

GLOBAL LINK

Association of American Foreign Service Women



BOOKFAIR Art Corner Chair, Suzy Al-Mutawa, right, helps a customer view a potential purchase. This year's BOOKFAIR made over \$80,000. Now that BOOKFAIR has ended, Suzy has agreed to help organize the Foreign-Born Spouses Group. For more information on this active group, see page 3.

USAID Refuses Spouse Language Training Request

Last spring, when my husband was assigned to Kigali, Rwanda, I decided polishing high school French was a top priority, for security and all the obvious reasons. I went up and down the chain of command at the FSI - all assured me I was welcome to join a French class - and up and down the chain of command at AID, who said no one could pay for it. Although I eventually offered to pay to join a class, that was also not possible.

While I had quit my job early to allow time for language training, and my husband had two excellent Rwandan French teachers at CACI, thanks to AID, I blew \$1000 for very mediocre classes at Berlitz. The woman in the next classroom was a FAS spouse taking Spanish on the USDA. I was assured that were I a FCS, USIA, DOS, FAS spouse, I would be provided language training, but not AID.

Here at post, I'm paying for classes

at the French Cultural Center, since the post has neither a language training program nor policy (although it is on the agenda).

In 25 years in the Foreign Service, I've had DOS support for the study of Spanish, Nepali and (very limited support for) Bahasa Indonesia. I was on my own and out of pocket for Portuguese, SiSwati and now French.

I called all the right folks (I think) at AFSA and AAFSW - all nice and sympathetic, but no solutions. This kind of division among the branches of the FS is counterproductive, silly, and provides fodder for our critics.

—Ann Lewis, Rwanda

Should language training be made a top priority for high-risk posts? How many spouses are paying for their own language classes? Send your responses to GLOBAL LINK or the AAFSW office (information on page 2).

Happy New Year from the IRS!

Tax code changes for income earned in 1997 include a law raising the maximum contribution by each spouse to an Individual Retirement Account to \$2000, regardless of their incomes. Formerly, a spouse with little to no income could only contribute \$250 to a "spousal IRA." Contributions may be tax-deductible. Consult with a tax expert for details on your particular case.

Give the Gift of Your Opinion This Holiday Season

This year treat other families with new overseas assignments to the gift of your point of view on your most recent post. The personal touch can make a big difference for those in the planning stage.

Returnee cards are kept on file at the Overseas Briefing Center. In addition to hearing from people considering a certain post, you may find the odd paid job talking about your experiences in a more formal setting.

There are NO cards on file for some of the following posts: ABU DHABI, ANKARA, ASHBAGAT, BANGKOK, CARACAS, HANOI, KAMPALA, LOME, LONDON and MONTEVIDEO. If you recently returned from one of these places - or any other - stop by the OBC or call 703-302-7277 to add your name to the list. It's the least expensive present you're likely to give this year!

AAFSW

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AAFSW membership is open to all U.S. Foreign
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are available to the public at \$25 per year.

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AAFSW EVENTS

DECEMBER

- 2-6 OBC Training Skills
- 7-8 AWAL Getaway Weekend
- 10 PROGRAM featuring Le Rowell, quilt expert
- 12-13 OBC American Studies

JANUARY

- 8-10 OBC Regulations, Allowances and Finances
- 11 OBC Communicating Across Cultures
- 14 PROGRAM
- 22 OBC Managing Rental Property from Overseas
- 28 Board Meeting

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Suzan Al-Mutawa
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Jeanie Harris
Karen Young Keshap
Anita M. Knaysi
Carol Montgomery
Valerie W. Morris
Anne Taft
Ma. Elena G. Thayer

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DIRECTOR: Ray Leki

Member Supports Name Change

 Belatedly I want to second Francesca Kelly's comments about the need for an AAFSW name change [GLOBAL LINK, Sept. 1996]. It seems to me that AAFSW's name reflects the current reality of its most forceful active membership—namely, female Foreign Service Spouses who have been in the Foreign Service many, many years and who have, through AAFSW, made tremendous achievements which benefit those of us who have not been in the Foreign Service quite as long.

