

White Dove

FRIENDS OF PAX LODGE, USA



"A place where strangers soon
are friends"

WINTER 2023 NEWSLETTER

NOTES FROM MARLENE

BY: MARLENE LOGAN, CHAIR - FRIENDS OF PAX LODGE USA

This has been an amazing year—and why wouldn't it be since we got to see all that Girl Scouts has to offer our girls with Phenom at the 2023 Girl Scout Convention. Three of our members worked as National Volunteer Partners and we had a wonderful team of Barbara, Sarah, and Lisa who spent the past year planning our booth (the Escape Room) and executing the plans. We had a fun get-together at my house before the exhibition hall opened; and at the Exhibition Hall we met hundreds of girls and adults who visited our booth. It was wonderful that Liz Tranter, the Programme Manager at Pax Lodge, took the time to join us. Many of you knew her through ZOOM events so it was exciting to meet her in person.

Jennifer and her team created this year's virtual tea that raised over \$4000. They have come up with some new ideas for the next tea.

As a committee, we met our goal of raising \$40,000. Amir, the World Centre Manager at Pax Lodge, was pleased with our endeavors. We now need to work on finding new members. If you, or someone you know, would like to be a part of our organization that supports Pax Lodge, so it is a home away from home for our girls when they visit London, please let one of us know.

Yours in Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting,

Marlene

Editor of White Dove Newsletter:

Maureen Lienau

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BOOK CORNER!

BY: MARLENE LOGAN, CHAIR OF FRIENDS OF PAX LODGE USA

Robert Baden-Powell's often forgotten sister—who actually started Girl Guiding in the UK—is making news again. Catherine Gritz has published a children's book, *Astounding Agnes*, and it is available on Amazon. Catherine and I went to Kensall Green to see the Baden-Powell monument and you can see where it is tilting. The Agnes Baden-Powell Appreciation Guild is still working on getting the monument repaired and Agnes's name on it.

You can purchase the book on Amazon using [this link](#).



FRIENDS OF PAX LODGE USA MEMBERSHIP

Leadership

Marlene Logan, *Chair*, CO
Mary Jane Meconi, *Vice Chair*, PA
Maureen Lienau, *Vice Chair*, CO
Barbara Johnson, *Vice Chair*, AL

Honorary Member

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Emerita

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Members

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Libby Birmingham, CA
Marty Davis, NY
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Lisa Ferreira, NY
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Mary Helen Horne, TX
Adrienne King, TX
Suzi Lenhart, OK
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Beverly Miner, OH
Kayla Quinn, *Associate*, NC
Lee Rasi, CO
Karen Saenz, TX
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Leslie Stuart, CA
Susan Drew Thomas, DC
Pam Verhaegen, NV
Susan A. Yates, IL



GIRL SCOUTS USA CONVENTION 2023

BY: JENNIFER GLOVER, MEMBER

The convention was fantastic! I attended the 2017 convention as a council delegate and joined the 2020 virtual convention as a spectator (that was different). This convention seemed to have more energy surrounding it than in 2017. Some may say that it was because it took place in Orlando; I think it's because we were long overdue to be in each other's presence. We missed each other! We missed the familiar faces, and we missed meeting new friends! It was wonderful to see everyone, and I loved randomly bumping into "Friends of Pax Lodge" as well as the World Foundation members.

This time I went with my daughter and was able to witness convention through her eyes. It was her first National Session and Convention experience, and she loved it! Seeing girls and adult members from across the country and globe was a much-welcomed reminder of our passionate membership. SWAPs are always a lot of fun and a great way to make new connections. I love that just as much as the girls!

A lot of business was discussed and worked out during the National Session. The girls were passionate about the topics and did not hesitate to share their views. Although we have differing opinions, it is important for the girls to learn that there can be a civil way to come to an agreement and that sometimes compromise is best. The ability to respectfully disagree is



something that I hope all the girls and members will continue to take with them. Compromise and respect will help the world to move in a better direction.

