

LOOKING TOWARD OUR FUTURE

Everyone at the American Library in Paris has been looking forward to 1995 for some time. Why? Because 1995 marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Library. In celebration of this event, and as an essential step toward ensuring the Library's future, we will launch Campaign 2000 in the next few weeks.

The foremost goal of Campaign 2000 is to strengthen the Library's financial base by increasing the Endowment Fund.

Like most institutions, ALP depends on its endowment to generate the income needed to meet that portion of such expenses as personnel, building maintenance and, of course, book purchases that are not covered by membership and user fees, the American University's rental and other payments to the Library.

Campaign 2000 also seeks to establish a

Renovation Fund to help the Library meet the needs of our growing membership. Plans for renovation include much more space for books, a 50 percent larger space for the Children's Room, a more comfortable and expanded reading room and at least one multi-purpose room that can meet a variety of needs. Detailed information on Campaign 2000 will be available soon.

I want to say how much everyone at the American Library in Paris appreciates the responses we've received to our Fall Fundraising Campaign. The Trustees and the staff of ALP work hard to make the Library vital and dynamic. Our efforts would not succeed without you. Together, we can make the American Library in Paris an even more essential and forceful part of the community in the coming years.

John Riggs, Chairman of the Board of Trustees

REMEMBERING OUR GLORIOUS PAST

The American Library's history is a glorious one. Throughout the year, we'll be sharing some highlights and dropping some names that we think will interest you.

*** The Library's roots go back to World War I when the **American Library Association (ALA)** established the **Library War Service** so that American soldiers serving in France would have something to read. After the Armistice sent the doughboys home questions arose as to what to do with the English-language books that remained. Parisians responded "create a library!" That's how, with a grant from the ALA, the American Library got its start.

*** From the very beginning, the Library depended on the generosity of its friends. A very good friend was **Charles Seeger**, father of the poet **Alan Seeger**, who wrote *I Have A Rendezvous With Death*. Arriving in France shortly after his son was killed in action in World War I, Charles



ALP's first home: 10, rue de l'Elysées.

Seeger decided to stay on and soon became involved with the American Library in Paris. Not only did he serve as a Trustee, but he also donated the royalties from his son's poetry to the Library. Charles Seeger was singer-songwriter Pete Seeger's grandfather.

*** The Twenties were an exciting time in Paris -- especially at the American Library. **Edith Wharton** served as a Trustee, **Gertrude Stein** was a regular user who also wrote for the Library's literary magazine, *Ex Libris*, as did **Ernest Hemingway**. And **Stephen Vincent Benét** wrote the Pulitzer Prize-winning poem *John Brown's Body* in the Library.

*** The Thirties brought hard times to the Library, Paris and the world. In the next newsletter, we'll share more of our history, including how the Library fared during the next World War. For more information now, see our Library history book in the Periodical Area.

MEMBER SURVEY PROVIDES VALUABLE HELP

THANKS TO everyone who completed and returned the User Survey we included in our Fall 1994 newsletter. Your responses let us know that there were some misunderstandings that we should clear up.

For example, many members do not know about ALP's **EXTENDED HOURS**. The American Library is open to members Sunday from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Monday from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM and Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM. During extended hours, you must leave and enter through the American University Library entrance at 9 bis, rue de Monttessuy and show your card. Extended hours are not available when the American University Library is closed.

The Library provides an **AFTER HOURS BOOK RETURN SLOT** for your convenience. It's located on the left side of our entrance, just inside the gate.

A list of **CURRENT BEST SELLERS** is available in a notebook on the reference desk at the front of the Library. The lists are copied from the *International Herald Tribune* and *Publisher's Weekly*.

Unfortunately, **DOMESTIC**

EDITIONS OF NEWSWEEKLY MAGAZINES aren't available to us. Although we order through a U.S. supplier, the publisher will only ship the international editions. Fortunately, we do have the domestic editions available on microfilm with a six month delay.

We hope that members realize that we do have **SUBSCRIPTIONS TO MORE THAN 330 PERIODICALS**. These magazines are located on the mezzanine of the Research Center in the rear of the Library. Although not available for circulation, they are easily accessible in open access bins. Take some time to discover what titles we have in art, literature, poetry, history, politics and many other subjects.

We are doing our best to offer better **REFERENCE SERVICE**. Each afternoon and some mornings, we have a professional reference librarian at the Reference Desk. They're there to show you how to use the computer catalog (OPAC) and help you find what you're looking for. Please ask for help when you need it -- that's why we're here.

Kay Rader, Director

Adele Witt, Assistant Director

STORY HOUR SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

For parents who want their three-to-five-year-old children exposed to the finest in English-language books, the Children's Services Department of the American Library is the place to be -- especially on Wednesdays between 2:30 and 3:30, when we present Story Hour.

The goal of Story Hour is to help you instill a love of reading in your children by emphasizing the best in children's literature through story telling, reading, film strips and special events. We have a lot planned for the next few weeks and we urge you to become involved if you're not already. If you think your child would enjoy Story Hour, please see me so we can do a one-time registration and make a nametag.



Halloween at Story Hour.

Events coming up include -- **African Folklore Day, February 22**, with stories and filmstrips to help celebrate Black History Month ... **Dr. Seuss's birthday celebration, March 1**, with a reading of *McElligot's Pool* ... on **March 15, Nicole Lambert**, author of *Les Cousines* and *Les Triplés* will be here to read and autograph books ... celebrate **Hans Christian Andersen's birthday April 4** with *Thumbelina* ...

join *The Velveteen Rabbit* for an **Easter party April 12** and dance around the May Pole at our **May Day Party on May 3**.

