



Ici L'Alliance

Le Journal de L'Alliance Française de Santa Rosa

Language School and Cultural Center

a non-profit corporation, member of the Fédération of Alliances Françaises USA, Inc.

Volume 7, Issue 1

February 2008

Dîner-Conférence

la Gare Restaurant, 208 Wilson Street, Santa Rosa

Tuesday February 19 2008

Socializing: 6pm ☞ Dinner: 6:30pm ☞ Conference: 7:30pm

Law and Culture: French and American Differences

By

Marie Galanti

A country's laws reflect its culture. At the same time, cultural and social values shape each country's laws. In the course of the last 30 years, France and the United States have grown apart in many ways. Each has become increasingly critical of the other and relations have become strained. One can wonder whether this is simply a temporary aberration or a long-term trend. A look at French and American laws affecting such important questions as capital punishment, abortion, civil unions, privacy and personal freedom, provides valuable insight and yields interesting answers to this question.

Marie Galanti has been a university professor, a journalist and publisher, and now a lawyer. Her professional activity in all three professions has been characterized by a great love for French language and culture. A native of Montreal, Marie has a PhD in French civilization. At the Alliance Française, she is well-known as the former publisher of *Journal Français* and *France Today*. From 1976 until 2005 when the publications were sold, Marie was, with Anne Prah-Perochon, one of the owners of the *Journal* and *France Today*. During that time, she wrote countless articles, including the *Journal's* monthly editorial.

She received her law degree from Golden Gate University in San Francisco. In her practice, based in Santa Rosa, she specializes in wills, trusts and all aspects of estate planning. In addition, because of her long association with France, she assists clients with all their transactions with France including contracts, succession and all aspects of buying and selling property.

In her career as a journalist and now, as a lawyer, she has always been a keen observer of cultural differences between France and the United States. In her lecture, she will discuss how each country's laws reflect the culture and how culture shapes the law.

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You can attend the dinner and conference, or the conference only. Please reserve by **Friday February 15, 2008** at the latest for dinner/conference **by sending your check for \$35 to AFSR, 613 Fourth Street, suite 200, CA 95404**. Please do not forget to indicate your entrée selection: beef, fish, chicken or vegetarian on your check. Dinner begins promptly at 6:30. For the conference only, tickets are **\$12** and reservation is preferred; you may pay at the door.

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Our newsletter *Ici L'Alliance* appears monthly along with our calendar of events. This newsletter is mailed to over 350 local addresses, and is given out to anyone who might be interested in the activities of the Alliance and in the classes offered by our French Language School.

Get in touch! Merci.

Ici L'Alliance is published monthly by Alliance Française de Santa Rosa
Editor: Upi Struzak

Send all correspondence regarding the newsletter, advertising and the website to:

Alliance Française de Santa Rosa,
613 Fourth Street, Suite 200
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
info@afsantarosa.org

Voulez-vous parler français?*Causeries in Sebastopol*

Tuesdays, 6 to 7:30 pm, at 176 Main N. Street.
For information, call Madeleine at 526-5257.
Advanced conversation.

Causeries in Healdsburg

Wednesdays at 5:30 pm. Wine and cheese and a lots of talk en français! Call Myrna Greene for the latest location at (707) 433-3677.

Causeries du jeudi

French conversation

Biensûr, come and join us!

At East West Cafe

557 Summerfield Road

4:00-5:30 pm

avec Daphne Smith et

Marina Velichinsky

French Chat

A monthly French Chat takes place at Sassafras on the first Friday of each month. Please join us for convivial conversation in French beginning at 6:15 p.m. at Sassafras restaurant (1229 North Dutton Avenue, Santa Rosa); It is always helpful to the restaurant if we know approximately how many will attend. Please let Evelyn Anderson (sonprov@sbcglobal.net, 576-1124) know if you can, but don't worry if you decide at the last minute.

*Cercle littéraire*

ATTENTION: Pour notre prochaine réunion, nous passons du mercredi au jeudi le 21 février. A l'occasion, nous discuterons un autre roman d' Irène Némirovsky, David Golder, un roman de débutante talentueuse qui laisse entendre quelle sera l'ampleur de son oeuvre, quoique violemment coupée en plein essor; elle allait mourir à Auschwitz à l'age de 40 ans. David Golder, tel que le présente l'auteur, n'est pas un personnage des plus aimables, mais il est fait de chair et d'os à la fois tangible et croyable dont le caractère est ferme, pondéré et autoritaire. Il n'a qu'une faiblesse et c'est l'amour d'un père pour sa fille à qui, sans être aveugle à ses excès, il voudrait à tout prix garantir une existence facile, agréable, à l'épreuve de toutes intempéries. Si possible, il aurait voulu le faire au-delà de la mort.

