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2014 HANDBOOK

COUNTRY WOMEN'S COUNCIL USA



www.cwcusa.org

THE ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD



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ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT

Between the societies of

The Associated Country Women of the World

forming the Country Women's Council U.S.A.

I. NAME

The name of this council shall be the Country Women's Council of the United States of America (CWC).

II. OBJECTIVES

To unite into a cooperative, working organization, the USA societies affiliated with the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW), whose rural and urban members represent varied races, nationalities and creeds; who believe that communication based on friendship and understanding will advance peace and progress; and who believe that the quality of life is improved for all people through the following:

- * The relief of poverty,
- * The advancement of education and,
- * The relief of sickness, and the protection and preservation of health.

In cooperation with the USA Area President, CWC and its Board shall:

1. Provide a means whereby the member societies of CWC may meet for discussion and consultation on matters pertaining to ACWW.
2. Discuss and correlate recommendations of member societies to ACWW as to its policies and activities, always considering the international character of ACWW.
3. Further these objectives by following the activities as outlined in the ACWW Constitution.

Each Society is autonomous and may take individual action as it desires.

III. MEMBERSHIP

1. A society may apply for ACWW membership directly to the office of the Associated Country Women of the World. A copy of the society's constitution and information concerning the extent and character of the membership should be included with the application.
2. All member societies of ACWW in the USA are eligible for membership in CWC. Such societies shall become members of CWC upon payment of the annual dues.
3. No USA society may join CWC without first being a member of ACWW.
4. A member society wishing to disaffiliate or withdraw its membership from CWC shall notify in writing the CWC Chairman and Secretary at least thirty (30) days prior to the *general membership* meeting.

IV. DUES

Each member society shall pay dues in an amount to be determined by vote of the voting delegates. Increase in dues shall be proposed with sixty (60) days notice to member societies prior to the next business meeting.

Dues are payable to the CWC Treasurer. CWC annual dues for the following calendar year must be postmarked no later than December 31st. Dues not postmarked by December 31st will be considered delinquent and result in loss of membership privileges and rights. Societies whose dues were paid and postmarked by the due date shall be listed in the subsequent HANDBOOK and/or Annual Revision Insert that will be printed.

Societies accepted into ACWW as a new member prior to July 1 of any year may immediately pay CWC dues and have voting rights at the next CWC General Meeting.

V. GENERAL MEETINGS

A General Meeting of the membership shall be held two (2) times each triennium.

The voting delegates at General Meetings shall be the officers of CWC, the ACWW-USA Area President, and the Presidents/Chairmen of the

member societies in good standing, or their accredited alternates. The accredited delegate from each society shall be entitled to one vote. Others may attend as observers.

Majority (50 percent plus 1) of registered voting delegates present shall constitute a quorum. Motions made by registered voting delegates present must pass with two thirds majority.

VI. OFFICERS

1. ELECTION:

- a. Officers of CWC consisting of a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary and treasurer shall be elected by their respective societies and/or groups according to the Order of Rotation (see Article XII) and shall be presented to the CWC Board for confirmation no later than ninety days preceding their term of office.
- b. An officer may not resign in order to accept another position on the CWC Board.
- c. The Executive Committee shall fill vacancies that occur between general meetings.

2. TERM OF OFFICE:

Officers and/or society representatives shall serve a three (3) year term and shall not be eligible to succeed themselves.

3. CWC BOARD:

- a. The CWC Board shall consist of the CWC Officers, USA Area President, Editor (without vote), Webmaster (without vote), and one representative from each of the USA National member societies. The Editor and Webmaster are appointed positions of three-year duration and must be members in good standing of a dues paying CWC society.

- b. The ACWW USA Area President shall be a member of the CWC Board with vote.
 - c. The CWC Board shall conduct any business of CWC between general meetings by mail or electronic means.
 - d. ACWW officers and ACWW Specified Committee Chairmen living in the USA, other than the USA Area President, shall be ex-officio members of the CWC Board without vote. They may attend board and general meetings at their own expense.
 - e. Majority (50 percent plus 1) voting members of the CWC Board shall constitute a quorum. Motions made must pass with a two-thirds majority.
4. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and USA Area President.
5. **REPRESENTATION:**
- a. The officers shall represent the national and affiliated societies of CWC.
 - b. The positions of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer shall be filled by rotation. Rotations shall be according to the Order of Rotation (Section XII.) In order to equalize representation and because the affiliate group is large, there shall be two officer positions on the rotation schedule allocated to affiliate societies; each position representing different affiliate societies.
 - c. A nominee for office shall be qualified for the position for which she is elected. She should be active in her society with leadership experience. She shall be knowledgeable of the aims and activities of CWC and ACWW.
1. A nominee for Chairman shall have served as president/chairman of her state and/or national society or shall have been an elected member of the board/committee of her national society.
 2. The Treasurer shall have had experience in accounting, in short-term and long-term investments, and in preparation of financial statements and budgets.

6. DUTIES OF BOARD:

CHAIRMAN

The Chairman shall:

1. Call the general meeting, with approval of the Executive Committee.
2. Arrange for and preside at General and CWC Board meetings and appoint a parliamentarian for each General Meeting. Be familiar with CWC Articles of Agreement, CWC Policy Guidelines, and CWC General Meeting Guidelines.
3. Invite incoming CWC Board members to attend the board meeting immediately preceding the one at which they become official CWC Board members. They shall attend without voice or vote and at their own expense.
4. Sign vouchers for all expenditures, with the exception of the CWC Chairman's voucher, which shall be signed by the CWC Secretary.
5. In cooperation with the ACWW USA Area President, inform USA societies of proposed ACWW matters to be considered at the Triennial Conference.
6. Appoint Editor, Webmaster, and Committee Chairmen with the approval of the CWC Board.
7. Be an ex-officio member of all committees.

VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Vice-Chairman shall:

1. Attend with vote all General and CWC Board meetings. Be familiar with CWC Articles of Agreement, CWC Policy Guidelines, and CWC General Meeting Guidelines.
2. Preside in the absence of the Chairman.

3. Aid the USA Area President in the sale/distribution of ACWW materials in the USA and in promoting interest in ACWW Projects.
4. Be in charge of promoting the sale and distribution of CWC materials.
5. Promote ACWW Individual memberships in CWC societies.
6. Serve as Chairman of the Ruth B. Sayre Scholarship Selection Committee.

SECRETARY

The Secretary shall:

1. Attend with vote all CWC General and Board meetings. Be familiar with CWC Articles of Agreement, CWC Policy Guidelines, and CWC General Meeting Guidelines.
2. Mail or e-mail draft of all Business and Board meeting minutes to CWC Board within thirty (30) days of close of meetings.
3. Be responsible for such correspondence as delegated by the chairman.
4. Mail or email approved copies of the General Meeting minutes to CWC member Society Presidents/Chairmen, CWC Board members including USA Area President, and ACWW office within ninety (90) days of close of meetings.

