



Alliance Française du North Shore

Connexions



2023-2024

*This issue is dedicated to the memory of Jack Martin,
whose art has added so much beauty over the years
to our chapter magazine.*



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

Thank you to so many who have volunteered to help make things happen for our Alliance Française du North Shore:

- on the *Conseil d'administration*
- on various committees
- with *Ciné Club*, *Entre Nous* groups, and conversation groups
- by organizing events
- by managing the day-to-day details that keep us in communication with each other and aware of cultural events

Our literary groups meet regularly, some online, some in person. Many have been in existence for years. *Amis lecteurs* is a new group for intermediate-level speakers to read short novels and short stories. If you are interested in joining this or another literary group, write to Margy Levenberg at lit-groups@AFnorthshore.org.

I am encouraged to see new *Entre Nous* groups popping up. These small, intimate groups meet online or in person and can help immensely with our confidence level as learners and speakers of a second language.

One of our newer members inaugurated a new conversation group that meets at [The Wine Goddess](#) in Evanston. We appreciate

members' initiatives. Why not gather a few friends and form a new conversation or discussion group? Zoom is a great tool for online meetings if you prefer not to hold your event in person. Write to Darlene Brill at admin@AFnorthshore.org for Zoom links and event publicity.

Our monthly programs will continue online and in person, depending on the speakers' locations and schedules.

Remember that AFduNS members may view video recordings of past programs on the Members Only page of our website. We look forward in October to Kevin Soucie's delightful musical presentation.

Several of our AFduNS members are retired French teachers. We are so grateful that they

share their expertise in our groups and activities.

Gigi Kuhn-Olmstead, a native French speaker and teacher of the *Régions de France* and French Impressionism mini-courses, will teach our *Conversation Avancée* course in the fall. We look forward to having Rachel Baker teach the new *Conversations sur Paris* mini-course. Ann Koller, who teaches the Brush Up Your French courses, has been encouraging many students with her classes.



President's Message

“Learn French. Live French. Love French.”

Thank you, students and teachers, for the camaraderie you bring to our Alliance. Our love of French provides a common bond.

I wish you all a pleasant and healthy beginning to your fall season as we get back to our regular activities, many of which will

resume in person. Encourage your friends to join us and “Learn French. Live French. Love French.”

Karen Baldwin
President

In Memoriam



M. John ("Jack") Martin

le 16 mai 1929–le 29 mars 2024

Jack Martin, a faithful member of the Alliance Française du North Shore for more than 25 years, fell in love with France when he was a Fulbright student in Rennes in 1952, after graduating from Kenyon College. After spending a year in France, he learned to appreciate all things French—wine, salad after the entrée—and enjoyed traveling all over France almost every year after that.

A psychologist by education and career, his passion was painting. Always a talented artist, he learned watercolors later in life and painted mostly landscapes, the majority of which were scenes of Paris, the villages of Normandy, Provence and the Côte d'Azur. He loved reflections in the water and especially the Pont Neuf in Paris over the Seine. He was thrilled to have his paintings featured on *Connexions* covers. He exhibited in Chicago and Evanston, winning prizes several times. He was also so proud of telling everyone that "Martin" was the most popular name in France. He shared this love with his wife Linda, his family and friends.

Jack wrote about what inspired him in the [2020-2021 issue of *Connexions*](#). We appreciate the artwork he so generously offered for the covers of *Connexions*. We will miss him.



Mme Chantal Shapiro

le 15 novembre 1934–le 14 juillet 2024

Chantal was born in Blanzky, France. Her early life was marked by World War II, as her town was overtaken by the German army and became part of Occupied France. Following high school, Chantal trained in nutrition and hospitality at La Cadenelle school in Marseille and eventually went to work for the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee in Casablanca, Morocco, where she oversaw nutrition programs for children in need. There, she met William Shapiro, whom she married in Paris in 1963.

Chantal and Bill traveled widely and were actively engaged with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the North Shore Symphony Orchestra, the Art Institute of Chicago and the Chicago Botanic Garden.

Chantal participated in the Cercle des contes and Cercle de lecture literary groups, consistently attended AFduNS programs and supported Monique Whiting in the chapter's small French library for many years. Both Chantal and Bill, who passed away in 2021, served for many years on the Alliance Française du North Shore's conseil d'administration and contributed to the *Souvenirs de guerre — 1939-1945 — World War II Remembered* booklet published by the AFduNS in 2014. We mourn her loss.

À Vous la parole

“Voyage to France” at Cantigny Park, by Barbara Pearce

A friend and I attended the *Voyage en France* festival at [Cantigny Park](#) in Wheaton, held July 16 to commemorate the 105th anniversary of the Cantigny Battle in France with American and French soldiers fighting German soldiers during the First World War.

Outdoors, Bensidoun hosted a French market with cheeses, jams and baguettes. There were also food stands where one could order savory crepes.

The most extraordinary event was a performance by three dancers from the I Can Can Dance group. They began the show by engaging children in dancing with streamers, after which the dancers performed the cancan with vim and vitality in very colorful costumes.

