SANGAM TURNS 50!!

Last October, Friends from all over the world traveled to Sangam to celebrate its 50th birthday. While the festivities continued for days, the actual day of celebration blended local traditions and lots of Girl Scouting and Girl Guiding fun. Friends of Sangam USA in attendance were Gail Tsuboi, Terry Elizondo, Debbie Robinson, Charmayne Platt, Jo Anne Busch, Rohini Piyasena, Karen Brown, and Kaye Glass.

The day began at the giant birthday rangoli surrounded by 50 coconuts, one for each year of Sangam’s existence. Coconuts are a traditional part of celebratory Hindu rituals.

The procession of Sangam staff, Friends, visitors, and the Pune community travel to the temple for blessings.

Friends of Sangam Terry Elizondo shows off her photo booth snaps while Debbie Robinson shows off her new mehendi.

Friends join together to sing the Sangam 50th birthday song, “Sangam We Belong”

Who we are, where we’re from, all these years growing strong, Sangam we belong. Colors fly, songs we sing, through these halls laughter rings, Sangam we belong! Celebrate, We Create, Change the World, make it great! Sangam we belong
This is our Sangam Song!
The Girl Scouting world will be converging on Columbus, Ohio in early October and the World Foundation for Girl Guides and Girl Scouts will be among the thousands of those in attendance. Leading the Foundation’s efforts are Barbara Schliebe who is coordinating the team of Friends working in the Hall of Experiences and Sue Handy who will be coordinating room arrangements on behalf of the Friends. We are hoping to have a detailed schedule of Convention events to share in the next newsletter. Until then, if you want more information about the 2017 National Convention or anything Girl Scout, check out the GSUSA website at www.girlscouts.org.

**PROGRESS ON ANNUAL WORLD FOUNDATION GOALS**

As shared in the October, 2016 newsletter, the World Foundation has set three goals for 2017. Below is a snapshot of our progress towards these goals in the first four months of this fiscal year:

**Goal #1:** 100% of the Friends and the Board of Directors will make a personal contribution that exceeds their 2016 personal contribution

Data from the four-month mark of this fiscal year indicates that the following number of Friends have made a donation to the World Foundation:

- Friends of Our Cabana: 10 Friends
- Friends of Our Chalet: 7 Friends
- Friends of Pax Lodge: 10 Friends
- Friends of Sangam: 6 Friends
- Friends of WAGGGS USA: 9 Friends
- Board of Directors: 4 Board Members

We are grateful for every donation and encourage all Friends and Board members to make at least one personal donation soon!

**Goal #2:** Each Friends committee goal will exceed the goal of FY 2016 and the committee’s efforts will exceed the success realized in FY 2016.

Friends committees set their annual goals at the Gathering in September and each goal set is higher than last year. Current progress for meeting these goals is as follows:

![Four Month Comparisons: 2016 vs 2017](chart)

The Board is confident that our Friends group will again meet their goals and look forward to celebrating this amazing accomplishment!

**Goal #3:** Each Friends committee will increase in size by at least two members during the FY 2017.

The World Foundation board will be approving new members at the March 24 meeting and is confident that each Friends committee will meet this goal. Early reports indicate the Friends of Our Cabaña has three potentially new Friends and that Sangam has at least two. We look forward to introducing our new friends in the next newsletter.

The World Foundation’s Mission is to support projects and programs that benefit girls and young women of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.
It isn’t often that one turns 60 and the Friends of Our Cabana made sure that this fiesta would be one to remember. Almost 150 Friends, former Our Cabana staff members, members of the Cuernavaca community, WAGGGS and World Foundation representatives, and friends of Friends had a marvelous time celebrating 60 years of Our Cabana magic. With mariachis blowing their horns and Friends dancing in the aisles, you knew that the fiesta was in full swing!