TREASURER

The Treasurer shall:

1. Attend with vote all CWC General and Board meetings. Be familiar with CWC Articles of Agreement, CWC Policy Guidelines, and CWC General Meeting Guidelines.
2. Be responsible for all CWC funds and be bonded.
3. Serve as Chairman of the Budget Committee.

4. Present books, statements, records, etc. to the Chairman of the CWC Financial Review Committee at the end of each year.
5. Insure the proper documents have been filed with the USA Internal Revenue Service each year.
6. Present a complete financial report during each CWC Business Meeting and at all meetings of the CWC Board. A quarterly financial report shall be sent to the President within 30 days of the completion of the quarter. A semi-annual and annual financial report shall be sent to the entire Board.
7. Receive monies designated for ACWW (Contributions, Pennies for Friendship, Projects, etc.) and forward to ACWW office in a timely manner.

NATIONAL PRESIDENTS/REPRESENTATIVES

The National Presidents/Representatives shall:

1. Attend with vote all CWC General and Board meetings. Be familiar with CWC Articles of Agreement, CWC Policy Guidelines, and CWC General Meeting Guidelines.
2. Submit annual reports of organization activities for Board and News Sheet.
3. Serve on budget committee.
4. Be responsible for reporting CWC and ACWW activities to their organization.
5. Inform Board and CWC Editor of contact changes in their society.

USA AREA President

ACWW USA Area President shall:

1. Inform the CWC Chairman and Presidents/Chairmen of societies affiliated with CWC of current ACWW activities. Be familiar with

CWC Articles of Agreement, CWC Policy Guidelines, and CWC General Meeting Guidelines.

2. In cooperation with the CWC Chairman, inform USA societies of proposed ACWW matters to be considered at the Triennial Conference.
3. Arrange hospitality in the USA for official ACWW visitors.
4. Be responsible for official greeting for USA group at Triennial Conference.
5. Work with CWC Vice-Chair for the distribution of ACWW materials to USA Member societies. (See Vice Chair duties, #3)

VII. FINANCES

1. Registration and lodging (one-half double room) of the CWC Board to attend CWC General Meetings and board meetings shall be paid by CWC.
2. The CWC Chairman shall be the CWC delegate at the ACWW Triennial Conference. If unable to attend, the delegate shall be another officer as designated by the CWC Board.
 - a. Registration and lodging (one-half double room) shall be paid for the delegate to attend the ACWW Triennial Conference and Council meetings held in conjunction with this conference.
 - b. The delegate shall present a voucher with attached receipts of allowable expenses and shall report activities to the Board.
3. The CWC budget shall allow a necessary fund to help with the office and travel expenses incurred by the ACWW USA Area President in carrying out her responsibilities for ACWW in the USA. Societies inviting the Area President to their area are expected to incur registration and hotel expenses.
4. The Budget Committee shall be composed of the CWC Treasurer as Chairman, the Presidents of National member Societies, and a representative from Affiliated Societies, or as appointed by the Chairman.

VIII. NOMINEES FOR ACWW OFFICE

1. Nominees for World President, Deputy World President, Secretary, Treasurer, or ACWW USA Area President may be presented by any ACWW Society of the USA.
2. In order to receive the endorsement of CWC, the following procedures must be met:
 - a. ACWW Category I, II and III Societies in the USA shall submit names, with their credentials, to the Chairman at least forty-five days before the deadline stated by ACWW.
 - b. Nominees are required to be individual members of ACWW as part of the credentials per vote taken at 26th Triennial in Hot Springs in 2010 and meet the requirements of the ACWW Constitution.
3. According to the ACWW Constitution, the ACWW USA Area President shall be nominated for one (1) three (3) year term; this term to run concurrently with the ACWW officers who are elected on this basis. She may be nominated for a second three (3) year term following the procedures outlined above.

IX. DISSOLUTION

The CWC Board will, in case of dissolution of the Council, assign all assets of the Council to The Associated Country Women of the World for furthering educational projects.

X. AUTHORITY IN PARLIAMENTARY LAW

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order Simplified and Applied shall govern the Country Women's Council USA in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Articles of Agreement.

**CWC MEMBERSHIP
NATIONAL SOCIETIES & AFFILIATED STATES
As of January 1, 2014**

(Member societies listed below have met the requirements of Page 5, Articles III and IV).

National Master Farm Homemakers Guild

Colorado Iowa Kansas Kentucky

National Volunteer Outreach Network, Inc.

Arkansas Extension Homemakers
Illinois Home and Community Education
Indiana Extension Homemakers Association
Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association
North Carolina Extension and Community Association, Inc.
South Carolina Family and Community Leaders
West Virginia Community Educational Outreach Service, Inc.
Wisconsin Home and Community Education

Affiliated Societies

Alabama Homemakers and Community Leaders
Florida Home and Community Association
Idaho Farm Bureau Women's Committee
Kansas Family and Community Education
Louisiana Volunteers for Family and Community
Maryland Family and Community Education
Michigan Family and Community Education
Mississippi Family and Community Education
New Hampshire Circle of Home and Family
North Dakota Family and Community Education
Ohio Division Woman's National Farm & Garden
Ohio Homemakers and Community Education
Oklahoma Home and Community Education
Oklahoma Farm Bureau Women's Committee
Washington State Home and Community Educators

XII. ORDER OF ROTATION

YEAR	CHAIR	VICE-CHAIR	SECRETARY	TREASURER
2014	AFF	NVON	MFHG	AFF
2015	AFF	*NVON	*MFHG	NVON
2016	AFF	MFHG	AFF	NVON
2017	*AFF	MFHG	AFF	*NVON
2018	NVON	*MFHG	*AFF	MFHG
2019	NVON	AFF	AFF	MFHG
2020	*NVON	AFF	AFF	*MFHG
2021	MFHG	*AFF	*AFF	AFF
2022	MFHG	AFF	NVON	AFF
2023	* MFHG	AFF	NVON	*AFF

*Key to Rotation System

* = beginning of term for society providing officer

AFF = Independent Affiliated Societies
NVON = National Volunteer Outreach Network
MFHG = National Master Farm Homemakers Guild



THE COUNTRY WOMEN'S COUNCIL USA

At the September 2002 Annual Meeting of Country Women's Council USA it was voted to apply for membership as an affiliated society of The Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW). CWC was accepted into membership a few weeks later at the October Council Meeting of ACWW.

The Country Women's Council USA is a coordinating council, composed of Associated Country Women of the World member societies in the USA and meets twice each triennium to promote the work of ACWW.

