



Alliance Française du North Shore

Connexions



2022-2023



Alliance Française du North Shore

The Alliance Française du North Shore

The Alliance Française du North Shore is a chapter of the cultural and educational not-for-profit Alliance Française organization, a worldwide network of chapters that seek to educate members about francophone cultures, language, history and literature. We are a nonprofit, charitable organization [501(c)(3)].

Our Mission

Our mission is to inspire and foster an appreciation and enjoyment of French language and francophone cultures through educational, intellectual, artistic, charitable and social endeavors.

Privacy

We respect our members' privacy and do not share their information with third parties.



Alliance Française du North Shore, Inc.

Email: info@AFnorthshore.org
Website: www.AFnorthshore.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/AFduNS2
Meetup: www.meetup.com/afnorthshore

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President's Message

As a new season begins for the Alliance Française du North Shore, we change guard with a new president, vice president and secretary. Our 2022-2023 board includes 13 returning and three new board members. I am very grateful to have such dedicated people serving the AFduNS in so many capacities.

Our mission is “to inspire and foster an appreciation and enjoyment of French language and francophone cultures through educational, intellectual, artistic, charitable and social endeavors.” We carry this out by encouraging each other at conversation and literary groups, monthly programs, classes for those motivated to further their studies, film discussions, the annual *Micro ouvert*, games, concerts and dining.



We continue with pride the legacy passed on by our committed and creative leaders: our past president Eileen Walvoord, the late vice president Bill Shapiro, former secretary Claire Price and our past—and current—treasurer Randy Williams. We are also grateful to those who have served on the board and held offices in the past.

Un grand merci to those who volunteer in both large and small ways. We value your time and willingness to provide the structure that allows us to enjoy our community. You are very much appreciated.

We invite you to consider volunteering. Join a committee. Find a speaker for a monthly program. Your contributions are invaluable.

As you renew your membership or join for the first time, you'll notice a new "Interests and Talents" section on the membership form on our website. This is our way of discovering your hidden interests and talents and encouraging you to share them. It's your generosity of heart that makes it possible for the AFduNS to continue as a vibrant, interesting group.

Language is an important tool, conveying thought, emotion and purpose. The study of a language that is nonnative is great exercise for the brain. It makes the “little grey cells” do their work. One thing I have really appreciated about our literary groups is the love of literature held by many here. Some of us studied French in middle or high school and take delight in once more studying grammar, learning new words and listening to language podcasts that examine the language in depth. Many travel to or hail from countries such as France, Canada and Belgium. We love to analyze philosophers and discuss cultural differences. We take delight in French music styles. We are fascinated by the history of France and its influence throughout the world. We like learning the nuances of so many different francophone cultures.

President's Message

"Language is an important tool, conveying thought, emotion and purpose."

At a time when it has been impossible to meet in person, we have taken advantage of available technology and kept our groups functioning. Through the Zoom platform, we have been able to include speakers from faraway places. Students can join classes from out of town. As things open up, some of our groups will begin to meet in person; some classes and events seem to work better online. We will continue to use the technology as an option.

In my case, there was no one to teach homeschool students French, so I began to research curricula and work with students who wanted to learn this beautiful language. Having had a very literature-based program and experience, I lacked the ability to speak well. I have appreciated the opportunities the AFduNS has given me to become more comfortable with the spoken language, at least enough so that I can help my students. I have been amazed, even at an older age, to learn new words, phrases and concepts.

Thanks to you all for your kindness and patience, and your willingness to let me listen and help me understand. I (usually) remember the corrections. *Merci infiniment.*

We look forward to in-person meetings, gatherings and celebrations. We're planning a special event to honor our volunteers and observe our 110th anniversary. Despite world difficulties that separate us, we enjoy community through a shared love of the French language and francophone cultures. Perhaps we can pass this gift along through some scholarship support in the future.

Thank you for your participation in the AFduNS and encouragement of each other. Thank you, too, for your warm welcome of newcomers.

Karen Baldwin
President

In Memoriam



Mme Helen R. Rubens

le 19 février 1919–le 4 avril 2022

Helen Rubens served many years—perhaps starting as far back as 1974—as treasurer, secretary-treasurer and adjunct treasurer of the Alliance Française du North Shore. She had a talent for finding places for the group to meet without charge. Helen was a student in Roland DuBosq’s classes. Her interest in French evolved into a passion for travel, including to places such as Mount Everest, the Great Barrier Reef and Antarctica. But she always returned to Paris.

In Memoriam



Mme Genevieve Phelps

le 16 août 1924–le 9 janvier 2023

Genevieve Phelps, an AFduNS member for more than 30 years, regularly attended in-person monthly programs. She was a generous supporter of many social, cultural and community organizations, such as the Kenilworth Home and Garden Club, the North Shore Senior Center, Northlight Theatre, the Art Institute of Chicago and the Lyric Opera of Chicago. She loved traveling, the ballet, the symphony, reading, football, the racetrack and playing piano. As “Felice,” Genevieve wrote and illustrated *Quickie Cuisine; An R.S.V.P. to the B.P. (* Beautiful People);* and *Skipping Around the Alphabet, Attic, Art and Astrology with Jane*. She was active in the advertising field, during which time she obtained a patent on a multipurpose bag.

Ressources

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À Vous la parole

Sausage and Larousse, by Galina Galinsky
with Darlene Brill

Before the 1917 Russian Revolution, Russia had a very strong connection with French. In fact, the aristocracy spoke French as their first language. When I was little, however, nobody in the Soviet Union spoke French—except for professionals: teachers, translators and interpreters—but people read French literature in translation.

Dora Zalevskaya, a friend of my parents who lived in our building in Kyiv, taught French at my school. I loved to go through her hand-illustrated books, some with fables of Jean de La Fontaine. The drawings were beautiful. She read to me in French, so I became familiar with the language and French authors.

In school, I enjoyed memorizing little poems and songs. In fifth grade, everybody had to start learning a foreign language. I had to choose between French and English. I chose, of course, French.



Galina, age 10, in Kyiv

When I was older, I read Guy de Maupassant and Victor Hugo and other stories, including *Le Petit*

Prince. Even in Russian translation, the elegance of the language was apparent.

I recall a couple of events that deepened my love for French culture. In 1956, during a short thaw between the Soviet Union and the West, Yves Montand and his



Yves Montand, 1957. Photo courtesy of Stevan Kragujević, CC BY-SA 3.0 RS, via Wikimedia Commons.

wife, Simone Signoret, toured the Soviet Union, including Moscow and Leningrad. I adored listening to his songs on the radio. Russians had beautiful music, but his music was fresh and relaxed—not marches. I learned his songs by heart and loved Yves Montand in his sweater. I was five or six years old.

