



AAFSW: Off and Running

**Tell Us What
You Think!**



With the beginning of the new school year, the calendar tells us all that it's now "back to work" after the summer vacations. The AAFSW Board feels the same way our kids do.

This past summer has been one of transitions: Debbi Miller has taken the reins of the management of the AAFSW office from Margaret Teich, who has departed for Madagascar with her spouse; Jennifer Niebels has taken over the production of the Global Link from Gabrielle Hampson, who

THOUGHT she was going to be posted to Beijing (oh the tricks the Foreign Service plays on us all!); Jan Fischer Bachman (who has recently returned to DC as a bonus for us!) has taken over the managing editor position of the Website from Melissa Hess, who has found employment in the Family Liaison Office; Lucy Whitley has joined the financial team by undertaking the BookFair Treasurer position, as Chris Zarr relinquishes her extraordinary efforts; Sandy Taylor joins our Board as the Second Vice President, and we welcome her strong interest in fundraising; Margaret Bender joins Patty Ryan in learning the ropes of maintaining our relationship with AFSA.

I want to give a huge applause of thanks to those who are moving on. We wouldn't be where we are without your many efforts over the past few years! And I want to give a special "Hello" to those who are joining us in new ways. I think we have a wonderful team (once again!) and I am so thankful for all your input, ideas, and assistance. You can see the names and contact information for AAFSW on the back page of this issue of Global Link.

Once again, AAFSW is off on a roll! There are still MANY ways to add your talents to the team! Just give us a call...

Contact AAFSW at:
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NW Suite 36
Washington, DC
20016
Tel 202-362-6514
Fax 202-362-6589
office@aafsw.org

OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Friday
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

APPLAUSE

This year's 4th of July picnic was a wonderful success, thanks to Anne Sullivan and the Dinoia family, in particular. Many newcomers to the DC region joined Washington AAFSW families to meet, celebrate the holiday and enjoy the children having fun. AAFSW plans to repeat this fun event next year, and Anne would VERY MUCH like to work with a committee to make sure all the plans are in order. It's never too soon to get plans in order! If you would like to join Anne, please contact her now so AAFSW can be sure that

BOOKFAIR 2003



October 17 -- 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

State Department Opening Day (Building pass or escort required. Note: Those with retiree passes may escort their spouse.)

October 18 & 19 -- 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Open to the Public

October 20-24 -- 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Open (Building pass or escort required)

October 25 & 26 -- 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Open to the Public

OCTOBER 17 - 26,

Once again, AAFSW is honored to have **Mrs. Colin Powell** officially open BOOKFAIR at 2:00 PM on Friday, October 17th in the Diplomatic Exhibit Hall of the Department of State. This occasion is reserved for active and retired Foreign Service employees and their families. Check the calendar above for additional days to come and browse through books, stamps, and arts and crafts from around the world. Don't forget, proceeds from this event support AAFSW's scholarships for Foreign Service youth. Be generous. No purchase is too small-or too big! Cash, check, Visa or Mastercard are accepted. Everything is half price the last day. "For more information about volunteering to help at the event, contact Margaret Bender at 703-848- 9754 or at mhbender@aol.com.

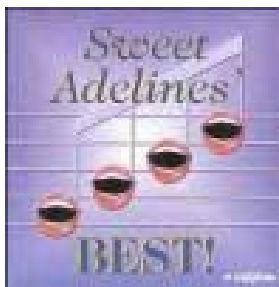
Welcome and Thank You!

New Members

Pamela J. Anderson
Deidra Avendasora
Carmen Blau
Pam Callard
Michele M. Cenzer
Takako Kawamoto
Noah B. Littin
Ana Maria Luis
Elizabeth A. Neal
Andrea L. Sherman
Amanda L. Simons
Rachel Sunden

Donor List

Carmen Blau



Celebrate the Holidays with Music

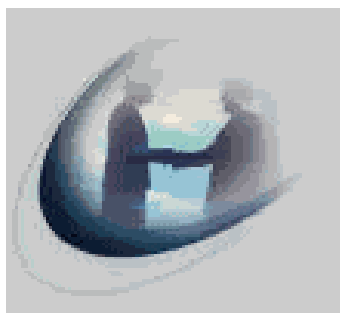
On December 9th we will celebrate the holiday season with the female version of a genuine American art form...no, not jazz...barbershop!!

Our own Debbi Miller will bring a select group from her Sweet Adelines chorus to charm and delight us with music we all love. Don't miss this one!!!

Medical Emergency? We Can Help You!



