

October 2015 AFJax Newsletter

Happy Fall from the Alliance!

Welcome to what promises to be an exciting year for the Alliance in Jacksonville. As most of you know, we recently held an open house to celebrate opening our first-ever office in Jacksonville. Located in San Marco, there are many neighborhood opportunities for increasing participation and awareness of French culture.

I am thrilled to be able to announce some upcoming events for the Alliance Francaise de Jacksonville. On **October 16th** we will have an official ribbon-cutting ceremony recognizing our permanence in the city. Our San Marco location will be opened by two very honored guests.

We are honored to have M. Philippe Létriliart, Consul-General of France and M. Jean-François Hans, Délégué General de l'Alliance Française aux Etats-Unis officially open our headquarters. Doors will open at 5:30 with a members-only reception at 6:00 p.m. before heading to JJ's Bistro in Ponte Vedra for a special event.

The Alliance is pleased to announce that Jean-Jacques Vigoureux, the owner of JJ's Bistro's, will receive the Medal of the Order of Agricultural Merit on the evening of the 16th. There will be an award of the medal with a dinner to follow. The Order of Agricultural Merit recognizes significant contributions to agriculture by the French Republic. There is a separate email detailing specifics of this special event.

Other upcoming events this month will include:

Dedication Ceremony in Memory of French Huguenots (October 10th)

A Presentation on Mont St. Michel by one of our members and language instructors, Isabelle Killian, in French (with English as necessary) (October 11th)

Meet Up at JJ's (October 17th)

Happy Hour at Orsay's (October 21)

**Information on these events and many more can be found on the events page of our website, afjacksonville.org

Lastly, our language classes have launched and are now meeting at our new office in San Marco! This year we have developed a progressive curriculum that welcomes students of all levels into classes designed just for their abilities. There are children and adult classes starting in St. Augustine to meet the needs of members in our Oldest City.

Thank you for another year of celebrating French heritage and culture with us.

Jerry E. Fliger, Ph.D.

Director - Alliance Francaise de Jacksonville