GS USA did a great job in bringing the girls together with fun activities in the Hall of Experiences and it was good to learn about opportunities for girls not only through Girl Scouts but also at the college and career level. These opportunities are good for the girls to see so that they can realize that there are countless opportunities out there waiting for them.

The National Bridging Ceremony was an enjoyable experience for the girls. Being able to bridge at Convention with girls from across the country was a fun experience for Camdyn.

GIRL SCOUTS USA CONVENTION 2023



Meeting Liz Tranter in person was wonderful! We were very excited to have her join us! It was great to chat with Board Members, including Karen Layng. Meeting the new CEO and National President was neat too.



The sea of girls in sashes and adults wearing navy blue at convention always leaves attendees with a sense of being reenergized about the Movement. Each of us is reminded that we are a part of something so great and far-reaching; something that truly matters and something that needs to be grounded in principle and tradition; something that unites us, just as Juliette Gordon Low once stated: “Truly, ours is a circle of friendships, united by our ideals.” The National Session and Convention brings this to the forefront. The week went quickly but now we are looking forward to the Convention in 2026!



HOW WE ESCAPED IN DISNEY

BY: BARBARA JOHNSON, VICE-CHAIR

An Escape Room? How do we construct an Escape Room in the middle of an open area of the Hall of Experience?

Well, we chose 3 crazy people for our Convention Team, Lisa, Sarah and Barbara. Some may argue that Barb is the only crazy one! Lisa comes up with the idea of an escape room and Sarah suggests that we pass along information to the girls about Pax Lodge and the World Association. Their answers will allow them to escape the “locked” room!

Equipment delivery and setting up becomes very easy with the help of Suzi, Kathy, Liz, Tina, and Dennis. Driving the supplies to Disney World only requires half a Trunk! The actual set up construction took 3-4 hours on Wednesday and another full hour on Thursday.

Each of the 4 walls was expertly tie-dyed by Sarah, allowing space for a special entrance and exit. Our front entrance was the iconic British red telephone booth, and our rear exit was a hand painted Medieval door. In addition to the door, Karen Carroll painted our “modern” logo for one of the side walls! The inside and outside of the room was decorated with hundreds of colorful felt doves created for us by the GS Wayfarers of Alabama. After the convention we sent the doves to Pax Lodge with Liz. Good thing she had a lot of suitcase space!

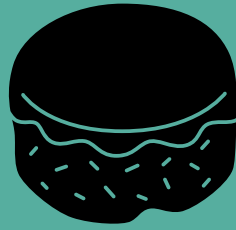


As a team we decided on trivia questions that would educate the girls about both the history of Pax Lodge and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS). In addition, we included some questions on the Five Regions of WAGGGS and general questions about London. Displayed on the walls were maps highlighting London and Pax Lodge along with the previous locations for Our Ark and Olave House. The 5 regions of our WAGGGS world were displayed in the colors assigned to the regions.

There were many photos of girls at Pax Lodge and participating in activities or service projects. The Pax Lodge Pledge was reproduced for all to see. Thanks to Savanna and Liliana, former volunteers at Pax Lodge, for creating a new video for us highlighting girls of all ages enjoying programs and participating in service projects.

ROYAL TEA WAS A SUCCESS!

BY: JENNIFER GLOVER, MEMBER



Friends of Pax Lodge USA hosted a virtual Royal Tea event on Saturday, September 16th. Both familiar and new faces enjoyed an afternoon of friendship and singing.

Beautiful baskets were auctioned off to help raise money for needed items at Pax Lodge as well as to help pay for volunteer experiences for girls. British-themed games were played, and a delicious scone baking session occurred during the event as well (recipe included).

Liz Tranter was kind enough to join us while on a camping trip with her guides and shared an update on Pax Lodge and what volunteering at Pax Lodge looks like. It helped to reiterate the importance of our work and to see how it impacts and enriches the lives of girls.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all who participated and shared their time, talent and treasure for a cause that will help to support girls gain new experiences, build friendships and who will continue Our Movement.

“Thus do we Guides, of all kinds and of all ages and of all nations, go with the highest and the best towards the spreading of true peace and goodwill on earth.”