Raymond Lemieux

Un jeune homme annonce à sa mère qu'il est amoureux et qu'il souhaite se marier. Avec un sourire en coin, il lui dit :
- J'ai invité ma chérie et ses deux copines demain à prendre le thé à la maison. Je ne vais rien te dire, et tu essaieras de deviner laquelle des trois j'ai décidé d'épouser !
La mère accepte.

Le lendemain, il revient avec trois jolies filles. Ils passent au salon, discutent un bon moment, et finalement le jeune homme demande à sa mère :

- Alors maman, à ton avis, qui crois-tu que je compte épouser ?
- Celle du milieu.
- Waow, c'est super, tu as deviné !!! Comment as-tu fait ?
- Simple intuition, elle me tape déjà sur les nerfs...





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-- Geneviève and Lynn, Santa Rosa

Déjeuner Mensuel de l'Alliance
Sassafras Restaurant

Wednesday **December 12** at noon
 Join us for food, conversation, and fun!
 Choices to be made from menu distributed before lunch.
 Some changes may be made periodically.
 Bar service extra
 Members \$20 -- Non-Members \$22
 1229 North Dutton Ave, Santa Rosa.
 Please reserve by calling
Adrena at 823-5539
 by **Monday 10**
 at the latest.
 We will collect at the door.



Cocktail-Conférence

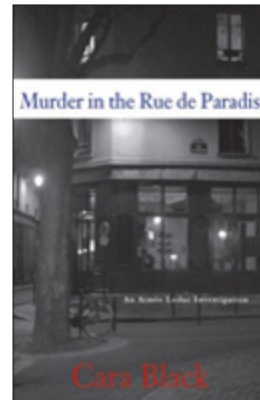
Friday 14 March 2008 at 6 p.m.
 l'Alliance Française de Santa Rosa presents

An evening with Cara Black

at Vista del Lago Country Club House,
 in the Bennett Valley section of Santa Rosa

Cara Black's love affair with Paris and all things French stem from her Francophile family; a father who loved gastronomy and an uncle who studied art with Georges Braque in Paris and meeting the prix Goncourt winning author Romain Gary on her first trip to Paris. She's a member of the Marais Historic Society and the Historic Society of the 10th arrondissement in Paris. She writes the award nominated Aimée Leduc Investigation series set in the different arrondissements of Paris.

Her talk will cover why she writes about Paris, why detective stories and insights into her eighth mystery, Murder in the Rue de Paradis.



Location : Vista del Lago Club House - 3150 Lakeview Drive, Santa Rosa

Please confirm your presence in advance by **calling 707.543.8151** by **Monday 10 March** - \$12 members, \$15 non-members. Refreshments and snacks will be served after the conference.

Un français débarque dans une gare suisse. A la sortie de celle-ci, il voit "café de la marine". Il rentre aussitôt dans la gare et demande au préposé :
 - Comment se fait-il que vous ayez un café de la marine alors que vous n'avez pas de mer, ni d'océan ?
 - Et alors en France vous avez bien une maison de la culture !



“Les DOM-TOM”- Mot du Jour

Definition: (acronym) - Départements d'outre-mer, Territoires d'outre-mer - French overseas departments and territories

Grâce à Aimé Césaire, la France a créé les DOM-TOM - Thanks to Aimé Césaire, France created its overseas departments and territories

Les citoyens des DOM sont des citoyens de la France - Citizens in the overseas departments are citizens of France

Le valentinage de la cour d'Angleterre

Les sources avérées des origines de la saint Valentin remontent à la fin du moyen-âge. C'est au XIV^{ème} siècle que l'on prit l'habitude de former un couple au hasard en Angleterre. La coutume du "Valentinage" est née dans l'aristocratie anglaise à la fin du Moyen-Âge. Une jeune fille était associée à un jeune homme et durant la journée ils avaient des obligations l'un envers l'autre. Le valentin et sa valentine devaient s'offrir en secret des petits cadeaux et se faire des galanteries. Cette coutume est arrivée à la cour de Savoie puis elle s'est répandue dans les régions voisines. Le "valentinage" s'est enrichi de l'envoi de poèmes. Depuis Valentins et Valentines Anglo-saxons s'envoient des "Valentines" Cette coutume d'échange d'amitié se transforma peu à peu en fête des amoureux. Dans les pays anglo-saxons les amis échangent aussi des mots d'amitié pour la Saint Valentin.

Depuis le XVIII^e siècle la coutume de l'envoi des "valentines" s'est généralisée en Grande-Bretagne puis en Amérique du Nord où elle prend le nom de "Valentine's day". La coutume s'est répandue en Europe avec l'arrivée des GI à la fin de la seconde guerre mondiale.



Dans la cuisine avec Christine Piccin

This simple recipe is a twist on traditional fondue, and perfect for a seasonal gathering of friends. Bon appétit!

