



FROM THE PRESIDENT



Atlanta, Host to the Francophone World

We were 1100 participants with speakers representing 118 nations, united in our passion for the French language in its diverse literary, pedagogical, and cultural contexts, as the AATF and the FIPF (Fédération internationale des Professeurs de Français) met in Atlanta to hold the 2004 Congrès mondial des professeurs de français. We may have looked different, dressed differently, and spoken with different accents, but we all came together with enthusiasm for our profession, a desire to learn and to share, and awe of the extent to which French is the common bond that stretches all around the world, visible on every continent.

The challenges of this conference were tremendous and required focus, negotiations, diplomacy, and much correspondence to bring it to a very successful conclusion. The results were achieved largely through the perseverance and commitment of our Executive Director Jayne Abrate, whose capacity for work seems indefatigable and whose sense of doing a job well were evident at every turn. She, in turn, was supported by the work of the staff in our national office: April Walsh, Rosalba Correa, and Amy Hanson. Acknowledgment is also due to the French consular staff in Washington, DC and in Atlanta and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Paris, the FIPF, and others in AATF: Jean-Pierre Piriou, President of the Organizing Committee, and Christopher Pinet, Co-chair, with Alain Braun of the Program Committee. Those who served as plenary speakers and session presenters are to be commended for their contri-

butions in making this an exemplary conference. Whether you were in attendance physically or vicariously, you can be proud of how our association represented all of us and presented American teachers of French as welcoming hosts to a world of French teachers.

Advocacy, Recruitment, and Leadership Development

Before the inaugural session of the conference took center stage, AATF Executive Council members met to discuss future initiatives of our organization as we strive to respond effectively to the challenges facing our profession. We recognize that as teachers, we must be as resourceful outside of the classroom as we are in the classroom. We want our students to become more proficient in the use of French and more knowledgeable about the Francophone world. We seek new experiences to reinforce our own competencies in teaching, in research, and in global awareness. We want to ensure that the study of French is valued by our local and national publics, who are the decision-makers in extending programs, in maintaining them or, unfortunately, in eliminating them. As an association, we are rolling up our sleeves and setting the course for our efforts to support the study of French and the work of French teachers across the country. To that end, we are directing our energy simultaneously in three directions, which are not necessarily separate but frequently intertwined. The thrust of these three initiatives is toward advocacy, recruitment, and leadership development. Our vice-presidents and our commissions are weaving these initiatives into the work that is already in progress or will be integrating them into new projects.

At least on an anecdotal level, we are aware of the efforts to eliminate or to marginalize French programs at elementary, secondary, and post-secondary levels. French-bashing has emboldened some communities and institutions to claim that French no longer is relevant. The irony, of course, is that Congress is calling for the development of citizen expertise in many critical languages for reasons of national security. To provide our members with tools to respond to the charge of dépassé or in-

utility, Vice-President Robert "Tennessee Bob" Peckham has begun to develop a Web site in response to SOS calls this spring and summer from members in New York state, and these serve as models for our national campaign to reach every state. T-Bob is asking each chapter to identify to the Regional Representative an advocacy resource person to work on this project (see page 5), since every French program is supported or lost at the local level (see pages 5 and 7).

A second initiative, recruitment of new members, is linked to a mentoring program to provide support for French teachers, new teachers, solitary teachers, or teachers looking to collaborate. It has been recognized that mentoring is essential if teachers are to feel successful and remain in the profession. The training of foreign language teachers in sufficient numbers to replace those who are retiring is not keeping pace and sometimes causes French programs to disappear when the French teacher retires. We have seen examples of the new French teacher not being supported or mentored and rapidly leaving the profession as well as stories of French programs just being eliminated in order not to have to deal with the challenges confronted

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by a new teacher. We are especially looking to our retired members to serve as mentors, and members currently in the classroom are, of course, most welcome to be involved. Through this program, we hope to meet the challenge of French teachers everywhere, or as the President of the FIPF put it: "Solitaire parfois, solidaire toujours!" Suzanne Hendrickson, Chair of the Articulation Commission and Region IX Representative, is directing this program. She asks that each chapter identify to the Regional Representative (see page 5) a mentoring chair to create one link of the network that is required for this initiative to be effective (see page 39).

Our third thrust is directed at the development of leaders and the creation of opportunities for leadership at local, regional, and national levels. Our goal is to find a leader for every task and a task to define every leader. Some of us are leaders by inclination; others are brought to leadership through necessity, adversity, or passion. We advanced this initiative at the chapter level during our week in Atlanta by inviting chapter presidents or their designate to meet the national AATF leaders: President, Vice-Presidents, Regional Representatives, Editors, and Commission Chairs. We want our chapter leaders to recognize their people resources, to draw upon the available support at the regional and national levels, and to understand and benefit from the work that has been accomplished, is underway, and will be undertaken to meet members' needs. At the same time, these leaders need to connect the members in their chapters to the work of the association by indicating leadership and professional development experiences, opportunities for their students, and materials and other resources available to AATF members. A good leader sets the example but also encourages or provides leadership opportunities for others.

#### **AATF Book Club: Myrna's List for 2005**

Another initiative is one that is designed to reach every AATF member and to create through the AATF a community of readers of French. In keeping with the venue of the AATF convention in Quebec, the 2005 AATF Book Club will feature works whose authors are from Quebec. Myrna Delson-Karan, Region I Representative and a renowned scholar of Quebec literature, has agreed to moderate the reading of the three works she has selected for us. Information on these works and on ordering copies appears in this issue (see page 17). Future issues of the *National Bulletin* will feature each work in order to enhance our reading experience and to connect AATF members through a literary encounter. Myrna's List will also provide a focus for a book discus-

sion at the AATF conference next summer.

#### **Our Charge**

As the new school year begins, let us focus on the opportunities that AATF membership affords us and use the fruits of the work being undertaken on our behalf to improve the learning and teaching of French in our classroom, to advocate a place for French in the curriculum, and to actualize our leadership potential. Let us also think of ourselves as members of a community ready to support each other and to share with each other the special insights and experiences that we each embody! Let us take the first step toward this sense of unity by becoming a community of readers and setting an example of lifelong learning for our students and our colleagues! Let us also prepare to celebrate National French Week in our communities and remind our public that French is still relevant! We are off to a good start. Have a memorable year!

*Margot M. Steinhart*

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**ACTFL Annual Meeting  
November 18-21, 2004  
Chicago**

## **2005 AATF DOROTHY S. LUDWIG EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARDS**

The American Association of Teachers of French invites nominations for four annual awards for outstanding teachers, one at each level: elementary school, middle school or junior high school, high school, and post-secondary (university, college, or junior college). The purpose of the awards is to recognize those teachers who have demonstrated excellence in and commitment to the teaching of French language, culture, and literature.

The award itself will be a framed certificate from the AATF, recognizing the recipient for his or her outstanding contributions to the teaching of French and a one-year complimentary membership in the AATF for 2006, a cash award, and a one-year subscription to *Le Français dans le monde*. An official presentation will be made at the AATF Awards Banquet in Quebec in July 2005.

Nominations may be made by an individual AATF member in good standing or by an AATF Chapter. All nomination documents (candidate information and recommendations) must be submitted to AATF National Headquarters by the deadline of **February 1, 2005**. **Please note that this deadline has been advanced.**

Additional details about this award and the nominating packet may be found on the AATF Web site at [www.frenchteachers.org/hq/teachaward.htm].

Volume 30 Number 1

**AATF NATIONAL BULLETIN**

September 2004

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fice. Office of Publication: AATF, Mailcode 4510, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901-4510.

All items published in the *National Bulletin* are the property of the American Association of Teachers of French. They may be copied for classroom or workshop use only if the source and date of publication are indicated on the copies.

**Postmaster:** Send address changes to AATF, Mailcode 4510, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901-4510.

Deadlines for submissions of materials to the *National Bulletin*: September issue, August 1; November issue, September 1; January issue, November 1; April issue, February 1.

**Please note:** Because of convention dates and other deadlines, unlike commercial magazines, the issues of the *National Bulletin* are mailed during the given month of publication and should reach most readers by the end of that month.

# MESSAGE DE LA SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRALE

Chers Collègues,

Encore un congrès réussi. Encore une rentrée qui nous attend. Vous verrez à la page 20-21 le compte-rendu du congrès d'Atlanta. Le travail d'organisation s'est avéré énorme. Dans les semaines qui l'ont précédé, nous avons été débordés à un tel point que toute décision prise a été basée essentiellement sur le temps qu'elle impliquait. Le type de problèmes que nous avons rencontrés a été multiplié par 10 comparé à un congrès AATF typique, et le nombre de problèmes multiplié par 50. Le budget du congrès dépassait largement le budget annuel de l'AATF.

Heureusement nous avons eu le soutien de la France à tous les niveaux. Je tiens à remercier l'équipe du Consulat de France à Atlanta. Du Consul René-Serge Marty jusqu'aux stagiaires, tous ont travaillé sans relâche pour assurer la réussite du congrès. M. Marty nous a accueillis plusieurs fois chez lui lors des visites de préparation, et la veille du congrès a offert une réception et un dîner de bienvenue aux personnalités et aux organisateurs. Cécile Peyronnet, Attachée culturelle, et Aurélien Lépine-Kouas, Attaché culturel adjoint, ont porté un intérêt soutenu à la préparation sur place et à l'accueil des personnalités. Cécile s'est chargée d'organiser le côté technique pour les soirées culturelles. Non seulement a-t-elle recommandé la troupe de danseurs africains mais elle a trouvé des sponsors à Atlanta. L'Attachée de presse Natacha Constable a partagé son expertise pour la campagne de presse qui a entouré le congrès. Elle s'est occupée des représentants de la presse et a organisé pour eux de nombreuses interviews avec des professeurs de la région. Les stagiaires Bradley Deckert et Isabelle Desjardins ont également contribué leurs talents chaque fois qu'on en avait besoin. N'oublions pas non plus ceux venus de New York, de Washington ou de la Nouvelle Orléans pour tenir le stand—Fabrice Jaumont, Samia Benouaret et Adam Steg. Je remercie Adam de tout ce qu'il a fait pour m'aider, pour son amitié et pour sa disponibilité dans des circonstances difficiles.

Les mots sont de bien fabiles outils pour exprimer notre reconnaissance à Chantal Manès de l'Ambassade de France à Washington. Elle nous a toujours fourni des conseils judicieux et utiles. Elle partageait avec nous un seul objectif—un congrès réussi digne des professeurs de français qui travaillent partout dans le monde avec passion et enthousiasme, parfois dans des conditions très difficiles.

Elle a défendu avec acharnement l'AATF contre tous ceux qui n'avaient pas confiance en nous ou qui tout simplement ne nous connaissaient pas encore. En même temps, il ne faut pas oublier que Chantal avait dans cette tâche l'appui de ses supérieurs. Nous remercions le Conseiller culturel Jean-René Gehan de nous avoir soutenu par ses paroles et par ses actes. Et nous exprimons notre plus profonde reconnaissance à Son Excellence Jean-David Levitte, Ambassadeur de France à Washington, pour sa disponibilité, sa compréhension des difficultés auxquelles les professeurs de français font face tous les jours et pour sa participation active au congrès d'Atlanta. Au nom de l'AATF et à titre personnel, je voudrais le remercier de ce soutien précieux.

Il va sans dire que le congrès n'aurait jamais vu le jour sans le soutien actif de la Direction du français au Ministère des Affaires étrangères (MAE) à Paris. Nous avons beaucoup apprécié leur professionnalisme et leur franchise. Les subventions du MAE financent la plus grande partie du fonctionnement de la FIPF, et ce soutien matériel, ainsi que logistique et moral, permet à cette fédération d'offrir des services aux professeurs du monde entier. Tous les quatre ans, le MAE apporte sa contribution à l'organisation d'un congrès mondial, et nous le remercions de la confiance et de l'amitié manifestées à l'égard de l'AATF. Nous avons toujours essayé d'être à la hauteur de leurs attentes. En particulier, je voudrais remercier Xavier North, Directeur du français, qui a veillé à l'organisation du congrès et qui, par sa présence à Atlanta, a témoigné de l'importance qu'il accorde au travail des professeurs de français. Hélène Defromont, Sous-directrice du français, et Catherine Maclorin, Chef de bureau, pour des raisons indépendantes de leur volonté, n'ont pas pu assister au congrès, mais nous avons senti de loin leurs vœux pour un congrès réussi, et nous avons beaucoup apprécié tout ce qu'elles ont fait pour aider à la mise en œuvre du congrès et pour soutenir les efforts de l'AATF. Nous saluons également le travail exceptionnel de toute leur équipe, Dominique Geslin, Pascale DeSchuyter, Pascal Hanse et Jean-François Georgy. Finalement, nous exprimons notre plus profonde reconnaissance à Xavier Darcos, Ministre de la Francophonie. Sa présence à Atlanta a contribué énormément à la réussite du congrès, et sa solidarité, en tant qu'enseignant lui-même, avec les professeurs les encouragent dans leurs

efforts pour la promotion du français. Je voudrais le remercier aussi d'avoir pris le temps de discuter de la situation du français aux États-Unis avec nous.

Je voudrais aussi remercier les nombreuses personnes qui se sont portées volontaires et qui ont fait tout ce qu'elles pouvaient pour assurer le bon déroulement du congrès, pour résoudre tous les problèmes survenus à la dernière minute et qui ont accepté avec un sourire de faire ce que je leur demandais de faire. Il s'agit des membres du Conseil d'administration de l'AATF, des Présidents des Commissions de l'AATF présents à Atlanta, des responsables des chapitres de l'AATF, ainsi que le personnel du bureau—April Walsh, Rosalba Correa et Amy Hanson. En particulier, je remercie mon fils Marc qui a imprimé toutes les photos publicitaires des congressistes moyennant un dîner dans un restaurant japonais, et mon mari Serge qui a supporté mes journées de travail de 16 heures par jour 6 jours par semaine pendant des mois avant le congrès et qui m'a accompagnée à Atlanta où il est même intervenu au sujet de l'anti-américanisme dans la presse française.

Maintenant que nous pouvons classer ce grand événement dans le livre de souvenirs, il faut se tourner vers les activités de la rentrée. Nous préparons actuellement les appels de cotisation qui seront envoyés au début du mois d'octobre. Nous vous demandons de bien vouloir les retourner le plus rapidement possible avec vos bulletins de vote. Cela assurera la continuité de votre adhésion et nous permettra d'entrer les données en temps voulu. Nous vous encourageons à penser à faire une contribution au "Fund for the Future" (voir page 12). Ces contributions nous permettent de réaliser de nombreux projets de promotion. Je regrette d'annoncer que nous avons décidé, d'un commun accord avec l'AATG, de suspendre la cotisation commune que nous offrons depuis dix ans. Les différences dans nos structures de cotisations ont rendu la gestion de plus en plus difficile. Nous remercions l'AATG de leur collaboration qui continuera sans aucun doute dans d'autres domaines.

Dès maintenant nous nous tournons vers le congrès de 2005 qui aura lieu du 7 au 10 juillet dans la ville de Québec. Nous vous invitons dès le 1<sup>er</sup> octobre à soumettre en ligne une proposition d'atelier et de communication. Consultez régulièrement le site Web [[www.frenchteachers.org](http://www.frenchteachers.org)] pour les renseignements les plus à jour.

Jayne Abrate  
Secrétaire générale

# A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT BUSH



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 2, 2004

I send greetings to those observing National French Week, 2004.

Mutual understanding and respect among nations are vital to promoting peace and tolerance throughout the world. This event provides an opportunity for students of French to showcase their knowledge and share in the traditions of French-speaking societies. National French Week also strengthens global ties of goodwill.

I applaud members of the American Association of Teachers of French for challenging your students. Your dedication helps young people reach their full potential.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes on this special occasion.

## AATF PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

### AATF COMMISSION ON FRENCH FOR BUSINESS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

*Vol. 1: Issues and Methods in French for Business and Economic Purposes*, ed. Patricia W. Cummins, 1995, 172 pp., \$24. (while supplies last).

*Vol. 2: Making Business French Work: Modes, Materials, Methodologies*, ed. Steven J. Loughrin-Sacco and Jayne Abrate, 1997, 275 pp., \$25+ \$3 postage and handling, ISBN 1-891611-003. Contact SDSU CIBER Press, San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive, San Diego, CA 92182-7732.

*Frost in France: An American Recycling Company Negotiates a Joint Venture in*

*France*, Maureen Maguire Lewis, 2001, 80 pp., \$30 Instructor's Book, \$42.50 Student Packet. Includes postage and handling. Contact SDSU CIBER Press [[www.rohan.sdsu.edu/dept/ciber/frost.html](http://www.rohan.sdsu.edu/dept/ciber/frost.html)].

### AATF COMMISSION ON CULTURAL COMPETENCE

*France at the Dawn of the Twenty-First Century: Trends and Transformations*, ed. by Marie-Christine Koop, asst. by Rosalie Vermette, 2000, 300 pp., \$33.95 ISBN 1-883479-29-0. Contact Summa Publications, P.O. Box 660725, Birmingham, AL 35266-0725.

Prices are subject to change without notice.

## SPECIAL SUBSCRIPTION OFFER TO LE FRANÇAIS DANS LE MONDE CONTINUED

The special offer for AATF members to subscribe to *Le Français dans le monde* has been continued. The review is now the official publication of the *Fédération internationale des professeurs de français* (FIPF) and is published by CLE International. The AATF has negotiated a special subscription rate for AATF members. Each year more than 500 AATF members have taken advantage of this special offer.

Members have two subscription options. For a yearly subscription payment of \$52, you can receive six issues of *Le Français dans le monde* plus two accompanying CDs as well as two special issues of *Francophonie* (a savings of \$76 over regular subscription rates). For a yearly subscription payment of \$62, you can again receive six issues of *Le Français dans le monde* with two accompanying CDs, two special issues of *Francophonie*, and, in addition, two issues of the more research oriented *Didactique "Recherches et Applications"* (a savings of \$79 over regular subscription rates).

To facilitate the process, AATF members may pay the AATF at the same time they make their annual dues payment, and we will handle the transfer to CLE International. Subscriptions may be obtained by filling out the appropriate space on your 2005 dues renewal invoice which will be mailed to all AATF members in early October. Those who subscribed for 2004 may renew their subscription in the same way. It can take several weeks to process these subscriptions. Therefore, it is important to send your renewals as early as possible.

The editor of the new *Français dans le monde* is Françoise Ploquin who was assistant editor under the previous editor in chief and honorary AATF member Jacques Pécheur. The editorial team is planning several themed issues and encourages submissions from French teachers around the world. Consult the Web site at [[www.fdlm.org](http://www.fdlm.org)] for more information. AATF Past-President Jean-Pierre Piriou serves on the Advisory Board, and Christopher Pinet, Editor in Chief of the *French Review*, serves on the Editorial Board of *Le Français dans le monde*.

We hope that many AATF members will take advantage of this opportunity to receive *Le Français dans le monde* at a 40% savings. Please note that subscriptions will not be accepted after May 31 for any given calendar year.

To communicate address changes, contact [[fdlm@vuefr.fr](mailto:fdlm@vuefr.fr)],

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## YOUR FRENCH PROGRAM IS WORTH SAVING: FRENCH ADVOCACY WORKSHOP IN CHICAGO

Tennessee Bob Peckham will direct an Advocacy Workshop for AATF members in Chicago on November 18, 2004, the day before the ACTFL Conference sessions begin. This workshop is designed for those interested in helping AATF chapters and their members to strengthen support for existing programs, to mount an effective campaign to support French programs wherever they face reduction or elimination, and to provide information to be shared with our many different audiences—institutional, parental, and community. The focus of the advocacy initiative is proactive. It strives to generate enthusiasm for and confidence in French as an important language for the world in which our students will live and

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work and for our nation as we respond to issues of national security and to the challenges of succeeding in a global economy. Interested AATF members are urged to e-mail Margot Steinhart [m.steinhart@sbcglobal.net] to receive an update on the details of this workshop as they become available.

The workshop will be held at Northpark College from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will involve hands-on work with Internet resources. The cost for the workshop is \$40 which includes a light lunch. Transportation is available from the conference hotel to the university site by public transportation or by taxi.

## MEMBERS' NOTES

**Marie-Simone Pavlovich**, of the Chicago/Northern Illinois Chapter participated in Bernard Pivot's *Dictée* in Paris in early spring. She placed first among the American contenders in the *Trophées de la Langue française*. The *Dictée* was televised on TV5. Marie-Simone organizes the *Grande Dictée* which is cosponsored by the Chicago/Northern Illinois Chapter and Northwestern University each February. *Félicitations!*

**Cécile Peyronnet**, *Attachée culturelle au Service culturel du Consulat de France*, Atlanta, recently named Honorary Member of the AATF, has also received the 2004 SCOLT Friend of Foreign Language Award for her support of teachers in the SCOLT region through scholarships and her presentations at both SCOLT and AATF chapter meetings. *Félicitations!*

*Pourtant, plus de cinq siècles après sa mort, François Villon, obsédé par le gibet, est haut perché sur la Toile. Outre ses Oeuvres complètes (Pierre Jannet, 1867), accessibles sur le site de la BNF, le maître de la ballade du XV<sup>ème</sup> siècle, exclu et déchu de son vivant, a su gagner ses lettres de noblesse. Et l'universitaire américain Robert D. Peckham, de l'Université du Tennessee-Martin, n'y est pas étranger. Ce médiéviste en littérature française ébauche, dès 1996, ce qui est devenu un centre de renseignements sur les études villoniennes, riche de 500 liens. "Il m'était évident que les publics de Villon dépassaient de loin le cosmos de communication entre académiciens," assure ce professeur de langue et de culture françaises, auteur de François Villon: a bibliography (Garland, 1990). Cette Société François Villon présente, à la lumière des contextes historique et littéraire, "un Villon textuel, international—traduit en 15 langues, biographique, critique, sans oublier le Bulletin bibliographique," tente de résumer l'enthousiaste Robert D. Peckham. "Atteindre des lecteurs, tirer des corrections et des suggestions de médiévistes d'un peu partout dans le monde, créer une collection de poèmes américains qui imitent ou font référence à la Ballade des dames du temps jadis" restent pour l'heure ses préoccupations. Autant dire que l'escroc, truand, marlou, génie," chanté par Jean Richepin en 1876, aurait pu lui dédier sa Ballade de merci. (Le Monde des livres, 26 March 2004)*

**Mary Lynn Redmond**, Associate Professor in the Department of Education at Wake Forest University, Winston Salem, NC was named the 2004 SCOLT Outstanding Foreign Language Teacher: Post-Secondary

level. *Félicitations!*

**Robert M. Terry**, Professor of French, University of Richmond, VA, has received the 2004 SCOLT Founders Award for his significant contributions to the SCOLT conference and because he "exemplifies the spirit and ideals of the founders of the organization." *Félicitations!*

The Brown University Library has acquired a major collection of books and literary correspondence from **Dr. Mel Yoken**, Chancellor Professor of French at the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth. The Yoken Collection encompasses literally hundreds of American, French, English and *Québécois* authors and public figures active during the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The collection contains over 20,000 books inscribed and annotated by their authors, as well as tens of thousands of letters, notes, personal papers and other manuscripts from many of the most important individuals of the period. In addition, there are numerous letters written by significant figures of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. The collection is housed in the John Hay Library, in the Yoken Room, on the Brown campus.

