Mardi Gras

Mardi, 28 février: de 6h30 à 8h30
Odd Fellows Hall, 545 Pacific Avenue, Santa Rosa

Yes it’s that time again! Please join us on Tuesday, February 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m. to celebrate Mardi Gras with music, food, and costumes. We may even do some “Zydeco” dancing, if there’s interest. RSVP by February 21.

Of course, we are welcoming back chef Christine Piccin and her students to spoil us with their delicious savory and sweet crêpes. Christine teaches French cooking and “Why We Love Paris,” a food and travel class. She also trains student-chefs in the Culinary Arts program at SRJC.

Entrance fee is $20 if received by February 21, $25 at the door ($10 for children under 16), which includes two servings of crêpes and a glass of wine.

You can pay by using Paypal or a credit card on the Mardi Gras sign-up page on our website. After clicking the submit button continue with the payment form to complete your payment. Or, if you prefer, mail your check by February 14 to: AFSR, 182 Farmers Lane, Suite 200, Santa Rosa, CA 95405. Either way, please let us know in advance that you will be coming, so we can prepare to have the right amount of food.

Costumes and masks are optional but very welcome!
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Candi Dahlstet

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**Le Mot de la Présidente**

Bonne Année à tous!

Why is San Francisco such a world-renowned city? Even on a stormy day, one glance through the cables of the Golden Gate to that city resting like a crown on the steep hills hints at the answer. Once you've crossed the bridge, you begin to understand. Just as the buildings stack up on the hills so, too, do the cultures that form the City stack up around you. Chinatown and Little Italy may grab the spotlight, but challenge yourself to see how many different cultures are thriving among the tall buildings. Locals and tourists alike are drawn to the events and, of course, to the restaurants to taste the variety. To be sure, everyone has their favorites, and if you are a member of the Alliance Française, we know one of yours.

We all have an affinity for French language and culture, whether from memories of our childhoods or from the appreciation of the heritage. We come together at our activities to enjoy and to better understand not only the culture of France and French regions around the globe, but also its influence on other cultures of our world. Our Alliance celebrated the Holidays with French songs and a traditional Bûche de Noël, and then Galettes des Rois along with games in French. For me, it is the dynamic among the members that is the most amazing. For more than twenty years, I have been attending Alliance events, yet I am continually surprised by the fascinating histories of the friendly people there. Be it a French native or a student of the language, the conversations are always interesting, enjoyable, and often amusing, whether in French or in English. Next, we will be celebrating Mardi Gras with crêpes and dancing, and this year on the actual Mardi Gras, February 28th. So, venez et bavardez un peu.

-Andrea Croft  
Présidente
Coin École

Bonne Année !

The Nouvel An session is going well — we’ve maintained the number of students enrolled in group courses and private lessons and have opened a second beginning Intermediate course. We also have a new member on our teaching team, Kate Levine, who is French (born in France where she spent her childhood) and American. I’m sure you’ll find her charming, and Kate is looking forward to meeting you!

Our next school session will be starting up the week of the 27th of February.

We are still holding interviews for another teaching position so feel free to share this information with any possible teaching candidates you may know. The school aims to expand our offer to on-site courses in companies once we have a large enough team and a new website. This should bring in revenues which will allow us, in time, to offer more to you, our members!

Julia Fornage will be starting up her next series of monthly cooking courses in February, one Saturday a month, 2:00-5:00pm, $60 per course, level Intermediate and above.

11 février : “formule savoyarde” – fondue ou quiche savoyarde, tartiflette, merveilles
11 mars : “en entrée” – tarte salée, terrine de poisson, salade de crudités à la mayonnaise
15 avril : desserts printaniers – Pavlova aux fruits de la saison, panna cota aux fraises
13 mai : pizzas variées au four à bois

For more information and to register, please go to: www.afsantarosa.org/school/group-classes

And lastly, to ‘cinematically’ practice your French, Summerfield Cinemas is still playing for a limited time “Elle” with Isabelle Huppert, considered one of her strongest performances ever. Also coming up very soon is a promising Belgian comedy “Le tout nouveau testament”. See descriptions at http://summerfieldcinemas.com/coming-soon

En vous espérant une année d’espoir et de renforcement de vos liens les uns avec les autres!

-Kimberly McCartney
kimberly@afsantarosa.org
Directrice de l’école

AFSR Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars for upcoming AFSR events

February 28, Tuesday Mardi Gras 6:30 - 8:30
Odd Fellows Hall, 545
Pacific Ave., Santa Rosa. See page 1
Cercle Littéraire

Le cercle littéraire discutera *Trois Femmes Puissantes* de Marie NDiaye, le 21 février à 3h30, au foyer.

