

# 2024 HANDBOOK

## COUNTRY WOMEN'S COUNCIL USA



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

## THE ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD



[www.acww.org.uk](http://www.acww.org.uk)

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CWC BOARD  
OFFICERS

**Term Expires**

**Chairman** .....12/31/2026

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**Secretary** .....12/31/2024

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**Treasurer** .....12/31/2026

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**ACWW USA Area President** .....05/5/2026

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**ACWW USA Area President**

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Registered Charity CIO NO.1174798



## **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) day 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:**

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 IX) and shall be presented to the CWC Board for confirmation no later than ninety days preceding their term of office. An officer may not resign in order to accept another position on the CWC Board. 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:**

The officers shall represent the national and affiliated societies of CWC

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 XI.) 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. 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. 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. 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, Rural Women in Action Fund, 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-Chairman for the distribution of ACWW materials to USA Member societies. (See Vice-Chairman duties, #3)

## **VII. FINANCES**

1. Registration, lodging (one-half double room) of the CWC Board to attend CWC General Meetings and board meetings shall be paid by CWC. 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.
2. a. Registration and lodging (one-half double room) and most economical method of travel 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. ORDER OF ROTATION**

\*Key to Rotation System

YEAR	CHAIR	VICE-CHAIRMAN	SECRETARY	TREASURER
2024	*AFF	AFF	NVON	*AFF
2025	AFF	*NVON	*NAFCE	AFF
2026	AFF	NVON	NAFCE	AFF
2027	*AFF	NVON	NAFCE	*NVON
2028	AFF	*NAFCE	*AFF	NVON
2029	AFF	NAFCE	AFF	NVON
2030	*NVON	NAFCE	AFF	*NAFCE
2031	NVON	AFF	*AFF	NAFCE
2032	NVON	AFF	AFF	NAFCE

beginning of term for society providing officer

- AFF = Independent Affiliated Societies
- MFHG = National Master Farm Homemakers Guild
- NAFCE = National Association for Family and Community Education
- NVON = National Volunteer Outreach Network

**X. 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.

**XI. 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 March, 2023

(Member societies listed below have met the requirements of Pages 5 & 6 Articles III and IV).

### **National Volunteer Outreach Network, Inc.**

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

### **National Association for Family & Community Education**

Maryland Association for Family and Community Education  
North Dakota Association for Family and Community Education

### **Affiliated Societies**

Alabama Homemakers and Community Leaders  
Colorado Master Farm Homemakers Guild  
Florida Association for Home and Community Education  
New Hampshire Circle of Home and Family  
Oklahoma Home and Community Education  
Washington State Home and Community Educators



## **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 the Rural Women in Action Fund 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.

2014 CWC Society members adopt ACWW project #0973 in Mongolia  
 2016 CWC Society members adopt ACWW project #1007 in India  
 2017 CWC Society members adopt ACWW project #1023 in India  
 2018 -2020 CWC Society members adopt Zero Hunger Challenge  
 2021 CWC adopts Smile Train Project See Projects Adopted by CWC for details.

#### **Rural Women in Action Fund**

This activity provides a way for each individual member of societies to take an active part in the work of ACWW. Donations to this fund support all of ACWW's work. CWC urges members to participate in this activity.

#### **CWC CHAIRMEN**

Term of Office	Name	State	Organization
<b>(Representing USA on Liaison Committee of Rural Women's Organizations)</b>			
1929	Mrs. A.E. Brigden* (USA Liaison Committee)	NY	Home Bureau
1930	Mrs. Edward Young*	NY	Home Bureau
<b>CWC Chairmen:</b>			
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	AFF. OHCE
2015-17	Mrs. Javonna Earsom	OK	AFF. OHCE
2018-20	Mrs. Linda Gause	IN	NVON
2020-23	Mrs. Loy Walker	IA	NMFHG
2024-26	Mrs. Debbie Wagstaff	OK	AFF. OHCE

NOTE: NEHC was changed to NAFCE in 1992.

