



La Trompette

Février 2023

NOTE DE LA PRÉSIDENTE

Chers members de AF Grosse Pointe,

Does it seem like January was only twenty days? With the holiday season ending and our son's wedding in New Orleans, it sure felt that way!

I hope you were able to take advantage of our events last month. Our Ciné-Club was well attended and everyone enjoyed the upbeat film. The MeetUp is always a fun evening to practice speaking French with friends. I also want to thank those who met me at the DIA for lunch and the film St Omer last Sunday. What a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon! We will make sure to have other occasions like that whenever something French is happening in town.

New Orleans was a blast! I loved immersing myself in the French heritage of the area and got to meet several Francophone people from Haiti, Morocco, and the Middle East who had settled there. We made sure to have beignets from Café du Monde and tour a historic cemetery. We even spotted the local Alliance Française center in the beautiful Garden District. I highly recommend a visit to New Orleans!

February brings new opportunities with AFGP, and we would love to see you at Feather Bowling Night, the French MeetUp, or Ciné-Club.

A bientôt, j'espère.

Amal Elhosni

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<https://afdegrossepointe.org/>

EVÈNEMENTS À VENIR



FEATHER BOWLING NIGHT

Monday, February 6th, 2023

6:00- 10:00 pm

Cadieux Café

It is not too late to sign up online! Join us and grab dinner and drinks, then practice your feather bowling skills while listening to a live band.

For more information and to sign up, click on the link:

<https://afdegrossepointe.org/event/reunion-entre-amis/>

AFGP FRENCH MEETUP

Thursday, February 9, 2023

6:30- 8:30 pm

Antonio's in the Park

15117 Kercheval Ave.
Grosse Pointe Park, MI

(Please note the change in venue for this month)

Join us for dinner, drinks , and good conversation “en français”!

Please, make sure to sign up on the special MeetUp link and RSVP for February 9th, so we know how many are attending.

For more information and to register:

<https://afdegrossepointe.org/event/afgp-french-conversation-meetup/>

CINE CLUB

Saturday, February 18th

1:30 pm

Grosse Pointe Public Library, Woods Branch



Rouge/ Red Soil (2020)

Directed by Farid Bentoumi

Freshly hired as a labor nurse in a chemical factory, Nour discovers that small arrangements exist between management and her father, Slimane, the staff representative, and the company's pivot. Lies about polluting discharges, hidden illnesses of employees, hidden accidents... Nour, little by little, no longer accepts the compromises of her father to preserve the image of the company. She decides to launch the alert.

Rouge is a One Film, One Federation 2022 Selection

CERCLE DE LECTURE

Notre groupe de lecture se réunit toujours mensuellement et discute une oeuvre sélectionnée par nos membres. Les prochaines réunions se tiendront le:

18 février: Premier sang, d'Amélie Nothomb

(Prix Renaudot 2021; One Book, One Federation 2023 Selection)

15 avril: L'anomalie, de Hervé Le Tellier (One Book, One Federation Bonus 2023 Selection)

20 mai: Les Belles Sœurs, de Michel Tremblay

Pour plus d'informations concernant le Cercle de Lecture, prière de nous contacter

alliancefrancaisegrossepointe@gmail.com



AF FEDERATION -USA ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

The national AF organization is a wonderful source to supplement your exposure to different French experiences, linguistic and cultural.

APÉRO NATIONAL FRENCH CONVERSATION GROUP (en français)

Conversation groups are for informal practice and for sharing the joy of conversing in French with other like-minded Francophiles or Francophones.

If you'd like to pick up some additional conversation practice, you can join a hosted national group that meets via Zoom every Wednesday. Participants are invited to enjoy their favorite beverage during our "Apéro" conversation.

The group is for **high-intermediate to advanced (or fluent) speakers** who are current members of an Alliance Française chapter in the U.S. This group conversation is for adult participants, ages 17 and up.

For more information and to sign up to the conversation group, go to:

<https://afusa.org/event/aperonational/>

VIRTUAL CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS AND EVENTS

The AF Federation organizes multiple cultural, virtual opportunities every year and make them available to Alliance Française chapters, at no cost to members. Your membership dues give you the privilege to sign up for free to any or all programs of interest.

Please refer to the Upcoming Events section of our website for the January and February AF Federation-USA online activities. Make sure to register early in order to get the Zoom link.

<https://afdegrossepointe.org/main-calendar/>

LA CHANDELEUR

On the 2nd of February each year, French people celebrate La Chandeleur. In English this is known as Candlemass.

This falls 40 days after Christmas and signifies the day that Jesus was presented at the temple. The festival was created in 472 by the Pope. The name 'Chandeleur' comes from the candles that were traditionally used on this occasion. In churches, they are blessed and replace torches and are left alight to signify light, purity and to keep harm away. Religious people often bring a blessed candle home and display it in their window on 2nd February. It is also religious tradition that the nativity scene that is displayed in many houses at Christmas should remain on display until 2nd February.

So why do French people eat crêpes on La Chandeleur?

The round shape and golden color of crêpes represent the sun and the return to the light. From February, days also start to get longer and eating of crêpes also refers to the cycle of the seasons and the arrival of spring and brighter days.

This festival is also accompanied by superstitions. If peasants didn't make crêpes on this day, they believed that their crops would be bad the following year. To ensure that the harvest was good and that the year would be financially prosperous, they believed that they had to flip the first crêpe in the air with their right hand while holding a coin (Louis d'Or) in their left hand and also ensuring that the flipped crêpe landed perfectly back into the pan! The crêpe was then conserved on top of a wardrobe or cupboard and supposedly shouldn't go moldy and should keep misery and deprivation far away.

Many other countries also celebrate this religious feast, each with their own variation of the French tradition. Most other traditions around La Chandeleur which have existed over time such as processions no longer take place. However, the tradition of crêpes remains and why not? Crêpes are delicious!

(source: <https://alpinefrenchschool.com/>)

SPOTTED ONLINE

A number of our members have asked for additional titles of French films and TV Series, available on different platforms. Here are our recommendations for February

Netflix:

TV Series

Women at War (Les Combattantes)

2022. TV-MA. 1 season

France, 1914. As the German troops advance and men leave for the frontlines, four women must grapple with the devastating consequences of war at home.

Amazon Prime:

The Rosemaker (2022)

Eve is one of France's greatest artisanal horticulturalists, but her rose business is facing imminent bankruptcy or liquidation. When her secretary hires three inexperienced ex-convicts, they must team up to rescue the business in this verdant comedy.

Kanopy

Marius & Fanny (2013)

Why not do a throwback to Marcel Pagnol's trilogy? Marius, the first part and Fanny, the second part of the trilogy take you back to the simple life in Provence and the couple's love story.