

AAFSW NEWS

Association of American Foreign Service Women

SUMMER 1996



Summertime...

Neighborhood Networks Have Been Busy Planning Area Gatherings

Foreign Service families from Fairfax, Oakton and Vienna (with a few thrown in from elsewhere) enjoy a Saturday afternoon picnic (both photos). If you would like to get together with others living nearby, or if you could help organize an event (it's easy), call your Neighborhood Network representative (see page 2) - or volunteer to be the representative if there is not one for your area!



COMING SOON!

***BOOKFAIR

Volunteer sign-up sheets, which will arrive with the September edition of the AAFSW newsletter.

***Membership renewal forms which will be mailed to you at the end of July if your membership expires on August 31. Please make our job easier by promptly returning the form to the AAFSW office, together with your check.

*** The Oral History Collection Meeting/Tea to be held on September 17 at 4 p.m. in the beautiful and historic DACOR Bacon House, featuring guest speaker Bette Bao Lord. Mark your calendar now!

***An ALL NEW format to the AAFSW newsletter as of September!

Do the Right Thing: Ethics for Foreign Affairs Families

Can your spouse's employer create regulations which govern your behavior? As "Eligible Family Members," you know that the answer is affirmative. It would seem like an obviously sensible idea to make sure that family members know the rules which apply to them, but the editor of the AAFSW News was told by representatives from the Inspector General's Office that this would be "impossible."

As resourceful Foreign Service family members, however, we are not stopped by the mere fact that something is impossible! As a service to our readers, the AAFSW News will feature a series of brief articles on regulations which apply to family members of State and ACDA employees, as listed in the recent revision of *Standards of Conduct*, an OIG publication. It is likely that similar restrictions apply to family members

of USIA, AID and other government employees involved in the world of foreign affairs.

To the beach - or bust?

You have just been offered the use of your neighbor's beach house for a week-long vacation. Can you accept?

According to *Standards of Conduct*, "neither you [the employee] nor the members of your immediate family may solicit or accept any such gifts, favors, entertainment, or loans, from the following prohibited sources:

- Anyone who is seeking official action by the Department or ACDA;
- Anyone who has, or is seeking to obtain, contractual or other business or financial relations with the Department of State or one of its overseas posts;

(See "Ethics for Families", page 7)

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE WOMEN 1995-96 BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Honorary President Marie Christopher - Honorary Vice President Brooke Shearer

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e-mail: JZarr@aol.com

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MEMBERSHIP

Olivia Brown - 202-966-3238

PROGRAM

Barbara Gordon - 202-338-0176

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Lesley Dorman - 202-484-3497

PLEASE ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE
WITH APPROPRIATE CHAIR CLEARLY
INDICATED, AS FOLLOWS:
AAFSW (Name of Chair)
5125 MacArthur Blvd., NW
Suite # 36
Washington, DC 20016

IMPORTANT AAFSW NUMBERS

(All Department of State addresses are at:
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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.

APPOINTED COMMITTEE CHAIRS

AFSA LIAISON

Patricia Ryan - 202-966-7696

ARCHIVIST

Virginia Moore - 301-530-5902

AUTHORS' ROUND TABLE

Ingeborg Carsten Miller - 301-572-6803

AWARDS/RECOGNITION

EVACUEE SUPPORT NETWORK

Ann La Porta - 202-966-5129

FOREIGN-BORN SPOUSES

Rosario Kramer - 703-938-3794

FRENCH GROUP

Christel McDonald - 703-525-9755

ITALIAN GROUP

Jane Biltchik - 202-363-2581

ORAL HISTORY

Jewell Fenzi - 202-387-4024

e-mail: jfenzi@aol.com

OVERSEAS REPRESENTATIVES LIAISON

Sally Horn - 703-815-1344

Dorothy Penner - 301-469-9162

SCHOLARSHIP

Virginia Carter - 703-860-4732

WOMEN IN TRANSITION

Nancy Longmyer - 703-532-4694

WRITERS' GROUP

Jerri Bird - 202-554-2751

Sylvia Zimmerman - 202-966-1072

NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK

D.C.