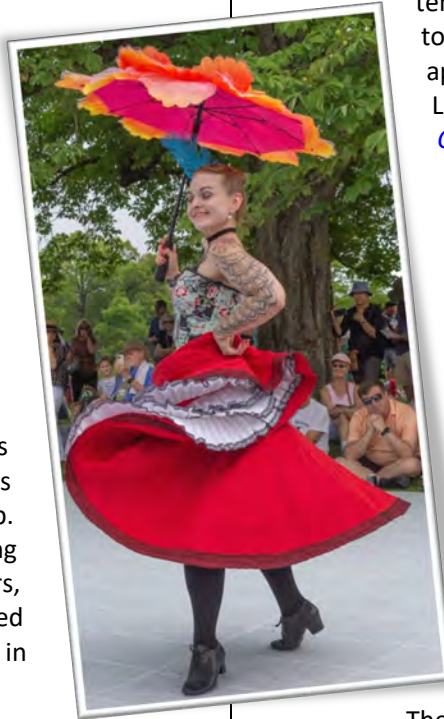
The cancan was initially danced as a quadrille or galop in 2/4 time. Jacques Offenbach composed

“Galop Infernal” (from his 1858 opera *Orphée aux enfers*) in which the bass rhythm continues as the tempo speeds up. Other compositions to which the cancan was danced appear in *The Merry Widow* by Franz Lehár (1905), the musical comedy *Can-Can* (music and lyrics by Cole Porter, 1953) and the film *Moulin Rouge* (1952).

The cancan features high kicks above the shoulders, feet in buttoned black boots and leaps in the air, landing in splits on the floor.

French artist Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec designed posters for professional theater in the late 19th century. He portrayed two stars, Jane Avril and La Goulue, who performed at the Moulin Rouge in Montmartre.

They danced the *quadrille naturaliste* and may have borrowed the concept of the American chorus line.



Photos courtesy of Barbara Pearce

À Vous la parole

Hermès in the Making, by Darlene Brill

Pass me a drill, a hammer and a screwdriver and the materials to apply them to, and I'm a happy camper. Ever since childhood, I've enjoyed taking things apart to understand how they work and how they were made and, ~~always frequently~~ from time to time, reassembled them successfully.

So, you can imagine my delight when I got word of "Hermès in the Making" (thank you, Barbara Pearce), an exposition on how Hermès's artisans design and craft their products.



The three-day event was held in Chicago Union Station's Great Hall, one of my favorite places in the city. Thrilled that I wouldn't have to leave Union Station to contend with chilly temperatures, I took the Metra train from Wheeling, a five-minute drive from home. We left the station 48 minutes late because the Canadian Pacific computers didn't recognize our train. As a result, they had to implement safety protocols and drive at only 20 miles per hour. After several miles, the switch was made to Metra's computer and the train regained normal speed.

Finally arriving at my destination, I entered the Great Hall and did a circuit of the room. French artisans were demonstrating how they make scarves, saddles, purses, gloves, dinnerware, watches and jewelry. Of course, each francophone artisan had an English interpreter to translate for the onlookers.

Hermès was founded in 1837 when it began making saddles. (Had my mother bought me the pony I always wanted, I could be competing in dressage on a Hermès saddle today. Come to think

of it, my horseback riding lessons in France didn't end so well. The horses and I finally agreed to maintain a respectful distance from each other.)

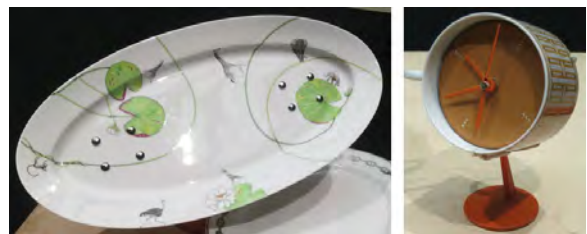
Hermès is known for its saddle stitch (*le point sellier*), also used on purses and other leather goods, using one thread and two needles to simultaneously pass through the same seam. This is the strongest type of stitching. [Watch here.](#)



One exhibit particularly appealed to my creative side: *petit h*. Using materials discarded by the other crafts, *l'atelier petit h* combines these materials in imaginative and fanciful ways. A tie becomes a handle for a tote bag. Scarves are turned into sleep masks, buttons into salt shakers.



Two of my favorite *petit h* creations: a platter transformed into a skateboard and a porcelain cup converted to a clock.

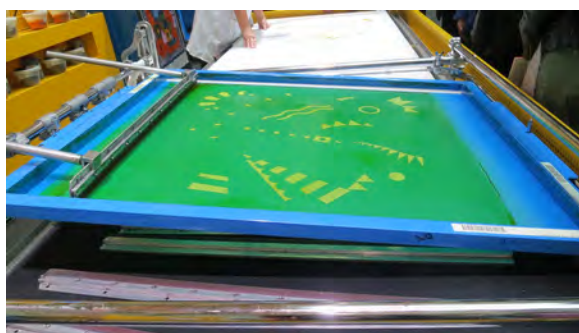


To see more creatively reinvented objects, visit hermes.com/us/en/story/155321-petit-h-event/.

Before boarding my train home, I watched the demonstration by Frédéric of silk screening scarves *à la lyonnaise*, the technique named for the region where it was perfected.



