

# LE MESSENGER



## Alliance Française de Bonita Springs

Issue 45

Février 2016

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## LE MESSAGE DE LA PRÉSIDENTE

Chers Amis,

Le printemps arrive et les "snowbirds" vont commencer leur voyage vers le Nord.

Nous avons eu une saison bien remplie ...des conférenciers intéressants...un cocktail pour Noël... un Club des Lecteurs, dirigé par Lois Ann Folliard, dont les livres alternativement en français et en anglais, très bien choisis, ont attirés beaucoup d'amoureux de lecture...nos étudiants qui progressent dans l'apprentissage du français avec leurs professeurs.

Notre contribution pour le Mois de la Francophonie sera notre jeu « Questions pour des Champions ».

De plus, notre chapitre continue d'apporter son soutien au Congrès de La Culture Française : nous attribuons une bourse pour le meilleur étudiant en Floride, et, en Mai, une autre bourse pour le meilleur étudiant, à la Community School of Naples, avec laquelle nous avons toujours gardé de très bons rapports

Nous avons en projet, pour Avril, un Taste-vins ; les détails vont suivre, et bien sûr nos diners pendant l'été vont reprendre !

C'est avec plaisir que je vous verrai bientôt.

*Mimi Gregory*

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Members: are you missing announcements because your e-mail address has changed ?

Please bring us up to date by sending your current e-mail address to our new email address:

**[lovefrench@afbonitasprings.org](mailto:lovefrench@afbonitasprings.org)**

and to the attention of Jean-Loup du Chéné. Thank you!

**Phone Number: (239) 592-1735**

*and for update our website address:*

**<http://www.afbonitasprings.org>**

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**Book Club 2015—2016**

- **Meets monthly at Pelican Marsh Golf Club immediately following the regular Alliance Française meeting**
- **Reading choices are related to France and the Francophone community worldwide**
- **Member-led club. Attendees take turns in leading book discussions.**
- **Bilingual book club - Members may contribute in French or in English. Most books are available in both French and English**
- ***If you wish to join the book club, please get in touch with Lois Ann at : [lafolliard@gmail.com](mailto:lafolliard@gmail.com), or check our web site: <http://www.afbonitasprings.org>***

**November****How Paris Became Paris [in English] by Joan De Jean**

"At the beginning of the seventeenth century, Paris was known for isolated monuments but had not yet put its brand on urban space. Like other European cities, it was still emerging from its medieval past. But in a mere century, Paris would be transformed into the modern and mythic city we know today."

**January****Le Chapeau de Mitterrand [in French - the Federation's choice] by Antoine Laurain**

"Do you think the mere fact of wearing a certain hat could change your life ? That's the basic premise of Antoine Laurain's novel *Le Chapeau de Mitterrand* which paints a delightful picture of France in the 1980s through various characters who find themselves in temporary possession of the great man's hat. The President's trilby passes from hand to hand, immersing us in the dilemmas of the wearers in this pre-mobile phone era in France. No need to believe that a hat can actually have magic powers: everyone will recognize how clothes are able to make you see life differently. The writing style is straightforward and easy to follow, but not simplistic."

**February**

**The Meursault Investigation** [book in either English or French, **Meursault, contre-enquête** as readers prefer], by *Kamel Daoud*, [*Goncourt du 1er roman 2015*]. This novel, supposedly written from the point of view of the brother of the nameless "Arab" killed by Meursault, protagonist of Camus' *The Stranger*, renders homage to Albert Camus as it exposes and ponders the complexities of pre- and post-independence Algeria.

*We strongly recommend that members read or re-read **The Stranger / L'Etranger** by Albert Camus prior to reading Daoud's book in order to relate to the subject matter*

**March****Le Liseur du 6h27 [in French] by Jean-Paul Didierlaurent**

This is a delightfully light, humorous, yet profound story of love and friendship. It is teeming with French culture and universally appealing characters. *It is also available in English as **The Reader on the 6:27**.*

**April**

**The Fires of Autumn** [book in English; written in French as *Les Feux de l'Automne*] by *Irène Némirovsky*. "Written after Némirovsky fled Paris in 1940, just two years before her death, and first published in France in 1957, *The Fires of Autumn* is a co-ruscating, tragic novel of war and its aftermath, and of the ugly color it can turn a man's soul."

**May -****La grand-mère de Jade [in French] by Frédérique Deghelt**

Une jeune femme enlève sa grand-mère pour lui éviter la maison de retraite. Récit à deux voix, mettant en scène des personnages qui ont l'audace et la force de réinventer leur vie.

## Le Rendez-Vous du 10 Décembre 2015

« Biking and Visiting the Beautiful National Parks of the Great American West

*By Bill Weidenfeller*



À la suite de notre déjeuner, nous avons écouté une présentation en français par **Bill Weidenfeller** intitulé “Parcours à Vélo: Biking and Visiting the Beautiful National Parks of the Great American West.” Bill nous a montré en format vidéo ses visites des étés 2012 et 2013 en compagnie de sa femme Joyce. Ensemble, ils ont parcouru à bicyclette presque 1.400 km aux Etats-Unis et au Canada, de l’état du Nouveau Mexique jusqu’à la province d’Alberta. Voici une photo prise dans la beauté de la nature lors de leur voyage .

