Sweet Briar College Alumnae Association presents

ISLAND LIFE

IN
Tahiti and French Polynesia

February 10 to 18, 2008

Aboard the Tall Ship S.Y. Star Flyer
Exclusive Lectures by Naturalist Frank Murphy
All Meals and Most Excursions Included from $2695*

EARLY BOOKING SAVINGS!
Book by June 11, 2007
SAVE $1000 per couple!

Sweet Briar College Alumnae Association Box E Sweet Briar, VA  24595

For further information, please call Melissa Coffey `98 at 800-381-6131
Dear Sweet Briar Alumnae and Friends:

Created by ancient submarine fires and sculpted by waves and wind over countless millennia, the enchanting isles of Tahiti, Bora Bora and Moorea have beckoned travelers to their coasts for centuries. Here you will discover an earthly paradise where forest-clad mountains, fragrant with the scent of white-petaled tiare blossoms, rise dramatically from the azure waters of tropical lagoons and the ancient customs and traditional hospitality of the islanders survive to the present day.

We invite you to follow in the wake of the ancient Polynesian mariners as you explore the fascinating culture and history of the South Pacific during this spectacular, seven-night voyage. Cruise aboard the exclusively chartered, four-star s/y STAR FLYER, a four-masted barkentine that evokes the great ocean voyages of the 19th century. Retrace the course of the legendary Captain Cook as your tall ship plies a course through deep-blue waters, its sails billowing majestically in the wind. Enjoy state-of-the-art amenities, impeccable standards of comfort and service, and the distinctive experience that only a sailing yacht can provide.

To enhance your travel experience, we have arranged a series of in-depth private lectures on the ecology, culture and natural history of the South Seas delivered by resident environmental expert Frank Murphy, a specialist in the phenomenon of global warming and its effects on coastal communities. Also included on this program are the unique VILLAGE FORUM, where local residents will share their perspectives and insights into life in Polynesia; exclusive expert-led excursions; opportunities to meet with islanders; and an aquatic program including swimming, snorkeling and scuba diving. This itinerary, one of our highly successful and innovative travel programs in the ISLAND LIFE series, is ideal for exploring the region’s alluring beauty, culture and way of life.

We will be traveling in the congenial company of alumni from Dartmouth, Duke, Notre Dame and UCLA. The camaraderie of fellow travelers and the exceptional value which includes accommodations, meals and the convenience of unpacking only once combine with a magical destination to create a truly enticing program that will sell out quickly. Space is limited, so make your reservation today while Early Booking Savings are available!

For further information, please don’t hesitate to contact our travel coordinator in the Alumnae Office, Melissa Coffey ’98. (Tel: 800-381-6131; fax: 434-381-6132; e-mail: mcoffey@sbc.edu).

Sincerely,

Louise Swiecki Zingaro ’80
Director
Sweet Briar College Alumnae Association
ISLAND LIFE IN TAHITI AND FRENCH POLYNESIA is one in our unique series of ISLAND LIFE travel programs designed for travelers who understand that the true character of a maritime culture is best found in the tranquil lagoons, historic ports and the unique intimacy of its island communities. Amid spectacular surroundings, this travel program offers you a cultural and educational experience like no other. A comprehensive program at an exceptional value, ISLAND LIFE IN TAHITI AND FRENCH POLYNESIA focuses on the incomparable natural beauty, the timeless cultural traditions and the unique ecosystems of the South Seas. For one full week, immerse yourself in the vibrant life and magnificent beauty of isles where the past blends seamlessly with the present. Stand in silence before shrines dedicated to ancient Polynesian deities; watch the interplay of light and shadow on deep-blue tropical seas; and enjoy the unaffected warmth and hospitality of a people who still cherish the ways of their forefathers.

Attend an exclusive VILLAGE FORUM and become acquainted with local residents who will provide a fascinating and candid look at life on the islands in the South Pacific.

The S.Y. STAR FLYER has been specially chartered for this authentic sailing experience as it combines deluxe accommodations and excellent service with an intimate and comfortable atmosphere ideal for enjoying the exotic beauty of this tropical paradise.