Using mesh screens attached to metal frames on wheels, paint colors are applied to the white silk one at a time, from light to dark and from large to small patterns. Each screen comprises a blue part (*négatif*) and one or more white parts (*positif*).



Frédéric rolled the first screen along the work table to position it over the silk, carefully matching the

pattern on the screen to that on the silk. He poured a line of paint on the screen. Attaching metal arms to a squeegee, he spread the paint over the screen, front to back. The white parts allowed the paint to penetrate the screen and transfer color to the silk. This first screen laid down the pattern outline.

Each color requires its own screen. The process I watched involved 11 colors, thus 11 screens. The average scarf uses 25 to 30 colors; more complex Hermès designs can use up to 48 colors.

He repeated this 11 times, with a stunning result. I marveled at his craftsmanship, patience and attention to detail. Watch the entire process here: [youtube.com/watch?v=nm0VwtBoGXU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nm0VwtBoGXU). To finish the scarf, the edges are rolled and sewn, all by hand.

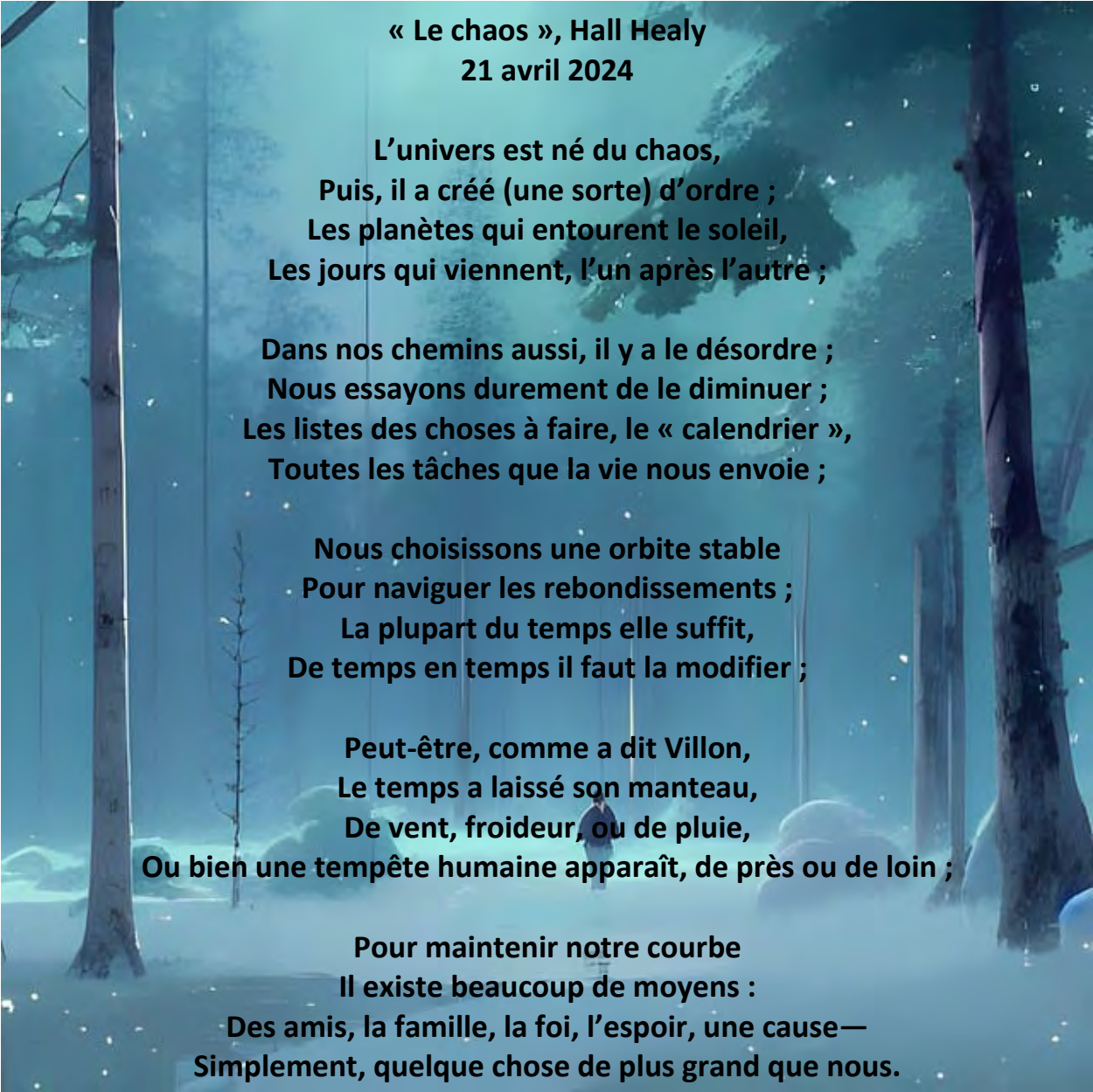


In case you've been inspired to purchase your very own Hermès scarf, watch here to learn several ways to tie it: [hermes.com/us/en/story/131261-nouages-women-scarves/](https://www.hermes.com/us/en/story/131261-nouages-women-scarves/)

On the train trip home, I spotted a Southwest Airlines plane in red, blue and yellow. Hmm. I wonder how the heck they silk screened that.