\* **Deceased**    \*\* **Not known if deceased or living**

#### CWC ANNUAL MEETINGS

1939 - Penn State College	1955 - Chicago, IL
1940 - Lafayette, IN	1956 - Chicago, IL
1941 - Nashville, TN	1957 - Columbus, OH
1942 - Kansas City, MO	1958 - Stillwater, OK
1943 - Chicago, IL	1959 - Kansas City, MO
1944 - Chicago, IL	1960 - Des Moines, IA
1945 - Columbus, OH	1961 - Indianapolis, IN
1946 - Omaha, NE	1962 - Washington, DC
1947 - Jackson Mill, WV	1963 - Madison, WI
1948 - Tulsa, OK	1964 - Louisville, KY
1949 - Colorado Springs, CO	1965 - Lake Junaluska, NC
1950 - Biloxi, MS	1966 - Wichita, KS
1951 - East Lansing, MI	1967 - Lansing, MI
1952 - Raleigh, NC	1968 - Lansing, MI
1953 - Toronto, Canada	1969 - Jackson, MS
1954 - Washington, DC	1970 - Niagara Falls, NY

1971 - Kansas City, MO  
1972 - Williamsburg, VA  
1973 - Panama City, FL  
1974 - Cody, WY  
1975 - Des Moines, IA  
1976 - Kah-nee-ta, OR  
1977 - Snowmass, CO  
1978 - Columbus, OH  
1979 - New Orleans, LA  
1980 - Wheeling, WV  
1981 - Raleigh, NC  
1982 - Stevens Point, WI  
1983 - Fargo, ND  
1984 - Peoria, IL  
1985 - Baltimore, MD  
1986 - Dearborn, MI  
1987 - Lincoln, NE  
1988 - Vancouver, WA  
1989 - Kansas City, MO  
1990 - Richmond, VA  
1991 - Indianapolis, IN  
1992 - Des Moines IA  
1993 - Colorado Springs, CO  
1994 - Louisville, KY  
1995 - Austin, TX  
1996 - Tampa, FL  
1997 - Jackson, MS  
1998 - Lisle, IL  
1999 - Mackinac Island, MI  
2000 - Myrtle Beach, SC  
2001 - Huntsville, AL  
2002 - Oklahoma City, OK  
2003 - Lynchburg, VA  
2004 - Greensboro, NC  
2005 - Scottsdale, AZ  
2006 - Ft. Wayne, IN  
2007 - Springfield, IL  
2008 - Hot Springs, AR  
2009 - Des Moines, IA  
2010 - (No meeting)  
Triennial – Hot  
Springs, AR, USA  
2011 - Columbus, OH  
2012 - Manchester, NH

2013 - (No meeting) Triennial  
Chennai, India  
2014 - Manitowoc, WI  
2015 - Tulsa, OK  
2016 - (No meeting)  
Triennial Warwick, UK  
2017 - Huntsville, AL  
2018 - Dubuque, IA  
2019 - (No meeting) Triennial  
Melbourne, Australia  
2020 - Indianapolis, IN  
(cancelled due to pandemic)  
2021 - Effingham, IL  
2022 - Little Rock, AR  
2023 - (No meeting) Triennial  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
2024 - Miramar Beach, FL



## **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.



### **Ruth B 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 Turnpugh, Kentland, IN
- 1998 Sara Young, Erie, KS  
Cynthia Flax, South Charleston, OH  
Stephanie Lynn Homan, Celina, OH  
Julia K. Shaefer, Laconna, IA

- 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, Eric, 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

- 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
- 2015 Katlyn Cowlham, Odebolt, IA  
Francis Louise Garrett, Pine Village, IN  
Victoria Gregory, Sandwich, IL  
Rita Irmie, Bennet, IA
- 2016 Maria Elisa Banuelos-Cortes, Logansport, IN  
Kathryn Groomboom, Oskaloosa, IA  
Jamie Mayo, Sulphur, OK  
Emma M. Wood, Seymour, IN

- 2017 Scarlet Wehr, Carthage, IN  
Lauran Hammer, Thompkinsville, KY  
Nicole Kristine Polk, Pittsburg, KS  
Alexis Mae Carson, Osceola, IA
- 2018 Macy Mau, Muscoda, WI  
Lauren Mosher, Liscomb, IA  
Jama Claxton, Russiaville, IN  
Lauren Jessica Heard, Huntsville, AL
- 2019 Mollee Patten, Albion, IA  
Courtney Rodkey, Frankfort, IN  
Alyssa Meagan Seals, Ider, AL  
Leah Mosher Liscomb, Iowa
- 2020 Chelsea Banks, Fyffe AL  
Callie Berry, Gaston, IN  
Ashley Irvin, Warsaw, IN  
Mallory Vick, Gillespie, IL
- 2021 Isabelle J Blackwell, Franklin, IN  
Jayci Mekelburg, Eckley, CO  
Ally-Anna Outlaw, Brundidge, AL  
Jennifer White, Noblesville, IN
- 2022 Emily Bowen, Depauw IN  
Kaitlyn Lea Cox Pittsfield IL  
Callie Storms Muscoda WI
- 2023 Hailey Chaffin – New Hope, AL  
Emma Humphreys – Columbus Junction, IA  
Jada Long – Evansville, IL  
Brinley J. Meier – Waverly, IA

## **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 Frysinger 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 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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 Weinkauf, 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 75<sup>th</sup> 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 ACWW Treasurer, and the election of Kay Engelhart, Michigan, as USA 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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 spoke about “The Light Solution to Stress”. She also left us with a poem she had written just for this occasion, entitled “Women of the World.”

