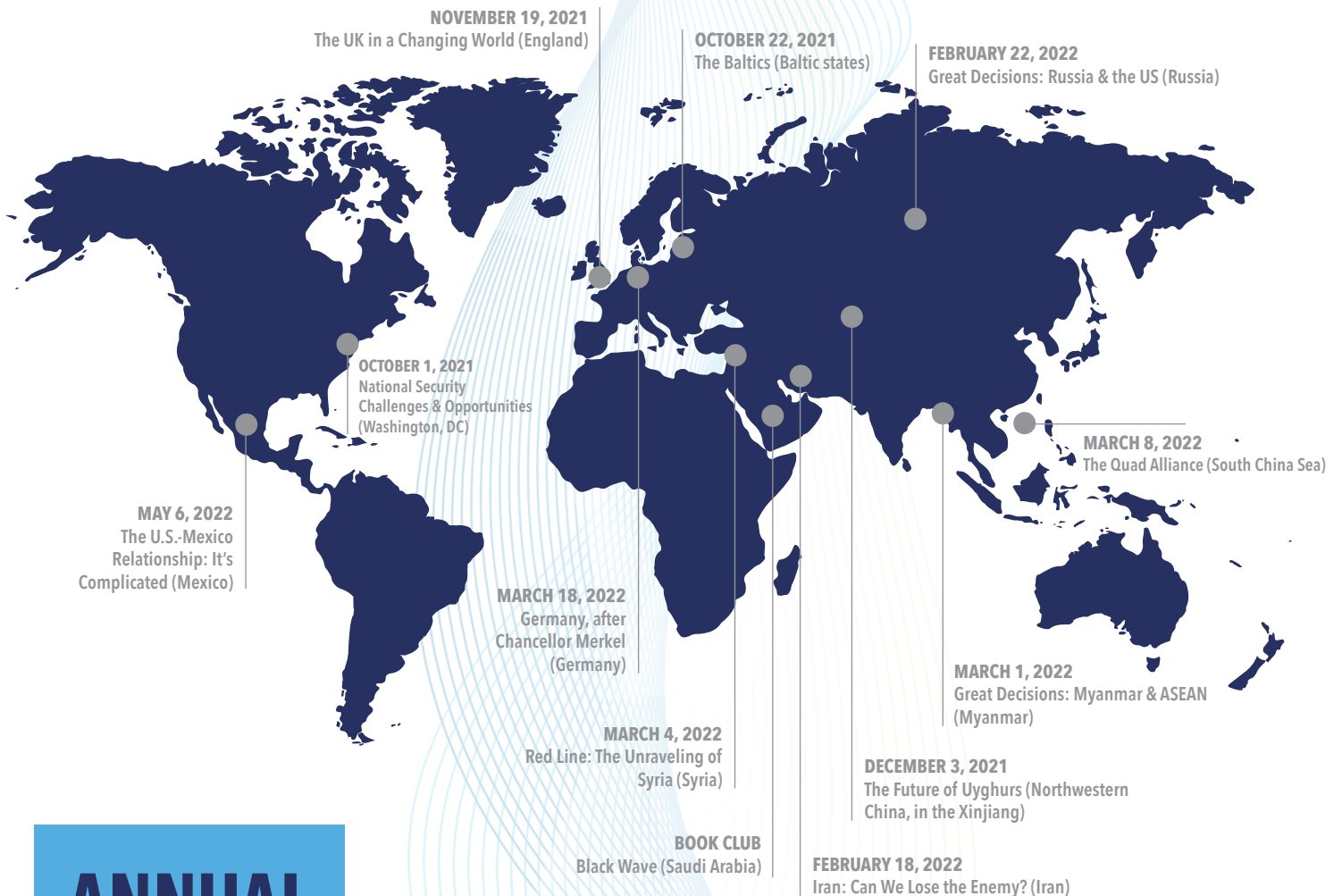


Educate, engage, & inspire the community about world affairs!



# World Affairs Council of Hilton Head

## WHERE WE'VE BEEN IN 2021-22



**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2021-22**

*Bringing the World to Hilton Head*

# Looking Back



*John Gilbert*

## **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*

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## **OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS**

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<i>Colin Moseley, President</i>	<i>Peter Cooper</i>	<i>Rick Mitchell</i>
<i>Cindy Pettitt, Vice President</i>	<i>Lynn Cordy</i>	<i>Cathy Robine</i>
<i>Dave Borghesi, Treasurer</i>	<i>John Gilbert</i>	<i>Regina Silletti</i>
<i>Joan Apple Lemoine, Secretary</i>	<i>Paul Hoyte</i>	<i>Bill Patterson</i>

# 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.

*Educate, engage, & inspire the community about world affairs!*

# 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!*

# WACHH Fast Facts



**135**

Total Number of new members

Number of members

**765**

**42**

Programs offered

**79**

Number of volunteers

Students in Model UN/AWQ

**127**

**20-103**

Age range of members



Members (male/female)  
55% men  
45% women

**34%**

Members who have been with WACHH for 8 or more years



Number of speakers

**94**

Total number of WAC's (world affairs councils) in the US

**60**

Number of countries members lived/worked in

Number of global speakers

**2**

**41**

Years in business

Number of different countries our members have visited

**125**



Members from Canada

# WACHH Sponsors

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!

