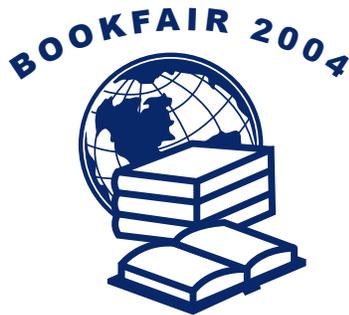


GLOBAL LINK

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BOOKFAIR 2004 IN REVIEW



October 15—24

On Sunday, October 24, the AAFSW's 44th Annual BOOKFAIR came to a close. It is such labor-intensive work that each year, we look back and say with pride (and in amazement), "Wow! We did it again!"

Many people do not realize that BOOKFAIR work goes on all year. Turn to pages 4 and 5 to read more about how BOOKFAIR comes together and how AAFSW fared at this year's event.

Continued page 2

GIVING BACK TO AAFSW'S COMMUNITY

Joan Sitnik Walsh

As you know, a familiar voice means a lot when in a new environment," recently wrote a friend from a post ago. Over this past year, I have missed her as I have tried to repatriate to life in Vienna... Virginia. If only there was someone here who spoke the same Foreign Service "language" of experiences!

Then, it dawned on me that AAFSW speaks my language! It was AAFSW that supported my efforts to become a teacher six years ago. I was the recipient of the 1998 and 1999 Members' Scholarship for Continuing Education, which recognized the needs of Foreign Service spouses.

While managing microfinance projects for USAID during tours in Bangladesh and Egypt, I realized that I could better help local entrepreneurs and their workers (especially women) by teaching them the skills they needed to succeed. AAFSW championed my cause and assisted me financially in pursuing my dream. I graduated with honors from George Mason University with a Master of

Education in May, 2000, and within a few months, I began my teaching career at the International School of Kenya in Nairobi.

With gratitude, I am proud to serve again as chairman of AAFSW's Scholarship Committee. Each spring, AAFSW and AFSA award scholarships to college-bound Foreign Service youth. Their essays are filled with humorous anecdotes of life overseas and painful recollections of rejecting the Northern Virginia teenage scene of hanging out at the mall. See page 3 for details on these scholarships and more.

I feel as if the circle is closing. AAFSW allowed me to better my own life by helping me to become the teacher I dreamed of becoming. Now I am returning the favor by assisting Foreign Service teens reach their dreams. It is certainly a familiar voice.

For more information on AAFSW's scholarship program, please contact Joan at scholarships@aafsw.org.

GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

Happy holidays from AAFSW! In the spirit of giving, please remember that your gift purchases from Amazon.com can help AAFSW.

Simply go to www.aafsw.org, click on the Amazon icon on the home page or throughout our website, and then shop as usual. That effortless click allows AAFSW to earn a commission on your purchase at no cost to you.

"MEMBERS ONLY" UPDATED

Check out the newly updated **Members Only** section of AAFSW's website for extended articles seen in the Global Link, 8th floor program information and RSVP, Board minutes and other organizational news, volunteer opportunities, and more. Forgot the user name and password? Email office@aafsw.org.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

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UPDATED HOUSING LISTS

The AAFSW Housing Office has updated its temporary housing lists for Virginia, Maryland, and D.C. Access them now on the Members Only section of www.aafsw.org. Copies may also be obtained in the Housing Office located in the Employees Service Center, Room 1252, Department of State's Harry S. Truman Building.

The Housing Office also maintains files listing houses, apartments, condos (furnished or unfurnished) for short- or long-term rental, as well as apartments, condos or houses for sale.

The Housing Office is staffed by volunteers from 10:00am until 3:00pm, Monday to Friday. Should there not be a volunteer in the office, the files can be accessed in the Employees Service Center during regular business hours: 8:15am until 4:45pm, Monday to Friday.

The Housing Office's lists and resources are for informational purposes only. AAFSW does not recommend or endorse any specific hotel, condo, or apartment complex.

“BUD AS BEN” DRAWS CROWD

Debbi Miller

Over 80 people, including special guests from the French Heritage Society and several members of the Long family, attended AAFSW's October 12 program to see actor Bud Long portray Benjamin Franklin in the very appropriate setting of the Benjamin Franklin Room on the 8th floor of the Department of State. Bud, dressed in colonial-period attire, had an amazing command of the details of the life of this great American patriot, and he related many interesting little-known facts. Bud began and ended his performance with two “Colonial Cobblestone Rap” poems he had written himself.

