

Événements



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

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PLANNING FOR NEW ORLEANS TRIP

Jackson Square and St. Louis Cathedral, Vieux-Carrée, New Orleans.

Photo by John McConnell

Plans are nearly complete for the October 6th through 11th visit to New Orleans by members of the Jumelage Association on both sides of the Atlantic. Ed Davis and his team (Tom Michalak, Terry Lanigan, Philippe Koenig and Tom Sevigny) have put together an itinerary which samples both the unique regional cuisine and the cultural venues of this city, known as a melting pot of many traditions --- Acadian (Cajun), Creole, Spanish, American and, above all, French.

The group, this year numbering about 20 French and an equal number of Americans, will be staying at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel on lively Bourbon Street in the French Quarter. The itinerary for the five-or-six-day tour will include a bus ride overview of the city, lunch and a cruise aboard the *Natchez*, a large paddle-wheel steamboat, and Mardi Gras World, to learn how the huge pre-Lenten parades are put together. Other venues will include a bus tour of the bayous and sugarcane fields of Cajun country, and visits to some of the notable ante-bellum plantations in the area --- such as Oak Alley.

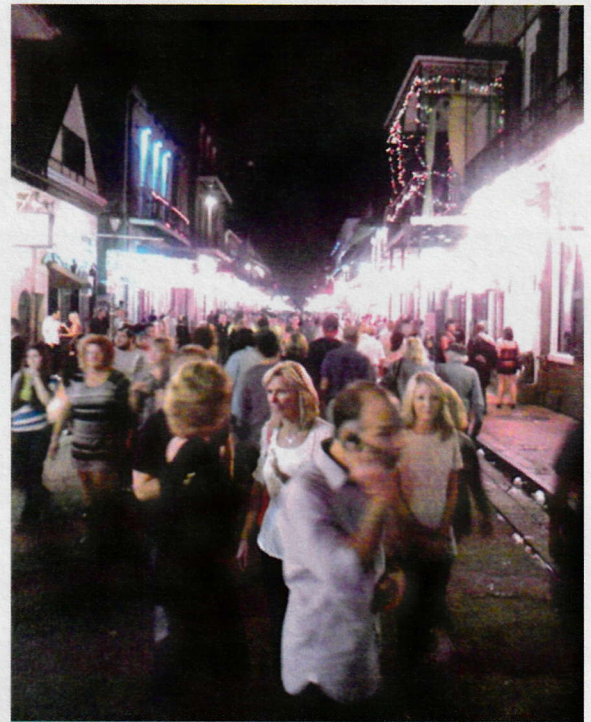
Another unique feature of the trip to New Orleans is a session at the New Orleans School of Cooking, in the

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

NEW ORLEANS 2013

Vieux Carrée --- a lesson in the preparation of authentic Creole cuisine followed by the enjoyment of eating what has been prepared. Visits to the National World War II Museum, the Voodoo Museum and one of the famous New Orleans cemeteries (with the above-ground architecture of the tombs) are also planned.

No visit to New Orleans would do justice to this pleasure-loving city without taking in some jazz --- hardly avoidable, as it is on almost every street corner --- and meals at a number of the famous restaurants it boasts. The group will dine at Acme Oyster, Arnaud's, Mulate's and Emeril's NOLA, among other eateries. Free time for both meals and exploring has been worked into the itinerary as well. Art galleries and antique shops on Royal Street, the lively Warehouse District, the historic St. Charles Street streetcar, the Garden District and the shopping on Magazine Street are all possible attractions for wandering.



Typical nightlife on Bourbon Street.

Photo by John McConnell



Entrance to the Manège Royal, site of the St-Germain Salon d'art. Photo by Marc Miloutinovich

WINCHESTER ARTISTS FEATURED AT 5TH BIENNIAL ST-GERMAIN-EN-LAYE SALON D'ART

Winchester Jumelage members Susan Vrotsos and John McConnell each had 3 of their painting juried into the 5th biennial Salon d'art in St-Germain-en-Laye, which took place from April 13th to May 5th. In addition, each had a painting included on the cover of the exhibition promotional brochure.

The exhibition took place in the vaulted great hall of the historic Manège Royal, built by Louis XVIII in 1816 as a military training facility. A grand opening (vernissage), attended by over 400 people, was held on the evening of April 19th. Emmanuel Lamy, mayor of St-Germain, was among those addressing the crowd.



St-Germain Mayor Emmanuel Lamy welcomes the crowd on Opening Night. Photo by Marc Miloutinovich



WINCHESTER / ST-GERMAIN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS EXCHANGE VISITS, CULTURE AND LANGUAGE



Winchester High School French Club officers and students of WHS French teacher Joyce Anderson (2nd from left) prepare for their trip to St-Germain this past February. They include (from the left) Tom Segerstrom, Mme Anderson, Matt Grelotti, Lily Breen, Sonia Kruszelnicki, Kate Clark, Elli Loria and Kate Creane.

photo by Terry Lanigan

This past February nine Winchester High School students of French language and their WHS teacher Joyce Anderson traveled to St-Germain-en-Laye during winter break, and had the time of their lives!