20009 - Eva Groening, 202-234-4586

20012 - Judy Smith, 202-291-0248

20024 - Kay Branaman Eakin, 202-863-2317

20037 - Lucy Williams, 202-861-0650

Maryland

20814 - Bethesda

Barbara Reese, 301-951-4328

20816 - Mass. Ave., Bethesda

Chris Zarr, 301-229-7218

20817 - Bethesda

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22205 - Arlington

Patricia Telkins, 703-534-6759

22207 - Arlington

Joan Deason, 703-241-8914

22303 - Alexandria

Maryagnes Kerr, 703-329-6217

22305 - Alexandria

Marie S. Taylor, 703-683-2427

CALENDAR

JULY

- 24 (PM) OBC Promoting American Wines Overseas
- 25 Lunch meeting at Chris Zarr's
- 27 AWAL Tubing trip
- 30-31 OBC English Teaching Seminar
- 30 OBC Advanced Security Overseas

AUGUST

WATCH FOR AAFSW MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORMS!

- 1 OBC English Teaching (cont.)
- 5-6 OBC Security Overseas
- 12-16 OBC Intro. to the Foreign Service
- 13 OBC Advanced Security Overseas Seminar
- 20 AWAL Kings Dominion trip
- 19-20 OBC Security Overseas
- 22-23 OBC American Studies
- 27 OBC Advanced Security Overseas Seminar

SEPTEMBER

RETURN YOUR BOOKFAIR VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP SHEET!

- 17 Oral History Tea (4 p.m.)
- 24 Board meeting

OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE ASSOC.

2101 E St., NW, Washington, DC 20037

Telephone 202-338-4046

EMPLOYEE CONSULTATION

Room 3243 Department of State

Telephone 202-647-4929

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



For the sixth year, we are pleased to honor individuals serving overseas who have made a remarkable difference in their communities by awarding them the AAFSW/Secretary of State Award for Outstanding Volunteerism. From the many entries submitted by our posts overseas, one winner is selected from each geographic area. We are particularly pleased this year that the generosity of former Secretary of State James A. Baker, III and Mrs. Baker makes it possible for us to accompany the pins and certificates with a monetary award of \$350. Mrs. Baker's appreciation for the volunteer contributions of foreign service personnel and their families was responsible for the initiation of the award in 1990.

This year's winners are: Monica Browne, Tunis; Sharon Sargent, Manila; Thomas Lucas, M.D., Kathmandu; Betty Frankfather, Lagos; Major Alexander H. Von Plinsky, III, Athens; Melanie A. Kerber, Ed.D., Kingston. Each upcoming edition of the *AAFSW News* will describe the accomplishments of one of the winners.

MONICA BROWNE, TUNIS

Monica Browne serves as Chairperson of the local International Women's Club Orphanage Committee. She devotes a great deal of time, effort and caring to the Manouba Orphanage, the only orphanage in Tunisia that houses newborns and mentally and physically handicapped persons. As Chairperson of the committee, she has enlisted the help of the wife of the Tunisian Minister of Social Affairs and other prominent women in the community to raise its visibility. She also formed the Tunisian Volunteer Organization, a non-governmental association recognized by the Government of Tunisia in order to gain official status for the

Orphanage Committee. While at the orphanage, Monica bathes, changes, feeds and plays with the children. Monica consults regularly with the doctors and nurses to see if the children have any special needs and then solicits and coordinates clothing and toy donations for them. Monica Browne through her volunteer efforts has galvanized support among Tunisians and expatriates for the orphans and in so doing has brightened the lives of these otherwise forgotten children. Monica Browne is the spouse of Agricultural Trade Officer Evans Browne.

Welcome New Members

Anne Blabey
Birgul Booth
Janis Koellisch
Amelia Mansfield
Elizabeth Ryley
Bonnie K. Schmiel
Anita Smith
Barbara Sprow
Virginia Wagner

Welcome Back

Mary Yates

Feel Like Talking about Your Last Post?



One of the most requested sources of information at the Overseas Briefing Center are our **Returnee Cards**. These cards contain the names of people who have recently returned from post and 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. If you cannot make it into OBC, you can give us a call at 703-302-7277 and we can fill out the information over the phone. Following is a list of just a few of the posts from which we need names: Seoul, Prague, Tokyo, Mexico City, Accra, Tegucigalpa, Bonn, Nairobi, Kuala Lumpur, Cairo, Madrid, Bangkok and New Delhi. We welcome names from all posts.

—Maureen Johnston
Overseas Briefing Center



MemberNotes

Christine Shurtleff was presented the Lesley Dorman award for outstanding service to AAFSW at a special farewell luncheon held in May. Following is the text of the award presentation, made by **Lesley Dorman**.

