

Backchannels

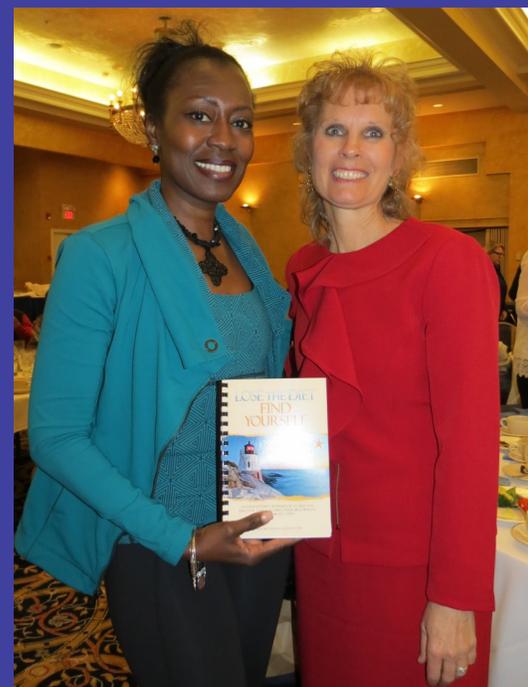
Army Officers' Spouses' Club of the Greater Washington Area

February 2018



Inside This Issue

President's Pen	3
International Showcase 2018	4
Luncheon Information	5-6
JAFOWL	6-7
2018-2019 Executive Board	8-10
Scholarship Information	11
February Events Around Town	12
Special Activities	13
Zip Code Groups	14
AOSCGWA Board	15



AOSCGWA OUT & ABOUT



Springfield Zip Code Group at Monty's Steakhouse



McLean/Falls Church/Fort Myer Zip Code Group
at the Fava Pot



Burke Zip Code Group at Burton's Grill and Bar



Flick Chicks *The Shape of Water*

A tour is best measured in friends
rather than miles
Join us for our up coming tours for

O Street Museum and Breakfast Tour
FBI Tour
Cherry Blossom Tea and Tour of the National Cathedral
Afternoon Tea and Tour of the Trump International Hotel
Historic Home Garden Tour
Colonial Tour of Annapolis

Don't forget to take pictures of your group's outings and send them to the Backchannels Editor at backchannels.editor@gmail.com and the Webmaster at aoscgwaweb@gmail.com.

President's Pen



Happy February! I hope everyone enjoyed the JanYOUary luncheon as much as I did! Thanks again to Maria McConville for sharing her experiences with us and to all of our talented health and beauty specialists. If you have not booked your complimentary hair spa treatment at Cavalli's Divergent Hair Studio, do so. Your hair will thank you!

I am so excited about our International Showcase this month! Our international members, from over a dozen countries, will share their cultures and yummy food. Check out all the great information about the Showcase in this newsletter and mark February 15 in your calendars! Remember, our luncheon will be at the Spates Community Center this month, not Patton Hall.

If you are interested in serving on the 2018-2019 AOSCGWA Executive Board, please contact our Parliamentarian, Anita Skelton. She is working on the slate to present at our March luncheon. It takes many amazing volunteers to make this club successful. Please consider a position on the Executive Board. It's not all hard work; we have fun, make great friends, and experience some Board-only activities, as well! What could be better than having fun while making a difference in your community?!

Our club has fun activities every month; come check them out. Flick Chicks will meet on February 20. The Evite will have the movie title and time. Happy Hour will be on February 28 at Whitlow's on Wilson at 7 PM. They have an extended happy hour menu until 9 PM...and trivia! The Walking Group will meet on February 22 at 10 AM at Mount Vernon to start the walk. They will have lunch at the Mount Vernon Inn. The Bible Study Group meets every Monday at the Main Post Chapel at 10 AM.

Planning for the Spring Tour of Homes is underway! This daytime event will take place at Fort McNair in April. Members can help by selling tickets, being greeters, docents, and staff on hand for the tour. The proceeds will benefit our scholarship program. We will share more detailed information soon. Please help us spread the word, and encourage your family, friends, and neighbors to attend.

I look forward to seeing you at our International Showcase at Spates! Happy Valentine's Day ;)



Fondly,
Kelly

Kelly Kreis



International Showcase 2018

Each February, AOSCGWA's international members transform the Spates Ballroom into a trip around the world for our February program. This has traditionally been the highlight of the club year with many of our members inviting neighbors and friends to this special luncheon.