- Olave Baden-Powell, Window On My Heart

CELEBRATING US WEEK AT PAX LODGE

BY:MARLENE LOGAN, CO-CHAIR, FRIENDS OF PAX LODGE

I had the honor of attending portions of Celebrating Us week at Pax Lodge. Young people from twenty-one countries, who had participated in last year's virtual Juliette Low Session, got to meet colleagues whom they had only seen before over Zoom.

It was so impressive to see how hard and long these young women work to gain the leadership skills to complete their projects. I was even more impressed with the leadership team who put this all together. Their commitment and skill is amazing.

One of the highlights for me was that the team was led by Maia Faulkner, the former Pax Lodge World Centre Manager, whom I hadn't seen since we worked on the 25th anniversary event. Our own, Julia, joined us for International Night so we had our photo taken together.

Celebrating Us was sponsored by Julie Dawson, our kaleidoscope artist. The kaleidoscope patches were very popular among the participants.

WAGGGS is looking for committee volunteers. If you are interested, you can find more information at [WAGGGS Committees 2024-2026 - ENGLISH \(msecnd.net\)](https://www.msecnd.net).



Photos courtesy of Marlene Logan.

PAX LODGE IN NUMBERS

BY: LIZ TRANTER, PROGRAMME MANAGER, PAX LODGE

Let's take a look at Pax Lodge in 2023 through numbers - a great way to see the great successes of Pax Lodge this year!



Number of years - we turned 32!

Thinking day participants - 96

Journey through London participants - over 200

Jambrownee participants - 30

Celebrating Us participants - 25 from over 20 countries!

Number of Surf Smart tasters - over 1150

Number of EF Tours participants - over 1200

Number of vollies - 22

Number of vollie countries - 14 (At least one From every single WAGGGS Region!)

Number of badges on our badge board - 240+

Number of guest countries 86 (from Algeria to Yemen 86)

Estimated number of Girl Scout cookies consumed - boxes upon boxes

Number of evening programmes - 35+

Number of pins pinned - in excess of 3000!!

Number of BeReals taken - more than we can count!!

Splashes of colour added - take a look for yourself!

Birthdays celebrated - 12

Campfire songs sung - we're possibly reaching the millions here!!

Number of WAGGGS programmes our vollies are trained in - 2! We can deliver Surf Smart and Free Being Me!

Photos snapped - thousands upon thousands!!

Global Friendship Week participants - 15

West End Theatre shows seen - 9

Fish adopted - 14

Fish named - 5

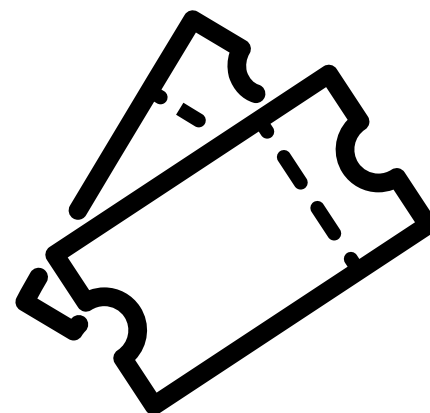
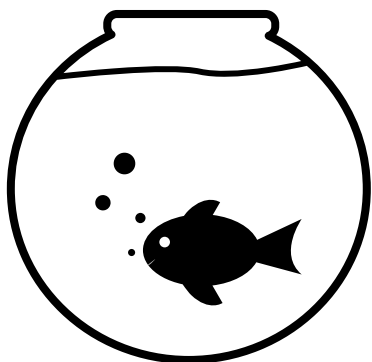
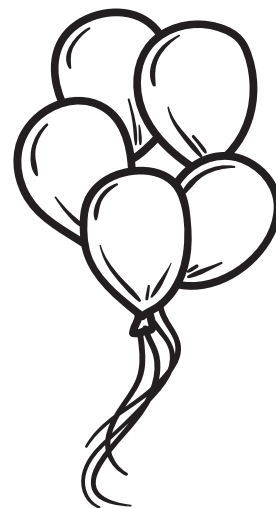
Rainbow bead packs - estimated 500+

Teddy sleepovers and then reunited - 2

Chalet vollies who have visited - 10

Neckers - 101

Pride flags - 23



PAX LODGE VOLUNTEERS 2023

BY: LIZ TRANTER, PROGRAMME MANAGER, PAX LODGE

The Pax Lodge volunteer programme enables young women to grow their leadership skills through daily tasks that contribute to the running of the World Centre, leading tours and pinning ceremonies, and planning and running programmes such as campfire, WAGGGS programme tasters, international nights, and international adventure days. Check out who the 2023 Volunteers were below.