"Christine Shurtleff was President of the Association of American Foreign Service Women for three years, during which time she gave unstintingly of herself to the Association. As President, Christine always performed in a most professional manner with a keen sense of humor.

"The centerpiece of her tenure was helping the Association to fulfill a long time dream of establishing an office headquarters. Current trends suggest a future with members who have much less time to devote to volunteer activities. To make best use of volunteer time, Christine computerized many areas of the Association's operations and hired a part-time office manager.

"Most recently Christine was able to concentrate on her loves of playing with computers and figures as the Association's Treasurer.

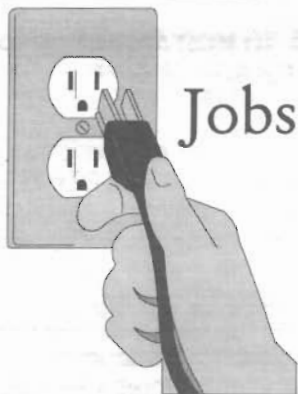
"We wish Christine the very best of luck and much happiness as she leaves for Florida. Christine will be greatly missed by her friends and colleagues. It gives me much pleasure to present her with this well-deserved award."

—Lesley Dorman

Lunch with the President

All AAFSW members are welcome to attend an informal lunch/meeting on Thursday, July 25 starting at 10:30 a.m. at the home of AAFSW President Chris Zarr. The purpose of the meeting is to run a mini membership drive. According to Chris, "The plan is that you will find personal friends who are not members and send them one of our recruitment letters with some added persuasive handwritten encouragement from you."

Cold chicken and potato salad will be served, and those attending are asked to contribute any other kind of salad. If you are new to the Washington area, come along and meet your "neighbors." Any AAFSW gathering is always a great place to network and find out local information! For directions, call the AAFSW office.



Get Plugged In: Jobs and Volunteer Opportunities

If Wishes Were Volunteers...

Following is your President's volunteer wish list. We have tried to slice and subdivide jobs in the hopes that they are attractive to somebody who is already doing lots of other things or who is working (for cash, that is). Not included in this list are contact people for each of the non-State foreign affairs agencies, and Neighborhood Network people for those zip codes not already covered (or as helpers in those which are). Anyone who does a job for us gets a carefully composed letter of appreciation on letterhead paper, signed by the President.

—Chris Zarr

BOOKFAIR

1. Bookroom/BOOKFAIR treasurer

Time Commitment: Regular hours each month, more time required during BOOKFAIR. Some time needed during the day.

Duties: To operate AAFSW's second bank account, using the Quickbooks computer accounting system. Pay Bookroom/BOOKFAIR bills. Arrange the provision of petty cash for the first day of BOOKFAIR and to the Bookroom on a regular basis. Pay monthly sales tax and quarterly IRS payments, Social Security and Medicare payments for three employees (Bookroom manager, assistant manager and the AAFSW office manager). Monitor hours worked by paid Bookroom employees. Attend monthly AAFSW Board meetings and finance sub-committee meetings three times a year. Help the treasurer prepare the books for review by the auditor. Meet with the Bookroom Manager every other month; communicate as needed by phone and fax.

2. BOOKFAIR Cashier

Time Commitment: Fifteen days of

work in late October. Must be present every day during BOOKFAIR.

Duties: Count, store in the safe and bank the takings. Distribute \$4000 cash to 12 cash-boxes each day. Working with helpers, collect cash three or four times a day to count it. Keep a record of credit card sales. Meet with Bookroom Manager and Bookroom/BOOKFAIR treasurer.

Note: There is a detailed written account explaining how all this is handled.

3. BOOKFAIR Art Corner Organizer

Time Commitment: Sept. and Oct. only (before and during BOOKFAIR)

Duties: Price, record and loose-pack in boxes art and crafts donations for BOOKFAIR (in Main State). At BOOKFAIR, set up the display, keep it stocked and try to arrange for there to always be three volunteers in the section. This would be a lot of fun for a small group of friends who like antiquing! Reference books and access to experts are provided for appraisal purposes. This section made \$27,000 last year.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

1. Press Contact Person

Time Commitment: Flexible, can be done from home.

