

VG UPDATE

A Publication of the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund - VGIF

Vol. 7 No. 2
July 2000

30th Anniversary Celebration

April 7- 8, 2000

Barbara Carey, Convenor, Special Events Committee

About fifty members attended the Thirtieth Anniversary Celebration of the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund held at Barnard College on April 8th. With the whole-hearted support of Barnard President Judith Shapiro and generous cooperation of Janis Rudin, Assistant to the President, and Jean McCurry, Barnard Events Manager, a succession of unique and delightful events was arranged.

Beginning with a generous brunch in the Salzberger Parlor, where a life-sized portrait of Dean Virginia Gildersleeve hangs on the wall, moving to the grants session in the historic Barnard Hall auditorium, continuing with a luncheon in the parlor, followed by a tour of the campus and concluding with a champagne tea in the Deanery below Dean Gildersleeve's personal apartment, the day proved historic and touching.

Because there are fewer and fewer living who personally remember Dean Virginia Gildersleeve for whom the Fund is named, it seemed especially fitting on this anniversary to devote time to learning about her.

To this end, Dr. Rosalind Rosenberg, scholar and history professor at Barnard, spoke at the luncheon about the life and accomplishments of this remarkable woman. Among other things, she described Gildersleeve's tenure as first Dean of Barnard College, her role in founding IFUW and her participation in the US delegation that wrote the charter of the United Nations.

VGIF member Margaret Stadler selected and organized a series of delightful readings from Gildersleeve's writings that were presented following Rosenberg's speech. Readers were Margaret and other VGIF members, Karen McKee, Virginia Maynard and Kappy Eaton.

An informative commemorative booklet of the occasion was prepared by Jean Colburn. It gives a brief history of the fund and its work; a tribute to Althea Hottel, the first VGIF president and to whose memory the annual meeting was dedicated; a brief biogra-



Virginia Gildersleeve

phy of Virginia Gildersleeve; lists of the current board and officers, the founding members and charter members; and the official program for the day. Carrie Gallagher Sussman arranged the day's program events and speakers.

Other VGIF members on the special events committee included Fay Kittleston, Barbara Carey, Camille Macdonald-Polski and Jeanie Page Randall. Melody Cooke helped with the printed program, Dagmar McGill provided invaluable guidance, Louise McLeod kept the web page up to date, and President Sema Faigen aided in ways too numerous to mention.

The Fund hopes to maintain the contacts made at Barnard and to engage in other collaborative efforts in the future.



Dr. Rosalind Rosenberg spoke about the life and accomplishments Virginia Gildersleeve



The President's Perspective

by Sema M. Faigen, President, 1999-2001

The Anniversary Celebration held at Barnard College in April was a success beyond our greatest expectations. The Special Events Committee, working long-distance by every modern means of communication, put together a program that was exciting and satisfying. This committee deserves applause and more!

Dr. Judith Shapiro, President of Barnard College, welcomed us warmly. In a subsequent note, she expressed the hope that Barnard and The Gildersleeve could find other opportunities to work together. The Gildersleeve looks forward to this possibility.

One member later wrote that Virginia Gildersleeve was such a remarkable woman that we ought to know more about her. This opinion is surely held by many members, judging by spoken comments and written ones in the guest book.

Undoubtedly, it was Dr. Rosalind Rosenberg's scholarly presentation about Dean Gildersleeve that delighted us and piqued our interest in knowing more about the woman whose ideals the Gildersleeve upholds and promotes.

The following all-too-brief excerpt from Dr. Rosenberg's speech serves as an introduction to Gildersleeve's vast and varied accomplishments.

"Believing that internationalism and the advancement of women's education were tightly connected, she worked to make Barnard a first-rate school for ambitious young women and to persuade each of Columbia's graduate schools to admit women students...."

"When World War II came, Gildersleeve approached it as a great tragedy, but also a great opportunity. The war made two things clear – the need for greater international understanding, and the need for what she liked to call 'trained brains.' If the US was to

win the war, it would need 'trained brains.' If the world was to avoid war thereafter, it would need, even more, 'trained brains.'...She finally won women admission to the School of Engineering. She set up one of the country's foremost code-breaking programs....established one of the country's first programs in international relations to prepare women for the foreign service....found jobs for anthropologists with the Army and Navy...to advise...how to get along with the peoples of the South Pacific. And...she won a place for women in the armed forces by helping to found the WAVES.

