

Global Link

PUBLISHED BY THE ASSOCIATES OF THE AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE WORLDWIDE • WWW.AAFSW.ORG • OCTOBER 2011

WELCOME TO NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS

Jacqueline Levesque
Andrea Rose Kalan
Elizabeth Rachel Krinock
Michael L. Johnson
Suzanne Horkey
Irene Lobstein
Matthew A. Boullioun
Milan Pavlovic
Jillian Wetzel Stirling
Sheila M. Weir
Nim Yin Leung
Yun-Ping Chang
Anne Cekuta

THANK YOU TO THESE GENEROUS DONORS:

Elly Tierney
Jeanne Weaver

Global Link is provided to the U.S. Foreign Service community as a service of the Associates of the American Foreign Service Worldwide. Your membership fees support this newsletter along with other AAFSW services. Please visit us at www.aafsw.org to learn more—and join today!



<http://www.facebook.com/aafsw>

AAFSW
4001 North Ninth Street
Suite 214
Arlington, VA 22203
Tel: 703-820-5420
Fax: 703-820-5421
office@aafsw.org
www.aafsw.org

Art&Bookfair 2011: At Home & Abroad

Art&BookFair (A&BF) is right around the corner! When serving overseas, one might ask, “Why should I support A&BF? That’s a Washington project.” Think of this:

| | |
|---|-------|
| Who administers Livelines? | AAFSW |
| Who speaks for you on Capitol Hill? | AAFSW |
| Who gives scholarships to Foreign Service kids? | AAFSW |
| Who created/administers the SOSA Award? | AAFSW |
| Who runs the Housing Office and BookRoom? | AAFSW |
| Who created FLO and helped set up the OBC? | AAFSW |
| Who do we count on to send artwork, coins and stamps? | YOU! |

AAFSW exists to make life in the Foreign Service better for you. In turn, we depend on your support to continue our efforts.

Art&BookFair, now in its 51st year of operation, is our one big fundraiser of the year. People come from out of state to shop at A&BF. We have thousands of books, coins, stamps, art, jewelry, and crafts from all over the world. These items come from members and friends who may be “deacquisitioning” or downsizing. Perhaps certain items no longer fit in your new home or at your new post. Books in foreign languages are also always popular. Send your items via unclassified pouch to BookRoom, HST Building, Room B816, Washington, D.C. 20520.

Did you know it takes more than 80 volunteers to run A&BF for the ten days we are open? That’s why it is important to volunteer if you live in the Washington, D.C. area (or are here temporarily). Some volunteers can only give a day or so; that is okay. We are all busy. The volunteer email is: bookfairvols@aafsw.org. B.J. Harrick, our Volunteer Coordinator, is waiting to hear from you.

Please tell your friends and colleagues about A&BF. **See page 3 for times and dates.** Do you need a poster for your library or bookmarks for your book club? Contact the BookRoom at 202-223-5796 or email bookfair@aafsw.org.

Profits benefit scholarships and special community projects. For information, questions, or donations, please call 202-223-5796.

New merchandise is put out for sale every day until we run out!

Books are half price on the last day – Sunday, Oct. 23 – and Art Corner prices are also slashed.

Customers enter via the C St. entrance of the Dept. of State between 21st and 23rd Sts NW by presenting a photo ID and undergoing a routine security screening. Personal checks, cash, Visa, Discover, and MasterCard are all accepted.

Anne Kauzlarich and Judy Felt
AAFSW Art&BookFair Co-Chairs



From the President's Desk

Art&BookFair is here! AAFSW's only fundraising event of the year will open on **Friday, October 14** at 11 a.m., with a few festive words from our Honorary

President, Lisa Carty, spouse of Deputy Secretary of State William J. Burns.

I hope to see all of you who live in the D.C. area as both volunteers and shoppers at A&BF. Co-Chairs Judy Felt and Anne Kauzlarich and Volunteer Coordinator B.J. Harrick have done an outstanding job, and I know you will enjoy working with them while discovering unique books and international treasures to take home. We will even be selling a collection of books that belonged to Henry Kissinger! If you are posted abroad and are looking for something special – let's say a children's book in Portuguese – contact the AAFSW office and I'll see if we can find it and send it to you.

