

# GALA DINNERS



*At the ASF 2005 Gala Dinner, from left: ASF President Edward P. Gallagher, Mrs. Eeva Ahtisaari, H.E. Martti Ahtisaari, Hon. Robin Chandler Duke, Mrs. Monika Heibold, Mrs. Jane Erkkö, Her Majesty Queen Silvia of Sweden, His Majesty King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden, ASF Chairman Christian R. Sonne, Richard E. Oldenburg*

## **2006 Gala Dinner in the Presence of Their Majesties King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia, May 12, 2006**

Their Majesties King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden were guests of honor at the 2006 Gala Dinner held at Cipriani 42nd Street, New York City. Gala Chairs were Mrs. Jane Erkkö, Mrs. Monika Heibold, Mr. Richard E. Oldenburg, and Mr. John C. Whitehead.

His Excellency Martti Ahtisaari received the ASF Gold Medal which was presented by Senator George Mitchell, and the Honorable Robin Chandler Duke received the ASF Distinguished Public Service Award, presented by George Soros. Lesley Stahl served as Master of Ceremonies for the evening which 400 guests attended. Acclaimed Swedish soprano Erika Sunnegårdh performed.

*Swedish-born soprano Erika Sunnegårdh performed at the 2005 Gala Dinner*



Mrs. Duke, American Ambassador to Norway from 2000–2001, was honored for her work toward the betterment of humankind, her tireless efforts on behalf of women and children, and her dedication to international exchange and understanding. Mr. Ahtisaari, President of Finland from 1994–2000, received the ASF's highest honor in recognition of his extraordinary service in the promotion of the objectives of the Foundation. After his distinguished forty-year career with the Finnish government and service to the United Nations, Mr. Ahtisaari founded the Crisis Management Initiative, an independent organization he established to respond to challenges in sustainable security.

**2007 Gala Dinner in the Presence of Her Excellency Tarja Halonen, President of Finland,**  
May 18, 2007

The Annual Gala Dinner took place on Friday, May 18, 2007 at the Pierre Hotel, in the presence of Her Excellency President Tarja Halonen of Finland, on the occasion of the 90th Anniversary of Finnish Independence. Co-Chairs for the evening were Trustees Robin Chandler Duke and Jane Erkko. Gala Vice Chairs were Inger G. and William B. Ginsberg, The Honorable and Mrs. Charles A. Heimbold, Jr., and the Honorable and Mrs. Earle I Mack.

The ASF Award for Distinguished Public Service presented to Hon. Jan Eliasson by Trustee Robin Chandler Duke, a previous recipient, and to Mr. Jan Egeland, by Trustee Lena Björck Kaplan. Ambassador Eliasson, who is Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General for Darfur, served as President of the UN General Assembly in 2005-06, Foreign Minister of Sweden in 2006, and Sweden's Ambassador to the United States from 2000-2005. Mr. Egeland, now Special Advisor to the UN Secretary-General for Conflict Resolution, served as UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator from 2003-2006.



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*Her Excellency Tarja Halonen  
with Dr. Henry E. Kissinger*



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*At the ASF 2006 Gala Dinner, from left: ASF Chairman Bård E. Bunaes, ASF President Edward P. Gallagher, Hon. Robin Chandler Duke, Mr. Jan Egeland, H.E. Tarja Halonen, President of Finland, H.E. Jan Eliasson, Mrs. Jane Erkko*