In 1967, my second year at university, some of my classmates and I saw *Un homme et une femme* during a French film festival. Due to a shortage of everything, it was impossible to get tickets. Willing to pay any price, we ended up buying tickets from a scalper. We saw Jean-Louis Trintignant and Anouk Aimée and actually understood the language.

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Before enrolling in Kyiv National Linguistic University, you had to know what you wanted to study so that you could pick the appropriate college. I chose French. After taking four exams. I was accepted.

In the first semester, we studied phonetics to learn correct pronunciation and inflection. Our very strict teachers gave us assignments that consisted of going to the so-called language lab, a tiny room that could accommodate perhaps 10 to 20 students.

Each desk held an old, ugly, iron tape recorder, rusty and screeching. As large as tanks, it seemed, they hid the person on the other side of the desk. The tapes broke frequently. I always carried a bottle of nail polish to stick the ends of the tape together. We used the microphone (no, that's not a mouse) to record ourselves. Despite these conditions, it worked for us.



Soviet-era tape recorder with microphone, right

In the lab, we listened to short, complex texts. One was an excerpt from a speech by Charles de Gaulle. That first year, we didn't know vocabulary, but it wasn't about vocabulary: it was about training your ear and imitating pronunciation and intonation.

I could spend as much time as I wanted in the lab, but people were always waiting to get in. There was no air-conditioning. Even if you were one of the few who had a tape recorder at home, you didn't have tapes to listen to.

As we entered the lab, we would give a lab card to the monitor, who wrote down the time we entered. Using headphones, we listened to tapes and repeated what we heard over and over, making sure we read it exactly the way it was on the tape. When we left the lab, the monitor would once again enter the time on the cards.

The most important tool for our phonetics class was a little mirror. We had to look in the mirror at the position of the lips, tongue, chin—the entire mouth—to control pronunciation.

One challenge was to pronounce the sound [y], as in “tu.” If your mouth wasn't positioned correctly, a strange, squeaky sound would come out. The teacher would ask how much time we'd spent in the lab and check our cards. If a card showed three hours, the teacher would respond with, “You should have spent six.” A student who forgot his mirror was not allowed to participate in class.

In the second year, we started working with dictionaries. We had homework assignments, but at home we had no dictionaries. The one or two dictionaries in one of the classrooms were always being used by a teacher. There was a library on the other side of the city: the Library of Foreign Literature. I had to take at least two buses to get there. If I was lucky, a French dictionary would be available. I would do my homework and then take two buses to go back home.

There was a shortage of everything in the Soviet Union, including sausage, Larousse dictionaries, and everything in between. When I later told this story to my students, they looked at me as though I were an alien from another planet. If they didn't do their homework, I would ask, “Why not? You have all the resources you need; you have the internet. With one little click you can open a book. Do you understand how much effort I had to make?”

I participated in a lot of things in college, including theater. One teacher who knew me really well and became a very good friend gave me a Larousse dictionary, the best gift I've ever received.

When I finished, I spent a year or two translating technical text in the chemical industry. I then worked part-time, teaching a couple of classes at my college

À Vous la parole

in Kyiv. I taught French as a second language to students majoring in English, and I loved it.

I did this for a couple of years. And then I got lucky: the college of civil engineering was looking to replace their French professor. I was home, cooking, when the secretary of the language department called me. "Galina, get over there." I said, "My borscht is not ready." "Finish your borscht later. First go, because they need someone." And that's how I started working, teaching French for many years until I immigrated to the U.S. in 1992.

The regime we lived in was ugly; the French language was an escape. Back in the Soviet Union there was a system of Inturist hotels, intended solely for foreigners. "Inturist" means "foreign tourist." Soviets were not allowed to enter, let alone stay there. There were a lot of KGB agents watching foreigners as well as Soviets entering the hotel: any contact with a foreigner was suspicious. If they found a dollar—I'd never seen a dollar in my life—in your pocket, you would be prosecuted. That was a crime under communism.



Hotel Dnipro, Kyiv

If you had any connection with foreigners, you were considered a traitor. Once, walking past the Hotel Dnipro, I spotted a news booth with a beautiful magazine in French. I entered the lobby and walked directly to the news booth. I then felt that I was being watched—from both sides. When I looked up, I saw two men. "Young lady, what are you doing here?" "I study French, and there is a French magazine that I would like to look at and maybe buy." "You know, outside there are a lot of news booths and you can buy whatever you need there." They escorted me to the exit. I never went back. Even after the fall of

communism, people would go there for a cup of coffee and still be watched.

In 1992, I came to Chicago where my sister, who immigrated years earlier, lived. She brought my mother, my son and me. Other than some books that I shipped, we gave away everything so we had nothing else to ship. I didn't want to be bothered: just let me go to America. We arrived with only two suitcases each.

When I arrived in Chicago, my first priority was to find a television or radio station in French. I found a lot in Spanish, but nothing in French. I asked around and was told about the Alliance Française de Chicago. One of my first trips to downtown Chicago was to the Alliance Française. I went to their library and watched videos. I fell in love and became a member.

I wanted to teach but had no idea how to write a résumé. We didn't have résumés back in the Soviet Union. I found a place to help me, and they wrote a résumé and printed it on nice stationery. I sent it to a few colleges, including Wilbur Wright College. I spoke to Dr. Gloria Winslow, chair of the humanities department. She said there might be an opening in the future.

She was such a kind person. She eventually left a message and told me I could start teaching. I didn't know what I was signing up for. I was assigned to room A240 on the second floor where I was to teach French 101, French 102, French 103 and French 104. I had no idea what that meant. I asked if I could bring my own papers to keep the students busy. She told me to bring whatever I wished and asked if I could be there 15 minutes early. Of course. I will be there 15 hours early, if you wish.

At nine o'clock, I found the room. And, of course, she wasn't there. Some students could speak a little French; others, absolutely none. But, somehow, I kept them occupied. I gave them something to read to test them. From time to time, I saw Dr. Winslow pass in front of my classroom door, checking whether I was still alive.

When the class was finally over, I told Dr. Winslow that I didn't understand the class structure. She told me it was a combined class: they didn't have a French program. "But you'll figure it out. Here's a book. Let's

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go downstairs to sign your contract.” I spent about 22 years at Wright. I started with one class. In a couple of years, we had two 101s, a 102, a 103, a 104 and literature, all with a strong following.