Photos courtesy of Darlene Brill

The background of the page is a misty, blue-toned forest scene. Tall, slender trees are visible, and a small, dark figure of a person stands in the distance on a path. The overall atmosphere is serene and contemplative.

« Le chaos », Hall Healy

21 avril 2024

**L'univers est né du chaos,
Puis, il a créé (une sorte) d'ordre ;
Les planètes qui entourent le soleil,
Les jours qui viennent, l'un après l'autre ;**

**Dans nos chemins aussi, il y a le désordre ;
Nous essayons durement de le diminuer ;
Les listes des choses à faire, le « calendrier »,
Toutes les tâches que la vie nous envoie ;**

**Nous choisissons une orbite stable
Pour naviguer les rebondissements ;
La plupart du temps elle suffit,
De temps en temps il faut la modifier ;**

**Peut-être, comme a dit Villon,
Le temps a laissé son manteau,
De vent, froideur, ou de pluie,
Ou bien une tempête humaine apparaît, de près ou de loin ;**

**Pour maintenir notre courbe
Il existe beaucoup de moyens :
Des amis, la famille, la foi, l'espoir, une cause—
Simplement, quelque chose de plus grand que nous.**

Conseil d'administration 2024–2025

Mandat jusqu'au 31 mai

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

2026 : Mmes Gabrielle Fabre, Margy Levenberg, Marietta Urban

2027 : Mmes Karen Baldwin, Gael Laymon, Barbara Pearce, Robin Reynolds, Susan Singerman, M. Vladimir Minkin

Officiers

Mandat jusqu'au 31 mai 2025

Présidente : Mme Karen Baldwin • Secrétaire : Bruce Mocking • Trésorière : Mme Gabrielle Fabre

Secrétaire de séance

Mme Hope Freeland



Secrétaire de séance Hope Freeland, Eileen Walvoord, Mary Ellen McGoey, Robin Reynolds, Susan Singerman, Gael Laymon, Margy Levenberg, Marietta Urban, Margarita Redmond, Présidente Karen Baldwin



Trésorière Gabrielle Fabre



Vlad Minkin



Secrétaire Bruce Mocking



Margot Steinhart, ancienne présidente et liaison avec la Fédération

Absentes : Caroline Erbmman, Barbara Pearce

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 McGoe, 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 McGoe ; Margot Steinhart, ancienne
présidente et liaison avec la Fédération ;
Bruce Mocking, secrétaire ; Gaby Fabre, trésorière



Hope Freeland,
secrétaire de séance



Jim Harmon,
vice-président



Vlad Minkin

Absente : Caroline Erbmman

Comités et commissions

Comités du conseil d'administration

Éducation : Mme Gael Laymon avec Mmes Rosemary Heilemann,
Mary Ellen McGoeey

Finance : Mme Gaby Fabre avec MM. Bob Bonges et Randy Williams

Comités consultatifs

Adhésions : Mme Eileen Walvoord avec Mmes Katherine Bergson,
Barbara Pearce, Susan Singerman, Margot Steinhart

Archivages : M. Bruce Mocking

- ★ **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 Après-midi : Mme Suzanne Beling**
- ★ **Café Conversation Matin : M. Bob Bonges** avec
Mme Marie-Françoise Waite

Ciné Club : Mme Robin Reynolds et M. Roger Parfitt

Communications : Mme Darlene Brill

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

Événements :

- ★ **Micro ouvert : M. Jim Harmon**
- ★ **Soirée Trivia : Mmes Karen Baldwin et Gael Laymon**

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 Erbmman
- ★ **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 Cathy Pratt,
Claire Price, Robin Reynolds

- ★ **Liaison pour les locaux : Mme Cathy Pratt**

Hospitalité : Mmes Mary Paula Baumann et Marie-Françoise Waite

Commissions

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

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

Moments forts

2023

September

- ★ Café Conversation Matin resumes meeting at Panera Wilmette.
- ★ Café Conversation Après-midi replaces Café Conversation Soir.
- ★ First post-pandemic Soirée Trivia held at St. John's Lutheran Church, Wilmette.

December

- ★ First post-pandemic Holiday Causerie held at Wilmette Public Library.
-

2024

April

- ★ AFduNS receives Federation grant to purchase videorecording equipment to record monthly programs.

July

- ★ Jeux Olympiques watch party held at the Valley Lo Towers clubhouse, Glenview.
-

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, Mme Mary Fabian, Mme Charles G. (Caro) Dawes, Mme 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 Mme 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 Ridgeway 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 magazine (*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/ pour les dernières mises à jour.

