

# Événements

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

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## ROASTING AND TOASTING OUR 2015 INTERNS



The interns' three-week stay in Winchester began with the annual Bastille Day party at John McConnell's house. Here interns Clément Richard (l.), Margaux Dumont and Héléne Petitpoisson are greeted by our Massachusetts State Representative Michael Day.

An outstanding trio of young people from Saint-Germain spent three hot weeks in July working, sightseeing and burnishing their English skills during the annual Jumelage exchange program. The young women and man were again hosted by Winchester residents. Héléne Petitpoisson stayed with Didier and Cherie Collin de Casaubon, Clément Richard stayed with John McConnell, while Margaux Dumont had the fortune to be able to divide her stay between two families: David Satterthwaite and Maria McCarthy for the first half, and Jim and Margie Peterson for the second.

Héléne worked at the law firm of Murray & Quill, while Clément interned at Bookends and Margaux at the Griffin Museum of Photography. Their schedules included a day off each week, so as to be able to participate in a number of planned activities. These included a

tour of Town Hall with Town Manager Richard Howard, an all-day walking tour of Harvard University with John McConnell, a tour of the Museum of Fine Arts by Susie Vrotsos, and a boat cruise on the Essex River --- on an uncharacteristically chilly day; during much of their stay the weather was abnormally hot and humid.

Another unanticipated highlight was touring the Massachusetts State House, arranged by our State Representative Michael Day, who met the newly-arrived interns at the annual Bastille Day barbecue bash (during which Clément served as sous-chef for Winchester's own "Bobby Flay," chef Russell Gay.) By pure good luck, the State House tour included seeing the news conference at which the Governor, House Speaker and Senate President announced the cancellation of Boston's 2024 Olympic host bid.

Upon returning home, and with time for reflection, each intern has written a short piece about his or her experience, which follow on the next pages.

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







## “... I CAME WITH THE STRONG DESIRE OF BEING SURPRISED ...”

by Clément Richard

When I finally decided to come to Winchester last summer, I didn't really know what to expect, and that's probably why I came with the strong desire of being surprised --- and, more precisely, letting myself be surprised by people, events, chance. I didn't want to control every single moment of my trip; I wanted to discover places and people, almost to be a spectator of my own trip. I have to say that this state of mind, added to the incredible enthusiasm of my host John McConnell, contributed to make unforgettable memories.

One of my most important passions is cinema, and before I came to Winchester, I didn't realize that the Boston area was related to so many movies, such as *Mystic River*, *The Town* or *Gone Baby Gone*. What I did know, on the other hand, was that my favorite movie *Good Will Hunting* had been shot in Boston, and that I could visit the famous “Good Will Hunting Bench,” where the two main characters sit for a powerful scene, in the Boston Public Garden. That's what we did with John on the third day, and I'm grateful for this incredible moment. I was only there for three days but as we came back home that day, I said to John as a joke, “Now I can go back to France, my trip is over.” I'm glad I didn't, of course, because I had a lot of other places to see, almost as beautiful as The Bench.



Clément Damon-Richard listening to Robin Williams on the Public Garden bench.

With John and his good friend Russell we visited the Flume in New Hampshire's White Mountains, an incredibly beautiful river surrounded by a huge forest, where we took many pictures and --- I also fell into the river, but nevermind! Thanks to John again, I had the extreme privilege to spend one day in New York City, an indescribable experience. One page is unfortunately not enough to write about all the things I've seen and done during my trip, so I can just mention some of them: visiting the Jenks Center, Harvard and the Museum of Fine Arts, the State House, Times Square, tasting amazing BBQ with Russell's incredible sauce; but also simple things such as walking through Boston and listening to this



A steamy hot day, an icy cold Stella Artois, and a Times Square panorama atop the Novotel roof terrace on Broadway in New York. Russell Gay and Clément Richard.

inimitable Boston accent!

During the trip I also worked at Bookends --- the best bookshop in Massachusetts ever, according to the clients themselves! I met incredible people there, and discovered a whole new world, improving my English talking to clients, advising books --- sometimes even reading them. I want to thank all Bookends' team for their patience and kindness.