The Country Women's Council USA became the official name in 1946. Initially, the adopted title in 1939 was the United States Liaison Committee.

The Council works actively to promote international understanding through such specific projects as Pennies for Friendship and through its participation in activities of certain specialized agencies in the United States.

In 1952 an observer was named to the United Nations. In 1958, ACWW was granted Category B status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) with Mrs. George Roberts as ACWW-UN representative.

By meeting together, the many societies of ACWW in the United States of America have made the Country Women's Council USA, an efficient, cooperative, and understanding body. Thus, CWC has served to strengthen ACWW and, in so doing, has become strong and effective in the promotion of the activities of the mother organization.

Activities

The Country Women's Council USA, does not formulate policy. It may, and often does, offer recommendations and suggestions from member societies to the international office of ACWW. Its programs and activities are devoted to carrying out the policies of ACWW, and to do this, it has the officers previously listed, and their respective duties.

Pennies for Friendship

This activity provides a way for each individual member of societies to take an active part in the work of ACWW. By contributing to Pennies for Friendship, each member promotes world friendship, understanding and goodwill. Pennies for Friendship are a major source of the income to carry out the work of ACWW. CWC urges members to participate in this activity.

CWC CHAIRMEN

Term of Office	Name	State	Organization
(Representing USA on Liaison Committee of Rural Women's Organizations)			
1929	Mrs. A.E. Brigden* (USA Liaison Committee)	NY	Home Bureau
1930	Mrs. Edward Young*	NY	Home Bureau
CWC Chairmen:			
1939-44	Mrs. Ora Roop*	VA	NEHC
1945-50	Mrs. Spencer Ewing*	IL	NEHC
1951-56	Mrs. George Apperson*	NC	NEHC
1957-62	Mrs. Everett Spangler**	NE	NEHC
1963-65	Mrs. Lois Gross**	IN	FBW
1966-68	Mrs. Lucile Green*	MS	NEHC
1969-71	Mrs. Jerry Stoutner*	IA	NMFHG
1972-74	Mrs. Nancy Holt*	ME	WNF&G
1975-77	Mrs. Berta White*	MS	FBW
1978-80	Mrs. Fayola Muchow*	SD	NEHC
1981-83	Mrs. Caroline Ingels*	IA	NMFHG
1984-86	Mrs. Kay Rockwell*	MI	WNF&G
1987-90	Mrs. Martha Clark	MD	FBW
1991-93	Mrs. Betty Buff	SC	NEHC
1994-96	Mrs. Bettie Wallace*	KY	NMFHG
1997-99	Mrs. Nancy Cessna	OH	FBW
2000-02	Mrs. Sue Jarvis	OK	FBW
2003-04	Mrs. Kay Engelhart	MI	WNF&G
2004-05	Mrs. Jean Ehlinger	MI	WNF&G
2006-08	Mrs. Judy Bender	WI	NVON
2009-11	Mrs. Marilyn Poppen	IA	NMFHG
2012-14	Mrs. Marian Brown	OH	AFFILIATED OHCE

NOTE: NEHC was changed to NAFCE in 1992.

* deceased



** Not known if deceased or living

CWC ANNUAL MEETINGS

1939.....Penn State College	1979.....New Orleans, LA
1940.....Lafayette, IN	1980.....Wheeling, WV
1941.....Nashville, TN	1981.....Raleigh, NC
1942.....Kansas City, MO	1982.....Stevens Point, WI
1943.....Chicago, IL	1983.....Fargo, ND
1944.....Chicago, IL	1984.....Peoria, IL
1945.....Columbus, OH	1985.....Baltimore, MD
1946.....Omaha, NE	1986.....Dearborn, MI
1947.....Jackson Mill, WV	1987.....Lincoln, NE
1948.....Tulsa, OK	1988.....Vancouver, WA
1949.....Colorado Springs, CO	1989.....Kansas City, MO
1950.....Biloxi, MS	1990.....Richmond, VA
1951.....East Lansing, MI	1991.....Indianapolis, IN
1952.....Raleigh, NC	1992.....Des Moines IA
1953.....Toronto, Canada	1993.....Colorado Springs, CO
1954.....Washington, DC	1994.....Louisville, KY
1955.....Chicago, IL	1995.....Austin, TX
1956.....Chicago, IL	1996.....Tampa, FL
1957.....Columbus, OH	1997.....Jackson, MS
1958.....Stillwater, OK	1998.....Lisle, IL
1959.....Kansas City, MO	1999.....Mackinac Island, MI
1960.....Des Moines, IA	2000.....Myrtle Beach, SC
1961.....Indianapolis, IN	2001.....Huntsville, AL
1962.....Washington, DC	2002.....Oklahoma City, OK
1963.....Madison, WI	2003.....Lynchburg, VA
1964.....Louisville, KY	2004.....Greensboro, NC
1965.....Lake Junaluska, NC	2005.....Scottsdale, AZ
1966.....Wichita, KS	2006.....Ft. Wayne, IN
1967.....Lansing, MI	2007.....Springfield, IL
1968.....Lansing, MI	2008.....Hot Springs, AR
1969.....Jackson, MS	2009.....Des Moines, IA
1970.....Niagara Falls, NY	2010..... (No meeting) Triennial
1971.....Kansas City, MO	2011.....Columbus, OH
1972.....Williamsburg, VA	2012.....Manchester, NH
1973.....Panama City, FL	2013. (No meeting) Triennial
1974.....Cody, WY	2014.....Manitowoc, WI
1975.....Des Moines, IA	2015.....Tulsa, OK
1976.....Kah-nee-ta, OR	
1977.....Snowmass, CO	
1978.....Columbus, OH	

RUTH BUXTON SAYRE SCHOLARSHIP



Ruth Buxton Sayre was known as the “First Lady of the Farm” and inspired millions of rural women around the world to improve themselves and their communities with her practicality, humor, decency, and common sense. As a young farm mother, she began her life work in striving for better conditions for farm women and their families by organizing her neighbors for college extension classes. She earned high posts in state, national and international organizations and served as ACWW President from 1947-1953.

Country Women’s Council USA offers a Ruth B. Sayre Memorial Scholarship each year to a woman who is a legal resident of the United States of America, and lives in a state that has an affiliation. Who shows a financial need, and who has the ability to complete her education.

Applications shall be made through an ACWW affiliated organization, but applicants need not necessarily be members.

The Scholarship recipient or recipients shall be paid up to the amount of \$500 for a year’s period of study, the money to be sent to the educational institution she is attending for tuition and/or books. The recipients may apply the succeeding year.

The Sayre Scholarship Fund shall maintain minimum \$10,000 balance, and interest will be used toward the scholarship(s).

