

Fredericksburg, Virginia
Fréjus, France
Sister Cities Since 1980

NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2020 Visit us on Facebook: Fredericksburg association (fscA)
Visit our website: fredericksburgfrejus.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Joyeux Noel, les amis!

Finally, we near the end of 2020, this “year like no other.” Let’s hope that 2021 will allow FSCA to return to many activities we have missed during this year. To close out 2020, I’ll mention a few highlights from our Annual Meeting--historic because it was the first FSCA Annual Meeting held electronically rather than in-person. Thomas Baer, our website guru, set us up on Zoom, and all went smoothly.

Held on November 30th, with 22 persons in attendance, we passed unanimously two amendments to the Bylaws necessitated by the pandemic restriction of 2020: One authorizing meetings of the membership to be convened by electronic means when necessary, and a second allowing notice of meetings to be given by telephone or electronic transmission in addition to mail. Hopefully, next year’s Annual Meeting will again include a gathering of friends and a spread of tasty food.

Several members of the Board of Directors gave reports, and discussion of upcoming projects ensued. Membership chair Nancie Lightner reminded us that members in good standing for 2020 will not be required to pay 2021 dues since all activities were necessarily canceled in 2020. Enjoy this “freebie” and join us for events as they resume!

Thomas Baer announced recent additions to the FSCA website: (1) The newsletters compiled by Phyllis Whitley over the last few months, containing a history of FSCA activities as well as numerous photos of past events and the people involved; (2) a lively video of the student exchange program, including both French and American students, compiled by Kathryn Willis; and (3) an interesting account, including photos, by Kathryn of her project to clean up the gravesite of Eliza Monroe Hays in Pere Lachaise Cemetery, Paris. Check them out; you’ll be surprised!

Regretfully, two vacancies have occurred on the Board of Directors since the 2019 November election and, as required, the BOD has appointed members to fill the unexpired two-year terms. The death of Steve Beauch, our longtime treasurer, left a void difficult to fill. Fortunately for FSCA, Wilbur Brown agreed to accept the responsibilities of this position. Wilbur, always ready to help with various events and projects, had been a member of the board for many years. Welcome back, Wilbur!

Roy Kissinger, another longtime member of the BOD, plans to give up his FSCA duties at the end of 2020. He and wife Lori have been staunch and active members of FSCA for many years, and both will be sorely missed. Filling Roy’s slot as a Director will be Bob Bugno. Bob has been a chaperone for the student exchange, and some years ago organized a monthly French conversation class for interested persons. He has recently added a monthly showing of films in French. Welcome to the FSCA BOD, Bob!

Following all business, Kathryn Willis gave a brief overview of her work with Eliza Monroe’s gravesite in Paris. Visit the FSCA website to view the entire PowerPoint presentation!

A la prochaine fois,

Judy Hansen, FSCA President

Thomas Baer's updates to our website are:

Eliza Monroe's Tombstone Story: <https://fredericksburgfrejus.com/about/in-search-of-eliza-monroe/>

FACA Newsletters: <https://fredericksburgfrejus.com/organization-documents/faca-newsletters/>

Student Exchange Program: <https://fredericksburgfrejus.com/student-exchange-program/>

Merci mille fois to Thomas for making these major additions to our web site. Share them with friends, former and potential FSCA members.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Dear members, As the Directors voted to exempt member dues for 2021 for those members who paid dues in 2020 I want to remind you **any extra donations or contributions to FSCA are always greatly appreciated** For your convenience, I invite you to click on our website, shown at the head of this newsletter, and use the membership application that is there.

Looking forward to future events and participation, I am in the process of forming a membership committee. If you are interested in helping with greeting prospective members and/or are knowledgeable in XCEL spreadsheet date input, contact me - Nancie Lightner, Membership Chair ncblightner2014@yahoo.com or call me at 434-378-1556

NEWS FROM FRÉJUS



Maryse Rigoulot
Director of Fredericksburg Section

Joyeux Noël à tous nos amis de la FSCA où qu'ils se trouvent aux USA ! Notre vœu le plus cher est de vous revoir en 2021 !