A Quilt Square Competition was won by Mrs. Rita Ann Venner, Iowa, USA .We had several firsts this Triennial; \*flights cancelled by eruption of Iceland 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. Beverly Earnhart, Indiana was elected ACWW USA Area President. (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 and the Daughters of Mary Immaculate welcomed 350 delegates representing 67 countries. The theme was; “Empowering Women Worldwide, Encourage - Educate – Enrich”. World President, Mrs. May Kidd, Scotland, presided. Special guest: Professor Saraswathi, Tamil Nadu State President of the People’s Union for Civil Liberties, spoke on the increasing violence against women and children. The Keynote speaker was Sheela Francis of Tamil Nadu Women’s Collective. A worldwide Bring and Buy Sale raised over \$4500 from donated items. 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. (7) Resolutions and (1) Recommendation passed, elections held and the revising of the constitution that 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”

ACWW's twenty-eighth Triennial Conference was held at the University of Warwick in the United Kingdom, 17-23 August 2016. The theme was: “Working Together for a Better Future.” Over 600 delegates attended representing 42 countries. World President, Ruth Shanks presided. Guest speakers were Baroness Joan Walmsley, Health Spokesperson from the House of Lords, Ms. Allison Commar from (World Health Organization/Non-Communicable Diseases and Tobacco) Dr. Agnieszka Brandt-Talbot speaking on (Sustainable and Renewable Energies), and Dr. Mary Tilki, lecturer in Social and Health policy. (10) Resolutions and (3) Recommendations were adopted. The constitution was approved as presented. A world Bring and Buy sale was a success. Tour day, at end of conference, included visiting local estates, castles and a grist mill. Local WI societies entertained us for lunch. Mrs. Ruth Shanks was re-elected as World

President and Jo Almond from Indiana was elected as the USA Area President; Pat Weitzmann was named as the ACWW Friendship Links Coordinator. Closing ceremony was ended with singing the “Song of Peace”

ACWW twenty-ninth Triennial Conference was held in Melbourne, Australia, April 4-10, 2019. World President Ruth Shanks presided. ACWW celebrated its 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by publishing a history book that’s available for purchase. (17) Resolutions were passed. CWC sponsored resolutions #13 Iron Deficiency and #16 Pollinator Protection. Magdie de Kock from South Africa was elected World President; Bonnie Teeples from Oregon FCE was elected USA Area president. Jo Almond is serving on the Finance Committee and Stephanie Jerabek is serving on the Agriculture Committee. Both are from Indiana.

ACWW thirtieth Triennial Conference was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, May 17-25, 2023. World President Magdie de Kock presided. (3) Resolutions were passed. Magdie de Kock from South Africa was re-elected World President; Bonnie Teeples from Oregon FCE was re-elected USA Area President.

### **Resolutions & Recommendations adopted for 2023-2026**

#### Resolution 1

#### ESTABLISHMENT OF RURAL WOMEN’S EMPLOYMENT ACTION PLANS

That ACWW urges all governments to address the particular needs of rural women by working with women’s representative groups to establish, implement and regularly monitor a Women’s Employment Action Plan which ensures access to training and education; fair, equitable and safe employment practices; working conditions and remuneration; access to resources such as finance, materials, technology, and land/property and; including but not limited to, advice on career, business and entrepreneurship.”

#### Resolution 2

#### RURAL GENDER IMPACT ANALYSIS

That the Associated Country Women of the World urge Governments to apply both a Rural Impact Analysis and Gender Impact Analysis when considering plans, policies and programs to ensure the intersectionality of being women and living rurally are taken in to account in order to reduce the adverse impact of proposed plans, policies and programs on rural communities.

Resolutions continued:

Resolution 3

ADDRESSING FOOD WASTE

Be it resolved that ACWW facilitates both action and advocacy on the issue of food waste, recognizing that food waste occurs throughout the global food supply chain, and that coordinated action is required to mitigate food loss and wastage at every stage.

***ACWW has active member societies in 82 countries in 2023***

**East, West & Central Africa**

Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania, The Gambia, Uganda.