Donations are accepted and added to the balance to keep this viable for the furtherance of educational development of American women.

Sayre Scholarship Recipients

1986 Geraldine Brave, Rosebud, SD

1989 Angela Sieren, Keota, IA

1990 Debra K. Ahrent, Fayetteville, AR
Debra T. Hodges, St. Cloud, FL

1991 Susan E. Murray, Fredericksburg, IA
Melissa L. Keeney, Carlisle, IA

1992 Paula Ann Galbraith, Mio, MI
Rebecca F. Stinson, Vancouver, WA
Rebecca Jean Kalish, Hillsboro, OR

1993 Rebecca Bradley Ferguson, Colville, WA
Sheree Lee, Durham, NC
Connie Sue Olson, Freeport, IL
Jennifer Carole Tiaht, Sioux Falls, SD

1994 Rebecca B. Ferguson, Colville, WA
Kimberly M. Hall, Scranton, IA
Alyssa C. Mason, Allerton, IA
Jennifer C. Tiaht, Sioux Falls, SD

1995 Michelle Marie Farrington, Mechanicsville, IA
Sarah Ann Neifer, Genoa, OH
Tonya Renay Phillips, Buckhannon, WV
Katie Noelle Hall, Scranton, IA
Ann Beth Bartholomew, Columbus, OH

1996 Lisa Ahrens, Osage, IA
Emily Elizabeth Leffelman, Amboy IL
Deborah Jean Waddle, Springfield, OH

1997 Andrea Lynnette Horst, Ames, IA
Amy Marie Mathias, Old Field, WV
Merrilee Shoemaker, Huntsville, AR
Faith Arlene Turnpaugh, Kentland, IN

1998 Sara Young, Erie, KS
Cynthia Flax, South Charleston, OH
Stephanie Lynn Homan, Celina, OH
Julia K. Shaefer, Laconna, IA

(Ruth B. Sayre Scholarship recipients, continued)

1999 Laura Kriete, Hooper, NE
Kathy Tvrdy, Ceresco, NE
Amanda Greenwood, Boswell, IN
Kimberly Talley, Yarmouth, IA

2000 Anna Marie Cardinal, Terra Haute, IN
Jeni Rae Matthiesen, Bryant, IA
Linda Marie Perkins, Troy, IL
Elizabeth E. Steenson, Walback NE

2001 Laura Lee Trowbridge, Fort Wayne, IN
Linda Marie Perkins, Troy, IL
Lisa Cannegieter, Sioux City, IA
Mary Handrich, Weyauwega, WI
Melissa DeGreer, Erie, KS

2002 Sara Magalli, Hanover, IL
Rachael Hannebaum, West College Corner, IN
Heather Cummings, Osceola, IA
Alicia Stone, Leon, IA

2003 Becky S. Copas-Chitty, Chalmers, IN
Amber Kingery, Indianola, IA
Kari Schifferns, Arriba, CO
Maria Vallen, Estherville, IA

2004 Tara Gilbert, Ionia, IA
Cassie Norman, Decatur, IA
Stephanie Penick, Carlisle, IA
Audrey Young, Erie KS

2005 Jenna Louise Burkhart, Woodward IA
Staci Lynn DeGeer, Erie KS
Erin Kay Jones, Grand River IA

2006 Julia Townsley, Letts IA
Molly Mayer, Marcus IA
Katie Qualmann, Iron Ridge WI

- 2007 Erin Kathleen Morris, Wabash IN
Michelle Lee Mether, Logan IA
Leah Anne Ruff, Farmersville IA

(Ruth B. Sayre Scholarship recipients, continued)

- 2008 Rhiannon Marie Hurt, Wapello IA
Alissa Brady, Marcus IA
Elisabeth Moe, Nevada IA
Stephanie Lynn Soppe, West Union IA
- 2009 Jennifer Harders, Corydon IA
Elisabeth Moe, Nevada IA
Aubrey Michelle McElmeel, Cedar Rapids, IA
Kasey Miller, Churubusco IN
- 2010 Nicole Keenan, Gas City IN
Debbie Nesvik, Ossian IA
Aubrey McElmeel, Cedar Rapids IA
- 2011 Lillian Otto, St. Charles IA
Katherine Neil, New London IA
Kelsey Ann Sears, Cleghorn IA
Patricia J. Hogg, Geneva IN
- 2012 Raelene Schuette, Unity WI
Sarah Imoehl, Castalia IA
Rebecca Cameron, Osceola IA
Deanna Lensing, New Virginia IA
- 2013 Raelyn Grober, Charles City IA
Erin Dolcheck, Kellerton IA
Molly O'Brien, Elberon IA
Abigail J. Anderson, Amery WI
- 2014 Jodie DeVries, Colfax, IA
Frances Louise Garrett, Pine Village, IN
Spencer Elizabeth Larson, Madrid, IA
Nancy Ann Smith, Crown Point, IN

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD

The earliest organizations of farm women began towards the end of the nineteenth century in widely separated countries of the world - Germany, America and Scandinavia. The first recorded date of an organization of farm women was 1797; the year Finland recognized the Women's Agricultural Organization.

But, it was not until 1929, thanks to Lady Aberdeen, President of the International Council of Women, that country women were beginning to think in worldwide terms.

At Lady Aberdeen's invitation, representatives from rural women's organizations all over the world came together for this first international meeting. Mrs. A. E. Brigden, of the New York Home Bureau attended and was chosen to represent the United States of America on the international committee, which was formed at that time, the Liaison Committee of Rural Women's Organizations.

Mrs. Alfred Watt, Canadian, who had brought the idea of the Women's Institutes from Canada to England, was chosen as the first chairman of this committee. Mrs. Watt had long been interested in forming an international association of country women.

In 1930, the first conference called by the committee was held in Vienna. They met as a Standing Committee of the International Council of Women. At this time, the name became the Liaison Committee of Rural Women's and Homemaker's Organizations. Twenty-eight (28) different countries were represented by thirty-four (34) organizations. Several delegates from the United States of America were present, as well as representatives from the U.S. Extension Service. Mrs. Edward Young, New York Home Bureau; Mrs. W.F. Conant, New England Farm and Garden; and Miss Grace Frysinger, U.S. Extension Service, were members of the committee representing the United States of America.

After three years of intensive activity by the committee in making many new contacts in Holland, Switzerland, and America, the second Triennial was called in Stockholm in 1933. Here an important step was taken. The committee became an independent organization with a constitution, a name, **The Associated Country Women of the World**, and a president, Mrs. Alfred Watt of Canada.

The third Triennial Conference was held in Washington, DC in 1936, with 7000 U.S. women greeting representatives from other countries. Miss Grace Fryinger was elected as one of the vice-presidents.