It also seems to me that Francesca's statement that a name change is necessary for the organization's survival rests exactly on the issue of AAFSW's future. As she says, the new members of the Foreign Service spouse community are either "working, male, don't know about AAFSW, or don't believe in an organization whose members must be of a certain gender."

If AAFSW wants to retain its position as a strong advocate for spouses and families, it has to change its name and its membership to reflect the new reality of those spouses and families, rather than rest on its—incredibly impressive—laurels and cling to its respected but now outdated moniker. I'm afraid I am not creative enough to have a suggestion for a new name, but I sincerely hope AAFSW will take Francesca's letter seriously.

—Shannon Jamison, Japan

NOTE: In case you have been wondering, the small computer symbol at the beginning of certain letters indicates that the correspondence was received via e-mail.

Get Focused in '97

The Overseas Briefing Center and Family Liaison Office are developing plans to hold a series of focus groups at the National Foreign Affairs Training Center (FSI) on the second Saturday in February. If you have issues you would like to express, please watch this space for details.

—Ray Leki, Director,
Overseas Briefing Center



From the left Rosario Kramer, Consuelo Walker, Carmen Gais and Graciela Hoffman pause for a photograph during a recent Foreign-Born Spouses luncheon event.

Foreign-Born Spouses Plan White House Tour

The Foreign-Born Spouses Group has scheduled a visit to see the White House Christmas decorations on Dec. 10. Anyone interested in participating in the tour should contact organizer Suzy Al-Mutawa immediately at 703-527-6233.

The group's most recent event was a trip to Fredericksburg on Nov. 21 to visit Mary Washington's home.

Many thanks to Rosario Kramer for her efforts over the past two years with the Foreign-Born Spouses. She will be handing over her responsibilities this month because of work and other commitments.

All AAFSW members, regardless of where they were born, are welcome to attend the group's activities.



Parlez-Vous Francais?

We all know how fast a painstakingly acquired foreign language slips away when we do not practice or use it. The goal of our French Group is to develop our conversation skills and to broaden our knowledge regarding France and

other French-speaking countries. Our topics include politics, economics, history, the arts, fashion and many diverse social issues as well as the wide scope of French-American relationships. We visit museums and special exhibits, and once in a while, we enjoy lunch together. Generally, we meet on the first and third Friday of the month from 10 a.m. to noon.

If you would like to join us, please call me at 703-525-9755.

—Christel McDonald
French Group Chair

Phi Beta Kappa Holds Banquet

All AAFSW members who were elected to Phi Beta Kappa while in college are cordially invited by fellow AAFSW members and French Group Chair Christel McDonald to attend the Phi Beta Kappa Holiday Banquet on Wed., Dec. 4.

Journalist and author William Carmichael will speak at the dinner, which will be held at the National Women's Democratic Club. The cost is \$28. For more information, call Christel at 703-525-9755.

Child Care Referral Service Continues

Blanka Rubensaal, who handles the child care referral service, reports that most calls this year have been for babysitters for infants. Many of those who have called live in remote locations and do not have cars. There have not been any calls regarding child care near the new National Foreign Affairs Training Center.

Some Neighborhood Network representatives have reported receiving calls about child care as well. Spread the word that either of these sources may help solve some of the problems faced by new arrivals.

If you have information regarding a babysitter, child care center or other service which you would like to pass on, please call both Blanka and your Neighborhood Network representative so that other members can benefit from your experiences!

Estate Planning - the Wisest Move of All

An AAFSW member saw a longer version of this article and felt that it contained important information for our members. Foreign-born spouses in particular should take note of the different way the laws apply if they do not become American citizens. These excerpts are reprinted by permission from Mosaic, the newsletter for the World Bank Volunteer Services.

By Prue Hill

Caryn Lennon, a lawyer employed by the World Bank to give legal advice to staff and families, introduced us to some of the legal issues that family members should be aware of. Death is a subject that we are reluctant to discuss even within our families - so it is all too easy to put off planning for the inevitable.

