

World Fellowship



PO Box 2280 Conway, NH 03818 (603) 447-2280 www.worldfellowship.org

Fall/Winter 2023/2024

From the desk of the Interim Management Committee Chair

Dear Community,

This has been quite a year at World Fellowship. Summer 2023 marked a real come-back after the challenges of the pandemic and a rapid succession of leadership transitions – with the highest number of visitors in years and a full calendar of programming. Whatever your interests, there was something for everyone on the schedule, and plenty of people to share it with – exactly the reasons you’ve been returning year after year.

The 2023 season also demonstrates the strength and resilience of our community to come together in the face of adversity and, quite literally, run the show ourselves. **Volunteerism** has long been an essential element of the shared World Fellowship summer experience, but it continues throughout the off-season with volunteer work weekends, all-volunteer Board and committees, and volunteer professionals who offer their skills from bookkeeping to database management, and so much more.

Giving of one’s *time* in this way is one side of the essential volunteerism coin; the other, equally valuable, is **financial support** - giving of one’s *money*. World Fellowship works because so many people who have found a home away from home in our unique community give something to keep us going. While we had our most successful season in years this summer, we are still coming out of a challenging period – with operating deficits in the calendar years 2020-2022 and reliance on our community’s generosity to sustain us and ensure that World Fellowship thrives while continuing our mission into the future.

In the last few years, despite the challenges, we tackled some big projects – building the beautiful new bathhouse and renovating the Terrace at Lloyd Lodge. Both these projects were made possible by capital reserves, and are essential to ensuring affordable lodging options at World Fellowship to meet the diverse needs and interests of our community. However, as you all know well, our beloved facilities are aging and much work needs to be done to restore and upgrade them.

We are asking for you to consider giving to World Fellowship again this season – at whatever level you are able – to launch World Fellowship into this new chapter with Andrew and Megan, enabling us to make big strategic investments toward the future of World Fellowship. We want to raise **at least \$200,000** this season to enable World Fellowship to launch into this new chapter with the resources needed to continue flourishing. Join us!

Sincerely yours,

Howie Fain
Volunteer Recreation Coordinator (2007-2022)
Volunteer Interim Executive Director /
Interim Management Committee Chair (2023)



Board of Trustees (2023)

Stu Ball
Judy Kaplan
Molly Rose Kaufman
Sara Keenan (Clerk/Treasurer)
Dave Malekpour
Marc Mauer (Co-Chair)
Patricia Cantor Petrucelly (Co-Chair)
Ellen Perlstein
Tomas Rodriguez

Interim Management Committee (2023)

Howie Fain (Interim Director)
Cat Roberts
Linda Wheeler
Norma Wassel
Susan Ogden

Co-Executive Directors (incoming 2023)

Andrew Maki & Megan Chapman

Former Directors

Octavia Driscoll (2022)
Andrea Walsh & Andy Davis (2001-2021)
Christoph & Kit Schmauch (1970-2000)

Big Birthdays

Kit Schmauch (turned 90)
David Schmauch (turned 60)

We Honor The Memory Of

Dr. Winston Barrington Cox, father of Darren, Fanshen, Shaun and Winston, passed away on October 20, 2023. Winston was a proud pan-African and student of communal living who envisioned societies more interdependent, egalitarian and caring than western capitalist models.

Bob Reiser, World Fellowship presenter, passed away on November 4, 2023. From his final book, "We never get too old to dream. In fact, the older we get, the more vital our dreams become. They are proof that our life has had meaning."

Boudewijn van Grunsven, father of Mars, passed away on July 23, 2023. Mars writes, "My father taught me it's possible to combine a large ego with traits such as empathy, genuine interest in others and sense of humor. We miss him."

Bill Zucker, a regular WFC guest for years, passed away December 22, 2022. He is remembered for his selflessness as a physician as well as his love of the outdoors.