Gildersleeve served as President of its advisory board."

Dr. Rosenberg has generously made available the text of her speech. It will be on the website soon. For members who cannot access the web, written copy may be had on request.

One problem remains: What shall we do for an encore?

Deaths Noted

Rose M. Fishkin NJ, USA (member since 1977)
 Margaret Heuser BC, CANADA (member since 1994)
 Althea K. Hottel PA, USA (member since 1969)
 Hideko Inamoto, JAPAN (member since 1996)
 Yasuko Kamikawa, JAPAN (member since 1991)
 Clare Macmahon, NORTHERN IRELAND (member since 1983)
 Kathryn A. Moran NJ, USA (member since 1987)
 Anne E. Watson CA, USA (member since 1982)
 Cecilia Zissis IN, USA (member since 1974)

VG Update

A Biannual Publication of
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 International Fund

Sema M. Faigen, President:
 Massachusetts, USA
 M. Louise McLeod, Editor:
 Pennsylvania, USA

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www.vgif.org

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Jeanie Page Randall, Convener

The Membership Committee reports the following membership numbers as of July 1, 2000:

TOTAL INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP : 1300

Argentina	4	Netherlands	9
Australia	66	New Zealand	12
Cameroon	1	Nigeria	4
Canada	57	Norway	3
Costa Rica	1	Pakistan	6
Ethiopia	1	Philippines	1
Finland	4	Scotland	5
France	5	Senegal	1
Germany	8	Sierra Leone	1
Great Britain	22	South Africa	1
Hong Kong	1	Sri Lanka	2
Iceland	5	Sudan	1
India	9	Sweden	1
Ireland	5	Switzerland	10
Northern Ireland	12	Tanzania	1
Israel	2	Uganda	1
Japan	102	United States	929
Kenya	2	Venezuela	1
Mexico	1	Western Samoa	1
Nepal	2		

Membership designation was lost as a result of removing names of members who have not contributed for three years for Bolivia, El Salvador, Morocco, Panama, Russia, and Thailand, leaving membership in 39 countries.

TOTAL GROUP MEMBERSHIP: 167

Australia	12
Canada	36
Costa Rica	1
El Salvador	1
Great Britain	4
Ireland	1
Northern Ireland	4
Japan	2
New Zealand	2
United States	104

The Membership Committee encourages every member to bring in at least one new member during the next few months.

UN News

Virginia Maynard, VGIF UN Representative



After what was described as an “arduous process,” agreement was finally reached at 5:59 a.m. on Saturday, June 10, on an outcome document for the UN General Assembly’s Special Session on Beijing+5. The document reaffirms the Beijing Platform for Action and preserves the human rights gains of women, despite the efforts of a few delegations to diminish those gains. It also includes some advances, such as measures to combat domestic violence, trafficking in women, forced marriages, and “honor” killings, and addresses the impact on women of HIV/AIDS and globalization. The document is now on the web at [<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/followup/finaloutcome.pdf>].

A campaign initiated by the Conference of NGOs (CONGO) and the International NGO Coordinating Committee resulted in the receipt of 116 alternative country reports prepared by women NGOs worldwide. These reports, which assess progress in implementing the Beijing Platform for Action and which “offer a perspective parallel to that of official government reports,” were combined by CONGO into an NGO Alternative Global Report for presentation to the Beijing+5 Special Session and for use by NGOs in their efforts to advance the status of women.

The 55th Session of the General Assembly, which opens on September 6, 2000 and the high-level segment which will meet September 6-8, have been designed by the Millennium Assembly and the Millennium Summit respectively and will address the role of the United Nations in the twenty-first century.



IN MEMORIAM Dr. Althea K. Hottel 1907-2000

Althea Hottel served as the President of the American Association of University Women (1948-1952), President of the International Federation of University Women (1965-1968) and the first Dean of Women at the University of Pennsylvania (1936-1959).

She also served for six years as the representative of the United States on the Social Commission of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Most important, for those who have come after her, she was one of the founders of VGIF and its first President. Her talent, wisdom, experience and leadership are sorely missed.

VGIF GRANTS FOR 2000 AWARDED

Florine Swanson, Grants Convener

Thanks to the generosity of our members, more funds were available than ever before, but there are still many worthy projects that we are unable to fund. This year's awards include great diversity of countries and the socio-economic topics. Two grants will support refugee women, others deal with economic development in agriculture, home economics skills, female genital mutilation, teenage pregnancy prevention and domestic violence. One project will create a model child development center.