Estate planning involves planning for both the expected and unexpected events of life in an effort to protect yourself and your family and maintain control over your life, health and death. The purpose of estate planning is to pass your assets to your heirs with as little shrinkage by death taxes as possible.

There are many avenues that can be taken to achieve a good estate plan, and a good lawyer is the navigator. Even gathering together the information to start this journey is better than nothing.



Estate Taxes

Let us say the husband dies first, and his wife dies some time later.

For U.S. citizens:

There are two provisions of law that eliminate or minimize estate tax:

The Unlimited Marital Deduction allows a person to give an unlimited

amount of property to his/her spouse without incurring Federal estate or gift taxes. So when he dies, his estate is not taxed, but when she dies, her estate is taxed. This enables the tax burden to fall after the death of the second spouse.

Unified Credit allows a U.S. citizen to make gifts and/or leave a taxable estate of up to \$600,000 without incurring any tax.

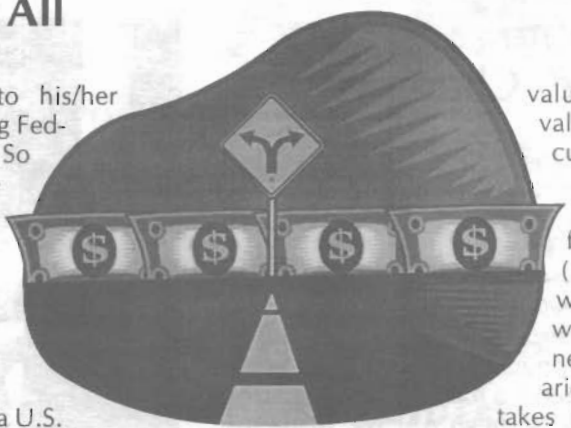
If both husband and wife are U.S. citizens, the couple is deemed to have equal ownership of the marital assets so that when he dies half of what they own becomes his estate.

When the wife dies, her estate is subject to tax. Tax rates vary from 18% to 55%. The effective tax rate for estates in excess of the Unified Credit begins at 37%. One way around the tax on her estate is by her husband establishing a Bypass Trust in which he uses his Unified Credit instead of the Unlimited Marital Deduction. Half of the marital assets are assumed to belong to his widow. The remaining assets are put in a Bypass Trust and the income is used by the widow. When the widow dies a Unified Credit of \$600,000 is applied to her assets and the Bypass Trust assets are passed to the offspring without tax. Thus, U.S. citizen couples with combined estates of up to \$1.2 million can escape estate tax entirely by planning.

For a U.S. citizen or resident husband and non-U.S. wife

When the surviving spouse is not a U.S. citizen, the Unlimited Marital Deduction does not apply. The U.S. citizen husband is deemed to own all the marital assets unless the non-citizen wife can prove she contributed to the assets (domestic labor is not counted by the IRS). The wife's contributions from the beginning of the marriage are subtracted from his estate before taxing it.

If the husband dies first, he is taxed on his worldwide assets. These assets include insurance, houses, assets, e.g., cars, savings, and his widow's pension which is taxed on its actuarial present



value. This value is calculated by a complicated formula (otherwise, why would we need actuaries!) that takes into account how many years

the widow is likely to survive and assumed interest rates. For a 50-year-old widow, the actuarial value of her survivor's pension is about 11 times its annual value; for a 70-year-old, it is eight times the annual value.

In the past, estate taxes could be deferred by the pension being paid into a Qualified Domestic Trust (written QDT and pronounced Qdot). The widow then paid annual estate tax on the pension. U.S. estate tax regulations were changed in August, 1995, and surviving spouses can now claim this favorable treatment through annual filing with the IRS or paying the pension into a QDT themselves.

One way of minimizing his estate is to transfer ownership of his life insurance policy to his wife. The payout for the basic New York Life Insurance is about equal to his annual salary if he dies as an employee. On retirement, if he is eligible and opts to continue coverage, it can start at either 1.5 times his salary if he chooses the High Option or half this amount for the Standard Option. The latter diminishes annually to \$5,000 and the former to \$10,000 at and after age 75.