Amis lecteurs

* 2023 : novembre : *La Plage*, Alain Robbe-Grillet
 2024 : janvier : *L'Offensive*, Henri Thomas
 février : *Le Tigre Mondain*, Jean Ferry
 mars : *Les Bottes de Sept Lieues*, Marcel Aymé
 mai : *Les Bottes de Sept Lieues*, Marcel Aymé

Apéro Conversation

* le quatrième lundi du mois, 19 h à 20 h 30 (7–8:30 PM)

Brush Up Your French: Advanced Intermediate

* le mercredi, Section 1 : 14 h 30 à 16 h (2:30–4 PM) ;
 Section 2 : 16 h 30 à 18 h (4:30–6 PM)
 automne : 13 septembre–15 novembre 2023
 hiver : 10 janvier–13 mars
 printemps : 3 avril–26 juin (sauf 24 avril, 1 mai, 8 mai)

Brush Up Your French: Intermediate

* le mardi, 10 h 45 à 12 h 15 (10:45 AM–12:15 PM)
 automne : 15 septembre–17 novembre 2023

Café Conversation Après-midi

le troisième jeudi du mois, 13 h à 14 h (1–2 PM)

Café Conversation Matin

† le premier lundi du mois, 10 h à 11 h (10–11 AM)

Café littéraire

* 2023 : septembre : *Le pays des autres*, Leila Slimani
 octobre : *La femme au carnet rouge*, Alain Laurain
 novembre : *Le chien de Madame Halberstadt*, Stéphanie Carlier
 2024 : janvier : *Le cerf-volant*, Laetitia Colombani
 février : *Un homme à distance*, Katherine Pancol
 mars : *Le service des manuscrits*, Antoine Laurain
 avril : *Premier sang*, Amélie Nothomb
 mai : *Les Loyautés*, Delphine de Vigan

Cercle de lecture

* 2023 : octobre : *La Place*, Annie Ernaux
 novembre : *Regardez-nous danser*, Leila Slimani
 décembre : *Regardez-nous danser*, Leila Slimani
 2024 : janvier : *La Carte postale*, Anne Berest
 février : *La Carte postale*, Anne Berest
 mars : *La Carte postale*, Anne Berest
 avril : *L'Exil selon Julia*, Gisele Pineau
 mai : *Premier sang*, Amélie Nothomb

Cercle des contes

* 2023 : octobre : *Cocu, pendu et content*, Marcel Jouhandeau
 novembre : *Le Cheval Troyen*, Raymond Queneau
 2024 : mars : *La Petite Place*, Pierre Gascar
 avril : *Le Défi*, Philippe Sollers
 mai : *Le Défi*, Philippe Sollers

Glenview

* Heinen's Grocery Store café, 1020 Waukegan Rd.
 || Glenview Public Library, Multipurpose Rm., 1930 Glenview Rd.

Wilmette

† Panera Bread, 1199 Wilmette Ave.
 ‡ St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1235 Wilmette Ave.
 § Wilmette Public Library, Auditorium, 1242 Wilmette Ave.

Calendrier

Cercle des textes variés

*2023 : septembre : *Les années*, Annie Erneaux
 octobre : *Pas si fous, ces Français!*, chapitres 12 et 14, Jean-Benoît Nadeau et Julie Barlow
 novembre : *Ru*, Kim Thù
 décembre : *Ru*, Kim Thù
 2024 : janvier : *Un papillon dans la cité*, Gisèle Pineau
 février : *Un papillon dans la cité*, Gisèle Pineau
 mars : *Née en France*, Aïcha Benaïssa et Sophie Ponchelet
 avril : *Née en France*, Aïcha Benaïssa et Sophie Ponchelet
 mai : *Un Secret*, Philippe Grimbert
 juin : *Un Secret*, Philippe Grimbert
 juillet : *Un Secret*, Philippe Grimbert
 août : *L'Archipel du Chien*, Philippe Claudel

Cercle du Chapeau

* 2023 : septembre : *Écrire la Nature : Anthologie de textes variés* dans *L'Homme qui plantait des arbres*, Jean Giono
 octobre : *Les Mouches*, Jean-Paul Sartre
 novembre : *Premier sang*, Amélie Northomb
 décembre : *No et moi*, Delphine de Vigan
 2024 : janvier : *Au revoir les enfants*, Louis Malle
 février : *Regarde les lumières, mon amour*, Annie Ernaux
 mars : *La Chaleur du sang*, Irène Nemirovsky
 avril : *Le Cid*, Corneille
 mai : *Le Bleu des abeilles*, Laura Alcoba
 juin : *La Chute*, Albert Camus
 juillet : *Tangent vers l'est*, Maylis de Kerangal
 août : *Portrait d'après blessure*, Hélène Gestern

Ciné Club

* le deuxième jeudi du mois, 13 h 30 à 15 h (1:30–3 PM)
 Discussion en français d'un film en français avec sous-titres en anglais
 2023 : 14 septembre : *Les Femmes du 6e Étage*
 12 octobre : *Inch'Allah Dimanche*
 9 novembre : *La Grande Illusion*
 14 décembre : *Bob le Flambeur*
 2024 : 11 janvier : *Une Vie*
 8 février : *Un Sac de Billes*
 14 mars : *Les saveurs du Palais*
 11 avril : *La Promesse de l'Aube*
 9 mai : *Les Gardiennes*

Conseil d'administration

|| le lundi, 15 h 30 (3 :30 PM)
 2023 : 23 octobre
 2024 : 26 février, 29 avril, 3 juin

Conversation Avancée

* le jeudi, 19 h à 20 h 30 (7–8:30 PM)
 automne : 14 septembre–16 novembre 2023
 hiver : 11 janvier–14 mars
 printemps : 18 avril–20 juin

* 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.

