



News Brief

Alliance Française du North Shore

P.O. Box 1750, Evanston, IL 60204
<http://alliancefn.wlkcommunity.com>
alliancefn@yahoo.com

Fall 2008

Ce qui est le meilleur dans le nouveau est ce qui répond à un désir ancien. – Paul Valéry

L'ordre est le plaisir de la raison: mais le désordre est le délice de l'imagination. – Paul Claudel

President's Message

Welcome to the new season of activities organized by the Alliance Française du North Shore!

This is the time when we renew our membership and invite other Francophones to join us for a number of varied and engaging activities conducted in French throughout the year. Membership renewal forms were mailed during the last week of August. A membership form can also be downloaded from the chapter website:

<http://alliancefn.wlkcommunity.com/>

Monthly Lecture Programs

Our first program of the lecture series features French chef and author, Jacky Pluton on September 15. He will speak on the topic of « La Qualité gastronomique entre la France et les Etats-Unis. » On October 20, Eric Aubriot, chef and proprietor of TASTE Food and Wine in Rogers Park, will describe his experiences as a small business entrepreneur. Aubriot apprenticed under Chef Alain Ducasse at the George V hotel in Monaco, a Michelin Three-Star restaurant on the French Riviera. On

November 17, Wylie Crawford, carillonneur at the University of Chicago, will speak about carillons and his experiences as a bell ringer.

The themes of other francophone programs this year tentatively include cabaret and classical music and Quebec cinema. Caroline Erbmann, Vice-president in charge of programs, organizes the series of lectures and programs scheduled during the academic year.

Café Conversation

The wider francophone community is invited to join our members for two monthly Café-Conversation events, one on a Monday morning and the second on a Monday evening, all year around. There is no charge for participating in one of several animated conversations occurring during the hour. The events are open to French speakers from beginners to native speakers.

See the calendar on Page 4 of this newsletter or on the chapter website for dates and locations of the monthly conversation gatherings.

Chicago Architectural Cruise: October 5th

The Alliances Françaises du North Shore, de DuPage, and de Chicago, along with the

Chicago/Northern Illinois Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF) are sponsoring a 90-minute cruise on the Chicago River, with the participation of a French-speaking docent from the Chicago Architectural Foundation, on Sunday, October 5 at 3:00 p.m. The cost of this event is \$36 per person. As of September 1, there were some seats still available for this event. Information about the tour and transportation options (carpooling and public transportation) was detailed in the August chapter mailing and also appears on the chapter website.

Welcome back to a new year at the Alliance Française du North Shore!

Margot M. Steinhart

Margot M. Steinhart, President



2008-2009 Officers of the Alliance Française du North Shore

(l to r) Melody O'Leary (Publicity and Website), Wanda Sauerman (Secretary), Robert Bonges (Treasurer), and Margot Steinhart (President). Not pictured: Caroline Erbmann (Vice-President). Photographer: Sylvia Kerpel

CHAPTER MATTERS

French Class

The Alliance du North Shore offers one course of French lessons for students who speak French fluently but would like to increase their vocabulary and perfect their knowledge of grammar. The class meets Wednesday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. Students

read and analyze articles and poems and complete grammar worksheets. They also discuss current events. The class size is 8 minimum and 12 maximum. Roland DuBosq, a retired French teacher from Evanston Township High School, continues as instructor for the class.

The fall session extends from September 10 through November 19. The winter session continues December 3-February 25 (no classes November 26, December 24 and 31) and the last session starts March 4 and ends on May 13. The cost per 11-week session is \$154.00, with no refund for missed classes. Students must be members of the Alliance Française du North Shore. Registration for the course is indicated on the membership form. If seats are still available, students may join the class for a prorated tuition. For more information, contact the French Class Director, Mary Sproul, at marysproul@gmail.com.

History of Club Français d'Evanston and Alliance Française d'Evanston

The chapter is working on a project to document the history of our chapter, in preparation for the celebration of the organization's 100th anniversary in 2012. Professor William Roberts, honorary member of the chapter, has requested that long-term members search their own files to locate and lend to him original or photocopied programs, photographs, and documents that recall the history of the French Club of Evanston and the Alliance Française d'Evanston, which eventually became the Alliance Française du North Shore. In particular, he wishes to consult the following:

Yearbooks (*annuaires*), containing members' and officers' names:

1965-66 and all previous years; 1967-68; 1969-72; 1976-82

Programs (announcement cards "*rappels*," indicating lectures, luncheons, dates, program

subjects, and speakers with their identification descriptors):

1986-87 and all previous years; 1990-91; W 93; F 93; Jan.-March 94; April 98; 1998-2002; 2007-08

Those who have materials relating to the history of our chapter are requested to contact Bill Roberts at w-roberts@northwestern.edu.