Duties: Learn Public Relations Committee Chair Lesley Dorman's contacts. Maintain lists of vital people at large newspapers, including personnel for specific sections, such as "Book World", "Weekend", etc. Keep a folder of addresses and contacts of all smaller neighborhood papers. Place paid ads for BOOKFAIR.

2. Writer - Newspaper Articles

Time Commitment: Flexible, can be done from home.

Duties: Using the lists obtained above, write articles for small and regional papers, generate articles for large papers with "human interest" photos. Suggested topics include: our Association, the Foreign Born Spouse group, the Evacuee Support Network, favorite Foreign Service recipes, BOOKFAIR, "Plain Tales from the Foreign Service,"

Fresh from FLO: Overseas Opportunities as Professional Associates

Employment! It seems to be the topic that is on our minds these days. Changes in the terms of employment can be seen everywhere, including in government service. Foreign Service spouses have always had to be adaptable, highly committed, service-oriented lifelong learners, who are able to cope with ambiguity and uncertainty while managing their own morale. And that is just what employers say they are looking for in employees! More than ever before, Foreign Service spouses may find that they are able to get a job because of the work habits they developed while traveling around the world. As the portable career becomes the norm, spouses should be in a good position to use their experience.

One way that spouses have been able to help meet the challenge of change in the Department of State is through the Professional Associates (PA) Program.

In November 1994, the PA program was implemented in response to the staffing gaps caused by the reduced number of junior officers the Department was able to hire. Qualified eligible family members were hired to fill vacant junior officer positions at a number of posts. Currently there are 38 PAs. Most of the positions are in the Consular cone, with two positions in the Administrative cone. The participating posts are: Bogota, Caracas, Guatemala, Kigali, Kingston, Lagos, Lima, London, Manila, Mexico City, Monterrey, Moscow, Paramaribo, Rio de Janeiro, San Salvador, Santo Domingo, Seoul and Taipei.

Watch for the announcement for the summer 1997 cycle of PA positions. Contact Erin Rooney in the Family Liaison Office, 202-647-1076, for more information about this program and other overseas employment questions.

—Family Liaison Office

volunteer award recipients. Get your name in print and keep any fees you earn!

3. Printing and Posters

Time Commitment: Flexible, some time may be required during the day.

Duties: To handle large posters, small flyers, brochures for AAFSW and BOOKFAIR. Display cases in prominent places in government buildings.

4. Poster, Newsletter and Brochure Distribution

Time Commitment: Twice a year, just before the summer changeover and before BOOKFAIR. Primarily during the day.

Duties: To distribute publicity materials to government buildings including AID in Rosslyn, Columbia Plaza, State Dept. USIA, FAS, FCS, DEA, Agency, FBO, AFSA, NFATC.

AAFSW ORAL HISTORY COLLECTION

1. Oral History Committee Chair

Time commitment: Flexible, some daytime hours may be desirable.

Duties: To take over the fascinating spouse Oral History program from Jewell Fenzi, working with the program's Manager, Pam Stratton. The collection is located at the AAFSW office in NW Washington. Attendance at AAFSW Board meetings when possible.

2. Oral History Interviewers

Time commitment: Flexible, can be as little as an hour or two.

Duties: To interview Foreign Service spouses for the AAFSW Oral History Collection, using a tape recorder. Highly interesting! Can be done overseas!

3. Oral History Transcribers

Time commitment: Flexible, can be done at home anywhere in the world.

Duties: To listen to Oral History

tapes and type them on a word processor. Interesting, and there may be some paid work available.

AAFSW BOARD POSITIONS

1. First Vice President (present officer just got an overseas assignment)

Time commitment: Flexible, needs to be able to attend monthly AAFSW Board meetings and finance committees three times a year.

Duties: Chair the finance committee. Help determine the direction of AAFSW. Meet infrequently with the newsletter editorial board. Make decisions as part of the Executive Committee.

2. Fundraising Chair

Time commitment: Flexible, needs to be able to attend monthly Board meetings

Duties: To develop fundraising activities other than BOOKFAIR. (Great job experience!) Terri Williams from the OBC has some ideas, including for a book about entertaining abroad.

3. Program Associate for the Program Chair, Barbara Gordon.

Time commitment: flexible, probably some during the day.

Duties: Assist Barbara with the coordination of the monthly programs. Meet the famous!

FSYF Needs New Administrative Assistant

The Foreign Service Youth Foundation is seeking a new Administrative Assistant to start in September, 1996. The position is part-time (approximately 24 hours per month during 1995) and pays \$12.50 - 15 per hour.