Dr. Yoken, who holds a Master's degree from Brown, chose his alma mater to receive his collection because "Brown's prestigious John Hay Library, is well known for its extensive holdings available to scholars and researchers. I have spent over 40 years as a scholar of French language and literature and feel reassured that my unique archives will be displayed and preserved under one roof for future generations."

Merrily Taylor, former Brown University Librarian, recognizing the value of the Yoken Collection, stated "I'm sure that in the years to come, Dr. Yoken's archives will be considered a high point in my 22 years at Brown." Samuel Streit, Associate University Librarian for Special Collections said: "The John Hay has a long tradition of collecting books and manuscripts in a broad array of disciplines, and the Yoken Collection will both complement and expand our holdings in a variety of literary and historical fields."

As an inquisitive Brown University graduate student, Mel Yoken had questions with several of his readings. He thought nothing of writing to the authors for direct answers, and the authors wrote back to him. Fortunately, Dr. Yoken saved everything and has now decided to share his incredible collection of outstanding memorabilia with the world. The Yoken Archives were recently dedicated during a three-day marathon celebration. The Yoken Archive room itself is lined on four sides with bookshelves con-

taining several thousand signed French books and some 1500 blue binders containing priceless documents either purchased or received personally. A beautiful Persian carpet adorns the floor and signed posters from famous French performers decorate the walls. A floor to ceiling window lets in natural light and overlooks the central green of Brown.

### AATF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ELECTED TO



### HEAD JNCL/NCLIS

Dr. Jayne Abrate has been elected President of the Joint National Committee for Languages and National Council for Languages and International Studies (JNCL/NCLIS). The organization, based in Washington, DC, is a national coalition of 60 scholarly and professional organizations representing over 250,000 members of the language and international education fields. Dr. Abrate has been a member of the JNCL/NCLIS Board of Directors since 1997. The AATF was one of the eight founding associations of the twenty-eight year old JNCL/NCLIS.

J. David Edwards  
Executive Director  
JNCL/NCLIS

**CELEBRATE  
NATIONAL FRENCH  
WEEK: NOV. 5-11, 2004**  
*Take French out of the  
classroom and into the  
community!*

## CALL TO ARMS FOR FRENCH LANGUAGE ADVOCACY

Advocacy is of great importance to the AATF in a climate where French enrollments show little growth on the college level and where a number of high-school programs are being eliminated. We have decided to fight this attrition logically and systematically.

As an association truly concerned with every child's opportunity to learn French, our efforts will eventually involve organization from the national to the local level. Topics addressed in advocacy discourse will be both in and outside of language education, with some entirely unrelated to education. In this struggle, advocates may need an offensive of letters, but they will also need a grassroots network of local supporters, willing to show up at PTO and school board meetings. Therefore, they will work with other educators, students, parents, alumni, school board members, city officials and other politicians, people from regional and local business communities, newspaper reporters, and other media representatives.

To begin this comprehensive campaign, we are calling on each AATF chapter to have a designated advocacy coordinator. The name and contact information (including e-mail address) for this individual will be forwarded by chapter presidents to their Regional Representative (see page 5) by November 1.

Here are some things which an AATF chapter advocacy coordinator should be willing to do:

1. Work with other chapter members or with other chapters (in multi-chapter states) to make available state-specific advocacy materials on a Web page such as the following:

New York Needs French

[[www.utm.edu/~globeg/nyadvocat.html](http://www.utm.edu/~globeg/nyadvocat.html)]

Tennessee Needs French

[[www.utm.edu/~globeg/frtnadvoc.shtml](http://www.utm.edu/~globeg/frtnadvoc.shtml)]

Although these pages may be considered templates, each state's page will be different in a variety of ways. Not all the categories of information on these pages will be relevant to all targeted groups or individuals, but the categories exist because the information from each might be used in constructing an effective argument aimed at a particular group or key individual. Redundancy is the operative word here. Local advocates can create their own district-specific documents by selecting from the state page and adding their own local information. Some materials used in sites above and in other phases of the advocacy struggle can be gleaned from an outline for advocacy and links in

Ideas for French Language & Culture Advocacy in the US

[[www.utm.edu/~globeg/advofr.shtml](http://www.utm.edu/~globeg/advofr.shtml)]

A note about technical expertise: it is much less important for an advocacy designate to be able to create a Web site than it is to be able to gather pertinent information for one and perhaps to know someone who can make a Web page. However, it is best for a chapter to own and manage its advocacy page than to rely on someone at headquarters or a nationally designated tech person. This is a "state" page, and chapter members will want to update it with the most powerful state-relevant information as it becomes available. This might be done best with a members partnership pair (information & tech specialists). Making a simple Web page with Netscape Composer (available free with every Netscape browser) is easy. It is best to get specific information about hosting a page from your Internet provider or school technology specialist. Tennessee Bob Peckham [bobp@utm.edu] would be happy to assist. You can also find detailed instructions on the AATF Web site for constructing a Web page at [[www.frenchteachers.org/general/self](http://www.frenchteachers.org/general/self)]. He intends to offer short targeted workshops and on-line instruction.

2. Organize information pertinent to the status of French in the chapter. This might include answers to queries in the district and state profile lists from

Ideas for French Language & Culture Advocacy in the U.S.

[[www.utm.edu/~globeg/advofr.shtml](http://www.utm.edu/~globeg/advofr.shtml)]

3. Maintain a name and address list of influential people in the chapter (state and district supervisors, state and national senators and representatives, allies in business, state foreign language association contacts, advocacy coordinators for other AATs in the state, etc.)

4. Identify members and interested allies who are willing to travel and speak, those who are willing to make telephone calls, and those willing to write letters.

5. Create correspondence templates for letter writing campaigns.

6. Put out the call that you are interested in any sign that a French program will be cut, scaled back, replaced by something else, or that someone is struggling to introduce a French program in a district where there is none.

7. If possible, map out where chapter members are geographically, so you can call on those near trouble spots.

8. Share ideas, success and failure stories with other chapters.

Robert (Tennessee Bob) Peckham  
University of Tennessee at Martin  
E-mail: [bobp@utm.edu]

## AATF-SPONSORED SESSIONS AT ACTFL

The AATF will again sponsor six sessions at the 2004 ACTFL Convention which will take place November 18-21 in Chicago.

- "Regional Accents: How the French Define(d) the Midwest," Presenters: Anita Alkhas and Larry Kuiper, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and Denise Phillippe, Concordia Language Villages (MN);
- "Presenting Quebec Society and Culture: Content, Methodology, and Resources," Presenters: Marie-Christine Koop, University of North Texas and Chair of the AATF Commission on Cultural Competence, and S. Pascale Dewey, Kutztown University (PA)
- "Advocacy Depot: Building Tomorrow's Language Advocacy Centers with Lessons from Today's Crises," Presenters: Robert "Tennessee Bob" Peckham, University of Tennessee-Martin and AATF Vice-President, Jacki Thomas, Texas A&M University-Kingsville and Co-Chair of the AATF Commission for the Promotion of French, Joyce Beckwith, Wilmington High School (MA) and Co-Chair of the Commission for the Promotion of French, Brenda Benzin, Buffalo State University (NY) and AATF Vice-President, and Barbara Ransford, Camden-Fairview High School and Chapter President (AR);
- "French is All Around you, but How Do You Identify the Resources?" Presenters: Margot Steinhart, Northwestern University and AATF President, and Jayne Abrate, Southern Illinois University and AATF Executive Director;
- "Le Grand Concours," Presenters: Geneviève Delfosse, Thomas Jefferson High School of Science and Technology (VA) and Chair of the Secondary Test Development Committee, and Ted Haldeman, Homewood-Flossmoor High School (IL);
- "All About National Board Certification," Presenters: Samantha Godden-Chmielowicz, Schurz High School (IL), Todd Bowen, Adlai Stevenson High School (IL), and Susan Colville-Hall, University of Akron and Chair of the AATF Commission on Professional Teacher Standards.

For more information go to the ACTFL Web site at [[www.actfl.org](http://www.actfl.org)].

**BE SURE TO VISIT THE  
AATF WEB SITE**

**[www.frenchteachers.org](http://www.frenchteachers.org)**

# PROMOTIONAL FLYERS TO ENLIVEN YOUR CLASSROOM

**Help Wanted: Encourage Students to Learn French**

AATF's newest promotional flyer. Designed to promote the study of French to high-school counselors by highlighting the importance of French for many different careers. 50 copies @\$5.00; 100 copies @ \$10 (member prices); 20 cents each for quantities larger than 250.

**French By the Numbers**

White on red flyer highlights dozens of statistics on the presence of the French language in the world and the importance of the French economy in the global marketplace and particularly to the American economy. 50 copies @\$5.00; 100 copies @ \$10 (member prices); 20 cents each for quantities larger than 250.

**French is Not a "Foreign" Language**

New promotional flyer. Black and white on forest green flyer illustrates how close English and French are. An easily understandable text written in French as well as an English paragraph full of French words and phrases make it clear that French is not a "foreign" language. 50 copies @\$5.00; 100 copies @ \$10 (member prices); 20 cents each for quantities larger than 250.

**Why Learn French**

Attractive blue and green on white flyer presents French as a language for business, jobs, travel, and global communication. 50 copies @\$5.00; 100 copies @ \$10 (member prices); 20 cents each for quantities larger than 250.

**Speaking French: an investment in the future**

Red, white, and blue brochure explains why French is a world language! It explains why today's French student isn't only learning a language rich in history and culture but also is opening a door to greater career opportunities. 50 copies @\$5.00; 100 copies @ \$10 (member prices); 20 cents each for quantities larger than 250.

**Top Ten Reasons to Learn French (published by the French Cultural Services and the AATF)**

A red, white, and blue brochure which lists 10 excellent reasons why students should learn French, including increasing their advantage in the global job market and improving their critical and creative thinking skills. 50 copies @\$5.00; 100 copies @ \$10 (member prices); 20 cents each for quantities larger than 250.

**Why French FLES\*? (developed by the AATF FLES\* Commission)**

This color flyer offers reasons and testimonials on the importance of beginning the study of French at a young age. Use it to promote the importance of French in the elementary schools. 50 copies @\$5.00; 100 copies @ \$10 (member prices); 20 cents each for quantities larger than 250.

**NEW! (developed by the AATF Commission on High Schools)**

This color flyer promotes the study of French to high school guidance counselors. It highlights the many reasons why it is important for students to learn French. 50 copies @\$5.00; 100 copies @ \$10 (member prices); 20 cents each for quantities larger than 250.

To order these materials send your order and check to AATF Materials Center, Mailcode 4510, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901-4510.



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**PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER. ALL PRICES INCLUDE FIRST-CLASS POSTAGE. Purchase orders accepted.**

\*Prices as of 9/1/04

<u>Quantity</u>	(all prices cover first class postage & handling)	<u>Cost</u>
_____	Help Wanted: Encourage Students to Learn French @ \$0.10 each, 50 @ \$5.00	_____
_____	French By the Numbers @ \$0.10 each, 50 @ \$5.00	_____
_____	French is Not a "Foreign" Language @ \$0.10 each, 50 @ \$5.00	_____
_____	Why Learn French? @\$0.10 each, 50 @\$5.00	_____
_____	Speaking French @\$0.10 each, 50 @\$5.00	_____
_____	Top Ten Reasons to Learn French @\$0.10 each, 50 @\$5.00	_____
_____	Why French FLES*? @\$0.10 each, 50 @\$5.00	_____

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Telephone (day)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_



# NATIONAL FRENCH WEEK CONTESTS

The theme for the year 2004 is "**Speak French and Understand the World: Parler français et comprendre le monde.**"

## ESSAY CONTEST

**Deadline:** Postmarked by **October 15, 2004.**

**Send to:** David Graham, 344 Trim Road, Morrisonville, NY 12962.

**Guidelines:** Each entry must be the original work of a current French student whose teacher is an AATF member for 2004. No group entries. There is a limit of five entries per school. Essays must be written in English and be typed or word processed. The student's name, grade, level of French, school, school address and telephone number, and teacher's full name must be written on the front of the essay. Submissions with incomplete information will not be judged. The required essay lengths, by division, are:

- Grades 3-5: Maximum 150 words;
- Grades 6-8: Maximum 250 words
- Grades 9-12: Maximum 350 words
- College: Maximum 500 words

**Judging Criteria:** Theme relevance, originality, written expression.

All essays become the property of the AATF and may be used in AATF publications or materials. All participants in the AATF Essay and Poster Contests will receive certificates. A student may enter both contests. First, second, and third place winners of each division will receive prizes to be announced.

## POSTER CONTEST

**Deadline:** Postmarked by **October 15, 2004.**

**Send to:** Helen Lorenz, 4120 Eldorado, Plano, TX 75093.

**Guidelines:** The poster theme must appear on each entry. No copyrighted figures (ie. Snoopy, Astérix) accepted. Each entry must be the original work of a current French student whose teacher is an AATF member for 2004. No group entries. There is a limit of five entries per school. The student's name, grade, level of French, school, school address and telephone number, and teacher's full name must be written on the back of the poster. Submissions with incomplete information will not be judged.

Posters must measure 18" x 24" and have a flat surface with no moving parts. No three-dimensional posters accepted. No glue is to be used. Tempera paint, india ink, markers, flairs, or crayons may be used. Use white poster paper. Mail entries flat.

The judging divisions are:

- Elementary: Grades 3-5
- Intermediate: Grades 6-8
- Secondary: Grades 9-12
- College

**Judging Criteria:** Visual impact, theme relevance, originality. (Remember that the use of color is important to visual impact. Large areas of white reduce the visual impact of the submission.)

All posters become the property of the AATF and may be used in AATF publications or materials. All participants in the AATF Essay and Poster Contests will receive certificates. A student may enter both contests. First, second, and third place winners of each division will receive prizes to be announced.

# YEAR OF LANGUAGES

The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) and cosponsoring organizations proclaim 2005 the **Year of Languages in the United States.** Its primary objectives are as follows:

- Leave no American behind in the opportunity to learn at least two languages.
- Every American citizen should have the opportunity to learn to communicate in at least two foreign languages in addition to the mother tongue.
- Promote a world where multilingualism and cultural understanding prevail.
- Help sponsor more than 50,000 foreign language related activities in the U.S. at both the local and the national levels.
- Celebrate the history and use of all languages in the U.S. including those languages indigenous to the country.
- Sponsor workshops, conferences, competitions, theatrical performances, language festivals, and other activities.
- Involve students, parents, schools at all levels of instruction, academic disciplines other than foreign languages, and leaders locally, statewide, and nationally.
- Involve language teachers, American historians, civics educators, U.S. and world history teachers, teachers of international and global education, Native American educators, TESOL teachers in the U.S., heritage language groups and educators, museums and museum educators, The United Nations, U.S. representatives to the United Nations, special ties to UNESCO and the European Union, educators in the Western Hemisphere, Ministries of Education in the Western Hemisphere, Foreign Embassies and Consulates in the U.S., U.S. embassies and consulates abroad, U.S. Department of State, U.S. Department of Education, the U. S. Congress, members of the Executive branch including the President, U.S. ethnic and immigrant groups and social clubs.

## *The AATF and the National FLES\* Commission*



present a new video

### **"Forward with FLES\*"**

The video addresses some important issues:

1. Why FLES\*? 2. FLES\* Outcomes
3. French Connectons 4. FLES\* and the Future

This 11-minute video was filmed in Dallas, New Orleans, Baltimore, and Rutherford, NJ. Project Coordinators: Dr. Gladys Lipton and Dr. Lena Lucietto

Many people were interviewed, and the speakers on the video represent views from different walks of educational life: superintendent, mayor, headmistress, PTA president and member, parents, state foreign language specialists, National FLES\* Institute director, principals, foreign language chairs and coordinators, AATF Regional Representatives, French teachers, Spanish teachers, students....

Funding for the video was part of a grant received by the AATF from the U.S. Department of Education Title VI.

For more information, consult the Materials Center listings on page 38

FLES\* includes Sequential FLES, Sequential FLEX, Exploratory, Immersion

## **UPCOMING AATF CONVENTIONS**

Join us as we celebrate the French-speaking world in:

- Quebec (July 7-10, 2005)
- Milwaukee (2006)
- Baton Rouge (2007)
- Belgium (2008)

## AATF SMALL GRANTS

At the Atlanta Convention, the Executive Council again renewed the AATF Small Grants program for 2005 to support local projects by Chapter members who need an extra infusion of cash in order to get their project off the ground or to bring their project to completion. The total amount of funds available is \$5000, with the maximum award being \$500. The usual restriction will still be in effect: 100% matching funds from the chapter to which the applicant belongs must be committed—or less if the Chapter treasury cannot meet the challenge. In this way, it is hoped that the applicant can attract sufficient overall funding.

Application procedures and requirements remain the same as in previous years. A letter specifying the following should be sent to the Executive Director, Mailcode 4510, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901-4510 postmarked by **March 1, 2005**: (1) name of applicant and Chapter to which he/she belongs; (2) a brief summary of the project, including purpose, individuals involved, inclusive dates; (3) total anticipated budget; (4) funds requested; (5) other sources of funds being sought, INCLUDING AMOUNT TO BE MATCHED

FROM CHAPTER TREASURY (This must be attested to by the Chapter Secretary-Treasurer). PLEASE NOTE: Every year some interesting requests remain unfunded because of lack of financial support at the Chapter level; it is important to begin the application process AS SOON AS YOU READ THIS by alerting your Chapter officers to your upcoming request.

Applicants should remember that the basic purpose of this modest program is to aid those members who need supplementary funds to carry out a worthy project that would otherwise be unfunded or underfunded. Projects must bear a relationship to the purposes of the Association, namely furthering the study of French in the U.S., and be of potential benefit to other AATF members or to his/her students. Under no circumstances will awards be made to carry out strictly personal research or to travel abroad for the sake of general enlightenment. Members at all levels of instruction may apply.

A committee will evaluate the applications and determine the recipients. Preference will be given to new projects having a wide impact. Projects for National French Week 2005 are encouraged.

## NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Three new and two returning Executive Council members joined the group during the 2004 Convention in Atlanta. Robert "Tennessee Bob" Peckham was elected Vice-President for the term 2004-2006. Region III (New York State) Representative David Graham was elected for the term 2004-2006. Region Representatives Myrna Delson-Karan (Region I-New York City) and Danielle Raquidel (Region V-Southeast) were reelected to three-year terms. Managing Editor of the French Review Sharon Shelly also joined the Executive Council for the first time in Atlanta.

Also at the Atlanta Convention, Sidney Teitelbaum, Director of the National French Contest, announced his retirement as of September 30, 2004. After a national search, current Assistant Director Lisa Narug was chosen as his successor. She will assume the position on October 1, 2004 and will join the Executive Council next year in Quebec.

## SOCIÉTÉ HONORAIRE DE FRANÇAIS

The establishment of a chapter of the *Société honoraire de français* offers several benefits to a secondary French program. It provides an opportunity to recognize outstanding scholarship in the study of French language through selection for membership, the placement of a special seal on the graduate's diploma, the wearing of a blue/white/red cord (or white cord) at graduation, and the right to wear the official emblem/pin of the honor society. The chapter provides a vehicle for focusing activities around French language and literature and also for encouraging member participation in the annual writing contest as well as application for the annual travel grants. There is the opportunity for students to serve as officers, directing the induction ceremony, or leading other chapter events.

Information is available from H. Todd Knox, Executive Secretary SHF, 500 Montaigne Drive, Lafayette, LA 70506-6308, E-mail: [htknox@juno.com] or from the Web site at [www.frenchteachers.org].

### 2005 SUMMER SCHOLARSHIPS FOR FRENCH STUDENTS

The American Society of the French Academic Palms will award two student scholarships to be used for a four-week minimum study program in a French-speaking country during summer 2005. To qualify, the student must be a junior enrolled in a high school French program or be a junior majoring in French at a post-secondary institution. The scholarship of \$1,500 may be used to cover travel and program costs in a French program that the recipient selects. The application must be endorsed by a member of ASFAP and be submitted by **December 15, 2004**. Applications will be sent electronically upon request. Please contact Margot Steinhart at [m.steinhart@sbcglobal.net].

### THE FRENCH REVIEW WELCOMES ARTICLES FOR A SPECIAL ISSUE ENTITLED "CINEMAS"

This special issue will be open to articles on French and Francophone cinema, cinema and literature, and the teaching of cinema. This volume to be published in May 2006 will be in honor of the AATF meeting to be held in Milwaukee in July 2006. Articles should be scholarly but not exceedingly specialized. Authors should consult the Guide for Authors at the end of each issue of the *French Review* for formal considerations and the Editor in Chief if they have further questions. The deadline for submission to the editor will be **August 1, 2005**. Submit articles to Christopher Pinet, Modern Languages and Literatures, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717.

### REMINDER TO FDLM SUBSCRIBERS

If you move, you need to inform *Le Français dans le monde* directly. The AATF cannot keep track of and communicate these changes. Notify the AATF or send an e-mail to [ahanson@siu.edu], AND send any address changes for *Le Français dans le monde* to [fdlm@vuef.fr].

### ADVOCACY

- Information about the most effective way to advocate for foreign language programs
- Links for language-related Congressional testimony
- Federal government grant opportunities

Check out the JNCL-NCLIS Web site at

[www.languagepolicy.org](http://www.languagepolicy.org)

# REGIONAL REPORTS

## REGION IX—PACIFIC

In spite of the geographically challenging makeup of the region, individual chapters are working energetically to provide interesting activities and support for their members and to promote French and Francophone studies and culture in their areas. The Washington/British Columbia/Alaska/Alberta, Northern California, and Southern California chapters work very closely with the French Consulates in their areas as well as with the *Alliance française* and other Francophone organizations to sponsor a variety of interesting activities. All chapters are to be commended for their work.

