

# GLOBAL LINK

Association of American Foreign Service Women



## Four Quick Ways to Help with AAFSW's BOOKFAIR

- ◆ Return the volunteer form from last month's issue of *Global Link* (call the AAFSW office if you need another copy of the form).
- ◆ Invite a friend or two to go to BOOKFAIR on a Saturday or Sunday (see page two for details).
- ◆ Write BOOKFAIR dates into your calendar and save your pennies for a socially responsible shopping spree!
- ◆ Give the BOOKFAIR schedule to your spouse and tell him/her to spread the word at the office.

## AAFSW Members Stand Out from the Crowd

### *Fulbright Grant Awarded*

AAFSW recently received word that member Monique Y. Wong, Ph.D., has been awarded a Fulbright grant (1996-97) to the Department of Language, Linguistics and Philosophy at the University of the West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica.

Dr. Wong will establish and lecture at linguistics courses dealing with discourse analysis of conflict talk and language of negotiations. She will also assist in the development of new curricula, including computational linguistics and speech pathology. Dr. Wong's husband, Jack Whittlesey, is currently at the U.S. Embassy, Kingston.

Congratulations, Monica!

Interested in entering the academic world yourself? Check out the AAFSW Continuing Education scholarship. Complete details are found on the back page.

### *Member Appears in Post*

Long-time AAFSW members were pleased to see Agnes Carroll, for many years an AAFSW Bookfair volunteer, featured in a recent front-page *Washington Post* article. The article discussed high-rise apartments in the District of Columbia, some of which have

become naturally occurring retirement communities (NORCs). One thought-provoking fact mentioned is that the Metropolitan area's elderly population is growing at triple the rate of other age groups.

While volunteering for Bookfair this year may not mean that your picture ends up on the front page of the *Post*, you might at least make it into *Global Link*!

For more news on outstanding Foreign Affairs people, see the articles on volunteer awards, pages five and six - and don't forget to take a look at this month's exciting Program speaker, page seven.

### *Foreign Born Spouses Plan Educational Events*

After a successful potluck lunch held at the home of organizer Rosario Kramer on Sept. 12, the Foreign Born Spouses group plans to focus on learning during the upcoming year.

The group's next activity will be to attend the special session on "Transition to D.C. for Foreign Born Spouses" sponsored by the Overseas Briefing Center

(See "Group Plans Activities," page 3)

## New Regulations Benefit Children

There has been a change in travel regulations that permits family visitation for a group of dependent children not previously covered under standardized regulations. Dependent children under the age of 21 of foreign affairs agency employees assigned to overseas posts who are neither eligible for educational

(See "Travel Benefits," page 5)

# AAFSW

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AAFSW membership is open to all U.S. Foreign  
Service employees and family members. Annu-  
al dues are \$25. Subscriptions to the News are  
available to the public at \$25 per year.

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Joan Deason, 703-241-8914

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22305 - Alexandria

Marie S. Taylor, 703-683-2427

# AAFSW EVENTS

## OCTOBER

- 1 OBC How Can I Interact with My Child's School?
- 2 (eve) OBC Staying Safe in Washington
- 3 OBC America: A Different World (for parent of teenagers)
- 4 OBC What is the Employment Scene in Washington?
- 5 (Sat.) OBC Re-entry for the whole family (courses by age)
- 8 **PROGRAM featuring Philomena Jurey**
- 15-16 OBC Life After the Foreign Service
- 18 **BOOKFAIR Family Night**
- 19-27 **BOOKFAIR**
- 22 **Board meeting**
- 26 Away Day for Foreign Service youth (see page 8).
- 26 OBC Transition to Washington for Foreign Born Spouses
- 28 OBC Employment Planning (through Nov. 1)
- 30(eve) OBC Raising Bilingual Children

## NOVEMBER

- 1 OBC Post Employment Options
- 5-7 OBC Teaching English
- 12 **PROGRAM**
- 18 OBC Intro to Foreign Service Life
- 26 **Board Meeting**

For OBC Security Overseas Seminars information, call 703-302-7267.

## OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

### AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE ASSOC.

2101 E St., NW, Washington, DC 20037

Telephone 202-338-4046

### EMPLOYEE CONSULTATION

Room 5914 Department of State

Room L 127, Columbia Plaza

Telephone 202-663-1815

DIRECTOR: Anne Weiss, ACSW

### FAMILY LIAISON OFFICE

Room 1212, Department of State

Telephone 202-647-1076

DIRECTOR: Kendall Montgomery

### FOREIGN SERVICE LOUNGE

Telephone 202-647-3423

### FOREIGN SERVICE YOUTH FOUNDATION

Sydney Tyson (FLO Liaison) 202-647-1076

Karen Pugh (Administrator) 703-255-2861

### OFFICE OF OVERSEAS SCHOOLS

Room 245, Department of State

Telephone 703-875-7800

DIRECTOR: Ernest Mannino

### OVERSEAS BRIEFING CENTER

4000 Arlington Blvd., Arlington, VA 22204

Telephone 703-302-7274

DIRECTOR: Ray Leki



## Language Training Gives Spouses Essential Skills

I read your article in the May issue on language training with great interest. I would like to add another brief testimonial. My husband is COM here. I was able to take Slovak language training for roughly 24 weeks (minus the insane furlough) and, while having 44 weeks would have been much better, it was not possible.

We have now been at post for six weeks. I cannot imagine coming here without any language training. It is not enough to learn a list of nouns that will enable one to find groceries or get some repairs done. It is essential that one get some grounding in grammar so that there is a framework in which to fit all these new words.

As we all know, few other services give such extensive language training. Virtually none give spouses any at all. I have discovered that at some dinners I

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***"It is not enough to learn a list of nouns that will enable one to find groceries..."***

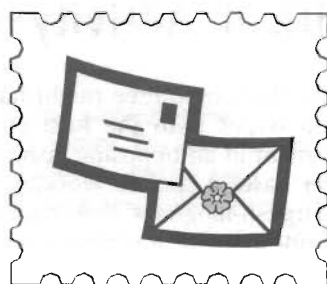
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have been the only non-Slovak spouse who could speak with Slovak guests (admittedly, not terribly well, but they were certainly pleased.)

I have been able to "make myself useful" when a New York-based foundation board was here, and we entertained a number of politicians. I have been able to be something other than a bump on a log while accompanying my husband to visit mayors of neighboring towns. I felt thrilled to be able to converse with the cardinal of all Slovakia and to learn of his difficult life under Communism. I can certainly handle the staff of guards, housekeepers and gardener - again, with frequent checking of my dictionary and the help of two hours each week of additional lessons which obviously is an out of pocket expense.

My story is not unique. I imagine most spouses who have had language training would say the same thing. The


## Letter Link



thought that it is a non-essential expenditure is absurd. If that is the theory now, just wait until the powers that be see how many people are asking for the separate maintenance allowance.

—Ann Johnson  
American Embassy Bratislava

## Time for Another Change

 Congratulations to AAFSW and *Global Link* editor Jan Fischer Bachman for a new look for the old News. The updated name and masthead are terrific and timely.

Now I hope the Board will take Francesca Kelly's sound advice in the same issue advocating a new name for AAFSW. With hundreds of male spouses in the foreign affairs community, it's time to make that change, yet retain our well-respected acronym. Why not AAFSW/M, the Association of American Foreign Service Women and Men?

—Jewell Fenzi  
Oral History Chair

## Language Skills Enhance Life Abroad

In all the countries we've been in, I've been able to function by myself because of learning the local language basics... At times I had some help from financing by the USAID section in the country that we were living and working in, but here in Bolivia I got my own teacher so that I could function better than I had in the other countries.

Using my language skills, I was able to work with local youth in health-related issues through our church, then lat-

er supervise the refurbishing of the church and parsonage, and buying the supplies to do the same from the local markets.

Even at my age - late 50s - I have been able to learn and use my fifth language, not perfect at all times, but the locals tell me that they do understand me, and in turn, when I'm having trouble with a word, work with me on the correct pronunciation.

