



AWCCS

AMERICAN WOMEN'S CLUB OF CENTRAL SCOTLAND



2023 AWCCS AGM

Tuesday May 16, 2023 @ 18:00, BST
US Consulate General Edinburgh

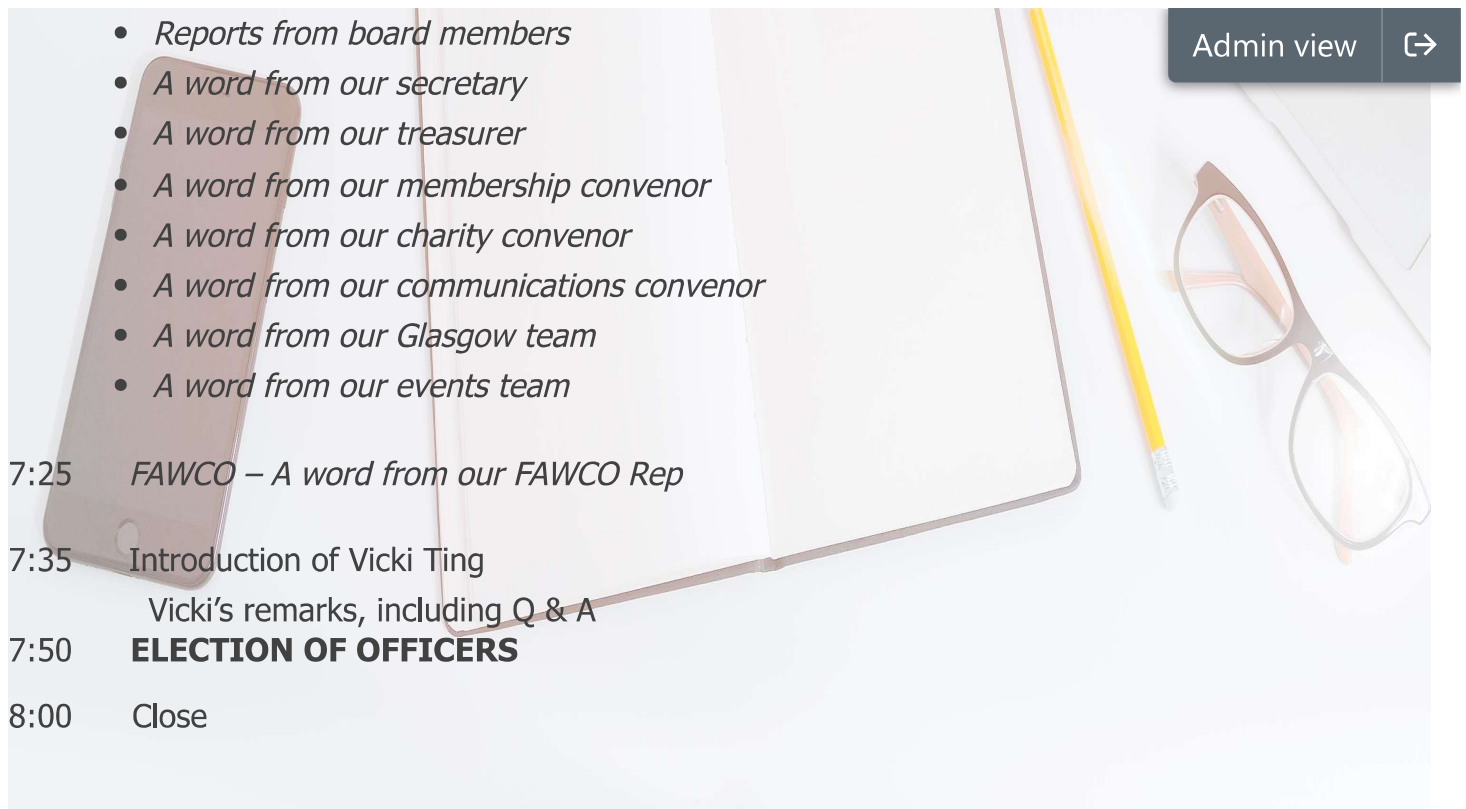
AWCCS 2023- AGM

6:00 PM- 8:00 PM – In person

AGENDA

- 6:00 Reception
- 6:30 Zoom opens.
- 6:40 AWCCS AGM begins.
- 6:40 **Welcome!** *Zoom members will be able to hear the meeting with a limited view of the room.*
- 6:50 *Kilbrandon Fund representatives*
- 7:00 *Motion to accept minutes of last year's AGM.*

