



EX LIBRIS

THE ALP NEWSLETTER

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GALA DINNER STARS



Two stars made quite a sparkle at the Gala dinner June 20, at the Hotel Bristol. Gala Chair *extraordinaire*, Michèle Gompel, paired the author with the consulting chef of *L'éducation gourmande de Gustave Flaubert* in a bow to French culture and cuisine. The author, media personality Gonzague St. Bris, delivered a warm and highly personal talk, linking American and French literature, books and libraries, and some of the themes of his latest book on Leonardo da Vinci. And two-star chef Eric Frechon, whose recipes graced both the book and the dinner tables, spoke briefly about the Norman origins of his gastronomic creations that delighted the palates of the crowd of Gala attendees.



From the entrée of *soupe de moules en montgolfière*, delicately encased in the lightest of pastries, to the oxtail with its artistic circle of marrow, and the stunning finish of *millefeuille* perfumed with orange blossom, the sumptuous dinner lived up to its stars. Mme Gompel and trustees Ishtar Méjanès and Berna Huebner, please take a bow for orchestrating another successful Gala evening!

Our thanks to volunteers David Witter, Anne Raynaud, Kim Lê Minh, and Rachel Koblic.

LIBRARY ACQUIRES SPECIAL COLLECTION IN DIPLOMATIC HISTORY

Former Ambassador John Gunther Dean spent his working life in the diplomatic corps of the United States, serving in such farflung places as Africa, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, India and Lebanon. His recollections of those years include many events of high drama and led to his recording of an oral history for the Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training. Building on the concept that primary source material provides the best resources for research, Dean decided to help the American Library in Paris establish a collection of oral histories by American diplomats and to assist in obtaining additional papers from French diplomats.



As he explains it, the point of using a shared history is to learn from it, to learn how cooperation took place behind the scenes, and still does. His goal is to make available as much as possible in the way of direct experiential material to scholars, historians, journalists, and students who live, work, or study in France.

The John Gunther Dean Special Collection in Diplomatic History, which is wholly electronic, will be available for students and researchers (or just the interested public) in October, 2005. Watch for information on a special program to introduce the collection (fully indexed and searchable)—and read about some of these events from those who lived them.

The American Library in Paris is grateful to Ambassador Dean for donating these important resources to the ALP, making it the only Library on the European Continent with materials offering frank personal perspectives on recent diplomatic issues.

EVENINGS WITH AN AUTHOR

Sponsored by the Annenberg Foundation.

Sept. 21, 7:00 p.m. – David Sedaris, a Friends of the Library event. 20€ per person (see enclosure).

Sept. 28, 8:00 p.m. – Vernissage of art work by Pauline Choi. “Strongly sculptural... magical and elusive.”

Oct. 1, Special events for Nuit Blanche Watch for announcements.

Oct. 19 – Diane Johnson reads from her new book, *In a Paris Quartier*.

Oct. 26, 8:00 p.m. – Steve Browman. Solo works by instructor at the American School of Modern Music.

SPECIAL PRICE FOR LIBRARY MEMBERS ON MUSICAL EVENING

Kate Michaels and the Red Thread return to Le Petit Journal-Montparnasse for the **2nd Annual Jazz Rentrée Concert**. A classically-trained vocalist, the American-born artist has a background in opera and musical theater, but her latest venture reaches into the Big Band Era and builds on the glamour of Marilyn Monroe, one of Hollywood’s brightest stars.

September 9, 2005; dinner at 8:30 p.m. (20.30h); show begins at 10:00 p.m. (22.00h)

Le Petit Journal-Montparnasse
13, rue du Commandant Mouchotte
75014 Paris
Métro : Montparnasse-Bienvenue

TICKET OPTIONS:

Show only plus glass of wine: 22€/person
OR

Show plus Dinner including ½ bottle of wine: 45€/person

*** Tickets are purchased at the door, but you must have an RSVP to receive this special price (only available to members of the American Library in Paris and alumni from the American University Clubs of Paris and their guests.) or a full rate of 55€ will be charged. RSVP to vhopson@noos.fr or Aileen Dhaou at 01 53 59 12 67.