"Trois récits, trois femmes qui disent non. Elles s'appellent Norah, Fanta, Khady Demba. Chacune se bat pour préserver sa dignité contre les humiliations que la vie lui inflige avec une obstination méthodique et incompréhensible. L'art de Marie NDiaye apparaît ici dans toute sa singularité et son mystère. La force de son écriture tient à son apparente douceur, aux lentes circonvolutions qui entrainent le lecteur sous le glacis d'une prose impeccable et raffinée, dans les méandres d'une conscience livrée à la pure violence des sentiments."

Le Cercle Littéraire accueillera avec plaisir de nouveaux participants. For more information contact Katy: kquibell@gmail.com or Candi: candi@afsantarosa.org

ANNONCES

In addition to the school offerings and the events listed above, which are sponsored by AFSR, a local group of francophones meets for dinner the second Friday evening of each month at the Crepevine Restaurant in Montgomery Village. For more information, contact Evelyn Anderson at 576-1124.

Read and sign up for the weekly Bay Area Francophile List at http://www.sonoma.edu/users/t/toczyski/BAFLHomepage.shtml

KSVY 91.3 in Sonoma has a weekly French radio show by Michel Saga, Mondays from 1 - 2 p.m. Michel plays songs by French and other Francophile musicians. You can also listen online.

Another radio show….La Fulbright Language Teaching Assistant à Sonoma State, Justine, anime "Une Bouteille à la Mer", une émission hebdomadaire sur KSUN le jeudi de 12h à 14h.. On peut écouter en direct sur leur site web: http://www.sonomastateradio.com. Talk, interviews, poetry, music, .... The show is Thursdays from 12 to 2 on KSun Radio on-line at www.sonomastateradio.com. All of the information on the music and the poetry can be found on www.ubalm.wordpress.com.

Summerfield Cinemas is still showing “Elle” with Isabelle Huppert, considered one of her strongest performances ever. Also coming up very soon is a promising Belgian comedy “Le tout nouveau testament”. See descriptions at http://summerfieldcinemas.com/coming-soon.

Traveling to Sacramento? Take in the 10th Winter French Short Film Screening featuring the César nominated shorts at the Crest Theater. Details: http://www.sacramentofrenchfilmfestival.org, or http://www.ticketfly.com/event/1426397-10th-annual-winter-short-film-sacramento for tickets.

Romantic songs from France and Italy by La Guinguette Trio, Valentines Day, 6:30-8:30, Aqus Café, 189 “H” Street, Petaluma. No cover.
**La Fête de Noël**

Le temps avait été épouvantable pendant toute la journée. Il faisait déjà nuit, l’orage avait laissé des rues inondées, et les gens n’avaient pas très envie de sortir de chez eux. Mais en dépit de ce mauvais temps, une trentaine de membres de l’Alliance Française de Santa Rosa et leurs invités se sont rendus à « Odd Fellows Hall » pour une petite fête de Noël.

L’assemblée était assez diverse et intéressante. C’était un mélange de membres nouveaux et de longue date, d’âges, et de divers niveaux de compétence en français. On a entendu des conversations en français, en anglais, et même en « franglais ». On a admiré une table couverte de petits animaux en peluche : des ours, des dragons, des personnages de dessins animés, etc., que chacun avait apportés pour des enfants nécessiteux.


En plus, on a tenu une élection des membres du conseil d'administration de l’Alliance, on a décoré des pains d’épices (merci à Anne Bandy), et on a essayé de deviner le poids exact de quelques beaux paniers-cadeaux (merci à Karen Frazer). La soirée s’est terminée en chantant ensemble des chants français de Noël, organisés par notre inimitable Jean-Michel Poulnot.

En bref, nous avons passé une agréable soirée ensemble !
Photos de Galette des Rois

Les deux reines, Isabel Auerbach et Margaret Field et beaucoup de jeux....
### Annual Fee
(12 month period)
Please circle your membership level

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<td>HS Student</td>
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Additional Donations:
- School Program: $_____  
- Cultural Program: $_____  

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**Joining or Renewing Online**

You can now join AFSR or renew your membership online, using a credit card or your Paypal account. Just go to [http://www.afsantarosa.org/membership/join-or-renew](http://www.afsantarosa.org/membership/join-or-renew) and follow the simple instructions. Questions? Contact membership@afsantarosa.org.

**Want to Join or Renew by Check? - Mail in this form**

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

- Do not print my name in the list of New Members in *Ici L’Alliance*

Amount of enclosed check:__________________________________

Mail to: Alliance Française de Santa Rosa, 182 Farmers Lane, Suite 200, Santa Rosa, CA 95405-4761