Avec toute notre amitié,

Maryse et Philippe Rigoulot

Scenes from previous holiday events in Fréjus



Our tree at the tourism office with the American Elf on top



At our Holiday Parade



Choir celebrating with seasonal music

More news on the next page

In November our regional newspaper, Nice-Matin, featured an article about our very own Fernand Martini. Active in many Fréjus organizations, M Martini is often remembered for his portrayal of “Escartefigue”(the sailor) at the picnic with an American group a few years ago.



HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS



Remembering the good times. With hope that What is Past is Prologue

2006

April 2006

At the request of the U. S. Department of State, a delegation from Kuito, Bié Province, Angola visited Fredericksburg, seeking possibility of a Sister City relationship.

Visitors were His Excellence José Amaro Tati, Governor of Bié Province; Matias Sactingo, Director Department of Infrastructure & Public works; George Assase, Director Office of Planning and Development, Gonçalves Kassoma, businessman; From the Embassy of the Republic of Angola Martinho Codo, First Secretary; Gilberto Neves, Assistant Press Secretary and Matias Sactingo, Interpreter.



FSCA President, A. C. Whitley, Phyllis Whitley and Jim Shelhorse, representing the city, met the group and gave them a tour of the city.

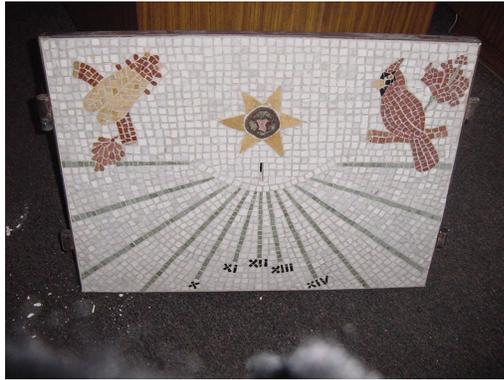
They then met with City Manager, Philip Rodenberg and Councilman Billy Withers to discuss the exchange of information relating to historic preservation and the possibility of a sister city partnership.

The group was then treated to a luncheon arranged by Mr. Rodenberg.

More about 2006 on the next page

July 17, 2006

The handmade sundial, a gift from Fréjus during the 2005 Twenty-fifth anniversary celebrations in France was dedicated by FSCA President, A. C. Whitley. Past Mayors Davies and Greenup attended. Over 200 people gathered for the event and a reception that followed. The sun dial resides on the wall next to the Visitor Center on Caroline Street.



The Sundial from Fréjus



FSCA President A.C. Whitley presiding

July, 2006 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT LEADER RECEIVES SISTER CITY HONOR - Marvin Bolinger was honored by Sister Cities International at its annual meeting in Washington, D.C with a special Ceremony that took place at the prestigious Warner Theatre on Saturday, July 15, 2006. This local government leader from Fredericksburg was inducted into the 50th Anniversary Local Government Leadership Circle. At the same event FSCA members were recognized as distinguished volunteers Recipients of the awards were Tom and Lydie Mann, Sara Fartro, Judith Hansen, Margaret Rose and Phyllis Whitley. Also recognized at the ceremony were Robert Antozzi and Karen Hedelt into the “Local Government Leadership Circle.” for their dedication and promotion of the sister city program in Fredericksburg. Mayor and Mrs. Thomas Tomzak, MD joined the group.

2007

July 2007 Student Exchange – American students traveled with their chaperones to Fréjus before spending a few days in Paris.



Michel Herbiet welcomed everyone



Fun sailing on the Mediterranean



Hiking at great heights/awesome



Chaperones Connie Orgeron and Leigh Dowd



Maryse & Philippe Rigoulot hosted a dinner party for the adults
More about 2007 on the next page



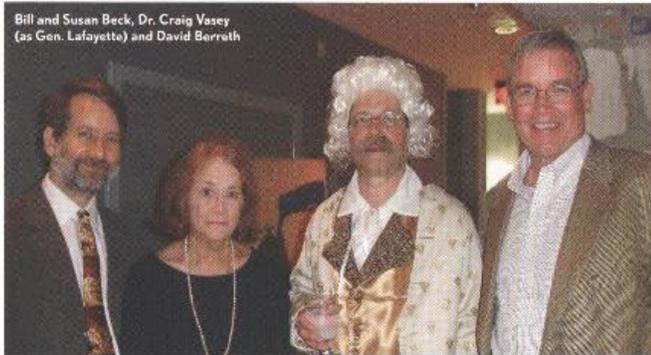
Mme Elisabeth Andre offers a farewell as the group leaves for Paris