No matter where you live, it very important from us to hear from you. We will be on Twitter as of October, so please follow us there and send us your thoughts! We will also soon be linking to a survey on our website asking Eligible Family Members and Members of Household from all of the foreign affairs agencies – whether AAFSW members or not – how we can best support each other, represent our community most effectively, and attract more members.

Meanwhile, our dynamic Board, staff and volunteers are not just waiting for survey results, but are hard at work on behalf of our community. Aside from the hundreds of hours devoted to Art&BookFair, recent projects include the redesign and updating of our website; the collection of nominees from all over the world for the Secretary of State's Award for Outstanding Volunteerism Abroad (SOSA); a happy hour for spouses of the new A-100 class or other trainees; a dinner for foreign-born spouses; personal outreach to spouses in crisis; plans for a special art gallery tour in December; a grant to the Foreign Service Youth Foundation; a donation to "Send a Kid to Camp" in DC; support for a bill to

provide flags for the coffins of fallen foreign affairs civilians overseas; and much more.

I am proud to represent our amazing volunteers and our community of diverse, energetic and fascinating Foreign Service spouses and partners. I look forward to seeing you at Art&BookFair or hearing from you at president@aafsw.org!

Patricia Linderman
AAFSW President
president@aafsw.org

AAFSW's Classified Ads New and Improved!

We have recently restructured our website's Classified Ads section to make it more current and useful. AAFSW members may now submit and edit their own ads online.

If you are an AAFSW member, please visit <http://www.aafsw.com/classads/> to submit an ad to the website. Your ad will be sent to the AAFSW office for approval, and will be posted as soon as your membership is confirmed, normally within a day or two.

Ads for services will remain on the site for **six months**. If you are advertising your business or service, please check the box for a six-month listing.

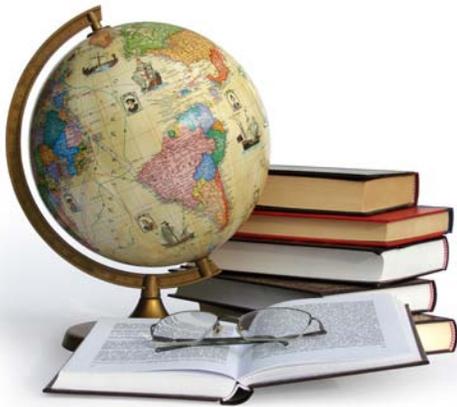
Ads for items for sale or rent will remain on the site for **60 days**. Please check the 60-day box if you are advertising an item or property for sale, or housing available for rent.

In order to keep our ads current, the classified ads section will be monitored to ensure that ads expire at the appropriate time. If your ad has expired, you are welcome to resubmit it using the same form, and it will be approved and posted to the site provided your AAFSW membership is current.

AAFSW members are also welcome to submit advertisements for businesses and services for publication in our Global Link newsletter. Send a brief notice (100 words or less) to office@aafsw.org for approval with the subject line AD FOR GLOBAL LINK. For more information, please refer to the Classified Ads section on page 7 of this issue.

Not yet an AAFSW member? Membership fees are just \$40 per year. Check your eligibility and apply online at <http://www.aafsw.org/join-aafsw/>.

Art&BookFair Hours of Operation



Friday, October 14: Opening Day. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Open to building pass holders and their guests.*

October 15-16: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Open to the general public.

October 17-21: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Open to building pass holders and their guests.*

October 22-23: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Open to the general public. On the 23rd, the final day, most items are half price.

** Spouses are invited to attend the A&BF on both public and non-public days. If you volunteer at the Fair, you will receive an entry pass for all days.*

Diplomatic passport holders can simply enter at the C Street entrance (state that you are attending the A&BF). If you do not have a diplomatic passport, you may enter with your employee spouse or with a volunteer holding an escort badge. If you need to be escorted, please contact us in advance, if possible, at bookfairvols@aafsw.org, 703-820-5420 or 202-223-5796, and we will be happy to help.