The *Grand Concours* is an important area of focus for Region IX, with all chapters reporting national winners. The Region ranked sixth in total student enrollment with 9,737 students participating. Two chapters ranked in the top twenty for enrollment—Northern California, under the direction of Pat Nakashima and Elizabeth Miller, ranked fifth, and Southern California, Fataneh Tabatabai, Administrator, moved from twelfth place in 2003 to eleventh place this year. Southern California was also one of twelve chapters nationwide that set a 25-year enrollment record in 2004. In the FLES *Concours* Northern California, under the direction of FLES Contest National Chair Elizabeth Miller, retained its number 1 ranking. Pam Will enrolled 164 FLES students, capturing the award for the teacher enrolling the most students in the country in *le Grand Concours*. Four chapters in Region IX—Arizona, Northern California, Oregon, and Washington/Alaska/British Columbia—had national FLES winners.

Region IX also had participants and three winners in the *Tour du monde de la Francophonie*. José García from Arizona and Marisa Chen and Lisa Hahn from California were among eight winners who were recognized at the Atlanta Congress *Séance d'ouverture*. They then left from Atlanta to begin their *tour du monde francophone* accompanied by Lynn Heyman-Hogue, member of the San Diego Chapter.

National French Week 2003 was celebrated in Region IX chapters with a variety of activities highlighting French and Francophone culture. In past years students in Oregon have visited the Portland Art Museum, dined at French restaurants, and participated in various French activities. French plays are sometimes staged at Linfield College and in Portland. In November 2003 the French Club at Linfield College received funds from the student government to invite an expert chef from Portland to give a demonstration preparation of

a well-known French dessert, and the event sold out. The Northern California Chapter celebrated with a series of films sponsored in conjunction with the French Consulate. The Arizona chapter received a \$250 AATF Small Grant for a number of activities in Phoenix and Tucson. The AATF collaborated with the *Alliance française*, the Phoenix/Grenoble Sister Cities Committee, Arizona State University, the *Institut français d'Arizona*, the International School of Arizona and other Francophone groups to sponsor almost two weeks of Francophone cultural events centered around lectures, films, social gatherings, and meals. The 200th anniversary of Hector Berlioz's birth was celebrated with lectures and concerts. Other celebrities featured included artists Marion Pike (a California artist who lived many years in Paris and painted extraordinary portraits of Malraux and Coco Chanel) and Paul Gauguin. Franco-American friendship and collaboration was highlighted with a presentation on the bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase and a special dinner on Veterans' Day. Festivals of various kinds celebrating French language and culture were also held on many school campuses.

Members of Region IX who deserve special recognition for their accomplishments this year include the following: Pam Will, Northern California Chapter, received the award for the teacher enrolling the most students in the country in *le Grand Concours-FLES*. She received a trip to Atlanta which included round-trip airfare, three nights hotel at the Hilton, registration, and meals. Colleen Chamberlain from the Washington/British Columbia/Alaska chapter received a 2004 AATF Summer Scholarship to the *Université du Québec à Chicoutimi*. Christine Kolstoe, President of the Chapter, received a \$750 Small Grant for a *Éric Vincent* concert in the spring and Dances of France program in the fall. Marie-Magdeleine Chirol and the Southern California Chapter received a \$500 Small Grant to bring a French play to Whittier College.

Sue Hendrickson  
Region IX Representative

## REGION I-NEW YORK CITY

During the academic year 2003-2004 the region has flourished with interesting pedagogical and cultural events which have focused on the promotion of French language and culture for students of all levels. *La Semaine du Français* has proven to be the organizational framework and impetus toward the realization of many of these events. The Regional Representative promoted a sharing of many activities of all

chapters in the region in the rich French and Francophone cultural life of New York City. These included the signature event of the Metropolitan Chapter, the annual *Journée de Gala*, the Charles Perrault Contest, sponsored by the *Services Culturels* of the French Embassy, the celebration of *La Francophonie* held at St. John's University, among others. The proximity of the Chapters of the Region allowed for a sharing of many of the highlights of the year. In essence, many of the AATF meetings involve not only all of the chapters of the Region, but collaboration with many other language associations in the area. The *Services Culturels* of the French Embassy offered a special reception in honor of the Northeast Conference to which all AATF chapters of the region were invited. *Le Grand Concours* continues to be a centerpiece for all chapters in the region and is extremely motivational for French students. All Chapters of the Region held beautiful award ceremonies and offered many prizes to the winners, including scholarships to French and Francophone countries.

Myrna Delson-Karan  
Region I Representative

## REGION II: NEW ENGLAND

New England had a particularly active year. The *Grand Concours* remains the most important event in attracting student and teacher participation in all the New England chapters, and enrollment rates have maintained. Several chapters have had good success in celebrating National French Week and have organized concerts and other formal events to promote the study of French language and Francophone cultures. Our chapters had meetings during the year either as separate affairs or in conjunction with their state foreign language association. Several chapters are undergoing reorganization; The Vermont chapter will be electing a new president; the Maine chapter has recently elected new officers, and New Hampshire will have some personnel changes as well.

### *Le Grand Concours*

Once again the *Grand Concours* proved to be very successful in all seven chapters in terms of participation and awards received. The *Concours* itself as well as the follow-up award ceremonies continue to attract a great deal of interest among teachers, participants, and the various communities represented. Thanks to the tireless work of the contest administrators, interest in French and Francophone language, literature, and cultures remains high. Paula Frank, contest chair for Rhode Island received one of two national awards for Con-

test Administrator of the Year and was honored on two occasions, at an awards ceremony in Rhode Island this past April and once again in July at the Awards Luncheon at the AATF Convention in Atlanta.

#### **National French Week and Music**

If the *Grand Concours* was a major factor in attracting interest for French, the other was certainly music. Various chapters organized concerts to celebrate National French Week and to present some major French language performers. Josée Vachon, a favorite Franco-American singer who has entertained students of French throughout the U.S. for many years, performed in Vermont to help celebrate National French Week and in Rhode Island at an AATF sponsored gathering this past March. The group *Matapa* gave concerts at two venues in Connecticut in honor of National French Week as did the group *Va-et-vient* in Vermont. Jacques Yvart performed at a combined meeting of the Eastern and Western Massachusetts chapters this past October. Brian Thompson, President of the Eastern Massachusetts Chapter, continues to invite French and Francophone singers to the Boston area for festivals and concerts in local schools as well as in all of New England. In the fall, the combined chapters of the AATF and AATG will sponsor a singing duo from Strasbourg who will perform in French and German at the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Foreign Language Association and will remain in the area to celebrate National French Week in various area schools.

#### **AATF Awards**

New England can be proud of various awards given to New England members. Those who received AATF awards include Paula Frank (see above) of Rhode Island, Marjorie Salvodan, and Janel Lafond-Paquin of Eastern Massachusetts and Diane Nichols of New Hampshire. Marjorie won an award for a Small Grant project; Diane won a travel/study grant offered by the French Embassy through the AATF for three weeks of travel and study in Perpignan. Janel won the prestigious AATF Dorothy Ludwig Excellence in Teaching Award (secondary level) and was honored along with Paula Frank at the awards luncheon of the AATF Convention in Atlanta.

Boston remains one of the most important centers of Francophone activity in the U.S. The Eastern Massachusetts Chapter is second only to Chicago in membership, and Boston maintains an active Sister City relationship with Strasbourg. The Eastern Massachusetts Chapter organizes numerous workshops and presentations throughout the academic year often with the participation of local universities, the French and

Quebec consulates, the French Library, and various state and regional foreign language associations. These activities are publicized by means of the Internet to the New England chapter presidents as a way of encouraging participation among teachers of French and their students.

The French Embassy and Consulate are recognized and thanked for their presence and assistance at meetings that were held in Connecticut, Eastern Massachusetts, and New Hampshire.

Jean-Pierre Berwald  
Region II Representative

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### **FRENCH REVIEW'S FOCUS ON PEDAGOGY**

Teaching is at the heart of our mission and this year's *French Review* offers a wide selection of articles devoted to pedagogy. In the October issue we feature pieces on how to design realistic writing assignments based on real life for beginning, intermediate, and upper-level courses at both the high school and university levels. A second article complements the first by showing us how to use the Web to enhance intermediate writing skills. In December "Toward a Pedagogy of the Francophone Text at the Intermediate Level" (this is perhaps the most challenging level to teach) proposes using Acadian and Cajun literature because the authors find that they share a cultural base with traditions in the U.S. which makes them easier to teach than stories from other, more distant cultures. Also in December there is a stimulating essay about cloze windows that shows how this approach encourages students to understand how writers bring grammar, language, and ideas together in the creative process. February brings an essay on how to design and teach a course on African cinema and March an article entitled "*Tartuffe* in Text and Performance: A Blueprint for Collaboration" which shows how well an interdisciplinary approach can work when a professor of French and a professor of theatre bring both their disciplines to bear. Finally, in the April 2005 issue there is an innovative essay entitled "L'Utilisation de simulations boursières en classe de français commercial." We hope that you will enjoy and find use in your classrooms for these articles and others which contain interesting elements for the teaching of literature, society, and film in these rubrics.

Christopher Pinet  
Editor in Chief  
*The French Review*

## **CONTRIBUTE TO THE AATF FUND FOR THE FUTURE**

The AATF Fund for the Future exists to support initiatives approved by the Executive Council which promote French studies across the U.S. For the past several years, the Fund for the Future has been used to support National French Week.

To this end the Executive Council voted in 2002 to establish the following new categories and benefits for Fund for the Future Benefactors:

#### **PLATINUM LEVEL BENEFACTOR:**

Awarded to any member who shows that they have named the AATF as a beneficiary in their will for an amount of no less than \$10,000; will receive a framed certificate, honorary membership status, complimentary registration to all future AATF conventions, be placed on the Web site Honor Roll of donors;

**GOLD LEVEL BENEFACTOR:** Awarded to any member who shows that they have named the AATF as a beneficiary in their will for an amount of no less than \$5000; will receive a framed certificate, life membership status, complimentary registration to all future AATF conventions, be placed on the Web site Honor Roll of donors;

**SILVER LEVEL BENEFACTOR:** Awarded to any member who contributes at least \$2500 in a given year to the AATF; will receive a framed certificate, complimentary registration to all future AATF conventions, be placed on the Web site Honor Roll of donors;

**BRONZE LEVEL BENEFACTOR:** Awarded to any member who contributes at least \$1000 in a given year to the AATF; will receive a framed certificate, be placed on the Web site Honor Roll of donors.

In addition to these new categories, members will also be recognized each November in the *National Bulletin* as a Sponsor (\$500-\$999), Patron (\$100-\$499), Sustaining Member (\$50-\$99). However, we welcome contributions in any amount. We are nearly 10,000 members strong, and if every member donated only \$1, we would have \$10,000 to devote to scholarships and the development of promotional materials and activities. Please consider making a donation to the AATF Fund for the Future as you return your dues invoice this fall. A contribution made in 2004 is deductible on your 2004 income tax return.

**NATIONAL FRENCH WEEK  
NOV. 5-11, 2004**

## AATF SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SUMMER 2005

### PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

We are working hard to finalize agreements for scholarships for study abroad during summer 2005. In addition, the Walter Jensen scholarship for an undergraduate French major preparing for a career in teaching will be announced in November.

The *Université de Montréal* has provided at least one scholarship for the past several years, and we hope that this will continue as well. We hope that the *Université du Québec à Chicoutimi* and the *Université Laval* will renew their scholarship offers. We also hope to provide scholarships for study in France and Belgium.

At this time we wish to inform interested members that more details and application materials will appear in the November *National Bulletin*. They will also be posted on the AATF Web site [[www.frenchteachers.org](http://www.frenchteachers.org)] as soon as they are available. Note that the application deadline for all scholarships is **February 15, 2005**.

## CORRIGÉ DES EXERCICES

sur l'article «La Vie des mots» paru dans la *French Review*, Vol. 77, No. 6 (May 2004). Les activités se trouvent à la page 16.

- I.
  1. je file
  2. m'a rigolé au nez
  3. tête en l'air
  4. d'une humeur massacrate
  5. n'est pas une balance
  6. n'y ont vu que du feu
  7. «Fiche-moi la paix.»
  8. fait
  9. je vais sécher le cours de chimie
  10. gobe
- II.
  1. a donné, quand il l'a fallu
  2. pensait, était
  3. elle voulut hier
  4. a poursuivi (ou: poursuivit) l'autre jour
  5. j'ai connu cet individu à un meeting.
- III.
  1. Un; 2. Une (ou: la), le; 3. un; 4. la, l'; 5. la; 6. le; 7. un; 8. les; 9. la; 10. du
- IV.
  1. en flagrant délit
  2. il m'a raccroché au nez
  3. sa meuf
  4. n'y verra que
  5. de faire de sales coups
  6. il m'a envoyé paître
  7. c'est une véritable tête en l'air
  8. je ne me rappelle pas cette conversation
  9. lui a décoché
  10. «C'est du toc!»

## AATF WELCOMES NEW HONORARY MEMBERS

The AATF was pleased to welcome two new Honorary Members during the Awards Luncheon at the convention in Atlanta on July 22, 2004. Cécile Peyronnet, now former *Attacée culturelle* at the French Consulate in Atlanta was instrumental in helping organize the convention. Her enthusiasm, dedication, and support helped make the convention a success. In addition, for the past four years she has done a tremendous amount to support French teachers in the Southeast. We were pleased to name her a new Honorary Member of the AATF in 2004. Gérard Duval is the Director of the FIAP Jean Monnet in Paris. A longtime friend of the AATF, he has been at the helm of the FIAP as it has continued its mission to provide lodging and programs to visitors from all over the world but also as the staff have developed innovative cultural programming



Pictured left to right: Cécile Peyronnet; Michel Girardin, *Directeur adjoint du FIAP* and AATF Honorary Member; AATF President Margot Steinhart; Gérard Duval.

and teacher training seminars to complement the activities already available to guests and visitors. Many American teachers and AATF members know that the FIAP is *une étape incontournable* of a visit to France. We are honored to welcome him as a new Honorary Member of the AATF in 2004.

### CHECK THE WEB FOR UPDATES

The Web site will have regular updates on AATF activities including Scholarships, National French Week, Awards [[www.frenchteachers.org](http://www.frenchteachers.org)].

### Have a Question?

If you have a question about the *Grand Concours*, about the AATF Convention, about membership, about your local chapter, about the work of our Commissions, about National French Week, go to the new AATF Web site at [[www.frenchteachers.org](http://www.frenchteachers.org)]. You'll probably find the answer there.

## NEW CD AVAILABLE ARCHITECTURAL WALKING TOUR OF PARIS

The AATF now has available a CD entitled: "Paris: A Walking Tour of Selected Buildings." Designed for architects, this excellent CD has a wealth of still and video photography of 24 Paris buildings and monuments, including the *Musée d'Orsay*, *la Grande Arche*, *la Bibliothèque nationale*, *la Cité des sciences*, *la Pyramide du Louvre*, and the *Centre Pompidou*. For each building, there is a brief introduction in English, a series of still photographs of the features of the building, a series of video clips of each building, as well as a site map.

The AATF would like to thank Jeff Roberts of New World Design Partnership for providing us with this excellent resource for French teachers.

\_\_\_\_\_ CDs x \$12.50 = Total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Mail to: AATF, Mailcode 4510, Southern Ill. Univ., Carbondale, IL 62901

## PEN PAL & PLACEMENT BUREAUX

Are you looking for a student-to-student or class-to-class pen pal exchange with France? Contact the AATF Pen Pal Bureau. Individual names of French students are available for \$.75/name. Group correspondence is available for \$7.50/class. We will provide you with names, and your students initiate the correspondence.

The AATF also offers its members a Placement Bureau service. We publish a monthly job list of positions in French at the university level. Although the labor involved in coordinating a job list for K-12 positions is prohibitive, we do occasionally get calls from schools looking for K-12 teachers. These announcements are directed to the *Babillard* on the AATF Web site [www.frenchteachers.org]. We also offer a dossier service which is available to teachers at all levels who want a secure place to maintain their complete placement file.

The job list subscription is \$15 per year. Dossier service is an additional \$15 for 12 mailings (additional mailings are \$1.50 each). There is a \$5 charge for members living outside the U.S. For more information on either of these services, contact AATF, Mailcode 4510, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901-4510; Telephone: (618) 453-5732; Fax: (618) 453-5733.

## CHAPTER CHECKLIST

- Identify mentor liaison and submit name to Regional Representative AND Suzanne Hendrickson [sue.hendrickson@asu.edu] by November 1, 2004 (see page 39).
- Identify advocacy liaison and submit name to Regional Representative AND Robert "Tennessee Bob" Peckham [bobp@utm.edu] by November 1, 2004 (see page 7).
- Send copy of chapter constitution and bylaws to National Headquarters by November 1, 2004 [abrate@siu.edu].
- Encourage, plan and promote National French Week activities for November 7-11, 2004 (see page 36).
- Nominate teachers for the AATF Dorothy S. Ludwig Excellence in Teaching Awards by February 1, 2005 (see page 2).
- Send chapter newsletter and chapter news to Regional Representative, *National Bulletin* Editor Jane Black Goepper [jbg@fuse.net] and AATF President Margot Steinhart [m.steinhart@sbcglobal.net] on a regular basis.
- Promote and participate in the AATF Book Club: Myrna's List for 2005 (see page 17).
- Commit to sending chapter president to AATF National Conference in Quebec City and to presidents' meetings on the afternoons of July 6 and July 10, 2005.

## ORDER FORM FOR NATIONAL FRENCH WEEK PROMOTIONAL ITEMS PLAN NOW FOR NEXT NOVEMBER!



The following items are available from AATF at cost for promoting National French Week. Order your promotional items now. If you wait until October, it will be too late to receive most items in time for your celebration. Prices for promotional items include shipping unless otherwise indicated.

	Quantity	Total
Bumper Stickers: <b>National French Week: November 5-11</b> [2 for \$1; 10 for \$4]	_____	_____
Pencils: <b>La Semaine du Français: du 5 au 11 novembre</b> [4 for \$1]	_____	_____
Buttons: <b>On est les meilleurs!</b> [1-25 @ 65 cents each; more than 25 @ 50 cents each]	_____	_____
Balloons: <b>National French Week: La Semaine du Français</b> [8 for \$1]	_____	_____
<b>**SPECIAL:</b> Order 25 of each item (100 items total) for \$25 (represents a 20% savings)	_____	_____
<b>T-shirts</b> (blue with white logo design) _____ T-shirts x \$10 ____ L ____ XL		_____
_____ T-shirts x \$11 ____ XXL		_____
Note: T-shirt prices do not include postage (\$3 for first T-shirt, \$1 for each additional shirt);		_____

**Total enclosed for promotional items.** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Enclose payment or purchase order and mail to: AATF, Mailcode 4510, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62190-4510. Photos of all items are available on the National French Week Web site: [www.frenchteachers.org/].

## IN MEMORIAM

RAY TOURVILLE 1935-2004



Ray with AATF President Margot Steinhart.

A great voice for foreign languages, and in particular French, has been stilled. D. Raymond Tourville died on April 9 (Good Friday) of a heart attack.

Ray had a history of congenital heart problems, but it did not deter him from putting all his heart and soul into his work. He was a true survivor, a genuine workaholic who never shied away from a challenge.

Having obtained a Master of Arts degree and done doctoral work at *l'Université Laval*, he rose from Assistant Professor of French to chair the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at Northern Illinois University, spending his entire teaching and academic administrative career there. He came to NIU in 1962 and at the time of his death was the faculty member with the longest term of service--42 years. He was director of the French and Italian Division for many years before becoming department chair in 1994, a position he held until his death. He was planning to retire in January 2005.

Ray served four years as treasurer (1978-1982) and four more as president (1982-1986) of the Chicago/Northern Illinois chapter of the AATF. He was instrumental in its development into the largest chapter of our association in the country. He was the AATF Region VII Representative from 1988 to 1993. Locally, Ray was an organizing founder and first president of the Illinois Foreign Language

Leadership Council (1987-1988) which dissolved when the Illinois Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages was formed. He also served variously as president and as treasurer of this association.

Among his many honors, in 1980 he was named the best AATF chapter treasurer. In 1992 he was made *chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes académiques*, and in 1998 he received the AATF Outstanding Teacher Award at the post-secondary level.

He founded the Foreign Language Residence Program (now called International House) at NIU's Douglas Hall for students to live and converse with native speakers of other countries. Ray's proudest accomplishment at NIU, however, may have been the establishment of a state-of-the-art foreign language learning center which rivals any language lab in the country.

Among Ray's many extracurricular activities, he was a choir member and lector at Christ the Teacher parish (Newman Center) in DeKalb. He was named Rotarian of the Year for 2003-2004. Tireless and extremely detail oriented, he balanced his administrative duties with a prescribed physical exercise program in order to keep both mind and body running as smoothly as possible.

A devoted husband and father, Ray is survived by his wife Sharon whom he married in 1965 and who was herself a teacher of French at NIU for 10 years and at DeKalb High School for 15 years, retiring in 2002. He is also survived by their son Marc and daughter Lisa Sullivan.

Ray will be sorely missed, both professionally and personally.

John Tomme  
Waubensee and Kishwaukee  
Colleges

## AATF MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2005

The AATF is again sponsoring a membership recruitment campaign. Membership in your professional association is the business of each member. Just as we seek to promote the study of French among our students and administrators, we must also promote membership in the AATF to all our colleagues, in particular our younger colleagues. We ask you to reinforce the benefits of belonging to a professional association to your colleagues.

### How It Works

We are offering a special three-for-one incentive to current members to recruit new members. If the current member can get three new members to join, 2005 membership will be free. The requirements are:

- ◆ the three new members' forms with payment must be mailed together to National Headquarters with the sponsoring AATF member's name prominently indicated;
- ◆ the current member's preprinted renewal invoice should, if possible, accompany the three new forms;
- ◆ if the current member has already paid dues for 2005, the free membership will be applied to the next calendar year; no refunds will be made.