With the world tour of Mrs. Watt during the next triennium, the activities of the association were spent largely in spreading information about the organization. When the fourth Triennial Conference met in London in 1939, membership had reached a peak with twenty-nine (29) countries being represented by eighty-four (84) national, provincial and state organizations. Mrs. Guy Roop, USA, was elected as one of the vice-presidents at this meeting, and Mrs. Carleton-Smith, USA was named one of the vice-chairmen of the executive committee.

But, war, involving the members of all societies, intervened and only through the valiant determination of a few members in London was the ACWW office kept open and the organization held together without a break.

It was not until 1947, at the invitation of the Countrywomen's Association of the Netherlands that representatives could come together again for the fifth Triennial Conference in Amsterdam. At this time, Mrs. Watt retired as president and Mrs. Raymond Sayre, USA, was elected as president. Mrs. Carleton-Smith, USA, was elected one of the vice-presidents of the 1947-50 period, and Mrs. Ian MacDonald, USA, was named as one of the chairmen of the Executive Committee.

During the following triennium period, the association was concerned with renewing its ties with member societies, with resuming its activities with member societies and with recouping its finances.

ACWW also assumed a new responsibility through its acceptance of consultative status with The Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ESOCOC), as well as FAO and UNESCO.

By 1950, when the Conference met in Copenhagen, the association was on its feet again and ready to face up to its responsibilities in a new and vastly different world than that in which it had begun.

The interest of rural women in improving their standards of living and in rural women's organizations was beginning to stir in many countries around the world. The activities of ACWW to extend its membership to new groups were given an important place by making the Extension Committee one of the standing committees of the association.

In 1953, when the Triennial conference was held in Toronto, Canada, India, Egypt, and Japan were represented by observers, and Pakistan and Lebanon had become members.

It was long felt that the organization had outgrown its constitution and bylaws, so during the 1953 conference, a committee was established to make a detailed study of the problems and present suggested plans to the delegates prior to the Ceylon Conference. This was known as the Survey Committee with Mrs. Raymond Sayre as chairman. Other committee members were officers of ACWW.

The task proved too much to complete in one triennial period so it was carried into the 1959 conference held in Edinburg, Scotland. Here the new constitution and bylaws were adopted, but were not to be activated until three years later when the elections could be held under the new pattern. Mrs. G. van Beekhoff van Selms, of the Netherlands, was elected president and Mrs. J. Homer Remsburg was named area vice-president for the USA in 1959.

At the tenth Triennial Conference, held in Melbourne, Australia, October 1962, the new administrative pattern was instituted. At this time, Mrs. Haven Smith, USA, was chosen as one of the two deputy presidents, and Mrs. R. P. Matchett was elected as area vice-president for the USA.

In 1965, the eleventh Triennial Conference was held in Dublin, Ireland. Mrs. Aroti Dutt of India was elected president and Mrs. Haven Smith and Mrs. R. P. Matchett were re-elected for second terms.

The twelfth Triennial Conference was held in Lansing, Michigan. The membership now stood at six and one-half million members with 270 member societies from all continents. Mrs. Aroti Dutt, India, was re-elected president, and Mrs. Eugene L. Survant, Colorado, was elected USA Area Vice-President in 1968.

The thirteenth Triennial Conference was held in Oslo, Norway, in 1971. Mrs. O.L. Farquharson, England, was elected as president, and Mrs. F.G. Garrison was elected USA Area Vice-President. The fourteenth Triennial Conference was held in Perth, Australia, in 1974. Mrs. O.S. Farquharson, England, was re-elected as president, and Mrs. Louis Fear was elected USA Area Vice-President.

The fifteenth Triennial Conference was held in Nairobi, Kenya, in 1977. Mrs. Ralph Row, Western Australia, was elected president and Mrs. Gordon White, Mississippi, was elected as USA Area Vice-President.

The sixteenth Triennial Conference was held in Hamburg, Germany, in May of 1980. Mrs. A. Westerbring-Muller, The Netherlands, was elected president. Mrs. Floyd Howard was elected deputy president, and Mrs. Martin Muchow was elected USA Area Vice-President. The title of Member of Honour was conferred on Mrs. George (Eleanor) Roberts, ACWW United Nations Representative in New York.

The seventeenth Triennial Conference was held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Dr. Ellen McLean was elected president and Mrs. Jean Ehlinger was elected USA Area Vice-President in June, 1983.

Following constitutional Objects and Policy rewording, ACWW was granted charitable status, beginning October 12, 1984.

Offices were moved from Warwick Square to Vincent House, Vincent Square, in London, in March 1985. Societies in the USA provided carpet for the new office.

Miss Heather McGrigor, ACWW General Secretary for 14 years, retired in April, 1986, and worked through the eighteenth Triennial Conference held in Killarney, Ireland, in May. A panel interviewed six candidates selected from sixty applicants and the job was offered to Miss Jennifer Pearce, who accepted and commenced work on March 17, 1986. At this eighteenth Triennial Conference in Ireland, Dr. Ellen McLean was re-elected president and Mrs. Betty Buff was elected USA Area President. The General Purposes Committee was replaced by a board consisting of president, two deputy presidents, area presidents, executive vice-president, honorary secretary, honorary treasurer, standing committee chairmen, to meet annually; and an executive committee consisting of president, two deputy presidents, executive vice-president, honorary secretary, and honorary treasurer to meet twice a year in addition. The board held its inaugural meeting at Vincent House in September, 1986.

The nineteenth Triennial Conference was held in Kansas City, Missouri, in September, 1989. The office of executive vice-president was deleted. The 20 percent total voting power of conference was changed to 30 percent. A recommendation passed that an ACWW Day be held worldwide on April 29th or during the last week in April each year to promote and publicize ACWW. Mrs. Valerie Fisher of Australia was elected president; Mrs. Jean Ehlinger of the USA was elected deputy president; and Mrs. Shirley Woody was elected as USA Area President. The twentieth Triennial Conference was held in The Hague, The Netherlands, in June 1992. A revised constitution and bylaws was accepted which eliminated conference percentage of voting power; initiated membership categories I, II, III, and IV; and deleted further sale

of Life Memberships. Mrs. Valerie Fisher, Australia, was re-elected president, and Mrs. Shirley Woody, Indiana, was re-elected USA Area President.

The twenty-first Triennial Conference was held at Canterbury University, Christchurch, New Zealand, February 1 - 8, 1995. Mrs. Lyndsay Hackett-Pain was elected ACWW President, and Mrs. Melba McIntosh, Louisiana, was elected USA Area President.

