

Foreign Service Youth

Resource Center

**FSI
Transition Center**
4000 Arlington Blvd.
Rm. E2126
Arlington, Virginia
Mon.-Fri. 8:15 - 5:00
Tel: (703) 302-7277
Call for more hours,
information, and
access.

**Family Liaison
Office**
(M/DGHR/FLO)
Harry S Truman
Bldg. Rm. 1239
Department of State
Washington, DC
20520
Tel: (202) 647-1076,
or (800) 440-0397
Fax: (202) 647-1670

5125 MacArthur Blvd., NW
Suite #36
Washington, DC 20016

Splashdown Water Park

Who: Foreign Service Kids, ages 9-19
Date: Tuesday, July 29, 2003
Time: 10:15 AM (We will go by bus and return to the same spot at 4:00 pm)
Place: Meet at the NFATC parking lot by the flags.
Cost: \$10.00 - plus extra for food and drinks-no outside coolers, food or drinks allowed
RSVP: By July 26

Six Flags America Adventure Park

Who: Foreign Service Kids, ages 9-19
Date: Wednesday, August 20, 2003
Cost: \$30 for entrance to the park and bus (bring money for FOOD)

Please sign up soon!!!! We will go by bus, meeting at NFATC Visitors' Center at 9:15 A.M. and returning around 7:30 P.M. Volunteers to chaperone the Globe Trotters, our younger participants, are needed. Also, parents who join in the fun may bring younger siblings—\$24 for kids under 4 feet (ages 3 and under are free!!)

Annual Welcome Back Potluck Picnic

Who: AWAL and GlobeTrotters along with their families.
Date: Sunday, September 21, 2003 from 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm
Where: At Lubber Run Park North Columbus St. and Second St. North, Arlington, Virginia
Cost: FSYF will provide hotdogs and drinks. Bring a dish to share with six people.

Activities:
Ms. Linda Harris Sittig, author of ***New Kid in School: Using Literature to Help Children in Transition***, will answer: "Will Gilla Monsters meet me at the airport?" and will speak on transition strategies to schools in America. Ms. Sittig is an elementary school teacher in Fairfax County Public Schools and an adjunct professor at Shenandoah University. Mr. Brian Dickson, IB coordinator at George Mason High, will share information about the International Baccalaureate program. AWAL Program Directors, **Eileen Long-Farias** and **Libby Parker**, and Globe Trotters' Program Director, **Sheri Mestan Bochantin**, will offer activities for teens and pre-teens.

Take this opportunity to connect with old and new Foreign Service friends and to tell returnees about the current Washington scene. Parents can learn about the re-entry adjustment process and what the FSYF youth development programs offer your family. If you know of any Newcomers or Foreign Service families in the area, please invite them to join in the fun.

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Address Service Requested

Global Link



AAFSW
Summer 2003

Published by the Associates of the American Foreign Service Worldwide-www.aafsw.org

Scholarships: Educate yourself about educating your children

Did you know that AAFSW offers scholarships to members' children, that you can donate money in your name for a scholarship, and that there can be more than one scholarship recipient? This year, Erica Schlaikjer was the winner of the Academic Merit Award in the name of AAFSW. Below is a letter from Erica thanking the Association for this great honor and award she has received. If you or anyone else you know may be interested in the AAFSW scholarship or in donating money to the cause, contact the AAFSW office (address to the right).

May 5, 2003

Dear Mrs. Terri Williams,

I would like to express my deepest thanks to the American Foreign Service Association for presenting me with one of this year's Academic Merit Awards.

I am especially proud and grateful to have been named the recipient of the Associates of the American Foreign Service Worldwide (AAFSW) Scholarship. It means a lot to me to be recognized for my accomplishments because I think it's important for young people to be acknowledged for their hard work, the best of which I think stemmed from an internal motivation to learn, achieve, and grow. I can't speak on behalf of all the other scholarship recipients, but I know that being an AAFSW winner motivates me to continue being as successful as I can be, both academically and personally, in the years to come. Thank you for giving me the confidence to continue setting goals for myself: to get involved in school and my community, to study things I love, to develop my personal talents while also improving my academic skills, to surround myself with people, ideas, and activities, that interest me.

