Backchannels

Army Spouses' Club of the Greater Washington Area

Summer 2020

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The Army Spouses' Club of the Greater Washington Area (ASCGWA) is a non-profit organization seeking to enhance the quality of life of its members and the Military District of Washington community at large.

We offer friendship, monthly luncheons, special activities and many volunteer opportunities. Additionally, there are zip code groups to make it easier to connect to the military spouses who live near you. Our volunteers organize fun activities and share information about unique opportunities available in the Washington, D.C. area.

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PRESIDENT'S PEN

Lovely ASCGWA members,

How lucky are we that we get to enjoy this special summer edition of the Backchannels? Thank you, Jackie Habel!

As we officially close our 2019-2020 club year, I hope that you have many fond memories of our times together. While it is easy to focus on what we missed since the onset of the COVID pandemic, I trust that you will, in the years ahead, remember what makes us great – our amazing luncheons, our fantastic tours and special activities, and most importantly, the camaraderie, friendships, and joy of being together.

I want to highlight and express my gratitude to our Constitution and Bylaws Committee, lead by our Parliamentarian Jennifer Kiel. This committee has worked many, many hours to ensure that our governing documents will guide ASCGWA's future success. Thank you, ladies, for all your efforts on behalf of our club.

We look forward to when we can return to our normal activities and aspire that our new board will be able to welcome you back with a fabulous kickoff event in September. That being said, it may be awhile before we are able to meet in the manner in which we are accustomed. We may need to host virtual events or meet in smaller numbers based on whatever the guidelines are at that time. It is very likely that our zip code groups and special activities may be able to meet sooner than the club as a whole due to their smaller numbers of people. Please know that your 2020-2021 board members will work diligently on your behalf to provide the best club experience possible under the circumstances given to them.

Speaking of the 2020-2021 board, we continue to look for individuals to be a part of our team for next year. In particular, we are looking for persons willing to serve as our club's President, First Vice President, and Secretary. Our club has such a storied history; please help us to continue its nearly fifty-year tradition of friendship, fellowship, and service to our community by being a part of our ASCGWA board team. If you are interested in joining our board or if you know of someone moving to our area that would be interested, please contact Jennifer Kiel at parliamentarian@armyspousesclub.org.

I wish you and your families a safe and happy summer! Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Warmly,

Michelle Funkhouser

Army Spouses Strong!

Army Spouses' Club
of the Greater Washington Area

As the Army Spouses' Club, we are proud of our heritage! Since 1974 our club has been a place to connect with old friends and make new ones.

We are still looking for individuals to serve on our 2020-21 Executive Board. Board positions are a fun and rewarding way to be a part of the military community.

You can make a difference in keeping this club growing stronger! Come be a part of something special!

We are all in this together!

Please contact Michelle Funkhouser or Jennifer Kiel if you are willing to be a part of next year's board. We'd love to have a conversation with you by June 15th to explore the opportunities. Let's keep this wonderful club going!

Michelle
president@armyspousesclub.org

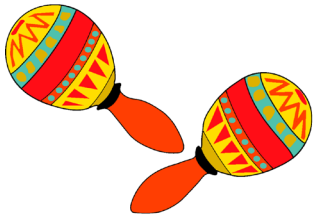
Jennifer
parliamentarian@armyspousesclub.org

Fall Kickoff • Monthly Luncheons • International Showcase • Bible Study • Bridge Group • Movie Group • Happy Hour Group • Book Group • Walking Group • Zip Code Groups • White House Tour • Mount Vernon Tour • Kayak Tour • Green Springs Tour • Franciscan Monastery Tour • Cherry Hill Tea • Ghost & Graveyard Tour • National Cathedral Tour and Tea • NYC Trip • Botanic Garden Tour • National Geographic Museum Tour • Clifton Tea • Zoom Trivia • Zoom Bingo • Zoom Scavenger Hunt • $12,000 in Scholarship Donations • Charitable Cause Donations • JAFOWL

THOSE WHO CAN, DO.
THOSE WHO CAN DO MORE,
VOLUNTEER!

WE ARE STRONGER TOGETHER

Congratulations to Mary Pawlow on winning the May Cinco de Mayo gift basket!



Wishing the happiest of birthdays to our members with summer birthdays!

June 1 - Carolyn Kadesch | June 2 - Kristin Bartholomees | June 4 - Catherine Lukow & Amy Marotto | June 7 - Shawn Howell | June 11 - Sydnie Grivalsky | June 12 - Sandy Barahona & Desiree Moore | June 13 - Michelle Helton | June 15 - Lisa Cho & Michael Jordan | June 18 - Linda Matz | June 19 - Anke Starkey | June 21 - Mary Wargel & Kelly Withington | June 22 - Dawn Zagame | June 26 - Sandy Gerber | June 30 - Lisa Marion