The event was chaired by Kay Cheaney and her committee included Joan Tolley, Brenda Zemo, Gayle Kerese, Sandy Alexander, Polly Caudle, and Joyce Lujan Martinez. In addition an evening of memorable festivities, the committee also worked to make Our Cabana’s history more accessible through a digital platform, created a patch program to help girls and leaders learn more about Our Cabana, and launched a funding initiative (60 for the 60!) to raise money for new dormitory name plaques and unique embellishments for the recently renovated fire circle. Much of this work was supported by a grant from the World Foundation. Kay and her committee are to be commended for their vision, hard work, and for making special memories for all associated with Our Cabana’s 60th!

In addition to celebrating the 60th in style,

World Foundation President Lisa Hinshaw shares a special moment with Our Cabana Friend Charlotte “Woody” Johnson.

The Our Cabana staff join in the celebration with a bit of fun at the photo booth.

Vice President of Friends of Our Cabana, Sue Handy, is ready to welcome more than 140 guests to the fiesta.

Cathy Lockyer Moulton (right) and her mother, Carol, enjoying a bit of dancing with the Chinelos (dancers) along with World Foundation Board Member Emily Rodriguez.
Friends of Our Cabana also had a successful week of meetings in February. In attendance were the past four presidents of Friends of Our Cabana and current president, Ann Killeen, seen here:

Phylis Crook, past president of Friends of Our Cabana, shares some of the amazing contributions made by Annette Stoker during her 25 year tenure as a Friend of Our Cabana. As is the custom with the Friends of Our Cabana, a tree is planted in honor of any Friend who has faithfully met the requirements of being a Friend for 25 years. Congratulations to Annette and to Pat Newton who was also honored with a tree.

Past presidents/chairs are Barbara Schliebe, Joan Tolley, Ann Killeen (back row) and Pat Newton and Phylis Crook. These amazing women represent strong and lasting leadership for Our Cabana for the past 25 years.

Highlights of the week (beyond the 60th birthday celebration) included:

• Planting trees in honor of 25 years of service to our Cabana in honor of Pat Newton and Annette Stoker.
• Working with 40 senior citizens through the Vamos program for the Friends of Our Cabana annual service project.
• Completing the digitization of every scrapbook in the Cabana’s archives.
• Raising more than $9,000 through the bazaar, silent auction, and live auction.
• Interesting day trips to Taxco, Tepotzlan, the Gardens of Mexico, and Cuernavaca.

Congratulations to President Ann Killeen and all of the Cabana Friends for an amazing week!

SAVE THE DATES!

March 24, 2017: World Foundation Board Meeting @ GSUSA Headquarters

September 18 -22, 2017: WAGGGS World Conference in Delhi, India

September 21, 2017: Grant Awards Board Meeting via teleconference

October 4 – 8, 2017: National Council Meeting @ Columbus, Ohio

March 23, 2018: World Foundation Board Meeting @ GSUSA Headquarters

September 20, 2018: Grant Awards Board Meeting via teleconference

October 11 – 14, 2018: The Gathering @ Edith Macy Conference Center
HONORING OUR PROMISE

This edition we are thrilled to recognize Pat Roush, Friend of Our Cabaña, who has recently honored her Girl Scout Promise in a unique way.

When a Girl Scout makes her promise, she pledges a sacred oath to help others and to be a sister to every Girl Scout. Pat Roush knows these parts of the Girl Scout Promise and Law and has been keeping her promise for more years than you can count.

When the World Foundation received a call from Heritage Committee member Barbara Arnold (Girl Scouts Heart of the South located in Memphis, TN) asking if we had any artifacts that could help her pull together an exhibit showcasing the world centres, we connected her with Pat Roush, a fellow Tennessean, who we knew could help her out. Working together, these two Girl Scouts created “A World of Possibilities” which is on display in the council’s office. Below are a few pictures that capture the essence of the exhibit:

Congratulations to Pat and Barbara for capturing the spirit of our amazing global Movement and thank you both for honoring your promise.

The next issue of “What’s Happening” will be published in Spring, 2017. If you have articles or information you would like included, please send to lisa.hinshaw57@gmail.com by April 1, 2017... no fooling! We’d love to include articles about the really wonderful things our Friends are doing in the name of Girl Scouting and Girl Guiding everywhere!