Each participating member has an area to showcase the unique and interesting things about their home country. Most will come in national dress and many will also prepare delicious food and drink for tasting. Attendees will be delighted with the sights, aromas, tastes and sounds of the represented countries. It is a great opportunity to get to know our international members better while learning about their homelands.

As an added bonus, each country represented contributes a gift to be given to a lucky attendee and each attendee receives a free opportunity ticket for the drawing. For the price of admission, you not only get to experience the Showcase but will also enjoy a delicious American buffet prepared in the adjoining Skylight Room.

The doors will open promptly at 10:30 AM and the buffet line opens closer to 11:30 AM. You can come and go as you please until 1:00 PM. We will draw for the door prizes close to 11:15 AM. This is primarily a stand-up event so be sure to come in comfortable shoes. Limited seating will be available in the Ballroom and of course there will be tables set up in the Skylight Room for lunch.

The international members spend many months preparing for this annual event and we know YOU will have a great time. Please make your reservations early and consider bringing a friend or two.

Can't wait to see you,

Lori, Linda, and Carolyn
(International Liaison Team)



Photos from last year's International Showcase

AOSCGWA PRESENTS

THE 21ST ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL SHOWCASE

Sharing Our Cultures

FEBRUARY 15, 2018, 10:30 AM

SPATES COMMUNITY CENTER

214 McNAIR ROAD, BUILDING 407

FORT MYER, VA

\$25

Experience the cultures of:

Ukraine, Ecuador, New Zealand, Egypt, Spain, Nigeria,
Japan, Romania, Peru, Algeria, Paraguay, and more...

MENU:

HEAVY APPETIZERS

SALAD BAR

TREATS FROM AROUND

THE WORLD

TICKETS INCLUDE:
ONE OPPORTUNITY TICKET
TOTE BAG
LUNCH

RSVP by February 9, 2018 at www.aoscgwa.org

AOSCGWA 2017-2018 Luncheon Reservation Form

Name _____

Month of Luncheon: _____

Contact Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Guest Name: _____

Payment (If mailing please do not send cash): Check # _____

Please mail check and reservation form to:

**AOSCGWA Reservations
c/o Shelley Williams
Post Office Box 1124
Fort Myer, VA 22211**

DO NOT MAIL THIS FORM IF YOU HAVE ALREADY MADE A RESERVATION ONLINE.



Hello....

Is there someone that needs a little cheer, a get well wish, or a congratulations?

If you know of a member in need of well wishes, sympathy, or congratulations, please let our Corresponding Secretary know.

Email Jackie McKenna (jackiemckenna2004@gmail.com) with the member's name, address, and the type of card she should send.

THE 40TH ANNUAL JAFOWL IS APPROACHING!

The purpose of the Joint Armed Forces of Washington Luncheon is to bring together members of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard Spouses' Clubs for charitable purposes.

The Joint Armed Forces of Washington Luncheon is an annual event that should not be missed! It has proven to be a very fun and great way to share the day with spouses from other services. Past guest speakers include U.S. Presidents, First Ladies, celebrities, and more!

All AOSCGWA members in good standing are welcome and encouraged to attend! More information will be coming soon!

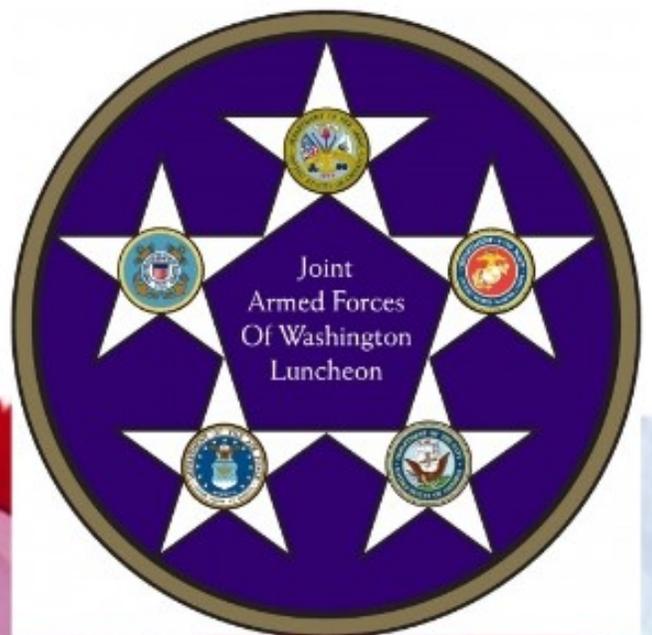
Dianne R. Crawford

JAFOWL 2018

JOINT ARMED FORCES OF WASHINGTON LUNCHEON

The Joint Armed Forces of Washington Luncheon (JAFOWL) is an annual event. The purpose is to promote unity and camaraderie by providing an opportunity to meet spouses from each of the military services, while raising funds for charitable causes.