If you have a green card (i.e. are a permanent resident) and elect to become a U.S. citizen, you can apply for the Unlimited Marital Deduction, but you must do this within nine months of your spouse's death. This is the period in which an estate tax return must be submitted.

As this article clearly demonstrates, ignorance can be an expensive prospect. The Overseas Briefing Center offers a number of seminars on personal and financial planning - one good way to become informed.

'Tis the Season to Be...Thinking about Financial Aid

While the 1997-98 school year may seem like a long time away, now is the time to find out what financial aid options are available for college or university studies: deadlines are fast approaching for some scholarships, grants and loans.

AAFSW/AFSA Scholarships

AAFSW/AFSA scholarship applications are due on Feb. 17, 1997, but it's not too early to begin planning and getting submissions in order. Foreign Service family members who are undergraduates are eligible for grants from \$500 to \$2,500 per year, depending on parents' income bracket. Application information should be requested from Lori Dec; call 202/944-5504, fax 202/338-6820, or get in touch via internet at "scholar@afsa.org".

AAFSW Continuing Education Scholarship

Applications for AAFSW's Continuing Education scholarship, worth \$2000, are due by Feb. 10, 1997. 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. Applications may be picked up at the AAFSW office in person or requested in writing by fax, mail or e-mail (information on page two).

Online Information

Some of the following information is reproduced courtesy of Afsanet (more on how to subscribe to this useful service next month).

The **Financial Aid Information Page**, which is on the World Wide Web (<http://www.finaid.org>), is sponsored by the National Association of Financial Aid Administrators. It contains information on scholarships and grants, as well as warnings about fraudulent search firms. The association has another site (<http://www.nasfaa.org>) that offers

consumer scholarship tips.

The **College Board Web site** (<http://www.collegeboard.org>) contains a data base of scholarship sources called Expan Scholarship Search. A similar data base is available in many libraries and guidance counselors' offices through a software program called Fund Finder, also from the College Board.

The **Student Loan Marketing Association home page** (<http://www.salliemae.com>) offers information on scholarships, grants and student loans, particularly focusing on borrowing options and repayment schemes.

SRN Express (<http://www.rams.com/srn/search.html>) is a free Web version of the data base of the **Scholarship Resource Network**, a search firm. It focuses on private-sector aid, like academic scholarships.

The **U.S. Department of Education** can be found at <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/index.html>. This site provides extensive information on federal loan and grant programs and allows online filing of the FAFSA form (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), which must be filled out by most U.S. students applying for need-based aid to determine their expected family contributions. Even if you have the paper version, you may want to check here for instructions to make the form less confusing.

Fastweb, found at <http://www.fastweb.com>, is a database of 180,000 private scholarships, grants and loans. Students register with Fastweb online and receive a list of relevant scholarships within about 15 minutes through their e-mail address.

Helpful Books

The following books were mentioned by Afsanet and may be available through your CLO or local library:

College Costs and Financial Aid Handbook, (College Board, \$16). This how-to book includes an outline of major aid programs, a discussion of how financial need is determined and a look at college costs.

The Scholarship Book, by Daniel J. Cassidy (Prentice Hall, \$21.95). This is a guide to private-sector scholarships, grants and loans.

Need a Lift? published by the American Legion and available by writing Emblem Sales, P.O. Box 1050, Indianapolis, Ind. 46206 (\$3). It lists sources of information on careers, scholarships and loans for all students, with an emphasis on children of veterans.

Financial Aids for Higher Education edited by Oreon Keeslar (Brown & Benchmark, \$58). It lists more than 3,000 sources of financial aid, with details on eligibility criteria.

Virginia Offers Prepaid Tuition Plans for Residents

Prepaid tuition contracts for public colleges or universities in Virginia will go on sale for a period of 90 days beginning Dec. 2. Contracts are available for infants through ninth-graders in both single and monthly payment forms. They do not guarantee acceptance into any particular university, but rather that the entire cost of four years of tuition and fees will be covered at any Virginia public educational institution. Similar sign-up periods will be offered in future years.