Unpack once! This is an exceptional travel opportunity which includes all accommodations and meals and many exclusively arranged excursions for an incredibly attractive price. Come experience a special way of life: ISLAND LIFE IN TAHITI AND FRENCH POLYNESIA.

"Life is like a song. You have to enjoy it while it plays because you never know if it will come on again."
—Paul Gauguin

Experience the eternal allure of the South Seas on Moorea, an island paradise of jagged peaks, stately coconut palms and thatch-roofed dwellings.
Papeete, Tahiti, Society Islands
Tahiti epitomizes the South Seas experience. Ever since Captain James Cook landed here in 1769, the isle has exerted an irresistible appeal to all who have encountered it—Fletcher Christian was so captivated by this tropical paradise that he led a historic mutiny aboard the H.M.S. Bounty and remained in the South Pacific instead of returning to England, and Paul Gauguin abandoned his family and career in France to embrace the seductive lifestyle of Polynesia.

Bustling, cosmopolitan Papeete, the gateway to the treasures of the South Pacific and the capital of French Polynesia, has extended a hospitable welcome to visitors since its founding as a missionary settlement in 1824. Located along the northwest coast of Tahiti on a natural harbor, Papeete is set against a backdrop of verdant, forest-clad peaks. Cooled by trade winds, it enjoys one of the finest natural settings in Oceania. Papeete’s tropical ambiance is complemented by the charm and diversity of its inhabitants, a vibrant blend of native Tahitian, French and Chinese.

Huahine
Formed of two islands—Huahine-nui and Huahine-iti—separated by a deep blue bay and ringed by a coral atoll, this untouched paradise has soaring peaks, lush rain forests, dazzling white beaches and ancient shrines. The idyllic port of Fare lies nestled between the sea and a woodland of towering mape (chestnut) trees draped with sweet-scented vanilla vines. In the nearby settlement of Maeva, the ancient religious center of Huahine-nui, stand 10 imposing marae, built in the 16th century of locally quarried stone and dedicated to Tane, Oro and other Polynesian deities.

Raiatea
According to local legend, Raiatea was once the “sacred island” of Havai‘i, the birthplace of Oro, the god of war and fertility, and the center for the colonization of Hawaii, the Marquesas and New Zealand. In the precolonial era, it served as the political and spiritual center of the Society Islands and was beloved by Captain Cook, who called here on each of his three voyages of discovery. Raiatea’s placid Faaroa River, the only navigable stream in Polynesia, threads its way through a world of wild hibiscus, bamboo and Tahitian chestnut. The rare and beautiful tare apetahi, a delicate white flower, is found nowhere else on Earth. Along the eastern shore is Marae Taputapuatea, constructed of coral and black volcanic rock, and one of the best-preserved temple complexes in Polynesia. Once a sacrificial site to Oro, it was restored in 1995.

Taha’a
Idyllically set across a blue lagoon to the north of Raiatea, Taha’a is dominated by the profile of Mount Ohiri, named for the Polynesian god of thieves. Two exotic

Explore the mysterious underwater world of Bora Bora’s reefs and admire graceful double-saddle butterflyfish, dazzling corals and an abundance of exotic marine life.
enterprises provide the islanders’ livelihoods—the production of vanilla and the farming of lustrous black pearls. Along Taha’a’s northeastern shore lies a string of motu, pristine islets of white, powdery sand beaches shaded by graceful palm trees.

**BORA BORA**

With its soaring, black basalt peak, lush cloak of tropical forest, turquoise lagoon, coral reef teeming with multi-colored fish and outlying fringe of motu, Bora Bora—“the first born” in Tahitian—is the proverbial vision of a South Seas paradise. It was settled by adventurous Polynesian mariners in the 10th century A.D., and Captain Cook called at Bora Bora on his first voyage in 1769 and again on his third and final voyage in 1777. Islanders have preserved the ways of their forebears and still wear the traditional pareo, a sarong-like cotton garment dyed in brilliant colors or adorned with floral patterns. In Bora Bora’s forested interior, villagers cultivate breadfruit, coconuts and taro, and stone marae preserve the legacy of ancestral Polynesian deities.

