

## Presidents' Message Winter 2010

*Nous vous souhaitons à tous de bonnes fêtes et une excellente Année 2010!* Now that the academic year is in full swing, we know you are looking forward to the holidays and some time off. We are certain that you have included classroom activities that feature some of the many traditions celebrated in France and the francophone world at this time of year: songs, food, stories, etc.

### 2010 AATF National Convention

Preparations are well under way to make the upcoming 83<sup>rd</sup> AATF Congrès a memorable one. We hope you will make it a point to include the convention and the array of Philadelphia specific activities an integral part of your summer plans. Be sure to consult the National Bulletin and our website for updates and pertinent information: <http://www.aatfphila.org>

**AATF CONGRÈS 2010**  
**JULY 4 - 7**  
**SAVE THE DATE AND**  
**MAKE THE FOURTH IN PHILLY**  
**A MUST!**  
**COME JOIN US IN THE CITY**  
**WHERE IT ALL BEGAN**

As always, we encourage you to read the newsletter carefully and consult the website regularly. Many thanks to all who have contributed to the content.

En espérant vous voir le 23 janvier...

Amitiés,

Rita Davis [rdavis@agnesirwin.org](mailto:rdavis@agnesirwin.org)

Susie Ledieu [sledieu@holychildacademy.com](mailto:sledieu@holychildacademy.com)

## Reminder: Listserv Notice

Our listserv is exclusively for members of both National and Philadelphia Chapter AATF and a service included in the \$8.00 chapter dues. We send reminders of meetings and other French-related events, as well as news to supplement the most recent newsletter.

The complete Listserv Policy is on our site, [www.aatfphila.org](http://www.aatfphila.org). Members can request that open French positions be posted. If you are not on the listerv and would like to be included, please send a message to Joanne Silver at [BEACHLLOYD@erols.com](mailto:BEACHLLOYD@erols.com). If you would like to have your e-mail removed or changed, please let Joanne know.

## Fall Meeting and Program

We began this academic year at the Agnes Irwin School with a lively presentation of *Le Café Français* by Paris Granville on Saturday, October 3. We were thrilled to have a good turnout of members. All came away with a new perspective on how to present a thematic unit on the French café, complete with a « dégustation » of several different café drinks using authentic sirops Teisseire. Our sincere thanks go to Rita Davis and Barbara Barnett for graciously hosting the event at their school.

## National French Week, November 4 - 10

How did you celebrate National French Week? Beyond the classroom, on Saturday, November 7, our members convened at **Bistrot La Minette** in Philadelphia, where they were treated to a delicious lunch and a chef's sampling of each of the desserts on the menu. Many ideas were exchanged and a cordial time was had by all. *Grand merci* to our Vice-President, Chris Kimball-Kelly, for organizing the event.

## Alliance Française Gala Dinner honoring Leslie Caron

Chris was also fortunate enough to attend the tribute to the French actress and dancer Leslie Caron. Chris reported: "Among the interesting facts learned is that Leslie Caron is believed to be the only female dancer to have danced with the four most well-known male dancers of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century—Rudolph Nureyev, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Fred Astaire

and Gene Kelly. Those in attendance were also told that the newly released version of *GIGI* not only has restored and enhanced film and sound qualities, but Leslie Caron's previously dubbed songs have been restored in her own voice. Also interesting to note is that her mother was born in Topeka, Kansas, and that on Thanksgiving Day of 2007, Ms. Caron became an American Citizen."

## Le Grand Concours

It's time to register your students for the National French Contest! Please check the website [www.frenchteachers.org/concours](http://www.frenchteachers.org/concours) or [www.aatfphila.org](http://www.aatfphila.org) for details. The dates for administering the Concours in your respective schools will be March 3-March 9, 2010. FLES dates are February 15-26, 2010. For more information, you may also contact Sister Mary Helen Kashuba, our local administrator at 215-248-7124 or e-mail [kashubam@chc.edu](mailto:kashubam@chc.edu).