Students who decide to attend a private college in Virginia or any college outside of the state can still make use of the prepaid tuition, but will be liable for any difference between actual tuition paid and the highest tuition charged at a Virginia state college. Parents may cancel a contract at any time and receive a refund of what they have paid, but no interest will be returned.

Costs vary from \$128 per month fees for an infant to \$16,699 for a single payment for a ninth grader. Taxes on tuition payments are deferred until a tuition voucher is redeemed, at which time they are assessed at the student's tax bracket, not the parents. For more information, call the toll-free number 1-888-567-0540.

If you are not a Virginia resident, be aware that twelve states have adopted college prepayment plans and twenty others, including Maryland, are considering the idea. It may be worth investigating the possibilities in your home state.



The AAFSW/Secretary of State Outstanding Volunteerism Awards were started in 1990 to honor individuals serving overseas and making a remarkable difference in their communities. This is the fourth in a series of articles describing the accomplishments of this year's winners.

BETTY FRANKFATHER, LAGOS

Betty Frankfather organizes after-hours special events that both American and Nigerian embassy personnel can enjoy. She was instrumental in organizing the 1995 Christmas party for the Embassy's Foreign Service National employees as well as soliciting food and funds to provide two dozen gift baskets for the raffle. She also established a retirement plan for AERA employees.

Ms. Frankfather is dedicated to her volunteer assistance at a local home for physically and mentally challenged and abandoned children. Each Saturday she prepares a lunch for the 30 or more children and staff of the home, the only truly nutritious meal that the children eat all week. She has made an indelible impression on their lives.

Her colleagues say, "Betty Frankfather's service is truly outstanding. Her enthusiasm for every project she undertakes and her keen sense of duty to the community set an example for all of us!"

Betty Frankfather is the Regional Personnel Officer.

—Claire Bogosian, Award Chair

NOTE: Watch for the announcement for nominations for the 1997 AAFSW/Secretary of State Outstanding Volunteerism Awards in next month's edition of GLOBAL LINK.

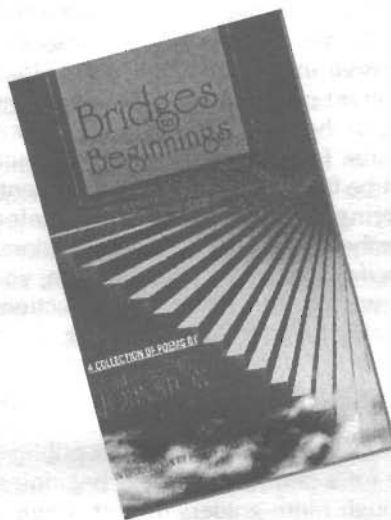
Members Demonstrate Literary Success

Not every organization has a member who has published a book - much less several members who have done so within the space of a year!

Linda Bell is still awaiting publication of her work on adult "Global Nomad" children, entitled *Hidden Immigrants: Legacies of Growing Up Abroad*. It will be officially released within the next few months, at which time we will give further details.

Advance copies (ISBN No. 0-940121-35-2) can be ordered from Cross Cultural Publications, Inc., P.O. Box 506, Notre Dame, IN 46556 - or by calling 1-800-561-6526 - for \$19.95 plus shipping.

Agnes Nasmith Johnston recently produced her second collection of poetry, *Bridges to Beginnings*, centered on her experiences in China.



A review by Grace Cavalieri, author of seven volumes of poetry and producer of *The Poet and the Poem*, WPFW-89.3 FM, says, "The elegant simplicity of Agnes Nasmith Johnston's work comes from a turning of each word for its own sake without need for artifice or device... As with translations from the Asian classic poets, the pleasure is at the peaceful center of each poem. It is a poetry of

pleasure and peace."

Autographed copies of the book with gift cards are available for Christmas if ordered by Dec. 15. For more information contact Agnes directly at 703-548-2258 or Road Publishers, 33412 Lankford Highway, Painter, VA 23420-0431.



Kwanzaa Yenu Iwe Na Heri! (Happy Holidays!)

