

Événements

Newsletter of the St-Germain-en-Laye / Winchester Jumelage Association

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41 MEMBERS ENJOY 2015 JOINT TRIP TO CHICAGO



Chicago trip group members pose in front of the fountain colonnade in Millenium Park, Chicago.

2015 was a year for Winchester Jumelagers to welcome their St-Germain-en-Laye counterparts to the United States once again, and this time the trip destination was Chicago.

Tom Michalak and his committee (Kevin Drum, Susan Vrotsos and Tom Seigny) had spent the previous 18 months planning the adventure, arranging all of the accommodation, meals, trips, tourguides and entertainment for the week-long event. Their thorough planning was complete in time for the arrival, in the last week of September, of 41 travellers.

Most arrived on Saturday, 26 September, and moved into their bedrooms-and-kitchen suites in a residential tower at the Loyola University Law School, conveniently located in the Near North neighborhood of downtown Chicago.

Sunday afternoon the group set forth on foot up Michigan Avenue to the lake-shore and the Gold Coast beyond, an old affluent neighborhood of mansions built from the 1880s onward for the city's wealthiest industrialists and bankers. This culminated at the Chicago History Museum, where brunch was served and tours led to a fuller understanding of the history of the metropolis. The remainder of the afternoon was free, and some managed a visit to Navy Pier for rides on the old Ferris Wheel on its last day.

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JUMELAGE BOARD ADDS TWO NEW MEMBERS

Winchester Jumelage Association is excited to welcome two new members to its Board of Directors. Long-standing Jumelage members Albert Moussa and Sunne Savage bring outstanding talents and a love of things French to Jumelage activities.

Albert Moussa was born in Egypt, attended French schools through high school, and, at the age of 17, traveled to the US to earn a B.S. from Stanford

University and his M.S. and Ph.D. from MIT. He began his career as an engineer, and over the years has also become an entrepreneur and angel investor: He founded BlazeTech Corp., a contract Research and Development firm, as well as a management consulting firm and investment in several start-ups.

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Albert Moussa



Sunne Savage

The Winchester Jumelage Association administers the Twin City relationship of cultural exchange and friendship established between Winchester, Massachusetts and St-Germain-en-Laye, France, in 1990

CHICAGO (CONTINUED)

Monday's adventures included the magnificent Tiffany Glass dome at the former Chicago Public Library, Millenium Park, developed at the turn of the 21st century over former rail yards near the lakefront, a Chicago River architecture boat cruise, and a visit to the 99th-floor Observatory of the John Hancock Center. Millenium Park contains architect Frank Gehry's distinctive Pritzker Music Pavilion and Anish Kapoor's reflective sculpture "Cloud Gate," nicknamed "The Bean" by Chicagoans. This was followed by a two-hour architecture cruise on the Chicago River; a sail through the midst of many dazzling skyscrapers, old and new. Following this, the reverse view was had looking down on those same buildings from on high at the Hancock Center.

Tuesday was occupied by tours of the world-famous Art Institute of Chicago and the Chicago Architecture foundation, with its large model of the city center. The CAF offered two walking tours to the group — one in French of the development of the skyscraper; the other in English, of Art Deco design.

Wednesday was spent outside the city visiting some of the 385 acres of the extensive Chicago Botanical Gardens, followed by a tour of the immense



Tour members reflected in "The Bean" sculpture.

Baha'i Temple in Wilmette, a nine-sided domed structure derived from the belief in the Baha'i faith that number nine symbolizes perfection and completion.



Looking up: The Architecture Boat Tour.



Looking down: The Hancock Center Observatory.

A trip to the world of architect Frank Lloyd Wright's Oak Park occupied Thursday morning. A tour of the famous designer's houses in that town was followed by lunch at the historic Berghoff German restaurant, back in the Loop. An afternoon tour of the Money Museum at the Federal Reserve Bank was followed by dinner at Tommy Gun's Garage Show, a 1920s-style speakeasy.

The trip concluded Friday with a visit to the Driehaus Museum, an ornate 1879 residence, then lunch at the club of Chicago blues legend Buddy Guy, a free afternoon, and the farewell dinner party aboard a cruise ship in the harbor. Owing to windy weather, the ship didn't actually leave the dock! Even so, it proved fitting that the trip concluded with a view of the city lights spread out across the lake.



A "Roaring 20s" speakeasy dinner.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

Previously, Moussa worked at MIT and Arthur D. Little Inc., in the areas of energy, environment and safety. His love of learning is just as vivid on the non-technical side: he is a devotee of history, arts, culture and languages.

Sunne Savage graduated from Lake Erie College in Ohio in 1966. As a student, she studied in Nice, France, where she completed a research project on Picasso's Ceramics in Vallauris. This started a lifelong connection with France and its culture. She has traveled in France many times since then.

Following a stint at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, she established the Sunne Savage Gallery on Newbury Street, continuing today in Winchester; conducting sales of 19th and 20th Century masterworks to private collectors and museums. She also represents the estate of her late husband Robert S. Neuman, a nationally-known American abstract artist. She resides in Winchester and summers in Northeast Harbor, Maine, where she curates summer exhibitions of Maine modern master artists. She has been a Jumelage member for 25 years.