**MOOREA**

Rivaling Bora Bora in scenic splendor is the heart-shaped island of Moorea, the remnant of a long-extinct volcano. Once a sanctuary for vanquished warriors from Tahiti, it was visited by Captain Cook in 1777, and by the American novelist Herman Melville in 1842. It also inspired James Michener to write his unforgettable *Tales from the South Pacific*. A drive around Moorea’s perimeter reveals stunning vistas of forest-clad mountains, lush valleys and foaming waves breaking against scalloped shorelines. Moorea offers a distinctive blend of traditional and Western culture; its abandoned temples evoke its Polynesian heritage, while its churches underscore its role as the center for 19th-century missionary activity in the Society Islands—Papetoai’s unique Octagonal Church is the oldest European structure in the South Seas. The azure waters surrounding the island abound with marine life, including whales and dolphins.

**PAPETE POST-PROGRAM OPTION**

Following your *ISLAND LIFE IN TAHITI AND FRENCH POLYNESIA* program, spend two nights in Papeete, Tahiti—a city blending French chic with a warm Polynesian ambiance. Accommodations are in the deluxe Sofitel Tahiti Resort. Enjoy included tours focusing on the legacy of Paul Gauguin and the natural beauty of Tahiti. Complete details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.
Day 1
Depart from the U.S. Arrive in Papeete, Tahiti, Society Islands. Transfer to the S.Y. STAR FLYER for embarkation. Sail late this evening.

Day 2
Excursion
Enjoy a cultural tour of the island of Huahine, with a visit to the Maeva temples. Attend a welcome reception this evening.

Day 3
Excursion
Half-day tour of Raiatea, featuring a visit to the famous Marae Taputapuatea.

Optional Excursion
Cruise on the Faaroa River through a tropical forest aboard an outrigger canoe.

Exclusive Enrichment
Lecture by resident biologist Frank Murphy on the course of evolution on small islands.

Day 4
Optional Excursion
Taha’a island tour in the open-air transport known as “Le Truck,” with visits to a vanilla plantation and a black pearl farm.

Day 5
Excursion
Island circle tour of Bora Bora, the “Pearl of the Pacific,” aboard “Le Truck.”

Day 5...
Exclusive Enrichment
Demonstration of the dyeing and wearing of pareo, the traditional garment of South Pacific islanders.
Lecture by local naturalist Frank Murphy on the effects of global warming on life in Polynesia.

Day 6
Excursion
Motorcoach circle tour of Moorea, including a visit to the unique Octagonal Church in Papetoai.

Exclusive Enrichment
Meet local residents during a specially arranged VILLAGE FORUM.

Day 7
Optional Excursions
Tour of Moorea’s scenic interior in a four-wheel-drive vehicle.
Dolphin-watching expedition with Dr. Michael Poole, a noted marine biologist.

Exclusive Enrichment
Lecture by cultural historian and ecologist Frank Murphy on the emergence of a distinctively Polynesian culture.

Day 8
Arrive in Papeete, Tahiti and disembark the S.Y. STAR FLYER. Enjoy day rooms in the Sofitel Tahiti Resort. Transfer to the airport and board your return flight to Los Angeles.

Day 9
Arrive in Los Angeles.
Special Guest Speaker
Frank Murphy

Born in British Columbia and raised in Southern California, expert Frank Murphy is a current resident of Tahiti, where he lives with his Moorish-born wife Hinano Teavae, a schoolteacher and cultural specialist. Frank holds undergraduate degrees in biology and environmental studies from the University of California, Santa Cruz and a graduate degree in geography from the University of California, Berkeley. Currently he serves as the General Manager of the Richard B. Gump South Pacific Research Station on Moorea. For the past 18 years he has devoted himself to environmental research of the effects that sea-level change has on the small reef islands known as motu and to the promotion of ecotourism in French Polynesia. With an in-depth comprehension of—and a passion for—the ecology and culture of his adopted home, he speaks with intimate knowledge on the environmental issues that affect all South Sea islanders, including global warming and its impact on traditional lifestyles. He looks forward to enhancing your travel experience on Island Life in Tahiti and French Polynesia through a series of informative lectures: The Flora and Fauna of French Polynesia; Environmental Issues in Paradise: Local to Global; and Island Knowledge—Polynesian Insights into Ecology.