Bud's zest for his subject was infectious, and his admiration for the remarkable accomplishments of the “bad boy of Boston” was inspiring, especially in the gorgeous room that bears Franklin's name.



left: Bud and Ben—quite a pair!

below: From left to right, members Patty Ryan, Joan McGinley, Anne Hackl (seated), and Shirley Barth share coffee before the show.



LIVELINERS RAISE COMBINED VOICE

A recent Livelines discussion on furnishings provided by the State Department while at post proved yet again how effective (and entertaining) this online forum can be. It began with just one email, but soon Liveliners worldwide wrote in declaring certain post-provided furnishings ugly or uncomfortable or not child-friendly. Many commiserated. Others did not. Still others offered decorating tips and advice for making any house (or apartment) a home. All, however, agreed that it was time to pinpoint the office within the State Department that handles furnishing contracts so complaints, comments, and suggestions could be submitted and heard.

AAFSW distilled the main points of the discussion and sent a letter on behalf of Livelines and the greater Foreign Service community that AAFSW serves. It ultimately reached the office of the Deputy Assistant

Secretary in The Office of Logistics Management in the A Bureau (A/LM). You can read the thoughtful and encouraging response online at www.aafsw.org or on Livelines, but the main point is that anyone can send comments or suggestions regarding State-provided furnishings to Donna J. Herriott, Team Leader, A/LM/AQM/ IT Commerce, at herriottdj@state.gov.

AAFSW member Carolyn Norton, who is currently posted in Tijuana, wrote “...I am so happy to see that Livelines is even more than a support network. Our concerns were heard by the Department because of our combined voice, and I feel privileged to be a part of this community.” We do too.

To join Livelines, AAFSW's email discussion group, go to www.aafsw.org. This is a free service open to all members of the Foreign Service.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND SERVICE AWARDS AVAILABLE NOW

Organizations are once again offering educational scholarships and community service awards to the children and grandchildren of Foreign Service employees—active duty, retired, and deceased. Help **your** kids be recognized for their academic achievement, volunteering efforts, and international experiences.

AFSA College Scholarship Program

Since the 1960s, AAFSW has raised funds through generous member donations and BOOKFAIR proceeds to aid college-bound young people from the Foreign Service community. College scholarship applications for the 2005/2006 school year are available via the AFSA Scholarship Program web page (www.afsa.org/scholar/index.cfm) or by calling 800-704-2372 ext. 504.

Awards range from \$1,000-\$3,000. The application deadline is February 6, 2005. Only tax-dependent children of Foreign Service employees (active-duty, retired, or deceased) are eligible to apply for the Financial Aid Scholarships, Academic Merit Awards, or the Art Merit Award. Contact Lori Dec, AFSA Scholarship Director at 202-944-5504 or dec@afsa.org for more information.

The Dreyfus Awards

The Dreyfus Awards are given by the DACOR Bacon House Foundation to encourage the study of international relations. Several scholarships and fellowships are available in Academic Year 2005-2006 for children and grandchildren of U.S. Foreign Service Officers, active or retired, for study at the Hotchkiss School in Lakeville, CT (\$5,000) and Yale University (up to \$5,000 for undergraduates, up to \$10,000 for graduate students). The application deadline is March 15, 2005.

For more information, please contact Sherry Barndollar Rock of the DACOR Bacon House at tel: 202-682-0500 x. 17 or 800-344-9127, fax: 202-842-3295, or prog.coord@dacorbacon.org.

2005 Una Chapman Cox Award for Foreign Service Youth

The Foreign Service Youth Foundation (FSYF) is funding a new award for Foreign Service teenagers who have engaged in extraordinary volunteer service to a community in the U.S. One winner will be awarded a \$2,000 savings bond and recognized in the Youth Awards Ceremony at the Department of State next summer.

2005 Harry M. Jannette International Award for Foreign Service Youth

The FSYF is offering this overseas community service award to two Foreign Service youth, living overseas, who have demonstrated outstanding volunteer efforts either in community service or in service to their peers while facing the challenges of growing up in an internationally mobile lifestyle. Each winner will receive a certificate of recognition and \$3,000 savings bonds, funded by Harry M. Jannette International Insurance, to be presented at the Youth Awards Ceremony in the Department of State next summer or at post.

For more information on either FSYF award, please email fsyf@fsyf.org or call 301-404-6655.

NEW CAREER SUPPORT FOR SPOUSES

The Global Employment Strategy (GES) is the State Department's new pilot program targeted at identifying career opportunities for spouses of Foreign Service employees at the global level by fostering relationships with multinational companies and NGOs. Two Global Employment Advisors (GEA) will coordinate with multinationals and NGOs within the U.S. and then match the skills and experience of

interested spouses with the hiring needs of the organizations. Once a match is identified, the GEAs will exchange all necessary contact information between the spouse and organization and offer support throughout the screening process.