July 2 - Jodi Italiano-Davidson & Lay-Yen Tan | July 4 - Nancy Stevens | July 5 - Louise Kugler | July 6 - Deidra Stubbs | July 7 - Rosalie Nahas | July 8 - Shannon Brady & Helgard Zebell | July 9 - Maria Guerron & Janet Otto | July 11 - Pamela Egas | July 13 - Elizabeth Mahoney, Sherry Maxwell, & Sarah Rasmussen | July 14 - Marcia O'Connor & Tammie Smiley | July 18 - Katherine Taylor | July 19 - Connie Semonite | July 23 - Ginny Brennan | July 24 - Tara Lennox & Heidi Miller | July 25 - Allene Martin | July 26 - Ingeborg Schmidt | July 29 - Suzanne Klegka | July 30 - Samantha Tucker | July 31 - Lori Fenn

Aug 1 - Terri Feldmayer & Margaret Lepak | Aug 2 - Lori Gingrich, Tatyana Ray, & Terri Stevens | Aug 3 - Sadie McCurry & Kathleen Pardue | Aug 5 - Shannon Duckworth, Tracey Jones, & Shirley Morai | Aug 6 - Laura Basye & Kim Farnsworth | Aug 7 - Latonya Henry & Debbie Tobin | Aug 9 - Karina Silva | Aug 13 - Catherine Melusen, Paula Powell, & Latrice Robinson | Aug 14 - Patty Barron & Hurdis Griffith | Aug 16 - Lisette Clemons & Rita Rogers | Aug 18 - Marisol Escobar de Levoyer | Aug 24 - Kara Anderson & Holland Werry | Aug 25 - Cheri Fish & Barbara Patterson | Aug 30 - LeWonnie Belcher | Aug 31 - Jennifer Kiel

It warms our hearts to see our members finding creative ways to still "see" each other. A few of us had never heard of Zoom prior to Covid-19 but have quickly learned to appreciate this lifeline!

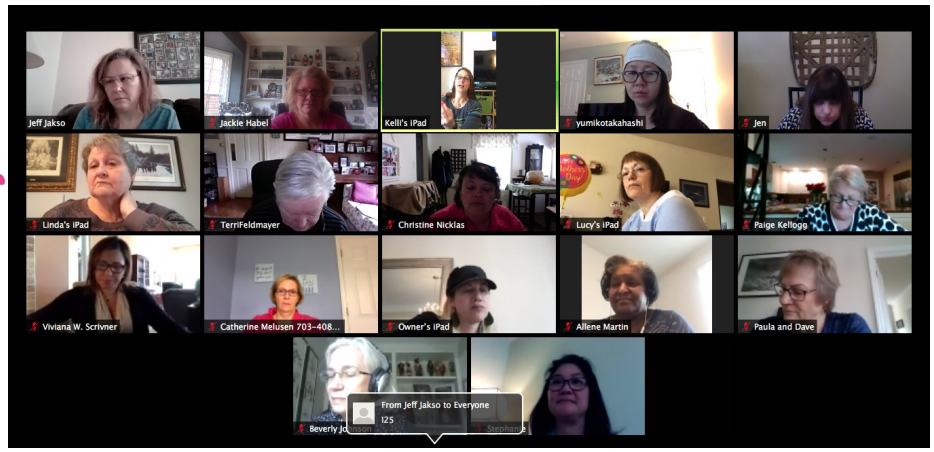
bingo

trivia

scavenger hunt

bingo

trivia



trivia

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scavenger hunt

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Arlington Zip Code Group celebrating Cinco de Mayo with a Zoom happy hour!

Together We're Better!

Prince William and Beyond Zip Code Group getting caught up on surgeries, graduations, home repairs, new pets, and new grandkids. You can see by the smiles how much everyone has missed each other!

CLUB HISTORY

A club composed of Army spouses has been a part of our greater Washington military community for decades. The club originally existed as the Women's Club of Fort Myer. In March 1974, it was decided by the board to change the name of the club to the Army Officers' Wives Club of the Greater Washington Area because it was felt the name, Women's Club of Fort Myer, was misleading and inappropriate.The membership voted to approve the name change at a luncheon in April 1974.

Lois Kornet served as the first President of the Army Spouses' Club. The club's Honorary President was Julia Abrams, the spouse of Army Chief of Staff GEN Creighton Abrams, Jr. Sadly, GEN Abrams passed away in September of 1974. Arline Weyand, spouse of the newly appointed Army CoS GEN Frederick Weyand, became the Honorary President for the remainder of the club year. Mrs. Abrams would later serve as the Honorary Chairperson of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee.

The first issue of the Backchannels was mailed on September 16, 1974. In those days, the newsletter committee would meet to address, sort, and prepare over 550 issues of the Backchannels to be mailed out to the club's members.

In 2016 club members were welcomed at the Fall Kickoff to a "New Beginning" and a new club name – the Army Officers' Spouses' Club of the Greater Washington Area. The club's name would change again in April 2018 when the club's membership was opened to all military spouses.

Even though the name of the club has evolved over time, the mission of the organization has remained constant: to offer military spouses living in the widespread local area a sense of community and to provide social and civic opportunities for its members.

Mrs. Lois Kornet

Mrs. Julia Abrams, spouse of the Chief of Staff, and Mrs. Kay Palmer, spouse of the Vice Chief of Staff, with fellow club members

we hope to see you soon!

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