**Southern Africa**

Botswana, Lesotho, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

**Central and South Asia**

Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka

**South East Asia and Far East**

Brunei, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Thailand

**South Pacific**

Australia, Republic of Kiribati, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu

**Europe & the Mediterranean**

Belarus, Channel Islands, Czech Republic, Denmark, England, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Netherlands, Northern Ireland, Norway, Romania, Russian Federation, Scotland, Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, Wales

**Canada**

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

**Caribbean, Central & South America**

Brazil, Chile, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Vincent & Grenadines, Trinidad & Tobago.

**United States of America**

Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin.

**ACWW DUES 2023-2026**

Exchange rates fluctuate based on the market.

Category 1 Society with minimum of 500 members £130 or \$170

Category 2	Society with minimum of 100 members	£76 or \$100
Category 3	Umbrella or National Society	£61 or \$ 80
Category 4	Groups interested in ACWW	£41 or \$ 55
Category 5	Individual	£30 or \$ 40
Category 5	Individuals for 3 years	£90 or \$120

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 until next Triennial. The rates are re-calculated after each World Triennial Conference.**

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

#### CWC SOCIETY DUES

Category 1	Society with minimum of 100 members	\$75
Category 2	Society with minimum of 75 members	\$50
Category 3	Umbrella or National Society	\$25
Category 4	Groups interested in ACWW	\$25

CWC society dues payable annually to CWC treasurer by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### ACWW SCHOLARSHIPS

##### **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.

The ACWW Nutrition Education Fund has been transferred to the Projects committee oversight.

The Scholarship monies are no longer held in a trust fund, but are held in ACWW General Fund earmarked for scholarships. They will be awarded as long as money is available. Applications will be considered by the projects committee.



### ACWW “RURAL WOMEN IN ACTION FUND”

ACWW’s main enabling fund is the Rural Women in Action Fund. Donations to this fund support all of ACWW’s work, from projects to advocacy to education and awareness-raising, as this reflects the reality of ACWW’s interconnected, cohesive work. The Board of Trustees allocates funds according to ACWW’s aims and objectives, continuing to invest in grassroots community development, but also bringing all of our work together in a way that benefits the whole network.

#### 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	1947-53
Mrs. Carlton Smith*	Vice-President	1947-53
Mrs. Ian MacDonald*	Vice-President/Large	1953-57
Mrs. George Apperson*	Area Vice-President	1953-59
Mrs. Haven Smith*	Area Vice-President	1959-62
	Deputy Vice-President	1962-68
Mrs. Homer Remsburg*	Area Vice-President	1959-62
Mrs. R. P. Matchett	Area Vice-President	1962-68
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
Mrs. Jo Ellen Almond	Area President	2016-19
Mrs. Bonnie Teeples	Area President	2019-26

\* Deceased



### *The United Nations*

ACWW has held Special Consultative status with the United Nations since 1947, through the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). This status is granted to organizations internationally known for specific experience in particular areas of UN activities. It allows ACWW to submit statements to the UN Commission

s, engage with procedures such as the Commission on the Status of Women to influence international processes and treaties, and participate in or give evidence at hearings and tribunals. ACWW currently holds

ACWW reports on the status of women in rural communities, based on input from its membership in 84 countries around the world. Representation takes place in New York, Geneva, Rome, and Bangkok as appropriate and necessary, and ACWW works with UN agencies to promote the inclusion of rural women, their societies, and their needs.

At various points, ACWW has received funding or expert support for its development projects and advocacy work. ACWW also holds consultative or partnership status with the FAO and UNESCO; in 2020-2022 ACWW was elected to the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee, and in August 2022 received approval for \$14,000 for a new project for survivors of domestic violence in rural Mongolia under the UNESCO Participation Program. To read more about ACWW's work with the UN, please visit the website at <https://acww.org.uk/advocacy>

### **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'S STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2026**

#### **OVERALL AIM**

- \*Improved quality of life for women and communities worldwide
- \*Empowerment of Rural Women, raising the standards of living for Rural Women and their families, and enabling their voices to be heard at the UN and global levels, including participation in the Sustainable Development Goals.

## **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

Carry out advocacy on behalf of Rural Women and their communities  
Support education opportunities for Rural Women  
Support the sharing of knowledge between Rural Women  
Support partnership and local activities of Rural Women  
Raise awareness of the needs and challenges in rural communities amongst non-rural women and others.

## **HOW WE WORK**

The greatest resource ACWW has is its Member Societies around the world. Through the Triennial World Conference they elect the Board of Trustee. Every three years Member Societies have the opportunity to bring forward policy resolutions to be voted on by the membership. If adopted, all Societies have a mandate to work to achieve these policy resolutions in their own countries.

