

ALP NOTES

THE AMERICAN LIBRARY IN PARIS NEWSLETTER

10, rue du Général Camou, 75007 Paris - tél. 45 51 46 82

No. 16

Winter 1988

EARLY CLOSINGS AND HOLIDAYS

Saturday, April 2

Easter

Thursday, May 12

Ascension

Saturday May 21

Pentecost

Tuesday, March 22, the ALP will close at 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 14,

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JANUARY 31 ALP OPEN HOUSE AND BOOK SALE JANUARY 31!!!

Bring your big ALP Book Bags (or buy one if you don't have one) and come one and all to the Sunday afternoon ALP Open House and Book Sale on January 31 from 1 to 7 p.m.! The first hour, from one to two o'clock, is reserved exclusively for ALPers! Refreshments will be served throughout the afternoon by ALP Trustees and Volunteers. The Children's Room will offer film strips of books and/or children's story times. Both hardcover and paperback books will be for sale. Looking forward to welcoming you then!

A MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARIAN

1988 will be a year of changes at the ALP. Our automation plans are progressing nicely and computer equipment will be installed in several weeks. Present plans call for computerization of the fiction collection by early summer when a terminal will replace the present card catalog. Circulation is planned for late in the year, and the majority of our non-fiction materials will be added to the data base by early 1989.

To install properly and test a new system requires much work, time and, above all, patience. Our staff and volunteers are presently working very hard to keep the library running smoothly while taking on many additional tasks needed for computerization. Some of our service areas may suffer in the process; however, all will return to order once our system is up and running.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated patience and support because, ultimately, everyone will benefit greatly from this year of change.

ALP RECEIVES USIA/ALA LIBRARY FELLOWS GRANT FOR 1988-1989

ALP Head Librarian, Bob Grattan, has announced that the American Library in Paris has received a USIA/ALA Library Fellows grant. This grant will send a professional librarian to the ALP for one year beginning this Fall. Applications for this internship will be accepted until mid-April when the American Library Association will decide on the final candidate. The selection will be made according to the requirements stated in Mr. Grattan's grant application. The Board of Trustees congratulated Mr. Grattan on his successful application.

ALP WELCOMES NEW CIRCULATION DESK MANAGER

Marianne Esquivié has just recently taken over the duties of managing the front circulation desk. Her remarkable dynamism will be of special benefit to the ALP at this difficult but challenging time for the ALP as its conversion to automation is being effected. She is replacing Jocelyn Torval who held this position for several years and to whom the ALP sends a fond farewell and best wishes.

MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE STACKS, VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!!!

Perhaps because of, or coincidental to, the current re-organization of the ALP, a serious need for more volunteers has arisen. Help is especially needed in the ungrateful (but for which ALP is surely grateful) task of re-shelving books. The ALP Volunteer Program is an efficient and serious organization which helps the ALP serve you better as well as being an enjoyable way to meet new friends and learn about different aspects of running a library. The ALP asks that volunteers be members of the Library. There are certain advantages offered volunteers after they serve a given number of hours. If you can give a few hours a week on a regular basis, please ask for "Jeff" Williams at the front desk or just leave your name, time available and job interest. Other areas where volunteers are needed include: Circulation and Hospitality desks, Children's Room programs, archives, etc. Thank you for joining us and a continued thank you to our "regulars"!

CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK CELEBRATED BY ALP CHILDREN'S ROOM

Every year in November, the Children's Room celebrates the WEEK which is sponsored by the Children's Book Council, New York. We invite children from eight bi-lingual, international and American schools to visit us to learn the uses and pleasure of a library.

This year some three hundred children and their teachers attended in twelve sessions of one hour each. The younger ones were given a story-telling and film show, the older ones a question-and-answer quiz from our series of non-fiction books, followed by a film show more appropriate to their ages. A few older children were taken on a conducted tour of the main library which was much appreciated. Each session ended with time to themselves for the children to browse among all levels of the children's books.

The ALP would like to express its appreciation to Mary Crocker, Children's Room volunteer who has carried out this program for many years and who gave us the above report.

THE AMERICAN SCHOOL OF PARIS TO HOLD ALUMNI REUNION

The American School of Paris is planning a major reunion for all classes (1946-1988) next June 18-19 in Paris. They are looking for alumni wherever they may be as well as parents and friends.

For more information please send your mailing address to:

American School of Paris, Alumni Reunion
41, rue Pasteur, 92210, St. Cloud, tel, 46-02-54-43

WHAT WAS TRUE THEN. . . REMAINS TRUE TODAY, A BIT OF ALP HISTORY

It is now up to the American residents in Paris to keep this library in existence, for their own pleasure and as a monument to America in France. The American Library Association is leaving France soon as the armed forces are out of Europe and its magazine service for the army is no longer needed. Unless the institution is soon taken over, the books will be shipped back to the U.S. Then Paris, and Americans here, will lose something that can never be replaced.

The library in the rue de l'Elysée was opened on August 29, 1918, and since that time it has been thronged with members of the armed forces of the United States; latterly with Americans and other civilians. It is the best American reference library in Europe, and, besides this, it has all the leading magazines from the U.S., scientific as well as popular, and daily papers of the entire country, from the Atlantic to the Pacific. . .

from the NEW YORK HERALD, Paris, October 6, 1919!

A WORD OF GRATITUDE AND AN AU REVOIR FOR OUR 1987 SPONSORS

The Sponsor's Box below has been published in every ALP NOTES since March, 1987. The official sponsor year is over and the ALP sincerely thanks each one for its invaluable support; financial, in kind material and moral. Knowing that prestigious companies and organizations such as these support and wish to be identified with the biggest and oldest English language library in continental Europe - a private, non-profit, American cultural institution serving the English-reading public all over France - encourages the ALP in its present efforts to play its traditional role with 21st century efficiency. Thank you again!!!

WE THANK OUR 1987 SPONSORS

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