HAPPY THINKING DAY!!!

Believe it or not, this year marks the 92nd Thinking Day, a day when 10 million Girl Scouts and Girl Guides in 150 countries take a moment to remember how fortunate we are to be in this amazing sisterhood and to celebrate the friendships we have made with others all over the world. Each year the World Association for Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) selects a theme for Thinking Day. The 2018 theme is “Impact” and challenges each of us to think of how we make a difference in this world. To help girls and troop leaders, WAGGGS has done a terrific job creating an activity pack that can be downloaded through the WAGGGS website at www.wagggs.org.

Thinking Day is also a time when Girl Guides and Girl Scouts collect coins for the World Thinking Day Fund. If your Girl Scout group collects funds for Thinking Day and you’re not sure what to do with them, you can make a donation online to WAGGGS...this couldn’t be easier!

BEDS FOR GATHERING 2018 ARE GOING FAST!

The Edith Macy Conference Center is once again the site of the World Foundation’s Gathering of Friends scheduled for October 11 – 14. Friends received (via email) the 2018 Gathering information mailing in mid-January and many have jumped on this information and sent in their $25.00 non-refundable deposit to save their bed. Registrations have been received from:

Baker, Amy  
Bowyer, Margie  
Burton, Myrna  
Casey, Tricia  
Corbin, Cathy  
Cunnold, Sue  
Glass, Kaye  
Hinshaw, Lisa  
Hoffman, MJ  
Huck, Susan  
Johnson, Delos  
Keeler, Marcy  
Lancaster, Kandi  
Lienau, Maureen  
Marx, Kate  
Pikse, Inga  
Platt, Charmayne  
Schliebe, Barbara  
Sproull, Kathy  
Stuart, Leslie  
Taylor, Kelly  
White, Emily  
Wilmore, Leilani

Bonifas, Barbara  
Brown, Karen  
Carlson, Karin  
Chavez, Mary Carmen  
Craighead, Sandy  
Davis, Lila  
Heneveld, Cheryl  
Hoch, Jenny  
Horner, Ann Marie  
Johnson, Barbara  
Kaufman, Allison  
King, Adrienne  
LaValley, Kathy  
Manley, Martha  
Novak, Barbara  
Place, Kathy  
Robinson, Debbie  
Shreve, francy  
Stevens, Peggy  
Sullivan, Diana  
Trivisone, Betty  
Wilbur, Lynn  
Yuschak, Robin

If your name is not on this list and you plan on attending the Gathering, it is strongly recommended that you send your registration form and deposit to Lisa Hinshaw as soon as possible. Space is limited and there is no guarantee that we will be able to get more beds. You don’t want to miss this fun-filled, information-packed weekend!

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.
HELEN STORROW SEMINAR STRETCHES ITS WINGS

Thanks in large part to a grant from the World Foundation, WAGGGS is again able to host the Helen Storrow Seminar at Our Chalet. This prestigious leadership development program has been happening since 1986 and hundreds of young women from around the globe have been agents of change in their home countries because of their experiences at this event.

This year the event has extended its reach beyond the 41 participants from 30 countries who are in residence at Our Chalet by hosting 19 pop-up events running simultaneously around the world. Pop-up seminars follow the same learning journey which is focused on caring for the environment, adapted to their country’s specific context. Participants in the popup events also connect online with Our Chalet, and to each other, so that they may share learnings and be a part of an amazing international experience. Popup countries include Syria, Australia, Hong Kong, Madagascar, Trinidad and Tobago, Greneda, Aruba, and participants in residence at Sangam. Discussion topics include environmental footprints, strategies for reducing these, and ways to address soil contamination.

Girl Guides from Australia recycle t-shirts by making them into shopping bags as they participate in the Helen Storrow Seminar virtually through the “pop up” seminar.

FRIENDS OF OUR CABAÑA turns 60!

What started 60 years ago with a small group of 21 forward-thinking women and men from the United States and Mexico has grown to a vibrant group of 57 enthusiastic supporters and 25 Honorary Friends from 10 countries. The focus of this group, the Friends of Our Cabanña, has always been to raise money and provide support for their beloved Cabaña. This year 43 Friends were able to gather in Cuernavaca to celebrate this amazing feat. Their time together was marked with important planning meetings, the annual bazaar and auction, and plenty of time to enjoy the recently refurbished Craft House and pool area.

Congratulations to the Friends of Our Cabaña on 60 amazing years and here’s to another 60 years.

Visitors at Our Cabaña enjoy the pool in 1960.

SAVE THE DATES!

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

October 10 – 13, 2019: The Gathering @ Edith Mach Conference Center
FRIENDS COMMITTEES SET GOALS FOR 2018

Kudos to our Friends committees for setting ambitious goals for FY 2018. The goals are:

- Friends of Our Cabaña: $75,000
- Friends of Our Chalet: $52,000
- Friends of Pax Lodge: $30,000
- Friends of Sangam: $35,000
- Friends of WAGGGS USA: $35,000

In addition, each Friends committee has set the goal of growing by at least two Friends. The World Foundation Board is grateful of the go-getters who work so hard to make these goals realities.

Thank you! Gracias! Merci! Shukran!

Progress towards these goals at the 4-month mark (end of January) is as follows:

- Friends of Our Cabaña: $10,777 14.4%
- Friends of Our Chalet: $11,020 21.2%
- Friends of Pax Lodge: $4,573 15.2%
- Friends of Sangam: $6,560 18.7%
- Friends of WAGGGS USA: $2,445 7.0%

These figures do not include monies made during the recent Girl Scout National Convention.

To help spur our Friends and donors, here are a few images that reflect the impact of your very important efforts:

Girl Guides and Girl Scouts from around the world come together to learn about the “Free Being Me” program which they then share with Girl Guides and Girl Scouts back home. This program has been financially supported by the World Foundation since its inception.

Clean, safe, facilities like this guest room at Pax Lodge await Girl Scouts and Girl Guides from around the world. The World Foundation is a strong supporter of the world centers.

An intern at Sangam works with local children in Pune, India. The World Foundation is the largest funder for internships at each of the world centers.

YOUR DONATIONS MAKE ALL OF THIS, AND SO MUCH MORE POSSIBLE!

The next issue of "What's Happening will be published in June, 2018. If you have articles or information you would like included, please send to ryuschak@girlscouts.org by May 1, 2018. 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!