My work as a nurse at the Embassy Health Unit later used some of my language skills with the local doctors and hospital and further expanded my vocabulary. Even so, I know that more work is needed on the tenses. Yet I'm not staying home. I'm glad to get out and meet the local people.

For the U.S. Congress or the different agencies to feel that cutting the cost of language training for spouses going overseas is cost effective is truly ridiculous!!! The initial classes in the U.S. and further classes at post, only enhance the work of the employee, and prevent problems for the Consular division and a bad image of U.S. citizens and government employees worldwide.

—Bonnie Hash  
American Embassy, La Paz

## Group Plans New Activities

*(continued from page 1)*

on Saturday, Oct. 26 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. All foreign born spouses are strongly urged to attend! Call the OBC right away to make a reservation. The date of the November meeting will be announced at this session.

Other plans for the year include workshops and informal groups to improve English language skills, seminars on completing unfinished university degrees and updating completed degrees (did you know that you can get college credits for being bilingual?). If you are ready to "get moving!" in a new sense this year, call Rosario Kramer at 703-938-3794.

All interested AAFSW members are welcome at the group's events, no matter where they were born.



## Do the Right Thing:

### Family Members and Political Activity

Election day draws near in the United States, and surely you have already investigated what you need to do in order to be able to vote, whether in the U.S. or overseas. Meanwhile, you may be wondering how your spouse's employment affects your ability to participate in local or national politics.

The Hatch Act, which restricted the participation of federal employees in



partisan politics was amended by legislation which took effect in Feb. 1994, allowing much greater freedom of action. Nevertheless, to quote the State Department Inspector General publication, *Standards of Conduct*, "It has long been the tradition that all employees of the Department of State and ACDA, including ambassadors, are discouraged from extensive and, particularly, public participation in partisan politics."

The Hatch Act does not affect family members living in the United States, who are free to participate as they see fit. However, "if you are a U.S. citizen Federal employee, you and members of your immediate family may not become personally involved in the partisan politics of the host country to which you are assigned."

This statement contains many possible implications. On the whole, it should be perfectly acceptable to work with non-partisan projects in developing democracy, organizing communities or helping with other political yet neutral movements. (Obviously, working for an AID project should never pose a problem.) However, the definition of partisan politics may vary from post to post and ambassador to ambassador.

One Foreign Service spouse, for example, was asked by the ambassador not to take a position at her place of employment as a labor representative,

because that committee might have to take up issues with the host country government in an opposing fashion. In another case, a spouse working for a local English-language newspaper was asked not to write a planned series of articles on "Women in Politics."

It may be wise to consult with an authority at post if you are in doubt, remembering to ask for the source of the answer (e.g., the FAM, a cable, etc.). Follow up by writing a note confirming the information you have been told, if it has been given verbally. While few problems in this area have been reported, you could be held responsible if there were any complications stemming from your actions - it is always better to be prepared!

If you would like to know more about regulations which affect you, take the "Regulations, Allowance and Finance" course at the Overseas Briefing Center when you are in Washington (course dates are always listed in the Calendar, page two).

### Welcome New Members!

**Charito M. Beal  
Mary Beth Collins  
Stella W. Dorris  
Jean Fales  
Virginia Fitzpatrick  
Elaine Guihan  
Vigdis Jacobsen  
Marilyn Maher  
Susan O'Neill  
Joyce Power  
Sherry Pressley  
Glenda Simon  
Nicole Zupan**

*Have you renewed your membership? Don't let that piece of paper clutter up your desk - send it NOW, please!*

## FAWCO Explained

—By Christine Zarr, AAFSW President

Being from the USAID side, I never served in Europe. I never met the kind of big groups of American women which are so active all over Europe (AWA, AWC, etc.) or the big International Women's Clubs. I therefore had never heard, until recently, of FAWCO, the 65-year-old umbrella group.

FAWCO has 65 member clubs in 30 countries. Clubs which have non-American as well as American members rate associate membership. FAWCO has expatriate interest committees and liaison officers in 23 different fields, such as "Voting from Overseas," "Loss of U.S. Nationality," "European Parliament." Their newest committees are: "U.S. Presence Abroad," "Medicare," and "Drivers Licenses." The FAWCO women also run a Resource Center in The Hague. (I wish I had known about that when we were looking for a model constitution to follow when updating an I.W.C. in Bulgaria.)