The successful candidate should be a Foreign Service family member who has spent at least two years in an Embassy or Consulate community abroad and who has: excellent interpersonal skills with children and adults; good writing skills; strong organizational skills; public speaking experience; and the ability to work independently at home.

The Administrative Assistant provides support for two non-profit organizations: the Foreign Service Youth Foundation (FSYF), an umbrella organization for teens and their parents coping with a mobile lifestyle and Around the World in a Lifetime (AWAL), a club for Foreign

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

1. Foreign Born Spouses Co-Chair

Time Commitment: Flexible - needed immediately!

Duties: Help organize and carry out programs for the Foreign Born Spouses group. It would be great to have several chairs in different areas around Washington, from different ethnic and linguistic backgrounds. Fun and very worthwhile!

2. NEW POSITION! Educational Loan Committee Chair

Time Commitment: Flexible, as needed. Most can probably be done from home.

Duties: To organize the low-interest educational loan program. Publicize the program, screen recipients, monitor repayments and so on. An exciting opportunity to provide a much-needed service!

3. NEW POSITION! E-mail and/or Internet Specialist

Time Commitment: Flexible, could be done from home if desired.

Duties: To answer e-mails or refer them to the appropriate people for help (Ann Landers with a computer). A number of people could share this responsibility. To develop an AAFSW home page (could be done overseas).

Service teens. He or she is responsible for all administrative details of FSYF and AWAL, including purchasing materials, selling publications, maintaining files, coordinating and attending monthly FSYF Executive Committee meetings - preparing the agenda, mailing out invitations, coordinating refreshments and drafting minutes in the absence of the secretary. He or she also coordinates all AWAL programs, enrolling teens, arranging chaperones and transportation as necessary. Other responsibilities include drafting submissions to newsletters, letters to supporting organizations and the annual report, as well as the paperwork necessary to claim non-profit status and participate in the Combined Federal Campaign.

For more information, call 703-255-2861.

TRAINING

FSI Trends



Computer literacy is becoming an ever more critical Foreign Service spouse survival skill. While training budgets and policies seem to become ever more restricted, much attention is being paid to using computer technology to deliver training programs - here and overseas. Several recent FSI projects highlight this trend, which is largely centered around developing multimedia versions of computer based training programs.

While this may sound like a polysyllabic mouthful of techno-jargon, it represents a potential opportunity for foreign service spouses to get training, particularly in the field, for embassy jobs IF they have the computer skills and resources to use the CD-ROM products that will be developed. For example, FSI has finished a CD-ROM training product that trains users in managing State Department real estate overseas. Another program in the works trains cashiers in both the skills and regulations of running a cashiering operation. Consular, security awareness, and other topics are in line for future development. If AAFSW readers needed a practical reason for becoming more computer proficient and literate, the future availability of training, and thereby, meaningful jobs at posts and in the CONUS might just be the reason to overcome that reluctance to join the computer revolution.

—Ray Leki, Director
Overseas Briefing Center

Training to Teach English

Looking for a way to broaden your employment skills without a huge time commitment? The Overseas Briefing Center offers a three-day course on "English Teaching" from July 30 to Aug. 1, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. This course will introduce you to the field of teaching English both overseas and in the U.S., including the basics of instruction, availability of resources, where to go to get further training and much more.

Teaching English is an extremely flexible option: you can find work for an hour a week tutoring or make a fulltime career of it. For more information or to register, call the OBC at 703-302-7268.

Community Corner

Would you like to put the skills and experience you gained overseas to good use for the benefit of the community around us? 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.

MARTHA'S TABLE began as a mobile food kitchen. In addition to its mission to the hungry, the organization now offers a variety of services to needy families, including the after-school program, which provides elementary school children with activities, tutoring, and an evening meal in a safe environment. Volunteers who would like to work with children are needed to tutor or oversee other activities. There is also a need for help with computer literacy, remedial reading or family literacy programs. Help in preparing or serving food would

also be appreciated. If you cannot find the time right now for volunteering on a regular basis, you might consider organizing a food collection, for example, among your friends or in your neighborhood, for the pantry service or a cereal collection drive. Even those with limited time to spare can help by donating food. Please call Julie Orzal, Director for Volunteers, at 202-328-6608 for more information about how you can help.