Memorial Wall Interments and Plaque Installations

Harold "Hesh" Melman
Jabularose Digenti Butler

Peter & Frances Marcuse
Sarah Kemble

We Celebrate

Marriages

Lia Geller & Matt Parks (Sept 9, 2023)

Births

Oren David Geller-Parks (May 1, 2023)
Sky Donovan Geller (June 14, 2023)
Melea Dorit Maulin (Aug 4, 2023)
Lua Lavin Petrucelly (Sept 1, 2023)
Kiki Jane Beller Kotelchuck (Nov 9, 2023)



You Honored

Howie Fain and the IMC

Chris McKay
Lisa Rich
Patricia Heyman
Steve Stroiman
Tina Nannarone & Gabe Falsetta
Jeffrey & Patricia Cantor Petrucelly
Carol Coonrod
Michael Felsen

In Honor Of - Gift Made By

Anneliese Haberl - Carol Coonrod
Andy and Andrea - Judy Lasko
Andy and Andrea - Sari Bailer
Andy and Andrea - Anne Legene
Andy Strauss - Deborah Katz
Christopher Paul - Diane Crowley
Ellen Perlstein's birthday - Jeffrey & Patricia Cantor Petrucelly
Excellent work of the new Leadership Team - Mark Koyama
Howie & Hannah and Andrea & Andy - Richard Franklin
Love of Life - David Wuchinich
Megan & Andrew - Patricia Heyman
Matt & Lia's wedding - Carol Coonrod
Those Who Have Been Killed in the Russian-Ukraine War - Devin Elgert



In Memory Of - Gift Made By

Agnes Norsigian - Dr. Lucy Candib
Allen Davis III - G. Jerry Davis
Anita Shapiro - Marcella Kerr
Anneliese Haberl and Carol Smith - Jody Lally
Annie McGreevy - Donald Johnson
Carla Horowitz & Martin Bloom - Milt Horowitz
Carol Smith - James A Paul
Carol Smith - friends and family
Howard Zinn - Eleanor Rubin
Jill Karpf - Daniel Karpf
John Rensenbrink - Peter Zack
Lawrence Kaplan - Laura Kaplan
Margaret Mudd - John Mudd
Marty Lerman - Masha Traber
Pete Seeger - Alan Jay Rom
Peter Marsh - Dorothy (Bonnie) Genevich
Rachel Cohen, loons calling on the pond at sunrise - Daniel Cohen
Renny Cushing - Members of the Clamshell Alliance
Ronald Chase - Dorothy Chase
Susan Taub - Jennifer Taub
Sylvia & Leo Bilander - Gina Bilander
Willard Uphaus and Mollie & Harry Klein - Susan Klein

To the **World Fellowship Community**,

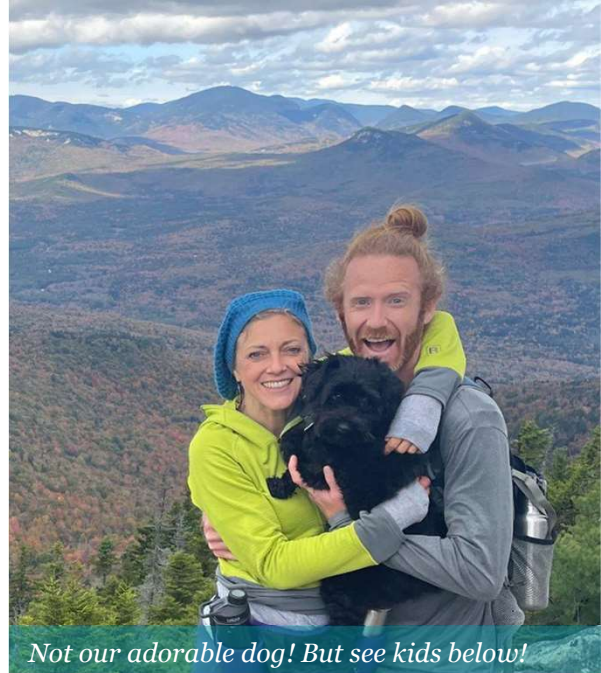
It has been wonderful to begin the process of meeting and getting to know you, the members of the World Fellowship community. Of course, there are still so many of you we are yet to meet or really get to know – and we truly look forward to this journey ahead.