Wine for the evening has been generously provided by GU Alumni Paul Tori's Chateau Saint-Jean d'Aumières fabulous winery in Languedoc, who also provides wine for ALP.
www.aumieres.com

THE STAFF IS READING:

“You Did What?” – ed. Bill Fawcett and Brian Thompson
Little slices of history, seen from an ironic point of view, to make all us normal people feel better about the mistakes made by the “greats” of history. – Sharon Gouhier - 904 F281y



Remember: The Journey to School Integration – Toni Morrison
Acclaimed author Morrison celebrates school integration in this Blue Ribbon Book Award. Along with the author’s touching narrative, the stunning archival pictures tell the dramatic story of this major struggle for equality. – Kim Lê Minh - F M2233 [New Fiction]



The Little Book of Stress Relief – David Posen
A great book that tells us how to enjoy ‘positive stress’ and reduce

‘negative stress’ from everyday life; and emphasizes the importance of work/life balance. Gives great tips on all aspects of life. – Kristina Roudiy -155.9 P8411

E-mail Etiquette: Do’s, Don’ts and Disaster Tales from People Magazine’s Internet Manners Expert– Samantha Miller
Readers will not only get a kick out of the many anecdotes, they will also change their e-mail manners for the best. – Kristina Roudiy - 395.5 M618e



Random Family: Love, Drugs Trouble and Coming of Age in the Bronx - Adrian Nicole LeBlanc
A compelling true story about one family growing up on the roughest streets of New York. Reading like a novel, this book is a powerful and gripping portrait of urban poverty in America. – Rachel Koblic - 974.727 L492r

Saving Francesca -Melina Marchetta

Sixteen-year-old Francesca Spinelli is attending a newly coeducational school, her mother is depressed, and sometimes she feels like she's invisible. A funny and touching story about a girl trying to save her family, her social life, and herself. You won't be able to put it down. – Rachel Koblic
J MAR [YOUNG ADULT]



Vincent: A Life of Van Gogh - Giuseppe Cafiero

A key figure of the Post-Impressionist movement, this Dutch painter’s tragic life is retraced through a collection of intensely written letters to his family and friends. Truly compelling and heart wrenching! – Aileen Dhaou B G557c

Running with Scissors – Augusten Burroughs

A very dark, twisted account of the author’s childhood yet superbly written with loads of laughs. Definitely more shocking than fiction! –Aileen Dhaou B B945r

DAVID SEDARIS TO SPEAK AT LIBRARY SEPTEMBER 21, 2005—RESERVE EARLY!

David Sedaris may be the closest thing the literary world has to a rock star—his speaking engagements are now consistently standing-room-only, a far cry from his early days as a housecleaner in New York City. Sedaris is the author of the bestsellers *Barrel Fever*, *Holidays on Ice*, *Me Talk Pretty One Day*, and *Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim*.

Wednesday, September 21, 7:00 p.m. (19.00h). Cocktail hour and book signing to follow. 20 euros per person. See enclosed reservation form.

The Friends of the Library are organizing an informal dinner with David after his program. Space for dinner is extremely limited. For information, contact Elizabeth Hochman at ehkparis@aol.com or call the Library 01 53 59 12 60

KIDS' AND PARENTS' KORNER

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER

Ages 1-3

Mother Goose Lap Sit
10:30-11:00 *Sign up is necessary!*
English songs, stories and rhymes. Toddlers must have a lap to sit in!
Sept. 15 & 29 (*exceptional scheduling*)
Oct. 6 & 27
Nov. 3 & 24

Ages 3-5

Wednesday's Story Hour
10:30-11:00 and 14h30-15h
No sign-up needed.

September

14 Back to School
21 Leap into the Library
28 Yummy Yummy in my Tummy

October

5 Planes, Trains & Automobiles
12 Big, Bigger, Biggest!
19 My House
26 Halloween (*Everyone wear costumes!*)

November

2 Ick, I'm Sick
9 Castles, Kings, Princesses & Things
16 Native American Tales
23 Thanksgiving
30 Hat Day

***Programs and scheduling are subject to change; please check the monthly children's program flyers. For more information, call the library at 01.53.59.12.60 or email Helen Stathopoulos at alparis@noos.fr.