Noticing that Northeastern Illinois University wasn't far, I spoke with the department chair, Dr. Battista Galassi. “I can teach French. I can teach Russian.” He said they didn't need French or Russian now or in the future.

By the following semester, the new chair at NEIU, Dr. Mary Ellen McGoey, decided to expand the French program and called me; she knew about me through Dr. Winslow. I worked at NEIU for 10 years and was promoted at Wright College, with a full-time, tenure-track schedule.

Although I loved both schools, I left Northeastern for the full-time position at Wright, a difficult decision because of the friendships I had built. I eventually retired, right before the pandemic.

When the 2020 riots began downtown, I decided to stop going to the Alliance Française de Chicago and look for a similar group.

I had already been aware of the Alliance Française du North Shore. I attended a workshop where I met Eileen Walvoord, president of the AFduNS, and where I learned about its activities. I missed the French language and decided to join. I'm very happy I did so. I now serve on the *conseil d'administration*.



Galina during her first trip to Paris at the Jardin du Luxembourg in 1994. She has since visited friends in many regions of France.

À Vous la parole

Les Réflexions de Hall Healy

Ces deux poèmes me donnent un moyen d'observer le monde d'une autre perspective. Il est possible de trouver les solutions aux dilemmes et aux problèmes que nous avons aujourd'hui ou, au moins, de mieux les comprendre. Voyant les petits actes de gentillesse et la beauté dans la vie quotidienne peut nous donner un sens de gratitude de ce que nous avons. —Hall Healy

« La Gentillesse » 25 juin 2023

Ces jours-ci sont pleins de conflits,
Dans n'importe quel quartier,
Que ce soit sur la route,
Ou dans les chambres du gouvernement ;

Les sujets peuvent être sérieux :
L'avortement, le vote, l'environnement,
Ou sans importance :
Quelle voiture passe en premier ;

Avec un peu de gentillesse,
On peut les aborder,
De temps en temps rapidement,
Autrement, avec patience et courage ;

Comme ma mère m'a enseigné il y a longtemps,
Il faut ouvrir la porte,
Il faut leur donner l'invitation,
Plus important, on doit ouvrir l'esprit, le cœur.

« Quelle Est Donc la Beauté ? » 26 juin 2023

C'est partout dans l'univers,
Quand le soleil se couche,
La lune s'élève dans un ciel bien étoilé,
Et le hibou fait son cri ;

Au printemps, quand un faon est né,
La rose commence à fleurir ;
La pluie tombe,
La grue s'envole ;

C'est l'enfant qui dort dans les bras de sa mère,
La belle qui chante ;
Les copains souriants,
Les amoureux s'embrassant ;

Mais, pour moi, c'est aussi
Quand le cœur et l'âme parlent ensemble ;
Et l'œil me fait savoir la beauté,
De ce qu'ils disent, tous les deux.

Conseil d'administration 2023–2024

Mandat jusqu'au 31 mai

2024 : Mmes Karen Baldwin, Gael Laymon, Barbara Pearce, Marie-Françoise Waite, M. Vladimir Minkin

2025 : Mmes Caroline Erbmman, Mary Ellen McGoey, Margarita Redmond, Eileen Walvoord, MM. Jim Harmon, Bruce Mocking

2026 : Mmes Gabrielle Fabre, Margy Levenberg, Marietta Urban

Officiers

Mandat jusqu'au 31 mai 2024

Présidente : Mme Karen Baldwin • Vice-président : M. Jim Harmon

Secrétaire : Bruce Mocking • Trésorier : Mme Gabrielle Fabre

Secrétaire de séance

Mme Hope Freeland



Margarita Redmond ; Eileen Walvoord ; Gael Laymon ;
Barbara Pearce ; Margy Levenberg ; Marie-Françoise Waite ;
Marietta Urban ; Karen Baldwin, présidente



Mary Ellen McGoey ; Margot Steinhart, ancienne
présidente et liaison avec la Fédération ;
Bruce Mocking, secrétaire ; Gaby Fabre, trésorier



Hope Freeland,
secrétaire de séance



Jim Harmon,
vice-président



Vlad Minkin

Absente : Caroline Erbmman

Conseil d'administration 2022–2023

Mandat jusqu'au 31 mai

2023 : Mme Margy Levenberg, MM. Roger Hand, Randy Williams

2024 : Mmes Karen Baldwin, Ann Koller, Gael Laymon, Barbara Pearce, Marie-Françoise Waite, M. Vladimir Minkin

2025 : Mmes Caroline Erbmann, Galina Galinsky, Mary Ellen McGoey, Margarita Redmond, Eileen Walvoord, MM. Jim Harmon, Bruce Mocking

Officiers

Mandat jusqu'au 31 mai 2023

Présidente : Mme Karen Baldwin • Vice-président : M. Jim Harmon

Secrétaire : Bruce Mocking • Trésorier : M. Randy Williams

Secrétaire de séance

Mme Hope Freeland



Crédit photo : Darlene Brill

Premier rang : Karen Baldwin, présidente ; Jim Harmon, vice-président ; Bruce Mocking, secrétaire ; Randy Williams, trésorier

Deuxième rang : Caroline Erbmann, Galina Galinsky, Roger Hand, Ann Koller

Troisième rang : Gael Laymon, Mary Ellen McGoey, Vladimir Minkin ; Marie-Françoise Waite

Quatrième rang : Eileen Walvoord, ancienne présidente ; Hope Freeland, secrétaire de séance ; Margot Steinhart, ancienne présidente et liaison avec la Fédération

Absentes : Margy Levenberg, Barbara Pearce, Margarita Redmond

Comités et commissions

Comités du conseil d'administration

Éducation : Mme Gael Laymon avec Mmes Galina Galinsky, Rosemary Heilemann, Mary Ellen McGoey, Cathy Pratt

Finance : M. Randy Williams avec Mme Margot Steinhart et M. Bob Bonges

Adhésions : Mme Eileen Walvoord avec Mmes Katherine Bergson, Galina Galinsky, Margot Steinhart et M. Bill Sand

Archivages : Mme Claire Price

- ★ **Histoire du chapitre : Mme Margot Steinhart**
- ★ **Procès-verbaux du conseil d'administration : Mme Hope Freeland**

Cafés conversation

- ★ **Apéro Conversation : Mme Eileen Walvoord** avec M. Bill Sand
- ★ **Café Conversation Matin : M. Bob Bonges** avec M. Bill Sand
- ★ **Café Conversation Soir : M. Bill Sand** avec Mme Eileen Walvoord