If you are a teacher trainer, we ask you to encourage your students who are planning a career in teaching French to join as student members. Membership forms are available on the AATF Web site [[www.frenchteachers.org](http://www.frenchteachers.org)], or we will send membership forms to anyone who requests them.

If you have access to state or local mailing lists of French teachers or members of other language organizations, please think to forward those lists to us, and we will verify whether or not they are already members of the AATF and, if not, do a special mailing to them. The lists must be current and must contain specifically French teachers.

Please help us recruit new and veteran teachers to help the AATF continue to be a dynamic and growing organization!

July 7-10, 2005, Québec City

Watch for updates on our Web site:  
[www.frenchteachers.org](http://www.frenchteachers.org)

*Le français, langue de la diversité*



### Promotional Materials

Looking for materials to attract students, promote French, and enliven your classes?

Check out the

- AATF Materials Center (p. 38)
- Poster series (p. 18)
- Promotional Flyers (p. 8)
- Other Promotional Items (pp. 14, 28)

# MOTS CHASSÉS:

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Exercices sur l'article «la Vie des mots» paru dans la *French Review*, Vol. 77, No. 6 (May 2004). Le corrigé se trouve à la page 13.

I. Remplacez les mots ou expressions soulignés par des mots ou expressions familiers.

1. Il faut que je parte rapidement.
2. Ce voyou s'est moqué de moi.
3. Cet élève est étourdi.
4. Le prof est de mauvaise humeur.
5. Ce type n'a pas trahi.
6. Ses parents ne se sont rendu compte de rien.
7. «Laisse-moi tranquille!»
8. Ce joueur de basket mesure deux mètres.
9. Je pense que je n'irai pas au cours de chimie.
10. Elle croit tout ce que je lui dis.

II. Mettre les phrases au passé (faire les changements nécessaires).

1. Le proviseur donne un rendez-vous aux parents quand il le faut.
2. Son copain pense qu'il est complètement dérangé.
3. Elle veut aujourd'hui prendre rendez-vous avec lui.
4. La police va poursuivre les malfaiteurs.
5. Je connais cet individu.

III. Mettre l'article défini ou indéfini.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ de mes amis l'a contacté.
2. Va me chercher \_\_\_\_\_ boîte de pâté dans \_\_\_\_\_ frigo.
3. La gamine a \_\_\_\_\_ plan d'enfer pour sauver son chien.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ peur vrille \_\_\_\_\_ estomac.
5. Nelio est tétanisé par \_\_\_\_\_ peur.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ magazine que j'ai lu s'adresse aux adolescents.
7. Mon prof a \_\_\_\_\_ boulot fou.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ couettes sont à la mode.
9. Il a imité \_\_\_\_\_ signature de sa mère.
10. Il a été renvoyé de \_\_\_\_\_ cours de gym.

IV. Soulignez les erreurs lexicales ou grammaticales des phrases suivantes et corrigez-les.

1. La police les a arrêtés en délit flagrant.
2. Nous parlions au téléphone et soudain il m'a raccroché à la narine.
3. Il a offert une montre à sa feum.
4. Mon père y verra que du feu.
5. Les racketteurs n'arrêtent pas de faire de malpropres coups.
6. Au lieu de me répondre gentiment il m'a envoyé brouter.
7. Il oublie tout: c'est un véritable cerveau en l'air.
8. Je me rappelle de cette conversation.
9. Le voyou lui a décroché une grande claque.
10. «Ton bijou c'est du tic!»

Colette Dio, Nancy, France



# AATF NATIONAL COMMISSIONS

## Commission on Articulation

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## Commission on Cultural Competence

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## FLES\* Commission

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## Bonnie Adair-Hauck, Co-Chair

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## Commission on Professional Teacher Standards

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## Commission on Universities

**Patricia Cummins, Chair**  
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## THE AATF LAUNCHES A BOOK CLUB

The AATF has launched a Book Club to build a community of readers among French teachers. It will be initiated this year with a view toward featuring books by Quebec authors at the 2005 Convention which will take place in Quebec City from July 7-10. This is a great opportunity to get to know Quebec literature and to share your knowledge with colleagues. A book list is being provided here to allow participants to read in advance of the convention. We expect to have lively discussion groups led by experts at the convention. AATF Chapters can also use the Book Club as an interesting subject for a meeting. We hope that many of you will participate in this interactive activity which should prove to be enjoyable and enriching. It's not Oprah, but with your help we hope to make it a success!

### Myrna's List:

*Une Saison dans la vie d'Emmanuel*, Marie-Claire Blais

This work was hailed as a masterpiece both in North America and Western Europe. Blais' portrait of a large, poor family, presided over by the extraordinary grandmother Antoinette, her exposition of the terrors and appetites of Quebec rural life make this a memorable work.

*Salut Galarneau!* Jacques Godbout

This novel tells of a student who leaves his studies, opens a hot-dog stand and pursues the myth of money-making only to find his true vocation, that of writing. "Le roi du hot dog" portrays a sort of popular

*Québécois* everyman. This book is a refreshing exercise in free-wheeling fancy that depicts the new Quebec society.

*Cet été qui chantait*, Gabrielle Roy

In this work, Roy has captured the moods and rhythms of a life permeated with the simplicity and peace that arise from a close union with nature. Stamped with her genius, these recorded reminiscences contribute various rays of light and intensity to a composite picture of summer in rural Quebec.

These inexpensive books and other French books can be purchased at a 10% discount from Exportlivre: e-mail: [tderi@exportlivre.com]; fax: (450) 671-2121; tel: (450) 671-3888. Contact person: Colette Dupuis. Just mention that you are an AATF member when ordering in order to be eligible for the discount. The price does not include shipping which will vary according to how many books are ordered and where they are shipped.

*Bonne lecture!*

Myrna Delson-Karan  
Region I Representative

Editor's Note: Myrna Delson-Karan, Associate Professor of French and Quebec Literature at Fordham University, served in New York as Education Attaché for the Government of Québec (1990-2000). She was elected to *l'Ordre des Francophones d'Amérique* (Québec) in 2003 and promoted to the rank of *Commandeur dans l'Ordre des Palmes académiques* (France) in 1997. She was awarded the Nelson Brooks Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Culture by ACTFL in 2000.

## 2004 AWARD WINNERS ATLANTA CONVENTION

### AATF Dorothy Ludwig Excellence in Teaching Award

Secondary Level:

**Janel Lafond-Paquin (MA)**

Post-Secondary Level:

**Marilyn Conwell (PA)**

### National French Contest Administrator of the Year

**Paula Frank (RI)** - Small

Chapter

**Deborah Bartle (VA)** - Large

Chapter

### AATF Outstanding Chapter Awards

Large Chapters

First place tie

**Tennessee & Virginia**

Small Chapters

First place tie

**Northwest Indiana & New Mexico**

## NEW POSTER SERIES



We are pleased to announce a series of six promotional posters for French teachers. The posters are full-color 11x17" based on the themes "Parlez-vous...histoire?" "Parlez-vous...cuisine?" "Parlez-vous...civilisation?" "Parlez-vous...sciences?" "Parlez-vous...sports?" and finally "Parlez-vous...français?" They were designed especially for the AATF with support from a grant from the French Cultural Service and the AATF. The brightly-colored abstract posters suggest many aspects of French and Francophone cultures that can be treated in the classroom. A 123-page guide for using the posters to promote French is included. Thumbnail sketches of the six posters can be viewed on the AATF Web site at [www.frenchteachers.org/] under National Headquarters.

To order enclose a check or purchase order for \$15 and mail it to AATF Posters, Mailcode 4510, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901-4510; Fax: (618) 453-5733.

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

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# CELEBRATE NATIONAL FRENCH WEEK

## NOVEMBER 5-11, 2004

### TANT QU'ELLE CHANTE, ELLE VIT *apprendre le français grâce à l'héritage de Carole Fredericks*

This program, a joint venture of the AATF and CDF Music Legacy, LLC, is based on the music of Carole Fredericks, an African-American singer who emigrated to France in 1979. The packet includes six music videos and a workbook featuring des exercices pédagogiques. Because Carole was a protegee of Jean-Jacques Goldman, he has written a special tribute about her for the workbook.

Mail or fax this form with payment to AATF Materials, Mailcode 4510, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901-4510; fax: 618-453-5733.

*Tant qu'elle chante, elle vit* video and workbook  
\_\_\_\_\_ set(s)

\$40 per set (member price); \$45 (non-member). Includes postage & handling.

Total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Check enclosed. Make check payable to AATF.

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# PROMOTION IN MOTION

## JUDGING THE "TOUR DU MONDE DE LA FRANCOPHONIE" CONTEST

A one-month trip to several Francophone countries was the grand prize presented in Atlanta to the eight winners of the "Tour du monde de la Francophonie" contest. Students between the ages of 16 and 18 with a minimum of four years of French were eligible to compete by submitting projects on a wide range of subjects which would allow them to discover the Francophone world in all its "cultural, economic, social, linguistic, and historic dimensions." Approximately 100 students entered the contest, and a list of 24 finalists was announced in early May.

As Co-Chair of the National Commission on the Promotion of French, I was asked to

judge the finalists and come up with a list of winners. I quickly enlisted several other secondary school teachers who serve with me on the Board of Directors of the AATF Eastern Massachusetts Chapter. The finalists forwarded to me their introductory videos and essays describing their projects, letters of recommendation, and, of course, the actual projects, some of which weighed more than 50 pounds. Within a week, my living room looked like a UPS depot! My cat camped out on the couch in a total state of shock, and my husband quietly refused to sign for any more deliveries. It took five trips in my loaded car to transport all the components of the projects to one central judging locale--our Secretary's basement/office which was spacious and equipped with all the necessary technical machinery (VCR/DVD/computers for PowerPoint presentations).

The actual judging stretched over three weeks and took 20 hours (not including the prep of scoring rubrics). We began by watching each video or DVD (average length 7-10 minutes). Then we read the written parts and the recommendation letters. Finally, we evaluated the finished product. Next we wrote a set of questions, in part based on the projects, for the telephone interviews. Finalists were notified by e-mail that a judge would be calling them on a certain day within a certain time frame. These interviews were key factors in determining the winners. Students were not given the questions beforehand and had no way to prepare for them. In fact, the tele-

phone interview was our common denominator and perhaps the best way we had not only to assess the finalists' oral proficiency but also to evaluate their intellectual and personal maturity. Our most telling ques-



tion was: "Si tu gagnais ce voyage, tu représenterais les États-Unis. Que dirais-tu sur la vie américaine aux citoyens des pays francophones?" Answers ranged from fast food, weather, sports, families, movies, TV, music, and jobs to the war in Iraq and President Bush's policies!

It was not easy coming up with a list, and all the finalists deserve to be congratulated. However, the real winners of this contest are the teachers who encouraged their students to enter. Not only have you taught the requisite oral and written skills, but more importantly you have infused your students with a passion for learning which extends far beyond the four walls of a classroom. To the teachers of the 24 finalists: Jean Briscoce (Marion, NC), Molly Delin (Columbia, MO), Suzanne Gyurgyk (Shaker Heights, OH), Lydia Gilkey (Mobile, AL), Joann Nabb (Matthews, NC), Mme Husk (Somerville, NJ), Saralee Taylor (Powell, TN), Cindee Joshua (Middletown, DE), Joyce Skocic (Mt. Vernon, OH), Patti Simon (Bellaire, TX), Sophie Renoult (Douglas, AZ), SuAnn Schroeder (Marshfield, WI), Ann Miller (Kansas City, MO), Svetoslava Dimova (Smyrna, GA), Lisa Walborn (Fort Wayne, IN), Irina Dorfman (San Diego, CA), Inez Hill (Fairmont, WV), and Judith Daniel (Harrisonburg, VA), *Bravo et bonne continuation!*

Joyce Beckwith

Co-Chair, Commission for the Promotion of French

### Contest Winners

#### Greer Nabb (NC)

"La Normandie:" un album de photo que l'élève a prises avec un commentaire personnel et un journal intime écrit par Bécassine, une jeune fille normande habillée en costume traditionnel (que l'élève a fait), photos de toutes les attractions touristiques et aussi des scènes de la vie quotidienne à la maison et à une ferme.

#### December Kinney (OH)

"Les Pieds noirs:" un journal intime écrit par une femme en Algérie qui explique l'histoire, la lutte sociale et politique et la vie quotidienne des pieds noirs.

#### Marisa Chien (CA)

"L'Arbre francophone: ma vision:" un très bel arbre (en fil et en bois) construit par l'élève et dont chaque feuille représente un pays francophone, la base de l'arbre, peinte à la main, avec des symboles qui caractérisent la Francophonie.

#### Lisa Hahn (CA)

"L'Afrique francophone:" deux énormes posters qui montrent l'histoire ethnique et linguistique des pays francophones d'Afrique.

#### José García (AZ)

"Les Couleurs et la force de la Francophonie:" travail visuel d'un lion, choisi comme symbole de la Francophonie (la force/le pouvoir) avec les 51 drapeaux des pays francophones.

#### Tania Cortes (VA)

"La Danse: le galliard:" présentation vidéo où l'élève montre comment on danse le galliard, danse de la Renaissance. Elle a fait des recherches, appris les pas et elle a fait un costume d'époque, et elle a trouvé la musique.

#### Candace Casey (AL)

"Une étude de la Francophonie:" présentation PowerPoint montrant une étude profonde de la Francophonie de ses origines jusqu'au présent.

#### Jessica Nash (TN)

"La Musique francophone:" une interprétation personnelle sous forme de trois tableaux qui représentent des chansons francophones, travail écrit sur l'importance de la musique.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AATF ANNUAL CONVENTION IN ATLANTA

The 77<sup>th</sup> AATF Annual Convention officially opened at the Hilton Hotel in Atlanta on July 19, 2004. However, in addition to months of planning, the organizers' work began earlier in the preceding week. AATF Executive Director Jayne Abrate and her Assistant April Walsh drove from National Headquarters in Illinois to Atlanta, notwithstanding a hailstorm and nonstop international communication thanks to cell phone



The AATF Executive Council

technology. The AATF Executive Council arrived on Thursday and, under the leadership of President Margot Steinhart, met for two days of planning and deliberations at the Airport Hilton. Past-President and President of the Atlanta Organizing Committee Jean-Pierre Piriou left the meeting on Friday morning to attend a press conference



(from left) Chantal Manès, Executive Director Jayne Abrate, *Ministre de la Francophonie* Xavier Darcos, President Margot Steinhart, Past-President Jean-Pierre Piriou, French Ambassador Jean-David Levitte

at City Hall with Mayor Shirley Franklin providing an official send-off to the convention.

On Saturday, the Executive Council transferred to the downtown Hilton, and attendees and dignitaries began arriving. Slightly more than half the participants stayed at the Hilton, while most of the rest were housed in residence halls at nearby Emory University.

An all-day *va-et-vient* on Sunday between the Hilton and the airport ensured the safe and timely arrival of the dignitaries. Carefully coordinated by Cécile Peyronnet and Aurélien Lépine-Kouas of the French Consulate in Atlanta, the feat was managed with aplomb despite several flight delays and a

missing passenger. The Organizing Committee wishes to thank the French Consul in Atlanta, René-Serge Marty and his staff for organizing a reception for the boards of the AATF and the FIPF as well as invited guests and members of the community on Sunday evening. He also hosted a dinner at his residence for a number of dignitaries and community members. AATF President Margot Steinhart and Executive Director Jayne Abrate were pleased to attend this event.

Also Sunday evening, convention attendees were treated to a reception and concert by singers Nathalie Renault from New Brunswick and Laurence Jalbert from Quebec, sponsored by the government of Canada.

Monday's Opening Ceremonies were presided over by Abdou Diouf, former President of Senegal and *Secrétaire général de l'Organisation internationale de la Francophonie*. At the opening ceremony, he was joined on the podium by AATF President Margot Steinhart, the President of the FIPF, Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin, Éliane

De Pues-Levaque, Permanent Representative of the *Communauté française de Belgique en Louisiane*, Nathalie Normandeau, *Ministre au Développement régional et au Tourisme du Québec*, Michael F. Kergin, Canadian Ambassador to the U.S., and Xavier Darcos, *Ministre délégué à la*

*coopération, au développement et à la Francophonie* (France), who also read a message from French President Jacques Chirac. Following the opening remarks, M. Diouf presented awards to the winners of the *Concours TV5* and the *Tour du monde de la Francophonie*. After a pause for lunch, participants returned to the Grand Ballroom to hear Hélène Carrère-d'Encausse, *Secrétaire perpétuelle à l'Académie française*, followed by a round table featuring *les*

*opérateurs de la Francophonie*. Later, attendees were able to get a first look at the 70 exhibits during a Wine and Cheese Reception. Monday evening, *chanteur, compositeur et auteur cadrien* Zachary Richard entertained participants with a concert of *musique américaine francophone*. He had everyone on their feet dancing and received a standing ovation.



M. Abdou Diouf

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday were devoted to break-out sessions given by *congressistes* themselves as well as invited experts. Each day focused on a different theme, *la Diversité des politiques linguistiques, la Diversité pédagogique et didactique, and la Diversité des usages*, respectively. The keynote speakers for each day were Guy Dumas, *Sous Ministre associé responsable de l'application de la politique linguistique* (Quebec), AATF member Sally Magnan, University of Wisconsin, and Henriette Walter (France). Each day's professional program featured semi-plenary sessions, round tables, workshops, and papers. The *congressistes* were also able to continue visiting the exhibit hall, participate in the exhibitors' raffle, have their picture taken for a press release, check their e-mail in the *Cybercafé* (sponsored by Renault Eurodrive and CAVILAM), be entertained by music and poetry in the *Café-concert*, and make new friends during and between sessions.

The cultural program of the convention continued with each evening highlighting a different Francophone area. Tuesday evening, attendees were entertained by the Royal Drummers of Africa, directed by Mor Thiam. Many of the troupe's members perform regularly at Disney World. We extend a special thanks to *Attachée culturelle* Cécile Peyronnet for all she did to organize and secure sponsors for this remarkable



The Royal Drummers of Africa



L'Équipe de France: (from left) Pascale De Schuyter (MAE, Paris), Pascal Hanse (MAE, Paris), Dominique Geslin (MAE, Paris), Fabrice Jaumont (French Embassy, NY), Chantal Manès (French Embassy, Washington), Xavier North, Director du français au MAE, Adam Steg (French Consulate, New Orleans), Samia Benaouret (stagiaire)

spectacle. On Wednesday, TV5 sponsored an evening moderated by Bernard Pivot and entitled "Double Jeu à Atlanta" where many teachers were able to share their experiences. Thursday evening, the government of Quebec offered attendees an evening of traditional music and dance by *La Grand' Débâcle*.

Friday morning began with a keynote speech by Dyane Adam (Canada)



Bernard Pivot

followed by two round table discussions, one on French in the Americas, moderated by AATF Past-President Jean-Pierre Piriou, and the other a round table of Francophone authors, moderated by Christopher Pinet, Editor of the *French Review*. The closing ceremonies, including a statement summarizing the deliberations of the convention adopted by attendees, concluded the day's professional program. All that remained was the *Soirée festive*, an evening of music, dance, and food with a DJ where participants could share their experiences and give the convention a proper send-off. By the enthusiasm of the dancers who remained until the very last song (Ray

the support of the *Organisation internationale de la Francophonie* and the *Agence intergouvernementale de la Francophonie* enabled many teachers from all over the world to participate. All the representatives with whom the AATF had contact were supportive and cooperative. In particular, we would like to thank Anissa Barrak and Michèle Marcadier. We would also like to thank the many sponsors whose contributions helped make the event a huge success--the government of Canada, the government

Charles' rendition of "Georgia On My Mind" which reflected the mood of the participants), the event was a rousing success.

On Saturday morning, about 120 congressistes participated in bus tours of Atlanta, taking them on a visit of historic neighborhoods, to the Martin Luther King and Jimmy Carter Centers, and to Coca Cola and CNN World Headquarters.

Organizing a convention of this magnitude would be impossible without the help of many individuals. First and foremost, the AATF would like to thank the government of France and its representatives in Washington and Atlanta for their unwavering support of the AATF and the convention. From *Ministre* Darcos to the *stagiaires* who helped at the booth, each representative lent his or her wholehearted support and expertise to this enormous endeavor. M. Diouf's presence at the convention as well as



Zachary Richard

Their monetary and in-kind support was greatly appreciated. We would also like to thank our exhibitors and advertisers (whose links can be found on the convention Exhibitor Page) for their willingness to support the convention.

Luck often plays a bigger role than we would like to admit in the success of an event. The Organizing Committee was fortunate to be able to count on the services of Jeff Whitney and his staff from Event Transportation, particularly Jessie and Analena, who handled the shuttles, on-site registration staffing, stuffing bags, as well as the Saturday excursions. Our go-to guys for audiovisual services remain Technology Express, based in St. Louis, who have handled AV for our last four U.S. conventions, but we also were able to rely on James Wagner of Productions and Concerts for the sound and



AATF Officers meet with Nathalie Normandeau (from left, Executive Director Jayne Abrate, Past-President Jean-Pierre Piriou, Mme Normandeau, President Margot Steinhart)

lighting for each evening's performance. Thanks also to Sam Miller and his security staff, the conference personnel at Emory University, and the wonderful staff of the Hilton Hotel, especially our convention manager Carla Pollicard and Onur, Rakesh, and Radomir. The headquarters staff of the AATF, April Walsh, Rosalba Correa, and Amy Hanson went above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that everything was done when it needed to be. And finally, a very special thanks to Joscyln Riech and Printec Press for moving heaven and earth to get the convention program to us on time.



La Grand' Débâcle

## JNCL/NCLIS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 2004

The JNCL/NCLIS Executive Director, J. David Edwards, and staff have spent time working on the following issues in 2004.