#1335 Ugo Women Development Group \$4,700 Onitsha, Anambra State, NIGERIA

This project will train women members in organic farming methods on nearly 500 acres, in an effort to increase production and rebuild the soil. The money will be used for the purchase of cassava cuttings and maize and melon seeds.

#1346 Bhutan Women and Children Organisation \$3,500 Kathmandu, NEPAL

A seven-day training session will be provided for 45 Bhutanese women who are refugees in Nepal. The subject matter will include the defense of women's rights. The funds will be used for training materials as well as travel and accommodations for the refugees.

#1350 St. Jude Jumuiya Self Help Group \$4,000 Kisii, KENYA

The project funds seminars on the dangers of female circumcision and female genital mutilation. The money will be used for seminar and training expenses, visual aids and a video machine and camera. Treatment will also be provided for physically traumatized female children.

#1361 Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (LIMPAL)

Lima, PERU **\$4,000**
Counseling service and psychological aid will be offered over a seven-month period for victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse. Funds will be used for the furnishings of a safe shelter and an office and for informational materials and transportation.

#1364 Fundacion de la Mujer \$2,500 Quito, ECUADOR

The project will develop a training module and workshops

for teenagers to promote healthy and responsible sexuality in order to overcome early pregnancies and sexual violence. The money will be used for printing promotional and educational materials.

#1366 Ntarbang Women's Group \$4,300 Bamenda, North West Province, CAMEROON

A functional literacy-training program for young women will provide skills relating to health, environmental awareness, and sanitation. The money will be used for teaching materials and program expenses.

#1370 Krim Community Development Project Women's Program

Pujehun, SIERRA LEONE **\$4,500**

This project will strive to improve the socio-economic condition of returning women displaced by civil war through income generating activities such as soap production, baking and farming. The funds will be used to purchase equipment and raw materials.

#1379 Nigerian Association of University Women, Ikeja Branch

Lagos, NIGERIA (after 9/2000) **\$5,000**

This project was approved by the Committee but tabled by the Board pending a letter of support from the Nigerian Association of University Women.

#1383 Lotus Children's Center \$5,000

Accra, GHANA

This project will provide shelter and all-around care for up to 15 children in two different sites. The money will be used for furnishings for the nursery school and the children's home as well as for various tools for a workshop where older children will make toys.

#1385 IFUW Special Committee for Project Development

Geneva, SWITZERLAND **\$16,000**

The funds will provide travelships for 30 participants to the IFUW Triennial Conference in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada for the Base Camp 2001 Project. The program will include human and financial resource building for new and/or small National Federations and Associations of IFUW.

#1387 Integrated Development Organization

Keshabpur, Jessore, BANGLADESH **\$3,800**

This project will promote the establishment of legal and socio-economic rights for women within 100 groups. The money will be used for training the trainer expenses for 100 women.

Update for Grants funded in 1999

Florine Swanson, Grants Convener

#799 Hungarian Federation of University Women Budapest, HUNGARY \$3,650

The funding assisted in organizing new groups for the Hungarian Federation of University Women. The financial report showed funds were used for stationery, stamps, phone and fax, copies, transportation to various communities, rent for meeting rooms and development cost for materials.

A total of 239 women are now participating in the organization. It is felt that the Hungarian Federation of University Women is now solidly based in their country.

#1148 ASMITA (Women's Publication House, Media and Resource Organization)

Katmandu, NEPAL \$3,000

A five-day training project, "Developing Professional Expertise of Women Journalists", was conducted November 17-21, 1999. Training was provided to 22 journalists from various districts in Katmandu as well as outside the capital city. The feed back and response on the project has been very positive.

#1150 Network Movement for Justice & Development (NMMJD)

Freetown, SIERRA LEONE \$4,000

This past year the war in Sierra Leone has created threats to the lives of the staff as well as to the assets of the organization. The Movement became very instrumental in the entire peace process ranging from personal to institutional involvement, from grassroots mobilization to representation of the civil society at the Lome Peace Talks and on the strategic Commission for the Consolidation of Peace.

Funding from VGIF was used to support war-affected women and young girls in the capital, Feetown, through a trauma healing counseling project.