Ciné Club : Mme Robin Reynolds et M. Roger Parfitt

Communications : Mme Darlene Brill

- ★ **Communications : Mme Darlene Brill** avec Mmes Hope Freeland, Gael Laymon, Margy Levenberg, Linda Martin, Liz Martin, Barbara Pearce
- ★ **Médias électroniques et imprimés : Mme Darlene Brill**
- ★ **Facebook : Mme Eileen Walvoord**

Événements : M. Jim Harmon

- ★ **Soirée Trivia : Mmes Karen Baldwin et Gael Laymon**

Comités consultatifs

Comités et commissions

Comités consultatifs

Groupes littéraires : Mme Margy Levenberg

- ★ **Amis lecteurs : Mme Judith Hatheway**
- ★ **Café littéraire : Mme Gael Laymon**
- ★ **Cercle de lecture : Mme Laurie Petersen avec Mme Caroline Erbmann**
- ★ **Cercle des contes : Mme Margy Levenberg**
- ★ **Cercle des textes variés : Mme Constance Porteous**
- ★ **Cercle du Chapeau : M. Jim Harmon**
- ★ **Œuvres choisies : Mme Karen Baldwin**

Programmation : Mme Margarita Redmond avec Mmes Claire Price,
Robin Reynolds

- ★ **Liaison pour les locaux : Mme Susanna Epp**

**Hospitalité : Mmes Mary Paula Baumann, Margy Levenberg,
Marie-Françoise Waite**

Commissions

**Fonds commémoratif : Janine C. Pefley : Mmes Melody O'Leary,
Eileen Walvoord**

***Souvenirs de guerre* : Mme Margot Steinhart**

Moments forts

2022

September

- ★ First videorecording of a monthly program added to Members Only page of website.

December

- ★ First online *causerie*.
-
-

2023

February

- ★ New website launched.

April

- ★ First in-person monthly program since February 2020.

June

- ★ Mikey Brazile inaugurates Dégustation de Vin Evanston at The Wine Goddess.
- ★ “Amis lecteurs,” new literary group, formed.

July

- ★ First “Brush Up Your French Grammar: Intermediate” course held online with instructor and AFduNS member Ann Koller.
-

Historique de l'Alliance Française du North Shore, Inc.

Fondée sous le nom du « Club Français d'Evanston » en 1912

Pendant le cours de l'année 1911, à l'initiative de M. Marc Petiot, professeur de français qui offrait des leçons et des classes privées, quelques dames se rendirent chez Mme John Glenn, 1131 Forest Avenue, Evanston, pour parler de créer un cercle français. L'idée leur parut excellente, mais ce projet ne se réalisa pas.

Plusieurs mois plus tard, en été 1912, M. Édouard Paul Baillot (professeur à Northwestern University), Mme Kenneth (Fannie) Barnhart, Mme C. H. (Della) Bosworth, Mlle Mary Fabian, Mme Charles G. (Caro) Dawes, Mlle Flora Gardner, Mme John (Jennie) Glenn, Mme William (Maria A.) Holabird, Mme Lenora Truman Long, Mme George (Cornelia H.) Ludlow, Mme J. C. (Virginia) Shaffer, Mme Frank (Estelle) Starkweather, Mme Charles (Grace) Whitney et Mlle Nina Winans, entre autres, se réunirent chez Mme Dawes, 225 Greenwood Boulevard, Evanston, pour reprendre ce projet et fonder un cercle de ce genre. Mme Walter S. (Kathleen) Primley, nouvellement arrivée à Evanston, fut choisie comme présidente. C'est ce jour-là que le Club Français d'Evanston est né.

La première réunion du Club eut lieu chez les beaux-parents de la présidente, M. et Mme (Jonathan Philip) Primley, 1331 Forest Avenue, le lundi après-midi 14 octobre 1912. A cette réunion, M. Henri David, professeur de français à l'University of Chicago, fut invité à donner une conférence intitulée « Victor Hugo et les enfants ». M. David revint tous les ans pour donner d'autres conférences et assista aux célébrations des 20^e et 30^e anniversaires chez Madame Dawes. Les adhésions de la première année atteignirent 60 membres.

Jusqu'en 1946, les membres se réunirent les uns chez les autres, mais après la guerre, il fut de plus en plus difficile de trouver des maisons assez grandes et avec une aide domestique suffisante pour accueillir jusqu'à 150 adhérents. Par conséquent, le Club tint ses réunions deux fois par mois dans des endroits tels que le Levere Memorial Temple, l'Evanston Art Center, le Ridgeville Community House, l'Evanston Community Center, l'Evanston Public Library et le Woman's Club of Evanston. Pendant les travaux de rénovation de la bibliothèque de Wilmette en 2009-2010 les réunions

eurent lieu à Mallinckrodt Community Center et en 2015-2016, à la bibliothèque de Glenview.

Le nom du Club Français d'Evanston évolua et le Club se nomma parfois le « Club Français d'Evanston et du North Shore » pour refléter l'adhésion des membres assez nombreux des alentours d'Evanston. Pendant la présidence de Mme Lucy Crowder en 1990, afin de mieux établir son affiliation à la Fédération des Alliances Françaises, qui date d'environ 1947 selon les archives, le Club adopta le nom « Alliance Française d'Evanston », qui devint en 1999 « Alliance Française du North Shore » pendant la présidence de Mme Marie-Simone Pavlovich. Le 11 septembre 2015 l'Alliance Française du North Shore, Inc., fut déclarée par l'Etat d'Illinois une corporation à but non lucratif. En 2016, l'Internal Revenue Service a déterminé que l'Alliance serait désormais exempte des impôts fédéraux sous la Section 501(c)(3) de l'Internal Revenue Code.

Le 14 octobre 2012 l'AFduNS accueillit une centaine d'invités pour fêter le centenaire de la fondation du Club Français d'Evanston. L'Alliance donna un thé élégant au Woman's Club of Evanston au cours duquel furent entendus les discours de M. Graham Paul, consul général de France à Chicago ; Mme Elizabeth Tisdahl, maire d'Evanston ; Mme Marie-Simone Pavlovich, ancienne présidente ; et Mme Margot Steinhart, présidente. En 2014 sept de nos membres racontèrent en français leurs expériences de jeunesse pendant la Deuxième Guerre mondiale à partir desquelles fut réalisée une vidéo intitulée *Souvenirs de guerre, 1939-1945 : World War II Remembered*. De plus, 18 membres contribuèrent également à un recueil bilingue de leurs souvenirs de guerre.

