



Georgia AATF Spring 2008 Update

The Georgia Chapter of AATF gathered for their annual meeting at the 2008 FLAG conference in Augusta, Georgia on February 29th. Twelve French teachers were in attendance and Chapter president, Kristin Hoyt, moderated the meeting. The following conference sessions dedicated to French language/culture were acknowledged:

- *Notre Dame de Paris: Using the Story and the Music at all Levels of French* (Ellen L. Friedrich)
- *Une comparaison de nos bonnes manières: françaises et américaines* (Elizabeth Combier)
- *Au Québec, le français est dans la rue, Enseignons-le tel quel!* (Jim Chesnut)
- *Visitons l'atelier et le musée de Rodin* (Dina Foster & Janene Sullivan)
- *Realistic and Meaningful Activities for Successful Acquisition* (Joanne Thomas)

Chapter Treasurer, Bill Griffin, shared the annual report of the chapter's treasury. The current AATF account is at \$5,821.43.

Kristin Hoyt called upon chapter members to report on various committee initiatives:

- Fall 2007 Chapter Conference
- Teacher-of-the-Year program
- Student Immersion Weekend
- *Le Grand Concours*

Dr. Hoyt thanked Professor Jay Lutz of Oglethorpe University for hosting the highly successful *Fall 2007 GA-AATF Conference*. The conference featured a guided visit of the Rodin exhibit in the university's museum as well as a catered French luncheon *en plein air*. Dr. Lutz shared information on the current Gauguin exhibit and the upcoming Chagall exhibit.

Dr. Hoyt thanked Ms. Kathy Porto of McIntosh High School for her committee's work in revitalizing the "Teacher-of-the-Year Award" program for our chapter. Ms. Porto announced this year's winners; Jane Hursey of Stone Mountain HS in the high school category, and Anne Jackson of Holy Innocents Episcopal School in the middle school category. We look forward to future nominations in the four categories of elementary school, middle school, high school, and postsecondary. Information on the award categories and nomination forms are available on the chapter website at <http://class.georgiasouthern.edu/aatf/http://class.georgiasouthern.edu/aatf/>

On behalf of Ms. Muriel Davison from Collins Hill HS, Jane Hursey reported on the highly successful Student Immersion Weekend that took place at Camp Rock Eagle in Eatonton, Georgia, from February 22-24. 137 students, representing 24 different high schools, were in attendance for the activity-filled weekend – *tout en français, bien sûr!*

Julie Fournier-Angelo, Education Advisor for the French Consulate, Southeast Office in Atlanta, shared materials and resources, provided by the Consulate.

Although unable to attend the meeting in Augusta, Ms. Valerie White, Northview High School, is to be commended for her ongoing commitment and dedication to organizing the state's participation in *Le Grand Concours*. Of particular note is one of Ms. White's own students, Jodie Simkoff, who was a gold medalist nationally in the 3A category. Of additional mention is Marie Scott's student, Kelly Rever of Starr's Mill HS, who was a silver medalist nationally in the 2A category. A hearty MERCI to Valerie Ford her ongoing service to our chapter and our students!

Additionally, the officers and members of Georgia AATF express wholehearted thanks to Dr. Jean-Paul Carton, Professor of French at Georgia Southern University, for his ongoing service as webmaster in maintaining and updating our chapter website.

Other news and information

The chapter is seeking to identify a member who is attending the AATF Annual Meeting in Liège, Belgium. The conference takes place from July 16-19, 2008, and the GA-AATF chapter offers financial support up to \$500

for a chapter member who could serve as our chapter's designated attendee.

President Hoyt invites proposals and/or suggested topics for the 2008 GA-AATF Fall Meeting. The following date has been selected : Saturday, September 27th, 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM. Please mark you calendars. Details will follow in August.

A call for nominations for chapter officers for the 2009-2011 slate. We will elect new officers, President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer at the fall 2008 meeting. Please contact President Hoyt by email at <mailto:khoyt3@kennesaw.edu> if you would like to be considered for election to one of these offices. All terms of the current officers expire at the end of 2008. New officers will assume their duties January 1, 2009.