As a result of the violence committed against the civil population during the REBELS invasion in January 1999, NMJD decided to conduct research on "Counting the cost of the war" and a survey on the effect of the January invasion on women. The reports revealed that though mostly men were killed, it was the women who had witnessed the deaths and had to continue after the death of the breadwinners. Human rights abuses were directed at women and girls ranging from first degree rape, gang rape, unsafe sex, mutilation, injuries from fragments, the killing of beloved ones and the burning of property. Fifteen women were trained in trauma healing and counseling. Seven trauma-healing circles of 25 women

and girls were established with two leaders for each circle. They also rendered financial assistance to 100 trauma healing participants including 40 school children and 60 adults. The final effort was the establishment of micro enterprise management workshops for 69 women in Freetown which included start up capital.

The impact included improved living standards by being able to control their own business capital, meeting basic school requirements for at least one child per family, created or increased 69 businesses, increased daily food intake (twice a day) and increased family income.

The women also improved relationships by telling their traumatic stories; managing conflicts at family and group levels; participating in, and influencing decisions that affect them in their family groups and communities; mobilizing themselves for action; and expressing their views freely and confidently. In addition 35 school children who were raped expressed their willingness to narrate their stories, return to school and establish trauma healing and counseling clubs in schools.

The problems experienced included insufficient funds for thousands more affected women in other parts of the country and to provide better business capital to women. The devaluation of the local currency resulted in a loss of \$600 in the original grant that was awarded.

#1292 Albanian Women Federation \$4,000

Tirana, ALBANIA

The Albanian Women Federation is engaged in implementing the Platform for Action of the Albanian Women "Woman, Family, Society". For countries like Albania, which still has a male dominated society, developing gender balance strategies remains a crucial point for the advancement of their society.

The final report shared the establishment of a working group that prepared the materials for the different trainings. Materials were translated, systematized and elaborated. Leaflets and posters were prepared and a booklet was published. A three-day seminar was held in June for 15 women representing different associations and members of the Albanian Association. These women served as the trainers for the wider mass of women. Interest about gender mainstreaming was higher than expected.

Those reached beyond the target group involved young people. Leaflets on "Knowledge is the Key" were well accepted by students, both boys and girls. Several other informative materials were distributed in the schools.

Trainings were held in the cities of Tirana, Elbasan, Korca, Durres and Vlora. The total lack of information in these districts (both urban and rural) brought a wide

participation and interest. One conclusion of this training was the need for the introduction of gender mainstreaming in the school's curriculum.

An awareness campaign was also held. Leaflets were distributed in the main streets and institutions and through the media.

#1303 Croatia Association of University Women
Ceminac, CROATIA **\$4,500**

Funding was used to purchase computers for a school in Ceminac. In addition to school use, additional training will be provided for the female population of the community ages 18 to 40. Girls and women have expressed particular interest in computer education that will not only enable them to socialize, but also to acquire knowledge, helpful in their self employment.

Computer workshops and sports activities for all ages, already taking place in the Ceminac Primary School gymnasium, additionally increase multiethnic tolerance as well as the possibility for psychosocial reintegration of this traumatized population.

CAUW members, teachers in the Ceminac Primary School and women working in the local municipality are working on a voluntary basis on this project. Project leaders include a psychologist, the associate educational counselor, the Past President of CAUW, the secretary of the municipality and a woman expelled from the community now returned home.

#1304 The Organization for Mothers and Infants
Dhaka, BANGLADESH **\$4,000**

Three training workshops were held in July, August and September 1999 for the destitute beneficiaries of the Organization on Women's Rights and Violence Against Women. Workshop sessions included: legal rights, relations between law and rights, sources of Muslim family law, Muslim marriage and its five conditions, early marriage and its disadvantages, divorce and its rules, polygamy and its disadvantages, guardianship and maintenance of dowry and its disadvantages, violence against women and hereditary law.

Participants were enthusiastic and participated actively with no dropouts. At the end of each training course, the participants presented the gathered knowledge in an efficient manner. Because of the impact of the training, OMI management will organize training for adolescent girls.

#1316 Zonta Club of Iloilo City
Iloilo City, PHILIPPINES **\$4,400**

Zonta coordinated two half-day workshops in June for volunteer counselors to victims of violence. Presentation

included: rotational and mechanics of the training; gender issues; violence against women; the role of agencies to help victims of abuse; legal issues on violence against women; spiritual aspects of dealing with the trauma of violence; and medical, surgical, and psychological interventions for trauma of violence. Participants included police officers, social workers, Barangay council members and civic workers. The role of cooperating agencies such as the Department of Social Welfare and Development, the Philippine National Police and local governments were defined so counselors would know which agencies can be tapped for assistance when domestic violence occurs.