Aujourd'hui l'AFduNS offre un programme de conférences mensuelles en français, des cours de conversation, plusieurs cercles de lecture, trois cafés conversation, un ciné club, un magasin (*Connexions*), un Micro ouvert, une Soirée Trivia et un déjeuner de printemps. En 2016 pour compléter son site web, l'Alliance y a ajouté deux plateformes de réseaux sociaux : Meetup.com pour faciliter les rencontres et Facebook pour promouvoir les activités de l'Alliance.

History of the Alliance Française du North Shore, Inc.

Founded as the "French Club of Evanston" in 1912

In 1911, influenced by M. Marc Petiot, a teacher of private French lessons and classes, several Evanston women met at the home of Mrs. John Glenn, 1131 Forest Avenue, Evanston, to discuss forming a French club. Although the idea seemed excellent, the project was not realized.

It was not until the summer of 1912 that a French club was finally created at the home of Mrs. Charles G. (Caro) Dawes, 225 Greenwood Boulevard, Evanston. Professor Édouard Paul Baillot, Northwestern University; Mrs. Kenneth (Fannie) Barnhart; Mrs. C. H. (Della) Bosworth; Miss Mary Fabian; Mrs. Charles G. (Caro) Dawes; Miss Flora Gardner; Mrs. John (Jennie) Glenn; Mrs. William (Maria A.) Holabird; Mrs. Lenora Truman Long; Mrs. George (Cornelia H.) Ludlow; Mrs. J. C. (Virginia) Shaffer; Mrs. Frank (Estelle) Starkweather; Mrs. Charles (Grace) Whitney and Miss Nina Winans met to accomplish this goal. Mrs. Walter S. (Kathleen) Primley, recently arrived in Evanston, was chosen as president. On this day, the French Club of Evanston was born.

On Monday afternoon, October 14, 1912, the Club's first meeting was held at the home of the new president's in-laws, Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Philip Primley, 1331 Forest Avenue, Evanston. M. Henri David, professor of French at the University of Chicago, was invited to give a lecture entitled "Victor Hugo et les enfants." Every year afterwards, M. David would return to lecture; he attended the celebration of the 20th and 30th anniversaries of the Club at the home of Mrs. Dawes. During the first year of the Club, membership rose to 60.

Until 1946, members met at each other's homes, but after the war, it became increasingly difficult to find homes with sufficient domestic help to entertain and with adequate space to accommodate the membership, which peaked at 150. As a result, the Club met twice a month in locations such as the Levere Memorial Temple, the Evanston Art Center, the Ridgeville Community House, the Evanston Community Center, the Evanston Public Library, and the Woman's Club of Evanston. During renovations of the Wilmette Public Library, the Alliance met in 2009-2010 at the

Mallinckrodt Community Center in Wilmette and at the Glenview Public Library in 2015-2016.

Periodically, the Club Français d'Evanston would identify itself as the "Club Français d'Evanston et du North Shore" to reflect its growing membership drawn from surrounding suburbs. In 1990, during the presidency of Mrs. Lucy Crowder, the Club adopted "Alliance Française d'Evanston" as its name to establish a closer affiliation with the Federation of the Alliances Françaises, an initiative that had begun about 1947, according to the archives. In 1999, during the presidency of Mrs. Marie-Simone Pavlovich, the name changed again to "Alliance Française du North Shore." On September 11, 2015, the Alliance Française du North Shore, Inc., was registered in the State of Illinois as a not-for-profit corporation. In 2016, the Internal Revenue Service determined that our Alliance Française chapter would be exempt from federal income tax according to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

On October 14, 2012, the Alliance Française du North Shore welcomed 100 guests at the centennial celebration of the founding of the French Club of Evanston. The event, a formal tea at the Woman's Club of Evanston, featured speeches by Mr. Graham Paul, Consul General of France in Chicago; Mrs. Elizabeth Tisdahl, mayor of Evanston; Mrs. Marie-Simone Pavlovich, former president; and Mrs. Margot Steinhart, president. In 2014, seven of our members participated in recording a video, *Souvenirs de guerre, 1939-1945: World War II Remembered*, in which they recounted in French their experiences as young people during the Second World War. In addition, 18 members contributed written stories for a bilingual collection of their wartime memories.

Today, the AFduNS offers monthly lectures, French conversation classes, several literary groups, three cafés-conversation gatherings, a ciné club, a magazine (*Connexions*), a Micro ouvert, a Soirée Trivia and a spring luncheon. In 2016, to complement its website, the Alliance added two social networking sites: Meetup.com to facilitate event reservations and Facebook to promote chapter activities.

Présidents

Club Français d'Evanston, Club Français d'Evanston et du North Shore,
Alliance Française d'Evanston, Alliance Française du North Shore,
Alliance Française du North Shore, Inc.

Depuis 1912

Mme Walter S. Primley (1912–1913)

Mlle Nina Winans (1913–1917)

M. le Professeur Edouard P. Baillot
(1917–1918)

M. le Professeur Alphonse de Salvio
(1918–1919)

M. le Professeur Edouard P. Baillot
(1919–1920)

Mme D. A. Tomlinson (1920–1922)

Mlle Nina Winans (1922–1923)

Mme Benton Sanders (1923–1925)

Mme Lenora Truman Long (1925–1927)

Mme John G. Gallaher (1927–1929)

Mlle Ethel Preston (1929–1931)

Mme Roger Cros (1931–1933)

Mme Ronald Webster (1933–1935)

Mme John McAllister (1935–1937)

Mme Harry Jenkins (1937–1939)

Mme Newell S. Knight (1939–1941)

Mme Homer Park (1941–1943)

Mme Lacey Grey (1943–1945)

Mme Edward Cudner (1945–1947)

Mme Roscoe A. Page (1947–1949)

Mlle Dorothy Cahill (1949–1950)

Mme Cyril Ward (1950–1951)

Mme John Barlow (1951–1953)

Mme Walter E. Trauffer (1953–1955)

Mme George C. Cutler (1955–1957)

Mme Alex F. Walz (1957–1958)

Mme Louis Crowder (1958–1961)

Mme Roswell H. Chrisman (1961–1963)

Mme Harry Berger (1963–1965)

Mme Alfred Kullman (1965–1966)

Mme John B. Halla (1966–1968)

Mme Fred Tuttle Williams (1968–1969)

Mme S. T. Preston, Jr. (1969–1970)

Mme George Cutler (1970–1971)

Mlle Renée G. Tanière (1971–1974)

Mme Lucy Crowder (1974–1991)

Mme Marie-Simone Pavlovich (1991–1999)

Mme Jean Hoff, co-présidente (1999–2001)

Mme Monique Whiting, co-présidente
(1999–2001)

Mme Monique Whiting (2001–2003)

Mme Dorothy Sauer (2003–2005)

Mme Jean Hoff (2005–2006)

Mme Janet Evans, co-présidente (2006–2007)

Mme Melody O'Leary, co-présidente
(2006–2007)

Mme Margot M. Steinhart (2007–2017)

Mme Eileen Walvoord (2017–2022)

Mme Karen Baldwin (2022–)

Calendrier

Consulter AFnorthshore.org/ ou [meetup.com/afnorthshore/](https://www.meetup.com/afnorthshore/) pour les dernières mises à jour.