the meeting with a limited



• *Reports from board members*

• *A word from our secretary*

• *A word from our treasurer*

• *A word from our membership convenor*

• *A word from our charity convenor*

• *A word from our communications convenor*

• *A word from our Glasgow team*


• *A word from our events team*

7:25 *FAWCO – A word from our FAWCO Rep*

7:35 Introduction of Vicki Ting
Vicki's remarks, including Q & A

7:50 **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

8:00 Close

Admin view 

Minutes of the 2022 AWCCS AGM

23 May 2022 at 6:45 pm at US Consulate General Edinburgh & via Zoom

President: Cynthia Holden

1. Welcome by Nancy Lynner and introduction of Jack Hillmeyer, Consul General Edinburgh, who gave an update on the happenings at the Consulate.
2. Minutes of 2021 AGM - A motion to accept the minutes was proposed by Dale Finlayson and seconded by Kristina Royer. All present agreed.
3. Reports from the Treasurer, Membership, Charity, Communications, Glasgow and Events had been circulated in advance of the meeting. No queries were submitted.
4. Report from the FAWCO Representative Caroline Graves given. She explained the relationship between AWCCS and FAWCO, when the regional and annual meetings are held, how & when target projects are selected, the grants available to members and their children, and about the Youth Cultural Volunteer Program. All members were encouraged to visit www.FAWCO.org, register & explore. There is a shared calendar, and members can join any event.

5. Report on the May 2022 FAWCO Interim Meeting held in Luxembourg. Cynthia Holden about her experience at the conference. She is now the Region 1 Coordinator for Ireland, England & Scotland.

Admin view



6. Bylaws of AWCCS Article VII and Article IV.1a amended and updated 23 May 2022. Dale Finlayson explained the need for the amendment to Article VII was to comply with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), and the amendment to Article IV.1a was to clarify elected officers' eligibility and the required citizenship status of the President. A motion to approve the amendments was proposed by Dona Nodson and seconded by Nancy Lynner. All present agreed.

7. Presentation of Thank You Book presented to Joyce Halsan for all her years of service to the AWCCS.

8. Election of the Board – request made for nominees to run for the open Communications Convenor position as a result of Joyce Halsan's retirement. None were received, and the position remains vacant. All other positions are on a two-year term, so no election was required.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Submitted by: Susanne Hathon

FAWCO Representative Report

Caroline

AWCCS is a member club of a larger organisation called the Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas, or FAWCO. You are all members of FAWCO.

FAWCO comprises about 60 clubs like ours all over the world. As a group, our clubs work to improve the lives of women and girls worldwide. The FAWCO Foundation offers development grants to member clubs' favourite charity projects and educational grants to members and our children. FAWCO is a global women's NGO and holds special consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council. We have lobbyists in Washington, DC, who help educate lawmakers about the issues facing US citizens abroad, especially in the areas of tax and banking.

FAWCO provides so much information and so many opportunities for our club,

ourselves, children, and grandchildren, that the answer to "What do differs depending on whom you've asked. Members who move around will tell you that being a member of a FAWCO club means you've got a community waiting for you when you move to your next city; there's even a partner organisation for members who move back to the United States (which can be a culture shock in its own right) called FAUSA. There are programs for children from 5-25, including the cultural volunteers' program, which Molly participated in last year and AWCCS will be hosting next.

Admin view



Every year there is a FAWCO conference; this year, it was held in Bratislava in March. At the conference, the new Target Project was announced; in February, a poll was open to all AWCCS club members, and as a group, we voted to support the Awesome Blossoms project in Nairobi, Kenya. I'm pleased to say that we've backed the winner for the second time in my tenure as FAWCO Rep. Through 2025, money donated to FAWCO from our club and all FAWCO clubs will go to support this organic farm project in the Mathare slum area of Nairobi.

It was also announced that all FAWCO members are now eligible for State Department Federal Credit Union membership.

In addition to the FAWCO conference, there are regional meetings - these are all open to any FAWCO member to attend, and it's a great way to meet our peers - Americans living all over the world.