In Memory

AAFSW Member Jeanne Weaver Shares Artistic Tribute to her Fallen Son

Artist and longtime AAFSW member and volunteer Jeanne Weaver has created a series of beautiful and moving paintings in memory of her son Todd, who fell in Afghanistan last year. They are available to view on her website <http://www.jeanneweaverartist.com>. The paintings will also be displayed at several upcoming exhibitions:



Muscarella Museum of Art at the Atrium of Sadler Center, William and Mary, VA.: September 1 - October 22

New Town Gallery, Williamsburg, VA: November 8 - November 20, Reception: Veterans Day, November 11, 5- 7 pm;

Historic Porcher House, Cocoa, Florida, May, 2012.

OCTOBER PROGRAM

Our AAFSW program for this month will be a fun and festive **Halloween party** for you and guests, so get ready and choose your costumes! We will have prizes for the best, the most original, and the most colorful costumes.

Holcombe and Seyoung Thomas have kindly offered to host the party at their lovely home in Falls Church, Virginia. The party will take place on Saturday, October 29 at 7:00 p.m.

Please RSVP to office@aafsw.org as soon as possible if you plan to attend. We will provide the Thomas' address and phone number to all guests. Questions? Email programs@aafsw.org.

Sheila Switzer
AAFSW Program Chair
programs@aafsw.org



Do You Know About Our Programs?

Have you recently returned to the Washington, D.C. area? You may be interested in AAFSW's monthly programs. They are a great opportunity to meet other AAFSW members while exploring the cultural offerings of the D.C. area!

We are privileged to have access to the Benjamin Franklin Room at the Department of State as an elegant venue for hosting four speaker events annually, with a social coffee immediately prior to the events. The programs are normally held on the third Tuesday in the months of March, May, September and December and are open to members and guests for a fee of \$15.00 to cover the catering costs. Specific program and reservation information is always provided in the Global Link newsletter and on our website at least one month in advance. Members may easily reserve and pay for their seats online at www.aafsw.org.

AAFWSW endeavors to provide programs that are of current international, political, cultural or local interest. For example, in 2011, we hosted programs with a political and international focus featuring speakers such as the Ambassadors of Iraq and India to the United States who discussed issues of bilateral interest. Generally the March program focuses on

Women's History Month, usually in collaboration with the Women's National Democratic Club (WND.C.). December is the annual holiday celebration with the presentation of the Secretary of State's Award for Outstanding Volunteerism Overseas (SOSA). This year's SOSA Awards ceremony will take place on December 6th. For variety, AAFSW also presents cultural programs with speakers from the Washington D.C. museum scene, as well as talented musicians who play both popular and classical music.

In addition to the programs at the Department of State, AAFSW offers several tours and events of interest during the year. Our goal is to provide our members with access to some of the hidden gems in the Washington, D.C. area. Recent guided tours have included the historic headquarters of the Society of the Cincinnati, the Japanese Embassy Tea House, and the Freer-Sackler Gallery. In addition, generous AAFSW members have hosted special events in their homes, including a presentation of the Japanese tea ceremony and an adult Halloween party, complete with costumes and prizes.

AAFWSW programming is open to change. Our goal is to offer programming that is of interest to all demographic groups in our community. In addition

to the more formal speaker events at the Department of State, we want to expand our offerings to include more speakers on topics of practical relevance for the modern Foreign Service: concerns about educating third culture kids, dealing with an unaccompanied tour, employment, re-entry and living in Washington, D.C. Please contact office@aafsw.org for more information on our programs, or to offer suggestions.

AAFWSW programs are a benefit of AAFSW membership. For more information on membership eligibility, benefits, and fees, please visit www.aafsw.org or call the office at 703-820-5420. Online application and payment is available.



AAFWSW members enjoying a Japanese tea ceremony last year.

Staying Connected with the Foreign Service in D.C.

I recently lived in the northern Virginia suburbs of D.C. for seven years (including an unaccompanied year while my husband was in Kosovo). I was more comfortable than many are in the D.C. area, having lived there for several years previously. Still, I was surprised to find that I really needed to stay connected to the Foreign Service community during our stay. It's a common discovery. There are several reasons.