The twenty-second Triennial Conference was held at the University of Pretoria, South Africa, in April, 1998. Hilda Stewart of Northern Ireland was elected ACWW President, and Dorothy Camp, Iowa, was elected USA Area-President. Susan Herbert, Connecticut, was elected to serve as chair of the Promotion & Publications Committee. Louise Nichols, Indiana, was appointed to serve on the Finance Committee. Sandra Broadrick-Allen, Illinois, and Shirley Woody, Indiana, were appointed to serve on the United Nations Committee. Judy Weinkauff, Oklahoma, was appointed to serve on the 2001 Triennial Conference Committee.

The twenty-third Triennial Conference was hosted by the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario and held at the Convention Center in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, June 11-18, 2001. "Volunteers Make Visions a Reality" was the conference theme chosen to mark the UN International Year of Volunteers. Hilda Stewart was re-elected as ACWW President. U.S.A. is represented in ACWW positions with Louise Nichols, Indiana, elected as ACWW Treasurer, Susan (Herbert) Celentano, Connecticut, elected as Area President, Sandra Broadrick-Allen, Illinois, elected as chairman of the United Nations Committee; appointed to committees were: Joan McEachern, Illinois, to Promotion and Publications, Dorothy Russell, Iowa, to United Nations, and Betty Houbion, Illinois, to Projects. Following the Conference, and almost 65 years to the day later, a group of 100 women gathered at the Mather Arch near the Peace Bridge between Fort Erie, Ontario and Buffalo, New York to re-enact a ceremony which had taken place on the bridge after the third ACWW Triennial Conference held in Washington DC.

Six new resolutions, two urgency resolutions and three recommendations were passed. A set of resolutions relating to ACWW's 1998 Constitution also passed.

The twenty-fourth Triennial Conference was hosted by the Country Women's Association in Tasmania and held at the Hotel Grand Chancellor in Hobart, Tasmania, Australia, March 23-29, 2004. "Working with Women Worldwide" was the chosen theme for this, the 75th Anniversary of ACWW. Ursula Goh, of Miri, Sarawak, Malaysia was

elected ACWW President. The USA is represented with the re-election of Louise Nichols, Tennessee, as ACW Treasurer, and the election of Kay Engelhart, Michigan, as Area President. Committee appointments were: Loy Walker, Iowa, to Agriculture, Jean Ehlinger, Michigan, to Finance, Jo Ellen Almond, Indiana, to Projects, and Linda Pracht, Wisconsin, to Promotions and Publications. The launch of the ACWW history: "Working with Women Worldwide: Highlights of 75 Years of ACWW", combined with the varied speakers highlighting women's roles and the passage of Resolutions and Recommendations which have a vital impact on the lives of women worldwide, made the 24th Triennial Conference one of great importance to all.

The twenty-fifth Triennial Conference, hosted by three Finnish societies: The Swedish Martha Association of Finland, The Rural Women's Advisory Organization and The Martha Association, was held at the Holiday Club Caribia Hotel and the Turku Conference Center in Turku, Finland, June 2-10, 2007. The conference theme, "Winning the Way For Women", was highlighted by such renowned speakers as Dr. Pirjo Siiskonen ("The Change in the Role of Farmers and Farm Wives in Modern Agriculture") and Elisabeth Rehn, former MP of the Swedish People's Party and the first woman Minister of Defense in the world. Dato Ursula Goh, Malaysia was reelected World President. Elected as USA Area President is Louise Nichols, Indiana. Appointed to the Projects Committee is Jo Ellen Almond, Indiana. All proposed Resolutions and Recommendations were accepted by the delegations of nearly 700 representing 40 countries, which exemplify the importance of the issues brought to the floor.

The Twenty-Sixth Triennial Conference was hosted by Country Women's Council USA at the Hot Springs Convention Center in Hot Springs, Arkansas April 21-27, 2010.

The Conference theme, "Women World Wide – the Voice of Today" was demonstrated by our speakers, Ms. Josie Fernandez, Superintendent of Hot Springs National Park, speaking on her life as a Cuban immigrant, her work as a National Park Superintendent at the Women's Rights Park in New York state, at Seneca Falls and the difficulties women had in setting up a Convention in 1848 to press for Women's right to vote and own property. It took 72 years to accomplish this. Edna Junkins brought a lighter side to the conference with her humor presenting "The Light Solution to Stress". Laughter releases anger, anxiety, and boredom and heals emotionally and physically. She also left us with a poem she had written just for this occasion, entitled "Women of the World."

A Quilt Square Competition resulted in Mrs. Rita Ann Venner, Iowa, USA, being the winner with her "Bethlehem Rose" quilt design. The square was purchased by former World President Mrs. Lyndsey Hackett-Pain Mundy. There were 163 entries, 133 bidders and total of \$2023 was pledged.

We had several firsts this Triennial, flights cancelled by a volcano, a craft night, election votes taken electronically, all candidates elected on the first vote taken, and a world conference held in Hot Springs, Arkansas, Veterans of Foreign Wars presented colors and local fireman were our escorts.

Mrs. May Kidd, Scotland was elected World President and Jo Almond, Indiana was elected as ACWW Secretary. Elected as USA Area President was Beverly Earnhart, Indiana. 6 Resolutions and 2 Recommendations were accepted as presented and/or amended by over 500 voting delegates. There were 634 attendees from 24 countries at Triennial.

The Twenty-Seventh Triennial Conference was held in Chennai, India, September 26 – October 2, 2013. Father Arul from the Daughters of Mary Immaculate welcomed 350 delegates representing 67 countries.

The Conference theme was "Empowering Women Worldwide, Encourage - Educate – Enrich." World President, Mrs. May Kidd, Scotland, presided over the conference. Special guest: Professor Saraswathi, Tamil Nadu State President of the People's Union for Civil Liberties, spoke about the increasing violence against women and children. She stressed the importance of women's education, economic opportunities and choices about their own lives. The Keynote speaker, Sheela Francis of Tamil Nadu Women's Collective, spoke about how the group was formed to tackle the violence against women. They focus on empowerment and work toward a just society to help give women access to politics and decision making.

A worldwide Bring and Buy Sale was an overwhelming success raising over \$4500 from items donated by world societies. School supplies were brought by the delegates for the children. The competition was shopping bags. India tour day was to various villages that have been or are currently ACWW projects.

Mrs. Ruth Shanks from Australia was elected World President and Beverly Earnhart from Indiana was re-elected USA Area president.

The business of plenaries included resolutions and recommendations, as well the election of new officers and area presidents. The revising of the constitution is still ongoing and is to be voted on in 2016.

A preconference workshop was held on leadership and management.

Closing ceremony was concluded with delegates singing the “Song of Peace”

2013 – 2016 Resolutions

Maternal Health

“Be it resolved that ACWW Member Societies urge their governments to provide a well-trained and resourced quality maternity health service and to improve maternal health education for all women and girls to ensure the best outcomes for mother and baby, giving particular regard to the special needs and isolation of rural women”.