This year we have had 22 volunteers from 14 different countries!

Past volunteers:

Yamina from Tunisia (Arab Region) - October 22 - September 23
Liliana from Colombia (Western Hemisphere) - October 22 - February 23
Rachel from the US (Western Hemisphere) - October 22 - March 23
Bella from Brazil (Western Hemisphere) - November 22 - February 23
Elizabeth from Canada (Western Hemisphere) - March - July 23
Siri from Sweden (Europe Region) - February - July 23
Ulrika from Sweden (Europe Region) - July 23
Sarah from UK (Europe Region) - June 23 - July 23
Rebecca from Canada (Western Hemisphere) - July 23
Catriona from Wales (Europe Region) - July - August 23
Katie from UK (Europe Region) - Regular and Summer volunteer
Phoebe from New Zealand (Asia Pacific Region) - May 23 - September 23
Anna from UK (Europe Region) - Regular and Summer volunteer
Anna from Australia (Asia Pacific Region) - May 23 - October 23
Alison from Hong Kong (Asia Pacific Region) May 23 - November 23
Orielys from Venezuela (Western Hemisphere) - June 23 - November 23



Current volunteer team:

Alice from UK (Europe Region) - Marketing & Comms intern - July 23 - early 2024
Sara from Canada (Western Hemisphere) - August 23 - January 24
Tori from Australia (Asia Pacific Region) - September 23 - February 24
Sachika from Japan (Asia Pacific Region) - September 23 - January 24
Kathryn from USA (Western Hemisphere) - October 23 - February 24
Sofi from Mexico (Western Hemisphere) - October 23 - February 24

PAX LODGE VOLUNTEER ROLES

BY: LIZ TRANTER, PROGRAMME MANAGER, PAX LODGE

This year, we have also had a Marketing & Communications Intern for the first time in over 5 years! So far, she has been working on coordinating the Pax Lodge social media and increasing its reach and engagement, creating social media content around Pax Lodge and London, event and programme photography, design and creation of Pax Lodge promotional materials, and promotion of the Pax Lodge volunteer programme as well as the following projects:

- Creating promotional and programme materials such as volunteer information and World Centre quizzes for staff to take to external events.
- Reopening of the Pax Lodge blog to feature introductions for the vollies, as well as experiences of guests and past vollies.
- Creating an updated version of the Pax Lodge newsletter along with writing its articles with help from vollen team.
- Designing new displays for the dining room.
- Designing stickers for the front-facing windows of Pax Lodge.
- Designing new Pax Lodge neckers.
- Planning the Door Day celebrations on September 29th.
- Designing WAGGGS Leadership Mindsets posters for the conference room.
- Creating displays for the Pax Lodge reception board.
- Creating a social media account for the Pax Lodge Dove mascots.
- Organising and planning social activities for vollies such as letter writing day, read a book day, and vollen book club.

If you don't already follow us we're on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter (X) just search for @PaxLodge to see all of Alice's amazing work. Thank you for all you do for Pax Lodge.





MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

We are looking forward to our days of connecting in person with all of our Friends in the future. For now, mark your calendars for these future in-person and virtual events.

2024

Event: OB-PS Meeting
Date: August 22- August 25
Location: Denmark

2025

Event: Annual Friends Gathering
Date: October 30 - November 2
Location: Edith Macy Conference Center

2026

Event: Annual Friends Gathering
Date: October 31 - November 3
Location: Edith Macy Conference Center _

Event: Annual Friends Gathering
Date: July 20 - July 25
Location: Washington, DC

