**World Affairs Council of Hilton Head**

**WHERE WE’VE BEEN IN 2021-22**

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**ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22**

*Bringing the World to Hilton Head*

P.O. Box 22523, Hilton Head Island, SC 29925 • 843.384.6758 • wachh.org
Looking Back

DEAR MEMBERS,

When I first stepped into the role of Board President for the World Affairs Council of Hilton Head in July 2019, we had 1200 members, were on great financial footing, and were operating as a well-oiled machine. It gave all the appearances of the Presidency being a relatively easy job. Then nine months later the COVID pandemic hit, and everything changed. We had to quickly develop and master live stream capabilities to adapt to a completely virtual world. Our membership dropped to under 600 which led to a more than 50% decrease in our revenues. This steep revenue decline was only partially offset by a 25% reduction in our expenses. Our Board and Executive Director moved into an “all hands-on deck” mode of operation to continue to deliver high-quality programming and develop new revenue sources.

I am proud to say we made it through the most significant challenges ever faced by the World Affairs Council of Hilton Head in its 40-year history – and have become a much stronger organization as a result. We could not have done this without the commitment and tireless efforts of our staff, Board, and volunteers as well as the generosity and loyalty of our members.

It has been an honor to lead the organization through a three-year process of re-envisioning what is possible and to see such resilience in practice. Although many challenges remain that must be addressed, I am excited about our future. It is with great confidence and pleasure that I now turn the reins over to our new President, Colin Moseley, who will continue to shape a new and productive future for the World Affairs Council of Hilton Head.

Sincerely,

John Gilbert

OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

Colin Moseley, President
Cindy Petitt, Vice President
Dave Borghesi, Treasurer
Joan Apple Lemoine, Secretary
Rick Mitchell
Cathy Robine
Regina Silletti
Bill Patterson

Peter Cooper
Lynn Cordy
John Gilbert
Paul Hoyte
Taking a strategic look at the Council

For the past two and a half years, the World Affairs Council of Hilton Head (WACHH) has been working through the unprecedented experience of the COVID Pandemic that continues to reshape our expectations of daily life, our world, and the future. This experience caused our Board to take a strategic look at our organization’s history, current state, and possible future scenarios. We want to share with you what we discovered and the decisions we made to ensure WACHH continues to thrive and grow.

Our information gathering was extensive. We looked at:
- Trends in our membership, program participation, expenses, and revenues.
- How the Council compares with local educational membership organizations as well as seven other World Affairs Councils (Charleston, Cleveland, Columbia, Greenville, Jacksonville, Naples, and Savannah), our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT)
- Membership survey results on our programs and suggestions for improvement.

We learned a lot. Some key highlights of what we discovered include:
- Our Mission and programs align with other World Affairs Councils (WACs) in similar communities.
- Our revenue structure is less complex and diversified than the other WACs reviewed.
- Our membership offers a high-value proposition compared to local organizations and other WACs.
- WACHH is still largely unknown across most of Hilton Head Island and Bluffton.
- 91% of members responding to our survey ranked the Distinguished Speaker Series on Friday mornings as the essential WACHH member benefit.
- The program feature most important to members is live streaming, primarily because of its convenience, safety, and audio quality.

After our comprehensive review of data gathered, the Board shifted its focus to setting a strategic course for the next three to five years by answering the following questions:
- What do we want WACHH to stand for?
- How narrow or broad do we want our Mission to be?
- Do we need to reduce or expand our program offerings into new areas?
- What type of revenue stream will be required for future sustainability?

In answer to these questions, the Board decided that WACHH will stand for Operational Excellence – we will continue to offer high-quality programming at a reasonable price. To do this, our Mission will stay focused on educating, engaging, and inspiring our community on foreign affairs. WACHH will stay the course for most of its current programming and implement an annual evaluation process to ensure our programs remain vibrant, mission-aligned, cost-effective, and responsive to member interests. Maintaining a range of high-quality programs with a competitive and simple dues structure will require diversification of our revenue stream. While membership dues will continue to be a primary source of revenue, more will be done to develop business sponsorships and investigate opportunities to expand access to grants.

Our focus over the coming year will be on strengthening our marketing, development, and technology capabilities to rebuild our membership and position the organization for the future. The first step in rebuilding was to establish dedicated office space for WACHH. Our new office opened on July 1 at 200 Main Street, #201M, Hilton Head Island. In the longer term, we will focus on broadening our geographic and community reach and creating mutually beneficial partnerships. We believe these short and long-term plans will make WACHH a more vital organization, a greater asset to our local communities, and more engaging for members.
What was New in 2021/22

LIVE STREAMING
Our members can now watch our programs anywhere at any time.