Stop Use of Bisphenol A

“Be it resolved that ACWW and its member organizations strongly urge their governments to banish the use of the hazardous chemical Bisphenol A (BPA). This chemical is the main building block of polycarbonate plastics and is used in many consumer products and household goods, such as food and drink containers, plastic baby bottles, medical devices, sports equipment and toys. The chemical components are dissolved and leach into their contents, poisoning our bodies and damaging our health.”

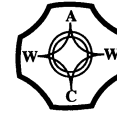
Registration of Births

“Be it resolved that ACWW member societies urge their governments to record without prejudice the births of all children born within their jurisdiction to ensure that all children are recognized as citizens.”

Stop the Practice of Female Genital Mutilation

“Be it resolved that ACWW calls on all people worldwide to stop the practice of female genital mutilation, female circumcision and cutting which endangers the health and life of young girls.”

Stop Violence against
“ACWW urges all member
the situation of girls and
different forms of violence.”



Women and Girls
societies to focus strongly on
women who are victims of
Women as Victims of Conflict

Women as Victims of Conflict

“Be it resolved that the Associated Country Women of the World and its members organizations urge their governments to act, not only adopt, the UN Security Council Resolution 1325”

ACWW Constitution

“Request permission to set up an ad-hoc committee to review the ACWW Constitution to ensure that it meets all of the requirements of the Charities Commission of England and Wales, and make any other changes required to bring the document up to date and bring the changes to be voted on at the 2016 Conference”.

ACWW Legal Structure

“Oxfordshire FWI proposes that the Board (2013 – 2016) have the power to look at the legal structure of ACWW with a view to:
- making ACWW a legal entity in its own right *and*
- limiting the legal liability of Trustees and to prepare a new structure for ratification at the 2016 Conference”

2013 – 2016 Recommendations

E-Waste Recycling & Disposal

“In view of the ever increasing use of electronics that pollute the environment, the members of ACWW are urged to do all they can to ensure e-waste is recycled and disposed of safely and responsibly to prevent further damage to the environment.”

ACWW has active member societies in:

East, West & Central Africa

Cameroon, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Sierra Leone, Uganda.

Southern Africa

Botswana, Lesotho, Mauritius, Namibia, Republic of South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Central and South Asia

Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka.

South East Asia and Far East

Brunei, China, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia.

Canada

Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edwards Island, Quebec, Saskatchewan.

Europe & the Mediterranean

Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Republic of Ireland, Romania, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom

South Pacific

Australia, East Timor, Indian Ocean, New Zealand, Niue Island, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Island, Tasmania, Tonga, Tuvalu.

United States of America

Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, , North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin.

Caribbean, Central & South America

Brazil, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & Grenadines, Trinidad & Tobago.

ACWW DUES

Category I.....	Society with a minimum of 500 members--	
	\$162.00 per year	
Category II.....	Society with a minimum of 100 members--	
	\$99.00 per year	
Category III.....	Umbrella or National Society --	\$82.00 per year
Category IV.....	a) Groups interested in ACWW --	\$54.00 per year
	b) Individual memberships --	\$34.00 per year
	3 years paid at one time --	\$85.00

ACWW dues currently are to be sent to Country Women’s Council Treasurer before December 1. Include address & contact information along with check. Treasurer will forward along with other receipts to ACWW Central Office.

Rates effective from January 1, 2014 through August 2016. (Date of next Triennial. The rates are re-calculated after each World Triennial Conference.)

All ACWW dues (individual & society) are payable before January 1.

CWC DUES

Category I	\$75.00
Category II	50.00
Category III	25.00
Category IVa	25.00

CWC society dues payable annually to CWC treasurer by December 1st.

ACWW TRUST FUNDS

ACWW has established the following Trust Funds:

Lady Aberdeen Scholarship Fund

A memorial to Lady Aberdeen, was established in 1959, a founder of ACWW.

The Fund enables voluntary and qualified leaders in the field of social welfare to study in their own or other countries with the help of member societies and members. A capital fund has been established. The income, and if thought fit, the capital is available for scholarships for "The promotion and encouragement of education in the economic social and cultural spheres."

Types of scholarship and criteria approved by ACWW Conference:

1. To provide scholarships in nutrition or some allied subject.
2. To provide instruction in conservation through short courses, seminars and projects.
3. To provide experienced women leaders (without, if necessary, a preliminary induction course) to give short courses for a stated period to train local leaders in a country which has asked for help.
4. To assist local leaders from villages to attend short courses at a training center in their own country, not only in nutrition but in the whole field of community welfare.
5. To send a voluntary leader to another country and/or to arrange exchange visits between two rural women from different countries to study rural community welfare, to gain experience in the administration and work done by women's voluntary societies made possible by attachment to administrative offices, and by attendance at short course training colleges and field trips.
6. To operate a scholarship for the study of cooperatives.
7. Awards only to be given to scholars from countries where there are ACWW societies for study in similar countries. The scholar must agree to return to her own country to put into practice what she has learned as soon as possible after the end of her course.

8. Preference to be given to financing short courses, seminars and projects for training local leaders, preferably in the participants' own countries. The Trustees may decide each triennium if there should be a major scholarship in nutrition, conservation or some allied subject.

Elsie Zimmern Memorial Scholarship

A memorial to Miss Zimmern was established in 1971, another founder of ACWW. A capital fund has been established.

Criteria: Please read the following criteria and conditions carefully so your submitted application form contains all the relevant information necessary for the Projects Committee and the Board to make a well informed decision on your eligibility for a scholarship.

1. Applicants must be members of an ACWW Member Society.
2. The successful scholar must, if the course is taken abroad, agree to return to her own country to put into practice what she has learned as soon as possible after the end of her course. ACWW prefers applicants to take their course in their country of residence.
3. Scholarships to be awarded in the field of Social Welfare and Training in Organization and Leadership.

ACWW Nutrition Education Fund

The Save the Sight Fund was established in 1974 as an extension of the income and capital, if necessary, from this fund is available for:

- (a) The promotion and encouragement of education in nutrition among all women in areas where malnutrition and its attendant deficiencies put families at risk. These would include members of societies affiliated to the Associated Country Women of the World and any other country women in need of instruction.
- (b) Selection of potential teachers/demonstrators to receive basic training in order to organize and maintain instruction at village level including the formation of women's groups to this end.

TRUSTEES

The Trustees of the above three (3) funds shall be not less than three (3) nor more than nine (9) members. At present they are the President, Deputy President and Treasurer. Council may appoint additional Trustees for a stated term of office. Funds are invested at the discretion of the Trustees.

Income from each Fund may be accumulated by the Trustees until required.