Because spousal employment is a top priority for Foreign Service employees and recruits, GES was developed to provide spouses with the contacts necessary to develop and

sustain their career ambitions while living the transient Foreign Service life.

For more information, please contact Marnie Bloom Brunette, tel: 703-444-9354, fax: 703-444-9542, marniebloom@globalstrategicnetwork.com or Nadja Giuffrida, tel: 915-892-4988, fax: 915-584-6111, nadjagiuffrida@globalstrategicnetwork.com.

BOOKFAIR 2004: WE DID IT AGAIN

Mette Beecroft, BOOKFAIR Chair

BOOKFAIR is an endeavor that requires a sustained, year-long commitment, and BOOKFAIR 2004 was no different. Year-round the BOOKROOM Manager makes multiple trips to Washington, D.C., Maryland, and Virginia to pick up hundreds of books and art objects. In addition, certain volunteers have made the crucial commitment to work in BOOKROOM, BOOKPLACE, and the ART ROOM throughout the year. Another group of volunteers works all year as well to prepare stamps for the STAMP CORNER.

BOOKFAIR planning starts in earnest in March when multiple requests for donations begin. Later, BOOKFAIR publicity is launched both within the State Department and to the general public. Another vital undertaking is to solicit and schedule volunteers for BOOKFAIR itself and to coordinate issuing the passes prepared by Diplomatic Security.

The BOOKFAIR logistics are complicated and varied—moving the shelves from Springfield and reserving time at the State Department loading docks, installing extra lines for a telephone and the adding and charge card machines, setting up the tent with water barrels to anchor it, and retrieving the books from storerooms all over the State Department. Central to the outcome is the demanding job of Treasurer. Given all these considerations, our volunteers and staff come together and make it

happen year after year.

I am happy to report that BOOKFAIR 2004 grossed approximately \$80,200. It is about \$2,500 less than last year, but still very respectable. In the preceding five years, only once did gross earnings exceed \$80,000, which was last year when BOOKFAIR earned \$82,731. This year's excellent earnings are also a bit above the average for the last 19 years if one discounts atypically high earnings in 1995.

BOOKFAIR proceeds will continue to be used to award scholarships to Foreign Service students. This year, we were also able to contribute to "Send a Kid to Camp." A limited amount is used to support AAFSW organizational operations.

BOOKFAIR 2004 would not have been possible without the support of numerous individuals and organizations. We much appreciate

Mrs. Alma Powell's willingness to open BOOKFAIR again this year—the third time she has done so. Shortly after the opening, the Secretary of State even found time to visit. We are very grateful for their support. We also acknowledge with much gratitude the invaluable support of Diplomatic Security and General Services, which they graciously provide year after year. And last but not least, we thank Bill Littlewood and his Stamp Corner volunteers, who have generously contributed thousands of dollars over the years.

An enormous THANK YOU to everyone who so willingly offered their services and support to BOOKFAIR 2004.

Photo Credits: Mark Stewart and Ann Thomas, State Department Official Photographers, and Susan E. Lee.



BOOKFAIR Review



Observations

WINNERS THANK AAFSW

AAFSW has received gracious thank-you letters from recipients of the 2004/2005 AAFSW Financial Aid Scholarships. While we simply do not have space to reprint them, here are excerpts that express winners' gratitude and positive opinions of growing up in the Foreign Service.

...Thank you for your generosity in assisting me with school expenses. While growing up, I lived in Peru, El Salvador, Virginia, Mozambique, South Africa, and now I am currently a student at American University in Washington, D.C. I am planning a career related to international affairs and using skills such as understanding other people and cultures. I would like to continue to travel as I have done up to this point in my life.

Alison Guzman

...I was very honored and excited to be selected for this scholarship and cannot thank you enough for your financial assistance. As a seasoned "Foreign Service Brat," 17 years spent between six countries has left me with countless memorable experiences. It is this exposure to a multitude of peoples, cultures, and ideas that has fueled my great interest in international relations and politics, which I will pursue at Yale University.

Ryan Fennerty

...The scholarship I have received from AAFSW has been a great gift. It is helping me pay for my tuition and books. I plan to finish my Associates of Arts Degree at Montgomery College in Rockville, MD before transferring to Shady Grove University to study social work. My mother adopted me in Sofia, Bulgaria and I also lived in Myanmar before moving to Maryland. I loved living abroad: the culture, food, religions, people and more.