- ★ TEAMWORK
- ★ GREAT EVENT
- ★ MILITARY SPOUSES





I Want You

as an

AOSCGWA

2018-2019

Executive Board Member

POC: Anita Skelton

Parliamentarian

jim.anita.ger@gmail.com

(724) 771-9398

AOSCGWA Executive Board

Position Description/General Duties

President:

Serves as the Chairperson of the Board and presides over all meetings, committees, and affairs of AOSCGWA.- Appoints the Parliamentarian and Committee Chairs with approval of the Executive Board.- Assists wherever and whenever needed!

1st Vice President:

Serves as the coordinator of the Programs Committee to plan and execute monthly membership luncheons. - Works closely with the 2nd Vice President. - Serves as the President when called upon to do so. - Assists wherever and whenever needed!

2nd Vice President:

Serves as the liaison between AOSCGWA and the Fort Myer Patton Hall Club for monthly membership luncheons. - Works closely with the 1st Vice President to ensure fun and successful luncheons. - Assists wherever and whenever needed!

Recording Secretary:

Serves as the record keeper for all AOSCGWA meetings including taking minutes and providing monthly board reports. - Custodian of AOSCGWA records. - Assists wherever and whenever needed!

Corresponding Secretary:

Prepares the correspondence for AOSCGWA. - Compiles and maintains updated rosters of honorary members. - Notifies the Executive Committee and/or Board of Directors of meetings. - Assists wherever and whenever needed!

Treasurer:

Serves as the primary financial officer on all AOSCGWA accounts, maintaining financial readiness at all times. - Prepares club budget with the Executive Board and all monthly/yearly financial statements for board meetings, Garrison reports, and the IRS. - Assists wherever and whenever needed!

To serve on the Executive Board of AOSCGWA

The President, 1st Vice President and 2nd Vice President must be spouses of active duty, reserve components or retired US Army officers. One of these positions must be filled by the spouse of an active duty US Army officer.

The President should have served on the AOSCGWA Board of Directors for at least one year prior to election.

You must be hardworking, dependable, and ready to have fun!

****Please see By-Laws for more specific duties or speak with the current board member. ****



Presidents' Day Quiz

How much do you know about our nation's leaders? Answers will be posted on the [AOSCGWA](#) web page and the AOSCGWA Facebook page.

1. What president got stuck in the White House bathtub the first time he used it?
2. Besides Donald Trump, who is the only other U.S. president to be divorced?
3. Who was the only president to be married and have a child born in the White House?
4. Who was the only bachelor/unmarried president?
5. Who renamed the presidential weekend retreat Camp David in honor of his grandson?
6. Who was the first president to receive the Nobel Peace Prize?
7. Which president was a model in his youth and featured on the cover of Cosmopolitan?
8. Which president had the most children?
9. Which president was posthumously appointed to the six-star grade of General of the Armies of the United States by Congress in 1976?
10. Who was the only president to have a patent in his name?
11. What two presidents graduated from the United States Military Academy?
12. Who is the only U.S. president to be elected to four terms?
13. Who was the only president to have the oath of office administered by a woman?
14. What president used (and lost) a set of White House china as the stakes in a poker game?
15. What two presidents died on the same day of the same year?

Scholarship Information

Army Emergency Relief offers funding for Army spouses and dependent children through the Spouse Education Assistance Program and MG James Ursano Children's Scholarship Program. Both scholarships provide financial assistance for students who are pursuing their first undergraduate degree. Scholarship applications are being accepted now through 3:00 PM EDT on April 2 for the following academic year. Further information concerning requirements and the application process may be found at <https://www.aerhq.org/Apply-for-Scholarship>. Questions concerning the scholarship program may be directed to scholarships@aerhq.org.

The Scholarships for Military Children Program is open to sons and daughters of active duty, reserve/guard, or retired military commissary customers. The recipient must be enrolled or planning to enroll full-time in a four-year undergraduate college or university, accredited in the United States or a two-year community college. The program is administered by the Fisher House Foundation and funded through donations by the Defense Commissary Agency and its business partners. Applications must be turned in to your local commissary no later than February 16. Additional details about the program are available at <http://militaryscholar.org/sfmc/index.html>.

