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A Note from the Editor

By Alaina McCallum

This edition of *Nantesense* captures the Association's autumn activities. The Association continues to work to expand local cultural activities and strengthen involvement with Nantes; this is particularly evident as we prepare for the 40th Anniversary.

A delegation from Seattle will participate in festivities in Nantes during the second week of June. We should expect a delegation from Nantes to arrive in Seattle during October. Please anticipate more details by the end of January.

Our scholarship program is one way that we strengthening connection to community. This autumn, we have reestablished outreach with colleges in Washington to recruit more scholarship candidates. We offer three distinct scholarship opportunities for local scholars.

Nantes Park has received a lot of love recently with help from Microsoft volunteers and our membership. As the Association heads into its 40th year, one exciting project is to add color to the Park by having Nantais students create tiles.

We thank you for your continual support. Membership dues are due in January, which can be paid online or by check; see page 5 for more details.

On behalf of the Board, wishing you a bonne année 2020!

Language Exchange in Nantes

Once again our colleagues in Nantes are offering their French immersion class this summer from June 22nd to the 27th. In the morning, participants will have three hours of French, followed by lunch, and then afternoon cultural events and tours of Nantes. Participants will stay with host families to further the cultural and language immersion. There is an option to extend your stay with your host family the following week. The program is 350€, approximately \$390. Registration is now open; email us at seattlenantessca@gmail.com for the brochure and registration information.

Scholarship Recipient: Hannah Holmgren

In 2019, we awarded Hannah Holmgren with the Seattle-Nantes Scholars Scholarship. She is a senior at Seattle Pacific University and is majoring in Global Development and French. This fall, she has been studying in Pau, France. Hannah shared with us her experience abroad and appreciation of the scholarship.

I have been living with my host family here in Pau and taking intensive language courses at l'Université de Pau. The University offers many opportunities for foreign students to meet French students, which has been one of my favorite aspects of the program so far. Additionally, I have recently completed a volunteer orientation with COS Pau, which is an NGO that partners with newly arrived refugees. I will begin volunteering in their emergency housing services this month. All of these wonderful experiences were made possible by your investment in my education, and I am genuinely appreciative of your generosity!



Larry Laffrey presenting Hannah Holmgren with her scholarship check.



Hannah explores France.

Scholarship Committee Update

Amazing French Language Scholarship Opportunities!



The Seattle-Nantes Sister City Association offers three different scholarships that award up to **\$1,500**. If you have a passion for French language, then there is a scholarship for you!

Goldmark Scholarship

- Enrolled in a Washington college or university
- Study in Nantes, France during some part of the 2020-2021 academic year

Thomas H. Bennett Scholarship

- Is a high school or college student in the 2020-2021 academic year
- Has a passion for learning and travel and will study abroad in a francophone country

Frances Bennett Scholarship

- Enrolled in a French class at a Washington college or university in the 2020-2021 academic year
- Intends enter a service to profession (e.g., teaching, medicine) and/or has overcome significant hardship to pursue higher education



Apply today!
seattle-nantes.org/scholarships
seattlenantessca@gmail.com

Founded in 1980, Seattle-Nantes Sister City Association goal is to advance cultural and educational relations between the people of Seattle and Nantes, France. One of the most exciting ways we are involved in the French community is through our scholarship program.

Starting in 2020, Seattle-Nantes will offer three endowed scholarships. The Goldmark Scholarship was endowed in 1986 and named after Annie Goldmark, a founder of our Association. The Frances Bennett Scholarship was endowed in 2015 by our former president Tom Bennett in honor of his Francophile mother. This year, the Bennett family endowed the Dr. Thomas Bennett Scholarship to honor the legacy of their husband and father.

Scholarships are funded through the endowments, our fundraisers such as the annual French book sale at French Fest, the Association's own contributions, and your donations. Your continual support is always welcome.

To learn more about the scholarships or to donate, visit our website seattle-nantes.org/scholarships.

Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting was held on Sunday, November 10th at Pomodoro, a Spanish-Italian restaurant located along Eastlake Avenue. Members gathered to reflect on the past year and learn about exciting activities planned for 2020.

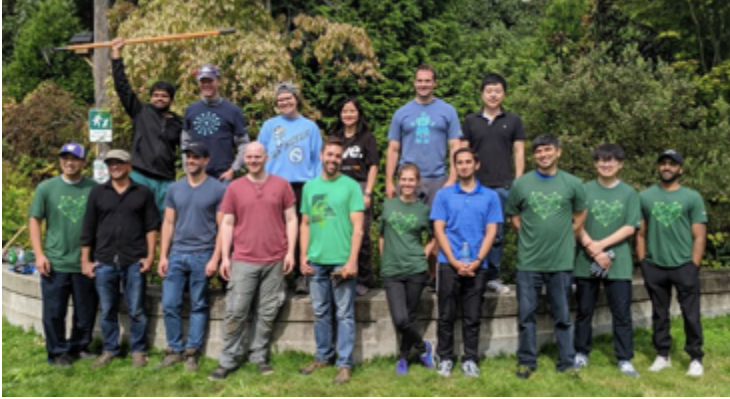
In addition to speeches by Larry Laffrey and Susan Kegel, the membership heard from two guest speakers. Jack Cowan of the French-American Chamber of Commerce (FACC) spoke about FACC's involvement in bringing industry and governmental leaders from Nantes to Seattle for the 40th Anniversary. Former Seattle City Councilmember Richard Conlin and his wife also joined us. Richard shared about his recent trip to Nantes and spoke highly of the places and people he visited.

Following the dinner, the membership reelected board members Jean-Loup Baer, Michelle Beckman, Margaret Johnson, Susan Kegel, Alaina McCallum, and Marsella Quinones for another two-year term.



Nantes Park Weeding

On September 13th, a team from Microsoft volunteered their time as part of United Way's Day of Caring to weed Nantes Park. Margaret Johnson organized the event and was delighted by its success. Susan Kegel helped welcome the team and give them a history of Nantes Park. The volunteers pulled out several large piles of weeds.



The team from Microsoft.



Margaret with the largest of the three piles of weeds.

Nantes Park Mulching

On November 23rd, a group of nine members spent the afternoon at Nantes Park. Seattle Parks and Recreation delivered a large pile of mulch, two wheelbarrows, shovels, and rakes. After several hours of work, the garden beds of Nantes Park were successfully covered with mulch to help keep the weeds and grass away.



40th Anniversary

2020 marks the 40th Anniversary of the sister city relationship between Seattle and Nantes. To commemorate this milestone, delegations from both cities will participate in an exchange.

The Nantais will welcome our delegation during the second week of June.

We foresee the Nantais will arrive in Seattle in October. If you are interested in hosting, please email Tom Waite at tawaite@comcast.net.

Please stay tuned, as more details are to come.

Monthly Board Meetings

The Board of SNSCA meets monthly to discuss local activities and work on strengthening the relationship between Seattle and Nantes. In general, the Board convenes on the first Wednesday of every month at a local branch of Seattle Public Library. If you are interested, contact us at seattlenantessca@gmail and come to our next board meeting.

Membership Renewal

It is time to renew your membership dues for 2020. Thanks to your contributions, which help to organize events and support exchanges.

Please do so by either sending a check to:

SNSCA
5108 1st Ave NW
Seattle, WA 98107

Or using the [DONATE](#) button on our website.

SNSCA Board Members

OFFICERS

President: Susan Kegel

Vice-President: Alaina McCallum

Treasurer: Susan Hulbert

Secretary: on rotation

MEMBERS

Jean-Loup Baer
Michelle Beckman
Susan Hulbert
Margaret Johnson
Susan Kegel
Larry Laffrey
Alaina McCallum
Marsella Quinones
Tom Waite



Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY 9th

La Chandeleur crêpe dinner

MARCH 22nd

French Fest at the Seattle Center

Visit seattle-nantes.org for more details!