



# AMERICAN FIELD SERVICE MISS TENNKY TEAM NEWS

BRINGING FOREIGN EXCHANGE TO MISSISSIPPI, TENNESSEE, AND SOUTHERN KENTUCKY

## SUPER ORIENTATION ON SATURDAY, JUNE 1

FOR THE LATEST, GO TO  
[HTTP://MISSTENNKY.ORG](http://MissTennky.org)

**WHO ATTENDS:** All currently hosted AFS students and their host parents. All Americans Abroad students and their parents.

**WHY:** All of these orientations are required by the United States Information Agency.

This is both a beginning and an ending. It is the first orientation for all of our Americans Abroad students and their families. It is the last formal orientation for our currently hosted AFS students and their families.

**WHEN:** Saturday, June 1st  
9:30 AM

This orientation will be from 9:30 AM until 4:30 PM for all AFS students (hosted and Americans Abroad) Parent orientation will be from 9:30 until 1 PM.

### WHERE:

**First United Methodist Church**  
217 E. Main Street  
Hendersonville

Take I 65 North out of Nashville  
Exit onto Vietnam Veteran's Parkway.  
Take Exit # 3, Hendersonville-Hwy  
31E. You will come out on Gallatin Road  
(Hwy 31E) FUMC is on the right at the  
intersection of Gallatin Road and Indian  
Lake Blvd. (You will pass Kroger on your left  
and Ellis Middle School on your right just  
before this intersection.) Turn right on  
Indian Lake and turn left into the parking  
lot. The entrance is just to the right of the  
drive through entrance, into the Ben  
Alexander Christian Life Center. There will  
be signs to help find the meeting rooms.

Lunch will be provided for all.

## NEW DOMAIN NAME AND NEW WEB SITE URL

from our Webmaster, Raymond Myers  
For the past two years we have had a free web service, which was cancelled in February without notice. However, in an example of making lemonade out of a lemon, Rob Heywood jumped in and accomplished several things. First, he arranged for another local (pay) service to host our site and to provide us with better service than we had. Second, he obtained for us our own domain name. Third, he cajoled our old provider to re-direct our old name to the new site. Thanks, Rob!!!

Due to the unexpected move, we still have some bugs in our pages. Our Guest book is still not yet working. However, all the important data is once more accessible on our new site. Our old URL was *afs.nashville.com*. **Please no longer use or give out that old URL.** We have no control over how long the redirect will be provided. Our old email addresses for Area Team members also no longer work. Thus, *AFSAreaChair@nashville.com* no longer works. **None of the @nashville.com email addresses work.** That is the bad news. Now for more of the good news—

Our brand new URL/domain name is <http://MissTennky.org>. (no spaces) (The Web doesn't care if letters are capitalized, but it helps us humans remember.) This is the URL your friends, and families should use. Also, whenever emailing an Area Team member in his or her capacity as an AT officer, please use their official Miss Tennky

email address and not their personal email address. The addresses currently working are (the others are being added and all are on the Area Team page of the web site):

**AFSAreaChair@MissTennky.org**  
(for Becky Heywood)  
**AFSHosting@MissTennky.org**  
(for Jenny Myers)  
**AFSSending@MissTennky.org**  
(for Brent Grubb)  
**AFSSupport@MissTennky.org**  
(for Elmer Woods)  
**AFSPR@MissTennky.org**  
(for Barbara Wills)  
**AFSWebmaster@MissTennky.org**  
(for Raymond Myers)

We also thank John Breinig, an AFS "Uncle", who has volunteered to test and track down bugs in the HTML code following the move to our new web site, and to help put up this year's student applications on line. Over the next few weeks, we hope to get all the links working properly. You are welcome to click on Webmaster at the bottom of any page and alert the Webmaster to any errors. This will help clean up missed items that need correction.

Finally, we are *always* glad to have any members of the AFS family to raise their hands and volunteer to help with the web site if they have any special interest or expertise. So, speak up if you are willing and interested in making our Miss Tennky web site be the great resource that it can be for our families and volunteers and students!