Special Request for Karate Uniforms:

The Director of Children's Programs for Martha's Table would appreciate donations of white karate uniforms with white belts. Several of the children in the program are taking karate lessons, but cannot afford the cost of a uniform. If you have a karate "expert" at home who has outgrown his or her uniform, please give Stephanie a call at the number above. That old uniform will be put to good use and bring a smile to the face of a child!

—Barbara Leven, Member,
Community Relations Committee

Oral History - Just a Bunch of Talk?

Oral history...what's the point? Why has AAFSW taken over the Foreign Service Spouse Oral History Collection? What is the Oral History Collection anyway?

Through interviewing Foreign Service spouses and making their transcripts available to researchers, as well as writing articles about them, AAFSW aims to inspire recognition of spouse accomplishments.

Last year's Oral History Tea was a moving tribute to women who helped get the vote, invent the "Black Power" logo, alleviate poverty around the world, assist foreign born spouses in their adjustment to the U.S., develop the Family Liaison Office and so on. It was an afternoon from which people walked away proud to be part of the Foreign Service family - even at a time when the "family" atmosphere seemed to have disappeared from the Foreign Affairs agencies.

This year's tea, to be held on Sept. 17 at 4 p.m. at the DACOR Bacon House will

feature Bette Bao Lord, author of numerous books, and a Foreign Service spouse herself. She is known to be a fascinating speaker. If you can attend the Meeting/Tea, please send a check for \$20 to secure your reservation. (There will be a program coupon in next month's issue of the AAFSW News). If

...AAFSW aims to inspire
recognition of spouse
accomplishments

you cannot attend, but want to support the Collection through a tax deductible donation or wish to purchase the book *Married to the Foreign Service*, please contact the AAFSW office.

Other ways to support the Oral History program are listed on page five.

Ethics for Families

(Continued from page 1)

- Anyone who conducts operations or activities that are regulated or supported by the Department of State or one of its overseas posts;

- Anyone who has interests that may be substantially affected by the performance or nonperformance of your [spouse's] official duties;

- Any organization, a majority of whose members are a prohibited source."

There are two and a half pages of explanations, exceptions and exclusions. Exceptions include:

- Food, entertainment or other gifts worth \$20 or less on a single occasion (not to exceed \$50 per calendar year from any one source)

- Gifts, favors or entertainment motivated by an obvious family or personal relationship, provided that they are not paid from a business expense account.

- Gifts based on spouse's [our] outside employment when it is clear that these are not offered because of the government employee's official position.

Exclusions include: greeting cards, plaques, certificates and trophies with little intrinsic value (intended solely for presentation); discounts offered to employees as members of a group; anything for which you pay the entire market value; loans from banks and other financial institutions on terms available to the public; modest items of food or refreshments, such as soft drinks, coffee or donuts.

There are special rules for accepting meals, refreshments and entertainment from private individuals and organizations while overseas, which seem to apply mainly to employees, not families.

Can you accept the use of the beach house? As you can judge from these abbreviated rules, the answer is far from simple: many factors may be relevant. The wisest course of action is to check with a supervisor before proceeding.

Standards of Conduct is available on the INFOGUIDES CD-ROM, found in your Community Liaison or Administration Office overseas. Requests for copies of the publication should be addressed to:

Office of Inspector General
OIG/PPM/PRA, Room 6817

U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520-6817

Simpler yet, see if your spouse can bring home a copy!

Our sincere thanks to all who so generously contributed to AAFSW's 1995 Scholarship and Headquarters Fund. Donations to the Scholarship Fund help provide both merit and financial need scholarships to Foreign Affairs Agency children. Donations to the Headquarters Fund help to defray the costs of the day-to-day running of our busy office on MacArthur Boulevard.

GRATEFUL THANKS TO:

Ruth B. Allen
Gladys W. Baker
Rose-Anne D. Bartholow
Pauline Ruth Bartman
Margaret H. Bender
Sandra J. Bennett
Molly Beyer
Jemma W. Bishop
Kathie Bleyle
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Maria Flesher
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Jean W. German

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Sharon D. Gratto
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Mary E. Hamilton
Charlotte P. Harrell
Felicia Holgate
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Kim Hom
Nancy Horan
Winifred M. Howard
Grace P. Hudson
Jean Huffman
Betty Lou Hummel
Agnes N. Johnston
Loretta W. Jones
Mignon Kellerman
Magdalen A. Kelley
Marjorie N. Killgore
Alessandra Koeller
Melissa M. Kunstadter
Florence Leonhart
Janice R. Linehan
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Susan Street
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Mary Vance Trent
Erna Tuthill
Sara C. Vitale
Elizabeth B. Williamson
Mildred Wilson
Jackie Bong Wright

...and to all those who gave anonymously.