Thirty years ago, civil rights activists realized that there was no major American holiday related to the cultural heritage of African-Americans. Dr. Maulana Ron Karenga initiated Kwanzaa in 1966 as a celebration of the oneness and goodness of life, centered on seven principles (Nguzo Saba), with a special emphasis on the unity of Black families. With an increasing awareness of multiculturalism in schools and workplaces, Kwanzaa has grown in prominence, particularly in areas with a large African-American population, such as Washington, D.C.

Kwanzaa symbols and decorations are arranged on Dec. 19. These include the Mkeka (a straw mat on which the other objects are placed), the Kinara (a candleholder for the seven candles which represent the seven principles), ears of corn (Muhindi) representing children, the Unity Cup and gifts.

The festival begins Dec. 26 with a ceremony at home, during which the candles are lit. A different principle is highlighted each day, culminating in a feast on Dec. 31. Gifts may be given each day or saved for the feast. Handmade gifts related to African-American heritage are especially encouraged.

The Seven Principles, in brief, are: unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and faith. Kwanzaa is not tied to any religion, although it is meant to be a spiritual celebration.

Wherever you are, however you celebrate this December, Happy Holidays!

Family Liaison Office Direct Communication Project News

Streamlined Project and New Newsletter

The Family Liaison Office's Direct Communication Project has provided information to Foreign Service family members and employees since 1985. It offers papers and books on employment, education, care of elderly parents, child care, contingency planning and evacuation, adoption, divorce, and transitions. Recently separated from the Skills Bank, the Direct Communication Project now has its own data base. A new semi-annual newsletter, *FS Direct*, will increase the communication to members.

New and Revised Papers

A new paper, *The Home Study Option*, by Pat Olsen is based on her experience as a Foreign Service spouse who home schooled her sons, Matthew, Patrick and David, for two years while they were posted to the Marshall Islands. The paper looks at the decision-making process, selecting a home study program, logistics, tips for making it work, and a resource list including Internet addresses.

Direct Communication Paper No. 28, *Adult Education*, has been updated. It covers adult education from the General Educational Development (GED) testing program to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Graduate School day, evening, weekend, and self-study courses. There are addresses, phone numbers and fax numbers for schools that offer courses to Americans abroad and a list of schools that offer courses in the Washington area. There is also a list of books on financial aid and college study.

To receive *FS Direct* or request one of the Direct Communications papers, contact Karen (Room 1212A, Department of State, Washington, D.C. 20520; tel. 202-647-1076 and fax 202-647-1670).

Quilt Diplomacy: Opening Doors and Dialogue

As the wife of an ambassador, as an experienced curator, lecturer and a quilter herself, Le Rowell has been able to use her expertise and position to give a unique expression of American society, history and craftsmanship through the use of American quilts.

At the beginning of the 19th century, American women making these blankets or quilts had attained a high artistic level which included representational art as well as geometric patterns. Often they reflected the history of the times with such names as "Log Cabin," "Road to California," etc. In the 50s quilting was rediscovered in the U.S., where quilt guilds now number 2,000. Since quilts tell stories from daily life, they are understood throughout the world where quilting has also been a part of women's lives and work.

In Bolivia, Portugal and Luxembourg, quilts have been showcased on the walls of the Ambassador's residence where Ambassador and Mrs. Rowell welcomed thousands of visitors. Mrs. Rowell organized an international quilt guild in Luxembourg and traveled to Germany and Kyrgyzstan to lecture and teach.

Mrs. Rowell will bring several of her quilts to view along with a slide lecture

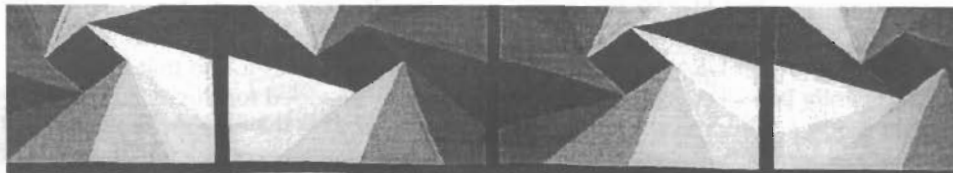


Le Rowell is shown here with a crazy quilt dating from 1881.

which will indeed be a Christmas present to us at the program on **Dec. 10**.