*Following our lunch, we listened to a presentation in French by **Bill Weidenfeller**, entitled “Parcours à Vélo: Biking and Visiting the Beautiful National Parks of the Great American West.” Bill shared with us in video format trips he had taken with his wife Joyce during the summers of 2012 and 2013. Together, they traveled nearly 1000 miles in the U.S. and Canada, from the state of New Mexico to the province of Alberta. Here is a photo snapped in the beauty of nature during their travels.*



C’était avec beaucoup de tristesse que nous avons dit au revoir à nos chers amis et membres fondateurs Charles et Colette Deviterne qui repartent en France afin d’y passer la plupart de leur temps. Nos membres leur seront toujours reconnaissants de tout ce qu’ils ont fait pour assurer la prospérité du chapitre de Bonita, de son site web, de sa newsletter, et de son école. Avec plaisir, nous leur avons offert un souvenir d’Amérique, un bol “Paul Revere” avec ce message gravé dessus: “Chers Colette et Charles, Avec notre immense gratitude et précieuse amitié.” L’Alliance Française de Bonita Springs.

*As our dear friends and founding members Charles and Colette Deviterne returned to spend the greater part of their time back in France, we bid them a sad farewell at our December luncheon. The membership will be forever grateful for all they did to ensure that our Bonita chapter thrived, grew, had a website, a newsletter, and guidance for our school. We were pleased to send them home with a souvenir of America, a Paul Revere Bowl, which bore the following engraved message: “Chers Colette et Charles, Avec notre immense gratitude et précieuse amitié.” L’Alliance Française de Bonita Springs.*

*Lois Ann Folliard*

## Le Rendez-Vous du 14 Janvier 2016

« An Introduction to the Emperor Napoléon »

By Historian Jean-Pierre Miquel



À la fin de déjeuner, nous avons fêté les rois avec une King Cake style Nouvelle Orléans. Ensuite nous avons écouté une causerie par l'historien Jean-Pierre Miquel intitulé "An Introduction to the Emperor Napoléon". Selon M. Miquel, Napoléon était le personnage le plus important du dernier millénaire. Saviez-vous que quelques 35.000 livres ont été publiés au sujet de "l'Aigle"? Ce nombre est dépassé dans l'histoire uniquement par le nombre de livres écrits sur Jésus-Christ.



Notre club de lecture s'est réuni après la conférence. Nous avons discuté *Le chapeau de Mitterand*, nous unissant à tous les membres de la Fédération des Alliances Françaises qui ont lu ce même livre en janvier. Nous remercions Marie-Noëlle Bases pour avoir présidé sur la discussion de ce roman charmant par Antoine Laurain. A la réunion de février, nous parlerons de *Contre-enquête Meursault* par Kamel Daoud. Nous prions nos amis lecteurs de bien vouloir relire *L'Étranger* de Camus, roman sur lequel ce livre est basé afin de mieux comprendre l'ouvrage de Daoud et de participer à la discussion.

*Lois Ann Folliard*

## Le Rendez-Vous du 11 Février 2016

### The Second Most Famous Detective In the World: "Inspector Jules Maigret."

*By Aaron Cohen*



Nous étions très nombreux à Pelican Marsh le jeudi 11 Février pour suivre le périple de Georges Simenon et de son célèbre Inspecteur Maigret, “ the second most famous detective in the world” le plus fameux étant naturellement Sherlock Holmes.

C’est une émission de National Public Radio sur l’œuvre de Simenon qui a piqué l’intérêt de notre conférencier



M. Aaron Cohen. Georges Simenon est un écrivain prolifique. et dans sa course à l’écriture, M. Cohen nous dit qu’il arrive troisième derrière Shakespeare et Jules Verne. Pendant sa longue vie (1903-1989) il a écrit 200 romans et 150 nouvelles et l’on trouve et retrouve Maigret dans 75 de ces romans et 28 de ces nouvelles. La bibliothèque de M. Cohen les compte presque tous.

Simenon also penned several autobiographies in which he speaks very freely of his busy romantic life with numerous mistresses; quite a few wives, along with his “ ménages à trois” and sometimes “ ménages à quatre”.

It made for a lively presentation and M. Cohen certainly held our attention.

Je ne serais pas surprise d’apprendre que beaucoup des personnes présentes se sont précipitées à la bibliothèque ou à la librairie pour découvrir ou redécouvrir Simenon et Maigret.



*Catherine Rapuano*

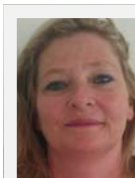
## Nos Professeurs de Français



- **Florence Barrillon- Pomes** was born and educated in Paris and did her studies in Law and Political Science. She joined the United Nations in Geneva followed by a transfer to the UN in New York where her career spanned 30 years and sharpened her many linguistic skills. Moving to Bonita Springs 14 years ago, she has been teaching French for our Alliance Française for the last 12 years.