Although the monetary aspect of the award is satisfying, I think I am most thankful for being able to show my family that I have made use of my time here in Maryland, even after suffering from a severe case of culture shock and enduring a difficult period of readjustment (as I'm sure many foreign service kids experience when they "come home" from abroad). I promised myself I would do well in school - no matter how many cultural hang-ups I might have had at first; it's fulfilling to know that my goal actually produced results, and AAFSW took notice of them.

I look forward to pursuing and discovering more of my interests at Northwestern University in the fall of '03. Over the past four years, I've identified a lot of my strengths and weaknesses, but I know I still have a lot to learn.

Approaching the final days of high school, I am generously reminded by AAFSW and this scholarship that young people really do have the potential to achieve whatever they set out to do, as long as they are sincere and passionate about it.

I regret that I am unable to attend the awards ceremony, but please know that my absence in no way indicates an absence of gratitude.

Thank you again!

Most Sincerely,

Erica Lee Schlaikjer

Tell Us What You Think!

Contact AAFSW at:
5125 MacArthur Blvd.,
NW Suite 36
Washington, DC
20016
Tel 202-362-6514
Fax 202-362-6589
office@aafsw.org

Office hours vary
please be sure to call
before stopping by!

Playgroup

July - 11, 18, 25

August - 1, 8, 13,
15, 22, 24


For more info on
locations and
times, contact Anne
Sullivan, Playgroup
Coordinator, at:
703-359-6955

French Group

Contact Christel
McDonald at 703-
525-9755 for more
info.

This issue is the
debut of Jennifer
Niebels, new Global
Link Editor. Jennifer
has recently re-
turned from two
years in the Philip-
pines as CLO
Assistant/Newletter
Editor. We welcome
Jennifer and look
forward to continued
professionalism
through this monthly
newsletter.





SUMMER 2003

Join or renew your membership with the online credit card system
and receive a free tote bag!
www.aafsw.org

Welcome

New and Returning
AAFSW Members:

April 2003

Anthony L. Miranda
Kendall Montgomery
Terry L. Murphree
Janet McEvoy Price
Tarja A. Thatcher
Holly H. Thomas
Nathaniel S. Turner

May 2003

Anabel Baluyut
Nadia Tlili Covington
Anne F. Cunningham
Cynthia L. Kochanek
Jill A. Maloney
Marielle Haller Martin
Julie McClanahan
Paula Murray
Jennifer L. Niebels
Samara Sanders
John Shimwell
Alicia Sinclair
Kathleen F. Stafford
Robert J. Tate
Neal Vermillion
June Tang Williamson

Thank
You!

Generous Donations
made by:

April 2003

Ms. Betty W. Atherton
Ms. Margaret Neumann

May 2003

Ms. Susan Orr Daniels
Ms. Lesley Dorman
Ms. Charlotte P. Harrell
Ms. Anne-Marie Lee

AAFSW MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
And Information Update

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: _____

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: \$ _____

Are there changes in your life to report? Help keep our database current!

Address/phone/email changes:

New children names and DOB:

Been evacuated recently? _____ Where and when?:

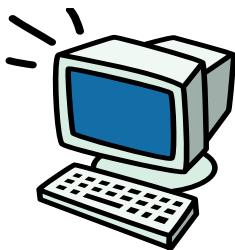
Been on SMA recently?:

Changed jobs?:

Been involved in AAFSW activities?:

Have you Heard?

It is now possible to pay membership dues online (either new memberships or renewals). The first 50 people to utilize the online payment system will receive a free AAFSW tote bag! Log onto www.aafsw.org today to avoid a lapse in your membership. You may also donate money to any AAFSW program through the website as well.



