Chers Collègues,

Bonne rentrée tout le monde! J'espère que vous avez tous passé une belle fin d'été et que vous vous sentez re-energizados pour un autre année scolaire. À ce point, je suis sûr que vous êtes tous à la manœuvre et de retour à la routine comme si vous ne vous étiez jamais absenté. Vous devriez être entouré de la vue et des odeurs de la belle saison automnale. C'est une vision bien différente de celle que j'ai rencontrée lors de mon voyage à Martinique cet été.

Notre Central New York Chapter était bien représenté par 4 membres et notre ancien représentant régional Abbé Guillet. C'était un temps académique et personnel très agréable. C'était un temps d'"unplug".

Dans un temps où nous sommes bombardés par la technologie, ça m’a rappelé des souvenirs de jours où la technologie n’était pas le focus. J’ai ressuscité des activités qui n’utilisent pas la technologie et qui sont encore engageantes pour les élèves. Je trouve que les élèves apprécient ces activités autant qu’autant que l’utilisation de la technologie. Que ce soit des cartes flash, Bingo, des activités de verbe avec des cubes cool, ou des sondages, poussons ces idées de l’année précédente à l’intérieur de votre classe. Ça nous permet de nous détendre de l’allemobile, de l’ordinateur, du laptop et de nous connecter l’un à l’autre. Les enseignants, qu’ils soient nouveaux, établis ou retraités, ont des idées géniales à partager qui ne sont pas technologiques. Nous aimerions entendre ces idées. Veuillez partager une activité avec nous qui ne fait pas use de technologie afin que nous puissions inclure ces idées dans notre prochain numéro de Cocorico. Nous nous réjouissons déjà de la multitude d’idées que nous seront partagées avec nous via cocoricoaatfcny@gmail.com.

En tout et pour tout, merci de votre lecture et nous espérons voir vous à l’un (ou plus) de nos événements cette année.

Amitiés,

Jennifer Kostolecki
Présidente
AATF of CNY
Fall Workshop 2018

L'histoire de Gilbert Du Motier, Marquis de LaFayette,
citoyen de deux mondes

AATF of CNY Fall Workshop

Saturday, November 10, 2018
**OCM BOCES**
Cayuga Conference Room
110 Elwood Davis Rd
Syracuse, NY 13211
8:30 am - 12:30 pm
Presenter: Véronique Bennett

***Please note the change of location.
Please complete and mail this form and a check (payable to AATF of CNY) by November 2, 2018 to:
Sarah Woodward-Jones, AATF of CNY
112 Kensington High St.
Minoa, NY 13116

Go to www.aatfcny.org to register. We hope to see you there!
By Denise Mahns

The Central New York Chapter was well-represented at the 91st annual convention of the American Association of Teachers of French held July 18–21, 2018, in Martinique in the French West Indies. President Jennifer Kostolecki, Vice President Denise Mahns, Richard Ernst (Eagle Hill Middle School, F-M), Françoise “Swaz” Piron (South Jefferson) and Regional Representative Abbe Guillet were all active participants in this unique gathering of over 300 French teachers from around the U.S. and from several other countries.

Martinique is a Collectivité territoriale of France, meaning in terms of laws, administration, currency it is just like being in metropolitan France. At the same time, it shares much of the same history as other Caribbean islands. A volcanic island, Martinique suffered a devastating eruption of its volcano, La Montagne Pelée, in 1902 which killed more than 30,000 people in the city of Saint-Pierre.

Participants in the convention were able to learn about the history of Martinique through lectures and presentations as well as excursions to the sugar cane museum (Musée de la Canne), the birthplace of Joséphine de Beauharnais (Musée de la Pagerie), one of the oldest working brickworks in France in operation since 1783 (Village de la Poterie), the historical village recounting the native and slave history of Martinique (Savane des Esclaves), and the rum distillery and its Museum of Modern Art (Habitation Clément) in addition to many other sites that attendees visited on their own, such as the slavery memorial at L’Anse Caffard.