Bad Homburg in Germany was the venue for a recent FAWCO Interim meeting, with 230 women attending from 20 countries. They represented 38 American Women's Clubs. FAWCO's previous conference was in Kenya, and the next Conference will be held in Dublin from March 18 to 23, 1997.

If you are leaving a Foreign Service agency and continuing to work or live abroad, it may be useful for you to note the following facts:

**FAWCO Headquarters**  
Frohmeistrasse, 73/22  
22459 Hamburg, Germany  
Tel (49 40) 555-3972  
Fax (49 40) 559-4860  
e-mail: 100127.1201 @compuserve.com

(Note: the "Headquarters" is always at the President's residence.)

FAWCO can help you get in touch with clubs around the world and act as a resource for your groups abroad.

If you were a member of an AWC abroad, you can keep in touch with expatriate issues by subscribing to the FAWCO alumni newsletter. For more information, contact Mona Garcia, P.O. Box 746, Alvin, TX 77512, U.S. Tel. 713-388-0834

(See "FAWCO," page 5)



## Community Link

### Group Supported by Foreign Service Family Continues to Serve Youth

*Would you like to put the skills and experience you gained overseas to good use for the benefit of the community around us here at home? Do you miss the feeling of being involved in a worthwhile effort to help others? Please read through the information below. It is provided as a service to members seeking volunteer opportunities in the Washington area. If you are interested in more details, or want to sign up, please contact the service organization directly.*

SASHA BRUCE YOUTHWORX (SBY) is a private, non-profit agency working to meet the urgent needs of children at risk and their families. Young people from all over the Washington metropolitan area are served by SBY, most from minority households in under-served areas of the city. Many of the youth are from communities suffering from poverty, drug activities and violence. SBY offers an array of services, tailored to the individual needs of children and families in crisis.

The Sasha Bruce House, an emergency shelter for runaways from any area, is a mainstay of SBY's program. It was made possible through the generosity of the late Ambassador David and Mrs. Evangeline Bruce, named in honor of their daughter who worked on behalf of children in Washington before her untimely death in 1976.

SBY also provides: individual, group and family counseling; outreach and crisis intervention services; educational programs; life skills training; foster care, group homes and supervised apartment living placement; AIDS and substance abuse prevention education; parenting skills training; and home-based family preservation services.

Volunteers are needed at Sasha Bruce as mentors, tutors, group activity leaders, big brothers and sisters, and crisis hotline counselors, as well as for childcare and clerical help. Prospective volunteers are screened and interviewed. Each volunteer is assigned to a staff member for supervision and is trained by staff members working in the programs in which the volunteer will be involved. If you would like to help, please call the volunteer coordinator at 202-675-9340.

—Barbara Leven, Community Relations Committee Member

### Travel Benefits Expand

*(continued from page 1)*

travel nor for the travel of children of separated parents benefit may now receive one round trip a year to visit their families at post.

Previously, older children who did not reside with parents overseas and who were not enrolled in a U.S. educational institution full time were not eligible for travel at government expense to visit their families abroad.

The new authorizing language is found in 3 FAM 3753.3, *Travel by Children Under 21 Who Are Ineligible for Educational Travel and Travel to Visit Separated Parents*. The revised language will be in the next edition of the Foreign Affairs Manual (Transmittal Letter #PER-320, effective August 8, 1996) and in the Foreign Affairs Handbook (Transmittal Letter #POH-16, effective August 8, 1996).

—Family Liaison Office

### Citizenship News for Adopted Children

*Here is one example of the information which FAWCO can provide.*

With the implementation of new section 322 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, Americans living abroad can have their children under 18 become naturalized U.S. citizens without moving back to the U.S., provided that if the American parent has not spent a total of five years in the U.S., the American grandparent has. This law applies to all children of U.S. citizens abroad, including adopted children.