## MARK THESE DATES:

Check the website for the latest AFS News and photos! <http://MissTennky.org>

- **June 1** Super Orientation  
Departure Orientation for hosted students and Americans Abroad and their families.
- **July 6** AFS Students depart families 7:00 AM at the Heywood Home. More details provided at Super Orientation Day.

- **July 9** Hosted students depart from New York City.
- **August 3** Host Family Orientation and Liaison Training
- **August 7,8,9**  
2002-3 AFS Students Arrive
- **September 14, 15**  
Fall Orientation for hosted students, their families, and returnees.

# AFS STUDENT EXPERIENCES NEW ZEALAND'S SOUTH ISLAND

*AFS Student Barry Jenkins is in New Zealand for the year. Barry shared details of a recent trip with his family, and we thought you might enjoy his experiences. Not all AFS students tour during their year abroad. Barry writes:*

The South Island trip had to have been the best 11 days of my life so far. One of the best parts was that there were 9 guys and 30 girls. We figured about 3.33 girls per guy. ...

Tuesday, April 2: We arrived at the Interislander ferry terminal on time. And meet up with old AFS friends and also meet new ones. ... We finally get to get on the 5:30 ferry, but the seas were still so rough people were asking the captain if it was really safe to be making the 3 hour crossing. The crossing was real fun. Lets just say I now know I don't get sea sick over short distances. We finally arrive in Picton at about 9:30pm (an hour late) and meet our NZET tour manager. Our AFS chaperones were awesome. They were both under 24 and knew what young people like to do and were just all around fun. Rachel the NZET manager was awesome too. We finally get to our accommodation at about 12:00am we went to our rooms and then no one went to bed until about 1:30-2:00.

Wednesday, April 3: I woke up at 6:00am this morning and did the usual morning things. The town of Kaikoura is a small tourist town well known for its Whale, Dolphin, & Seal watching. ... Around lunch time we went to the seal colony to see the seals. One of the girls almost got too close and the seal moved to defend itself. We finally headed south to Christchurch at about 1:00. We arrived in CH-CH at about 3:30 and checked into our accommodation. ... When we got back to the accommodation (8:00) we did some get-to-know-each-other activities. When those finished we went for a swim. After that we just hung out and talked and finally went to bed at about 2:00.

Thursday, April 4: This morning I was up at 6:00 again and was given the assignment of waking everyone up at 7:00. We left the accommodation at 8:45 to go into the city and have a group photo taken. My [host] sister, Raewyn who moved down here in December with her husband and 2 kids came to visit me in town. We left CH-CH at 11:15 and headed to Mt. Cook. We arrived at Mt. Cook and the accommodation at about 4:30 the only thing that really happened today is I at one point said the girls could shave my head and they did it. So now I know what it is like to have my head shaved.

Friday, April 5: Again I was up at 6:00, and again got to wake everyone up at 7:30. My head is managing to stay warm, how I

don't know. We leave the accommodation at about 9:30 and head for Queenstown, "Adventure Capital of the World". About 1:40 we get to the Kawarau Bungy Bridge. At first I wasn't gonna do this jump because I was gonna be skydiving the next day but at the last minute I decided to pay and do the bungy jump. It was awesome. Mom you have got to try it but those bungy towers on Pigeon Forge have got nothing on the original bungy jump site (47 meters). I got a video and a t-shirt so you'll be able to see my jump. ... After that there was about a 15 minute drive to the shotover jet boat ride. The jet boat was created here in NZ and this is the most popular commercial jet boat ride. I was giving thanks for the heated handle bars cause it was kinda cold and drizzly that day. We got to our accommodations at about 6:00. At 7:00 we went into town and got an hours free time before dinner at Pizza Hut.



Saturday, April 6: I again was up at 6:00 this morning. By now people thought I was nuts. But anyway, I only woke the people up who were gonna go skydiving. That morning me and 5 others went up the gondola, and did the luge back down the hill. That is fun. That afternoon I went white water rafting. The rapids were fun but the rest was pretty boring. But the best part is that this river has 1 of only 2 commercially rafted tunnels in the world. ...