This Island Life Travel Program Includes:
The exclusively-chartered S.Y. STAR FLYER, an authentic tall ship, aboard which you will enjoy:

♦ Seven-night round trip cruise from Papeete, Tahiti, Society Islands, with port calls at the idyllic islands of Huahine, Raiatea, Taha’a, Bora Bora and Moorea.
♦ Spacious, air-conditioned stateroom with private bathroom facilities.
♦ Captain’s farewell toast.
♦ Delectable international cuisine served each day at a single seating for full breakfast, lunch and dinner.
♦ Opportunities to snorkel and swim in the pristine waters and idyllic lagoons surrounding the islands.

All tours and excursions below are led by expert local guides:

♦ Excursion on the island of Huahine, with a focus on the cultural treasures of the ancient Polynesians.
♦ Cultural tour of Raiatea, a cradle of early Polynesian culture and a favorite destination of Captain Cook.
♦ Excursion on idyllic Bora Bora, including a circuit of the island by “LeTruck,” the local open-air transport.
♦ Tour of Moorea, the tropical paradise that inspired James Michener’s Bali Hai, featuring magnificent Belvedere Point.

In Papeete

♦ Day room accommodations in the deluxe Sofitel Tahiti Resort upon disembarking, prior to return flights home.

A Full Program of Educational and Cultural Enrichment Including:

♦ An exclusive Village Forum with local residents discussing life in French Polynesia.
♦ Specially arranged lectures by local cultural historian and environmental expert Frank Murphy on natural history, traditional culture, global warming and other contemporary environmental issues affecting the Society Islands and Polynesia.
♦ A series of tours that will bring to life Tahiti’s vibrant history, culture and mythology.

And to Enhance your Travel Experience, we will also provide:

♦ All transfers and luggage handling abroad for all participants who have purchased their air tickets through Gohagan & Company and whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
♦ A hospitality desk on the ship.
♦ The services of an experienced Program Director throughout the program.
♦ Gratuties for local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
♦ Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information for each participant.
♦ Automatic $250,000 flight insurance for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $_________ as deposit ($600 per person, plus $200 per person Papeete Post-Program). Make check(s) payable to Thomas P. Gohagan & Company.

Deposits can also be made by credit card; however, all FINAL payments are required to be made in cash, by check or wire transfer by November 7, 2007.

I/we authorize you to charge my/our deposit to:  

- Visa
- MasterCard

Card No. _____________________________ Exp. Date __________

Signature as it appears on credit card

Please make my/our reservations in cabin category:  

- 1st Choice __________ 2nd Choice __________
- Double occupancy (one double bed)
- Double occupancy (two twin beds)
- Single accommodations.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Papeete Post-Program Reservations:

Mountain View:

- Double at $595 per person.
- Single at $895 per person.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Ocean View:

- Double at $670 per person.
- Single at $995 per person.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Program Air:

- Flights Los Angeles/Papeete with return Papeete/Los Angeles. Approximate economy airfare is $1250 per person, including taxes.
- Flights from ___________________________ (fill in departure city) to Papeete, Tahiti, with return from Papeete, Tahiti, at an additional cost to be advised.

Class:  

- First  
- Business

An Air Coordinator will contact you no later than four months prior to departure regarding your selections. Please contact your travel agent or air carrier directly for any deviations to the above.

Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability, and is nonrefundable.

I/we will make my/our own air arrangements.
See the dramatic volcanic profile of Mount Mouaroa soaring above Moorea Harbor.

CONTRACT: TERMS & CONDITIONS

NOT INCLUDED: Taxes; passport fees; visas and fees for obtaining visas; personal expenses such as laundry and telephone calls; accident/sickness, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; gratuities to ship personnel; optional sightseeing excursions; excess baggage charges on aircraft; local departure taxes; airfare and associated local taxes; airport facility taxes and federal inspection fees not listed in the “Included Features” section; transfers and baggage handling to/from airport/ship/hotel on day(s) of arrival and/or departure 1) if you have not purchased your air arrangements through Thomas P. Gohagan & Company, or 2) if you are arriving earlier or later than and/or departing earlier or later than the scheduled group transfer(s); meals and alcoholic beverages not listed in the “Included Features” section; and all other services not specifically mentioned in the “Included Features” section.