*What has your experience been in getting citizenship for your children while overseas? Will this law make a difference?*



### SHARON SARGENT, MANILA

Honored for her strong commitment and tireless efforts, Sharon Sargent has provided exceptional service to the American, diplomatic, expatriate and Filipino communities.

Sharon arrived at post in Oct. 1993, during a very stressful time when military bases were closing and the Embassy was downsizing. She organized orientation trips throughout Manila and offered transportation and friendship.

Sharon was active as a mentor in USEC's scholarship program which offers stipends to dependents of Foreign Service Nationals. Through her efforts the program grew 167% and 40 scholarships instead of 15 are now offered. She is an active member in the American Women's Club of the Philippines.

Sharon has also devoted her time and energy to the Filipino Community as a volunteer with "Project Smile," which underwrites corrective surgeries for children with cleft palates and lips. By contacting the U.S. advocacy cleft palate group, literature and information is now available to USEC members and Filipino parents.

Sharon's involvements are many, yet all of her contributions are meaningful. Her community spirit and service are an example of Outstanding Volunteerism above and beyond the call of duty. Sharon Sargent is the spouse of Walter Sargent, the Regional Security Officer.

### More on FAWCO

*(Continued from page 4)*

Many thanks to **Eleanor Fina**, who has been sending the newsletters to our office. She is FAWCO's D.C. area representative and may be contacted in Alexandria at 703-768-3174 or (fax) 703-768-0920. Eleanor is a former Foreign Service spouse who has been a member of AAFSW.





## My Turn

### Ready to Assemble!

Furniture in pieces. I first encountered it in the Dominican Republic. It was not the fault of the movers. They did not saw off the legs to fit the piano through the door. The television and VCR arrived with the same number of parts as always, that is, about one more than we know what to do with. No, we encountered furniture in pieces - or as the popular U.S. marketing phrase puts it, "Ready to Assemble!" - when we went in search of a bookcase.

It is one of the quirks of Foreign Service life that families in furnished quarters are thought to need 97 end tables and just one cramped bookshelf. If Congress based these "requirements" on their own lives, we can only assume that they spend a great deal of time carrying around drinks (which require end tables) and not a lot reading books (which require bookshelves). This may be a point for the American public to ponder.

Anyhow, we needed a new bookcase in order to unpack those final boxes. We did not realize at first that the way you ask a question is of supreme importance in the Dominican Republic.

We asked, "Where can we buy an inexpensive bookcase?" If we had asked for the name of a good carpenter, we could have had a mahogany piece custom built to our specifications for the price of three hardbacks. Instead, we were directed to the huge hardware store (where you could buy art supplies, pet food, bicycles, crystal and just about anything else you can think of - all imported and taxed to the hilt) and became the purchasers of a bookcase which had come all the way from Ohio. This was ironic, because I had just come all the way from Ohio!

I was surprised when the supposed bookcase was delivered, because the box looked like it was holding Captain Hook's plank. (It was my first brush with "Ready to Assemble!"). As I unpacked the pieces, I noticed that the company had placed unsightly stickers all over the shelves. "I'll take those off now," I thought, pleased with my own efficiency. "They will be very hard to reach once this thing is put together!"

Imagine my surprise when my hus-

band asked for parts A and B. "They should be marked with little stickers," he patiently explained. Hmmmm. Did I dare tell him?

It took the rest of the day to build that "Ready to Assemble!" bookcase. Since then, of course, in our search to furnish our unfurnished quarters in the Washington area, we have become experts on "Ready to Assemble!". I am occasionally envious of those people who have whole pieces of furniture delivered... just as I am occasionally envious of those people who have lived in the same town for years, building up friendships, support networks, careers, in a word, lives. Their existence seems to come ready-made, while my life as a Foreign Service spouse is "Ready to Assemble!"

At each post, we carefully fit together the pieces: school, church, work, friendships, activities, medical services. The difference is that we don't know ahead of time what the finished product will be. Sometimes there are pieces missing which we never seem to find... until the next move.

There are little stickers which can help us to put the pieces together: courses at the Overseas Briefing Center, information from the Family Liaison Office or the CLO, AAFSW's Neighborhood Network, the Employee Consultation Service. Too many people peel off these stickers, or never notice that they exist.