Ages 6-12

Poetry
A perfect introduction for kids.
Saturday, Oct. 8, 2005, 15h-16h
AGES 6-8

“Helen’s Favorites”
Get to know the new librarian!
Saturday, Sept. 17, 2005, 15h-16h
AGES 6-12

Special Storytelling Event
Hang out on Nuit Blanche at the ALP.
Sat., 1 Oct. 2005, 15h-16h
AGES 6-12

An Afternoon with Author Gabrielle Wang
Saturday, Oct. 15, 2005, Time TBA,
AGES 6-12

Medieval Times
Learn about how life used to be.
Saturday, Oct. 22, 2005, 15h-16h
Ages 6-12

Special presentation by Dean Jacobs
Wondrous Journey
Friday, Oct. 28, 2005, 16h-17h (NB:

time is tentative) Slide show and stories from Jacobs’s wanderings through some of the exotic corners of the world.
Ages 6 and up, plus parents are invited too!

Halloween Party
Wear a costume!!
Saturday, Oct. 29, 2005, 15h-16h
AGES 6+

What is Thanksgiving?
Saturday, Oct. 29, 2005, 14h-15h
AGES 6-12

Bookworms Book Club
Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing, by Judy Blume
Saturdays, November 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2005, 16h-17h
AGES 9-12

MUST SIGN UP BY OCT. 15 IF YOU WANT A BOOK ORDERED FOR YOU

TEENS (12+)

The Poetry Café
Saturday, Oct. 12, 2005, 19h30-21h

Teen Night (activity TBA)
Saturday, November 5, 2005, 19h30-21h

ALL AGES

Come and party!
Summer Reading Celebration
Come celebrate your achievements and catch up with friends after the summer. What was *your* favorite book? Lots of goodies, crafts and prizes.
Saturday, Sept. 24, 2005, 15h-16h30

OWN THE SMARTEST CARD

The Library is your key to information, to the world of books, and to fun for your family. Sign up now, and bring a friend. Join the millions worldwide who use the library to get information, to read, to study, to log on. It's the smartest card you can have.

September is Library Sign-Up Month!! Get Smart!



PARENTS INVITED TOO! WONDROUS JOURNEY

Nothing is more powerful than the fulfillment of a dream. Author Dean Jacobs’s dream was to travel the world. So he quit his job and set out to discover new horizons.

From eating strange foods like kangaroo in Australia and camel in Egypt, to visiting the base camp of Mt. Everest, climbing Mt. Ararat to look for Noah’s Ark, or being surrounded by wild animals in Africa as far as he could see, Jacobs’s description (with slides) of his two-year adventure will bring the wondrous complexity of the world to life right in the Library.

The stories and powerful images he shares expose us all to different cultures, customs, religions, wildlife, and natural beauty. It is the ultimate voyage of diversity.



“Wow, it’s an amazing world!” is heard from the students repeatedly. One child said, “I never knew dreams came true until you came to speak to us.”

Come hear Jacobs describe his adventures, Friday, October 28 at 4:00 p.m. (16h00). For children, ages 6 and up, and their families.

(NB: Time is tentative)

CHEERS TO OUR INTERNS

Every summer the American Library in Paris welcomes interns who work on various projects, either to assist the Library with its ongoing programs or to organize a special area of the collection.

Thanks to the Princeton in France Program, we had three students who worked on the dossiers for the C.A.P.E.S./ Agrégation program 2005/2006. **Page Cassin, Steven McCutcheon, and Morganne Pollie** researched the topics, hunted down the articles, and created dossiers for the French students to use.

Elizabeth Spatz, a student in archives management for UCLA, worked for six weeks reorganizing the Library's archives and making a digital index to the available materials. Her research into the collections of photographs has provided some fascinating insights!

Raphaël Rousseau, a student from Ecole des Bibliothécaires Documentalistes, spent three months in the Circulation Department of the Library, and also compiled a list of all the videos, DVDs and children's videos by title and theme.