They experienced the classes at Lycée Jeanne d'Albret high school in "St-Ger," visited the monuments of Paris, and sipped many warm *chocolats* during a chilly twelve-day visit, which saw temperatures in the 30s. Students stayed in family homes for the most complete immersion experience possible.

One of the excursions --- a day trip to Chantilly, with its famous *château* --- was partially funded by the St-Germain-en-Laye Jumelage Association. In addition, this committee received the American group at the Mairie for a *petit pot* and gifts.

In April the Winchester students hosted 16 of their French counterparts --- *correspondants/les* --- and two of their English teachers, in a similar manner. This group enjoyed a welcoming reception, attendance at WHS classes, tours in Boston and a lovely goodbye party at Sanborn House, made possible by Jumelage member Tom Sevigny.

Returning the favor from February, the Winchester Jumelage Association underwrote the group's bus trip to Plimoth Plantation. The student participants send a hearty "*merci mille fois*" to all members of the Jumelage.

--- Joyce Anderson



April saw the return visit of students from St-Germain to Winchester. Kate, in the grey sweater, joins Kate, Megan, Elli and Sarah during a welcoming reception at Winchester High School.

photo by Terry Lanigan

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Événements

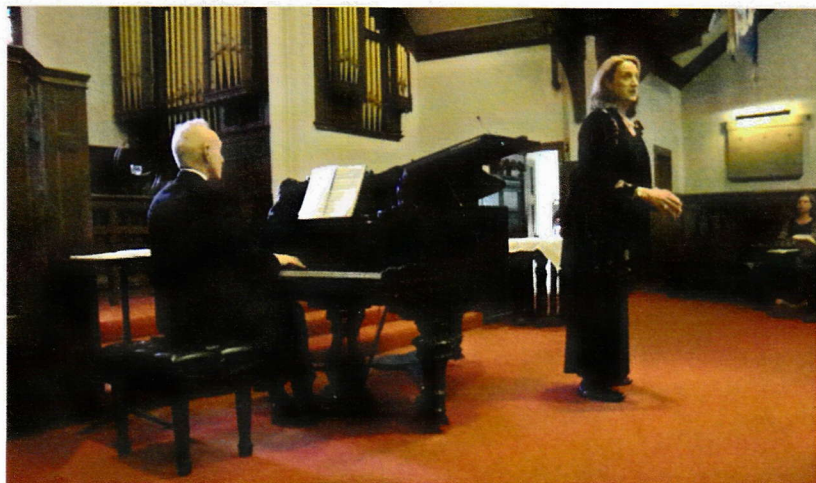


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FOLLOWING 30" OF SNOW, DRY AND BUSBY CHARM WITH CONCERT OF FRENCH AND AMERICAN SONG



James Busby accompanies mezzo soprano Marion Dry at the Winchester Unitarian Church, February 10th. Photo by John McConnell

A concert of French and American art songs on a wintery Sunday afternoon proved to be the perfect antidote to more than 30" of snow that had staggered Winchester the previous day.

Mezzo soprano Marion Dry, accompanied by pianist James Busby, were featured performers in a concert sponsored by Winchester Jumelage Association and held at the Winchester Unitarian Society on February 10th.

A surprising and gratifyingly large audience turned out to hear music of both French and American composers

who had either influenced or been influenced by the teaching of one of the central forces in 20th-century classical music, Nadia Boulanger.

Mlle. Boulanger (1887-1979) taught generations of composers, over the span of many decades, in her Paris apartments, and toured the globe as a conductor and lecturer. Marion Dry, who teaches and coaches in the Music Department at Wellesley College, presented this concert in homage to Boulanger. Busby, in addition to being a vocal coach, is organist and choirmaster at St. Stephen's Church at Brown University in Providence.

A reception following the concert allowed the audience, which included a number of Dry's own students as well as Winchester High School French students, to chat with performers. Dry and Busby then presented this concert at the American Cathedral in Paris the following month. ■



30" of snow, seen here at the entrance to Winchester Unitarian Church, had blanketed Winchester just a day before the concert. Photo by John McConnell



Dry and Busby acknowledge applause following a repeat of their concert at The American Cathedral in Paris the following month. Photo courtesy Marion Dry

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Annette Lanigan

Bonjour everyone!

It looks like summer has actually arrived, and this was evident with the warm weather we experienced at the Winchester Town Day on the first of June. Our booth attracted a good number of people, several of whom expressed interest in joining us or in hosting a summer intern. Scott Ridlon did an excellent job of coordination and gathering our props, and many thanks to all our volunteers who staffed the booth.

Our first big event this year was the Marion Dry concert at the Unitarian Church on February tenth. Kudos is due to Judie Muggia for her organization skills, and everyone else who made this such a success. Marion and her accompanist/coach James Busby also went to Paris with this performance --- inspired by the great musical teacher Nadia Boulanger. Marion described her experience at our recent Taste of France event in May.