<i>Amis lecteurs</i>	* le troisième mardi du mois, 19 h à 20 h 30 (7–8:30 PM) 2023 : mai : <i>Le Petit Prince</i> , Antoine de Saint-Exupéry juin : <i>Le Petit Prince</i> , Antoine de Saint-Exupéry juillet : <i>Le Petit Prince</i> , Antoine de Saint-Exupéry
<i>Apéro-Conversation</i>	* le quatrième lundi du mois, 19 h à 20 h 30 (7–8:30 PM)
<i>Brush Up Your French: Advanced Intermediare</i>	* le mercredi, 16 h à 17 h 30 (4–5:30 PM) automne : 7 septembre–9 novembre 2022 hiver : 11 janvier–15 mars 2023 printemps : 12 avril–14 juin 2023
<i>Brush Up Your French: Intermediare</i>	* le vendredi, 10 h 45 à 12 h 15 (10:45 AM–12:15 PM) automne : 9 septembre–11 novembre 2022 hiver : 13 janvier–17 mars 2023 printemps : 14 avril–16 juin 2023
<i>Brush Up Your French: Grammar: Intermediare</i>	* le vendredi, 9 h 30 à 11 h 30 (9:30–11:30 AM) été : 28 juillet–18 août 2023
<i>Café Conversation Matin</i>	* le premier lundi du mois, 10 h à 11 h (10–11 AM)
<i>Café Conversation Soir</i>	* le troisième jeudi du mois, 19 h à 20 h (7–8 PM)
<i>Café littéraire</i>	# 2022 : septembre : <i>Le Baiser</i> , Sophie Brocas octobre : <i>Petit Pays</i> , Gaël Faye novembre : <i>Mes quatre femmes</i> , Gisèle Pineau 2023 : janvier : <i>Le gone de Chaâba</i> , Azouz Begag février : <i>Une Année chez les Français</i> , Fouad Laroui mars : <i>Bonjour Tristesse</i> , Françoise Sagan avril : <i>La Part du fils</i> , Jean-Luc Coatalem mai : <i>L'Exil selon Julia</i> , Gisèle Pineau
<i>Cercle de lecture</i>	# 2022 : octobre : <i>Bonjour Tristesse</i> , Françoise Sagan novembre : <i>Le pays des autres</i> , Leila Slimani (1re partie) décembre : <i>Le pays des autres</i> , Leila Slimani (2e partie) 2023 : janvier : <i>Le service des manuscrits</i> , Antoine Laurain février : <i>Les loyautés</i> , Delphine de Vigan mars : <i>Le chien de Madame Halberstadt</i> , Stéphane Carlier avril : <i>Les victorieuses</i> , Laetitia Colombani mai : <i>Les inséparables</i> , Simone de Beauvoir

* en ligne

† Panera Bread, 1199 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette

‡ St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1235 Wilmette Ave.

§ Wilmette Public Library, Auditorium, 1242 Wilmette Ave.

|| Glenview Public Library, Multipurpose Rm., 1930 Glenview Rd.

¶ The Wine Goddess, 702 Main St, Evanston

various

Calendrier

Cercle des contes

2022 : septembre : *La Plage*, Alain Robbe-Grillet
novembre : *Les Bottes de Sept Lieues*, Marcel Aymé
décembre : *Les Bottes de Sept Lieues*, Marcel Aymé
2023 : mars : *Le Tigre Mondain*, Jean Ferry
avril : *L'Offensive*, Henri Thomas

Cercle des textes variés

† 2022 : septembre : articles de HuffPost
octobre : *Le Bal des folles*, Victoria Mas
novembre : *Le Bal des folles*, Victoria Mas
décembre : *La balle rouge*, Patrick Bousquet
2023 : janvier : *Kukum*, Michel Jean
février : *Kukum*, Michel Jean
mars : *Kukum*, Michel Jean
avril : *Meurtre en la mineur*, Murielle Wenger
mai : *Meurtre en la mineur*, Murielle Wenger
juin : *Meurtre en la mineur*, Murielle Wenger
juillet : *Les Années*, Annie Erneaux
août : *Les Années*, Annie Erneaux

Cercle du Chapeau

* 2022 : septembre : *Nos Richesses*, Kaouther Adimi
novembre : *Le Colonel Chabert*, Honoré de Balzac
décembre : *Les Mots*, Jean-Paul Sartre
2023 : janvier : *Moi, Tituba, sorcière... Noire de Salem*,
Maryse Condé
février : *Histoire du fils*, Marie-Hélène Lafon
mars : *La Place*, Annie Erneaux
avril : *La Cliente*, Pierre Assouline
mai : *S'Adapter*, Clara Dupont-Monod
juin : *L'Homme qui plantait des arbres*, Jean Giono
juillet : *Bitna, sous le ciel de Séoul*, J.M.G. Le Clézio
août : *Le Silence de la mer*, Vercors (Jean Bruller)

Ciné Club

* le deuxième jeudi du mois, 13 h 30 (1:30 PM)
Discussion en français d'un film en français avec sous-titres en anglais
2022 : 8 septembre : *La Mort en ce jardin*
13 octobre : *Le mystère Henri Pick*
10 novembre : *Diaboliquement vôtre*
8 décembre : *L'homme de Rio*
2023 : 12 janvier : *Odette Toulemonde*
9 février : *La journée de la jupe*
9 mars : *Germinal*
13 avril : *À bout de souffle*
11 mai : *La Règle du jeu*