The advantage of "Ready to Assemble!"? When something goes wrong, we already know how to put things together. No one's life is truly ready-made. There are layoffs, unexpected illnesses, children with phenomenal talents, aging relatives, inheritances, a myriad of unplanned changes which affect the lives of the most stable families. If you've never imagined life another way, you have less ability to see that things can carry on... differently; that there are friends waiting to be made around the world, and adventures waiting to happen.

"Ready to Assemble!" Get plenty of people in to help and watch out for those little stickers!

—Jan Fischer Bachman

### Outstanding Youth Leaders Honored

*As promised last month, here is the complete story on this year's Foreign Service Youth Awards.*

The Foreign Service Youth Foundation (FSYF), with the support of the Association of American Foreign Service Women, annually presents awards to Foreign Service teenagers who demonstrate outstanding leadership in community service or service to their peers. The 1996 awards were partially funded by a donation from the Lyon family in memory of Scott Calvin Lyon, a Foreign Service Officer.

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**...the contributions of Foreign Service young people to their communities and posts often go unrewarded**

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This year there was a tie for the Overseas Youth Award. **Gina Cabrera**, daughter of USAID officer Carlos Cabrera and Carmen Cabrera, Nairobi, was recognized for improving the facilities and working with the children at a nursery school in an impoverished shantytown.

**Stuart Frushour**, son of Colonel and Mrs. George Frushour of the Defense Attache's Office, Oslo, was recognized for improving the Oslo International School by introducing student government and extracurricular activities.

**Alexandra Pastic**, daughter of USAID officer Joseph Pastic and Carol Pastic, received the Stateside Youth Award for giving swimming and water safety training to autistic children and for using her singing and dancing talents to entertain homeless, disabled and seriously ill children.

Six nominees were chosen for High Commendation awards: Michael Alfaro, La Paz; David Berlan, Bonn; Katherine Graves, Springfield, VA; Billy Jackson, Pretoria; Rachel Richards, Kathmandu; and Devon Weir, Amman.

(See "Youth," page 7)



## PROGRAM



**NOTE: A Basement Seat to History** can be ordered through local booksellers or write to Linus Press, P.O. Box 5446, Washington, D.C. 20016-5446 fax: 301-654-5508.

## Youth Receive Awards

(continued from page 6)

Those receiving Honorable Mention recognition were Tamara Cosio, Beth Herbert and Heather Senykoff, all of Manila.

The winners of the 1996 awards were honored in a summer ceremony. Acting FSYF president Kay Branaman Eakin welcomed the winners, their families and their friends. Under Secretary for Management Richard M. Moose presented the awards.

As unofficial representatives of our country, the contributions of Foreign Service young people to their communities and posts often go unrewarded. The Foreign Service Youth Awards are one way we say thank you to all of the young people who accompany their parent on assignments overseas.

## A Basement Seat to History:

**Tales of Covering Presidents Nixon, Ford, Carter and Reagan, as Reported by Philomena Jurey**

As we approach our elections, we are most fortunate in having a veteran reporter, Philomena Jurey, give us important insights into our recent past - a past she has recorded in a book by the same name as the title above.

Having spent 28 years with Voice of America (VOA), including fourteen years as White House correspondent, she is able to give us special insights into the style and character of the four Presidents she covered - how they looked, where they traveled and why, and how they were perceived by onlookers.

She can also relate many of the complex international issues of the day with which these Presidents had to contend.

Although Ms. Jurey is relatively unknown in the United States, because the VOA is banned by law from broadcasting in the U.S., she, with a staff of 200, has reached millions of people through



out the world in 43 languages with the news that they have come to trust as to what is actually going on all over the globe, especially in the West.

To show how popular she and her programs were, a Tokyo newspaper in 1989, upon learning of her retirement, announced, "Famous VOA Unknown Retires."

Upon her retirement, Ms. Jurey has spent her time writing and promoting her book.

Helen Thomas, long-time White House correspondent, writes, "This is

a wonderful, compelling book... to those who lived in closed communist societies during the Cold War, she was a window to the Western World and to freedom."