Corner Bakery, 1378 Patriot Boulevard, Glenview

Calendrier

<i>Conversations sur Paris</i>	* le samedi, 10 h à 11 h 30 (10–11 :30 AM) automne : 9 septembre, 14 octobre, 18 novembre 2023 hiver : 20 janvier, 10 février, 16 mars 2024 printemps : 6 avril, 4 mai, 1 juin
<i>Déjeuner de printemps</i>	2024 : 21 mai Froggy's French Café
<i>Événements culturels</i>	2023 : 4 novembre : Et si on jouait à quelque chose ? (French Games), 14 h (2 PM) * 24 février 2024 : Micro ouvert à tous, 13 h (1 PM) 9 mars : Le mois de la Francophonie, 14 h (2 PM) 26 juillet : Jeux Olympiques Watch Party
<i>Oeuvres choisies</i>	* 2023 : septembre : <i>L'Assommoire</i>, Emile Zola octobre : <i>L'Assommoire</i>, Emile Zola novembre : <i>L'Assommoire</i>, Emile Zola décembre : <i>L'Assommoire</i>, Emile Zola 2024 : janvier : <i>L'Assommoire</i>, Emile Zola février : <i>Les Dieux ont soif</i>, Anatole France mars : <i>Les Dieux ont soif</i>, Anatole France avril : <i>Les Dieux ont soif</i>, Anatole France mai : <i>Les Dieux ont soif</i>, Anatole France juin : <i>Les Dieux ont soif</i>, Anatole France juillet : <i>Les Dieux ont soif</i>, Anatole France août : <i>Les Dieux ont soif</i>, Anatole France
<i>Programmes</i>	le lundi, 13 h (1 PM) Programmes suivis d'un thé et conversation en français 2023 : * 18 septembre : La Savoie sous toutes ses facettes § 16 octobre : Kevin Soucie interprète des chansons françaises § 20 novembre : Thanksgiving à la française : vins pour votre fête en famille § 18 décembre : Holiday Causerie 2024 : * 15 janvier : Le Tour de France : La plus grande course cycliste du monde 19 février : La beauté médiévale au cœur de Paris ‡ 18 mars : An Afternoon of French Piano Music and History § 15 avril : Monet Lives!
<i>Soirée Trivia</i>	2023 : ‡ 29 septembre

* en ligne

† Panera Bread, 1199 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette

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

§ Wilmette Public Library, Auditorium, 1242 Wilmette Ave.

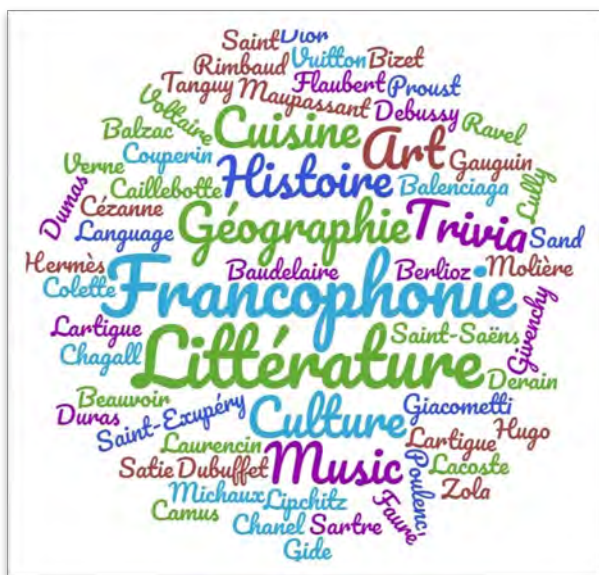
|| Glenview Public Library, Multipurpose Rm., 1930 Glenview Rd.

Corner Bakery, 1378 Patriot Boulevard, Glenview

Événements

★ September 18, 2023. La Savoie sous toutes ses facettes (Savoie, a Unique Area in France)

Coline Buevoz introduced us to her homeland: Savoie. Often overshadowed by Haute-Savoie with both the towns of Chamonix and Annecy, Savoie is a hidden gem with its mountains, vineyards, historical cities and picturesque villages. We discovered this region through different themes: geography, history, vineyards, sports, food specialties and natural parks.



★ September 29, 2023. Soirée Trivia

At St. John's Lutheran Church in Wilmette, more than 60 Francophiles participated in our annual fundraiser. This fun, friendly evening included francophone-themed questions in these categories: French in Chicagoland, cross-cultural characters, French in context, the classics, Francophonie, quotations, crowned heads, Québec, statues and famous Frenchman named "Jean."