A Changed Relationship between BookFair and AAFSW

TELLING IT LIKE IT IS; VOLUNTEERING IS CRUCIAL

In the past, the AAFSW took great pride in donating all the net profits from BOOKFAIR to Foreign Service scholarships and Washington D.C. local charities. This is no longer the case. **BY NOW, THE VERY EXISTENCE OF THE AAFSW ITSELF HAS BECOME DEPENDENT UPON SOME OF THE PROFITS FROM BOOKFAIR.**

None of us like this. However, it has become a reality for a number of reasons—most of which involve increased costs: (1) The AAFSW “office” used to be in a member’s house. Now we pay rent. (2) We now pay an Office Manager. (3) The newsletter editor used to be a volunteer. The editor now receives an honorarium. (4) The cost of producing and distributing the newsletter has gone up considerably. (5) In the past, AAFSW did not have a website nor did it have “Livelines.” Now, the website has a paid Managing Editor and a Website Developer. (6) The value of our equities has declined steeply and we have received few large donations. (7) The Advertising Coordinator receives a percentage of any business she develops.

As for BOOKROOM, (8) it has a paid manager. And last but not least, the costs of mounting BOOKFAIR have risen sharply—(9) especially the cost of the security guards and the movers. (We still use the Diplomatic Exhibit Hall free of charge—a space which would cost us about \$15,000 elsewhere.)

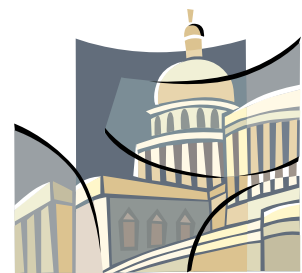
In practical terms, **THIS MEANS THAT VOLUNTEERING TO HELP ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF BOOKFAIR HAS BECOME CRUCIAL TO GUARANTEEING THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF THE ORGANIZATION.**

CONTRARY TO USUAL PRACTICE, WE ARE STARTING TO SOLICIT VOLUNTEERS IN THIS SUMMER ISSUE TO GIVE US TIME TO FULFILL STRINGENT SECURITY REQUIREMENTS.

This year, BOOKFAIR will run from Friday, October 17th through Sunday, October 26th. We will need lots of help from Monday, October 13th on (Columbus Day) to hang art-work, bring down objects for Art Corner and position books. It is also crucial to have enough help on Clean-Up Day—Monday, October 27th. **IF YOU BELIEVE THAT THE FUTURE OF AAFSW IS WORTH ENSURING, PLEASE PLAN NOW TO COMMIT SOME OF YOUR TIME AND ENERGY.**

Mette Beecroft
BOOKFAIR Chair

NEW SECURITY ALERT
BADGES AGAIN BEING PROCESSED



For the past two months, AAFSW volunteers have been advised to wait for an unspecified period before trying to (1) obtain an ID for the first time, (2) replace an expired ID or (3) exchange a conventional ID for a so-called “Smart Card.”

We have just been advised by Lolie Kull, Coordinator of the Smart Card Conversion Project, that volunteers may again report to the ID Office in Columbia Plaza Courtyard #520 to accomplish any of the three tasks listed above. **Before going, please call the Office (202 663 3093) to make sure that they are open and operating.** The instructions that appeared in the March issue of “Global Link” are still valid. If you are exchanging a conventional ID for a “Smart Card,” you only need the completed DS 1838 which has been signed by Faye Barnes or Judy Ikels of the Family Liaison Office. A number of you have been holding on to the signed DS 1838 until the ID unit was again functioning. If you are obtaining a card for the first time or updating one that is about to expire, you will need a number of other documents as well. For questions, you are welcome to contact me at 202-647-4028(W) or 301-320-7698(H).