As a member of AWCCS, you are a member of FAWCO. I encourage you to go to the FAWCO website <http://fawco.org/> and register. You'll find a veritable firehose of information - my advice is to sign up for the News in Brief newsletter and cruise the list of newsletters published by FAWCO for anything of particular interest to you. You should also check out the two calendars on the FAWCO site - the FAWCO calendar, of course, but also the shared calendar - this is new since the pandemic - a calendar of virtual events opens to any FAWCO member hosted by any FAWCO club.

AWCCS Board of Directors

2023-2025 Nominees

AGM May 16, 2023

Elected Board Position	Nominee
President	Cynthia Holden
Secretary	Kathy McGlew
Treasurer	Quonya Huff

Events Convenor	Nancy Lynner / Sallie Redman	Admin view 
Charity Convenor	Candace Silvera	
Membership Convenor	Lindsay Nygren	
Communications	Kofi Browne	
Glasgow Representative	Mary Jo Bone-Caselton / Shannon Lei	
FAWCO Representative	Open for Nominee	
Appointed Position	Nominee	
Honorary President	Vicki Ting, Consul	
Parliamentarian	Dale Finlayson	
Advertising Chair (Communications)	Ellie Fisher	
Newsletter Team (Communications)	Katie, Alistair, & Galilee Graham	
Website Manager (Communications)	Kofi Browne	

Glasgow Rep report:

Mary Jo and Shannon

The Glasgow Ladies have had a busy year! We started off with a pizza lunch at Paesano's in October.

In November, we trialled our first Potluck Thanksgiving dinner in Glasgow to offer a more informal West Coast alternative to the big dinner in Edinburgh, and it was a resounding success! About 25 people gathered to meet friends old and new, and we ate, drank and were deliciously merry! We will definitely make this an annual AWCCS Glasgow tradition.

We went out for our yearly Vietnamese dinner and Christmastime theatre at the Kings, where we laughed riotously at the Panto!

For January's meetup, we gathered at Mary Jo's for a start-of-the-year catch-up, and in Feb, we went out for fried chicken and to the Glasgow film theatre to see 'The Whale'.

In March, we sadly said goodbye to Kathryn Cross as she went back home to California, and later in the month, we gathered at the Butterfly and the Pig for dinner

and a brilliant chat.

Admin view



April saw us attempt some challenging escape room adventures, go out for some properly good tacos at El Jefe's, and eat ourselves to capacity at the President's southern-themed potluck.

Throughout the year, Mary Jo has regularly put on her Kahoot sessions that we all love.

Later this month, we will meet up to give the Mural walk a test 'run', and hopefully, we will have some cheeky fun in June before we disappear for the summer holidays.

The Glasgow AWCCS have had many activities, but unfortunately, several were not very well attended. We know there are many of you ladies hiding in Glasgow, so we would love to see you come along to more events next year.

Mary Jo and I always welcome suggestions and any help organising events, so please drop us an email if you have any ideas!

Membership Report

Lindsay Nygren

Since the last AGM, May 2022, we have had a total of 27 new members join. We currently have 91 members, of which 82 are active.

Coming into the next year, work will be done to remove members who have moved or are no longer active. This should be done on both the website and Facebook.

It would be nice to have some new member events, maybe biannually, to welcome new members and get them excited about being part of the club.

Events Convenors' Report- EDINBURGH, STIRLING

By Sallie Redman and Nancy Lynner

The AWCCS co-convenors, with much help from many club members, created more events than ever before. The list includes:

Coffee Mornings, Birthday Bashes, Potlucks /Cookie Exchange, Beach Litter Pick-up, Craft making, Children's Halloween, Thanksgiving Dinner, Stitch N Bitch, Charity Art Gallery Show, President's Tea, Chocolatarium Tour, Spring Games for Children (still to come on May 20)

A trip to the musical HAMILTON is set for March 16, 2024.

Admin view



Sallie and Nancy look forward to another year of teaming up to bring lots of activities to AWCCS, and they hope you will also continue to step up with assistance in creating and attending club events.