The Fort Myer Thrift Shop awards scholarships based on merit and are available to children (up to age 22) and spouses of active duty, retired, or deceased U. S. Army personnel of all ranks who maintain a current military ID card. Instructions, requirements, and applications for high school students, college students, and spouses can be found at <http://www.fortmyerthriftshop.org/college-student-scholarship-application--instructions.html>.

Submissions for Backchannels are due the third Monday of the month. Please contact me at backchannels.editor@gmail.com to submit articles, photos, recipes, etc.

Thank you!

Michelle Funkhouser
Backchannels Editor

Events Around Town

February is [Black History Month](#). Click on the link for a list of observances in the DC Metro.

[National Harbor Restaurant Week](#) February 4-10

[Mardi Gras](#) or “Fat Tuesday” is February 13. “Laissez les bons temps rouler!” (Let the good times roll!) with the many parties and parades being held in the area.

There are a number of local events planned to observe the [Chinese New Year](#) that begins on February 16. 2018 is the Year of the Dog.

[Presidents' Day](#) (February 19) is commemorated with activities throughout the region to honor our past presidents.

Celebrate George Washington's Birthday and Presidents' Day with two free days (February 19 and February 22) of admission to [George Washington's Mount Vernon](#). George Washington's Birthright Banquet and Ball will be held on February 17, 2018, 5:30 to 11:00 PM in the Ballroom at [Gadsby's Tavern Museum](#) in Alexandria. A [George Washington Birthday Parade](#) takes place February 19 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM in Old Town Alexandria.

February is a great month to enjoy some chocolate. (Let's be honest, *any* month is a great month to enjoy some chocolate). Fortunately for us, a number of [chocolate festivals](#) are taking place in the next few months.

Source information: [Trip Savvy \(tripsavvy.com\)](#), [Visit Alexandria \(visitalexandriava.com\)](#), [Humanities DC \(culturecapital.com\)](#)



The American Heart Association's (AHA) Go Red for Women National Wear Red Day is February 2. The [Go Red for Women](#) movement was created to raise awareness of the issue of women and heart disease, and to save lives through education on risk factors that can lead to cardiovascular disease.

The month of February is designated as Heart Health Month. Heart disease is the number one killer of women in the United States. Information concerning heart disease in women can be found at the AHA Go Red for Women link above or the [fact sheet](#) on women and heart disease by the Centers for Disease Control.



[White House Easter Egg Roll](#)

The annual White House Easter Egg Roll will be held on Monday, April 2. It is designed for children 13 years and younger. A lottery is used to determine who is able to attend the Easter Egg Roll. The lottery date has not yet been determined. The date, along with information on how to enter the lottery, will be posted at the link above.



Volunteers (18 years and older) are needed to help with the event. Details on how to volunteer for this and other White House events can be found at the [National Park Service](#) website.

Special Activities

Bible Study: Every Monday at the Main Post Chapel from 10:00-11:30 AM.

Bridge: Bridge meets the third Tuesday of every month at the Army-Navy Country Club of Arlington. Must have a knowledge of how to play. Please contact Janice Brintnall at 703-644-6869 for further information.

The Walking Group: Upcoming walks for the rest of the club year are below. All walks start at 10:00 AM. Anyone who would like to be added to the contact list for the Walking Group should contact Mary Pawlow at mlspawlow@aol.com.

Thursday, February 22 Walk to Mount Vernon, lunch at the Mount Vernon Inn Restaurant

Wednesday, March 14 Four Mile Run in Arlington, lunch at Pupatella

Tuesday, April 10 Cherry Blossom Walk to DC, lunch at the Holocaust Museum

Tuesday, May 22 C&O Canal in Potomac, MD, lunch at Old Anglers Inn

Flick Chicks: Flick Chicks will meet on February 20. The Evite will contain the movie title and time.

Happy Hour: Join the group February 28 at 7:00 PM at [Whitlow's](#) located at 2854 Wilson Blvd, Arlington.

Line Dancing: The class for line dancing for balls is being rescheduled so more members are able to participate. The club is waiting to hear from the instructor for a new date.

Information for Flick Chicks, Happy Hour Group, and Line Dancing is sent via Evite. Please email the Special Activities coordinator at aoscgwaspecialactivities@gmail.com to be added to the Evite.

Trivia Group: The POC is Christine Miller. She may be reached at cmiller001@gmail.com for further information.