I split this letter of appreciation in numerous ways: to John McConnell, Marc Miloutinovitch, Jacques Paugam, Hélène, Philippe Labrot, Margaux, Mr. Howard, Phil Duffy, Bill Foucher, Robin Williams, Beverly, Judy, Isabel, Marilyn, Waldo, Matthew, Craig, Maddy, the entire Bookends staff, and Russell “Chef” Gay.



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Near the head of a very long line on a very hot day. L'Hermione docked at Rowe's Wharf, Boston Harbor.



Historian and lecturer Guy Gautreau and his wife Marie. Jumelage was honored to welcome them to Winchester.



## WINCHESTER WELCOMES L'HERMIONE, LAFAYETTE

The Winchester Jumelage Association was happy to have a rôle to play in the glorious visit of L'Hermione, an authentic replica of the sailing ship that carried the Marquis de Lafayette from Rochefort, France, to Boston in 1780. The celebrated Frenchman returned in the middle of our Revolutionary War with secret information for his commanding officer George Washington that France was going to send soldiers and part of its navy to aid the American cause in that conflict. French military help was, in the end, decisive in securing our independence from Great Britain.

Reconstruction of L'Hermione began in 1997 in Rochefort. Many Jumelage members recall their visit to the half-finished ship in 2004, and they turned out in force on an exceptionally hot July weekend to go aboard during her 2-day port call, standing in line for up to three hours at Rowe's Wharf in Boston Harbor.

Jumelage played another important rôle in this historic visit. In conjunction with L'Hermione's tour of the east coast, French historian Guy Gautreau, with his wife Marie, gave lectures at the ship's ports-of-call about the history and significance of both the original voyage and the reconstruction and re-enactment of it. M. Gautreau is the Administrator-Lecturer of the Hermione/Lafayette Association. During their Boston visit, M. et Mme. Gautreau were hosted by Al and Judie Muggia, and fêted at John McConnell's Bastille Day celebration.



L'Hermione at Rowe's Wharf, Boston.

Marie and Guy Gautreau, in Brest for the return of L'Hermione to France, with their grandchildren, all costumed as 18th-century country folk. 172,000 people jammed the exhibit and souvenir village set up around the port to celebrate the ship's return.



Of the many hundreds of busts and memorials in the Massachusetts State House, only one honors a non-American: Gilbert de Motier, Marquis de Lafayette.



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Annette Lanigan

Bonjour, Jumelage members and friends!

As I write this, 41 French and American Jumelagers are about to embark on our annual cultural trip to Chicago. Together we will be celebrating our 25th anniversary of Jumelage, which started in 1990!

In fact, this whole year has been a celebration of our 25th, both here and in Saint-Germain-en-Laye. The French had 220 participants for a Fourth of July and 25th Anniversary celebration at the Château du Val. On October 30, our Taste of France dinner party at the Sanborn House will reflect our 25 years of activities --- save that date on your calendar! Did you see our new 25th logo at our Town Day booth, on the welcome sign for our interns on the train trestle and on the Town Day tee-shirts? Thanks to Vice President John McConnell for his artwork. We are currently going through the process to have a Jumelage recognition sign placed at Town Hall.

This July town businesses and families supported the hosting of three interns --- Clément Richard, Hélène Petipoisson and Margaux Dumont. Their experiences are in this newsletter. We want to thank the Griffin Museum of Photography, BookEnds, and the law firm of Murray and Quill, along with our host families. New for the interns this year was a lunch arranged by Judy Katz with the Jenks Senior Center French conversation class, led by Claudine Nacumuli.

Also in July, many of us visited the return of the Marquis de Lafayette's ship L'Hermione to Boston Harbor. On the 2004 trip to France, we had the opportunity to see its construction. Administrator Guy Gautreau and his wife Marie were hosted in Winchester by Judie and Al Muggia during their stay.

We continue to look for people who would like to serve on our Board of Directors, which meets monthly, as well as volunteers for our activities committees. Let me know if you have interests or activities which you would like to see us sponsor. We are always looking for suggestions on new activities for our group. ■



On their first morning in Winchester, French students gather in the classroom of WHS French teacher Joyce Anderson for breakfast.