The trustees may delegate all or any of their powers to committees of such persons (whether members of their body or not) as they think fit, in which case the committee concerned must conform to instructions given by the Trustees and report to the Trustees.

USA - ACWW OFFICERS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>DATES</u>
Miss Grace Frysinger*	Vice-President	1936-39
Mrs. Guy Roop*	Vice-President	1939-47
Mrs. Raymond Sayre*	President	1947-50
		1950-53
Mrs. Carlton Smith*	Vice-President	1947-50
		1950-53
Mrs. Ian MacDonald*	Vice-President/Large	1953-57
Mrs. George Apperson*	Area Vice-President	1953-57
		1957-59
Mrs. Haven Smith*	Area Vice-President	1959-62
	Deputy Vice-President	1962-65
		1965-68
Mrs. Homer Remsburg*	Area Vice-President	1959-62
Mrs. R. P. Matchett	Area Vice-President	1962-65
		1965-68
Mrs. Eugene L. Survant*	Area Vice-President	1968-71
Mrs. F. G. Garrison*	Area Vice-President	1971-74
Mrs. Louis Fear*	Area Vice-President	1974-77
Mrs. Berta White*	Area Vice-President	1977-80
Mrs. Floyd Howard*	Deputy Vice-President	1980-83
Mrs. Fayola Muchow*	Area Vice-President	1980-83
Mrs. Jean Ehlinger	Area Vice-President	1983-86
Mrs. Betty Buff	Area President	1986-89
Mrs. Shirley Woody	Area President	1989-95

Mrs. Jean Ehlinger	Deputy President	1989-92
Mrs. Melba McIntosh	Area President	1995-98
Mrs. Dorothy Camp	Area President	1998-01
Mrs. Susan Celentano	Area President	2001-04
Mrs. Louise Nichols	ACWW Treasurer	2001-04
Mrs. Karen Engelhart	Area President	2004-07
Mrs. Louise Nichols	Area President	2007-10
Mrs. Jo Ellen Almond	ACWW Secretary	2010-13
Mrs. Beverly Earnhart	Area President	2010-16

***Deceased**



. . . . The United Nations

ACWW has had Category II (Consultative) status at the United Nations since 1947. This status is granted to organizations internationally known for specific experience in particular areas of UN activities. They can submit short statements and also be granted hearings.

ACWW has local representatives in New York, Geneva, Vienna, Rome, Bangkok, and Nairobi, who observe and report meetings and maintain promotion of ACWW's concern for the status of women, particularly in rural areas. Through ACWW, UN organizations learn about the views of ACWW member societies and their activities worldwide. The main goal is to give rural women a voice at an International level through links with UN agencies. For current up-to-date information about UN projects/activities go directly to their web site: www.un.org.

Over the years, ACWW has obtained UN finance or expertise for many projects through UNICEF, FAO, etc. Our major cooperation has been the UNESCO co-action programs, one being UCA71 - the water program through which projects providing clean water or sanitation have been undertaken in at least nineteen countries (Water for All). The new ACWW Agriculture committee will also have its own liaison activities with UN agencies.

ACWW Mission

The ACWW membership and networks of rural and non-rural women will empower women and communities worldwide through: partnership, advocacy, sharing of knowledge and local activities.

ACWW VISION

An improved quality of life for women and communities worldwide.

ACWW'S STRATEGIC PLAN 2013 – 2016

OVERALL AIM

- *Improved quality of life for women and communities world wide
- *Empowerment, consolidation of knowledge

CHARITY OBJECTIVES

- *The relief of poverty
- *The relief of sickness and the protection and preservation of health
- *The advancement of education

WHAT WE DO to achieve Charity Objectives

Output: Advocacy: Creating enabling environments thru partnerships and local activities to influence global and local decision making.

Partnerships: Building Networks - Member societies, Other NGO's and agencies, UN links.

Learning from each other: Making women better informed Exploring ACWW network resources knowledge

Local Activities: Providing the necessary tools to achieve the changes women want. Area Conferences, support development projects and workshops.

RESOURCES:

Human, financial and material used to carry out work, achieve Charity objectives.

Advocacy:

a) **Global** Triennial conferenced, Board campaigns, Member societies

b) **UN Representation:** UN Committee and reps

c) **Government:** UN Committee and reps. Central Office

d) **Local:** Area Conferences. Member societies

Partnerships

a) **Collaboration with other Organizations**

Projects Committee & Executive develop funding partnerships. Board & Central Office develop strategic partnerships.

b) **Cross-committee work.** All committee have input to make working effective.

c) **Networking & Informative sharing** about ACWW ACWW ambassadors, Board, all members to spread awareness.

Area Presidents encourage new members

Learning from Each Other

a) **Information base:** Central Office collect and maintain information; impact reports, case studies Members, Committees, Board, project partners, UN reps share lessons learnt and best practices. Area President and Comms & Marketing Committee make information accessible: radio, images, publications, e-resources.

b) **Friendship and cross-cultural understanding:** Pen friends Scheme.

Triennial Conference Committee and conferences to link members to work of ACWW and each other.

Local Activities

a) **Projects:** Local societies, organized groups of grassroots women as expert, teachers and trainers. Central Office, Projects Committee and networks supporting grassroots societies with technical and financial assistance. Information from the Projects informing reports used with Advocacy; portfolio of lessons learnt.

b) **Capacity building:** training and workshops funded by members, designed by Central Office, implemented by members and resource persons.

c) **Strong alliances:** Area Conferences, member societies, campaigns to strengthen skills and knowledge.

d) **Fundraising:** Member societies, Finance committee

e) **Campaigns:**

ACWW Structure and governance underpinning and directing the work of the organization:

Constitution, Conference and committee structure
Member and Finance.

DATES TO REMEMBER

ACWW DAY - APRIL 29 (worldwide,)
April 29th, 2015 Women Walk the World
April 29th, 2016 Women Walk the World

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF RURAL WOMEN - October 15

2014 - October "Tea Time" fundraiser for International Day of Rural Women - visit acww.org.uk for details

CWC GENERAL MEETINGS

2014 September 25-27 Manitowoc, Wisconsin
2015 September 20-22 Tulsa, Oklahoma

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE FAMILY

Second Sunday in May

ACWW TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE

2016 Warwick Conferences' Conference Park
University of Warwick, England
2019 Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

NATIONAL CWC SOCIETIES' FUTURE MEETINGS...

National Master Farm Homemakers Guild
2014 October 2-4 Colorado Springs, Colorado
2015 August 27-29 Hutchinson, Kansas
2016 Iowa

www.nationalmasterfarmhomemakersguild.org

National Volunteer Outreach Network
2015 July 14-16 Martinsburg, West Virginia
2016 July 19-21 Normal, IL

www.nvon.org