First, no one else will understand some of your experiences. While it is true that many people have studied abroad, or been posted to military bases overseas, only in the Foreign Service will you find a community of people who really *know* what it's like to spend two or three years in a tiny country that most Americans have never heard of. Ever been at a dinner party where the guests discussed various types of tropical diseases and intestinal parasites in detail, illustrated by personal experience? Yep, you must be in the Foreign Service.

Second, no one else will understand how truly, insanely stressful it is to pack up and move a family overseas. (Well, actually, many people will simply think you *are* insane.) Or to get a family settled in D.C. after serving several tours abroad. You will need shoulders to cry on during these periods. Or possibly drinking buddies. Or both.

Third, during an era when nearly all employees are being asked to serve an unaccompanied tour in one of several very dangerous places, it is more than likely that, as a family member, you will find yourself putting your spouse on a plane by himself or herself eventually. One by one, I have seen most of my friends face up to this eventuality, and they needed support, from within the Foreign Service community, as I did. A separated tour is not the end of the world, but it helps a great deal to be in regular contact with others in the same situation who can offer advice and encouragement.

And finally, there are many tips and tricks to living in the D.C. area, just as there are in any other post. When you get together with other FS family members, the chances are excellent that you will pick up great information, particularly regarding the biggest challenge: ways to live affordably in the area.

So, how can you meet up with other people in the community while you are in D.C.? Of course, you will probably know a few people in the area, and just as at any other post, you should let them know you are there and "do lunch." But, if you wish to make a point of meeting more people who share your experience, here are a few ways to go about it.

Join AAFSW (of course!) We offer not only regular programs (see previous page) but many opportunities to volunteer for worthy causes benefiting the FS community. For more information about AAFSW activities and services, please visit our website, www.aafsw.org.

If you have small children, check out the AAFSW Playgroup. This group, which has been in existence for many years, offers preschoolers and their parents a great opportunity to socialize and experience the many free and affordable activities for children in the D.C. area. Email playgroup@aafsw.org for more information.

If you are a foreign-born spouse, you will enjoy the regular meetings and programs offered by AAFSW's very active Foreign-Born Spouses Group. Email fbspouses@aafsw.org for more information.

Want to keep your French up to speed? AAFSW's French Conversation Group has been meeting for many years. Contact frenchchair@aafsw.org for more information. AAFSW will be happy to help facilitate the formation of other language conversation groups within its membership. If you would like to form a group with AAFSW support, contact office@aafsw.org.

Continued on page 6.

We're on Facebook!

As part of our mission to connect the Foreign Service community at home and abroad, AAFSW regularly posts up-to-date news about our own activities and events on Facebook. We also use the page to share photos, videos, and other items that we are not able to include in the *Global Link*, and to highlight interesting or outstanding blog posts by members of our community.



So, what's not to "Like?" Become a fan of AAFSW on Facebook today by clicking the Like button on the front page of our website, www.aafsw.org, or going directly to <http://www.facebook.com/aafsw>. We thank you for your support!

Staying Connected, from page 6.

The Foreign Service Youth Foundation offers opportunities for FS kids and their parents to get together. Every September AAFSW co-sponsors a Welcome Back Picnic with FSYF for all FS families in the D.C. area. Other activities include regular social groups for different age groups, “Away Days” for teens and preteens, and the quarterly publication of a newsletter written and edited by FS kids and teens. For more information about FSYF activities, visit www.fsyf.org.

If you are in D.C. on an unaccompanied tour, the Unaccompanied Tours Support Officer at the Family Liaison Office coordinates some activities and events specifically for unaccompanied family members. Visit the UT Blog at <http://foggybottomrambles.blogspot.com/> for more information, or email FLOaskUT@state.gov.

Spouses of Diplomatic Security officers have their own 300-plus member Yahoo group, and also meet in person every few weeks in the D.C. area. For more information, email Jen Dinoia at jdinoia@yahoo.com or Heidi Roulston at hroulston@gmail.com.

Other more informal groups also take place in the D.C. area. A biweekly Foreign Service “stitch and bitch” group meets on weekday mornings. Most members of group do some form of sewing or crafts, but it is not required! The group is open to anyone who is able to attend or host, however, small children are not permitted at meetings due primarily to the presence of scissors, needles, pins, and other non kid-friendly materials. Email Anat Gelb at anat.gelb@gmail.com for more information.