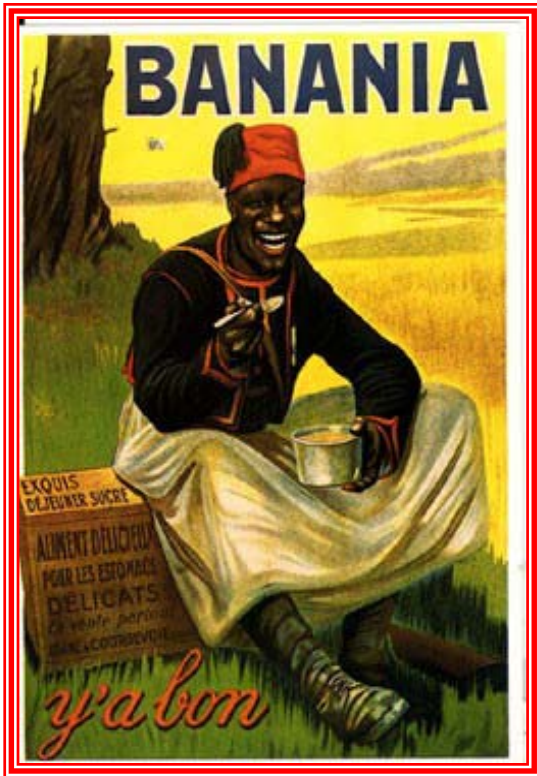
In order to keep the Contest affordable, we will maintain the same costs as last year—\$5.00 for each student of AATF members, \$7.50 for non-AATF members. There is a \$10.00 charge for mailing exams. CDs are \$6.50, and you will need one for each level. You should submit your orders by January 25, 2010. Small numbers can always be added after that. It is important that we ensure that your order will be sent on time.

## Cajun Music

On November 14, 2009, a small but enthusiastic group of AATF members and guests took a dance lesson and tried out their steps to the fiery, highly talented and youthful "Feufollet" Cajun band ([www.feufollet.net](http://www.feufollet.net)).

The venue, TK (Tadeusz Kosciuszko) Club at East Hector & Apple Sts., Cohshohocken, regularly engages Zydeco, Creole and Cajun bands to enjoy a very energetic evening.

To be on the listserv of the organizing group, "Allons Danser," email [allonsdanser@msn.com](mailto:allonsdanser@msn.com) (<http://www.allonsdanser.org>).



**Bleu, blanc, rouge,  
noir :  
La France et ses  
soldats de couleur**

**January 23, 2010  
9:30 am - 12:00 pm**

**Strath Haven Middle School**

Back by popular demand, Professor Michael Kline of Dickinson College will speak about the role of soldiers of color who fought for France, their treatment, and their fate after the wars. The topic includes colonialism, French notions of *égalité*, and the French need to come to grips with collective memory, particularly concerning Algeria. This is a wonderful opportunity for teachers to revisit this important aspect of French history and bring ideas back to the classroom to enhance their lessons.

In preparation, it is recommended that participants read Guy de Maupassant's short story, *Tombouctou* to provide background for the presentation. Check it out at <http://un2sg4.unige.ch/athena/selva/maupassant/textes/tombouc.html>.

Please pre-register via e-mail to [Emily.Wagner@germantownacademy.org](mailto:Emily.Wagner@germantownacademy.org),  
to be assured a handout.

*National & local AATF members, no charge; all others \$10  
(If your dues were \$55 for the calendar year, you have National membership only.)*

(2 hours Act 48 credits available –bring your PDE number!)

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Watch for upcoming details about a « **vide-grenier** », an opportunity to unload your unwanted holiday gifts!

## Philadelphia Accueil

If you have never heard of this organization, it's worth investigating if you'd like to have some contact with French expatriates here in Philadelphia. It is a very active group. If you are interested in knowing more about Philadelphia Accueil, consult their website at <http://www.philadelphieaccueil.com>.

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## Calendar of Events 2010

January 23, Saturday 9:30-12 noon, Strath Haven Middle School  
Michael Kline, *Bleu, blanc, rouge, noir : La France et ses soldats de couleur*.  
2 hours Act 48 credits available

January 25 - deadline for *Grand Concours* orders

February 15-26 FLES section *Grand Concours*

March 3-9 *Grand Concours* all levels but FLES

March 20, Saturday 9:00 - 10:15 Chestnut Hill College (AATF and MLAPV offerings)  
*Picasso and the Avant-Garde in Paris*  
1 hour Act 48 credit available.

March 25, Thursday (Alliance Française and AATF)  
Barbara Pope: *Women, Art and the Law in Cézanne's Quarry*.

March 25-27  
NECTFL at the New York Marriot Marquis.