



Alliance Française of Lynchburg Newsletter – January 2010

MARDI GRAS / CARNEVALE

Sunday, February 21, 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Note New Date!

After the success of last year’s Mardi Gras / Carnevale, this event will again be a co-production of the Alliance Française of Lynchburg and the Dante Alighieri Society of Virginia. We invite all the members of both organizations - and their guests - to a festive evening with music and dancing. Enjoy heavy hors d’oeuvres, the King Cake, crepes and toppings, and desserts. Wine, beer, and non-alcoholic beverages will also be provided. There will be prizes for the best costumes, and a King or Queen will be crowned. Enjoy!



**Location: The Parlor Ballroom, 900 Main Street, Lynchburg
(Next to the Market On Main, across from the Main Street Eatery, public parking deck in the rear.)**

Dress: Costume, Formal or Masque

**Cost: Free to members of the Alliance Française or Dante Alighieri.
\$20 for non-members or guests.**

**RSVP: By Wednesday, February 18, to Michelle Gabathuler at
mmgabathuler@comcast.net.**

CONVERSATIONS WITH SOLANGE - *Note two different times.*

Advanced: Jan. 21, Feb. 4, 18, Mar. 4, 18, Apr. 1, 15, 29, May 13, 27, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Beg / Mid: Jan. 14, 28, Feb. 11, 25, Mar. 11, 25, Apr. 8, 22, May 6, 20, 5:00 – 6:00 pm

This semester there will be two *Conversation With Solange* salons. The session which begins Thursday, **January 21**, is an opportunity for **intermediate to advanced** speakers to practice their French in a conversational, casual setting. The next session, **January 28**, is targeted for **advanced beginners to mid level** (e.g., *minimum* of one year of French). Both groups will meet at Macon Bookstore, in the back room, 2480 Rivermont Avenue. Both sessions are free to Alliance Française members, but participants are asked to purchase a beverage, snack, newspaper, etc., since this is a place of business, and we are using their space every week.



FRENCH CLASSES:

BEGINNER, ADVANCED BEGINNER, BUSINESS FRENCH

The Alliance is in the process of setting up three different French classes for this semester, depending on interest. Classes would begin in February, and are open to all (adults). Information to date follows:





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French for Beginners / Cours pour débutants

- This is a class for absolute beginners. No prerequisites.
- Probable location: AREVA (3315 Old Forest Road, Curie Conference Room).
- 10 week course, 1 ½ hours per week, day and time TBA.
- Teacher: Mme Betsy Jones (hjmjiii@aol.com).
- Anticipated start date the week of February 15th.

French for Advanced Beginners and Intermediate Students / Cours niveau moyen

- This is a class for students who have taken a beginners' class or have previous knowledge of French from other classes.
- Probable location: Lynchburg Public Library, at the Plaza, in the Community Meeting Room.
- 10 week course, 1 ½ hours per week, day and time TBA.
- Textbook will be announced.
- Teacher: Mme Julie Mayhew (mayhewlhs@hotmail.com).
- Anticipated start date is the week of February 15th.

French for Business / Français des affaires

- This is a class for intermediate students who have taken at least one French class. Emphasis will be placed on the needs of Americans working and traveling in France.
- This class will take place at AREVA.
- Teacher: Mme Valérie Verpoest (valerie.verpoest@gmail.com).
- Class materials will be provided. Each student must bring a dictionary.
- Anticipated start date is the week of February 15th.

All Classes

- **Tuition: \$200.00 plus textbook (includes current FY Alliance Française membership, admission to all events, AF newsletters).**
- **To Register: Email the respective teacher for additional information on the class and to register with her. Bring your check for \$200.00, payable to Alliance Française de Lynchburg, to the first meeting. For registration or any questions, you are also welcome to email Michelle Gabathuler, president of AF de Lynchburg, at mmgabathuler@comcast.net.**

WATCH FUTURE NEWSLETTERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

VCU & UR French Film Festival, March 26-28, in Richmond



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Le Concours de L'Alliance Française, Thursday, April 29, 5:00 pm, at Virginia Episcopal School

Spring Picnic, Sunday, May 2, 3:00 - 6:00 pm at Sweet Briar College

And dates TBD:

- French Film in March
- Immersion Dinners
- Historical Lecture
- Et...?

ATTRACTIONS PASSEES

Welcome Back Party & DelFosse Wine Tasting **Sunday, September 27**

Thanks to June and Frank Britt who hosted our annual Welcome Back party for over 40 members and guests. French vintner Claude DelFosse, of DelFosse Vineyards & Winery, brought a selection of wines for tasting. A Wine "Passport" provided details of the wines and dates for coming events.



Conversation With Solange (Sept. – Dec)

New last semester were two levels of the informal French conversation group.

Mme Nicole Yancey, Honorary Consul of France **L'influence de la France dans la formation des US,** **October 22**

Mme Nicole Yancey, Honorary Consul of France, spoke on « L'influence de la France dans la formation des US » to a group of over 100 Alliance members, Lynchburg College students and faculty, and guests.



French Classes For Beginners & Advanced Beginners

The popular French language classes continued during the fall semester.

Le Beaujolais Nouveau, November 19

Alliance members and guests, together with members of the Dante Alighieri Society of Virginia and Sister City of Lynchburg PLUS, enjoyed the annual celebration of the arrival of the 2009 Beaujolais Nouveau with traditional accompaniments.





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Fête de Noël

Our thanks to Rachel and Michael Shenigo for offering their home for the annual Christmas party, which was then unfortunately overtaken by the Blizzard of 2009.

Book Club

The group met to discuss Pars vite, reviens tard on January 13. The selection for January 20 is Un petit Parisien.