- Working with Senator Christopher Dodd's (D-CT) office to draft the Paul Simon International and Foreign Language Studies Act of 2004 reauthorizing Title VI of the Higher Education Act. This bill retains the existing program but adds undergraduate eligibility for FLAS Fellowships, provides undergraduate study abroad opportunities, allows the Dept. of Education (ED) to gather data, and increases the Part A authorization by \$40 million to \$120 million..
- Contacted members of Senate HELP Committee to express opposition to the House Title VI reauthorization bill's (HR 3077) creation of an International Higher Education Advisory Board. Worked with concerned staff and organizations to develop strategies regarding a board for Title VI.
- Met with Representative Rush Holt and his staff to craft HR 3676, the National Security Language Act. Discussed strategies for the Intelligence and Education Committees. Assisted in seeking cosponsors and organizational support. Discussed other languages initiatives Representative Holt might undertake.
- Also in the House, seeking support and consideration for the Homeland Security Federal Workforce Act which the Senate passed last year and seeking sponsors for a National Year of Languages Resolution similar to one sponsored by Senators Dodd and Thad Cochran (R-MS) in the Senate.
- In appropriations for FY'04, succeeded in increasing funding for the Foreign Language Assistance Program (FLAP), defended small programs important to the field from elimination, and halved the proposed decrease for Title VI of the Higher Education Act.
- In the Administration's budget proposal for FY'05, unsuccessful in attempts to prevent zero funding for FLAP. Also failed to prevent the elimination of the ERIC Clearinghouses.
- Continue to work with the staff of FLAP to provide information to the field, find readers, evaluate and identify programs, secure grants, and ensure the program's continuance. Also cooperate with ED to provide information about and to Title VI, FIPSE, NCLB, Title III, and other relevant



J. David Edwards (right) pictured with Rep. Rush Holt at the Delegate Assembly, May 2004.

programs.

- Sought and provided information about and to, as well as attended meetings and collaborated on projects with, the Defense Language Institute, the Foreign Service Institute, the FBI, Department of Defense, Department of State, USDA's Graduate School, Center for the Advanced Study of Languages, National Endowment for the Humanities, Goethe Institute, and the French and Italian Embassies.
- Serve on the National Security Education Program's Group of Advisers and confer regularly with the director and staff regarding their programs. Deal with the responsible congressional committees and staff to attempt to safeguard the program's location, nature and funding. Provided information to the field about NSEP's report and now pilot program on a Civilian Linguistic Reserve Corps.
- Providing assistance to the Department of Defense in planning an upcoming national conference on languages to include the Secretaries of Defense, State, and Labor.
- Attended and presented at the Northeast Conference, Central States Conference, AATF, AATG, TraiNDaF, and International Visitors.
- Continue to receive and address requests for materials and information from Congress, agencies, media, organizations, and individuals and to refer them to appropriate JNCL/NCLIS member organizations. Regularly update the Web site with current materials and information while maintaining and adding materials of interest and use to our members such as grant writing, important speeches, press release, and articles.
- Maintained and administered an office, staff, and budget while addressing increased workloads with decreased resources.

## MESSAGE CONCERNANT LE GRAND CONCOURS

Chers collègues:

Au nom du Comité national de Développement du Grand Concours, je vous encourage tous et toutes à participer en force en mars 2005 à l'unique épreuve de français destinée à tous nos lycéens. Le Concours a récemment subi de grands changements. Mes camarades du comité de rédaction et moi-même avons révisé le format de ce concours pour le rendre beaucoup plus accessible à tous les élèves. Nous sommes enseignantes comme vous l'êtes, et nous savons bien qu'arrivé le mois de mars chaque année, on est loin d'en avoir fini avec le programme! La liste des connaissances requises a donc été allégée, surtout pour les débutants. Nous avons essayé, à l'intérieur des limites imposées par le format QCM du Concours, de refléter la réalité des classes de français un peu partout dans la nation.

En outre, j'ai personnellement recommandé chaleureusement à tous les Administrateurs de Concours qui font preuve d'un si grand dévouement à la cause du français de continuer leur excellent travail et de s'assurer que les résultats des élèves, ainsi que les certificats et médailles arrivent dans toutes les écoles en temps voulu pour la Distribution des Prix de fin d'année qui dans certaines écoles a lieu en mai.

Si vous ignorez tout de ce concours annuel de français, ou bien si vous l'avez abandonné depuis quelques années, consultez le site de la AATF à [[www.frenchteachers.org](http://www.frenchteachers.org)], et cliquez sur *Grand Concours*: vous trouverez sur ce site tous les renseignements nécessaires pour inscrire vos élèves, y compris des exemples des modifications du concours. Cette année, la participation nationale a presque atteint les 100.000 élèves. À l'avenir, je voudrais voir ce chiffre largement dépassé: le Concours n'est plus réservé à "l'élite" de la classe. Dès la rentrée, annoncez aux parents et aux élèves que tout le monde va y participer en mars 2005. Vos élèves seront encouragés par les résultats très positifs et leur réussite, même si elle est modeste, est peut-être ce qui va les convaincre de poursuivre leur étude de notre belle langue!

Si vous avez des questions ou des suggestions, n'hésitez pas à m'envoyer un courriel à [[genevieve@delfosse.com](mailto:genevieve@delfosse.com)].

Geneviève Delfosse  
Chair, NFC Development  
Committee



## VIVE LE TOUR DE FRANCE!

Honor  
**LANCE ARMSTRONG**  
and celebrate the American victory in  
**LE TOUR DE FRANCE!**

Join the  
**FLES NATIONAL FRENCH CONTEST**  
for grades 1 through 6

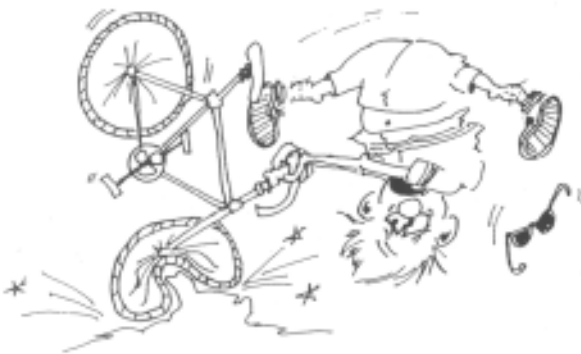
Contact Elizabeth Miller: [mmemiller@aol.com](mailto:mmemiller@aol.com)  
74 Tuscaloosa Ave, Atherton, CA 94027



### Create more American victories

by bringing your students the excitement of the **National French Contest** sponsored by the AATF (American Association of Teachers of French). Let your community see what is unique about your elementary school through your **national** and **local AATF chapter winners**.

Like **le maillot jaune** which honors the victor at each **stage**, every school has a winner.  
Like **le maillot blanc** which honors the young riders, even the youngest students can shine.



**Don't miss out!** Help us bring your elementary school French programs into our teacher network. Creative teachers all over the country are introducing children in grades 1 to 6 to the extraordinary world of speaking French while they are at their most receptive age. These children are:

**stronger in other academic disciplines,  
they have an increased global vision,  
they are more confident about themselves,  
and are more tolerant of others.**

- Help us find those teachers who haven't joined AATF who would like the opportunity to share ideas and resources with other elementary foreign language teachers.
- AATF provides support, pedagogical workshops, publications, the National French Contest, and a network to help interact with other French teachers at this level.

## KEEP THE VICTORIOUS SPIRIT ALIVE!

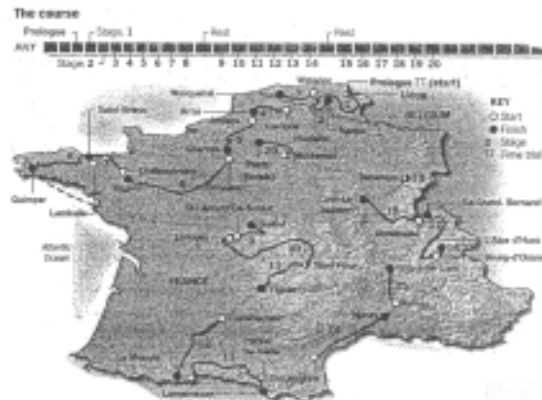
## SALUT LES JEUNES

### Le Tour de France et la Victoire de Lance Armstrong!

This is a recycling (*jeu de mots!*) of a traditional vocabulary or number game we have all used in class. It's a glorified "Around the World" with a cultural identity! It can be performed in a circle or behind each student's chair, but it is even more authentic if you trace out *l'hexagone* depicting the country of France on the floor with masking tape (easy to remove) and have the students place themselves along the borders of the country. A small *Tour Eiffel* souvenir can be placed on the floor to represent Paris. This gives you the chance to point out for older students the difference between **Le** Tour de France et **La** Tour Eiffel. Even better, if you have an *Arc de Triomphe*, you can explain that this is where the *Tour de France* ends every year, regardless of the route. The first student stands behind the second. The teacher shows a card (vocabulary, number, picture, or question). The first of the two to answer correctly moves on to the next student, taking the *maillot jaune*. (I use a tiny yellow tee shirt, but a drawing is fine, too.) If they shout the correct answer at the same time, have the whole class shout *ÉGALITÉ* and give another card until there is a winner. You can determine the final winner by a time limit, or when the first student makes it all the way around, or whenever the students become restless.

*Le Tour de France* is a three week bicycle race which takes place in July. Cyclists from all over the world train for years to participate. 2004 marks the 91st race and it took place between July 3 and 25. The route changes each year, but always ends with the cyclists finishing in Paris along the *Champs Elysées*. This is a map of the 2005 route. Note that *le Tour* began in *Liège* which is in Belgium (*la Belgique*). Lance Armstrong, USA, won in 2004 for the sixth time! Bravo!

Visit: [www.letour.fr/2004](http://www.letour.fr/2004) for pictures, film clips, souvenirs, information.



Associated Press Graphic San Francisco Chronicle JULY 1, 2004

Cyclists compete as teams, but there are individual honors represented by *maillots* of different colors. Enlarge the following illustrations for your younger students to color.

#### LE MAILLOT JAUNE

awarded to the rider with the best time.



#### LE MAILLOT VERT

awarded to the rider with the most points.



#### LE MAILLOT À POIS

(pois rouges)  
awarded to the best rider in mountains.



#### LE MAILLOT BLANC

awarded to best under 25 years of age.



Elizabeth Miller  
Crystal Springs Uplands School (CA)



# LE PETIT CONCOURS – LE GRAND CONCOURS

## 1. ORIGIN:

In 1936, the Executive Council of the American Association of Teachers of French voted a national examination to help determine the relative student achievement in the learning of French in the U.S. and to gain more attention for the Association.

The Regional Representatives constituted the first directors of the competition from 1936-1945, each developing the testing instrument for all levels in his/her region. Notes were compared at the annual national meeting.

In 1946, a new plan was developed, and the job of overseeing the development of this national examination was assigned to one individual. The Executive Council then decided to call the event the "National French Contest" and to offer prizes to top-scoring students. Following are the names of the national directors of this event and the dates they held this position:

Maurice Chazin	1946-1947
Joseph O. Embry	1948-1949
James W. Glennen	1950-1956
J. Henry Owens	1956-1957
James W. Glennen	1958-1969
Sidney L. Teitelbaum	1969-2004

## 2. INITIAL DEVELOPMENT:

In October 1969 (the actual date is lost to history buffs) the author received a message from Martin Sabin, a dear friend, and Region III Representative. He was calling on behalf of the AATF Executive Council which had learned that Director James Glennen was to be hospitalized for a prolonged stay. Since the planning for the 1970 National French Contest was already underway, the Council sought someone to serve as a temporary replacement. Martin knew of my work with the Contest in our Nassau, New York Chapter and recommended me.

My background consisted of three years as Contest Chairman for the Nassau Chapter and of entering many students in the annual event. (Parenthetically, it comes to mind that one of my students, Barbara Schwartzmann, placed first nationally in level 2. Some students live forever in a teacher's memory!)

I accepted the Council's offer to serve as a temporary replacement and visited M. Glennen in Minneapolis. He gave me some scraps of paper, representing what had come into his office at that time regarding the 1970 examinations. He gave me a list of participating teachers and the names of 34 teachers who had agreed to serve as their chapter's representative. Since there were 69 chapters, my first



tasks were to find 35 additional teachers to represent their chapters and to prepare the 1970 National French Contest. I set out to coordinate the existing material for the 1970 National French Contest and to conduct a talent search.

In order not to deviate too strongly from past examinations, the format of the 1970 instrument followed that of previous years: *dictée*, aural comprehension, sound discrimination, rejoinders, and narrative comprehension.

I paid a return visit to Minneapolis and reviewed my work with James Glennen, listened to his suggestions, and wished him well. He promised to call me when he left the hospital.

That call never came.

James Glennen died in the hospital.

An appeal to teachers for help resulted in the recruitment of Col. Edward E. Farnsworth (VA). A retired U.S. Army colonel, Ed and I became dear friends as he assumed the role of National Chair of Eligibility, a role that was to loom large in the development of the Contest.

Until 1970, 90% of the students entered the Contest via Division A (i.e., American students with little or no prior exposure to French.) Some 10% entered in Division B, denoting significant exposure to French at home and/or at school. Ed refined the system, wrote the early regulations, and opened the door for additional divisions. His goal was to encourage fair competition, so that students competed with others who possessed similar experience. Our two divisions in 1970 have grown to five divisions at this writing.

In 1970, 48,157<sup>1</sup> students competed, having been entered by 1100 teachers. The price per exam: \$0.25. The *dictée* and the rejoinders were recorded on 78 rpm

records which sold for \$3.50 each. The levels that were tested were 1-5. FLES was still two years off. The National Committee in these early years consisted of Sid Teitelbaum (NY), Director, Edward E. Farnsworth (VA), National Chair for Eligibility, Emma Blanch (CT), National Chair of Publicity, Gilbert Mueller (NJ), National Chair of Test Development.

In 1971, we recognized the growing importance of FLES: Foreign Language in the Elementary School (the future of French learning, as I like to term it.) No other AAT had a FLES component which added impetus to our determination. In fact, to this date, no other AAT has a FLES component.

I added Dr. Gladys Lipton to our national committee. Gladys was a leading proponent of FLES in the U.S., as well Assistant Director of Foreign Languages for the Board of Education of the City of New York. It was in her living room in Queens, NY, that French teacher Jerry Mirsky, Gladys Lipton, and I, working late into several nights, fashioned the first FLES national exam. It attracted over 5000 students and 350 teachers. Prizes, congratulatory letters, and several professional articles heralded the event. Over 30 years later, FLES remains in our *Concours* canon and is currently under the guiding hand of Elizabeth Miller (CA).

A year later, we recognized the growth of middle school in our educational establishment. Middle school, in a large sense, replaced junior high school, which meant that students beginning their study of French in Grade 7 or 8 often on the basis of two years = one year of Contest, needed a measure of their own. Hence, level 01 was born.

The National French Contest became an eight-level competition: Levels 01, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and FLES A (without a reading component) and FLES B (with a reading component).

Our national committee grew as enrollment warranted. Emma Blanch (CT) was our first (and only) National Chair for Publicity and Public Relations. After I tried my hand at writing the various level examinations, the task was handed over to Gilbert Mueller (NJ) Virginia Ballard (MD), then Marie-Rose Gerdisch (IL), who rendered remarkable service by fashioning the exams, levels 01-5, for over 21 years; then Hélène Sanko (OH), finally to Geneviève Delfosse (VA) who holds this vital position today. Our first FLES Chair was Gladys Lipton (NY, later MD) and Past AATF President. She was succeeded by Elizabeth Miller who has threatened for 15

years to find a successor but who continues to perform with outstanding success and vitality to this day.

The critical position of ascertaining placement and adjudicating which level and division are right for a given student has been tended with fairness. Only two people have held this position in 35 years: Col. Edward E. Farnsworth (VA) and Professor George Diller (FL).

The position of National Chair of Awards has grown as the number of awards has increased dramatically from 2000 to a record-setting 13,000 in 2004. Formerly in the hands of the author, the selection and awarding of prizes became one of the components handled by Lisa Narug (IL). Lisa began her work with AATF in 1991, first as assistant to Fred Jenkins, who served as AATF Executive Director, then as an indefatigable National Chair for *le Grand Concours*. She has served as liaison with Ken Tindle on our computer scoring and as a key assistant in every phase of *le Grand Concours*. The Executive Council named her Assistant Director of the *Concours* in 2001.

### 3. EARLY PROBLEMS

Let me jump back in time to 1972. This was the time of student unrest, particularly at the college level. I was affected somewhat because I taught two French courses at Nassau Community College.

By the time I arrived at school (in time for my evening classes) unrest had settled down for the day. However, posters everywhere proclaimed STUDENT RIGHTS. Since matters were so quiet and since the Contest was “only” a middle and high school phenomenon, I never expected any problems. However....

I was studying at St. John's University in New York and the big talk in 1972 was of the installation of computer scoring. A friend of mine who took courses with me told me of his work in this field and happened to mention how much simpler the lives of the teacher would be now that he/she had the capability of machine-scoring exams.

My ears perked up, my mouth (figuratively, anyway) salivated. Machine scoring! Wouldn't I become the darling of the profession, if I could arrange to have our Contest papers machine scored.

I announced this miracle to an audience at our annual AATF meeting. Teachers responded in excited tones. “Imagine! We do not have to score our own papers any more.” The other major change would be the elimination of the *dictée* simply because the St. John's computer could not score it. I took this news with outward disappointment but inward delight; I never relished the *dictée*: all it did was give

teachers the opportunity to deduct 1/4 point for each mistake.

A few days before the machine-scoring was to be held, my wife, two friends whom I recruited with the promise of a certificate (signed by the director!), with coffee and croissants, and I met for a planning session. The machine scoring officials gathered and we were about to negotiate compensation when all hell broke loose. The student body voted to take over the administrative wing of the university which, *hélas*, housed the machine scoring facilities!

I notified Fred Jenkins, who calmly but firmly asked what alternative plans we had.

We had none! (Ah, the remarkable optimism of youth!)

Since we had no alternative, my wife, two friends, joined by my daughter Jean, and I made the only logical decision: we would score the papers ourselves!

And we did—all 45,004 of them.

It took days away from our jobs—it took nights away from our comfortable beds, but we did it.

Scores were announced by two-finger-typed letters to the Contest Chairs; prizes were sent, *Distributions des Prix* were held, and we did not return to machine scoring for 20 years.

In 1994, Tom Welch (KY) offered to pilot machine-scoring. We found 12 chapters that volunteered to become involved in this endeavor. It was so successful that, in the following year, we expanded it to include every chapter, Levels 01-5. FLES presented other problems and was not included in machine-scoring until 1999.

Today, Ken Tindle of the University of Kentucky is our computer genius and almost 100,000 papers are scored—not simply for two divisions as we did in 1970, but for seven divisions. Papers are sent by the teachers to the Contest Administrator who sends them to Ken for scoring.. The job is accomplished by Ken, a highly dedicated, skilled professional. The FLES component of verbal rejoinders cannot be scored (as yet) by computer; hence, that section is scored by our remarkably talented National Chair for FLES, Elizabeth Miller, and her committee.

To level the playing field, we needed to compensate for students' differing backgrounds with regard to exposure to French. We also studied varying school scheduling programs: i.e., French 3 times per week for a year; French 7<sup>th</sup> Grade + 8<sup>th</sup> Grade = equivalent of French 1; modular scheduling; midyear entry point. We found that backgrounds and entry points could be successfully combined into seven separate divisions and that, for the most part, students would “fit” into one of these divisions. The details regarding placement

in one of the seven divisions can be found in the *Manual for Contest Administrators* or by contacting one of the Contest Administrators.

### 4. TODAY

*Le Grand Concours* is in its best condition ever. 97,615 students participated in 2004; every AATF Chapter has a Contest Administrator who is responsible for coordination of chapter contest activities; over 13,000 medals were awarded, more than in any other year; the turnaround time between contest end and the publication of scores is minimal; the National Committee consists of dedicated, experienced professionals. These professionals are: Sid Teitelbaum, National Director (note: Sid has announced his retirement effective September 30, 2004); Lisa Narug, Assistant Director; Geneviève Delfosse, National Chair of Test Development (Levels 01-5); George Diller, National Chair for Eligibility and Placement; Elizabeth Miller, National Chair for FLES; Kenneth Tindle, National Chair for Computer Operations.

### 5. TOMORROW

What faces us tomorrow?

Essentially, we need to continue to encourage teachers to enter all of their students in *le Grand Concours*.

Our immediate enrollment goal of 100,000 is attainable in the very near future. Thereafter, the *Grand Concours* must continue to reach out to all teachers of French and to find ways of accelerated enrollment. Awards must continue both in quality and in quantity—not only for students but for teachers as well.

Isn't it reasonable that ways can be found to enroll all students who study French in *le Grand Concours*?

It is a goal I set for my successor.

Sidney L. Teitelbaum

Director, *Grand Concours*

<sup>1</sup>Enrollment in 1970: Level 1, 17,450; Level 2, 13,946; Level 3, 9,371; Level 4, 4,326; Level 5, 3,054 (48,157 total). Enrollment in 2004: FLES, 5,200; Level 01, 8,096; Level 1, 22,544; Level 2, 23,340; Level 3, 19,858; Level 4, 12,760; Level 5, 5,817 (97,615 total.)

*Surf the Web*  
Visit the AATF Web site at  
**[www.frenchteachers.org]**

All the latest information on:

- National French Week
- Atlanta Convention
- *French Review*
- National French Contest
- *Société honoraire*

# CONTEST ADMINISTRATORS OF THE YEAR 2004



**PAULA FRANK**  
**RHODE ISLAND (SMALL CHAPTER)**

I was born in Boston, MA and raised in a suburb called Randolph. I knew from a very young age that I wanted to be a teacher. My father, his mother and grandmother were all teachers. I graduated from Randolph High School in 1970, having taken five years of French and went to Northeastern University in Boston. I did not finish at that time but got married and had two daughters.

From 1974-1981 my husband and I were house managers for group homes of mentally retarded adults in Massachusetts and Vermont. In 1984 we moved to Rhode Island, and while my daughters were still young, I taught music part time in a nursery school.

In 1990 I decided to go back to college to get my degree in teaching French. I attended Rhode Island College and earned my Bachelor's and Master's degrees by 1994. As part of my Master's program, I was a teaching assistant at the college and I also went to Antibes, France to take a course one summer.

Upon completion of my Master's degree, I was hired by the school department in East Providence, RI, where I have been teaching French in the high school. Three years ago I pioneered a video penpal program with my French V students where they exchange videos about themselves, their school, and their community with students in France who are studying English. I am the French Club Advisor and have organized many student trips to France and Quebec. Many of my students are active participants in our local Junior Alliance française.

I am an active member of the Rhode Island FL Association and of our local AATF board, serving as Contest Administrator for eight years and as Treasurer for the past year. During my spare time I am actively

involved in my church as the videographer and producer of the church cable TV program, Choir Director, keyboard player on the Worship Team, and Missionettes Coordinator. I also really enjoy spending time with my four grandsons, ages 8, 6, 2, and 1.