THE BOOK CLUB
We discuss a new book on global topics each month.

SPONSORS
Members and local businesses support our lectures and educational programs.

UPDATED THE MISSION STATEMENT
Our mission is to educate, engage, & inspire the community about world affairs!
**Educate, engage, & inspire the community about world affairs!**

**WACHH Fast Facts**

- **79** Number of volunteers
- **135** Total Number of new members
- **127** Students in Model UN/AWQ
- **765** Number of members
- **20-103** Age range of members

**Fast Facts:**
- **20** Number of speakers
- **94** Total number of WAC's (world affairs councils) in the US
- **42** Programs offered
- **34%** Members who have been with WACHH for 8 or more years
- **60** Number of countries members lived/worked in
- **2** Number of global speakers
- **41** Years in business
- **125** Number of different countries our members have visited
- **4** Members from Canada

P.O. Box 22523, Hilton Head Island, SC 29925 • 843.384.6758 • wachh.org
To all our donors and sponsors, thank you for supporting the World Affairs Council of Hilton Head and its mission. Your generosity exceeded our expectations! At the start of this past year, we projected a budget deficit and anticipated the need to reduce our programming. You made it possible for us to maintain our programs at current levels and to end the year with a balanced budget. With your help, we are starting the new year on a much stronger financial footing. We truly appreciate the investment you have made in us!

“Hilton Head is so fortunate to have a World Affairs Council of Hilton Head and I’m honored to help the program with my sponsorships.”
- Lindsay Bunting, Sea Pines Real Estate

**BUSINESS SPONSORS**

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<td>Harbour Town Cottage</td>
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<td>Rollers Wine &amp; Spirits</td>
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**INDIVIDUAL SPONSORS**

**DIPLOMAT ($1000)**
- Dave & Nancy Borghesi
- Bob & Lynn Burt
- Peter & Pam Cooper
- Mark & Anne Garrette
- John & Lesley Gilbert
- Rick & Sue Mitchell
- Cindy Petitt

**AMBASSADOR ($500)**
- James Edward Alexander
- Les & Michele Janka
- Tom & Maureen Korzik
- James Irwin & Margaret McManus
- Peter Spreadbury
- Gerry & Nancy Witowski

**GRANTS**

- The Bargain Box
- Heritage Classic Foundation
- RBC Heritage
- Palmetto Dunes Cares
- Church Mouse Thrift Shop
Educate, engage, & inspire the community about world affairs!

**WACHH Donors**

### $1000 & OVER
- Bob & Lynn Burt
- Anne & Mark Garrette
- John & Lesley Gilbert
- Clin & Ann Moseley
- Don Schopfer
- Harry & Regina Silletti
- Connie & Jerry Voight
- Georgia & Henry West
- Lee & Ruth Wilwerding

### $500 - $999
- Peter & Pam Cooper
- Joan Deery & Paul Capron
- Rick & Sue Mitchell
- Bill & Fay Patterson
- Cindy Petitt

### $250 - $499
- Dave & Nancy Borghesi
- Todd & Liz Clist
- Tom & Lynne Cordy
- Lauri Doscher
- Ed & Jacqueline Keeley
- Maureen & Tom Korzik
- Dennis Leo
- Fred Pitts
- Cathy & Ron Robine
- George & Denise Slovak

### $100 - $249
- Richard Avrit
- Sally Ayotte
- Lynn Baglyos
- Maria Berliner
- Ron Billings
- Roger Brown
- Gil & Marriott Campbell
- Kim Carpenter
- Jack & Janice Coleman
- Jim Collett
- Marion Conlin
- Nancy Contel
- Ed Cooke
- Ed & Janet Diamond
- Barbara Doehman
- Ralph Dupps
- Eileen Durkin
- Gary Fazio
- Janice & David Gray
- David Grogan
- Barbara Johnson
- Ben Kinnas
- Joan Lemoine
- Myla Lerner
- Bruce Maguire
- Toney Mathews
- John McLauchlin
- William Milhaem
- Charlie Miner
- Nancy Nisley Smith
- Louise & Dave Rose
- Loni Saunders
- Gerry & Betsy Schroeter
- Kent Sidel
- George Slovack
- Hendrik & Mieke Smit
- Ed Twomey
- John Weymouth

### $25 - $99
- Joan Ackerman
- Marilyn Allpress
- Pat Angleson
- Ronald Aument
- Sheila Baden
- Lynn Baglyos
- Clayton Bailey
- Sherm Barker
- Lauree Barreca
- Roger Benson
- Debbie Berling
- Joseph Black
- Stanton Bluestone
- Ed Bond
- Frank Breslin
- Susan Brown
- Joe Burke
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- Paul Stevens
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- Richard Storm
- Dick Sullivan
- Lee Tapp
- Lorene Thornbury
- Deann Tigges
- John Tolford
- Robert Totte
- Wayne Tuohig
- John Ward
- Loretta Warden
- Jane Wild
- Sally Ann Wormley
Thanks for all of your help!