Cercle de lecture

While seats in *le Cercle de lecture* are currently filled, all AF members can benefit from the reading list that Monique Whiting has announced for 2008-2009. These include:

- September 22: Annie Gavalda, *Je l'aimais*
- November 3: Simone de Beauvoir, *La Femme rompue*
- January 19: Gilles Perrault, *Les Jardins de l'Observatoire*
- March 2: Frédéric Beigbeder, *L'Amour dure 3 ans*
- April 13: Maryse Condé, *Victoire, la saveur et les mots*

Wanted: Volunteers

We are seeking volunteers for these positions:

Ciné Club Committee – To determine format for this initiative of film and discussion.

Contact Margot Steinhart
[m.steinhart@sbcglobal.net].

Chapter Archivist – To preserve and identify photos and papers relating to our AF Chapter for eventual donation to the archival files for our organization, already housed at the Evanston History Center. Contact: Margot Steinhart [m.steinhart@sbcglobal.net].

Newsletter Editor -- To prepare two issues annually of the AF du NS *NewsBrief* for photocopying; word processing and layout skills needed. The chapter Secretary attends to copying and distributing the newsletter to members. Contact: Margot Steinhart [m.steinhart@sbcglobal.net].

Welcome Committee Greeters – To welcome attendees at monthly Lecture programs at the

Wilmette Public Library. Contact Eliza Wangerin: (847.657.6835/
elisawangerin@yahoo.com)

Publicity Assistants – To prepare short electronic news articles to recap the monthly guest speaker's visit. Contact Melody O'Leary [olearymel@yahoo.com].

Request for Your French Magazines

Do you have subscriptions to francophone newspapers or magazines, such as *Paris Match*, or *l'Express*? Once you have finished reading them, please bring your copies to our 'lending library' before a lecture program so they can be circulated to interested members. Chantal Shapiro and Monique Whiting direct the Bibliothèque de l'AF du North Shore.

AFUSA 2008 Annual Conference in Florida

The Fédération des Alliances Françaises, USA, holds its 2008 convention and annual meeting on October 22 – 25, 2008, at the Naples Hilton and Towers in Naples, FL. Information about the conference may be found on the AFUSA web site: federation@afusa.org.

AF du North Shore Board Meeting

Wilmette Public Library

August 11, 2008



Row 1: Sylvia Kerpel, Margot Steinhart, Melody O'Leary, Janine Pefley, Eliza Wangerin, Mary Sproul

Row 2: Joan Lindsey, Wanda Sauerman, Monique Whiting, Robert Bonges, Barbara Agdern, Chantal Shapiro

AF du NS Calendar of Events 2008-2009

French Class - Wednesday at 7:00 - 8:45 p.m., Wilmette Public Library)

Session I: September 10 - November 19, 2008

Session II: December 3, 2008, - February 25, 2009 (No classes November 26, December 24 and 31)

Session III: March 4 - May 13, 2009

Monthly Lectures - (Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Avenue, Wilmette, at 1:00 p.m.)

(2008) 9/15, 10/20, 11/17, 12/15; (2009) 1/12, 2/9, 3/16, 4/20

Café Conversation (Morning) – (Panera, 1199 Wilmette Avenue, Wilmette, at 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.)

(2008) 7/7, 8/4, 9/1, 10/6, 11/3, 12/1; (2009) 1/5, 2/2, 3/2, 4/6, 5/4, 6/1

Café Conversation (Evening) – (Panera, "Lincoln Village", 6059 N. Lincoln Avenue, Chicago, at 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.) (2008) 7/21, 8/18, 9/8, 10/13, 11/10, 12/8; (2009) 1/19, 2/16, 3/9, 4/13, 5/11, 6/8

Cercle de lecture - (2008) 9/22, 11/3, (2009) 1/19, 3/2, 4/13

Cercle des contes – (2008) 10/6, 11/26, (2009) 1/16, 2/23, 4/27

Déjeuner de printemps - (2009) 5/18

Chicago Architectural Cruise - October 5, 2008 (3:00 p.m.)

Board Meetings - August 11, 2008 (1:00 – 4:00 p.m., Wilmette Public Library)

February 9, 2009 (2:45 – 5:00 p.m., Wilmette Public Library)

Fédération des Alliances Françaises, USA, Conference – (2008) 10/22-25, Naples, FL

You are encouraged to consult the AF du North Shore website periodically for announcements and updates: <http://alliancefn.wlkcommunity.com>



Alliance Française du North Shore

c/o Wanda Sauerman

2323 McDaniel Avenue, #2102

Evanston, IL 60201-2576