Coming to Washington on a Medevac and looking for that support that will make being away from post tolerable? AAFSW's Evacuee Support Assistance maintains a list of people willing to help you out: take you to medical appointments; visit you in the hospital; provide a welcome voice to connect with. It's hard to be so far from home and family members, and especially hard when you don't feel all that good! Connect with AAFSW!



CLO Association: Members meet visiting CLOs

Former Community Liaison Office coordinators, members of the CLO Association, held a reception for over 30 visiting CLOs. The CLOs were in Washington D.C. for a CLO Training Conference in early October. The CLO Association is a professional network group for CLOs who have returned to the D.C. area and would like to keep in touch with each other. This AAFSW interest group, which holds about 4 meetings per year, offers an opportunity to meet colleagues and stay informed. If you know someone who was a CLO and who will be in the Washington area, please let them know about the Association. If you would like to get more information, please email to cloassociation@yahoo.com

Jenneke Fijn van Draat
CLO Association contact



Neighborhood Network

AAFSW has always been about Foreign Service families helping each other. Now, using our database, AAFSW has an opportunity to revive the Neighborhood Network. If someone contacts us by email that they are returning, and lets us know the zip code they are moving into or might be interested in, we can do a search for other members living in that neighborhood. We can put the old pro's in touch with the newcomers, and help the settlement or decision process along.

If you are willing to be part of this program, please let us know of your interest and your email address. If we are contacted, we will let you know how both parties can be in touch.

Please fill this out and return it to AAFSW 5125 MacArthur Blvd. NW, Washington, DC, 20016:

I WOULD BE GLAD TO HELP SOMEONE SETTLE INTO MY NEIGHBORHOOD!

NAME _____

ADDRESS WITH ZIP CODE _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

AAFSW MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The date next to your name on the address label of your Global Link tells you when your membership expires. If it is 8/31/03 your membership is renewable this year. Please complete this form and send it with your check (made out to AAFSW) to AAFSW Membership, 5125 MacArthur Blvd NW, Suite 36, Washington, DC 20016.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Membership:

One-year membership	\$ 40.00	_____
Two-year membership	\$ 80.00	_____
Three-year membership	\$ 110.00	_____
Four-year membership	\$ 135.00	_____
Five-year membership	\$ 160.00	_____

Contributions:

(these are tax deductible)

Scholarships	\$	_____
Headquarters	\$	_____
Volunteerism	\$	_____
Other gifts/ bequests:	\$	_____

TOTAL PAYMENT: \$ _____

The budget presented is for AAFSW's 2004 fiscal year which runs from July 1, 2003, through June 30, 2004. The income and expense numbers for 2003 and 2002 are based on AAFSW's Profit and Loss Statements and on the financial statements prepared by Ribis, Jones and Maresca, P.A., certified public accountants. The Oral History Project monies and the AAFSW's Secretary of State's Award for Outstanding Volunteerism Abroad (SOSA) funds are accounted for separately and are not included in the budget.

Fiscal Year 2003

Income in FY2003 increased in all categories except for Dividends and Interest, for an increase over the previous year's income of approximately \$15,000. Expenses as a whole held fairly steady, only increasing by approximately \$1400. However, this was due in part to a decrease of \$6000 in our scholarship donation to AFSA.

Clements International underwrote two printings of new membership brochures for a total of \$2000 which we acknowledged on the brochure. This contribution is listed under Advertising Income in 2003. A new source of income this past year came from sales of and royalties from the book Realities of Foreign Service Life.

Fiscal Year 2004

While the budget for 2004 is based on the 2003 and 2002 income and expense numbers, income for 2004 is estimated conservatively and expenses are estimated on the high side. The budget also includes funds that may or may not be needed, i.e., for capital improvements or for moving the office. By working to increase income and by watching our expenses closely, we hope to close the budget gap by the end of the 2004 fiscal year.

Investments

As of June 30, 2003, AAFSW had investments of \$175,031. These investments had an unrealized loss of \$1065 for the fiscal year. The dividends and interest from these investments are not re-invested but are used in the operation of the organization.

SOSA and Oral History Project

As of June 30, 2003, the SOSA fund totaled \$35,658. During the year, SOSA had donations of \$6380, dividends and interest of \$364, and an unrealized loss on investments of \$594. There were five awards of \$500 each recognizing outstanding volunteers at posts abroad. While the AAFSW budget does not include information on the SOSA fund itself or on the awards, it does include money spent by AAFSW to support the program, such as the lunch for the SOSA award winners and mailings.