- **Marie-Noelle Dubedout-Bases** was born in Paris and raised in Versailles. She relocated to the U.S. and received her Master's Degree in Education from Hunter College in New York City, where she taught both French and English as a Second Language. She also taught in Westchester County before moving to Naples in 2004. For the past eight years she has been teaching French privately.



- **Caroline Adelis-Ferrari** was born and raised in Paris. She received her Master's Degree in Psychology at Paris X before relocating to Milan, Italy, and then to New York ( NY) and Greenwich ( CT) where she began teaching French at Inlingua in Manhattan and then also taught at the Alliance Française of Greenwich. She moved to Naples in 2009 and has been teaching " Home Schooled Children" since 2010.



- **Nadia Weber** was born and raised in Morocco where she attended French private schools (École Jeanne d'Arc, École Paul Cézanne and Lycée Descartes). She relocated to the U.S in 1984 and received her Master's Degree in Education (Curriculum and Instruction) from NLU in Tampa and her Bachelor's Degree in Foreign Language Education (French) from UCF in Orlando. She taught French in Tampa Bay at the High School level for 13 years and at the University level for a year before moving to Naples in 2014.

## In Memoriam

### Pierre Marcoux

One of our founding members and a devoted adherent for many years even when he remained in France. Our sympathies go to his dear wife, Annie, from all our members.

### Leigh Fiedler

Past Treasurer and truly faithful member died after a very long and courageous fight with cancer. He will be missed most of all for his continued support of our chapter.

### Marcel Lefèvre

His passing was met with sorrow. We send our deepest sympathy to his wife Nicole.

## NOS CLASSES DE FRANÇAIS

**Level One, Beginners:** Professors: Marie-Noëlle Bases and Nadia Weber

**Level Two, Advanced Beginners:** Professor: Marie-Noëlle Bases

**Level Three, Intermediate:** Professor: Florence Barrillon-Pomes, Marie-Noëlle Bases and Caroline Ferrari

**Level Four, Advanced:** Professor: Florence Barrillon-Pomes

**Level Five, Advanced Plus:** Professor: Florence Barrillon-Pomes

**Immersion Courses :** Caroline Ferrari

*We will also offer a course in French History and a special course about*

*“Les Reines et Les Favorites de France” with Florence.*

Classes are of **8 consecutive** weeks \$:175, 1½ hour weekly.

Private class : 1 hr \$45 Semi private class : 1 hr [2 people] \$25 each

### Classes must be taken consecutively

Our office, where all classes are held, is located at 11983 Tamiami Trail N. [US 41] Room 136.

« COME JOIN US FOR A BREATH OF FRENCH AIR »

« OUR SCHOOL IS OPEN YEAR ROUND AND OUR TEACHERS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE »

Our classes are offered at all levels and are taught only by Native French Speakers.

We follow the suggested curriculum of the Alliance Française de Paris, part of a Worldwide Network supporting French Language and Culture.

« WE HAVE A CLASS FOR YOU »

You must be a member of the Alliance Française of Bonita Springs to join our classes.

Student fee is **\$15** for the first year, **\$50** thereafter.

For information, please call Bill Weidenfeller : (239) 304-9220

Contact us at : [lovetfrench@afbonitasprings.org](mailto:lovetfrench@afbonitasprings.org)

or visit our web site at: <http://www.afbonitasprings.org>

Nous vous rappelons que + de 150 livres d'auteurs français contemporains sont gratuitement à la disposition de nos membres à notre Bibliothèque située dans notre salle de classe dont l'adresse est ci-dessous avec le plan.

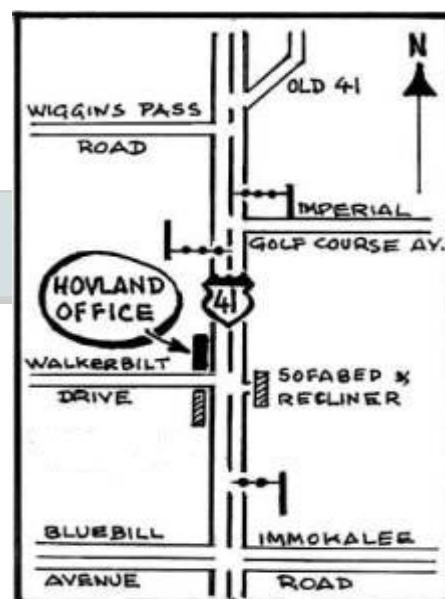


Clémentine heard that you were having trouble locating our Office/ Classroom/Library. Here is a little map to help you :→→→→→

We are located on US 41, 1,3 mile North of Pelican Marsh, exit on 41 and 0,5 mile North of Immokalee Road. We are on the left side of 41 as you are heading North, just after the yellow blinkers.

11983 Tamiami Trail North (US 41) Room 136

(Entry to parking from Walkerbilt Drive)





Alliance Française  
de Bonita Springs

## Alliance Française de Bonita Springs



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P.O.Box 1511  
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Affix address label

### REMEMBER

☎(239) 592-1735

## AGENDA

Please , for more information, check our Website:

<http://www.afbonitasprings.org>

### BOOK CLUB

*If you are interested in joining us, please call **Loïs-Ann Folliard** at : 201-592-9832, for details.*