From our short time so far, we know that World Fellowship is a unique and special place that has been and remains a home for generations of activists and idealists, and the families and friends those activists and idealists have brought with them – who have together created the community we today know as World Fellowship. We have begun to understand and enjoy the traditions that mark this community – from dinner at 6:00pm (we're owning it, Howie!) to Fun Night, from rowboats to Adirondack chairs, and of course a shared appreciation of the view across Peace Rock to the glorious peak of Mount Chocorua.

In us, you have another pair of activists and idealists. We cannot hide that fact – which is, of course, at the core of our decision to join the World Fellowship community. Over the first twenty years of our adulthood, we have worked on war crimes prosecutions in the Balkans and refugee resettlement and immigrant deportation defense in Chicago, before settling for over a decade in West Africa to work together with people living in the informal settlements of Lagos, Port Harcourt, and Cotonou to fight mass forced evictions and demand more inclusive urban governance. Our connections to this work remain strong, and the lessons we have learned and keep learning carry forward into this new life.

Joining World Fellowship is, for us, a coming home – to the United States, to New England (better known as N'Dakinna), to Whitton Pond where Megan spent her childhood summers and where we got married in 2013. It is also an attempt to answer a question – where can we find a place to raise our kids in nature and in a community of fellow idealists and activists who will co-parent with us, co-create community with us, and – most importantly – work with us to reimagine radical collective action to tackle the pressing problems of the world? We believe World Fellowship can be that place and that community.

So, **where are we starting?** This fall/winter, we are exploring sustainability through off-season rentals, taking on some much-needed work that needs doing at Uphaus, the Lodge and across the grounds, and mapping and reestablishing our hiking and cross-country trails. We are also digging into the history of the lands we have the privilege of living on and stewarding, as well as the history of World Fellowship as an educational retreat center starting in 1941 and a global peace/solidarity movement dating back to 1918. We invite you to join in these physical efforts and these learning journeys in any and every way you can – come up for a weekend, join a virtual community conversation, write/record your own story and share it, join a winter expedition to visit the Odanak First Nation in present-day Quebec, or share your ideas for next summer!



Adisa (just 6) & Aletto (almost 3) apprenticing with Fiona Davis-Walsh. Photo by Arnie Alpert.

Where do we go from here? Let's figure that out together. But we'll state a goal. As we all come together over this year, next summer and beyond... we will have fun, we will move, we will eat well, we will talk and share. And we hope that we will also, each and every one of us, find a space at World Fellowship to process whatever disillusion we may feel in the face of global problems, to renew our hope and determination, to imagine together, and to inspire one another to use the privileges each of us enjoys to tackle the challenges of our moment with persistent radical action.

We can do it.

Megan Chapman & Andrew Maki
Incoming Co-Executive Directors



You know the summer, but what about fall & winter?

We all love our summers at World Fellowship and Whitton Pond. But fall and winter both have their own magic. The changing leaves. Picking cranberries on the bog in Back Pond. The first frost on the leaf-covered path. The ice thickening on the lake until it allows ice skating or cross-country skiing across newly fallen snow. Fall fairs and hiking or downhill skiing in the surrounding area. Gathering by the fireplace at the Davis-Walsh House for games, sing-alongs, or conversations.

This fall, we have kept more lodging open for visitors than ever before, and we were almost fully booked all weekends through the end of October. As temperatures drop, only the Davis-Walsh House (formerly the Cape) remains open – but a strong show of interest in snow season will help justify the full winterization of Uphaus Lodge, alongside other improvements in view!

From the WFC Board Co-Chairs

This past year has been one of great transitions – and great success – for the World Fellowship community. Guided by the leadership of the all-volunteer Interim Management Committee, we hosted a full-fledged summer program, made substantial improvements to our aging facilities, and secured the financial resources necessary to support all aspects of our work. To top it off, we welcomed our new co-directors, Megan Chapman and Andrew Maki, and are excited about their leadership for the future.

As we move into the new year, our Board of Trustees will take on several challenges. A key element of this will be to launch a strategic planning process to help determine the future of World Fellowship. This will include a deep consideration of our role in the social justice community, plans to expand our outreach and engagement to increase the diversity of our community, and establishing a firm financial base to support these endeavors. We appreciate the broad support and engagement of our community over the past 80+ years, and we hope we can count on you to work with us as we build the next chapter for World Fellowship.