We have strengthened our association with the Boston / Strasbourg Jumelage with several joint events, including attending an exhibition of historic French wallpaper at the Lyman Estate in Waltham, and a Muguet Brunch together in Harvard Square. We just attended their annual meeting at the historic Prescott House facing Boston Common on Beacon Hill, where we learned about their very strong school exchange program.

In February, and again in April and May, the Winchester High School had their French class exchange with the Lycée Jeanne d'Albret school in St-Germain, led by French teacher Joyce Anderson. This program is supported in part by the Winchester Jumelage Association.

In May we had our own annual meeting and Taste of France dinner. All the officers were re-elected and we also have a new Board of Directors member, Tom Michalak. Tom has been active in planning the New Orleans trip. Welcome aboard, Tom! Another Taste of France is planned for late October.

But let's look to the rest of the year. In July we will have three French interns: Christelle Da Conceicao, Élodie Faure and Melchior de Toldi, who will work at three local businesses --- BookEnds, Kidstock and Gosselin Law --- and be hosted by Winchester families. If you see them around town, say hello! We hope in future to have Winchester interns who will work in St-Germain-en-Laye. To keep this program going every year, we need host families. Let us know if you can host, for the full three weeks, or even just a week --- or if you know someone who can.

In October we will be joined by our friends from St-Germain --- 42 people strong --- who will be going to New Orleans. 2013 is our year to host this cultural exchange. Ed Davis and his team have been working hard on the agenda for this event.

I couldn't end this letter without mentioning that our former President and good friend Phillippe Koenig and his wife Sydelle are moving to Florida. Phillippe has been one of pillars of our organization for many years. We wish them the best and hope to see them on future trips. ■



SPRING ANNUAL MEETING & TASTE OF FRANCE

Winchester Jumelage President Annette Lanigan called to order the association's 2013 Annual Meeting at the Clubhouse at The Ledges in Winchester on the evening of Friday, 17 May.

The evening began with a presentation by member Marion Dry, who described the presentation of the concert she gave in Winchester in February at the American Cathedral in Paris. This was accompanied by a various hors-d'oeuvres and a generous wine bar, tended by Jack Roll.

The business part of the evening ensued, with reports by the president and treasurer, followed by the election of officers and Directors.

All current officers were re-elected unanimously (Annette Lanigan, President; John McConnell, Vice President, Peggy Roll, Treasurer; Carrie Ridlon, Secretary and Judie Muggia, Activities Coordinator.) In addition, all current Board of Directors members were re-elected. The Board was increased by one member; Tom Michalak was welcomed as a new member. ■



Attendees begin dining from some of the large selection of potluck delicacies shared at the most recent Taste of France. Photo by Annette Lanigan

TWINNING

Forming Twin City relationships between cities and towns in other countries is becoming more popular in the US, but is still nowhere as common as it is in the European Union. This sign is one of several standing at entry points into St-Germain, proudly showing their five "twins," Winchester among them.

We know of ten cities or towns in Massachusetts twinned with French cities: Amherst (Arachon,) Boston (Strasbourg,) Concord (Saint-Mandé,) Lexington (Antony,) Lowell (Saint-Dié-des-Vosges,) Marblehead (Grasse,) Nanticket (Beaune,) North Adams (Noisel,) Scituate (Sucy-en-Brie,) and, of course, Winchester (Saint-Germain-en-Laye.)



Événements



John McConnell enjoys "Muguet" (Lily-of-the-Valley) Day brunch with Mary-Louise Burke, Boston-Strasbourg president, and Mary Alice Hantout.



Jumelage Board members meet in March to plan for the coming year, chez Vrotsos.
Photo by John McConnell



Brunch attendees were serenaded by the Krokodiloes, one of Harvard's a capella groups.
Photos by Terry Lanigan



Winchester's Susan Vrotsos with Bostonians Carole LaPointe and Dorothy Manning, at the Muguet brunch in Harvard Square.



Philippe Koenig and Sydelle Pittas enjoy a Jumelage dinner at Bistro 5.



Susie Vrotsos and Al Muggia socialize at the Bistro 5 dinner event. Photos, Terry Lanigan



Attendees at the St-Germain Salon d'art discussing the landscape paintings of Winchester Jumelage member John McConnell. Photo by Marc Miloutinovich



At a WHS reception for students from Lycée Jeanne d'Albret in St-Germain. From the left, Brigitte Salaun, the students' English teacher; Joyce Anderson, WHS French teacher, Peggy and Jack Roll of the Winchester Jumelage.

2014 JUMELAGE TRIP WILL BE TO NORMANDY



From the Bayeux Tapestry

D-DAY AND BEYOND

Our Jumelage friends in St-Germain-en-Laye have just announced that the 2014 exchange trip will be to Normandy, coinciding with the observations surrounding the 70th anniversary of the D-Day invasion.



US Cemetery, Colleville-sur-mer.



Rouen Cathedral

8.

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