Mette Beecroft
AAFSW STATE Liaison

AAFSW
5125 MacArthur Blvd., NW
Suite 36
Washington, DC 20016

Place
stamp
here

What to watch for in the next issue:

- * **AAFSW Budget 2003-2004**
- * **25th anniversary of FLO**
- * **Bookfair**
- * **Back to school: how to help our children**
- * **Spotlight of the Month**
- * **And much more!**

Foreign Service Link

From the Desk of FLO..... Changes in Educational Regulations

There is some good news on recent changes to regulations! Through a collaborative effort of the Family Liaison Office, the Office of Allowances, the Office of Overseas Schools, and the Office of the Legal Advisor, some important changes have recently been made to the DSSR Chapters 260 (Separate Maintenance Allowance), 270 (Education Allowance), 280 (Educational Travel), and 620 (Continuation of Salary and Allowance Payments). The amended regulations, effective March 23, 2003, should be online within the next week on the Office of Allowances web sites at <http://www.state.gov/m/a/als> (Internet) and <http://aoprals.a.state.gov> (Intranet). You can view the changes in their entirety. Here is a brief summary, but for precise interpretation, please refer back to the actual regulations.

264.3 – Transitional Separate Maintenance Allowance - A transitional separate maintenance allowance (TSMA) is authorized to help defray costs so that a family may stay at the designated safehaven after an evacuation has been lifted in order to finish the school year if the children are in their second semester of school.

272.3 Selection of School - One-time fees for school registration – there is a new formula for calculating these fees if you change schools mid-tour which allow for greater flexibility if the second school chosen is less expensive than the first. See examples online for clarification.

276.9(d) and (e) Supplementary Instruction - Two new categories for supplemental education allowance of \$3000 have been added:

1. **(d)** tutoring for a child who returns to post upon termination of an evacuation and needs help to catch up with peers.
2. **(e)** Gifted and talented education for those students who qualify.

277.3 Home Study/Private Instruction – broader categories of allowable expenses include “textbooks and pertinent instructional materials”, internet connection fees related to home study, fees for participation in group sports events, recreational facilities, library services, etc. See allowances Q’s and A’s at <http://www.state.gov/m/a/als/c8406.htm>.

285.1 – Allowable expenses for Educational Travel – students may store their personal effects at college instead of shipping them back to post for the summer as long as the cost of storage of personal effects does not exceed the cost of the UAB.

621.1 (d) - Continuation of Allowance and Salary Payments during an Evacuation (Education Allowance) – if there is an internet classroom set up for evacuated students, the allowance will cover internet connectivity fees and costs and any school expenses related to the internet classroom.

There is still more work to be done, but we are very pleased that these changes have been approved and are ready to go in time to help some of our evacuees and other students with their immediate needs.



Research is part of the job hunt strategy. Spouse Networking Assistance Program (SNAP) announces our new SNAP Job Search Assistance Web Tool.

Link to it from: www.state.gov/m/dghr/flo/9888.htm

The value in using the Internet, for the majority of people, is as a research tool to get employment information — to take a look and see what kind of jobs are out there in a given country, look at salaries, and get ideas of occupations that might be of interest. We invite you to use our SNAP Job Search Assistance Web Tool as part of your research. Click on “World-wide” for an indication of the companies (and the types of positions) looking to hire people in a given region/ country.

For more information, contact the Family Liaison Office at:

FLOAskEmployment@state.gov



(left to right) Frank J. Weicks, Chiang Mai; Christopher Paul “Norman” Bates, Dakar; Kristine Luoma-Overstreet, Merida and Karie Ennis, New Delhi. Missing from photo: Anne Bridgman, Prague.

