worldfoundationgggs.org

OR

Ellen Petrino,
Treasurer

Email: epetrino@girlscouts.org

Phone: 212-852-8612

OR

Valerie Pierpoint,
Program Coordinator

Email: vpierpoint@girlscouts.org

Phone: 484-547-5072