Blue Cheese Fondue with Apples and Pears

makes 4 servings

- 1/2 cup dry white wine
- 2 Tbl. kirsch
- 1 tsp. sugar
- 8 oz. cream cheese, cubed
- 8 oz. fontina or other mild, semi-soft cheese, grated
- 4-6 oz. creamy blue cheese, diced
- wedges of fresh apples or pears



Add the wine, kirsch and sugar to the fondue pot; heat over medium heat.

When the wine is hot, add the cream cheese a few pieces at a time, stirring or whisking constantly until the cream cheese is melted.

Add the grated fontina by large pinches, stirring or whisking quickly until smooth after each addition before adding more. Repeat with the blue cheese.

When the fondue is smooth, transfer it to a fondue pot and serve with assorted dippers. Adjust heat by covering the sterno partially so the fondue doesn't boil. Stir it often with your skewers, too.

Other dipper ideas:

- toasted dense fruit and nut bread
- savory biscotti
- dried figs, cherries, pears, apples, etc.

- Upcoming Classes -

- ◆ Friday, Feb. 15 -- Fondue class at Ridge Lytton Springs Winery, Healdsburg, 6 pm -- produced by Relish Culinary

Please email me for more info: christine@piccin.com,
or check www.RelishCulinary.com



French Language School

www.afsantarosa.org

Session January 7 to March 7 2008

For registration please contact our Director at herve@afsantarosa.org or call 707.543.8151

BEGINNERS – Complete beginners, no diagnostic interview. 2 hours/week for 9 weeks - 18 hours of instruction. Tuition \$252

MONDAY	6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.
TUESDAY	11 a.m. - 1:00 pm
FRIDAY	5:15 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - \$220

ADVANCED BEGINNERS – Beginners with little knowledge of French, no diagnostic interview required. 2 hours/week for 9 weeks – 18 hours of instruction. Tuition: \$252

WEDNESDAY	9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY	11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
THURSDAY	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

INTERMEDIATE – 2 hours/week for 9 weeks 18 hours of instruction. Tuition \$252

WEDNESDAY	6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.
THURSDAY	6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.
FRIDAY	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

CONVERSATION Class - 2 hours/week for 9 weeks – 18 hours of instruction. Tuition \$252

WEDNESDAY	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
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ADVANCED – 2 hours/week for 9 weeks –18 hours of instruction. Tuition \$252

TUESDAY	6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.
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ADVANCED Theme Class – Fluent level - 2 hours/week for 9 weeks – 18 hours of instruction. Tuition \$252

The class is a discussion of various aspects of life in France such as France and the European Union, Immigration in France, Work and Leisure in France.

MONDAY	4:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.
MONDAY	6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.

CHILDREN Class for 9 weeks – 9 hours of instruction. Tuition \$126

SATURDAY	11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m..
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Looking for a gift idea?

Voulez-vous parler français ?

Why not offer the gift of learning French:

A Session of classes at l'Alliance Française de Santa Rosa!

Call us at 543-8151

Volunteer Committee

We need your help and expertise to organize upcoming events, find speakers for the monthly luncheons, organize our library, welcome members, and much more!

Please contact us by phone at 707.543.8151 or email at info@afsantarosa.org We look forward to meeting you!

SJC Consulting Services Corporation



Alliance Française de Santa Rosa

French Language School

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La Maison de L'Alliance is open:
Tuesday 2:30pm – 4:30pm
Tues, Wed, Thur. 6pm – 8 pm

**Please volunteer to keep the
Alliance open to its members!**

www.afsantarosa.org
info@afsantarosa.org
school@afsantarosa.org



This issue was mailed on 25.01.08

Is your Membership Renewal Due?

IS YOUR MAILING ADDRESS CIRCLED IN RED? TIME TO RENEW!

If you do not renew within 2 months, we will regretfully stop sending you our newsletter and your membership benefits will expire. Call the Alliance 707.543.8151 for address changes. Please note: Bulk mail is not forwarded.

Please Check One:

New member **Renewal**

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

How did you find about the Alliance? Relative Friend School Phone Book

Other _____

I would like to volunteer: Yes No

Areas of interest Conversation Group Literary Group Classes Children's Activities

Amount of enclosed check: _____

Mail to: **Alliance Française de Santa Rosa, 613 4th Street, Suite 200, Santa Rosa, CA 95404**

I hereby authorize the Alliance Française de Santa Rosa to charge the following credit card for the amount of \$ _____

I also authorize the Alliance Française de Santa Rosa to charge the same card for the same amount every year at time of renewal.

A receipt will be sent to you in the mail as proof of your payment.

Type: Visa Mastercard Discover Other: _____

Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Security Code _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Annual Fee (12 month period) Please circle your membership level	
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