Leika Klingler

I would like to thank you for your generous scholarship. I am currently in my senior year at Le Moyne College (Syracuse, NY) majoring in Psychology with a focus in child-development. I have been fortunate enough to grow up in many different cultures and experience so many interesting aspects of the world. I have been able to have stimulating conversations with my fellow classmates and encourage the study abroad program.

Juliette Smith

...I am enjoying my time at Brigham Young University immensely. I plan to apply to the College of Nursing and minor in pipe organ performance. I live in the Russian house...the Hebrew house is downstairs and the Japanese upstairs, which makes life interesting and full of new words in every language. Thank you again for supporting my education. I will do my best to enjoy every day of it.

Rebecca Christensen

FROM THE FIELD



Foreign Service families often use more exotic transportation than typical trains, planes, and automobiles. AAFSW member **Brandy Herren** sent this photo of her daughter, Megan, and other kids from the Ulaanbaatar Embassy community riding a yak cart during a language outing at Terelj National Park in Mongolia. Over two days, they learned about Mongolian language and culture, enjoyed khorhog (boiled goat), hiked, camped in gers (round felt tents), and played with Sharai (knuckle bones). Brandy, her husband Denver, and daughters Ally and Megan are currently posted in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

No matter where you are "in the field," share your photos, updates, and observations with other AAFSW members via the Global Link. Contact editor@aafsw.org or the main office.

SHARE THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT WITH THE SWEET ADELINES



Members who attended last year's holiday program will remember the sparkling sequined vests, the ringing chords, and the enthusiastic smiles of the singers from the Vienna-Falls Chorus of Sweet Adelines International...and this year's program promises to be even better!

Join us on December 7, 2004 at 10:00am in the 8th floor Diplomatic Reception Rooms, Main State. Please use the C Street entrance. Not only will this celebrated group of women's barbershop singers be back to entertain us with their unique style and sound, but afterwards there will be a professional pianist/organist/choir director to lead us all in singing some of our favorite holiday songs.

Sweet Adelines International is a worldwide organization of women singers committed to advancing the musical art form of barbershop harmony through education and performance. Vienna-Falls is just one chapter of this extensive and joyful organization, and they are committed to "musical excellence and personal growth in a friendly, loving atmosphere." These amateur songbirds have performed at the White House, Blair House, Wolf Trap, the Mormon Temple Visitors Center, and even at

RFK Stadium to open a DC United game on September 11, 2004. They are led by Master Director Claire Gardiner, and the chorus proudly claims several excellent registered quartets within their ranks.

Donna Renfro Williamson, our guest pianist, received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the Music Honors Program of the University of Richmond and a Master of Music from the University of Tennessee Knoxville. She is currently the Director of Music Ministries for the Church of the Good Shepherd in Burke. Prior to moving to Alexandria, Donna served as Organist or Minister of Music for churches in Tennessee, Florida, and Virginia. Donna has taught in the Church Music Program of Averett College Northern Virginia, as well as in her private studio. She enjoys accompanying vocalists and instrumentalists and has accompanied for George Mason University, Northern Virginia Community College, National Association of Teachers of Singing Auditions, and the Paul Robeson Vocal Competition in Washington, D.C.

You surely will want to bring a guest or two to this wonderful performance, and start the season off splendidly. Be sure to sign up early!

FA-LA-LA-LA-LA OVER THE PHONE

As you get into the holiday spirit, remember that Vienna-Falls offers a unique holiday gift-giving opportunity: singing Christmas cards delivered LIVE by telephone!

For \$5.00 per local call (long distance is \$6.00), your loved ones will be greeted in beautiful four-part harmony with a song of your choice (from a list) sung by one of Vienna-Falls' many talented quartets.

This might be a nice gift to give from overseas, as you can include a personalized verbal message. At the very least, a singing phone call would be a delightful surprise.

Please call **703-242-SING (242-7464)** or email **dcfandee@aol.com** to place an order. The deadline is **November 30**, and calls will be made during the first weekend in December.

DECEMBER 7 PROGRAM

Vienna-Falls Chorus of Sweet Adelines International

PLEASE REPLY NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2004

Coffee & tea at 10:00am, programs begin 10:30am on the 8th floor Diplomatic Reception Rooms, Main State (Please use the C Street entrance of the State Department.)

Please send form and check made out to AAFSW for **\$15** per person to:

AAFSW Reservations, 5125 MacArthur Blvd. NW Suite 36 Washington, D.C. 20016

DECEMBER 7 PROGRAM

Name (as you wish it to appear on the name tag)

Social Security Number

Telephone

Name of guest(s) and SSN(s)

Contact AAFSW

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AAFSW
DECEMBER, 2004

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2005 AAFSW scholarships and other awards available now. See page 3.