## RECIPROCAL HIGH SCHOOL EXCHANGE

In late April and early May, Winchester High School hosted a delegation of students from the Lycée Jeanne-d'Albret in Saint-Germain, a reciprocal visit for kids who had hosted their Winchester counterparts visiting France in February. The French stayed with local families and were given tours in Boston and the region. Jumelage helped underwrite the expense of a trip to Plimoth Plantation, where they learned about the early settlement of Massachusetts. The program is organized by Joyce Anderson, WHS French teacher. 5.





## JUMELAGE CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP

Winchester and Saint-Germain-en-Laye, France, are this year celebrating a milestone: 25 years of being Twin Cities. This has been a rich association, with a variety of both local events each year, and an annual French-American joint trip, alternating between the two countries.

Over the years, deep friendships have been founded and members welcomed into each others' homes. There have been cultural exchanges of such diverse groups as bridge-players, firemen and gardeners. Other highlights include exchanges at the level of high school students from the two towns, and the annual summer welcome of three interns from St-Germain in Winchester homes and businesses. Each year brings new initiatives: an exchange of music school faculty is now in planning.



Winchester Jumelage members and officers pose during Town Day on the steps of Town Hall with Town Manager Richard Howard (left). Town Day marked the kick-off for celebrations of Jumelage's 25th anniversary.

Also in the works is the installation of a permanent sign recognizing the Twin Cities relationship, to be placed in front of the Town Hall.



An anniversary banner in the garden of St-Germain Jumelage President Marc Miloutinovich.



An anniversary cake shared by members during the St-Germain celebration of The Fourth of July.



Winchester Jumelage welcomed this year's summer interns with a traditional banner on the railroad trestle in the town center.



### ABOUT OUR TWIN CITY

Large, beautiful and affluent, Saint-Germain-en-Laye is situated on high bluffs overlooking the Seine River downstream from Paris. It is home to a large Château (castle) in which the future king Louis XIV was born in 1638, the same year Winchester was founded. The famous formal Terrasse, by renowned landscape architect André LeNôtre stretches from the Château along the heights north to the huge Forest of Saint-Germain. The city has easy subway (RER) access to Paris. Other famous people born here include composer Claude Debussy and French King Henri II. Saint-Germain is also home to the national champion football (soccer) team Paris Saint-Germain (PSG). Louis XIV's cradle is in city and team logos.





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Touring the State House: (from l.) John McConnell, Margaux Dumont, Clément Richard, Annette Lanigan, and Hélène Petitpoisson in front of a model of the building.



A crowd gathers at the Château du Val in Saint-Germain-en-Laye for celebration of the 4th of July. Jumelage members on both sides of the Atlantic enjoy celebrating each others' national days of independence with speeches, flags, good food and friendship — and in the case of St-Germain this year, with fireworks.



After an Essex River boat cruise, posing during a "grande bouffe" at Woodman's.



Celebrating the French Revolution with good food, flags and friendship at the annual Jumelage Fête de la Bastille at John McConnell's house. From left: Judie Muggia, David Satterthwaite, Terry Lanigan, McConnell, and Cherie Arriola.



Winchester Selectman Lance Grenzeback (2nd from l.) and wife Joan joined Jumelage members and guests on a tour of L'Hermione.



Annette Lanigan (l.) and Diane Cabell staff the Jumelage booth at this year's Town Day.



Jack Roll (l.) and past Jumelage president Lucy Delaney greet Florence Lefebvre of Belmont, and her father Michel Lefebvre, long time Jumelage member from Saint-Germain-en-Laye, in town to see L'Hermione.



Our 2015 interns listen intently to our guide (center) as they toured the Massachusetts State House, arranged by Winchester's State Representative, Michael Day.





The Brooklyn Bridge



Baker Library, Harvard University



Central Park, New York City



The Flume, New Hampshire

## THE INTERNS' LIFE



Essex River Cruise



Jenks Center



Goodbye, Boston!

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