Conseil d'administration

le lundi, 13 h (1 PM)
2022 : 26 septembre
2023 : 30 janvier, 27 mars, || 12 juin

Conversation Avancée

* le jeudi, 17 h à 18 h 30 (5–6:30 PM)
automne : 15 septembre–17 novembre 2022
hiver : 12 janvier–16 mars 2023
printemps : 6 avril–15 juin, sauf 13 avril 2023

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¶ The Wine Goddess, 702 Main St, Evanston

various

Calendrier

<i>Dégustation de Vin Evanston</i>	¶ le deuxième samedi du mois, 15 h à 17 h (3–5 PM)
<i>Déjeuner de printemps</i>	2023 : 23 mai Froggy's French Café
<i>Événements culturels</i>	2023 : 25 février : Micro ouvert à tous 13 h (1 PM)
<i>Événements éphémères</i>	à déterminer
<i>French Impressionism</i>	* le samedi, 10 h 30 à midi (10:30 AM–noon) automne : 17 septembre, 15 octobre, 19 novembre 2022 hiver : 21 janvier, 11 février, 18 mars 2023 printemps : 15 avril, 20 mai, 17 juin 2023 * 2022 : septembre : <i>Le Rouge et le Noir</i> , Stendhal octobre : <i>Le Père Goriot</i> , Honoré de Balzac novembre : <i>Le Père Goriot</i> , Honoré de Balzac décembre : <i>Le Père Goriot</i> , Honoré de Balzac 2023 : janvier : <i>Le Père Goriot</i> , Honoré de Balzac février : <i>Le Père Goriot</i> , Honoré de Balzac mars : <i>Le Père Goriot</i> , Honoré de Balzac avril : <i>L'Assommoir</i> , Émile Zola mai : <i>L'Assommoir</i> , Émile Zola juin : <i>L'Assommoir</i> , Émile Zola juillet : <i>L'Assommoir</i> , Émile Zola août : <i>L'Assommoir</i> , Émile Zola
<i>Oeuvres choisies</i>	
<i>Programmes</i>	# le lundi, 13 h (1 PM) Programmes suivis d'un thé et conversation en français 2022 : 19 septembre : Le déchiffrement du Sphynx : la démystification de l'Égypte ancienne et la redécouverte d'un monde perdu 17 octobre : Des « frictions socioculturelles » : Trois familles qui « dérangent », vues dans le cinéma français et franco- belge du 21e siècle 21 novembre : Ces châteaux moins connus en France qui valent pourtant le détour 19 décembre : Causerie 2023 : 16 janvier : Balade parisienne dans le quartier Montorgueil 13 février : annulé 13 mars : Un horizon de lumière pour le Liban 17 avril : Un Concert de musique française de Lully à Ravel
<i>Soirée Trivia</i>	2022 : annulée

* en ligne

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¶ The Wine Goddess, 702 Main St, Evanston

various

Événements



★ **September 19, 2022. Le déchiffrement du Sphinx : la démystification de l'Égypte ancienne et la redécouverte d'un monde perdu (Deciphering the Sphinx: Dispelling the Mystery of Ancient Egyptian Writing and Recovering a Lost World)**

Robert Henrey recounted Bonaparte's famously ambitious Egyptian expedition; how the French discovered the Rosetta Stone only to have to surrender it to the English; and how two would-be decipherers engaged in a bitterly competitive race.

★ **October 17, 2022. In-Person and Online Open House**

The AFduNS celebrated new and prospective members at its traditional fall open house at the Glenview Public Library (as well as on Zoom). You met some of our members, heard why they joined the AFduNS and, just for fun, joined a team for a mini-version of our annual Soirée Trivia. A light lunch was served. We also watched the monthly program together.

Image by [Pezibear](#) from [Pixabay](#)



Événements

★ **October 17, 2022.** Des « frictions socioculturelles » : Trois familles qui « dérangent », vues dans le cinéma français et franco-belge du 21e siècle ("Sociocultural Frictions": Three "Provocative" Families, Depicted in French and Franco-Belgian Cinema of the 21st Century)



Dr. Cynthia Hahn highlighted and interpreted moments of sociocultural friction in 21st-century French and Franco-Belgian cinema via three films: *Inch'Allah dimanche* (*Sunday, God Willing*), drama; *Il a déjà tes yeux* (*He Even Has Your Eyes*), dramatic comedy; and *Little Girl* (*Petite fille*), documentary. She examined some strategies of the cinematic gaze as a way to underscore stereotypes and confront what may be perceived as uncomfortable "otherness." These films reflect evolving perceptions of family and social identity in a Franco-European context, in particular by utilizing children as a catalyst for evoking difference, confronting stereotypes and encouraging social integration.

★ **October 25, 2022.** AFduNS's 110th Anniversary Dawes House Tour

AFduNS members and their guests enjoyed a guided tour of the [Charles Gates Dawes House](#) to celebrate our 110th anniversary. The tour allowed access to all exhibits, including the French Club of Evanston, the origin of the AFduNS. We visited [Patisserie Coralie](#) around the corner after the tour.

Photo courtesy of the Evanston History Center



Événements

★ November 21, 2022. Ces châteaux moins connus en France qui valent pourtant le détour
(Lesser-Known French Castles Worth a Detour)



The palaces of Versailles, Chenonceau and Chambord are well-known marvels of French architecture. But there are other, lesser-known castles waiting to be discovered.

Marine Besson gave an overview of some of these hidden gems. France has over 45,000 castles among its 36,000 towns, plenty for you to add to your next trip abroad. We discovered a few of these castles, learned their histories and finished with a quiz on the topic.

Image by [David Mark](#) from [Pixabay](#)

★ December 19, 2022. Causerie

Francophones celebrated the holiday season in a *causerie* of fun, holiday-themed topics, such as how we celebrate, how we decorate, gifts we love to receive and gifts we love to give. We also enjoyed a slideshow with musical accompaniment as a prelude to the *causerie*.



★ January 16, 2023. Balade parisienne dans le quartier Montorgueil
(Parisian Stroll in the Montorgueil Quarter)

James Minnett took us on a stroll in and around the Quartier Montorgueil in the 2nd arrondissement of Paris. We discovered the Pinault Foundation, the new Halles and the Saint-Eustache church, as well as the typical pedestrian streets of this district full of life.



Photo courtesy of James Minnett

Événements

★ February 25, 2023. Micro ouvert à tous (Open Mic)

Our fifth open mic was held on Zoom, and included readings of short texts in French (fiction, nonfiction, drama, poetry) and singing French songs.

