



Alliance Française de la Péninsule de Monterey

PO Box 3573, Carmel, CA 93921

<http://www.afmonterey.org>

September 2020

Proverb of the month

En septembre pluie fine

Est bonne pour la vigne

(In September light rain is good for the vine)

A message to our members

We are thinking of our dear members who have been affected by the recent wildfires. In this challenging time, please know that we are here to support you. If you need help, please do not hesitate to tell us.

~*~

Due to the exceptional circumstances surrounding the ongoing shelter-in-place order, upcoming monthly Alliance Française de la Péninsule de Monterey events will be held over Zoom, with the exception of Thé de la Rentrée, which has been cancelled.

Of course, if the current shelter-in-place order is lifted, we very much look forward to starting in-person events again. We will email all members with updated information just as soon as the situation changes.

We do hope to see you at one of our regular monthly events, which are now online! Please take a moment to explore the options below.

Monthly Events

NB: If you do not already have Zoom, you will need to download the application prior to any event: <https://zoom.us/download>. Participants will receive an email detailing how to access the meeting on the computer, ipad, or telephone.

Board of Directors meeting

The meeting took place on August 29, to avoid coinciding with Labor Day weekend. All members are invited to join us at the next Executive Committee meeting on October 3 at 10am.

Cercle du livre

Sunday September 6 and September 20 at 4pm | Zoom

A warm thank you to AF member Juliet Twomey and Director Jocelyne Muson who will be hosting the event! If you'd like to attend, please contact Jocelyne.

Books : *La naissance du jour* par Colette

Café Conversation

Tuesday September 8, 10am | Zoom

Thank you to AF member Juliet Twomey who will be co-hosting the event with Director Christian Dreyer! If you'd like to attend, please contact Christian.

Apéro Conversation

Wednesday September 16, 5:30-6:30pm | Zoom

A big thank you to Director Nicole Chupka who will be hosting this event. Details about how to join us will be shared via email closer to the event date. BYOB! 😊

Déjeuner chez Bechler

Thursday September 24, 1pm | Zoom

Thank you to AF member Juliet Twomey who will be co-hosting the event with Director Christian Dreyer! If you'd like to attend, please contact Christian.

Soirée Cinéma: The Horseman on the Roof

Sunday September 27 at 4pm | Zoom

In light of the global pandemic, we propose to discuss the movie *The Horseman on the Roof*, which is based on Jean Giono's classic novel. Starring Juliette Binoche and Olivier Martinez.

Synopsis: In 1832, cholera ravages Provence, France. After several misadventures, Angelo, an Italian officer hunted by the Austrian secret police, meets Pauline de Theus, a young countess. Together, they travel in search of Pauline's husband in a chaotic country and soon develop feelings for one another...

NB: Because we cannot gather together to watch the film, the soirée ciné event will be conducted as follows. Before the event, you can [watch the film on Youtube](#) at your convenience. Then, we will meet at 4pm the day-of to discuss the film over Zoom. A warm thank you to Director Pascale Richards-Deliens, who will facilitate the discussion.

If you would like to join us, please RSVP to Melody Pao.

Links of interest

- ["The best podcasts for francophiles"](#)
- Enjoy [the latest French films](#) at TV5Monde
- *La Grande Librairie*, a program on [the latest books published](#)
- The Paris Opera puts performances and ballet classes for free on its [Facebook page](#), including ["Don Pasquale"](#) by Donizetti and ["Boris Godounov"](#) by Mussorgsky
- French public radio (without advertising):
 - France Inter <https://www.franceinter.fr/>
 - France Culture <https://www.franceculture.fr/>

Past Events

Once again, AF Zoom meet-ups were a great success in July and August! We celebrated the French national holiday at the July Café Conversation and sang a new version of the Marseillaise. At our Soirée Cinéma events, we had animated discussions about *Les Misérables* (2019) and *The African Doctor* (2016). We also went on a lovely virtual cruise on the Rhone and explored the regions of Burgundy and Provence. Attendance remained consistent at about 10 people at each event, and lively conversations in French abounded. We hope to see you at the next event!

Announcements

Welcome to new members!

The Alliance wishes a warm welcome to our new members Jacqueline Gibbs, Prof. Jason Martel and Prof. Abdelkader Berrahmoun!

Thank you

The Alliance extends its heartfelt thanks to Melody Pao for her generous gift last summer.

The Alliance needs your help

If you have been wanting to become a more active member of the Alliance Française, now is the time! We currently seek volunteers to become Directors for the 2021-2022 term, as well as:

- An Assistant Treasurer, who will get several months of training in expectation of being elected Treasurer for the 2021-2022 term; and
- A Poetry Contest Committee lead member, to support Poetry Contest Head, Pascale Richards-Deliens.

Please reach out to Claire Eagle if you are interested in any of the above open positions; we very much could use your help. Keep in mind that this is *your* Alliance, and we need your active participation to keep this organization running strong. Merci beaucoup!

Donations

In these challenging times, the Alliance Française relies on the generosity of members like you to stay resilient. If you are able to do so, please consider making a donation on our website:

<https://www.afmonterey.org/donate/>.

We are also grateful to all who donated to our Alliance via Amazon Smile.

Thanks to your support, we can continue to thrive and organize events that promote French and francophone cultures and language! Merci beaucoup!