As of June 30, 2003, funds held by AAFSW for the Oral History Project were \$4476. A donation of \$150 was received.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee met four times during the year. The committee members are Judy Felt, Louise Juergens, Barbara Ratigan, Patty Ryan, Terry Walsh and Lucy Whitley.

Questions

If you have questions or concerns about the budget, would like a computer print-out of the profit and loss statement or would like to look at a copy of the audit, please call Barbara Ratigan at 703-536-2015.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Ratigan, Treasurer

Budget 2004

5

Year ending June 30	2004	2003	2002
Income			
Advertising	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$360
Amazon.com Program	\$200	\$292	
BookFair	\$75,000	\$74,778	\$68,114
Book Room	\$30,000	\$32,121	\$30,338
Contributions to scholarships, headquarters, memorials	\$2,500	\$6,102	\$3,152
Dividends & Interest	\$4,000	\$4,831	\$8,765
Membership Dues	\$20,000	\$22,062	\$17,394
Program Fees - 8th Floor	\$3,600	\$3,615	\$3,220
Realities of FS Life - sales & royalties	\$1,000	\$867	
Total Income	\$137,300	\$146,668	\$131,343
Expenses			
Audit	\$3,400	\$3,350	\$3,100
Advertising	\$400		
BookFair	\$24,000	\$22,682	\$25,729
Book Room	\$4,600	\$4,301	\$4,223
Capital Improvements	\$2,000	\$479	\$676
Donations			
Scholarships	\$9,500	\$9,000	\$15,000
FS Community	\$3,000	\$2,240	\$2,034
Send a Kid to Camp	\$500	\$500	
Employer's Payroll Expenses	\$3,800	\$3,764	\$3,300
General			
Annual Dues	\$370	\$345	\$320
Bank Fees	\$300	\$194	\$83
Board Allowance	\$500	\$306	\$386
President's Allowance	\$500	\$188	\$200
Headquarter's Fund - possible move	\$2,000		
Insurance - Health	\$3,250	\$2,803	\$1,852
Insurance-WorkComp, Liability, Directors	\$4,300	\$4,183	\$2,580
Membership			
Newsletter - editor, printing, mailing, etc.	\$13,000	\$12,506	\$13,199
Mailings, Printing, Brochures, etc.	\$2,500	\$4,076	\$1,039
Website - editor, webmistress, etc.	\$6,800	\$6,115	\$6,845
Office Rent	\$11,496	\$11,373	\$9,995
Other Office Expenses - telephone, supplies, etc.	\$2,500	\$2,516	\$2,657
Programs on 8th Floor	\$4,000	\$3,636	\$3,732
Program Support - SOSA, A-100 Post Toast, playgroup, etc.	\$1,500	\$1,345	\$652
Realities of FS Life Expenses	\$1,200	\$1,194	
Salaries			
Book Room & Office	\$42,000	\$41,264	\$39,323
Total Expenses	\$147,416	\$138,360	\$136,925

Name that Group: Join the Contest

Continent Hoppers, Migrating Americanites, World Trekees—UGH!! The new FSYP/AAFSW-sponsored group for Foreign Service 5 - 8-year-olds in the DC area needs a name! **As examples, the FSYP 9- to 12-year olds are called the Globe Trotters and the teen group is called AWAL—Around the World in A Lifetime.** Email your suggested name for the group with your name, age, and post to fsyf@fsyf.org or playgroup@aafsw.org, and guess what? The winner will get a \$25 gift certificate from Amazon.com!!!

“Last year, we started this group for children who were too old for the Playgroup, but too young to join Globe Trotters. We go on interesting field trips, like tours of Colvin Mill Run, and a Post Office; and outings such as the Water Mine. We have plans to go bowling, play miniature golf, and make spooky Halloween cupcakes in October. This group is especially important for Foreign Service children (and their parents) who are in transition, either returning from post, in DC for a short time, or just preparing to go overseas. These children need to meet others who share their mobile lifestyle. It is also a great way for them to reconnect with their former Playgroup friends.” *Anne Sullivan, coordinator*

Who may participate in the contest? Anyone aged 18 or under.