A series of radio and TV interviews took place in March and included 30 minutes to celebrate International Women's Day with the topic on helping victims of abuse. One 90-minute interview took place on Women in Development and another hour-long interview on the Cycle of Violence.

Fourteen women have been served through March ranging in age from 27 to 58 years old. Battering included arm fractures and hematomas; rib fractures; verbal, emotional and psychological abuse. Batterers were a brother and husbands. Case histories of some victims were provided although their names were changed.

Funds provided housing repairs, food, medicine, clothing and transportation for victims. A major portion of the funds is still being used because of the extensive volunteer efforts of the members of Zonta.

VGIF Archives Update

Kappy Eaton, VG Archival Historian

The records from the first 25 years of the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund (1958-1993) are now available in the archives of the Sophia Smith collection at Smith College in Northampton, MA. There is partial access to the 1993-1996 triennium records which have been processed, with three boxes as yet unprocessed. The records for 1996-1999 are just being sent for processing, and they await the availability of staff and funds to get them ready for research purposes.

VGIF has contributed approximately \$1500 to the Sophia Smith collection since the establishment of the archives, and these funds have made possible the work done thus far. The housing of archival collections at Smith has recently been significantly upgraded, and the VG records have been placed in acid free files, stored in a controlled environment, and made accessible through subject and chronological listings.

Kappy Eaton, VG Archival historian and First Vice-President, and Sema Faigen, VG President, reviewed the archives at Smith in June.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Eileen Menton, Treasurer

As we move into the second half of 2000, I'm very pleased to report that we have raised \$61,348 for the Gildersleeve Fund. We are well on our way to meeting our \$77,000 objective.

Once again, the board approved an increase in our grant expenditures for 2000 to \$ 57,330. I am in the process of paying out the funds to projects approved at our April 2000 meeting, including funds for the IFUW Triennium. The 1999 final report of support, revenue, and expenses is included in this issue of the VG Update.

Thanks to all of you who continue to faithfully support the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund.

Correction: As of December 31, 1999, the Asian Regional Fund balance was \$31,532 and the Erna Hamburger Fund balance was \$37,181.

BYLAWS AMENDED

Claire R. Stein, Convener, Bylaws Committee

The Bylaws Amendments issued with the Call to the 2000 Annual Meeting passed as written. The amendments passed were to Article IV, V and VIII. Anyone wishing a copy of the 2000 Constitution and Bylaws of VGIF should contact Fay Kittelson at Gildersleeve headquarters in New York.

Suggestions for amendments to any of the Bylaws for 2001 should be sent to Gildersleeve headquarters in New York, to arrive no later than September 16, 2000

VGIF NOMINATING COMMITTEE CALL FOR CANDIDATE RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Claire Fulcher, Convener

At the Annual Meeting, 30-31 March 2001, the Nominating Committee shall present a slate of 5 new Directors (term: 2001-4) to replace those who have completed their terms in accordance with the VGIF Bylaws. The Nominating Committee would appreciate your suggestions of those current members worldwide you wish to be considered with a brief statement of their potential contributions. Please send to the Nominating Convener, Dr. Claire Fulcher, 130 E.18th Street, Suite 3F, New York, NY, 10003-2418, USA, or email: clairefulcher@rcn.com by **15 September 2000**.

Other committee members are Lois Abromitis, Eileen Clark, Hope Miller, Patricia Oberg and Mitchiko Nakamura.

TREASURER'S REPORT As of December 31, 1999 Support Revenue and Expenses

	Revised 1999 Budget	Year-to-Date
INCOME		
Contributions	\$65,000	\$91,887 ¹
Interest	12,500	12,799 ²
Meeting Fees(net)		422
VGIF Breakfast/Lunch(net)		1,138
Posters and Pins		365
TOTAL INCOME	\$77,500	\$106,611
EXPENSES		
Grants	\$48,700	48,700 ³
Executive Secretary	12,000	11,652
Sophia Smith Collection	250	300
Administrative:		
Computer Equipment	250	0
Postage(Grant Admin/Misc.)	2,500	1,980
Printing (Misc.)	1,568	1,334
Telephone	500	800
Professional Fees (Audit)	1,500	1,500
Insurance	250	248
Rent	1,750	1,700
Bank/Wire Transfer Fees	750	977
Credit Card Equipment Rental	420	420
Miscellaneous/Supplies	950	1,145
Promotional Material	1,000	66 ⁴
Newsletter	3,112	3,420
Membership Campaign/Meeting (Postage/Printing)	1,500	2,848
Onsite Visits	500	0
Total Expenses	\$77,500	\$77,090

¹Includes restricted funds: \$2,330 for the Asian Regional Fund and \$2,410 for the Erna Hamburger Fund.