Ms. Jurey will be glad to sign any of the books you bring to the meeting, which will be held **October 8 at 10 a.m.**

—Barbara Gordon

**"...to those who lived in closed communist societies, she was a window to freedom."**

Reservations Contact: Pearl Richardson, 202-265-3301

### October Program Coupon - Return Immediately!

Tuesday, Oct. 8, 1996, 10 a.m., 8th Floor, State Department

Name (as you wish it on name tag): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Birth or Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ New Member? yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name(s) of Guest(s) with DOB or SSN: \_\_\_\_\_

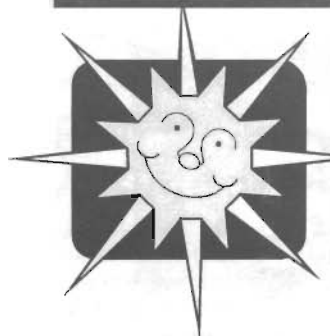
**NOTE: BRING A VALID PHOTO I.D. FOR ENTRY TO STATE DEPARTMENT**

Reservations accepted in the order CHECKS are received. Please send form, with check made out to AAFSW (\$5 per member, \$5 per guest), to AAFSW Reservations, 5125 MacArthur Blvd NW, Suite 36, Washington, DC 20016.

REMINDER: Special permission granted members and guests to enter the Dept. of State building is limited to hours of meeting only.

**No refunds can be made nor reservations accepted after Oct. 1.**





## Away Day for Foreign Service Youth

Tearing up roots... losing friends... starting over... making new friends... Sound familiar? It's that time of year, when so many of us have moved and have to start finding our niche all over again.

Foreign service kids experience the same trials and tribulations that adults go through in this process. Give your teen an edge by sending them to Away Day on Saturday, Oct. 26.

Co-sponsored by the Foreign Service Youth Foundation, Family Liaison Office and Overseas Briefing Center, the Away Day is a program of outdoor activities designed to help students meet other foreign service kids and build self-esteem as they work in teams to meet goals, acquiring team-building skills that they can use to meet the challenges of starting over in a new place. (Besides, it's FUN!)

Away Day is for ages ten through eighteen. It does not involve athletic ability or strength. The cost is \$15, which includes bus transportation, lunch and the program. Space is limited, so call Sydnee Tyson at FLO right away for a reservation: 202-647-1076.

## Opportunity Link

### W A N T E D

People recently returned from the following posts:

Accra  
Bangkok  
Baniul  
Bishkek  
Bonn  
Dar es Salaam  
Guatemala City  
Managua  
New Delhi  
Oslo  
Riyadh  
Suya

People considering or already assigned to a post can find much of the information they need to know at the Overseas Briefing Center, but they are also often looking for a personal point of view and an additional perspective. This is where you can make a big difference. Simply fill out a Returnee Card. These cards are kept on file at OBC and contain the names of people who have recently returned from post who are willing to talk about their experiences there.

Occasionally, we receive requests from international relocation companies that are willing to pay people for sharing their experiences.

Returnee Cards take only a minute to fill out, and you don't even have to go to the OBC to do it! Call 703-302-7277 and we can fill out the information over the phone.

In addition to those listed to the left, we welcome names from all posts.

—Maureen Johnston  
Overseas Briefing Center

## AAFSW Offers Second Continuing Education Scholarship

The AAFSW Continuing Education scholarship, will be awarded in April, 1997, in the amount of \$2,000. To be eligible, you must be the spouse (or former spouse) of an employee in the foreign affairs agencies and a member in good standing of AAFSW. Financial need, past educational record, and the nature of your continuing education project will all be considered.

Application forms may be picked up at the AAFSW office in person, or they may be requested in writing by fax, mail or e-mail (information on page two). All requirements must be completed and forms received by Feb. 10, 1997, in order for an application to be considered.

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE PAID  
PLEASE FORWARD

**AAFSW**

Association of American Foreign Service Women  
5125 MacArthur Blvd., NW  
Suite #36  
Washington, D.C. 20016

Jan A. Fischer Bachman  
9951 Capperton Dr.  
Oakton VA 22124