FARE: Approximate airfare is based on rates as of March 2007, and is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable. Your airline ticket constitutes a contract between you and the airline (not Thomas P. Gohagan & Company), even if purchased through Thomas P. Gohagan & Company.

LUGGAGE: Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without prior notice. Please contact your airline(s) for the most current luggage allowance policy.

HEALTH: Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention (for example, the need for a wheelchair) must be reported in writing when you make your reservation.

DISCOUNTED RESERVATIONS: Discounts apply only to those reservations received in the offices of Thomas P. Gohagan & Company in writing, accompanied by the required deposit, by June 11, 2007. In the event a “discounted” reservation is cancelled, no “replacement” reservation can be substituted at the discounted rate. A “replacement” reservation is, in effect, a new reservation and can be substituted only at the full-fare tariff. Change and/or cancellation fees apply as outlined in this “Contract: Terms and Conditions” for the “replacement” reservation and the cancelled reservation.

CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip will not be effective until received in writing in the offices of Thomas P. Gohagan & Company. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellations are subject to a $200 per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 120 days prior to departure; from 95 through 119 days prior to departure, $600 per person; from 60 through 94 days prior to departure, 50% of the published full regular tariff; cancellations 59 days or less prior to departure, a no-show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariff. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees and administrative fees will be assessed.

POST-PROGRAM CANCELLATIONS: Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellations are subject to a $50 per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 120 days prior to departure; from 95 through 119 days prior to departure, $200 per person; from 60 through 94 days prior to departure, 50% of the published full regular tariff; 59 days or less prior to departure, a no-show or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariff. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees and administrative fees will be assessed.

Because these cancellation policies are strictly enforced, we strongly recommend for your protection that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. Sweet Briar will mail information to you with your confirmation packet.

RESPONSIBILITY: Thomas P. Gohagan & Company, the sponsoring institution or association, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, agents, and assigns (collectively “Gohagan”), do not own or operate any entity which is or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities, airline, vessel, or other transportation companies, guides or guide services, local ground operators, providers or organizers of optional excursions, food service providers, etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, Gohagan is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity of any third party.

In addition and without limitation, Gohagan is not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God or force majeure, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, animals, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind, sickness, illness, the lack of availability of or access to appropriate medical attention, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of airplanes or other means of transportation, or for any failure of any transportation mechanisms to arrive or depart on time.

If due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend an additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner’s risk. The right is reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a participant on these trips at any time. Specific room/cabin assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel/cruise line.

Gohagan reserves the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Gohagan shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Gohagan may cancel a trip for any reason whatsoever; if so, its sole responsibility is to refund monies paid by the participant to it. Gohagan is not required to cancel any trip for any reason including without limitation, United States Department of State, World Health Organization or other Warnings or Advisories of any kind. All fares, as well as ship schedules, port calls, hours of arrival and departure, special programs and guest lecture series (if applicable), are subject to change or cancellation without prior notice. Gohagan shall not be required to refund any portion of the fare or make any other compensation under these circumstances. Gohagan is not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers resulting from operational and/or itinerary changes, even if Gohagan makes the flight arrangements or cancels the trip. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute vessels or hotels of a similar category for those listed in this brochure. Gohagan reserves the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in airfares, currency fluctuations or fuel surcharges and all such increases are to be paid to Gohagan upon notice to the tour participant of such increases.

ARBITION AGREEMENT: Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating in any way to these Terms and Conditions, to the Responsibility Clause, to the brochure, or any other information relating in any way to the trip, or to the trip itself, shall be settled solely and exclusively by binding arbitration in Chicago, Illinois, in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association then existent.

RATES: Prices quoted are based on fares effective at the time of printing and are subject to change prior to departure.

REGISTRATION: CST#: 2031868-40, WST#: 601 767 666. OSTR#: TA-0950.

ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms and conditions of this contract.