**DEBORAH BARTLE**  
**VIRGINIA (LARGE CHAPTER)**

A lifelong passion for the French language and culture has seen me to this, my twenty-fifth year in teaching French. Where has the time gone? My intrigue with French began in my French 3 class in high school in West Chester, PA where Mr. Colasanti, the most dynamic teacher I can recall, challenged us all daily to speak nothing but French in his class. Then, a family camping trip through Europe during the summer of 1967 introduced me to the beauty and breadth of France and many other countries. When I headed off to college, all that I knew was that I had a strong desire to return to France for further exploration. An initial interest in international studies led to many classes in politics, history, and a return to French! I spent my junior year abroad at the *Faculté Paul Valéry* in Montpellier where I was thrilled to perfect my French, travel to my heart's content, and get to know many foreign students as well as a wonderful French family who opened their home to me every weekend.

Once back in the U.S., I finished my B.A. in humanities at Johns Hopkins University. I continued on to graduate school at the University of Rochester to pursue an M.A. in education. At the end of my program there, I was fortunate to receive a Fulbright-Hays position as an *assistante d'anglais* with a yearlong job in Alsace at the *Lycée Camille See* in Colmar. I enjoyed the small conversation groups with which I worked and took every opportunity to travel through France on my free time. I had the opportunity to join the Alsatian contingent of environmentalists who traveled to *la Bretagne* to clean the beaches after the oil tanker Amoco Cadiz sank off the coast. Upon returning home, I began teaching in the Rondout Valley

School District in upstate New York and quickly realized that teaching was the perfect career for me. I taught in New York for eleven years, taking a leave for one year to teach English at the *Lycée des Glières* in Annemasse (Haute-Savoie) as part of the Fulbright teacher exchange program.

When my husband and I decided to move south for a warmer climate, we happily chose the Richmond, VA area. I have taught in the Chesterfield County School system for the past fourteen years, teaching all levels of French from kindergarten to French 5 A.P. I am currently teaching French 3,4,5, I.B., and A.P. at Midlothian High School and cosponsor the French Club in addition to sponsoring our chapter of the *Société honoraire de français*. I co-direct the annual *congrès français* in March, a Saturday of French for the students of Chesterfield County schools. This event brings together 400 people for a day of competitions, cultural workshops, French food, and *le Grand Concours*. This year, I organized the hosting and travel phases of a school exchange with a French *lycée* in the suburbs of Paris. I have traveled to France many times with both my students and my family.

Seven years ago, I had the opportunity to become the Virginia Contest Administrator for the *Grand Concours* and have truly enjoyed the opportunity to work with so many dedicated teachers in our state. For one year, I also served as the Contest Administrator for the Northern Virginia Chapter when they were between administrators. It is an honor to help promote French in this most worthy venture, and I thank everyone who works as part of the national committee as well as all of the participating teachers of the *Concours*. Thanks also to my family--Gary and Kenna--for encouraging me to be professionally active! This is truly a shared labor of love!

## ELECTIONS THIS FALL YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

AATF will be holding elections this fall for four positions on the Executive Council. Regional Representatives will be elected for a three-year term (2005-2007) in Regions IV: Mid-Atlantic, Region VI: East Central, and Region VIII: Southwest. An AATF Vice-President will also be elected for the term 2005-2007.

Ballots will be included with the dues renewal notices that every AATF member will receive in early October. Ballots must be returned to National Headquarters by **November 1, 2004**.

## SPECIAL OFFER: AATF FLYERS

Take advantage of this special offer for flyers. The AATF has produced five flyers targeting different audiences and interests: (1) *Top Ten Reasons to Learn French*, (2) *Speaking French: An Investment in the Future*, (3) *Why Learn French?*, (4) *French is Not a "Foreign" Language*, and (5) *French by the Numbers*.

\_\_\_\_\_ 100 copies of each flyer @ \$40 (a savings of \$5)

\_\_\_\_\_ 50 copies of each flyer @ \$20 (a savings of \$2.50)

\_\_\_\_\_ Check here if you would like 50 additional copies of *Why French FLES?* or at no extra charge.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclose your payment and send to AATF Materials, Mailcode 4510, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901.

## AATF PROMOTIONAL KIT

We have put together this promotional kit offered for only \$50 to help teachers promote French during National French Week and throughout the year. For complete descriptions of all of these materials as well as other items available from the AATF, see the Materials Center listing on page 38. All items can be purchased separately.

The Promotional Kit includes the following:

- A set of 8 one-page promotional flyers suitable for duplication (appeared in past issues of the *National Bulletin*)
- 100 copies of the flyer *Why Learn French?*
- 100 copies of the flyer *Top 10 Reasons to Learn French*
- 100 copies of the flyer *Speaking French: An Investment in the Future*

\_\_\_\_\_ 25 copies of the *Why French FLES\** flyer (optional at no extra cost; check if you would like to receive them)

- 10 *Forward with French* bumper stickers
- one AATF promotional video (Please indicate your choice; select only one.)

\_\_\_\_\_ *Le Français m'ouvre le monde*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Forward with French*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Forward with FLES\**

- one AATF guide or FLES\* report (Please indicate your choice; select only one.)

\_\_\_\_\_ *Calendrier perpétuel*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Travel Guide*

\_\_\_\_\_ FLES\* report (See page 38 for descriptions and titles; specify by year.)

- promotional items (Select only one.)

\_\_\_\_\_ 25 *Le Français en Amérique du Nord* notepads

\_\_\_\_\_ 25 *On est les meilleurs!* buttons

\_\_\_\_\_ 25 *Forward with French* pens

**Total (\$50 per kit):** \_\_\_\_\_

This entire kit is available for \$50 (postpaid). This represents a 15% savings over ordering the items individually. Payment accepted by check or school purchase order. This form must accompany all orders.

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Mail this form to AATF Materials, Mailcode 4510, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901-4510;

Fax: (618) 453-5733.

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

# CHAPTER NEWS

## ARIZONA

The chapter met in conjunction with the Arizona Language Association (AZLA) annual conference in September. Éric Marquis from the Quebec Delegation in Los Angeles spoke about the current social and political situation in Quebec. The spring meeting also took place in conjunction with the AZLA. A *remise des prix* for *Grand Concours* winners in the Tucson area was held on May 15. The chapter held an immersion weekend in August—the first of what is hoped will become an annual event. Lauren Pritikin from Chicago presented the Orff method and attendees watched movies in French. The chapter is attempting to find ways to help teachers network, since French teachers in the state tend to be isolated. Other goals are to increase membership and to create stronger ties with the *Alliances françaises* in Phoenix and Tucson. For summer 2005 a trip to Las Vegas' Paris with the opportunity to attend a Céline Dion concert and a performance by the *Cirque du Soleil* is a possible activity. The chapter also plans to sponsor a showing of *Molière Than Thou* in conjunction with the *Alliance française* in the fall.

Sue Hendrickson  
Region IX Representative

## CHICAGO/NORTHERN ILLINOIS

The Chicago/Northern Illinois Chapter's winter meeting, "Beyond the Basics," took place at Buffalo Grove High School. Leah Bolek, Zion-Benton High School, and Barbara Hoerr, Peoria Richwoods High School, presented their schools' National French Week activities, featuring ways of creating a French presence in the community. Barbara was also the recipient of an award for National French Week activities, a seven-day stay in Paris at the FIAP Jean Monnet.

The first of the five sessions offered presentations on varieties of the French Exchange by Todd Bowen, Adlai Stevenson High School, Ted Haldeman, Homewood-Flossmoor High School, and Mary Rooks, Morris High School. Mary pointed out a number of interesting visits for the French group, including Blue Man Group and an experience at the Courthouse. The second session was presented by Barbara Kane of Central Middle School in Glencoe. Over the years she has developed a fascinating program, *Le Tour du monde francophone*,



Chicago Chapter member Marie-Simone Pavlovich with Bernard Pivot at les *Trophées de la langue française*, Paris, March 15,

which gets her students very involved with France and French-speaking countries. Assigned one famous person a week, each student looks up facts and leads a discussion about the individual. She puts up a large wall map of the world, and as countries are presented during class, red pins and yarn indicate France itself, but blue is used to indicate French-speaking countries, resulting in a very dramatic demonstration of how many Francophone countries are found in our world. The third session, "April in Paris," presented by retirees Art Bonds and Evelyn Erven, was a ready-made and commercially available package of lessons centered on getting ready for a trip to Paris.

The presentation "Extracurricular *Extraordinaire*" by Kathryn Fleischman, Morton East High School, and Cathy Kendrigan, Buffalo Grove High School, offered some novel ways of keeping students committed to studying French, including French Club and the French National Honor Society.

A big thank you to Robin Jacobi and Nancy Roesner for their organizational skills, to all our presenters, and to our enthusiastic attendees.

Our *Réunion du printemps* had as its theme "*Faire la fête*" and featured Chapter President Jane Castle. We met at a French restaurant in Geneva, IL where our hosts Betsy and François Sanchez regaled us with their excellent cuisine.

Jane Castle gave a lively presentation on the many important *jours de fête*. Few of us may know the importance of *le 8 mai*, for

instance, a legal holiday marking the end of WWII whereas every Francophile enjoys observing *la fête nationale, le 14 juillet*. After a class has studied a French holiday unit, the class can enjoy inventing (in pairs) a holiday with all the trappings—its (imagined) origins, date, colors and what they represent, associated activities, symbols, and any other interesting aspects. Concerning the teaching of French culture, Jane also indicated that the Web site [[www.discoverfrance.net/France/DF\\_holidays](http://www.discoverfrance.net/France/DF_holidays)] is excellent and that the Hachette *Outils* series is a good resource, *Savoir-vivre avec les Français. Que faire? Que dire?*

At this same meeting, two members of our Chapter were honored with the *Prix du chapitre*: Leah Bolek of Zion-Benton High School at the secondary level and John Tomme of Waubensee and Kishwaukee Community Colleges at the post-secondary level. *Un grand merci* à Eileen Walvoord et à Jane Castle for a delightful meeting.

We learned sadly of the passing of long-time colleague Ray Tourville of Northern Illinois University. Ray had for many years been the inspiration for the dormitory language floor at NIU and had served in many capacities in a number of language associations, including the Chicago/Northern Illinois Chapter.

In February, the eighth annual *Grande Dictée*, presented by Marie-Simone Pavlovich, took place at Northwestern University. A challenging but delightful experience, we congratulate the four top winners in the professionals/teachers/translators category: (1) Janet Evans, (2) Gerald Plotkin, (3) Patrick Stephan, and (4) John Tomme.

The Chapter also enjoys basking in the glory of Professor Pavlovich's having been a winner herself in *les Trophées de la langue française*, a contest which took place in Paris in March at the *Centre des congrès de la Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie de la Villette*. If you are a subscriber to TV5, you may have seen one of the rebroadcasts of this splendid ceremony.

In May the annual *Distribution des prix* for the National French Contest took place at Dominican University in River Forest. The annual Summer Institute at Dominican University, a very successful immersion experience for teachers, took place June 21-July 2, featuring the theme "Les Différences culturelles."

Submitted by Gerald Plotkin  
Secretary

## CONNECTICUT

The Connecticut Chapter held two concerts to celebrate National French Week by the *Québécois* singing group *Matapat*. The audience included 1120 students and teachers from the entire state. By giving the concert twice in different areas (Middlebury and Fairfield), the chapter reached many more students. The annual spring workshop and luncheon were held at Hopkins School in New Haven. Mireille Déchelette presented a workshop on using film clips to teach French and contemporary French issues in the classroom.

In May we held the annual awards night for the winners of the *Grand Concours*. About 200 students, teachers, and families attended. Mireille Déchelette brought official greetings from the French Embassy. Everyone praised Contest Administrator Thomas Betts of Amity High School for his superb direction of the contest. We had so many winners that we were only able to invite the top five winners at each level. Connecticut did have a first place state and national winner in Level 2, Stephen Lichtenstein, a student of Alison Schleifer at Hopkins School in New Haven. We announced the two winners of the AATF Scholarships awarded each year to outstanding seniors. They were Nathalie-Claire Chiavaroli from Darien High School (student of Ann Bolognani) and Samantha Gelfand from Choate-Rosemary Hall (student of Katharine Jewett). Both lead their schools' French clubs and participate in French activities outside of the classroom. Samantha provides opportunities for boarding school students to taste and see French culture. Nathalie engages young children in French activities at Franco-o-Fun summer camp.

Jean-Pierre Berwald  
Region II Representative

## EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

Led by President Brian Thompson, Vice-President Patricia Jacquart, Secretary Valerie Sutter, and Treasurer Joyce Beckwith, many successful activities were planned. In September, we welcomed Corine Étienne and Pratima Prasad to our Board of Directors. Both are professors at the University of Massachusetts-Boston. We also began our monthly Friday afternoon "Causeries", one at a French/Asian restaurant in Cambridge and the other at a Caribbean restaurant in Hingham. These "Causeries" have brought in new members. In October, we sponsored a double AATF session at the Massachusetts Foreign Language Association (MaFLA) conference

which united members of both the Eastern and Western Massachusetts chapters. Entitled "La Chanson: Bonne à Tout Faire," this session featured Jacques Yvart, the *chanteur/compositeur* from Brittany and was attended by over 100 members and quite a few nonmembers whom we actively recruited! The Chapter also sponsored a full-day French Immersion at MaFLA with Presenter Amale Bourhim, Director of Operations of ETRAV, Paris. Amale spoke on "Deux Géants du 20<sup>ème</sup> siècle: Picasso et Rodin." Jacques Yvart performed at several local high schools and colleges to celebrate National French Week.



# Celebrating Our International Spirit

## 38th Annual Meeting and Exposition

November 19-21, 2004  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Join Our  
Kick-Off Celebration for 2005:  
The Year of Languages



Presented with: AATG/AATI/CLTA/NCJLT/ICTFL

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Register Early for Discounts!  
Early Bird Deadline - August 27  
Pre-Registration Deadline - October 15

In March our two new *directrices* gave a full-day immersion workshop at the University of Massachusetts-Boston on "La Pub." One had to be an AATF member or willing to join "sur place" to attend. To our surprise, four new members signed up! The presentation received rave reviews and will be given as a three-hour workshop, sponsored by the AATF, at the MaFLA Conference in October 2004. In May we collaborated with the French Library and Cultural Center and the *Alliance française* of Boston to offer a full-day "Atelier Pédagogique." Andrea Javel from Boston College and Anne-Christine Rice from Tufts University both presented workshops, and Terry Caccavale brought her students from Holliston High School to discuss "L'Existentialisme chez les jeunes." Also on hand was Veronique Mistycki, the

new linguistic *attachée* from the French Cultural Service.

One of the most difficult, time-consuming yet fascinating projects which our Executive Board undertook this year was to judge the finalists of the "Tour du Monde de la Francophonie" contest and come up with a list of winners. Joyce Beckwith chaired the group which included Valerie Sutter, Janet Wohlers, and Christiane Fabricant. *Merci à toutes!* The Chapter is also grateful to Janet for serving as our Contest Director.

This coming October, the theme of the MaFLA 2004 Annual Conference is "Multilingualism Makes the World Go Round."

In keeping with this theme the AATF will sponsor a double session with AATG called "La Chanson Sans Frontières/Songs without Borders." This session will feature Jean-Marie Hummel and Liselotte Hamm, both well-known singers from Strasbourg who will perform in French and in German. After MaFLA, they will remain in the Boston area to present more concerts during National French Week.

Kudos to Marjorie Salvodon from Suffolk University who received an AATF Small Grant which she will use to fund a film festival during National French Week. Congratulations to Janel Lafond-Paquin who received the AATF Dorothy Ludwig Excellence in Teaching Award—Secondary Level at the Awards Luncheon in Atlanta. Bravo to Mel and Cynthia Yoken on the opening of their Archives at Brown University. *Félicitations* to Joyce Beckwith who received the MaFLA Distinguished Service Award for "exceptional and meritorious service to the Commonwealth."

Jean-Pierre Berwald  
Region II Representative

## IDAHO

The Idaho Chapter met at the annual conference of the Idaho Association of Teachers of Language and Culture in October. All French teachers in attendance at the conference were invited to attend; topics discussed involved the *Grand Concours*, *la Semaine du français*, reports from the AATF conference in Martinique, a report from AATF Region IX Representative Suzanne Hendrickson, and reports from individual teachers on activities in their areas. In spite of the distances that separate the sparse population of the state, there is much going on in support of French studies throughout Idaho. Elections were held, and Claire Bledsoe was elected to replace

retiring President Joan West. Many thanks to Joan for her contributions to AATF and to the promotion of French in Idaho.

Sue Hendrickson  
Region IX Representative

#### MAINE

The Maine chapter held a conference in March at Bates College. We gave out the Lorianne Boucher award to high schools students. A slate of officers was proposed for next year. The new President is Catherine Hobby. Ray Pelletier, the Interim Past-President, will revise the chapter Web site and set up a viable communication system among members. Professor Pelletier mentions that the Northeast Consortium for Canadian Studies sponsored by the University of Maine sponsored a summer institute in Québec that attracted 40 teachers from 15 states from New England to Indiana, Texas, South Carolina, Arizona, etc. He also mentioned that The Acadie, a summer immersion program will again take place this year.

Jean-Pierre Berwald  
Region II Representative

#### METROPOLITAN NEW YORK

In October, the Chapter sponsored a "Welcome to the AATF Metropolitan Chapter" table at the joint conference of the UFT and NYSAFLT held at John Jay College in New York City. Sandra Dressler, a member of the Metropolitan Board, represented the Chapter by presenting a workshop on *la Martinique*.

In November, the Chapter helped organize the *Concours Charles Perrault* with the *Service Culturel* of the French Embassy. This was a major event of *la Semaine du Français*, which included students at all levels from all chapters in the Region.

In March, the Chapter organized its signature event, the *Journée de Gala*, held annually in New York City. All chapters in the Region, as well as AATF members from New Jersey and Connecticut, were invited to this special day of immersion in French culture. The French Ambassador to the U.S., the Honorable Jean-David Levitte, was the guest of honor. The Chapter also honored three members of the AATF Metropolitan Chapter who have distinguished themselves in the field of French and have given devoted service to the Chapter over the years: Dr. Myrna Delson-Karan, Françoise Cestac, and Henriette Rattner. Dr. Margot Steinhart, AATF President, attended the Gala. The day also included an Exhibit Hall with more than 20 exhibitors

and the presentation of workshops on the use of the computer and new technology programs offered by the *Service Culturel* of the French Embassy, as well as a theatre workshop directed by a Master Teacher from Princeton University. The first scholarship in memory of Evelyn Popper, an outstanding dedicated member of the Metropolitan Chapter, was awarded at the banquet of the *Gala. Chapeaux* to Vice-President Anne Benoît for her hard work in organizing the *Gala*.

Vice-President Anne Benoît also organized two exceptional programs. In October, there was a program called *Teach Europe*, held at Columbia University, sponsored by the French Embassy, which featured sessions on various aspects of France and globalization. In January, Anne

York, Michael Bloomberg. A reception followed the performance. The Chapter also collaborated on several activities with the *Société des Professeurs français et francophones d'Amérique* and the *Association culturelle francophone*.

The year concluded with the *Distribution des prix* which honored national winners. Each year a scholarship to France, offered by Ambassador Rhidha Bouabid of the *Organisation internationale de la Francophonie*, is presented to a national winner who has received the highest score. There was an increase in the number of participants this year, which helped increase membership. Many thanks to Françoise Noble, Contest Administrator, who worked to assure the success of the contest.

The Chapter's Board thanked Harriet Saxon, who completed a four-year term as President, and elected its new President, Dr. Françoise Santalis. Dr. Vera Junkers became First Vice-President, and Dr. Debra Popkin, Second Vice-President.

The Chapter is grateful to those who supported their events and extends a special thanks to the AATF national office for their support.

Myrna Delson-Karan  
Region I Representative

#### MONTANA

Chapter President Claudia Boddy stresses the importance of the *Grand Concours* for the state, emphasizing the number of teachers participating and the success of the students. She recognizes the "awesome" job done by Contest Administrator Ethel MacDonald. She also highlights efforts made by AATF members all over the state to promote French in the schools. Helen Mulroney in Bozeman organizes a progressive dinner as a fundraiser for the French Club, and her students sing French Christmas carols for the Christmas Stroll. In an effort to convince students that learning different languages is important, Claudia and her colleagues at Chief Joseph Middle School organized a special trip for thirty-four eighth-grade students of French, German, and Spanish to visit Barcelona, Provence, and Heidelberg. They spent three days in each country. Students coached one another at each stop, and according to Claudia, were bold and determined to use their language skills. She notes that the trip has had a direct influence on numbers at the school for 2004-2005 and that the board and administration have given the project full support. The



organized a region-wide program of seminars on many aspects of teaching also held at Columbia University which was co-sponsored by *la Maison Française*.

During the winter, members were treated to a guided tour of the Costume Institute of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The Chapter actively participated in an innovative conference in April, "Discover Francophone New York," held at St. John's University. Kudos go to Chapter Board member Diane Paravasion for organizing this outstanding program. The presentation featured a drum and dance company from Senegal as well as the performer, Simon Fortin, who gave a presentation in song on the history and culture of Quebec. This event was sponsored by the *Délégation générale du Québec*, St. John's University, and the *Organisation internationale de la Francophonie*. A special message recognizing the event was received from the Mayor of New

chapter's fall 2004 meeting will take place in conjunction with the MEA conference in Helena in October.

Sue Hendrickson  
Region IX Representative

### **NASSAU, NEW YORK**

Under the leadership of President Deana Schiffer, *National French Week* was celebrated throughout Nassau County in multiple ways, including *petits déjeuners à la française*, films, and competitions.

In December, the Annual Holiday Dinner was held at Hofstra University. It was a delightful evening of fun, honoring our recent retirees.

In March, almost 2000 students participated in the *Grand Concours*. For the purpose of encouraging involvement, we have put into place the following prizes for first place winners: Levels 1 and 2: monetary awards; Level 3: fully-paid stay at Concordia Language Immersion Camp; Level 4: scholarship to Saint-Charles Garnier College in Quebec; Level 5: a fully-paid summer trip to France for the student and teacher.

Our Poetry Contest was held under the leadership of Jenn Nesfield and Peter Holmes. The competitions were in original poetry as well as recitation. Hundreds of students, parents, and teachers attended the awards ceremony. To honor the memory of our friend and colleague, a champion of the study of French and of the culture of France, we have renamed this contest, the "Aline C. Desbonnet Poetry Competition." Thanks to proceeds from a recently established fund, the chapter is now able to offer the winners engraved plaques for permanent display in the school building.