## BUSINESS SPONSORS



**JLG**  
JOLLEY LAW GROUP



Lindsay Bunting & Charlie Wilmot

SeaPines Real Estate  
HARBOUR TOWN COTTAGE



**ROLLERS**  
WINE & SPIRITS

*"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**

## INDIVIDUAL SPONSORS

### DIPLOMAT (\$1000)

Dave & Nancy Borghesi  
Bob & Lynn Burt  
Peter & Pam Cooper  
Mark & Anne Garrette

John & Lesley Gilbert  
Rick & Sue Mitchell  
Cindy Pettitt

### AMBASSADOR (\$500)

James Edward Alexander  
Les & Michele Janka  
Tom & Maureen Korzik

James Irwin & Margaret McManus  
Peter Spreadbury  
Gerry & Nancy Witowski

## GRANTS



**PALMETTO  
DUNES  
CARES**



# 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

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Sally Ayotte  
Lynn Baglyos  
Maria Berliner  
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Jack & Janice Coleman  
Jim Collett  
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Gary Fazio  
Janice & David Gray  
David Grogan  
Barbara Johnson  
Ben Kinnas  
Joan Lemoine  
Myla Lerner

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Toney Mathews  
John McLaughlin  
William Milhaem  
Charlie Miner  
Nancy Nissley 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 Baglios  
Clayton Bailey  
Sherm Barker  
Lauree Barreca  
Roger Benson  
Debbie Berling  
Joseph Black  
Stanton Bluestone  
Ed Bond  
Frank Breslin  
Susan Brown  
Joe Burke  
Phillip Carney

Chris Christon  
James Collett  
Bob Coon  
Howard Coonley  
James Evans  
Patie Fielding  
Linda Fiore  
Neil Funnell  
Christine Galbraith  
John Geisler  
Dave Given  
Michael Goldschmidt  
Tena Graber  
Jean Gross  
Lois Hagoort  
David Hair  
George Hall  
Lisa Harvey

Candace Hendrickson  
Ann & Denny Hoag  
Angela Horne  
Sally Kaminski  
Elizabeth Keane  
John Kellom  
Joanne Knauss  
Dr. Bob Laughlin  
Ellyn Levin  
Laurie Liscomb  
Blaine & Lynn Lotz  
Karen Mallon  
Robert Mason  
Mike McCurdy  
Laura McFadden  
Mack McGahee  
Sally McGarry  
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Susan Murphy  
Hank Noble  
Jules Parrella  
Bill Pendley  
Lisa Pendley  
Dale Peters  
Roy Plekenpol  
Bill Raisch  
Peter & Nancy Reinhart  
Barrett Riordan  
Mike Rudy  
Sven Schrader  
Robert Seebohm  
Steven Siegelbaum  
Brad Simpson  
Dave Steede

Christopher Steele  
Paul Stevens  
Jeff Stokes  
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!



## VOLUNTEER LIST

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  
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Frank Edgerton  
Nancy Englund  
Linda Fiore  
Eileen Fitzgerald  
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Les Janka  
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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  
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Phyllis Quinn  
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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 Foward



*Dr. Colin Moseley, Incoming President*

## 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.

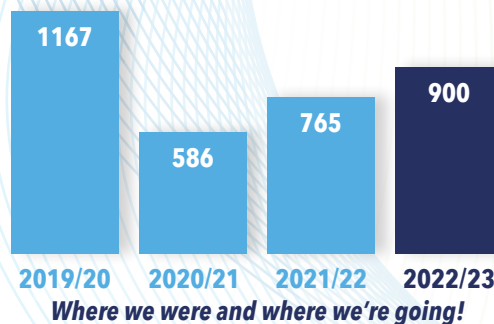
Dealing with the challenges of COVID required an unprecedented commitment of time and effort, and our team really came through. What a solid and committed team we have. I encourage you to consider the fulfillment that would derive from helping our organization by becoming a sponsor, volunteer, or joining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



**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.

Educate, engage, & inspire the community about world affairs!



# World Affairs Council of Hilton Head

WHERE WE ARE TAKING YOU IN 2022-23