State Department retirees and their guests were introduced to the winners of the AAFSW/ Secretary of State’s Award for Volunteerism Abroad and reminded of the impact their presence had when they were serving abroad on behalf of the State Department and America. The award, started in 1970 by Mrs. James Baker, was awarded by Secretary Powell at Foreign Affairs Day to the following winners, representing their geographic regions; Christopher Paul (Norman) Bates from Dakar, Frank J. Weicks from Chiang Mai, Anne Bridgman from Prague, Karie Ennis from New Delhi, and Kristine Luoma-Overstreet from Merida. The winners were chosen by a panel comprised of members of AAFSW, the Executive Directors of each geographic bureau, the Family Liaison Office and the Transition Center at the Foreign Service Intitute. Terri Williams, AAFSW President, introduced the winners to the Secretary and the retirees. Winners receive a one-year complimentary membership to AAFSW, a \$500 award, and their travel to D.C. to receive this award paid for by the Bureau.

Lesley Dorman Award 2003

Barbara Ratigan, AAFSW Treasurer since spring of 2000, has been awarded the Lesley Dorman award for 2003.

This award was created in 1993 and is granted to an outstanding volunteer of AAFSW who has given back to the organization by following the footsteps of one of the great AAFSW volunteers, Lesley Dorman.

Barbara has made the budget process and the financial reports clear and easily accessible so that decisions made by the board can be based on a realistic idea of finances of the organization.

Barbara has pushed to get AAFSW to provide health insurance for its employees, and continues to volunteer as a Bookroom cashier, an experience which has given her a greater appreciation of the importance of BookFair/Bookroom to AAFSW’s financial health.

We thank you Barbara and are grateful for your continued service to the AAFSW!

AFSA: Student Merit Winners

AFSA is proud to announce the 2003 Academic and Art Merit Award winners bestowed upon Foreign Service high school seniors. This year, 62 students applied for the awards competing on their grade point average, SAT scores, a two page essay, letters of recommendation, extra curricular activities, and any special circumstances. Seventeen students also submitted art applications under one of the following categories: visual art, musical art, drama, dance or creative writing. Congratulations to the 27 winners listed below who received recognition on May 9th.

Acedemic Award Winners-\$1500

- Brandon Cook
- Christine Elliott-Leary Scholar
- Matthew Keegan
- Jesse Laechli
- Mariel Murray
- Peter Quinzio
- Erica Schlaikjer-AAFSW Scholar
- Julie Schwartz
- Johanna Smyth
- James Steele
- Michael Swigert- Becker Scholar

Art Merit Special Commendation-\$100

- Odette Brock-Visual Arts-mixed media

Best Essay Winner-\$250

- Sarah Taylor

Acedemic Merit Honorable Mention Winners-\$500

- Peter Booth
- William Henderickson
- Courtney Keene
- Jesse Robbins
- Shayda Vance

Art Merit Winner-\$1500

- Jacob Thielman-Musical Arts-piano

Art Merit Honorable Mention Winners-\$500

- Angela Garland-Musical Arts-voice
- Jessica Barth-Visual Arts-mixed media
- Mariel Murray-MuscialArts-flute
- Peter Quinzio-Musical Arts-alto saxophone

Community Service Winner-\$250

- Jane Symington

Yes I want to help at BookFair 2003!

Name: _____
Do you have a DOS pass? _____
If No, please give date of birth: _____
Daytime Phone: _____
Social Security Number: _____



OCTOBER 17 - 26, 2003

Please circle the times that you wish to work:

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Columbus	9-12 (set- up)	9-12 (set-up)	Day Off	12-5:30	9:30-1	9:30-1
Day	12-3	12-3		Family Day	12:30-4:30	12:30-4:30
(set-up)						Open to the Public
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
10:30-3:30	10:30-3:30	10:30-3:30	10:30-3:30	10:30-3:30	9:30-1	9:-30-1
					12:30-4:30	12:30-4:30
						Open to the Public
27				I would like to assist as a:		
9-12				<input type="checkbox"/> Cashier <input type="checkbox"/> Reader		
clean-up				<input type="checkbox"/> Restocker/Floor person		
12-3						

Remove this form, fold and place stamp in designated spot.

Return as soon as possible, positions fill quickly!