



NEW!

After many years of discussion, AAFSW has made the momentous decision to keep the same acronym, but change the meaning to

Associates of the American Foreign Service Worldwide

AAFSW has been concerned about our name for some time. "Foreign Service Women" does not describe all of our members or constituency. We have been asked again and again, "When are you going to change your name?"

We hope that this development will be one of many helping AAFSW more effectively serve our members in the year 2000 and beyond!

NEW!

There are big changes in the works at www.aafsw.org!

The website has been completely redesigned, and is easier to navigate, more attractive, and quicker to download. New features include: reviews of Washington area temporary housing facilities by and for AAFSW members; descriptions and contact information for most of the AAFSW member interest groups and committees; detailed membership renewal information (including a renewal form that you can print out and mail); and revised and updated links pages.

In addition, the Family Liaison Office and the Overseas Briefing Center have contributed extensive information concerning their resources and staff. The Overseas Briefing Center will be posting an updated list of course offerings on a monthly basis. This is only a small part of our effort to provide a home for newcomers to the Foreign Service on the web. Our growing "Notes for Newcomers" section includes articles on Foreign Service life, as well as recommended books,

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Tipper Gore Praises AAFSW

The following is an excerpt of the letter sent by Tipper Gore on the occasion of the AAFSW program held December 14.

"I am pleased to send my personal greetings to everyone as you gather to acknowledge

**"You can be extremely proud
of the sacrifices
you have made"**

and to celebrate Foreign Service Women in the 20th Century. While I regret that I am not able to be with you this morning, I join you in recognizing the outstanding work done to improve life in the Foreign Service.

"Life abroad can often be extremely challenging... You can be extremely proud of the sacrifices you have made. Please accept my best wishes as you continue to assist Foreign Service families serving throughout the world."

January Calendar

25 Board Meeting

Inside

- 2 Benefits for unmarried partners?
- 4 100 years of Foreign Service life
- 7 Foreign Service New Year's resolutions

NOTE: We are trying to use our resources well by not repeating the same information in each issue. Please clip and save reference materials, especially contact information.

Tell Us What You Think!

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Membership in AAFSW is open to all members of the U.S. foreign affairs community for just \$25 per year. Join today!

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Smith Recognizes Remarkable Woman

AAFSW member Margaret Heaney Greene was recently named one of 30 "Remarkable Women of Smith" at a gala ceremony marking the college's 125th anniversary. Smith President Ruth J. Simmons cited Ms. Greene for using her cultural experiences, time, and leadership skills to enrich and transform public education for inner-city children and their families.

After spending 20 years living abroad with her Foreign Service husband, Ms. Greene returned to the Washington area in 1986 and devoted herself to the partnership between the Smith College Club of Washington and the inner city Ketcham Elementary School in Southeast. She and her volunteers spent countless hours tutoring, reading aloud in the classrooms, arranging and chaperoning trips, teaching creative writing, and mobilizing parents to participate in the school.

Other alumnae honored at the ceremony included Julia Child (another Foreign Service spouse!), Betty Friedan, and actress and author Yolanda King. Also attending were alumnae Gloria Steinem and Shelly Lazarus, chairman and CEO of Ogilvy and Mather Worldwide.

Part-time Job Available

AAFSW needs someone to serve as paid back-up for the Office Manager on a part-time, as-needed basis. Basic computer and office work skills are necessary. For more information, contact Margaret Teich at 202-362-6514.

Transcripts Missing

Will the person who borrowed the ADST and AAFSW oral history transcripts from the display table at AAFSW's December 14 meeting in the diplomatic reception rooms please return them to the AAFSW office. Call 202-362-6514 and we will pick them up.

Treasuring New Volunteer Opportunities

AAFSW extends a hearty THANK YOU to Joan Deason, who has served a number of years as both Treasurer and BOOKFAIR Treasurer. Even after officially leaving the job, Joan continued to serve as Acting Treasurer for the first half of this year. Her invaluable efforts and cheerful, "can-do" manner will be greatly missed.

Joan's departure leaves AAFSW in need of two volunteers to work together as joint AAFSW Treasurers. (Yes, Joan, we think it will take two people to replace you!) This would be an excellent opportunity for a business school graduate student to gain practical, resume-building experience, or for an AAFSW member to obtain highly in-demand computer skills. You do not need to have them to start out, although basic familiarity with computers would help.

For more information, call the AAFSW office at 202-362-6514.

Website Presents New Information, Format

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articles, and links that will be especially useful to those new to our global community.

Finally, *Foreign Service Lifelines*, now our "news and views" section, is thriving. The Cyberspouse continues to share her exploration of cyberspace and her interviews with Foreign Service spouses who have used modern technology to create fulfilling careers. "Perspectives" will provide viewpoints on various aspects of Foreign Service life, and our "Tips from the Trenches" archives continue to grow with new advice on coping with the realities of Foreign Service life, from consumables to domestic help.

We are very excited about our new look and hope that you will be too! The new site will be officially launched on January 1, 2000. Surf on by and check us out at www.aafsw.org. Remember, *we're your connection!*

Melissa Hess, *Managing Editor*
Kelly Bembry Midura, *Webmistress*

Welcome New & Returning Members

Nancy Buchanan
Candace Claiborne
Patricia Ellison-Smith
Jenneke Fijn van Draat
Trudy Gaughran
Dolores M. Kirby
Michael and Jennifer
Kolodner
Laura Leinow
Ann Lewis
Wendy McPhee
Sally Phelps
Judie H. Pruett
Patricia Schofield
Alicia Sinclair
Anne Sullivan
Jean Fran Webb

Scholarship Applications Available

AFSA/AAFSW Scholarship Applications are now available. Foreign Service high school seniors can apply for \$1500 Merit Awards and Foreign Service college undergraduates can apply for need-based Financial Aid Awards ranging from \$500-\$3000. Families must be members of AFSA or AAFSW to apply (guess which costs less?) The application deadline is February 6, 2000. Contact Lori Dec at 202-944-5504, dec@afsa.org or AFSA, 2101 E Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037. Information and applications are also available online at www.afsa.org.