The AATF holds an annual summer convention which alternates between sites in Francophone countries and cities in the U.S. The Martinique convention was filled with sessions, discussions, and animated conversations about techniques for teaching French, promoting the study of French, and many sessions devoted to the convention theme of Creolity and Environment. Denise Mahns presented one such session, with her friend and collaborator Dr. Jeremy Patterson of Bob Jones University, on literary manifestos of Francophone North America (Quebec and the Caribbean). AATF members were also treated to special events such as a dictée competition and a soirée martiniquaise to mark the end of the convention.

The 2019 convention will be in Philadelphia and the 2020 convention is planned for Trois-Rivières, Quebec. All French teachers are invited to attend.
The AATF of CNY’s Spring Workshop is planned to be a Round Table event where the convention attendees will share lesson ideas, cultural insights and other take-aways from their week spent in Martinique. Look for registration and more information in 2019.
On October 12, 2018, members of the French Club and French Honor Society prepared a float to participate in Mexico High School’s homecoming parade and celebration. The theme of the float was “La Princesse et la Grenouille”, interpreted from the Disney movie. Students worked hard and created a beautiful float. During the parade, students wore their club shirts and berets and threw candy to the spectators. A good time was had by all!

Check out the float on the next page!
le Cocorico

AATF of CNY

[Image of a float with a French theme in a parade]

[Image of three people in front of the float, wearing French hats and costumes]
On Wednesday, September 26th, 2018 the Mexico High School French Honor Society began their community service activities for the 2018-2019 school year. The group gathered to weed, plant mums and freshen up the front entrance of the high school. The newly added flowers are sure to enhance the colors of the autumn season and the beauty of the school. The SHF plants flowers three times a year, annuals in the spring, mums in the fall and tulip bulbs in November. Great job everyone!
Combining the best ideas for a mini-unit on diversity

by Françoise (Swaz) Piron

Poème à mon frère blanc

Cher frère blanc,
Quand je suis né, j’étais noir,
Quand j’ai grandi, j’étais noir,
Quand je suis au soleil, je suis noir,
Quand je suis malade, je suis noir,
Quand je mourrai, je serai noir.
Tandis que toi, homme blanc,
Quand tu es né, tu étais rose,
Quand tu es grandi, tu étais blanc,
Quand tu vas au soleil, tu es rouge,
Quand tu es froid, tu es bleu,
Quand tu es peur, tu es vert,
Quand tu es malade, tu es jaune,
Quand tu Mourras, tu seras gris.
Alors, de nous deux, qui est l’homme de couleur ?

Léopold SEDAR SENGHOR

French 4 students at South Jefferson read the above Senghor poem the first week of school as a way to ease back into French after summer but also to set the tone about two key ideas: equality as a general theme and “les jeux de mots” as a literary technique used a lot at this level, as we dig deeper in both the language and culture of the francophone world. For example, every week, we look at “la plaisanterie de la semaine”, usually a cartoon based on a current event, and understanding often hinges on the double-meaning of a word, expression or idea.

Students first read the poem in groups and had to figure out the order of the lines, then interpreted the deeper meeting. This was followed by a few activities about Senghor, including
AATF of CNY

filling out a "fiche biographique", discussing the concept of « négritude », playing a Kahoot! game to check for understanding and drawing pictures to illustrate their understanding of the poem:

Arianna Robertson  
Sara Busler  
Madison Thomas  
Sydney Havens  
Leah Wilson  
Laura Fowler
Since the poem is heavy on colors and addresses ethnic backgrounds, I then presented two songs that were introduced to me at a beautiful workshop at the Martinique AATF conference last July by Christine Goulet: "Roots" and "Coloricocola" by Brice Kapel, a Franco-Togolese singer-songwriter. Both songs speak of colors representing human diversity but also of skin color as a shell ("Que tu sois blanc, rouge, jaune, noir/ C'est qu'un costard") – great wink at « *Le Petit Prince* », which this class will read later this year.