The concluding event of the year was the *Distribution des prix* held at The Wheatley School in East Williston, hosted by Jeri Cowan, the Contest Administrator. This was a standing-room-only ceremony, with 366 prizes awarded.

Myrna Delson-Karan  
Region I Representative

### **NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Paul Jacques' term ended in the fall, and Marie Claire Wheeler (Vice-President) from Monadnock volunteered to serve as Acting President.

November's yearly meeting was held in Manchester at the World Language Conference. Speakers included Isaure Mignotte from the Boston French Consulate and Yvonne Cyr from the Franco-American Centre of Manchester. Diane Nichols won the Scholarship offered by the AATF French Embassy), spending three weeks Perpignan. Kathleen Vaillancourt reported that her colleague, Dr. Hans Dietz, a long-time AATF member, has retired. Hans has devoted his career to encouraging students

in the study of language and culture. Belmont High School French students sponsored a night with elementary students. This school gave the graduating seniors involved in world affairs a "Sans Frontières" Award. Spanish and French Clubs plan various community service projects for next year. The French Club will spend another weekend in Quebec for Canadian Thanksgiving. Next summer they will take a trip to Brittany, the Loire Valley, Normandy, and Paris. Conval High School will inaugurate a two-week exchange program in the fall. The French students will arrive in November, and the Conval students return the visit the following April. It is the third year that outstanding students were inducted into the *Société honoraire de français*. The honorees traveled to Paris and visited castles in the Loire Valley, visited Monet's garden and linked up with two other New Hampshire schools at the airport in Paris. Marie-Claire Wheeler received the New Hampshire Excellence in Education Award in World Language. *Le Grand Concours* is going strong in New Hampshire and Vermont thanks to the incredible dedication of Jim Lambert. Though retired, his energy and love for our association makes him a terrific Contest Administrator. The Chapter is planning a Molière workshop in spring 2005 with the collaboration of the University of New Hampshire.

Jean-Pierre Berwald  
Region II Representative

### **NORTHERN CALIFORNIA**

The Northern California Chapter sponsored an afternoon session at the Foreign Language Association of Northern California conference. In March the *Journée de printemps*, highlighting "Gastronomie et pédagogie", took place at Stanford University. Awards programs for the FLES and high schoolers in the *Grand Concours* were held on May 19 and 23. Incoming Chapter President Anne Jensen states that she is especially pleased that the chapter has gained membership and has added new, younger members. She adds that conferences have been well attended. AATF thanks outgoing President Dominique Van Hooff for her dedication and service.

Sue Hendrickson  
Region IX Representative

### **OREGON**

The Oregon Chapter sponsored sessions at the state language association (COFLT) conferences in the fall and spring. In October Professor Barbara Altman from the University of Oregon spoke on "Poster Girls of the Middle Ages." In the spring Chapter President Margaret Krausse gave a talk about classroom techniques. Professor Krausse states that she is especially pleased about the success of the *Grand*

*Concours* in the state and that new blood is coming into the chapter. Incoming President Micheline Ghattas adds that she appreciates the immediate response from enthusiastic members. In 2004-2005 Oregon is planning National French Week activities as well as an Éric Vincent concert, films, group outings, and dinners.

Sue Hendrickson  
Region IX Representative

### **RHODE ISLAND**

In October, Dr. Mary Ellis Willis, University of Rhode Island, gave an informative talk on Middle Eastern Literature at the Rhode Island Foreign Language Association Conference. In December, Dr. Alain-Philippe Durand, also of URI, spoke to over 300 students of chapter members at East Greenwich High School on hip-hop music and culture in France. Josée Vachon also performed for a group of 500 students at Toll Gate High School in Warwick. Ms. Vachon's performance was made possible thanks to a donation from our regional office. In addition, the chapter held two workshops on the Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design's teacher guide "Highlights of French Art."

The *Grand Concours* was once again a big success. Over 700 Rhode Island students registered for this year's contest. We finished the 2003-2004 academic year with our second *Grand Concours* award ceremony at which we honored both the top ten finishers in the state, and also Paula Frank, AATF Contest Administrator of the Year.

Jean-Pierre Berwald  
Region II Representative

### **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

The Chapter had an extremely active year in 2003-2004 involving many activities, lectures, concerts, theater events, and films sponsored by the French Consulate, Quebec Delegation, various French and Francophone organizations, and colleges and universities in the Los Angeles area. Some highlights include a series of theatrical pieces—La Fontaine's *Fables* and works by Molière, Beckett, and Ionesco; the *Congrès AATF-SC 2004* at Cal State Northridge featuring workshops on cinema, culture, and pedagogy; *Journée internationale de la Francophonie* with a presentation by *Attaché culturel* Laurent Devèze entitled "Le sens des mots;" a visit in March from French Ambassador Jean-David Levitte who spoke at the UCLA School of Public Policy on "Transatlantic Relations: New Challenges, New Opportunities"; the chapter's *Dîner du printemps* and the Bastille Day *Festival français de Santa Barbara* featuring food and music.

Sue Hendrickson  
Region IX Representative

Vol. 30, No. 1 (Sept. 2004)



## SUFFOLK, NEW YORK

President Joan Militscher reports that in celebration of National French Week in November, singer Éric Vincent gave a workshop to teachers on using music in the classroom and a wonderful concert the following day for over 400 students and teachers. Both events were a great success.

The *Concours de Poésie* took place in December at SUNY Stony Brook. Many students participated and thoroughly enjoyed the day. Thanks were extended to the many judges who gave their time. Once again, Peggy Fort, Contest Administrator, did an excellent job in organizing the event.

The annual National French Contest was held at Commack High School. Under the expert direction of AnnMarie Allen, the event was a huge success.

The *Distribution de Prix* was held at Half Hollow Hills High School East. The students who placed well in the *Concours* were recognized at this event. We also had the honor of having an intern, Samia Benouaret, from the Educational Service of the French Embassy, speak to the students about the importance of learning about different cultures while studying their language. In addition, the second annual Kathleen Ann Lyons Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Kathleen Kasten, student of Anita Ekstam and senior at Connetquot High School. We have every confidence that Kathleen will put the scholarship to good use while pursuing her dream of becoming a French teacher.

The spring meeting and elections were held at a restaurant which is situated overlooking the Great South Bay in Patchogue. The meal and the meeting were both delightful. Joan Militscher and Naomi Berman continue as President and Secretary-Treasurer, respectively, and we welcomed Dr. Sarah Jourdain, professor at SUNY Stony Brook, Vice-President.

We ended our year on an optimistic note and were satisfied with the interest shown for French in Suffolk County.

Myrna Delson-Karan  
Region I Representative

## VERMONT

The Vermont chapter reports two concerts that took place during National French Week. Josée Vachon gave a concert at Spaulding High School, and the group Va-

*et-Vient* presented one that took place at Mount Saint Joseph Academy in Rutland. Isabelle Kaplan held a workshop in conjunction with this group at Christ the King School in Rutland on the use of songs in the classroom.

Jean-Pierre Berwald  
Region II Representative

## WASHINGTON/BRITISH COLUMBIA/ ALASKA/ALBERTA

The chapter received an AATF Small Grant to bring Éric Vincent to Seattle for a performance, a joint effort of the AATF, the *Alliance française*, and the Seattle/Nantes Sister Cities Association. The *Alliance* sponsored a *Thé des étudiants* to honor the best and brightest students in the ad-

## WESTCHESTER, NEW YORK

The Westchester Chapter, under President, Sophie Kent, held many film-showings for Westchester students in cooperation with the Jacob Burns Film Centre in Pleasantville. Several hundred students attended two different performances, one for young students, *L'Enfant lion*, and another for older students, *Métisse*.

An activity was organized for teachers to attend the performance of Molière's *Le Malade Imaginaire*, given by the *Comédie Française* at the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

The Westchester Chapter held many meetings in conjunction with the Westchester Association of Foreign Languages.

Approximately 1000 students participated in the *Grand Concours* this year and more than 360 prizes were awarded to the winners. Sophie Kent, who doubles as Contest Administrator, congratulated her team for their work in organizing the *Distribution des prix*, which took place in Scarsdale in May: Sylvie Corten, Laura Bell, and Mary Elizabeth Mace. The local television of Westchester came to film the ceremony. There were three winners for First Prize on Level V. These students were each awarded a trip to a Francophone country.

A barbeque is planned as the final activity of the year at the home of Sylvie Corten. Enthusiasm is building!

Myrna Delson-Karan  
Region I Representative

## WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS

Chaque année, notre chapitre organise, au printemps, une conférence pour se retrouver tous dans une atmosphère collégiale et renouer nos discussions professionnelles. Cette année à Mount Holyoke College, nous avons écouté avec grand plaisir, Isabelle Kaplan de Bennington College et Hélène Visentin de Mount Holyoke. Isabelle nous a montré des scènes de films pour illustrer sa présentation «Le Cinéma et les standards: synthèse pédagogique», et nous avons pu participer à une discussion animée à ce sujet. Hélène nous a fait passer dans les coulisses du théâtre de Molière avec une présentation fascinante sur «Les images méconnues du théâtre au Grand Siècle à travers son public et ses conditions matérielles». Elle nous a montré à quel point la mise en scène et le décor de ce théâtre illustre était conçue pour plaire au public.

Jean-Pierre Berwald  
Region II Representative



**NATIONAL FRENCH WEEK:  
LA SEMAINE DU FRANÇAIS**

**Pour la reconnaissance,  
l'étude, et la promotion  
de la langue française et  
des cultures francophones**

*Branchons-nous...*      *Agissons...*      *Fêtons ensemble!*

**du 5 au 11 novembre 2004**

**Initiatives locales, régionales, et nationales  
aux États-Unis**

Consultez le *National Bulletin* et le site Web de l'AATF  
**[[www.frenchteachers.org](http://www.frenchteachers.org)] pour d'autres renseignements.**

vanced levels of French at which many of the AATF members and their students were recognized. Chapter President Christine Kolstoe deems the *Grand Concours* a successful event thanks to the participating members and Contest Administrator Kathleen Brunner. Twenty-seven teachers participated entering 1083 students this year. The chapter is planning a tribute to the late Howard Nostrand to recognize his contribution to world languages, the AATF, and the Washington Association of Foreign Language Teachers. The chapter will use part of its Small Grant to offer a "Dances of France" program in the fall. It is also planning a workshop in conjunction with the French Cultural *attaché* and TV 5 for the fall conference and a possible workshop with the *Alliance française*.

Sue Hendrickson  
Region IX Representative

## PROMOTING FRENCH IN THE COMMUNITY: A SUMMER CAMP FOR 4<sup>TH</sup> & 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS

Parents of 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders, especially in families where both parents work, are eager to find worthwhile activities for their children during the summer when school is out. Given the opportunity to sign their sons and daughters up for a free, two-week French summer camp at my university, local parents readily filled in a simple application form. Offering a French summer camp through our undergraduate French program provided enriching experiences for the community and furnished university students the chance to share their enthusiasm for French. In its small way, the summer camp promoted an appreciation for French, which is not taught in any of our area's middle schools.

Thanks to an AATF Small Grant and another from the Texas A&M University system's Academy for Educator Development (whose goal is to prepare both more and better teachers for the public schools), my small university in south Texas was able to offer twenty 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders 40 hours of instruction in French. Four undergraduate students and two recent graduates with minors in French taught the "campers" basic French for four hours daily, under the supervision of myself and a high school French teacher with long years of experience in the classroom.

Our motto was to keep the youngsters active. We didn't select a topic (be it colors, numbers, or days of the week) unless we could think of an engaging activity as a follow-up. We had the children coloring, drawing, designing posters, joining the dots, spelling words with letters for alphabet soup, singing (and doing the actions to accompany the songs), marking dates on a calendar, making and decorating clocks and showing time on them, and responding to Total Physical Response commands. They also played charades, hangman, homemade card games, and commercial games such as *pétanque*, *Monopoly*, and *Pictionary*. In addition, they watched videos and listened to mini-lectures about aspects of French culture such as la Tour Eiffel, le Tour de France, Toulouse-Lautrec, and French expressions used in English.

The summer camp took a good deal of preparation. Modifying an existing advanced French class in applied linguistics, I included in the student learning outcomes the following statements: students will demonstrate their ability to develop lesson plans to teach aspects of French vocabulary and grammar; teach 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders songs, rhymes, and games in French; and develop units on aspects of French culture. The first week of their four-and-a-half week

summer class was devoted to studying theories of language acquisition and teaching methods, and one week was spent in class designing the scope and sequence of the summer camp. For one week the class did not meet to allow the future interns time to prepare their materials for the activities for which they were responsible. The two-week summer camp extended beyond their first summer term by a couple of days but still gave me time to assess their reflection paper in which they were asked to evaluate their experience.

On the final day of the camp we invited the parents and grandparents of the participants to a demonstration of what the young "campers" had learned. Divided into groups of four or five, the youngsters selected a topic from among the sixteen they had studied and, with the help of one of the interns, developed an activity for the 40-50 guests. One group selected the parts of the body and interpreted "Alouette," each member of the group representing a different part of the body. Another group showed that they had learned prepositions and sang a song that starts "Sur la montagne," accompanied by visuals they had produced. A third group sang "Vent frais," again with a visual, while a fourth group did an elaborate interpretation of the song "Bonjour Madame, Bonsoir Mademoiselle," wearing Mardi Gras masks. The fifth group demonstrated their knowledge of the alphabet and the colors, also accompanied by visuals.

Judging by the enthusiastic comments from the interns, the children, and their families, the French Summer Camp for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders can be deemed "un succès fou." Asked if I will do it again next year, my reply involved a request to allow time to recover from this one. It is a big commitment of time and energy. Still, it was a rewarding experience for all involved and one that can be reproduced where there are undergraduate French programs around the country. Offering a French summer camp for middle school students is a great way to promote French in the community.

Jacqueline Thomas  
Texas A&M University-Kingsville

### **MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

*The AATF is launching a three-year membership campaign! See the announcement on page 15 for information concerning the 3-for-1 offer for a year's free membership.*

## RESSOURCEZ-VOUS À VOTRE ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE

Ne manquez pas l'occasion pour tout professeur de français de se renouveler à son Alliance française locale. Avec plus de 120 Alliance françaises aux États-Unis et à Porto Rico, il y en a sûrement une près de chez vous. Votre rôle? Devenir actif comme membre du Conseil d'administration, comme professeur (tous les niveaux, adultes et enfants, horaires flexibles), comme étudiant ou comme bénévole.

Les Alliance françaises accueilleront avec enthousiasme vos idées. Pourquoi pas? Enseigner un cours? Suivre un cours? Fonder un Cercle de lecture? Ouvrir un groupe de conversation? Imaginer des cours d'enrichissement pour vos élèves (comme révision pour les examens AP, par exemple?) Votre expertise est précieuse et sollicitée!

Pour en savoir plus, consultez notre site Web: [www.afusa.org] or contactez: Ann Swedeen, Ph.D. à notre bureau national à Indianapolis: [federation@afusa.org] ou 1-800-6FRANCE. Des cours et des programmes en langue française: rien que pour le plaisir d'apprendre!

La Fédération des Alliances françaises, USA, Inc. vous souhaite à toutes et à tous une bonne rentrée et une année remplie de succès.

Jane Robert, Présidente

## ÊTES-VOUS UN PROF ACCOMPLI?

Prove it. Seek National Board Certification. Nationwide, the numbers of educators seeking certification is growing each year. Yet despite incentives in many states, the number of candidates interested in pursuing certification in French is disturbingly low. National Board Certification in Spanish and French has been available for three years, yet as a professional group, French Teachers are far behind in participation. The number of candidates directly impact whether or not NBPTS is able to offer registration to teachers for that certificate. So just do it! Don't put it off any longer. We have worked hard as a group to make French an academic and popular subject of study. Let's use National Board Certification to show ourselves to be a group interested in professional development as well. For information, visit the NBPTS Web site at [www.nbpts.org].

Deanna Scheffer



New Volume From The AATF  
Commission on Cultural Competence

## *Le Québec aujourd'hui. Identité, société et culture*

Marie-Christine Weidmann Koop, ed.

Presses de l'Université Laval, 2003  
ISBN 2-7637-8032-6. Pp. xi + 309. Can \$30.  
May be ordered from [www.ulaval.ca/pul](http://www.ulaval.ca/pul)

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### FREE NATIONAL FRENCH CONTEST ENROLLMENTS

*Le Grand Concours* will offer first-time AATF members 10 free student enrollments (10 test booklets and 1 CD of the level of their choice—a \$19.50 value). In addition, an AATF member who recruits a new member will receive 5 FREE TEST BOOKLETS.

A member who takes advantage of AATF's 3-for-1 membership promotion and recruits three new AATF members will be eligible to receive 15 free test booklets for the 2005 Concours AND will have their AATF membership paid for one year—a value of \$65.25!

Visit the Concours Web site [[www.frenchteachers.org/concours](http://www.frenchteachers.org/concours)] to download a special membership application to recruit new teachers or contact your Chapter Contest Administrator or AATF National Headquarters.

### SOCIÉTÉ HONORAIRE DE FRANÇAIS ON THE WEB

The *Société honoraire de français* now has information up on the Web site at [[www.frenchteachers.org](http://www.frenchteachers.org)]. Click on National Headquarters, and you will see the link to information about starting a chapter, including the form, a sample constitution, suggestions for initiation ceremonies and the form to report new student initiates and information on ordering supplies.

We hope this will facilitate your communication with Executive Secretary Todd Knox who can be reached at H. Todd Knox, Executive Secretary SHF, 500 Montaigne Drive, Lafayette, LA 70506-6308; e-mail: [[hhtknox@juno.com](mailto:hhtknox@juno.com)]. If you do not currently have a chapter of the *Société Honoraire* at your school, start one this year!

## What's New in the French Review?

Vol. 78, No. 1 (October 2004)

Articles include:

- "L'Année littéraire;"
- "Realistic Composition Assignments for Our Students?" (C. Krug)
- "Bringing the Web to the Foreign Language Writing Class?" (C. Pooser);
- "Stendhal mémorialiste de Retz?" (M.-C. Garneau de l'Isle-Adam);
- "French Gay Activism and the American Referent in Contemporary France?" (W. Poulin-Deltour);

And don't forget the many excellent reviews and "La Vie des mots."

## FRENCH REVIEW NOW AVAILABLE ON LINE

The AATF is pleased to announce that *French Review* Vols. 1-72 (1927-1998) are now available in the J-STOR Archive of scholarly journals as part of J-STOR's Language and Literature Collection. The Collection was developed in conjunction with the Modern Language Association to reflect the worldwide diversity in the field of language and literature studies.

Eligible participants can search and browse the full-text of the back run, excluding the most recent 5 years. Readers can explore the rich tradition of the journals, including past reviews and analysis of the Cannes Film Festival and the Avignon Theater Festival, and twenty-five years of "La Vie des mots." For a list of institutions who participate in J-STOR, please visit [[http://www.jstor.org/about/participants\\_na.html](http://www.jstor.org/about/participants_na.html)].

J-STOR is an independent not-for-profit organization with a mission to create a trusted archive of scholarly journals. Information regarding J-STOR is available at [[www.jstor.org](http://www.jstor.org)].

### REFLETS FRANÇAIS

This outstanding video, created by Bernard Petit, presents the songs of Éric Vincent along with a visit of Paris. The multicultural flavor of Vincent's music and the poetry of Paris combine to create an exciting document. The 58-minute video is also accompanied by a study guide containing a transcript of the narration and the song lyrics, cloze exercises, and study questions. See page 38 for more information.

# NATIONAL FRENCH WEEK 2004

Start planning now for the sixth annual National French Week celebration. Join with your local chapter, colleagues in your school and community, as well as colleagues at local colleges and universities to create another exciting National French Week.

We will again have special National French Week materials (pencils, balloons, pins, bumper stickers, T-shirts) available for distribution by August 1 (see page 14). Make sure to order early. If you wait until October, it may be too late to receive your order in time for your celebration.

Remember that every activity from large to small can be an effective promotional event for the study of French, especially when students are involved. Below is just a brief list of some of the successful activities organized by our members over the past four years, proceeding from small to city-wide:

- student-created posters on French or Francophone scientists, artists, authors, engineers displayed in the school or in local places of business;
- a student-created mural featuring famous French or Francophone individuals or a giant crossword puzzle with French clues;
- an exhibit of student-created reproductions of famous French art works;
- a French meal served in the school cafeteria or French menus for the regular cafeteria fare;
- inviting colleagues in other disciplines to study units on French-related topics during the week;
- serving croissants and *café au lait* in the teachers' lounge or to the counselors and office staff;
- a "French fact a day" read over the public address system;
- poster, slogan, cooking, sports, or recitation contests with prizes, of course;
- organizing groups of older students to teach a French lesson or song to elementary school students;
- a job fair featuring local French businesses or U.S. businesses that have operations in France;
- guest speakers including natives of Francophone countries, artists, authors, performers, or film directors;
- immersion activities (but with outside participation by administrators or elected officials as judges, for instance), Francophone festivals, film festivals, performances;
- collaboration with area music, theater, or arts groups, museums, local movie theaters, sports teams, international clubs, etc.;
- a talent show or cabaret or karaoke evening featuring all French skits, songs, and music;
- consult the AATF Web site [[www.frenchteachers.org](http://www.frenchteachers.org)] for other ideas.

These represent just a few of the many creative ideas suggested by our members. Do not forget that one of the key components of National French Week is to involve target audiences beyond our students and their families. Be certain to include counselors, fellow teachers, potential students and their parents, administrators, school board members, and local elected officials in your festivities. Begin working now to obtain a proclamation from your mayor and share it with colleagues in your city. AATF Chapters should begin work immediately to obtain a proclamation from the governor and make sure every chapter member receives a copy. These can be published in newsletters and on posters and shared with the media. University faculty should take a copy of these proclamations and request a similar statement from the university president or provost.

Many of you reported having difficulty getting media attention for your activities. Media coverage is a key component to a successful *National French Week*, but is not always easy to attract. The media are interested in events rather than information. Present your news as an event although you may well need to provide background information as well. Court your local journalists and television reporters or, better yet, have your students do it. Don't forget the school newspaper or alumni magazine. Of course, this year you can return with documents, photography, and video from past events. Create a schedule for contacting the media with periodic updates both before and after the event.