²\$9,437.75 interest income; \$2,294.70 in dividends from Matrix Capitol Group; \$291.98 is from NOW Account; and \$775.05 from the Treasury.

³Includes \$5,000 set aside for IFUW.

⁴Nominating committee expenses.

Dates to Remember

October 26, 2000: UN Day, New York City

October 27-28, 2000: Mid-year Board and Committee Meeting, New York City

January 8, 2001: Deadline for *UPDATE*

April, 2001: Annual Board and Committee Meeting, New York City

August 10-17, 2001: IFUW Triennial Conference, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

VGIF Strategic Planning Committee Working on Mission, Vision and Goals

Kappy Eaton, Strategic Planning Committee Convener

A new proposed Mission Statement for the VGIF will be forwarded from the VG Strategic Planning committee to the Board of Directors for their review and approval at the October 2000 meeting in New York. The SPC has held two meetings in New York and numerous "discussions and reviews" by email, snail mail and fax. In addition to the draft Mission statement, the committee is working on a Vision statement and Goals for the organization through 2010.

The initial work of the group is expected to be completed by the 2001 Annual meeting.

Members of the SPC include Betty Bayless, Wes Cady, Donna Conner, Katherine Eaton (chair), Susan Friedwald, Dagmar McGill, Louise McLeod, Eileen Menton, Jeanie Page Randall, Virginia Palmer and Florine Swanson.

27th Triennial IFUW Conference, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada August 10-17, 2001



Canada's capital city, Ottawa will provide the background to the IFUW 2001 Triennial Conference. Magnificent vistas and recreation in wide-open spaces will be offered along with theatre, museums, galleries, and great food in the rich and diverse mosaic that is Canada.

The conference theme will feature the IFUW Triennial Study and Action Program, *Globalization: Connections Through Education*. The program includes prominent speakers, interdisciplinary seminars, workshops, reports on advocacy and action, discussions on resolutions, business and plenary sessions on a wide range of issues that will prove to be thought provoking. Simultaneous interpretation during the conference sessions will be available in English, French and Spanish.

Biographical Information The Board of Directors 2000-2003

Board of Directors

Reiko Aoki, Kanagawa, Japan: Reiko is Professor of History, Dean of Studies, University of the Sacred Heart in Tokyo, Japan and is a member of the council for reviewing the scholarship system in Japan, Ministry of Education. She is a past president of the Japanese Association of University Women and at present serves as the first Vice President of the International Federation of University Women. She has written a number of books on America and articles on the UN and Human Rights for Women. She has served as the Japanese alternative representative to the UN General Assembly.

Betty Bayless, Callawassie Island, South Carolina: Betty is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the College of St. Katherine in St. Paul, Minnesota, with a B.A. in Mathematics. She has worked professionally as a scientific computer programmer/manager. She is the immediate Past President of the Canadian Federation of University Women and is currently the Public Policy co-chair of the AAUW-South Carolina branch. She coordinates a computer center for disadvantaged children in the area. She currently serves on the VGIF Strategic Planning Committee and as an advisor to the Membership Committee on international membership issues.

Rev. M. Alice Fitzjohn, Kensington, Maryland: Alice graduated from Southern Illinois University with a B.Sc. and taught mathematics and English in high school in Sierra Leone. In 1984 she was ordained by the West African Conference of the United Methodist Church in Freetown, Sierra Leone. She is a member of the Sierra Leone Association of University Women and lead the two-member delegation to the 1980 International Federation of University Women Triennial Conference when Sierra Leone was accepted to membership. She is a member of the Clergywomen's Association of the United Methodist Church in Africa and has served one term on the VGIF Board of Directors.