Prizes were awarded to the top two scoring teams and a raffle was held for door prizes. Many thanks are due to:

- Karen Baldwin, Alliance Française du North Shore president, for her tireless devotion and hard work in bringing this event to fruition
- Animatrice extraordinaire Denise Rano, who kept things lively and interesting with her energy, humor, superb questions (and the occasional answer), and who generously donated exceptional door prizes
- Jeanne Lamy-Belzil, *Conseillère aux affaires gouvernementales et publiques chez la Délégation du Québec à Chicago*, and Eileen Walvoord, diligent and generous judges. Eileen wrote the majority of the questions. Jeanne donated two bags of *bonbons durs à l'érable* from Québec.
- Darlene Brill, who managed publicity, event registrations and table assignments
- Ann Koller, for her help at the check-in table and for donating the Amazon gift card door prize
- Dirk Walvoord, for lending us his sound equipment
- Karen's friend Faith Bensen, for tending bar and behind-the-scenes support

Événements



Team 1, photo courtesy of Darlene Brill



Photo courtesy of Sylvie Goutas



Team 2 badges, photo courtesy of Darlene Brill



Team 2, photo courtesy of Darlene Brill



Événements



Team 3, photo courtesy of Darlene Brill



Photo courtesy of Karen Baldwin



Animatrice et juges, photo courtesy of Karen Baldwin



Door prizes, photo courtesy of Darlene Brill

Événements



Team 4, photo courtesy of Darlene Brill



Photo courtesy of Sylvie Goutas



Team 5, photo courtesy of Darlene Brill



Team 5, photo courtesy of Karen Baldwin

Événements



Team 6, photo courtesy of Darlene Brill



Team 7, photo courtesy of Karen Baldwin



Team 8, photo courtesy of Karen Baldwin



Événements



Photo courtesy of Karen Baldwin



Photo courtesy of Karen Baldwin



Alliance Française
du North Shore
presents



French Trivia Night
Friday, September 29, 7 PM
Doors open at 6:30. Come early to socialize.
St. John's Church, 1235 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette
2nd floor

Invite your friends. Bring some snacks and beverages and enjoy an evening of fun, camaraderie and prizes. All questions in English.
Parking is limited, so we encourage carpooling.

Tickets: \$20
Register and pay online at our website by September 25. Space is limited.

Questions? Email soiree-trivia@AFnorthshore.org.



Proceeds support French educational and cultural activities of the American Association of Teachers of French and the Alliance Française du North Shore.



Photo courtesy of Sylvie Goutas

Événements

★ October 16, 2023. Open House

The AFduNS celebrated new and prospective members at its traditional fall open house at the Wilmette Public Library. You met some of our members and heard why they joined the AFduNS. A light lunch was served, after which we attended the monthly program together.



★ October 16, 2023. Kevin Soucie interprète des chansons françaises (Kevin Soucie Performs French Songs)

Accompanied by his guitar, Kevin Soucie sang popular French songs from World War I to the present. His repertoire includes the songs of Jacques Brel, Francis Cabrel, Édith Piaf, Georges Brassens, Patrick Bruel, Georges Moustaki, Charles Trenet, Joe Dassin, Thomas Fersen, Maxime Le Forestier, Charles Aznavour, and a few Quebecois artists as well.



★ November 4, 2023. Et si on jouait à quelque chose ?

Marquons les jeux, mesdames et messieurs. Les jeux sont faits. Sharing snacks, *du cidre* and stories, we played card games, board games and word games.



★ November 20, 2023. Thanksgiving à la française : vins pour votre fête en famille

Thanksgiving, the quintessential American holiday, brings people together around the dinner table. While in many cases the menu items for this feast are based on tradition, what does one serve to drink that goes well with some of these dishes? Certified Sommelière and Ph.D. Clara Orban presented some French wine options that can pair well with Thanksgiving meals and bring some *savoir faire français* to our holiday planning.



Événements

★ December 18, 2023. Holiday Causerie

We held our holiday causerie, a fun, relaxed discussion on topics such as favorite holiday gifts, traditions and decorations.

Participants brought holiday souvenirs and enjoyed a traditional bûche de Noël.



★ January 15, 2024. Le Tour de France : La plus grande course cycliste du monde

The Tour de France is an event not to be missed that takes place every summer in France and around the world. Julien Richard looked back at its history and its great champions through numerous anecdotes, and discussed the media and economic aspects of this extraordinary race created more than 120 years ago.



★ February 19, 2024. La beauté médiévale au coeur de Paris

We joined James Minnett on a captivating journey through the heart of medieval Paris; explored the awe-inspiring beauty of the Sainte-Chapelle, a jewel of Gothic architecture; and wandered through the regal halls of the Palais Royal. James uncovered the secrets of the Tour Jean-sans-Peur. On this virtual tour, we stepped into the oldest house in Paris, la Maison de Nicolas Flamel, and experienced the rich history of the Hôtel de Sens.



★ February 24, 2024. Micro ouvert à tous (Open Mic)

Our sixth open mic was held on Zoom, and included readings of short texts in French (fiction, 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.](#)

- Hall Healy, *Chanson d'automne*, Paul Verlaine, et *La Gentillesse*, Hall Healy
- Claire Price, *La grasse matinée*, Jacques Prévert
- Bill Sand, « Il Pleurait », et « Frou Frou », musique de Henri Chatau et Lucien Delormel, et paroles de Hector Montréal, Henri Blondeau et Henri Custillon
- Darlene Brill, *Raoul*, Sacha Guitry
- Vladimir Minkin, extrait de *Stupeur et tremblements*, Amélie Nothomb
- Eileen Walvoord, *L'Éternelle chanson ou le dernier rendez-vous*, Rosemonde Gérard
- Bonnie Spiros, *Printemps*, Victor Hugo
- Jim Harmon, extrait de *L'art des bruits*, Luigi Russolo