## CELEBRATE NATIONAL FRENCH WEEK NOVEMBER 5-11, 2004



### NATIONAL FRENCH WEEK CHECK LIST

- Consult the AATF Web site for ideas for your 2004 National French Week celebration;
- Ask your students for input;
- Invite colleagues to join you and share the work;
- Prepare a flyer for your colleagues in other disciplines, and ask them to support your effort by planning a French-related unit during National French Week; offer to help them find information;
- Request a proclamation from your mayor (combine efforts in larger cities or work with your local chapter so you do not duplicate efforts);
- Order promotional materials, an AATF Promo Kit (page 28) or National French Week items (page 14);
- Solicit support from local businesses, civic organizations, or Francophone agencies;
- Contact local media representatives;
- Put your students to work researching information, preparing materials, and making contacts.

**START  
NOW!**

## HIGH SCHOOL EXCHANGE: ROCKRIDGE, ILLINOIS & AGEN, FRANCE

My room was cleaned, the grades were posted, and summer had finally arrived! I was lazily surfing the Web one rainy morning in June of 2003 when I found a posting on the AATF site. It was a request for pen pals, posted by a teacher in France. I responded, and she and I began an e-mail correspondence which became a daily routine.

By the time school started again in the fall, Judy Dubois and I had become well-acquainted over the Internet. In early September, she proposed that our classes not only be pen pals but also exchange visits, the way she had done with other classes in Great Britain in previous years. I was very hesitant. It is a huge project, and I am the only French teacher in a small rural high school. Would there be enough interested students? Would the school board approve? Who would help me? How would we get the money for such a big project?

As I began asking students in school and parents at our fall open house, it was obvious that the interest was there. The school board gave me a green light, and the interested parents voted unanimously to work hard to support the project. Everything was a go! We recruited host families for 13 students from the *Lycée Jean-Baptiste de Baudre*, in Agen, France. We began a flurry of activity to raise funds to pay for excursions for our guests for their two week stay.

Our fundraisers began with French club selling bonbons. From there, we sold concessions at basketball games and wrestling meets, we wrote and called local businesses for donations, we sold candles, we sold Mardi Gras beads, we held a Spaghetti Supper with a silent auction of gift baskets of donated items, we made chocolate roses from chocolate kisses that we sold for Valentine's Day, and we sold balloons to pop and get a prize for St. Patrick's Day. We also had parents and students selling candy bars, we held two bake sales, and we contributed to a community-wide yard sale. Our most productive fundraiser was our Trivia Night at a local American Legion hall.

Our fifteen guests arrived April 3 at O'Hare Airport. We were there in three borrowed vans to drive them the three hours back to the Quad Cities area. Their first week was our spring break, and we showed them the area by taking them on many excursions in our area, in carpools driven by parents. First, we went to a local IMAX theater and had a Scavenger Hunt at the mall.

That helped them with their English skills, and it began the friendships with their American hosts. We then took them on a tour of a John Deere factory and the John Deere World Headquarters. We took them on a tour and lunch at a local university, and we took them to a hockey game. One highlight of their trip was our riverboat luncheon cruise on the Mississippi River. They were so excited to be on the "Mighty Mississippi!" We also went to a local movie multiplex theater to see a real American movie *Starsky and Hutch*. (They were amazed that there



were no subtitles!) Then, they drove go-carts and played laser tag at a fun center.

They spent Easter with their host families (Mme Dubois and her colleague stayed with me) and the following week in school at Rockridge High School. Each day in school, they had two hours of English classes with their own teachers, then they went to hands-on demonstration classes around the school, put on by teachers in the school who had volunteered. They learned songs in choir, discussed farming practices in agriculture, made appetizers in home economics, learned on the computers, went to gym classes, had a fiesta with a Spanish class and even made plastic things in shop class.

Our biggest trip was to Chicago along with all those students at the high school enrolled in French. We took two charter buses first to the Hancock Tower where we went up to the Observatory. From there we went shopping and then to Wrigley Field for an all-American baseball game. The French students were lucky enough to see two out-of-the-park, back-to-back home runs! What an experience for us all!

At the end of their last week, we had a going-away cookout of hamburgers and hot

dogs at one family's home. The day they left, there were so many tears we had to get out the tissues. Real friendships and bonds had formed between the American and French students and teachers alike.

Our guests were very diplomatic; they carefully sidestepped any political issues, and we did the same. The friendships formed were cross-cultural and genuine... some of my students who hadn't been interested in a trip to France are now planning on going themselves to see these new friends on their own. Several of the French students are actively organizing yearlong exchanges to the U.S. now that they've had a taste of American hospitality! In my classes, I see a real difference in attitude now: what had been theory is now authentic in my students' minds. They're using the language more spontaneously and more creatively, and the interest in French has shown in my enrollment numbers for next year.

Our local AATF chapter was not able to financially support us, but we received an AATF Small Grant to help with the funding of this project. With the grant, we were able to pay for the riverboat luncheon cruise on the Mississippi River and the some of the admission to the Hancock Tower Observatory. Our thanks go to AATF for this support in making a memorable trip for our guests.

We raised over \$5000 for this project. It cost our group approximately \$195 for each teacher and guest student while they were here. We provided all the transportation and excursion fees for our guests while they were in Illinois. In turn, I brought a group of seven of my students to France on Memorial Day weekend, for a two-week stay with our new friends. I held language classes in their school, and my students attended some classes in their *lycée* in other subjects. Their group treated us to many excursions and field trips, (to museums, *châteaux*, fortified cities, wineries, etc.) with all the expenses paid for by their fundraising efforts on "their side of the pond." The highlight of our trip was a ride on the TGV to Bordeaux, where we toured the city and shopped.

My heartfelt appreciation goes to AATF for your support of this program. It was a life-changing and enriching experience for us, for our entire school, and the whole community. *Merci bien!*

Deb Flaughter  
Rockridge High School

# AATF MATERIALS CENTER

Prices quoted in this list INCLUDE POSTAGE AND HANDLING. Make checks payable to AATF. Payment or school purchase order must accompany orders. Pictures of some items are available on the AATF Web site: [www.frenchteachers.org]. Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery.

## REPORTS OF THE AATF FLES\* COMMISSION

1. *Success Stories: Promoting FLES\* Programs*, Gladys Lipton, Lena Lucietto, Harriet Saxon, Editors, 2004. \$9.00
2. *French FLES\* Around the World*, Lena L. Lucietto, Editor, 2000. \$9.00
3. *The FLES\* Image: A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words!* Lena L. Lucietto, Editor, 1998. \$9.00
4. *Attracting French FLES\* Students*. Gladys Lipton, Editor, 1996. \$9.00.
5. *Reaching All FLES\* Students*. Gladys Lipton, Editor, 1995. \$9.00
6. *FLES\* Methodology I*. Gladys Lipton, Editor, 1994, \$9.00.
7. *Expanding FLES\* Horizons*. Gladys Lipton, Editor, 1993. \$9.00.
8. *Evaluating FLES\* Programs*. Gladys Lipton, Editor, 1992, \$9.00.
9. *Implementing FLES\* Programs*. Gladys Lipton, Editor. 1991. \$8.00,
10. *Innovations in FLES\* Programs*. Gladys Lipton, Editor. 1990. \$8.00.
11. *The People Factor in FLES\* Programs*. Gladys Lipton, Editor. 1989. \$8.00.

**NEW!** Any 5 FLES\* Reports for \$40. Complete set of 12 Reports for \$80.

## PROMOTION OF FRENCH

**NEW CD!** *Architectural Walking Tour of Paris* provides still and video footage of 24 Parisian buildings. \$12.50 (members)/\$15.00 (nonmembers)

*Video: Forward with FLES\** (11 min.) encourages French FLES\* programs with comments from experts, administrators, and teachers. \$15.00 (members)/\$18.00 (nonmembers)

*Video: Open Your World With French/Le français m'ouvre le monde* (10 min.) encourages students to study French. \$15.00 (members)/\$18.00 (nonmembers)

*Video: Forward with French* (10 min.) Interviews with business people in NY state who use French in their work. \$15.00 (members)/\$18.00 (nonmembers)

*Travel Guide* (119 pp) gives advice for teachers planning student trips abroad or exchanges, including resources, orientation, liability, sample forms. \$12.00 (members)/\$15.00 (nonmembers).

## PROMOTIONAL FLYERS (sample copy available on request)

All flyers 10 cents/copy for quantities up to 250; 20 cents/copy for larger orders. (member prices)

1. **NEW!** *Help Wanted: Encourage Students to Learn French*

2. Newly revised *Why French FLES\*?*

3. *French by the Numbers* highlights with facts and figures the importance of French in the world.

4. *French is Not a "Foreign" Language* illustrates the close connections between English and French.

5. *Why Learn French?* Highlights business and career reasons to study French.

6. *Top 10 Reasons to Learn French*.

7. *Speaking French: an investment in the future*.

Bumper Stickers: *Forward with French*. 2 / \$1.00; 10 / \$4.00.

## TEACHING VIDEOS

**NEW!** *Video: Tant qu'elle chante, elle vit* presents the music videos of Carole Fredericks. Includes 6 music videos featuring Carole, Jean-Jacques Goldman, and Michael Jones. Accompanying activities and guide. \$40.00 (members)/\$45.00 (nonmembers)

*Reflets français*, a 58-min. video by Bernard Petit featuring the songs of Éric Vincent and the sights of Paris, includes study guide. \$40 (members)/\$45 (nonmembers).

## MEDALS AND AWARDS

*Les Armes de Paris*, 32 mm bronze (from government mint in Paris) \$18.00.

*AATF medallions*, 1½ in.; blue, gold, and white cloisonné enamel; reverse side plain; two designs; please specify. Each \$5.25. Specify (1) Busts of Washington and Lafayette with AATF; (2) French hexagon, with "American Association of Teachers of French" around perimeter.

*AATF pins*, ½-in. square with letters AATF. Each \$4.00

*75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary AATF pin*. Each \$4.00.

## OTHER MATERIALS

**NEW!** *Martinique: L'île aux fleurs* T-shirt, white with outline of island on front. Specify size (XL, XXL only). \$10 for 1; 2 for \$15. (While supplies last)

*T-shirt: Le français m'ouvre le monde*, navy with world map highlighting where French is an official language, areas listed in French on the back. Specify size (L, XL, XXL). \$18.00 (\$19 for XXL).

*T-shirt: Le Français change mais ne*

*vieillit pas*; white with blue lettering. Specify size (XL, XXL only). \$10 for 1; 2 for \$15. (While supplies last)

*Posters*. Series of six color posters (11x17 in.) promoting French on the theme *Parlez-vous...?* Includes 123-page study guide. \$15 set of 6 only.

*AATF Certificate of Merit*. Each 15 cents.  
*Tout Paris*. Full-color illustrated guide to Paris. 128 pp. \$15.00

*Paris Monumental*, folding 22" x 30" color map of Paris showing monuments on one side and street detail on the other; includes 5" x 7" map of *métro*. \$10.00.

Color postcards, set of 20 (Provence, Châteaux, Cathédrales, Bretagne, or Paris) \$6.00. Specify choice.

*AATF Coloring Book*, 16 pp. 8" x 11" for FLES\* students. \$1.00 each.

French FLES\* Stickers: "AATF, FRENCH FOR KIDS, FLES\* in Grades K-8." 4/\$1.00.

**NEW!** *Un Calendrier perpétuel*. Newly revised and expanded 104-page *calendrier* highlights significant events in French and Francophone history as well as birthdates of famous individuals from all walks of life in the Francophone world. Resource list of Web sites and bibliography, complete index, glossary, and brief Teacher's Guide. \$15 (members)/\$18 (non-members)

*Color Notecards*: 12 notecards with envelopes featuring 6 different color designs from winners of the 1999 FLES\* Poster Contest; blank inside. \$10.00.

*Swiss Kit*. General information on Switzerland, including geography, maps, history, economy, political, and social systems, and short stories. \$6.00 for the first copy; \$1.50 each additional copy. Order one copy of the old Swiss Kit and one copy of the new for \$7.50.

## AATF PROMOTIONAL ITEMS

*AATF Mugs*: White with blue logo and name. Each \$6.00

*AATF Notepads: Le français en Amérique du Nord* (1/2 sheet, 50 sheets per pad): Each \$1.50.

*AATF Bic Clic Pens: AATF and Forward with French* on black and red pen. 6 for \$3.00; 10 for \$5.00.

*AATF Ball-Point Pens: AATF engraved in gold on blue marbled pen*. Each \$8.00 (discounts for quantities).

*AATF Tote Bag: "Le français au cœur de l'Amérique."* Black nylon with handles. \$10.00 (while supplies last).

To obtain any of these materials send your check or school purchase order to: AATF Materials Center, Mailcode 4510, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901-4510. Prices valid through 12/31/04.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**AMERICAN TRANSLATORS ASSOCIATION**, October 13-16, 2004, Toronto, CA. Information: ATA, Telephone: (703) 683-6100; FAX: (703) 683-6122; E-mail: [conference@atanet.org]; Web: [www.atanet.org].

**FÉDÉRATION OF ALLIANCES FRANÇAISES, USA, ANNUAL MEETING**, October 21-23, 2004, Washington, D.C. Information: Ann Whitlock Swedeen, Managing Consultant, 8074 Bowline Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46236. Telephone: (800) 380-1484; E-mail: [federation@afusa.org]; Web: [www.afusa.org].

**PATHWAYS TO BILINGUALISM: EVOLVING PERSPECTIVES ON IMMERSION EDUCATION**, October 21-23, 2004, Minneapolis, MN. Information: CARLA, University of Minnesota. Telephone: (612) 626-8600; E-mail: [carla@tc.umn.edu]; Web: [carla@acad.umn.edu].

**AMERICAN COUNCIL ON THE TEACHING OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES**, November 18-21, 2004, Chicago, IL. Information: ACTFL, 700 South Washington Street, Suite 210, Alexandria, VA 22314; Telephone: (703) 894-2900; Fax: (703) 894-2905; E-mail: [headquarters@actfl.org]; Web: [www.actfl.org].

**AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR QUEBEC STUDIES BIENNIAL CONFERENCE**, November 18-21, 2004, Château Frontenac, Quebec City, Canada. Information: Conference Chair, Raymond Pelletier, Canadian-American Center, University of Maine at Orono, 154 College Avenue, Orono, ME 04473; e-mail: [raymond\_pelletier@umit.maine.edu].

**MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (MLA)**, December 27-30, 2004, Philadelphia, PA. Information: MLA, 10 Astor Place, New York, NY 10003-6981; Fax: [(212) 477-9863; E-mail: [convention@mla.org]; Web: [www.mla.org].

**SOUTHERN CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGE TEACHING (SCOLT)**, February 24-26, 2005, Charlotte, NC. Information: Lynne McClendon, SCOLT, 165 Lazy Laurel Chase, Roswell, GA 30076; Telephone: (770) 992-1256; Fax: (770) 992-3464; E-mail: [lynnemcc@mindspring.com]; Web: [www.valdosta.edu/scolt].

**CENTRAL STATES CONFERENCE ON THE TEACHING OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES**, March 10-12, 2005, Columbus, OH. Information: Patrick T. Raven, Executive Director, PO Box 251, Milwaukee, WI 53201-0251; Telephone: (414) 405-4645; Fax: (414) 276-4650; E-mail: [csctfl@aol.com]; Web: [www.centralstates.cc].

**TEACHERS OF ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (TESOL)**, March 29-April 2, 2005, San Antonio, TX. Information: TESOL, 700 South Washington Street, Suite 200, Alexandria, VA 22314; Telephone: (703) 836-0774; Fax: (703) 836-7864; E-mail: [conventions@tesol.org]; Web: [www.tesol.org].

**NORTHEAST CONFERENCE ON THE TEACHING OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES**, March 31-April 3, 2005, New York City. Information: Northeast Conference, Dickinson College, P.O. Box 1773, Carlisle, PA 17013-2896; Telephone: (717) 245-1977; Fax: (717) 245-1976; E-mail: [nectfl@dickinson.edu]; Web: [www.dickinson.edu/nectfl].

**SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGE TEACHING (SWCOLT)**, April 7-9, 2005, Irving, TX. Information: Audrey Cournia, SWCOLT, Telephone: (775) 358-6943; Fax: (775) 358-1605; E-mail: [courniaaudrey@cs.com]; Web: [www.swcolt.org].

**AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (AERA)**, April 11-15, 2005, Montreal, Canada. Information: AERA, 1230 17<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036-3078; Telephone: (202) 223-9485; Fax: (202) 775-1824; Web: [www.aera.net].

**COMPUTER-ASSISTED LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION CONSORTIUM (CALICO)**, May 17-21, 2005, East Lansing, MI. Information: CALICO, Southwest Texas State University, 214 Centennial Hall, 601 University Drive, San Marcos, TX 78666; Telephone: (512) 245-1417; Fax: (512) 245-9089; E-mail: [info@calico.org]; Web: [www.calico.org].

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF FRENCH**, July 7-10, 2005, Quebec City. Information: AATF, Mailcode 4510, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901-4510. Telephone: (618) 453-5731; FAX: (618) 453-5733; E-mail: [abrate@siu.edu]; Web: [www.frenchteachers.org].

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR APPLIED LINGUISTICS**, July 24-29, 2005, Madison, WI. Information: AAAL, 3416 Primm Lane, Birmingham, AL 35216; Telephone: (205) 824-7700; Fax: (205) 823-2760; E-mail: [aaaloffice@aaal.org]; Web: [www.aaal.org].

**AMERICAN TRANSLATORS ASSOCIATION**, November 9-12, 2005, Seattle, WA. Information: ATA, Telephone: (703) 683-6100; Fax: (703) 683-6122; E-mail: [conference@atanet.org]; Web: [www.atanet.org].

**AMERICAN COUNCIL ON THE TEACHING OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES**, November 18-20, 2005, Baltimore, MD. Information: ACTFL, 700 South Washington Street, Suite 210,

Alexandria, VA 22314; Telephone: (703) 894-2900; Fax: (703) 894-2905; E-mail: [headquarters@actfl.org]; Web: [www.actfl.org].

## MENTORING INITIATIVE

In an effort to foster communication among French teachers, strengthen programs in the schools, and support each other, the Commission on Articulation is organizing a mentoring program. Through this initiative we want to offer assistance to teachers who are new in the profession, who feel isolated because they are the only French teacher in the school or district, or who would like to share ideas with a colleague. We would especially like to invite our experienced and active "retired" members to share their expertise through this project. Plans for the mentoring program were introduced at the Atlanta Convention during the Chapter Presidents' Breakfast and the Delegate Assembly.

In the next couple of months each chapter is asked to identify a Mentoring Coordinator, who will then circulate information about the initiative and recruit volunteers to serve as mentors. We would like to use the full state association meetings to publicize the project. The name of the chapter coordinator should be given to your Regional Representative (see page 5) and to Suzanne Hendrickson at [sue.hendrickson@asu.edu]. There will be an announcement with contact information for those individuals desiring a mentor in the November issue of the *National Bulletin*. Once we have names of mentor volunteers and those wanting to be mentored, a database will be created and individuals will be paired according to needs/expertise, interests, and location. Individual pairs will then arrange to communicate in ways convenient for them, e.g. through e-mail, personal contact, etc.

Please consider ways in which you can participate in the program. In what areas can you offer expertise or in which areas might you like some help? Tell your colleagues who may not be current members of AATF about the project as well. Inviting them to participate will enable them to collaborate as well as introduce them to the work of the AATF. By working together in support of each other we can strengthen and advance our mission of teaching French and Francophone cultures.

## REMINDER: IMPORTANT DEADLINES AND DATES

October 15, 2004	Deadline for submissions for AATF National French Week Essay and Poster Contests (see page 9)
	Deadline for Fulbright Teacher Exchange Applications for Academic Year 2005-2006 (see September 2003 issue)
November 1, 2004	Postmark deadline for return of AATF Election Ballots
	Deadline for Chapters to Submit Name of Advocacy Chair to Regional Representative (see page 7)
	Deadline for Chapters to Submit Name of Mentoring Chair to Regional Representative (see page 39)
November 5-11, 2004	National French Week (see page 36)
November 18, 2004	AATF Advocacy Workshop (see page 5)
December 1, 2004	Deadline for receipt of proposals for 2005 AATF Convention in Quebec City (see page 3)
December 15, 2004	Deadline for receipt of applications for ASFAP scholarship (see page 10)
February 1, 2005	Deadline for Submission of Nominees for AATF Dorothy Ludwig Excellence in Teaching Award (see page 2)
February 15, 2005	Deadline for applications for AATF Summer Scholarships (see page 13)
February 21-28, 2005	FLES (grades 1-6) <i>Grand Concours</i> (see page 23)
March 1, 2005	Deadline for applications for 2005 AATF Small Grants (see page 10)
	Deadline for applications for the Walter Jensen Scholarship for Study Abroad (see page 13)
March 3-22, 2005	<i>Grand Concours</i> (see page 22)

## AATF ANNUAL CONVENTION QUEBEC CITY, JULY 7-10, 2005!

## SWISS KITS AVAILABLE

Both versions of these kits, provided by the Swiss Embassy, contain general information on Switzerland, including geography, maps, history, economy, but are presented with different sets of materials.

The old version includes a large color poster with many scenes of Switzerland, maps of the country and city guides, a colorful brochure on the cheese industry, a pamphlet on the life and travels of Jean-Jacques Rousseau, literary excerpts of Swiss authors, an article on the youth of Switzerland, and a small book with information on geography, history, economy, and the political and cultural institutions of the country.

The new version, *La Suisse en vue*, has a more uniform format with four colorful *dépliants* on (1) *paysage et cadre de vie*, (2) *économie et activités scientifiques*, (3) *population et société*, and (4) *fédéralisme et plurilinguisme*. Many photos illustrate the text. Multiple copies of each section are included with a Teacher's Manual.

Both Swiss kits are offered to AATF members free of charge for the cost of postage: \$6.00 for the first copy, \$1.50 for each additional copy. Order one copy of the old and one of the new version for only \$7.50. If no indication is given, the new version will be sent. Contact National Headquarters for ordering information and for availability.



AATF National Bulletin (ISSN 0883-6795)  
American Association of Teachers of French  
Mailcode 4510  
Southern Illinois University  
Carbondale, IL 62901-4510

Periodicals  
Postage Paid  
Carbondale, IL  
62901