Karen McKee, Norwalk, Connecticut: Karen has been employed by IBM for over 22 years in various sales and marketing positions. She is currently responsible for marketing operations in the global small and medium business division. She has served as the VGIF treasurer and as a member of the Board, and is currently on the Development Committee. She is president of the Norwalk/Westport AAUW branch and Educational Foundation Vice President of AAUW-Connecticut. She is a graduate of the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and received her MBA from Leigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

Carrie Gallagher Sussman, Ridgefield, Connecticut: Carrie presently serves as the Program Vice President of the AAUW. She is a past president of the AAUW-Connecticut branch and served for four years on the AAUW Program Development Committee. At the IFUW Conference in Graz, Austria, she served as the co-facilitator of Basecamp 2001 and facilitated work with representatives/leaders from small National Federations and Associations on leadership development and project development skills. She currently serves on the VGIF Special Projects Committee. She is a partner in a direct marketing advertising agency with her husband.

Faye Weber, La Habra Heights, California: Faye is a district psychologist for the Whittier Union High School District. She presently serves on the VGIF Project Grants Committee and is the immediate Past Director of International Relations of the AAUW-California branch. Currently she is the Board President and a foundation member of the Intercommunity Child Guidance Center and Educational Foundation Chair of the AAUW-Whittier, California Branch.

Nominating Committee

Claire Fulcher, New York, New York: Claire is a psychotherapist in private practice and President of Team Associates doing organizational consulting. She has been an active member of VGIF since 1971 having served on the Project Grants Committee, Convener of the Global Network Committee, the Board of Directors and as Second Vice President. She is the Past President of the Connecticut-AAUW and has served AAUW and the AAUW Educational Foundation as first Vice President and as Second Vice President of IFUW. She is an NGO Representative to the United Nations-NY and currently represents the International Federation of Business and Professional Women. She has traveled widely to over 65 countries. She is currently a member of the VGIF Nominating Committee.

Lois Abromitis, Middletown, Rhode Island: Lois is a graduate of Duke University with a B.A. in English and was an instructor of English Composition and Speech at Pennsylvania State University. She has served in the elected position of the School Committee(Board) for two-four year terms. She has been an AAUW leader on the local, state, national and international levels. Having joined VGIF in its early years, she has served on the Development, Membership and Nominating Committees and two terms on the Board. She enjoys family, reading, walking, fitness activities, and travel.

Eileen Clark, Town of Mount Royal, Quebec, Canada: Eileen was born and educated in Scotland and holds a B.Sc. from the University of St. Andrews. She is a past president of the Canadian Federation of University Women. She has served as 4th and 3rd Vice President of the International Federation of University Women. She served eighteen years on the VGIF Board, six years as the First Vice President. She has been the convener and also a member of the Project Grants Committee and presently serves as a "fast reader" for that committee. She was a radar technical officer in the Royal Air Force during the Second World War and came to Canada as a war bride.

Hope S. Miller, New York, New York: Hope is the immediate Past President of the States Committee for the United Nations Development Fund for Women. She has been President of the United Nations Association New York, The New York Metropolitan Committee of UNICEF, and Vice President of the Hospitality Committee for United Nations delegations. She served on the Nominating Committee of VGIF. She has also served as a member of the Board of Directors of Barnard College. Virginia Gildersleeve was one of her advisors at Barnard College.

Michiko Nakamura, Tokyo, Japan: Michiko holds an M.S. in Library Science from Drexel Institute of Technology, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She is a past president of the Japanese Association of University Women. She has served as the International Vice President and President of the Pan Pacific Southeast Asia Women's Association. She has also been a member of the Friends' World Consultation Committee, Asia West Pacific Section, Clerk.

Pat Oberg, Santa Rosa, California: Pat holds a B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley in Political Science and an M.A. from California State University, Dominguez Hills in Education of the Gifted. She was a resource teacher for the gifted and talented for 15 years. She has attended four International Federation of University Women conferences and served on the Local Arrangements Committee of the one held at Stanford. She originated and edited the *Global Perspective* newsletter for three years. She is the Past President of the UNA/USA Citrus Chapter, California and is presently Secretary of the Sonoma County Chapter. She serves at present on the VGIF Membership Committee.

(Continued next page)

Convener, Global Network Committee

Donna J. Connor, Rawlins, Wyoming:- Donna has been an active member of VGIF for over ten years. She served on the Project Grants Committee and is currently a member of the Board of Directors. She has attended five International Federation of University Women conferences and feels that the experience of working with women from other countries opens one's eyes to the benefits of global networking. She currently holds membership on the University of Wyoming Art Museum National Advisory Board and serves as a board member on the Wyoming Council for the Humanities.

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