This will be a treat for our members and their guests along with our yearly opportunity to tour the eighth floor with our friendly docent, which means arriving promptly at **9:30 a.m.** The tour at 9:30 will be followed by our regular coffee hour at 10 a.m. and an exciting presentation by one of "our own," Le Rowell.

—Barbara Gordon, Program Chair



Reservations Contact: Pearl Richardson, 202-265-3301

December Program Coupon - Return Immediately!

Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1996, 9:30 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



I plan to attend the tour. No. of guests also attending: _____

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 Dec. 5.

The Last Word

AAFSW Maintains Links to Related Organizations

AAFSW maintains regular contact with other voluntary membership organizations working in foreign affairs. The following groups are among those most frequently consulted.

1. **Diplomatic and Consular Officers, Retired (DACOR).** This is the group which owns the splendid four-story mansion, DACOR-Bacon House, near the White House, where it has offices, some temporary residential accommodation, function rooms, an elegant garden and a restaurant for members. DACOR provides numerous services for its members.

2. Three ambassadorial groupings, namely the **American Academy of Diplomacy**, the **Council of American Ambassadors** and the **Association of Black American Ambassadors**.

3. The **Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training.** Employees of this association include our own members Jane Smith, Jan Fischer Bachman and Joan Deason. The offices are in the upper part of the building which houses the Overseas Briefing Center at the National Foreign Affairs Training Center. The Association, with the help of volunteers, aids in various training functions at the NFATC and runs an extensive Foreign Affairs Oral History program, including a contract to interview over one hundred former USAID employees. It has recently produced both an exhibit and a book on the history of the U.S.

diplomatic service.

4. The **American Foreign Service Association (AFSA)** - DON'T confuse this with AAFSW! This is the official and only "labor union" to represent USIA, AID and State foreign service employees. Its offices, club and restaurant are on the other side of Virginia Avenue from the State Department. Elected officers include President "Tex" Harris, and State Vice-President Al La Porta (husband of Ann La Porta who runs our Evacuee Support Network). There is a paid staff of about twenty people, some of whom put out the *Foreign Service Journal* (not to be confused with the official State magazine).

Patty Ryan, a former AAFSW President, has attended AFSA board meetings for many years and keeps in touch with their legislative and congressional specialists, while Ginnie Carter tracks the scholarship money we give, which is administered for us by AFSA. To find out more about AFSA, talk to the volunteer AFSA representative which every post should have.

5. The **Una Chapman Cox Foundation.** Once upon a time, a wealthy woman from Texas, on a sea cruise round the world, missed the ship's departure in Bombay. A young vice-consul came to her rescue and she was grateful. Years later, it was found that in her will she had provided for this "Cox Foundation" to benefit the Foreign Service. The

Foundation, under the direction of retired Ambassador Alfred W. Atherton, makes various study grants.

6. The **Coalition for American Leadership Abroad (COLEAD).** This is a new grouping of twenty-seven organizations (including AAFSW) which have joined together to defend and promote U.S. involvement in foreign affairs. Among member organizations are those involving teachers of Russian, former Peace Corps volunteers, former Fulbright grantees, Physicians for Social Responsibility, the Union of Concerned Scientists and the United Nations Association. COLEAD sponsored a Town Meeting at Main State on Nov. 15. A detailed report on this inter-organizational network and a list of all twenty-seven members will appear in the January edition of *GLOBAL LINK*.

We have in our files many newsletters and communications from these organizations and lists of the people involved in them. They provide services, initiatives and connections which are very useful for us to know about - for example, DACOR's welfare committee which helps people in financial difficulty and the Cox Foundation's recent allocation of \$100,000 to pay half the cost of a study and possible legislative push to promote better funding for the foreign affairs agencies.

—Chris Zarr
AAFSW President

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