*Kelly Bembry Midura
AAFSW Creative Director
newsletter@aafsm.org*



Foreign Service teens enjoy the great outdoors at a 2009 FSYF “Away Day” Event.

Classified Advertising

AAFSW now offers free classified advertisements to its members. The *Global Link* is sent by mail and electronically to our members and to Community Liaison Offices worldwide for a sizable total monthly readership.

Do you have a business or service that you would like to advertise to the Foreign Service community? Send a brief notice (100 words or less) to office@aafsw.org for approval with the subject line AD FOR GLOBAL LINK. If you have a business website, it can be hyperlinked in the electronic version of the newsletter, so please include your URL. Advertisements will run on a space-available basis for one month at a time and will rotate in order of receipt.

We also accept classified advertising for real estate rentals and sales, as well as sales of other items (cars etc.) on our website, www.aafsw.org. View or submit ads here: <http://www.aafsw.org/classified/classified.htm>.

Not a member of AAFSW? Join now! Apply online at our website: <http://www.aafsw.org/aafsw/membership.htm>.

AAFSW Welcomes New Scholarships Volunteer

Thank you to Anne Cekuta for taking on the Scholarships position at AAFSW! Anne's experience in the field of education includes teaching English in Tokyo and representing the Embassy on the German/US School Board in Berlin, among many other activities.

As the AAFSW Scholarships representative, Anne will coordinate with AFSA to award merit grants to deserving students in the Foreign Service community. Contact her at scholarship@aafsw.org.



We Love Your Photos!

AAFSW publishes photos of our activities and events in the *Global Link* newsletter, on our website, www.aafsw.org, and on our [Facebook page](#). If you are a member of an AAFSW interest group, or are attending one of our activities, please take a few photos to share!

For publication in the *Global Link*, photos must be taken at "print resolution" or at least 1024

x 768 pixels in size. For the website or Facebook page, "web resolution", or less than 640 x 480 pixels is acceptable. Using a flash for all indoor shots is also very helpful!

Please email your photos to newsletter@aafsw.org. Include your name, the name of the event or group, the date taken, and any captions that you would like to include. Identification of the people in the photos is optional: in general we try to include names for the *Global Link*, but we understand that some people would prefer not to be named on the website or Facebook page.

Thank you for sharing your photos, and helping to "connect the Foreign Service community at home and abroad!"

CLO Alumni Luncheon Rescheduled

The CLO Alumni Association meeting previously scheduled for September 17 has been postponed until December: date to be announced. This association is open to former Community Liaison Office Coordinators and is a great social and networking opportunity. Membership in AAFSW is required. To determine your eligibility and apply for membership online, please visit www.aafsw.org

For more information about the CLO Alumni Association email clogroup@aafsw.org.

Mentors Wanted

AAFSW has begun a pilot program of one-on-one spouse mentoring, created primarily for new A-100 spouses and first-tour spouses. We are trying to match mentoring volunteers from our AAFSW membership with mentoring requests from the "newbies" based on as many points in common as possible: ages of children, languages spoken, areas of professional interest, and the like.

We have less than a dozen mentor/mentoree pairs at the moment, and we are eagerly awaiting feedback from those involved. Of course, we need lots more volunteers, especially those whose spouses are still active duty, and are still likely to be serving overseas.

This program has the potential to do two wonderful and worthwhile things - help people who are new to the Foreign Service with their many life challenges, and create the next generation of AAFSW leaders.

If you know of anyone who might want or need mentoring, or if you are interested in becoming a mentor yourself, please send an email to mentor@aafsw.org. Thanks!

Posted Overseas?

There's Still Time to Donate to Art&BookFair!

Because of the long history of this charitable event which takes place at the Department of State, we have special permission to use the pouch to send items to Washington. Please consider supporting us by sending some of the unique international items you may have accumulated but no longer need. Especially popular and easy to send are stamps (canceled ones are fine), coins, leftover paper money from your travels, foreign language books, jewelry, small bowls and figurines, and local textiles.