To all of our wonderful volunteers - Thank you! We appreciate all the time, hard work, and expertise you give the Council. Your amazing dedication is what fuels our Council’s success. The Council is fortunate to have your support!

Joan Ackerman
James Edward Alexander
Sally Ayotte
Sherman Barker
Rick Beason
Elizabeth Belenchia
Ivan Bennett
Maria Berliner
Daniela Blini
Dave Borghesi
Joyce Braude
Anne Cassavant
Peter Cooper
Marion Conlin
Lynne & Tom Cordy
Sandy Crovo
Joan Deery
Arno Dimmling

Lauri Doscher
Eileen & Jerry Durkin
Frank Edgerton
Nancy Englund
Linda Fiore
Eileen Fitzgerald
Anne & Mark Garrette
Debra Gersten
Lesley & John Gilbert
Tena Graber
Richard & Barbara Hammes
Lisa Harvey
Nick Harwood
Paul Hoyte
Lois Hoyte Berry
Les Janka
Ed Keeley
John & Linda Kellom

Marietta Kerr
Ben Kinnas
Irene LaVigne
Pauline Leland
Joan Apple Lemoine
Myla Lerner
Blaine & Lynne Lotz
Vee Matt
Laura McFadden
Pete McGlade
Margaret McManus
Rick Mitchell
Dave Mortimer
Colin Moseley
Jerry Okarma
Bill Patterson
Bill Pendley
Cindy Petitt

Phyliss Quinn
Heather Rath
Barry Riordan
Cathy Robine
Cathy Savage
Don Schofer
Gerry Schroeder
Martha Sharma
Andrea Siebold
Regina Silletti
Nancy Smith- Nissley
Jeff Stokes
Jean Vahey
Connie Voight
Georgia West
Lee Wilwerding
Lynn Yeomans
Sally Ann Wormley
Looking Forward

TO MEMBERS OF THE WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL, HILTON HEAD

It certainly is a pleasure to look forward to a new season and anticipate something normal. Not the old normal, but a new normal which will be even better due to some things we learned from COVID.

For one thing, the pandemic stressed us financially, and we know we must become more resilient. For another, we learned that you love our speakers, even when you can only listen to them remotely. In fact, we learned that some of you prefer the remote version because it allows you to fine tune the video and audio to suit your preferences, so we will continue to offer the streaming version.

Dealing with the challenges of COVID required an unprecedented commitment of time and effort, and our team really came through. What a solid and committed team we have. I encourage you to consider the fulfillment that would derive from helping our organization by becoming a sponsor, volunteer, or joining one of our committees.

The new season approaches. If you thought John Bolton was a blockbuster last year, don’t miss Marie Yovanovitch, who will be kicking off the 22-23 season. You’ll recall her pivotal testimony about her last days as ambassador to Ukraine, and her expertise has become even more pertinent with Russia’s invasion.

I look forward to joining you for our new season.

Dr. Colin Moseley, Incoming President

DID YOU KNOW?
Over 80% of new members were referred by a friend or neighbor.

HELP US REACH 900!
Tell your friends about the Council.

Where we were and where we’re going!
Educate, engage, & inspire the community about world affairs!

WHERE WE ARE TAKING YOU IN 2022–23

- **APRIL 5, 2023**
  - The American Imperative: Reclaiming Global Leadership (Washington DC)

- **APRIL 21, 2023**
  - Correspondence between Marshall and Churchill (England)

- **MAY 5, 2023**
  - The American Imperative: Reclaiming Global Leadership (Washington DC)

- **NOVEMBER 4, 2022**
  - The Return of the Russian Leviathan (Russia)

- **JANUARY 6, 2023**
  - New Developments in Chinese Engagement with Latin America (South America)

- **JANUARY 20, 2023**
  - The Balkans: Can peace endure? (Turkey/Syria)

- **APRIL 28, 2023**
  - Economic, Security, and Social Implications of Immigration (Mexico)

- **MARCH 3, 2023**
  - Israel, Post Netanyahu (Israel)

- **MARCH 24, 2023**
  - The Meaning of AUKUS for China, Europe, and the US (Australia)

- **OCTOBER 7, 2022**
  - Ukraine: Can Democracy Survive? (Ukraine)

- **OCTOBER 21, 2022**
  - Living with North Korea’s Nuclear Threat? (North Korea)

- **MARCH 24, 2023**
  - The Meaning of AUKUS for China, Europe, and the US (Australia)