As an anticipatory set, I had asked students to choose a color and say how it related to them; I loved this very basic activity, also suggested by Mme Goulet, because it allowed some students to speak at a basic level and others to be more personal and/ or lyrical:

« J'ai choisi vert parce que j'adore les activités dehors. »
« J'ai choisi noir parce que c'est pas une couleur. »
« J'ai choisi arc-en-ciel parce que je suis bisexuelle. »

We listed the colors on the board and invariably (I have two classes of French 4), there was a wide variety of colors, thus making a rainbow and establishing each student in the class as an individual with their own characteristics, worthy of everyone’s respect. Again, setting the tone.

As a conclusion to this mini-unit, I introduced the concept of « Métissage », a fabulous « jeu de mots » (métis, métissage/ tissage) genially created by our friend and colleague Abbe Guillet (who, along with another great CNY teacher, Barbara Gordon, developed the idea as part of a seminar in Senegal in 1997). Students wrote a statement relating to diversity and equality on a strip of color paper and two students who had been absent that day weaved them into a beautiful tapestry, a metaphor for the blending of two cultures and a way to honor Leopold Senghor and his legacy. Later this year, I intend to revisit the concept of « nègritude », when we explore Martinique and study the ideas and writing of Aimée Césaire...
One of our dedicated board members, Roseann Lorefice, has graciously donated a wire Eiffel Tower made by her husband. We’ll be raffling it off at our Spring 2019 workshop! Check it out at our fall workshop, 11/10!
Join us for French Night at the Syracuse Crunch!

FRENCH NIGHT
AT THE SYRACUSE CRUNCH

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17 | 7 P.M.
vs. Laval Rocket
WAR MEMORIAL ARENA

TICKETS ONLY $16*

*All fees included.

TO ORDER TICKETS:
Students: Please return the completed form to your teacher with payment by Wednesday, Nov. 7.

Teachers: Please contact Megan Cahill at mcahill@syracusecrunch.com or 315-473-4444, ext. 121
to book your group by Friday, Nov. 9.

STUDENT NAME: _______________________________________________

PARENT/GUARDIAN PHONE: _______________________________________

NUMBER OF TICKETS: ________ @ $16 = ________

PAYMENT METHOD: CASH CREDIT CHECK (payable to Syracuse Crunch)

CARD NUMBER: ________ EXP: ________ SEC CODE: ________

315-473-4444 | www.syracusecrunch.com | @SyracuseCrunch | #SyrCrunch
Are you looking for a good movie to show in class or as a French Club activity? Tired of your tried-and-true classics? Consider these films which have been featured at the AATF of CNY's annual French Film Night (English titles are in parentheses):

- La Grande Séduction (Seducing Doctor Lewis)
- Maurice Richard (The Rocket)
- Bienvenue chez les ch’tis (Welcome to the Sticks)
- Le Chat du rabbin (The Rabbi's Cat)
- Entre les murs (The Class)
- La Famille Bélier
- Les Vacances du Petit Nicolas (Nicholas on Holiday)
- Comme un chef (Le Chef)

and coming in Spring 2019... Henri Henri

If you are considering showing any of these films, feel free to e-mail Denise Mahns (grandconcoursaatfcny@gmail.com) for a copy of the hand-out with comprehension activities provided to film night attendees.
### Calendar of Events – Automne 2018

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<td>Fall Workshop</td>
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<td>November 17</td>
<td>French Night at the Syracuse Crunch</td>
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“What I most enjoyed about the workshop is that I spent 2 weeks speaking only French and learning new things. I feel recharged and up-to-date on many aspects of la France actuelle.” Betsy Nickerson, French teacher at the Wheeler School in Providence, R.I., spent the last two summers with us in France at our annual immersion program. Her comments are typical of those teachers who take the time to be totally immersed in French culture.

Your total involvement in French culture and language is bound to have a positive impact on your lesson plans and in the way in which students and parents perceive you as a teacher. Principals will be impressed with your efforts; parents & students will sense your confidence about representing France today.

Each summer our workshop is held in a different region of France. In 2018, rendezvous à Lyon, 15-26 juillet. Venez nous rejoindre! Program, cost and details at www.frenchtraveler.com; request a free brochure from us at trips@frenchtraveler.com. Vous ne serez pas déçu.