September 2007 - President A. C. Whitley welcomed over 100 people to the gala celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the birth of the Marquis de Lafayette. The festivities were held at Belmont and Lafayette, portrayed by Prof. Craig Vasey, entertained everyone. Speeches were given and Mandy Carr dedicated a special song to the Marquis during the dinner hour. A very successful "silent auction" topped off the evening

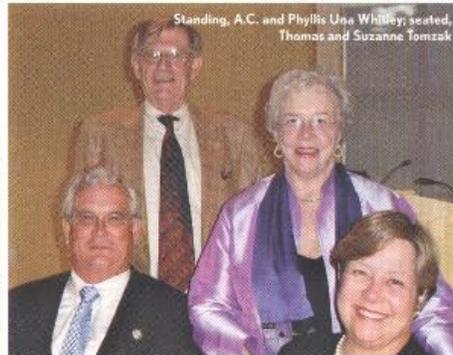


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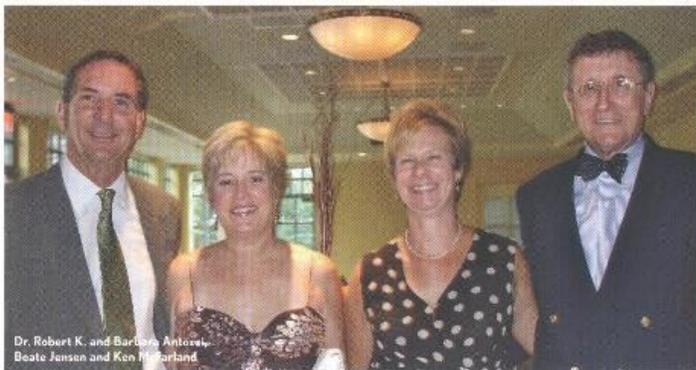
Celebrating the 250th birthday of the Marquis de Lafayette on September 9, the Sister City Association gathered at Belmont, in Stafford County, and raised funds for educational programs including scholarships for French language students.



Bill and Susan Beck, Dr. Craig Vasey (as Gen. Lafayette) and David Berreath



Standing, A.C. and Phyllis Una Whitley; seated, Thomas and Suzanne Tomzak



Dr. Robert K. and Barbara Antares, Beate Jensen and Ken Hurland



Steve and Joan Bosack, Elaine, and Marty Miller

Our Leaders: 2006 - 2007

- PRESIDENT
- 1st VICE-PRESIDENT
- 2nd VICE-PRESIDENT
- SECRETARY
- TREASURER
- PUBLICIST & HISTORIAN
- IMMEDIATE PAST PRES.
- PARLIMENTARIAN
- DIRECTOR – LIAISON
- DIRECTOR
- DIRECTOR – EDUCATION
- DIRECTOR

- A. C. Whitley
- Patricia Mancinia
- Mandy Carr
- Patsy Prud’Homme
- Wilbur Brown
- Bill Beck
- Gail Howard
- Susan Beck
- Phyllis Una Whitley
- Sara Fartro
- Judith Hansen
- Kathryn Willis [resigned Nov. 2006]

DIRECTORS-EX-OFFICIO The Honorable Thomas J. Tomzak, M.D., Mayor ,Phillip Rodenberg, City Manager , Kathleen A. Dooley, City Attorney and Agent of Record, James Branscome Freeman Beverage

2008

In July **“A Sense of Place – Fréjus, France”** – an exhibition of photographs of Fréjus taken by Fréjus students was a special event held in conjunction with the summer exchange. Works were professionally printed and matted by local businesses and displayed for two weeks at Liberty Town Arts Studios. Ribbons were awarded to each student

Pink Flamigo Dinner at Renalto’s Restaurant – Another fun event. The only request of the attendees is that they wear pink. The history of the Pink Flamingo in American was shared with the group, prizes were awarded and Margaret Rose passed the “Pepperier” honors to Charlie Sieracki.