Événements

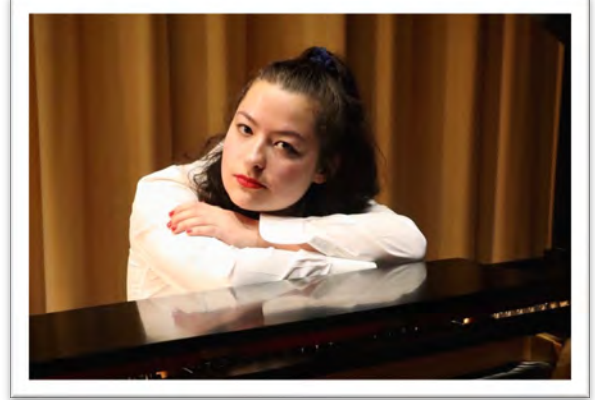
★ March 9, 2024. L'histoire du Québec en chanson

We celebrated Francophonie Month with Jeanne Lamy-Belzil, Public and Governmental Officer of the Québec Government Office in Chicago. She gave an overview of the history of her native Québec, shared stories and discussed culture.



★ March 18, 2024. An Afternoon of French Piano Music and History

Pianist Ariel Redmond's presentation included music by French composers as well as music she wrote. She explained a bit about the composers and the pieces she played.



★ April 15, 2024. Monet Lives!

As Claude Monet, Jim Parks described the Paris of 1860, Monet's first paintings and how he and the Impressionists changed the course of western art. Small replicas of famous Impressionist art were passed out as a springboard to Monet's explanation of the sources and objectives of this powerful movement and the "inside scoop" of his compatriots' personalities.

Événements

★ May 21, 2024. Déjeuner de printemps

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

President Karen Baldwin recognized outgoing board member Marie-Françoise Waite and outgoing vice-president Jim Harmon, as well as committee chairs and other members who contribute so much to our organization.



Darlene Brill, Past President Eileen Walvoord,
Sylvie Romanowski, Dirk Walvoord



Luz Escalante, Ann Koller



Cochair Marie-Françoise Waite, Chef Thierry Lefeuve,
Cochair Mary Paula Baumann



Hall Healy, Margarita Redmond



Standing: Hope Freeland, Karen Maddalozzo, Marietta Urban.
Seated: Marie-Françoise Waite, Suzanne Beling, Jim Waite.

Événements



Kathi Acciari, Michele Whittington, Margy Levenberg



Constance Porteous, Linda Martin, Darlene Brill



Pascal Lavallee, Eryn Levis



Katherine Bergson, Kimberlee Herold, Bonnie Spiros, Ann Koller, Sheri Caronis



Robin Reynolds, Roger Parfitt



Événements



Standing: Barbara and Roland DuBosq, Mary Paula Baumann, Constance Porteous, Mary Ellen McGoe. **Seated:** Linda Martin, president Karen Baldwin, Myra Balesi.



Standing: Virginia George, Margarita Redmond, Hall Healy, Sylvie Romanowski. **Seated:** Bill Sand, Eileen and Dirk Walvoord.



Standing: Susan Singerman, Luz Escalante, Sheri Caronis. **Seated:** Bonnie Spiros, Roger Parfitt, Katherine Bergson.

Événements



**Standing: Robin Reynolds, Gael Laymon, Margy Levenberg.
Seated: Darlene Brill, Roger Hand, Claire Price.**



Susan Singerman, Karen Baldwin, Marietta Urban



Darlene Brill, Hall Healy



Michel and Geneviève Tanguy, Bryan and Debra Lammers

Événements



**Karen Maddalozzo, Marietta Urban, Hope Freeland,
Karen Baldwin**



Virginia George, Bill Sand, Mary Paula Baumann



Myra Balesi, Linda Martin



Marie-Françoise Waite, Gael Laymon, Hope Freeland



Roland and Barbara DuBosq



**Standing: Pascal Lavallee, Ann Koller, Kathy Acciari.
Seated: Eryn Levis, Kimberlee Herold,
Michele Whittington.**



Suzanne Beling, Jim Waite

Événements



Standing: Geneviève Tanguy, Gael Laymon, Eryn Levis, Pascal Lavallee, Debra and Bryan Lammers. Seated: Michel Tanguy.



Marie-Françoise Waite, Susan Singerman



Karen Baldwin, Marietta Urban, Bill Sand



Karen Maddalozzo, Marietta Urban, Hope Freeland, Karen Baldwin

Événements



Secrétaire de séance Hope Freeland, Eileen Walvoord, Mary Ellen McGoe, Robin Reynolds, Susan Singerman, Gael Laymon, Margy Levenberg, Marietta Urban, Margarita Redmond, Présidente Karen Baldwin



Événements



★ July 26, 2024. Jeux Olympiques Watch Party

About 20 AFduNS members and their guests popped in and out to watch the opening ceremony of the 2024 Paris Jeux Olympiques during an open house at the Valley Lo Towers clubhouse in Glenview. They shared potluck treats and cheered athletes on the barges parading on the Seine. Attendees marveled at the creativity of the organizers and the feats of the performers along the river.

Réserver les dates



Soirée Trivia

29 septembre 2023
St. John's Lutheran Church
1235 Wilmette Avenue
Wilmette

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

Déjeuner de printemps

21 mai 2024
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.