Sophie Caillieux, a student for Université de Paris-Nanterre/Métiers du livre, has been working on the annual reorganization of the periodicals: shifting, compiling a new list, and organizing the basement collections.

Bravo to all our interns for all the hard work and help!

NEW BRITANNICA

The ALP just acquired the latest version of the *Encyclopedia Britannica 2005*. The updated and revised edition of the most famous reference tool comes in a 32-volume set, giving you access to 65,000 articles written by experts and renowned authors. Delve into the *Micropedia* (12 volumes) to acquire basic knowledge of the topic of your choice through short articles; or consult the *Macropedia* (17 volumes) and its longer, in-depth articles.

The *Encyclopedia Britannica* is also available on CD-ROM in the Research Center: make sure to stop by to check out its rich multi-media content, its atlas, timelines, magazines and much, much more! For work, school, or simply for curious people, the Britannica is THE place to go for any question.



ALP RECEIVES GRANT OF TEN COMPUTERS

As ALP moves forward to upgrade all its technology, we received the welcome news that we qualified for a grant of ten Pentium 3 computers from the World Bank through an agency called Gifts in Kind. This grant was open to nonprofits worldwide that have education as a significant part of their mission. We are very proud to have qualified, and we expect to begin our upgrade in mid-autumn. We are very grateful to Gifts in Kind for assisting us in this way, as well as to the World Bank, who made it very easy to collect the equipment! Our thanks to these generous organizations!

AND TWO MORE....

The law firm of Samuel Okoshken donated two additional Pentium 3 computers, as well as four monitors. This gift will allow us to upgrade the Internet computers used by our patrons. Many thanks to Samuel Okoshken, as well as to Elizabeth Hochman, a member of the firm, and co-chair of the Friends.

NUIT BLANCHE @ THE LIBRARY!

Even the bookworms won't be asleep on October 1, Nuit Blanche! Come to the Library for an assortment of programs, from storytelling for the youngsters, an exhibit by local artist Pauline Choi, a reading by an author, and jazz concert by the American School of Modern Music. A night for the whole family to enjoy!

Watch for announcements of times, but put the Library on your list of special places to visit. Refreshments will be served and staff will be available until midnight. No Internet or check-outs after 7 p.m. (19h00).

MIGHTY BOOK BAGS

Don't forget to show your support and pick up the one-of-a-kind ALP book bag this Fall -for just 15 euros. It's durable, spacious, multi-functional, washable and very attractive. Use it to keep your books and papers together. They're great as beach/grocery bags and much more...

RECOMMENDED READING FROM U.S. LIBRARIES

1.) *Native Tongue*, by Carl Hiaasen



2.) *Left Hand of Darkness*, by Ursula LeGuin

3.) *The Beekeeper's Apprentice*, by Laurie King

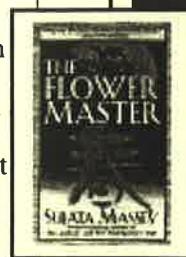
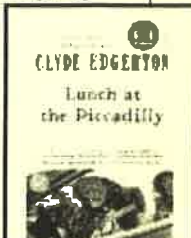
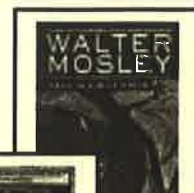
4.) *Blue Shoe*, by Anne Lamott

5.) *At Home in Mitford*, (first in the Mitford series), by Jan Karon

6.) *Silence of the Hams*, by Jill Churchill

7.) *Then She Found Me*, by Elinor Lipman

8.) *Lunch at the Piccadilly*, by Clyde Edgerton



9.) *Cane River*, by Lalita Tademy

10.) *Devil in a Blue Dress* (1990, first in the Easy Rawlins series) by Walter Mosely

11.) *The Godwulf Manuscript* (1973, first in the Spenser series), by Robert B. Parker

12.) *Blind Justice* (1994, first in the Sir John Fielding series), by Bruce Alexander

13.) *The Flower Master* (1999, second in the Rei Shimura series), by Sujata Massey