Sunday, April 7: Again I woke up at 6:00 because there was a chance we might get to skydive today, but it was again canceled. So me and Felix from Germany did the 'Nevis High wire Bungy' the highest bungy jump in NZ. The jump is 134 meters (440 feet) with an 8 second free fall. It is real freaky but it is so bloody awesome. It was windy that day and when you are on the jump platform there is nothing to hold onto, so if a good gust of wind comes you either fall out or fall back in. But it was so awesome don't hesitate just jump. I got a video and a t-shirt of that too. After that we left Queenstown. Next we drove for 1.5 hours to Wanaka.

Monday, April 8: I again woke up at 6:00 and again got to wake everyone up. We left Kanaka at about 10:00. We went to Fox Glacier today. ... This night I also fell in love with a German girl named Carolyn. My only problem is she won't go out with anyone in NZ for personal and religious reasons. She is real religious but my knowledge of the bible thanks to dads reading to me and Jesse when we were younger helped and also dad's involvement in the church also helped in our conversations. But she is a really nice and caring and lovely girl. I'll tell you more about her later.

Tuesday, April 9: Again I woke up at 6:00 people really think I should be locked up. Again I helped wake everyone up. This morning 5 of us were able to take the helicopter flight up the glacier. They views were incredible. I've never seen anything like it. We left Fox Glacier at 10:00 and headed toward Greymouth. On the way we stopped at pancake rocks/blowholes. That are just squashed rocks that have been battered and beaten by the waves. ... After that we went to Greymouth. We got there at about 5:30. We got our rooms and just hung out. I went to the girls rooms again and listened to the best religious discussion I've ever heard from Carolyn and when they were finished she and I talked. After that we all went to the beach where there was a bon fire. We learned the HAKA (a Maori war dance) and other Maori cultural things. That night I went to bed early about 12:00.

Wednesday, April 10: I again was up at 6:00 and got to wake everyone up again. We left Greymouth about 10:00 and headed to Motueka. Here we had free time in town and just a general party and good time. We didn't do much today so that was good. We went to bed late about 3:00.

Thursday, April 11: Today we had to be up early, I was up at 5:30, to go Sea Kayaking. I love sea kayaking. We were in double kayaks which are harder to use but it is still fun. That Night we stayed in Nelson and we pretty much stayed up all night. It was also award night and I got the award for being the 'Tour Alarm Clock'. It was real fun no one wanted to go to bed because it was our last night as a group.

Friday, April 12: We went back to Picton to go back across the Strait on the ferry. When we saw Wellington it got all emotional with the goodbyes and stuff. That night I stayed in Wellington. ...

That is basically my South Island trip, I'll tell you guys more when I talk to you so I'll talk to you Later. Love BJ

# MISS TENN KY TO HOST STUDENTS FROM FORMER SOVIET REPUBLICS

by Brent A. Grubb, FSA/Flex  
Coordinator.

The Miss Tennky Area Team will be hosting students again this year from the former Soviet Republics through the FSA/Flex program championed by Senator Bill Bradley.

These countries are part of what are now referred to as the New Independent States. They include Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and the Ukraine.

Students come to the United States under scholarships given by our federal government through a program started by Senator Bill Bradley of New Jersey in 1992. The program was originally known as the Bradley Bill. Since his departure from the US Congress, it has become known as the Freedom Support Act/Future Leaders Exchange program, or FSA/Flex program for short.

The intent of the program is to introduce these young people to life in the United States, with a focus on our government, culture, and typical social life. When you host one of these wonderful students in your home, be prepared to have in-depth conversations as they learn with their own experiences their distortions and myths about our country. You and your family will also recognize some of the inaccuracies we grew up with about people from the former Soviet states. I enjoyed the eye-opening conversations I have had with the students we have

hosted through this program in the spring of 1998 and again during the 1999-2000 school year.