JUMELAGE SIGN COMMEMORATES DECADES OF FRIENDSHIP

In a tangible demonstration of the strong bond Winchester feels with its sister city Saint-Germain-en-Laye, Jumelage and the Town of Winchester dedicated a memorial sign at the end of April. The sign, which is located on the river side of the Town Hall lawn, was inaugurated in a joyous ceremony on a sunny morning, attended by dignitaries, Jumelage members, onlookers, and many students of French from Winchester High.

A series of speakers voiced welcome, support, and some history of the Association. Current President Annette Lanigan began with a welcome to all, followed by a brief welcome by Selectman Lance Grenzeback, and then a history of how the Twin City Association was born, by founding President Judie Muggia. State Representative Michael Day expressed pride, and noted that he has invited one of our French interns to work in

his legislative office this summer. He was followed by St-Germain Jumelage President Marc Miloutinovich who came from Paris for the ceremonies to represent St-Germain Mayor Emmanuel Lamy. Mr. Miloutinovich spoke about the ongoing dedication of his city to this relationship, and announced that the main thoroughfare of a new district under development in St-Germain will be named "avenue de Winchester." (See article elsewhere in this issue.) The final speaker was the Consul-général of France in Boston, Valéry Frelaud. He remarked on the importance to France of these social and cultural relationships, and especially addressed the many students present with their French teacher Joyce Anderson from the Winchester High School. They are, he said, the very future of the 240 year-old Franco-American alliance.



Dedication ceremonies featured (l to r): Kevin Drum, Selectman Lance Grenzeback, Vice President John McConnell, Norman Doucette, former President Judie Muggia, French Consul-Général Valéry Frelaud, St-Germain Jumelage President Marc Miloutinovich, State representative Michael Day, President Annette Lanigan, Scott Ridlon, and Winchester Town Manager Richard Howard



Dignitaries, guests and students mingled at the reception following the dedication.

Following the ceremony, a reception was held in the Winchester Room of the Town Hall. Coffee was generously donated by Starbucks and a panoply of different croissants donated by La Patisserie was offered.

Did you know? 74% of the 19 square miles of the city of Saint-Germain-en-Laye is taken up by the famous Forest of St-Germain, which occupies 15 square miles of the northern end of the city.



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Événements



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NEW QUARTER TO SERVE AS NORTHERN ENTRYWAY INTO ST-GERMAIN-EN-LAYE

During his recent visit to Winchester, Marc Miloutinovitch, the President of the Jumelage Association in St-Germain, announced that, as part of the development of a new residential and corporate district as a northern gateway to St-Germain, the main thoroughfare of the development will be called "Avenue de Winchester" in honor of the Twin City relationship we enjoy.



A plan view of the the new Lisière Pereire district being developed at the northern edge of Saint-Germain-en-Laye. The central street will be called "avenue de Winchester."



A rendering of new housing, parks and schools in the new district.

Called "Lisière Pereire," the new quarter is a mixed-use development, comprising residential, educational, recreational and business uses. Mr. Miloutinovitch announced that already at least two Massachusetts-based corporations, Bose and Genzyme, have decided to locate their French headquarters there.

WORLD WAR II BOOK

As a gift to the French during the 2014 Jumelage trip to Normandy, a booklet of images and information of Winchester in WWII was created. This publication is now being put online on the Winchester Historical Society website (winchesterhistoricalsociety.org) and the town archives site.



Captain Samuel Keyes of Winchester, 1943



Members of Winchester Jumelage in the French Consul's residence in Cambridge during the "Galette des rois" party.

OFFICIAL "GALETTE DES ROIS" RECEPTION FOR THREE JUMELAGE ASSOCIATIONS

Winchester was one of three towns in greater Boston which have Twin City relationships with French cities to be invited to the Consul-général of France's official residence in Cambridge for an evening of celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany (the visit of the Three Kings to Bethlehem.) In France, the feast is celebrated with flat cakes with a coin or a statue of the infant Jesus baked into them, with good luck coming to whoever ends up with the slice containing the object.

The French consulate invited twenty members each from the Jumelage association of Winchester / St-Germain, Boston / Strasbourg and Lexington / Antony. An elaborate array of beverages, cheeses, charcuterie and baked goods was provided by the Consul's chef.



Winchester citizens, employees and elected officials gathered on the Town Hall stairs and balcony in a demonstration of solidarity with France in the wake of the terrorist attacks in Paris in October.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Annette Lanigan

Bonjour, Jumelage members and friends!

Last September, through the efforts of Tom Michalak and his planning committee --- Kevin Drum, Susan Vrotsos and Tom Sevigny, --- 41 French and American Jumelage members celebrated our annual cultural exchange together in Chicago, as detailed in this issue with photos and narratives from some trip attendees. As usual, Ed Davis created a book to preserve these memories.

We were quite shocked in October to hear of the bombing and shooting attacks in Paris. Winchester Jumelage sponsored a town rally to show support for France. Many of us also attended the large rally on Boston Common two days after the attacks.