Marc Mauer Pat
Marc Mauer & Pat Cantor Petrucelly
Co-Chairs, Board of Trustees

2022 Income

Contributions & Grants	\$268,764
Program Income	\$204,380
Other Revenue	(\$7,360)
<hr/>	
Total	\$465,784

2022 Expenses

Staffing Costs	\$372,707
Program & Operations	\$253,711
<hr/>	
Total	\$608,418

World Fellowship History Project

Background: unrealized architectural/landscaping plan for World Fellowship by Marion M. Griffin (1942)

For over eighty years, people have gathered at World Fellowship and found a home away from home in this unique community. Our traditions have been co-created, sustained and evolved by generation after generation. As we continue on this journey of constant co-creation, evolution, preserving and refreshing, we invite you to **join us** in documenting and sharing your history as it intersects with World Fellowship. Over the coming year, we will create visual / narrative representations to share this history in our community spaces.



Painting of Lloyd Lodge by L. DeProsse

What do we hope to co-create through this project?

- **Favorite memories** of World Fellowship, the **people and groups who make up the place**, and **what the place means** to you or your loved ones;
- **Shared history** of how different families, activist groups and social movements have come to World Fellowship and how the experience/place has been passed down from one generation to the next; and
- **Threads of progressive activism** that run through your life or family history and how these threads intersect with World Fellowship and carry forward today.

Here are some ways you can participate:

- **Record** and send an audio file/voice note;
- **Write up** your contributions and send in written form;
- **Send** pictures, videos, documents, or other historical “artifacts”;
- **Visualize** using a creative/multimedia form of your choice; or
- **Volunteer** to help us with outreach or to help organize and, eventually, curate/present this history in Summer 2024.

Contributions can be sent **by email** to history@worldfellowship.org (Google Drive or WeTransfer for large attachments) or **by snail mail**!

History of people, history of place

World Fellowship is, first and foremost, a community. It is also a place on a particular piece of land – land that was once home to the Abenaki people who were forcefully driven away. As we record our history, we also seek meaningful relationship with indigenous peoples in the region to together trace the past to the present, toward a more just future.

Highlights from 2023

- 668 overnight guests (360 reservations)
- 17 seasonal staff
- 18 work-weekend volunteers, 12 art/body movement/rec volunteers, and 13 other in-season volunteers (who worked a total of 1,385 hours)
- 5,100 IMC total volunteer hours
- 58 program presenters
- 10 Saturday night performances
- 475 guest-nights in the 7 rooms of the Terrace following its renovation and reopening
- 51 new commemorative bricks installed

- 3 multiple-day special programs that were previously fee-based, but now free or optional
- 270 WF Jeopardy! clues
- 9 Wednesday evening S'more Campfires
- 61 Constant Contact emails and 6 virtual community conversations (held, and planned)
- 280 lbs fair trade coffee brewed
- 310 Peace Quilt raffle tickets purchased
- 83 participants at weekly Book of the Summer discussions
- #1 historic precipitation ranking for July



World Fellowship Center
PO Box 2280
Conway, NH 03818

NON PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BOSTON MA
PERMIT No 51544

We need, in every community, a group of angelic troublemakers. - Bayard Rustin



How can I get involved?

- ❖ **DONATE!** Every dollar helps - ways to donate include:
 - Send back the enclosed envelope with your gift included!
 - Donate online, go to worldfellowship.org/ways-to-donate/
 - Be a sustaining donor - *set up a monthly gift through your bank or our online portal!*
 - Buy a commemorative brick for the ever-growing walkway to Schmauch Meeting Room
 - Name WFC as a beneficiary on your retirement or bank account, or life insurance policy
 - Make a stock transfer - *we appreciate the gift!*
 - Remember us in your will - *we will certainly remember you!*
- ❖ Share your love of World Fellowship with friends and family and come up for a group stay!
- ❖ Join a committee or volunteer to be part of ongoing off-season projects, a spring work weekend, or helping to make next summer a success - *all hands on deck!*
- ❖ Reshare our social media posts with your network - *help World Fellowship reach the world!*

603-447-2280 • www.worldfellowship.org • office@worldfellowship.org