Pouch your items to BookFair, Brian Neumann, Room B-816, Department of State, Washington D.C. 20520.

Of course, local members are also still invited to donate items! Check our website for more information at www.aafsw.org, or if you have questions, contact Brian at bookroom@aafsw.org or 202-223-5796. Thank you!

Please remember to click through the Amazon links on our website, www.aafsw.org. AAFSW nets several hundred dollars every year through our affiliation with Amazon.com. It's a quick and easy way to help, and we really do appreciate it!

AAFSW BOARD

Honorary President

Lisa Carty

President

Patricia Linderman
703-635-3827

president@aafsw.org

1st Vice-President

Jennifer Dinoia
925-549-1198

vicepresident1@aafsw.org

2nd Vice-President

Alicia Wilkinson
703-356-9233

vicepresident2@aafsw.org

Board Secretary

Margaret Teich
703-250-5099

secretary@aafsw.org

Membership

Debbi Miller
703-470-6160

membership@aafsw.org

Programs

Sheila Switzer
703-569-8867

programs@aafsw.org

Public Relations

Lesley Dorman
202-484-3497

publicrelations@aafsw.org

Treasurer

Lucy Whitley
703-536-2183

treasurer@aafsw.org

Assistant Treasurer

Gina Necula
571-327-7300

treasurer2@aafsw.org

Forum

Judy Felt
703-370-1414

Ann La Porta
202-248-4246

forum@aafsw.org

Art&BookFair

Judy Felt
703-370-1414

Anne Kauzlarich
703-869-6969

bookfair@aafsw.org

Housing

Lesley Dorman (Acting)
202-484-3497

housing@aafsw.org

SOSA

Kay DeKuiper
sosa@aafsw.org

President Emerita

Faye Barnes
540-972-3754

emerita@aafsw.org

STAFF/SERVICES

AAFSW Office

Barbara Reixou
4001 North Ninth Street
Suite 214

Arlington, VA, 22203

703-820-5420

Fax: 703-820-5421

office@aafsw.org

Book Room

Main State
Room B-816
Brian Neumann

202-223-5796

bookroom@aafsw.org

Housing Desk

Employee Services Center
Main State, Room 1252

202-647-3573

202-647-3086

housing@aafsw.org

Creative Director

Kelly Bembry Midura
703-651-2078

newsletter@aafsw.org

Webmaster

Sean P. McKee

webmaster@aafsw.org

OTHER CONTACTS

AFSA Liaison

Patty Ryan
202-966-7696

Ann La Porta
202-248-4246

afsarep@aafsw.org

Archivist

Vacant

archives@aafsw.org

CLO Alumni Association

Donna Ayerst
703-759-1124

clogroup@aafsw.org

Evacuee Support

Ann La Porta
202-248-4246

evacuee@aafsw.org

Foreign-Born Spouses Group

Vacant

fbspouses@aafsw.org

Facebook Moderator

Kelly Bembry Midura
703-651-2078

facebook@aafsw.org

French Group

Christel McDonald
Tel: 703-525-9755

frenchchair@aafsw.org

FSYF Liaison

Donna Scharpf
202-558-2060

fsyf@aafsw.org

Legislative Liaison

Vacant

congressrep@aafsw.org

Livelines Moderator

Jennifer DiNoia
925-549-1198

livelines@aafsw.org

Mentoring Program

Debbi Miller
703-470-6160

mentor@aafsw.org

Oral History

Faye Barnes
540-972-3754

oralhistory@aafsw.org

Playgroup

Katerina Meade

playgroup@aafsw.org

Scholarships

Anne Cekuta

scholarship@aafsw.org

Senior Living

Marguerite Anderson
301-652-5433

seniorliving@aafsw.org

Skills Bank

Aleksandar Blagoevski-Trazoff

skillsbank@aafsw.org

State Liaison

Mette Beecroft
301-320-7698

staterep@aafsw.org

Women in Transition

Nancy Longmyer
703-532-4694

divorce@aafsw.org

AAFSW
4001 North Ninth St.
Suite 214
Arlington, VA
22203



October 2011

PLACE
STAMP
HERE