



## Alliance Française de la Péninsule de Monterey

PO Box 3573, Carmel, CA 93921

<http://www.afmonterey.org>

### January 2021

#### Proverb of the month

Au mois de janvier, mieux vaut voir le loup dans les champs,  
Qu'un homme en chemise.

*(In January, better to see a wolf in the fields than a man in a (t-)shirt.)*

**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. We very much look forward to starting in-person events again. In the meantime, we hope to see you at one of our regular monthly events on Zoom! Please take a moment to explore the options below. ***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.***

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.

#### Special Event

#### Annual Meeting and Special Election

**Sunday January 17 at 4pm | Zoom** | To join us, simply click [here](#).

Meeting ID: 830 4860 9611 | Password: 969361

While we cannot meet in person to enjoy the traditional galettes and champagne to celebrate the Epiphany as in past years, we will still be holding our Annual Meeting. Please join! We will be discussing events over the past year, the Alliance's general state of affairs (finances and memberships), and also where you envision our Alliance going in the year to come. Please do come and share your wisdom and creative suggestions!

Also on the agenda is a special election to appoint Melody Pao, who has done so much for our Alliance in the past months she has served as Interim Second Vice President, as official Second Vice President. We will also be voting on Christian Dreyer, faithful host of Café Conversation and Déjeuner Chez Bechler, as Director. Please find the ballot to vote for Melody and Christian attached to the same email with this bulletin. You can fill it out on your computer and send it back to Clarissa or via snail mail to the address at the top of this bulletin. You may also simply join us at our Annual Meeting to speak your approval in person. **If you choose to send your ballot, it needs to be received on or before January 15<sup>th</sup>.**

Finally, as you may remember, we usually introduce our new Executive Committee and Directors at this Annual Meeting. However, **no one has presented themselves to replace a number of those who have reached the end of their terms** (President, First Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Directors). Quite exceptionally, therefore, our Executive committee members and Directors have agreed to serve

for another 6 months or until they can find replacements (whichever comes first). This is dependent on member agreement and will be further discussed at the Annual Meeting.

**If you are interested in playing a more active role in your local Alliance Française or know someone who does, please reach out as soon as possible.** The continued life of our Monterey Alliance Française depends on member willingness to participate in its leadership.

## **Monthly Events**

### **Café Conversation**

**Tuesday January 5 at 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.

### **Executive Committee meeting**

**Saturday January 9 at 9am | Zoom**

All Alliance members are invited to join the upcoming Executive committee meeting over Zoom. We will discuss the upcoming Annual meeting and special election, as well as future activity ideas. All members are encouraged to join the meeting. To do so at the specified day and time, simply click [here](#).

Meeting ID: 830 4860 9611

Password: 969361

### **1<sup>st</sup> Cercle du livre!**

**Sunday January 10 at 4pm | Zoom**

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

Meeting ID: 899 0484 5523

Password: 892076

Please contact Jocelyne directly with any questions.

Book : *Contes du lundi* by Alphonse Daudet

### **Apéro Conversation**

**Wednesday January 13 from 5:30 to 6:30pm | Zoom**

Join us from the comfort of your home as we practice spontaneous conversation over a beverage of your choice. Meeting ID: 575 069 664. Host Nicole Chupka will send a reminder email with a link a few days in advance. Email Nicole if you have any questions!

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Cercle du livre**

### **Sunday January 24 at 4pm | Zoom**

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

Meeting ID: 899 0484 5523

Password: 892076

Please contact Jocelyne directly with any questions.

Book : *Contes du lundi* by Alphonse Daudet

## **Déjeuner chez Bechler**

### **Thursday January 28 at 1pm | Zoom**

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

## **Soirée Cinéma**

### **Sunday January 31 at 4pm | Zoom**

Film: *Retour du Héros*

Plot: It is France 1809. The charming Captain Neuville is set to marry Pauline when war breaks out. After not hearing from him, Pauline soon starts pushing her sister to write letters on his behalf...

**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. Details about how to join us will be shared via email closer to the event date.

## **Events from the Federation of Alliances**

Every month, the Federation of Alliances Françaises USA offers fun events over Zoom. From Yoga classes to academic lectures, from French films to art workshops, there is something for all Francophiles! To learn more, please visit their website: <https://afusa.org/featured-events/>. We will also be posting updates regularly on our Facebook page.

- Now through January 4: [A selection of French films](#)
- January 12 at 4pm: [Paper Bullets: Two Artists who Risked Their Lives to Defy the Nazis](#)
- January 17 at 3pm: [Dances and Improvisations with pianist Mark Markham](#)
- January 22 at 12pm: [The French-American Journeys of Josephine Baker](#)
- January 23 at 2pm: [Pursuing the Dream: Living and Investing in France, with Adrian Leeds](#)

## **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**

Our December events were a great success! Local chef Jérôme (of Jérôme's market in Carmel Valley) wowed members with a stunning Christmas cooking demonstration featuring tartare d'huîtres et de noix Saint-Jacques, Coquille st Jacques Wellington, and Poire en Croûte for dessert. What a delight, merci mille fois, Chef Jérôme! Our monthly activities, Café Conversation, the Apéro conversation, and Déjeuner chez Bechler also went off without a hitch. Thank you to our members who have joined us this past month!

### **Announcements**

#### **Thank you !**

Many thanks to Catherine Zahm, Jocelyn Muson, Allye Hobson-Robinson, DeEtta "Dea" Greenwalt, the Bailey family, the Richards family, and the Dalby family for their very generous donations during the month of December.

#### **Welcome**

The Alliance would like to give a warm welcome to new member Katie Hanson!

### **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!*