Special thanks to everyone who's helped out with our recent holiday parties.

Michèle Bodelin, Head, Children's Services

FRIENDS INDEED!

THANKS TO GUY AND MONICA DUNHAM for the generous donation of \$10,000 to help kick off our Fall Fundraising Campaign. Mr. Dunham is a member of the Library's Board of Trustees.

THANKS TO GREGORY WEINGARTEN and the ANNENBERG FOUNDATION. Mr. Weingarten, a board member of the Foundation, recommended the Library for a grant of \$10,000, which we will use to buy books about art and artists. Mr. Weingarten, himself an artist, has loaned us one of his works, which now hangs in the Circulation area.

THANKS TO WHITE & CASE for donating two IBM 486 DX computers with XGA 14" color monitors. John Riggs, Chairman of the Library's Board of Trustees, is a senior partner at the law firm White & Case.

THANKS TO DISNEYLAND PARIS for a collection of Disney videos for the Children's



Mickey Mouse presents Bob Gogel, Vice Chairman of ALP's Board of Trustees, with a gift of Disney videos.

Services Department. And **THANKS TO MICKEY MOUSE** for joining the Library's Holiday Party and presenting the videos to Vice Chairman Bob Gogel.

THANKS TO BRENDA HARPER-VANDAMME

AND **AUDREY HARPER** for the audio-visual stand to hold our new videos and for a gift of books that make some of the wishes on our Children's Room Wish List come true. Ms. Harper-Vandamme is a Trustee of the Library.

THANKS TO JULIA SUSSNER who also made some wishes for books on the Children's Room Wish List come true.

THANKS TO OLIVIA DE HAVILLAND who shared a Sunday afternoon with Library Director Kay Rader and journalist Francis Leary reminiscing about her time as a Library Trustee for an article on the Library's history that Mr. Leary is preparing.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE: NEW BOOKS!

A Quick Look At Some New Arrivals

FICTION

- * *The Collected Stories of Louis Auchincloss*, Louis Auchincloss.
- * *Twelve Red Herrings*, Jeffrey Archer.
- * *The Silent Angel*, Heinrich Böll
- * *Brothers and Sisters*, Bebe Moore Campbell.
- * *The President's Daughter*, Barbara Chase-Riboud.
- * *Dark Rivers of the Heart*, Dean Koontz.
- * *What I Lived For*, Joyce Carol Oates.
- * *One True Thing*, Anna Quindlen.
- * *A Royal Murder*, Elliott Roosevelt.
- * *East, West: Stories*, Salman Rushdie.
- * *Liliane*, Ntozake Shange.
- * *Pictures at 11*, Norman Spinrad.

NON-FICTION

- * *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*, John Paul II.
- * *Compuserve for Dummies*, Wally Wang.
- * *Vamps & Tramps, New Essays*, Camille Paglia.
- * *PHAROS*, New Poetry and Fiction From Paris. A new journal.
- * *Where the Suckers Moon: An Advertising Story*, Randall Rothenberg.
- * *Cosmopolitan Greetings, Poems, 1986-1992*, Allen Ginsberg.
- * *Fatheralong: A Meditation on Fathers and Sons, Race and Society*, John Edgar Wideman.
- * *No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, The Home Front in World War II*, Doris Kearns Goodwin.

LOOK WHO'S TALKING

The American Library in Paris was the beneficiary of a great stroke of luck and timing on January 14 when author Betty Friedan spoke here.

Just a week earlier, one of our Trustees, Berna Huebner, learned that her friend, the author of *The Feminine Mystique*, would be in Paris for a UNESCO conference. "Can you spare the time to speak at the Library?" she asked. The answer was yes and we raced to spread the word.

We did our best with flyers here and at the American Church and with lots of phone calls. The good news is that more than 100 people came by to hear the author discuss her latest book, *The Fountain of Age*. We're only sorry that we couldn't reach everyone who would have been interested.

We hope to see lots of new and familiar faces at the events we have scheduled for the next few months as well. Will yours be one of them?

On **Wednesday, March 1, at 8:00 PM**, self-described "speculative fiction" writer **Norman Spinrad** will read from and talk about his work. The author of *Little Heroes*, *Bug Jack Barron* and *Russian Spring*, Mr. Spinrad's latest book *Pictures at 11* was termed "superb" by *The New York Times Book Review*. Fans of the original *Star Trek* series



Betty Friedan at the Library on January 14.

may know Mr. Spinrad from his episodes of that eternally popular show.

British novelist **Julian Gloag** will speak at the Library on **Wednesday, April 12, at 8:00 PM**.

Mr. Gloag's first novel, *Our Mother's House*, attracted significant

attention when published in 1963. Wilfred Sheed described it "as a small marvel of controlled horror."

Excellent reviews have characterized the response to Mr. Gloag's work since then. He's particularly noted for his ability to fuse seemingly straightforward mystery stories with a in-depth character studies of complex men and women.

Spring, 1995, promises to be a time of celebration and remembrance of the end of the war in Europe fifty years ago. The American Library in Paris will do its own part on **Wednesday, May 3, at 8:00 PM** when author and oral historian **Hilary Kaiser** will moderate a discussion by some of the people who appeared in her book, *Veteran Recall: Americans In France Remember the War*. Don't miss this special evening of history brought to life by some of your fellow members of the American Library.

See you soon, we hope.

**AMERICAN
LIBRARY
IN PARIS**

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