[Watch the videos of this and previous years' events on the Monthly Programs and Special Events page of the website.](#)



- Eileen Walvoord, *Le train de la vie*, Jean d'Ormesson
- Vladimir Minkin, excerpt from *Nymphéas noirs*, Michel Bussi
- Jim Harmon, two excerpts from *Germinal*, Émile Zola
- Janet Evans et Darlene Brill, extrait de *Le Bourgeois gentilhomme*, Acte II, Scène IV, Molière
- Margot Steinhart, *Le Pot de Terre et le Pot de Fer*, Jean de La Fontaine
- Bill Sand, « Tu te souviendras de moi », F. Paggi et Jacques Plante, et « De la Madeleine à l'opéra », Georges Tabet

★ March 13, 2023. Un horizon de lumière pour le Liban (Lebanon: Light on the Horizon)

Lebanon has experienced chaos and destruction for at least the last 50 years. The current period is the most devastating, leaving the country totally paralyzed. Problems culminated with the double explosion of the Port of Beirut on August 4, 2020, in which Evelyne Accad nearly lost her life. This led her to create the Culture and Healing Center to help her overcome her trauma while helping others recover and heal. Evelyne explained what she wants to achieve in the Center.



★ April 17, 2023. Un Concert de musique française de Lully à Ravel



Bass-baritone Andrew Schultze and pianist Svetlana Belsky presented a concert of vocal and piano music by French composers from the Baroque and Modern periods, featuring works by Lully, Duphly, Rameau, Debussy and Ravel. Among the works heard were an air from the opera *Les Indes galantes*; chansons and piano works by Debussy; and Ravel's song cycle "Don Quichotte à Dulcinée."

Événements

★ May 23, 2023. Déjeuner de printemps

Alliance Française du North Shore members and their guests feasted on scrumptious French food at Froggy's French Café in Highwood as we marked the end of the program season.

President Karen Baldwin recognized several members who have contributed so much to our organization: outgoing board members Galina Galinsky, Roger Hand and Ann Koller, and outgoing treasurer Randy Williams. We also expressed our appreciation to retiring teacher Domitille Nicolescou.



Cochair Mary Paula Baumann; Froggy's manager, Rodrigo Lopez; cochair Marie-Françoise Waite



Annmarie Laures, Ann Koller, Susanna Epp, Margy Levenberg



Bess Gallanis, Griselda Viniegra



Claire Price, Eileen Walvoord



Standing: Roland DuBosq, Antje Draganski, Birgit Werth, Marie White. Seated: Linda Martin, Jack Martin, Myra Balesi.

Événements



Kathi Acciari, Kimberlee Herold, Roger Parfitt



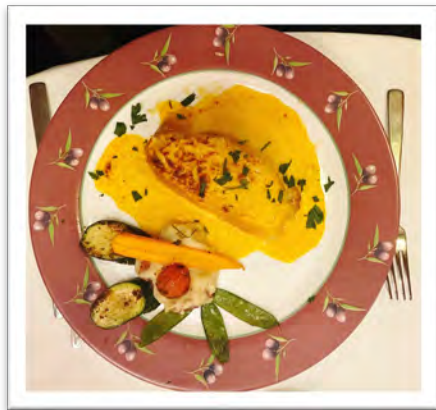
Susanna Epp, Margy Levenberg, Sheri Caronis



Marietta Urban, Darlene Brill



Denise Rano, Gael Laymon, Susan Byrd, Eryn Levis, Bess Gallanis



Griselda Viniegra, Karen Baldwin

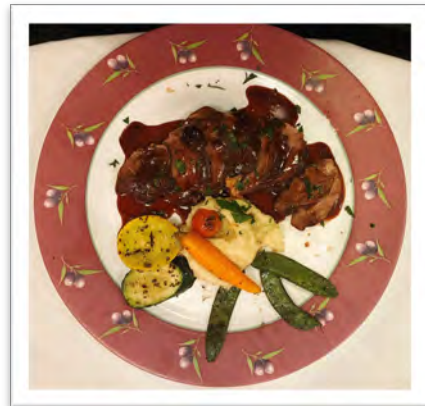
Événements



Standing: Roger Hand, Susanna Epp, Margy Levenberg.
Seated: Margot Steinhart, Denise Rano, Randy Williams.



Standing: Liz Crimmins, Kimberlee Herold, Roger Parfitt, Ann Koller, Kathi Acciari. **Seated:** Bonnie Stanchiu, David Whiting, Steve Greenberg, Michele Whittington.



Standing: Katherine Bergson, Eryn Levis, Susan Singerman. **Seated:** Sheri Caronis, Annmarie Laures, Bonnie Spiros, Catherine Pratt.

Événements



Standing: Liz Martin, Gabrielle Fabre, Bill Sand. **Seated:** Robin Reynolds, Constance Porteous, Mary Sproul, Bob Bonges.



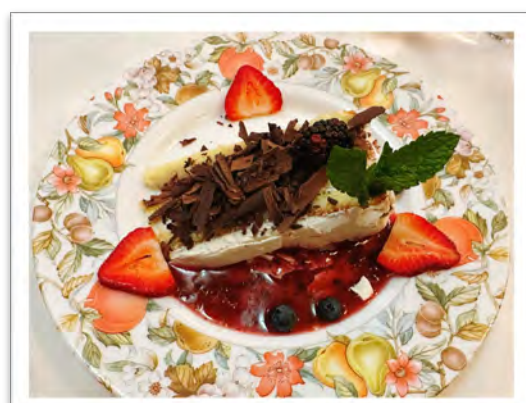
Standing: Marie-Françoise Waite, Mary Paula Baumann. **Seated:** James Waite, Gerard Baumann, Roland DuBosq.



Standing: Claire Price, Suzanne Beling, Karen Baldwin, Marietta Urban. **Seated:** Griselda Viniegra, Darlene Brill, Eileen Walvoord, Dirk Walvoord.



Standing: Barbara Pearce, Gael Laymon. **Seated:** Susan Byrd, Bess Gallanis, Domitille Nicolescou.



Événements



Board members: Margarita Redmond, Eileen Walvoord, Gael Laymon, Barbara Pearce, Margy Levenberg, Marie-Françoise Waite, Marietta Urban. President Karen Baldwin.



Réserver les dates



Soirée Trivia

annulée

Une soirée de compétition amicale, de divertissement, de prix, de camaraderie et une tombola terrible

Déjeuner de printemps

23 mai 2023
Froggy's French Café
306 Green Bay Road
Highwood

The Alliance Française du North Shore cordially invites you to our annual spring luncheon.





Alliance Française du North Shore, Inc.