AWCCS End of Year Income & Expenses (Preliminary)

as of May 10, 2023

American Women's Club of Central Scotland - 2022 to 2023	Income	Expenses	Balance
2021 to 2022 CASH BALANCE			£6,071.96
	£2,446.38		£2,446.38
MEMBERSHIP DUES			
ADVERTISING	£246.80	£0.00	£246.80
NEWSLETTERS		£0.00	£0.00
SOFTWARE (1)		(£251.88)	(£251.88)
FAWCO DUES & WEBSITE (2)		(£156.94)	(£156.94)
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING		£0.00	£0.00
SOCIAL EVENTS (3)	£15.00	(£344.49)	(£329.49)
CHARITY CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED / (MADE) (4)	£1,614.41	(£955.00)	£659.41
THANKSGIVING DINNER (5)	£1,911.55	(£2,076.00)	(£164.45)
FAWCO CONFERENCE		(£800.00)	(£800.00)
HAMILTON TICKET PREPAYMENTS (6)	£1,592.00		£1,592.00
2022 to 2023 TOTAL INCOME & EXPENSES	£7,826.14	(£4,584.31)	£3,241.83
2022 to 2023 ENDING CASH BALANCE			£9,313.79
ADJUSTMENT FOR FUNDS HELD IN RESERVE: BANK BALANCE MINIMUM PER BYLAWS, CHARITY FUNDS RAISED TO BE DONATED, and HAMILTON TICKET PREPAYMENTS			(£750.00)
			(£1,136.77)
			(£1,592.00)
			(£3,478.77)
AVAILABLE 2023 ENDING CASH BALANCE			£5,835.02

- (1) Expenses - Kahoot (1 year thru Sep 2023) £108; Zoom (1 year thru April 2023) £143.88
 (2) Expenses - FAWCO Dues £97.03; FAWCO Domain Name £15.19; Web Hosting £44.72
 (3) Expenses - Halloween £96.23; Glasgow Potluck Thanksgiving £60.46; eARTh £172.80
 (4) Income - Member Donations £11.55; Glasgow Raffle £29; Thanksgiving Auction £711.67; eARTh £862.19
 Expenses - US Consulate Fund £100; MS Therapy Centre Lothian £100; FAWCO Target Project £755
 (5) Income - Guest dinner payments / Expenses - Meal Payment, Room Hire, Gratuity, Complimentary Drinks,
 Band, Kids Crafts,
 (6) Income - Prepayment of £1,592 due to Festival Theatre on January 3, 2024.

FAWCO REGION 1 CONFERENCE REPORT

Cynthia Holden

Region 1 FAWCO Conference is on Saturday, October 7th 2023, in Stirling. It is happening at the Stirling Highland Hotel. Our Theme is Everyone, Everywhere, All Together, created by our amazing Amanda Drollinger, the Target Program Chair and will feature our supported charity, Awesome Blossom.

My request to all Region 1 clubs is to do their best to bring in a minimum of 10 people to our conference.

We haven't structured what the conference will look like, with some people arriving Friday night, some on Saturday, some leaving on Saturday night, and some on Sunday.

It will be a much smaller version of our main conference, featuring a main conference assembly, breakout sessions, lunch, teas, coffees, and perhaps dinner. The attendees are responsible for their own accommodations and meals except for the ones we include. When we meet on Thursday, we will discuss timing and what the conference consists of.

I would like to have some volunteers to assist with the running of the conference, and remember; this is a FAWCO event more than an AWCCS event. It is not a requirement or necessary, but it would be helpful to have a few of our members available to help.

CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

I am so excited that we can host this wonderful and exciting event. Once again, I want to thank the amazing Amanda Drollinger for all her help.

The potential date for the exchange is June 29th 2024, to July 8th. Except for England, school should be out for most places. We are potentially going to take 20 young people.

There is a programme in the Highlands that includes housing and breakfast. The young people get to learn about the Scottish Highlands at a Dundreggan Centre, which is amazing with guided rewilding activities and much more.

They can also do a beach clean with the Seabird Centre and spend time at the Highland Wildlife Park, which has successfully bred tigers.

Inverness is close, so they can take a Loch Ness cruise and visit Urquhart Castle to fill the historical part and possibly the battle of Culloden.

Admin view



At the end of the programme, we will give them a day in Edinburgh, and they will go home with a memorable experience.

This programme is very cost-effective for them as well.

This will cost our club nothing, and hopefully, we will have a few volunteers to chaperone the children.

I hope y'all are as excited as I am!

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