AOSCGWA is looking for someone to serve as the Special Activities Coordinator. Coordinators are also needed for Flick Chicks and Happy Hour groups.



ARMY WIFE SEAL

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Advertisements in this publication do not constitute an endorsement by the Department of the Army.

Zip Code Groups

Alexandria 22301-22315

LaDonna Cavanaugh 678-464-7470
cavanaugh@comcast.net

Annandale, Fairfax & Fairfax Station

Mary Pawlow 703-764-9656
mlspawlow@aol.com

Arlington 22201-22209

Paige Kellogg 703-248-8313
Paigekell@aol.com

Burke 22015

Jeanne Sander 703-426-2880
ebs17@verizon.net

McLean, Falls Church & Ft. Myer

Lori Borgna Strong 706-799-9308
borgnalori@gmail.com

Chantilly, Clifton, Centerville & Herndon 20120-22182

Pat O'Neill 703-378-3624
pponeill6@aol.com

Prince William County & Beyond

Paula Ann Mancini 703-346-4468
pa.mancini@comcast.net

Springfield 22150-22153

Jennifer Stepetic 703-569-1596
stepetic@yahoo.com

Maryland-Howard County & Beyond

Marie Corbett 410-418-4934
mtcre@aol.com

Maryland-Montgomery County & Beyond

Deidra Stubbs 803-447-8700
dleestubbs@aol.com

Washington D.C.

Mary Dulaney 202-541-0236
medulany@msn.com



Our Zip Code Groups are a benefit of membership in AOSCGWA and are the perfect opportunity to meet new friends at enjoyable events.

Contact the Zip Code Leader in your area and join your AOSCGWA neighbors for fun get-togethers!

If you have any questions please contact the AOSCGWA Zip Code Chair, Jennifer Stepetic, at stepetic@yahoo.com.



AOSCGWA BOARD



Honorary President

Hollyanne Milley

Honorary Vice President

Maria McConville

Advisor

Connie Semonite

conniesemonite@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President

Kelly Kreis

aoscgwapresident1@gmail.com

1st Vice-President

Paige Kellogg

aoscgwaprograms@gmail.com

2nd Vice-President

CJ Summers

cjsummers@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary

Jackie McKenna

jackiemckenna2004@gmail.com

Recording Secretary

LaDonna Cavanaugh

cavanaugh@comcast.net

Treasurer

Deb Kalisz Wehr

aoscgwatreasurer@gmail.com

Parliamentarian

Anita Skelton

jim.anita.ger@gmail.com

STANDING COMMITTEES

Backchannels

Michelle Funkhouser

backchannels.editor@gmail.com

Charitable Causes

Paula Ann Mancini

pa.mancini@comcast.net

Fundraising

Kerri Eldridge

kermurph@yahoo.com

Historian

Melissa Werner

darmel23@hotmail.com

Hospitality

Jill Vaniman

jmvaniman@gmail.com

International Liaison

Linda Wildes

lbwildes@gmail.com

Lori Borgna Strong

borgnlori@gmail.com

JAFOWL

Dianne Crawford

dlr1023@aol.com

Membership

Barb Patterson

aoscgwamembership@gmail.com

Military Support Organizations

Patty Barron

pbarron@ausa.org

Reservations

Shelley Williams

aoscgwareervations@gmail.com

Scholarship

Christine Miller

aoscgwacollege@gmail.com

Social Media

Jane Davis

aoscgwasocial@gmail.com

Special Activities

aoscgwaspecialactivities@gmail.com

Tours

Michelle Zuniga

aoscgwatours@gmail.com

Vendor Chair

Kim Raymond

aoscgwavendor@gmail.com

Ways and Means

aoscgwawaysandmeans@gmail.com

Web Administrator

Diane Martinez

aoscgwaweb@gmail.com

Zip Code Groups

Jennifer Stepetic

stepetic@yahoo.com



Two lucky members, Shelley Williams and Shelly Fabian, received a makeover during the luncheon. Their "Before" pictures are below.

Thank you January luncheon vendors!

- LuLaRoe, Autumn Capps
- Nerium, Sara Blaschke
- Cooking Thyme with Stacie, Stacie Hussmann
- Initials Inc., Patty Dreyer
- Pure Haven Essentials, Kim Raymond



The "After" photo with Cathy Burton, Angela Cavalli Harris, and Elysia Buerger.

AOSCGWA



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www.aoscgwa.org



hello february



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Fort Myer, VA 22211

Post Office Box 1124

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