



## Alliance Française de la Péninsule de Monterey

PO Box 3573, Carmel, CA 93921

<http://www.afmonterey.org>

### October 2020

#### Proverb of the month

En octobre, qui n'a pas de manteau

Doit en trouver un bientôt

*(In October, he or she without a good jacket*

*Must find one soon)*

**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.

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.

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We enjoy offering these activities via Zoom, as it is the only way we can gather together to share our passion for the French language and culture at this time. We know, however, that times are difficult and that many of you are on Zoom a lot for work. Attendance at our online events has been sparser than during normal times. **We'd love to hear from you if you have any suggestions on how we can better meet your needs and support your love for French during this shelter-in-place.** Please email Nicole Chupka at with any comments or suggestions.

#### 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>. Please contact your event host directly with any questions about how to access the meeting on your computer, iPad, or telephone.

#### Executive Committee meeting

**Saturday October 3 at 10am | Zoom**

All Alliance members are invited to join the upcoming Executive Committee meeting over Zoom. To join the meeting at the specified day and time, simply click [here](#).

Meeting ID: 830 4860 9611

Password: 969361

#### Cercle du livre

**Sunday October 4 at 4pm | Zoom**

A warm thank you to AF Director Jocelyne Muson who will be hosting the event! To join the meeting, click [here](#).

Meeting ID: 899 0484 5523

Password: 892076

Please contact Jocelyne directly with any questions.

Book : *La naissance du jour* par Colette

### **Café Conversation**

**Tuesday October 6, 10am | Zoom**

Venez bavarder avec nous / come chat with us! Thank you to AF Director Christian Dreyer for hosting this event. If you'd like to attend, please contact Christian directly ([dreyer4@aol.com](mailto:dreyer4@aol.com)).

### **Journey down the Seine with Elaine Sciolino**

**Tuesday October 6, 12pm | Zoom**

In the follow-up to her bestseller, *The Only Street in Paris*, Elaine Sciolino, former Paris Bureau Chief of *The New York Times*, will share stories of her fascinating adventures along the most romantic river in the world as she discusses her beguiling book, *The Seine: The River that Made Paris*. Event in English. Open and free of charge for current (dues-paid) members of all Alliance Française chapters in the US.

For more information and to register for the event, click [here](#).

For a taste of her book, click [here](#).

### **Apéro Conversation**

**Wednesday October 14, 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! 😊

### **Soirée Cinéma**

**Sunday October 25 at 4pm | Zoom**

Film: *Ce qui nous lie* (English: *Back to Burgundy*)

Synopsis: Jean left his family and his native Burgundy ten years ago to travel the world. Upon learning of his father's imminent death, he returns to the land of his childhood. He finds his sister, Juliette, and his brother, Jérémie. In the space of a year, to the rhythm of the successive seasons, these three young adults will rediscover and reinvent their family ties, which blossom and mature at the same time as the wine they make.

**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 Amazon Prime](#) 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.

### **Déjeuner chez Bechler**

**Thursday October 29, 1pm | Zoom**

Thank you to Director Christian Dreyer, who will be hosting this event. If you'd like to attend, please contact Christian directly.

### **Links of interest**

- [Five free digital issues](#) of *France Today* for free browsing for AF members
- [Interview with Frédéric Jung](#), New Consul General of France in San Francisco
- *2020 Cajun document: Acadiana, 1973-74*. Photographs by Douglas Baz and Charles H. Traub. To access the photography collection, click [here](#).
- *Bonjour Paris*. "Edith Wharton: The Writer's Life in Paris". To access the article, click [here](#).
- *France-Amérique*. "Été 1945, les G.I. à la Sorbonne". To access the article, click [here](#).
- ["The best podcasts for francophiles"](#)
- Enjoy [the latest French films](#) at TV5Monde
- *La Grande Librairie*, a program on [the latest books published](#)
- French public radio (without advertising):
  - France Inter <https://www.franceinter.fr/>
  - France Culture <https://www.franceculture.fr/>

### **Past Events**

On Saturday September 26<sup>th</sup> Monterey AF members had the chance to join other AF members across the US as acclaimed author Mireille Guilano read from her new book, *Why French Women Don't Get Fat*. As for our monthly activities, Café Conversation and Déjeuner chez Bechler also went off without a hitch, with participation at 5-6 members per event. Participants chatted, played a French trivial pursuit game and also the "boîte de surprises" (you will have to attend in October to learn more about that!). During the Apéro conversation, Director Nicole Chupka led an animated discussion about how to keep up our French by reading articles, watching French films on Netflix, and listening to podcasts. Thank you to our members who have joined us this past month!

### **Announcements**

#### **Welcome to new members!**

The Alliance wishes a warm welcome to Mariana Filip, Paula Adams, and Bridget Mulkerin!

## **New book on contemporary France**

We are excited to announce the release of a new book in the *French Review* book series on contemporary France: *La France contemporaine: unité et divisions, polarisations et solidarités* (*Contemporary France: Unity and divisions, polarizations and solidarities*), published by the American Association of French Teachers (AATF). Each chapter in the book treats different social concerns in France (women's issues, immigration and minorities, religion, France's place in Europe and in the world) via a range of authentic materials (interviews, journal articles, academic articles, blogs, etc.).

The book is written in French, with an introductory chapter ("Marianne repensée: femmes, cultures, ruptures et représentations") by our own AF First Vice-President, Claire Eagle!

To learn more and obtain a copy of the book, please contact the AATF: [aatf@frenchteachers.org](mailto:aatf@frenchteachers.org).



## **AF Mask Sales across the US**

Several Alliances are selling AF-logo and-or French-themed masks. AF St Louis sold over 100 masks in just weeks, per this Facebook [article](#). AF Omaha is [selling masks](#) for children. AF DuPage has a mask sales [page](#) that lists five different French-themed masks for sale. AF Mpls/St Paul sells [masks](#) in their [online boutique](#). Feel free to reach out to one of the AFs mentioned here for your own mask *à la française*!

## **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 at 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!*