We started 2016 with an invitation from the new Consul-General of France Valéry Freland to attend a January reception celebrating Epiphany, or the Feast of the Three Kings (la Galette des rois,) at his Cambridge residence. Twenty of our members, along with an equal number from both the Boston/Strasbourg and Lexington/Antony twin cities association, enjoyed a pleasant evening.

At the Annual Meeting and Taste of France event in March Sunne Savage was confirmed as a new board member. We also marked the retirement from the board of our founding president Judie Muggia.

At long last, on 29 April we were able to commemorate our 26 years of being "twinned" with Saint-Germain-en-Laye with the dedication of a lovely sign installed on the river side of Town Hall. If you visit our website, you will see (under "Current Events") a video of the ceremony, produced by Peter Engledrum. It was a great pleasure for Marc Miloutinovich, president of the French St-Germain /Winchester Jumelage to attend and spend the weekend with us.

As is usual, we will have three interns with us this summer. Marie-Laure Paireon will work in State Representative Michael Day's office and be hosted by the Cregger family. Claire Duoux will work at Kidstock and stay with the Collin de Casubon family, and Gabrielle de la Rocque will stay with the McArdle family and work at Book-Ends. Also in the works is the preparation to send a Winchester intern to St-Germain.

Send us your ideas for activities or events you'd like us sponsor!

Annette ■

SYDELLE PITTAS (1945 - 2016)

With great sadness, the members of Jumelage note the death of one of their most active and beloved fellow-members, Sydelle Pittas. Sydelle was both wife and law partner of our former president Philippe Koenig, with whom, after many years living in Winchester, she moved to Florida in 2013. A student at Rutgers University and a graduate of Harvard Law School, Sydelle devoted her career to business and bankruptcy and the advancement of civil and women's rights. A larger-than-life figure, she grew up living in Japan, Savannah, and the Bronx, in succession. She was active in Rotary, was an actor, taught dance, established food pantries, and traveled on Jumelage trips. She succumbed to recurrent pancreatic cancer on April 10.



ANNUAL MEETING & TASTE OF LYON HELD AT SANBORN HOUSE

More than forty Jumelage members gathered at the Sanborn House Historic and Cultural Center on the 19th of March for a twice-a-year celebration of the cuisine of France. The dinners are potluck feasts, with main courses supplied by Board members, and side dishes, salads, hors-d'oeuvres and desserts provided by everyone else.

As is typical, each dinner has a theme, frequently related to a recent or upcoming group trip, and this event was no exception: it was centered on the culinary traditions of Lyon, the gustatory "capital" of France, and destination of the upcoming fall Jumelage trip. Last October the theme was a celebration of our quarter-century of relationship with Saint-Germain-en-Laye, and the prior April the cuisine evoked Chicago in preparation for the upcoming trip there.



As the evening progressed, diners sat in the Music Room to enjoy a meal.



Guests and retiring Board member Judie Muggia reminisce.

Prior to this meeting, the Board of Directors held the Annual Meeting, during which officers were (re)elected and Sunne Savage was brought onto the Board.

During the cocktail-and-hors d'oeuvres hour prior to the meal, former Jumelage President Judie Muggia stopped by — in the midst of moving for the first time in more than a half-century — to officially say farewell and announce her retirement from the Board of Directors. ■

WAR AND PEACE IN SAINT-GERMAIN-EN-LAYE



The Terrace at Saint-Germain, Spring, c. 1875, by Alfred Sisley

The well-known French Impressionist Alfred Sisley (1839 - 1899) set up his easel on the heights above Marly to paint the Château of St-Germain and its great Terrasse on the cliff above the Seine River in spring's silvery light.



Concrete German bunker; Saint-Germain-en-Laye, 1942

In January 1942, St-Germain became the headquarters of the Western German High Command in occupied France, drawn by the fine houses they took over. Allied bombing caused them to build massive bunkers.

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Sheila Puffer (l.) and Didier Collin de Casaubon listen as French Consul Valéry Frelaud welcomes Vice President John McConnell, representing the Winchester Jumelage, to his residence for the January Galette des rois celebration.



Prominent in the crowd attending the Jumelage Sign dedication were many students of Winchester High School French teacher Joyce Anderson (front, 2nd from left.) A special shout-out to flag-bearers juniors Drew Armstrong (l.) and Ethan Massat.



Chicago trip attendees pose on the stairs outside the enormous and elegant Baha'i Temple in Wilmette.



Kevin and Sue Drum attending the dinner reception at Lucia Restaurant for St-Germain Jumelage president Marc Miloutinovitch during his visit at the end of April.



Avenue de Winchester under construction in St-Germain.



Founding Jumelage President Judie Muggia (center left) announces her retirement at the Annual Meeting / Taste of Lyon celebration at Sanborn House, on March 18th.



Immediately following the Paris attacks in October, the Winchester Board of Selectmen welcomed Jumelage representatives in a declaration of solidarity with France.



Next Jumelage trip
Lyon and the Beaujolais

1-8 October 2016

Places are still available. If you are interested, call Annette Lanigan at 781-729-7425.

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PO Box 453, Winchester MA 01890

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Officers:

Annette Lanigan, *President*
John McConnell, *Vice-President*
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