

Someone Who Understands-Networking for "Repats"

An invitation from the only nation-wide group for repatriated Americans.

So... you are returning to the USA. You may be happy and excited to return to family, friends, and Skippy peanut butter; you may be dreading the thought of not having the world on your doorstep; or—most likely—you will have mixed feelings about your upcoming move. No matter what you expect, one thing is certain—you will face some surprising challenges as a "repat", and so will your family members. You are now a different sort of American from those who haven't had the opportunity to experience life outside the United States. The members of FAUSA understand what you are going through.

The *FAWCO Alumnae USA, better known as FAUSA has two goals for its members:

- 1. To help them in their repatriation process
- 2. To help them maintain their international ties.

Membership in FAUSA will give you the opportunity to network with Americans who have lived all over the world. There are active social groups in many metropolitan areas, so you may contact us to see what is going in your new home. There are benefits to members living outside these cities, too. We keep in contact via our *Quarterly Newsletter*, and regular email updates. Members may participate in any FAWCO sponsored activity, including the FAWCO Biennial and Interim Conferences. In addition, FAUSA members and guests are invited to our two-day annual meeting in a different American location each year. The emphasis at these conferences is on low-key fun, and they take place in the early fall. Meeting at a FAUSA conference is a great way to see your friends who have also repatriated. Additionally, every year, FAUSA gives a scholarship to a member or a member's child, and we have a charitable arm that focuses on small projects in the Americas south of the US.

So, have a look at our website, http://www.fausa.org, where you can find out more about our organization and download a registration form. Please contact us, and we will be happy to answer any questions that you might have.

So remember, when it is time to return to the United States, "You have a friend in FAUSA."

Jane Indreland President, FAUSA

*FAWCO is the acronym for the Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas, an umbrella group for 77 volunteer associations of Americans located in 38 countries. Visit www.fawco.org to learn more about FAWCO.