The Board of Trustees adopts a Strategic Plan in each Triennium, and works to achieve its goals, in line with the wider Aims and Charitable Objectives of ACWW. Board Members and Central Office work to ensure representation at the United Nations, and to amplify the voices of members at the international level. Area Presidents work to unite the voices of members in their regions, and to raise local, national, and regional issues to the attention of the wider organization.

ACWW Central Office creates resources to support the Board of Trustees and Member Societies, collects and maintains information, showcases the best practice of Members, and coordinates international exchange of ideas, best practice, and processes.

ACWW maintains partnerships with other organizations, and the Board oversees the funding of women-led development projects. These projects are delivered by local partners to ensure that local needs are met, local challenges are understood, and local voices are heard.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

### **ACWW DAY - APRIL 29 - Annually (worldwide)**

April 29<sup>th</sup> Women Walk the World

### **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE FAMILY– Annually (worldwide)**

May 15<sup>th</sup>

### **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF RURAL WOMEN – Annually (worldwide)**

October 15<sup>th</sup>

### **CWC GENERAL MEETING DATES**

September 24-26, 2024  
Embassy Suites – Miramar Beach  
Destin, FL

### **ACWW USA AREA CONFERENCE**

July 21-24, 2025  
Holiday Inn, Cincinnati Airport  
Erlanger Kentucky

### **ACWW TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE**

April 24-May 5, 2026  
Westin Hotel  
Ottawa, Canada  
<https://acww.org.uk>

### **NATIONAL CWC SOCIETIES' FUTURE MEETINGS**

#### **National Association for Family and Community Education**

July 25-28, 2024  
Holiday Inn, Cincinnati Airport  
Erlanger Kentucky  
[www.nafce.org](http://www.nafce.org)

#### **National Volunteer Outreach Network**

July 16-18, 2024  
Hilton-Biltmore  
Asheville, North Carolina  
[www.nvon.org](http://www.nvon.org)

## PROJECTS ADOPTED BY CWC

1. **October 2014** the member societies of CWC voted to adopt an **ACWW Project #0973 Greenhouse Development in Mongolia**. The project helped to improve the lives of 30 low-income female-headed households in the town of Jargalant Sum. Two large greenhouses were built, thus extending the growing season of their food. The greenhouses, tools and training enabled families to increase their productivity and income, thus improving their standard of living. Finally, the entire village of Jargalant Sum will reap the benefits of this agricultural project through improved nutrition and increased access to foods. *A Certificate of Completion was received from ACWW in 2016.*

2. **2016**, with extra monies left over from the first project, the societies voted to support a second ACWW project: **#1007 India Promotion of Indigenous Rice and Vegetables Cultivation among Marginal Women Farmers and Prevent their Migration to Towns**. The aim of this project was to promote indigenous rice and vegetable crops through sustainable farm methods among marginalised women in Pudukottai district, Tamil Nadu. Women farmers in six villages were given orientation on the goals of the project. They were encouraged to select 40 beneficiaries from their own number. The beneficiaries were given two days' awareness training, two days' training in soil and water conservation methods and five days' intensive training in sustainable agriculture methods and techniques. The women beneficiaries collected seeds and will run a seed bank in order to share high quality seeds. *A Certificate of Completion was received in 2017.*

3. **2017 ACWW Project #1023 India. Enhancement of nutritional health security through home gardens for Dalit women**

250 Dalit women and their families (around 2,150 people in total) who are in 25 deprived rural villages in Thanjavur district, Tamil Nadu were beneficiaries of this project. The beneficiaries were trained in nutrition education, breastfeeding promotion, food safety, home gardening and sustainable cooking methods over two days, in groups of 50. Seed kits and seedlings of species suitable for home gardening were distributed to the beneficiaries, who were encouraged to grow green vegetables and fruits for their families.

]The beneficiaries will have an improved diet and be less dependent on local markets for their food than before. They are able to build their household's capacity to prepare inexpensive, nutritious food and, as the main caretakers of their home gardens, will be empowered as a result of this project. *Certificate of Completion was received May 27, 2019 from ACWW.*

**4. 2017 Zero Hunger Campaign adopted.** Collection of dimes in a small water bottle was initiated and the funds are split 50/50 between the US Feeding America program and ACWW Zero Hunger Challenge. This program was continued through 2020.

**5. 2021 CWC Smile Train Project adopted.**

Collection of funds are donated to Smile Train, an organization specializing in surgically repairing deformed lip and cleft palates. The patients are newborn babies to adults. Smile Train provides 100% free treatment for Children around the World. It offers services 365 days a year on 5 continents. Other services offered are nutrition information, eating abilities, dental care, speech therapy, breathing, hearing and more.