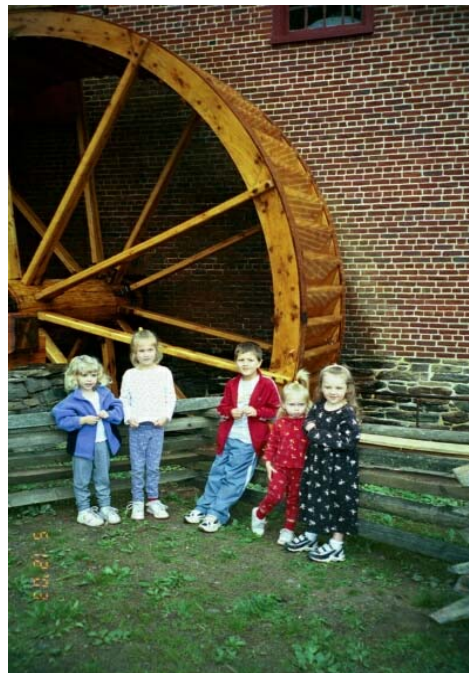
What do we want? A name that is appropriate for children that also represents the *mobile* nature of the Foreign Service lifestyle.

When? Submissions are due December 1, 2003

Put on your witty, clever thinking caps and see what you can come up with! There's no limit to how many names you may submit.

Save The Date!

Announcing the first-ever FSYP Parents' Conference 2003 on Saturday, November 1. The Foreign Service Youth Foundation is coordinating a morning program on **Parenting Around the World—Making It Work**, with a keynote address from an experienced Foreign Service parent and presentations on moving with children (the developmental stages and issues, communicating about the move, tips and suggestions), integrating into the local school system, children and crises, a Q&A panel with Foreign Service teens, and addressing special needs issues in this lifestyle. A continental breakfast (compliments of Oakwood) will begin at 8:15 a.m. and welcoming remarks will begin at 9 a.m. Please call FSYP at 301-404-6655 by Wednesday, October 29 to gain admission to the event at the Foreign Service Institute.



We had
the Run
of the
Mill!

In May, the AAFSW Playgroup and 5 - 8-year-olds went on a joint tour of Colvin Run Mill. They were treated to a presentation of story-reading, puppets, and a demonstration of grains in various stages of production. During the tour, guides turned on the mill for the children to watch the gears and wheel turn. It was a fun event for all!

October Program

7

Women For Afgan Women (WAW)

As most of us know, women have played a growing role in the history of Afghanistan's development. Even under the rule of the Al Queda, when they were essentially quarantined in their houses, many continued to secretly teach their children, despite a horrible punishment if discovered.

One of these brave and articulate women is **Ms. Fahima Vorgetts**, who finally had to leave her country in order to survive. She ended up in Switzerland, where she worked on cancer research. In 1979 she came to the United States, and has lived in Annapolis, MD, since 1995.

From here, she established "The Afghan Women's Fund" to support programs to empower Afghan women through education, and through training in such occupations as weaving, beekeeping, poultry farming, computer competency, etc. An effort is beginning to re-establish vineyards which were totally destroyed by earlier governments. Schools are being rebuilt and refurbished, including books and lab equipment for Kabul University, and orphanages are being built. The funds she carries on her periodic trips to Afghanistan help meet the critical needs of the women and children there. When possible, she also takes textbooks, computers, sewing machines, microscopes, and clothing. Such goods – all donated – may also be shipped when funds allow.

Ms. Vorgetts co-founded the Humanitarian Organization for Orphans and Widows of Afghanistan (HOOWA). She also supports Humanitarian Assistance for Women and Children (HAWCA) founded in 1999 by young Afghans to assist efforts in refugee camps in Pakistan and Afghanistan to raise the currently deplorable level of health care and maternal and child care. She is a graduate in chemistry from Kabul University, and she received the Peace Action Lifetime Achievement Award for her extraordinary contributions to peace and justice.

This remarkable woman has just returned from one of her many working trips to Afghanistan and has agreed to be our guest speaker on **Tuesday, October 21st**. We are most fortunate, as she is in great demand, having spoken to United Nations committees, the U.S. Congress, Peace and Reconciliation conferences, churches, and civic groups. According to members of DACOR, Ms. Vorgetts is one of the most outstanding and interesting speakers they have ever heard. For more information prior to her talk, you can read the book *Women for Afghan Women* to which Ms. Vorgetts has contributed a chapter, and *Behind the Burqa*, in part based on her family's life.



October 21st Program

(10:00 a.m. - 12 noon) Please Reply by October 15th!

Name (as you wish it on name tag): _____
Social Security Number: _____
Telephone: _____ New Member? yes _____ no _____
Name of Guest (s) and SSN (s) _____

Please send form with check made out to AAFSW (\$!0 per person) to:
AAFSW Reservations, 5125 MacArthur Blvd. NW, Suite 36, Washington, DC 20016.

No refunds will be given after October 16th.

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playgroup@aafsw.org

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