AAFSW/AFSA Scholarship Winners Announced

Following are the winners of the 1996 AFSA/AAFSW Merit Scholarships:

Merit Winners: Allison Barnes, Andrew Bowen, Sean Brennan, Erik Brown, Jennifer Christenson, Catherine Crump, Elizabeth Diffily, Tiffany Elkins, Kate McCreary, Christopher Miller, Karen Mu, Brierley Ostrander, Jason Pielemeier, Samantha Rodearmel, Scott Saiers, M. Gwendolyn Sedney, Nicole Sharma, Carolin Spiegel, Virginia Stewart, Erin-Elizabeth Tadie, Yuri Waldo

Honorable Mentions: Ethan Alter, Michael Arellano, Jillian Bandler, Megan Graves, Jennifer Johns, Maggie Kettering, Katherine Kowalchek, Catherine Livingston, Alexandra Pastic, Jeremy Somers, Michael Williams.

Best Essay: Kate McCreary

Community Service: Gina Cabrera

Art Merit: Erin-Elizabeth Tadie - 1st Place; Kimberly Philley - 2nd Place; Brierley Ostrander - 3rd Place



Create a Video, Make a Star

It's true there was some wobbly panning and aimless pauses in the videos I saw at the Foreign Service Youth Foundation's annual general meeting - yet it was amazing how each child-produced video conveyed a distinct atmosphere of place. The height of the sun, the vegetation and the children's clothing made a point, even in a backyard scene.

The club, the school, some teachers, the place where kids play T-ball, the apartment balcony, folks going into the commissary, the neighborhood stores and vendors, your friendly Marines and their home, your Ambassador's front door (with security guard), your school bus driver, your favorite local foods, the games at the July 4th party - these subjects are great and just as interesting as the tourist spots and the president's palace. There is a definite grown-up audience in Washington for these kid-videos in the Overseas Briefing Center, although the idea of producing them was originally to help other kids.

FSYF's competition has lots of pluses, even if your child doesn't get a prize. Parents can have lots of interesting conversations with their children on the pros and cons of various scenes - why a venue is interesting and different to a child from another country, what kind of

facts should go into any commentary they prepare, what order to shoot the scenes in, how not to make it too long. Doing a video makes a child take a step back and review its surroundings. Such a video would be a wonderful structured souvenir for the family, and a gift for family back home. Your child gets to be a star, seen by many at NFATC. The activity would keep your child, and maybe two or three others, busy for part of the summer. Your child would get recognition at post and at school. In other words, a win-win situation.

—Chris Zarr, AAFSW President

Study Seeks Participants

American adults who spent any time between birth and 12th grade living overseas as a result of a parent's occupation are needed to complete a brief paper and pencil survey. The study is completely confidential. The goal is to learn more about the experiences of growing up overseas and in an organization-type family.

For more information, contact Morton G. Ender, Project Director at: Adult Children of Military and Other Organization Families Project, Department of Sociology, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND 58202-7136 or by telephone: 701-777-4987 or e-mail: ender@prairie.nodak.edu.



Foreign Service Teens Plan Summer Fun

AWAL has a full program over the summer: call 703-255-2861 to get the complete story - or to reserve spots for the following activities.

Saturday, July 27 group members will be tubing on the Shenandoah River near Harpers Ferry. Carpool drivers (i.e. parents) are needed.

Saturday, Aug. 10, the AWAL newsletter staff will meet. Do you have a teen with talent? WINGS is looking for more writers and ideas!

Tuesday, Aug. 20 there is a trip to Kings Dominion amusement park. A school bus will leave from the Vienna Metro at 8:30 a.m. There are just 40 seats available, so make your reservations early. Kids ages 10-12 are welcome to join the trip if space allows and parents are willing to chaperone. (Parents' entry fees will be paid). Call to put their names on the waiting list!

If you are just back from overseas with teenagers or pre-teens, these trips could provide a great boost to their adjustment to Washington life. They might even run into old friends from a previous post.

AAFSW

NEWS SUMMER 1996

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