These students go through a very intensive screening process to be accepted into the FSA/Flex program. Their English skills tend to be excellent the moment they arrive as they are required to pass advanced English tests before being accepted. They are also academically advanced and usually very artistic.

There are several differences between the normal AFS hosting experience and the FSA program. Because of government support, the families who host these students can be reimbursed for up to \$200 of start up expenses for school. This includes clothing, school fees, and other miscellaneous expenses. The students are provided with \$100 a month as spending money from the program, and host families are asked to help them learn how to budget their money. Because they are here under a scholarship from our federal government, there are special functions they must attend during their stay here which are not required of the typical exchange student. Those activities are the responsibility of the FSA/Flex coordinator.

Here is a great opportunity to open our families to a young person from another land and contribute to a more peaceful world in the process. What better way to contribute to the idea of bringing peace to the world, one person, one family at a time?

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## HUNTER'S LANE HIGH SCHOOL AFS AND FTA CLUBS ATTEND FTA CONVENTION

Hunter's Lane High School AFS and FTA Clubs attended the recent FTA Convention. The Hunter's Lane AFS, Future Teacher's of America Club was one of only two FTA Clubs representing Metro Nashville Public Schools. This is the first year for the HLHS to be represented.

The FTS and AFS(American Field Service) have combined clubs. The club placed an entry in the scrapbook division. In attendance were Lidia Tzvetznoa, Jonathan Russell, Toni Tzvetznoa (Vice President), Ratashia Page, Kozue Hager (exchange stu-

dent from Japan), Snow Ting ( AFS student from Hong Kong), Ms Carolyn Graham (sponsor), and Dr. Barbara Y. Wills.

Kozue and Snow spoke to the group of about 200 students and sponsors. Everyone attended break out sessions on educational careers and conflict medication, plus enjoyed a delicious continental breakfast and luncheon.

This continues a long tradition of Hunters Lane High School support for foreign exchange programs as a way to enrich our students' education.

## CONGRATULATIONS !

**Summer Polocek** (AA to Argentina) Female Army/Scholar Athlete Award, Senior Award for French and German, inducted into the National Honor Society. Summer is now a senior at Hunter's Lane High School

**Snow Ting** from Hong Kong for the AP Calculus award and outstanding achievement in promotion of international peace and goodwill by Hunter's Lane High School.

**Yukako Mori** for the Presidential Award for Academic Excellence.

## THANK YOU:

**Zeynep Kubilay** for speaking at March 2, Hillwood High School and at Father Ryan High School March 25

**West Wilson County AFS** for a fun filled weekend. We loved the tie dye party and all the fun at the Recreation Center!

**Sarah Alderwick** and **Becky Heywood** for representing AFS at the St. Ann's International Festival in April!

**Linda and Brent Grubb, Elliott Collier, Elmer Woods, Snow Ting and Zeynep Kubilay** for presenting an information session at Starbucks in Memphis, TN!

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## HAPPY TRAILS TO ALL OUR AMERICANS

### ABROAD STUDENTS!

**Blair Abelson** from Signal Mountain, TN going to Ghana

**Megan Calleros** from Stanford, KY going to Ecuador

**Trace Cates** from Ocean Springs, MS going to the Netherlands!

**Lyle Cross** from Hendersonville, TN going to South America!

**Damion Guy** from Lumberton, MS going to South Africa!

**Jessica Hackett** from Nashville, TN going to Argentina!

**Megan Metzger** from Signal Mountain, TN going to the Czech Republic!

**Sarah Ross** from Pine Knot, KY going to Belgium!

**James Summerford** from Horn Lake, MS going to Thailand!

**Jay Wright** from Hendersonville, TN going to South America!

**Amelia Taylor** from Newport, TN going on Team Mission!

## HELP WANTED

**Not Just Musical Chairs!** We are looking for volunteers to join our team this year. Some positions are project oriented and limited in time and some can be as big as you can give. Either way, we will help you help us, so call any team member to join.