A.C., Maryse, Philippe J., Philippe R., Cathy* Philippe & his Pink Flamingo Tie* Charlie becomes the “Pepperier”

More History Highlights in future editions of your newsletter



DECEMBER BONUS *Adjectives to Describe Fine Wines*

By
Dominique Mataillet # Gastronomy, #Wine

Connoisseurs are not happy simply sipping fine wine. They also like to wax lyrical about their characteristics. Thank God (or, rather, Bacchus), they have an almost infinite vocabulary for expressing sensations. And this list is not as old as you might think. While Rabelais and Montaigne, two well-known vino buffs, sing the praises of wine in their writing, neither of them indulges in details. Words for wine first appeared in the 17th century, and have developed alongside scientific and general knowledge about the renowned tippable. There are now no fewer than 1,000 terms used to describe wine’s many features, whether visual, olfactory, or gustatory. **Here is a (very small) sample to get you started ahead of the holidays!**

BALANCED (ÉQUILBRÉ) Balanced wines present a harmony between acidity, smoothness, and tannins for reds.

(several more on the next page)

EARTHY(TERREUX) From freshly-cut grass and moss to mushrooms, black pepper, and olives, certain flavors that lend wines their complexity develop in the bottle after a certain aging period.

FRUITY(FRUITÉ) This refers to a wine exuding flavors of fruit without any identifiable “maturation notes.” Fruity wines are young and often known as “thirst-quenching” or “easy-drinking” wines.

FULL-BODIED (CORSE) This adjective is used for robust wines with a high alcohol content. As a result, they age well and improve over the years.

LONG ON THE PALATE (LONG EN BOUCHE) If flavors remain on the palate throughout the tasting, the wine is said to be “long” or having “length.” Inversely, wine can be described as “short.” Length is a sure sign of quality.

MINERAL (MINÉRAL) The notion of minerality is used to describe non-fruity and non-spicy flavors found in certain wines. They can be reminiscent of wet stones, heated silex, and slate. Often found in Muscadet and Riesling, minerality is a characteristic of very dry, largely acidic wines.

NERVOUS (NERVEUX) A nervous wine is slightly acidic on the palate but bright and pleasant. This term is generally used for young white wines.

ROUND (ROND) A round wine has a smooth, supple, or even creamy texture, and is easy to drink. You can expect few tannins and no acidity on the palate. Côtes-du-Rhône-Villages are good examples of round wines.

SMOOTH (MOELLEUX) Smooth wines feel like velvet on the palate. Soft white wines between dry and sweet are described as such, but the term also applies to more viscous wines with low acidity.

STRUCTURED (CHARPENTÉ) A wine can be petit (ordinary) or grand (the best wine from an estate). It may also have volume, or not. If it lacks body, it is described as “dull,” “shallow,” “empty,” “thin,” or “hollow.” A wine with body, however, is referred to as structured — and even “full” or “robust.” This term is generally used for reds such as Saint-Estèphe or Madiran.

TANNIC (TANNIQUE) These wines have astringent notes, which means slight bitterness, due to high levels of tannins. (Aside from adding flavor, this substance found in grape skin also helps to store wines for longer.)

TENSE (TENDU) Tension is used to describe a lively yet balanced wine that offers both acidity and length. As with dry whites such as Chablis, these wines leave a lasting impression on the tongue.

VIGOROUS (ÉNERGIQUE) Thanks to their liveliness, vigorous wines awake all the senses. Whether Riesling, Gamay, Barbera, or Chenin Blanc, they are made using very acidic grapes. Red Burgundy wines can also be described as vigorous.

WOODY (BOISÉ) The expression “maturation notes” is often used to describe the flavors of wine aged in wooden barrels — usually oak. Woody notes include cedar, pine, vanilla, coconut, clove, coffee, and caramel. These can lend wines complexity but also weigh them down.

FSCA DIRECTORS – 2020

President – Judith Hansen judyhansen@yahoo.com

1st VP, Student Exchange – John East eastjack1@outlook.com

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Craig Vasey - **UMW Liaison** cvasey@umw.edu

Thomas Baer – Website tfbaer@hotmail.com

Cathy Herndon - herndoncathy@gmail.com

Roy Kissinger – 40th Anniversary Celebration royhk.007@verison.net

Bill Beck – Ex-officio bill@becksantiques.com

Merci mille fois to all our Directors who persevered and got us through this year!

Newsletter Editor Phyllis C. Whitley acpcw1@gmail.com /540-786-7010 **I accept credit for any errors in this newsletter**



Joyeux Noël