**Nominations** wanted for following team positions at our May team meeting. All are welcome to attend. Area team meetings are currently on last Sunday each month, from 2-4 PM. Check our web site for details.

**Area Chair**

**Returnee Coordinator**

**Sending Coordinator**

**Volunteer Coordinator**

**Orientation Coordinator**

Additionally we are looking for volunteers for the following:

**Orientation Leaders** for June 1st. We need your commitment by May so you can be trained and review material. Contact Becky Heywood at [AFSAreaChair@MissTennky.org](mailto:AFSAreaChair@MissTennky.org)

**Volunteer Opportunities In Miami!** You can volunteer to lead Americans Abroad in their final orientation before departing the USA! The orientation is the last week of

June. AFS pays for your food and lodging while there. Local volunteer Hal Walker has done this several times. Please contact Hal Walker for more information [SuperhotwingsTN@hotmail.com](mailto:SuperhotwingsTN@hotmail.com)

## VOLUNTEER A PART OF YOUR SUMMER IN 2002!

AFS needs you this summer! The opportunities begin before summer does on June 1st! You can lead families and students in the beginning of their experience or the end! You can even volunteer in Miami, Florida the last week of June! This orientation is for Americans leaving for their experiences in Central or South America. On July 6th through July 8th you can provide transportation to the secret destination of the AFS student's bus stop experience! August 3rd we orient and train a new group of host families and liaisons! You can be the first local volunteer to meet our AFS students by picking them up at the airport and delivering them to their orientation site August 7,8,9th. Flight delays and late nights guaranteed for this job but it's fun to meet our travel-weary

new arrivals! We need orientation leaders for our new arrivals on August 7,8,9th as well.

Please be a part of our volunteer team and contact Becky Heywood at 615-473-4389 or [AFSAreaChair@MissTennky.org](mailto:AFSAreaChair@MissTennky.org)

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## THE MISS TENNKY AFS TEAM

<b>Area Chair:</b>	<b>Becky Heywood</b> 615/473-4389 <a href="mailto:AFSAreaChair@MissTennky.org">AFSAreaChair@MissTennky.org</a>
<b>Hosting :</b>	<b>Jenny Myers</b> 615/385-9644 <a href="mailto:AFSHosting@MissTennky.org">AFSHosting@MissTennky.org</a>
<b>Sending:</b>	<b>Brent Grubb</b> 615/758-3445 <a href="mailto:AFSSending@MissTennky.org">AFSSending@MissTennky.org</a>
<b>Support:</b>	<b>Elmer Woods</b> 615/297-4257(h) 615/882-7487 (w) <a href="mailto:AFSSupport@MissTennky.org">AFSSupport@MissTennky.org</a>
<b>Public Relations:</b>	<b>Barbara Wills</b> 615/859-5412(h) 615/860-1416(w) <a href="mailto:AFSPR@MissTennky.org">AFSPR@MissTennky.org</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Priscilla Tatarsky</b> 615/383-8001 <a href="mailto:priscillat@tnpride.com">priscillat@tnpride.com</a>
<b>Webmaster:</b>	<b>Raymond Myers</b> <a href="mailto:AFSWebmaster@MissTennky.org">AFSWebmaster@MissTennky.org</a>

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*AFS works toward a more just and peaceful world by providing international and intercultural learning experiences to individuals, families, schools, and communities through a global volunteer partnership.*

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Miss Tennky Area Team  
916 Van Leer Drive  
Nashville, TN 37220

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## AMERICAN FIELD SERVICE HOSTING CALL

Volunteers are in HOT PURSUIT for Great HOST Families!

While we have many of our students placed we still need many families for students arriving in August! We have students from Costa Rica, Germany, Thailand, Brazil, Japan and the New Independent States (see the FLEX article) that need homes! Please ask your friends and families if they are interested in hosting!!!

10 MORE HOST FAMILIES NEEDED FOR STUDENTS ARRIVING IN AUGUST.  
IF YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS OR LEADS, CONTACT JENNY MYERS 615 385-9644.