

Seattle-Nantes Sister City Association
7007 35th Avenue NW
Seattle, Washington 98117

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2008 OFFICERS

Acting President: Pamela-Ann Hughes
Acting VP & Corresp Sec: Chantal Sullivan
Secretary/Treasurer: Susan Hulbert

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Board Member At Large: Emily Boardway
Dollars for Scholars: Tom Bennett
Events & Hosting: Pamela-Ann Hughes
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Visit the Seattle-Nantes
Sister City Association
online at
www.seattle-nantes.org

Annual General Meeting

By Tom Bennett— This year's annual meeting was held at the Boulangerie Nantaise on Sunday, November 4. Instead of the usual potluck, this year we had a restaurant-prepared dinner. Our attendance increased about 50% over last year's meeting, so it appears that our members prefer a restaurant dinner over a potluck.

We were honored to have one of our original members, Frances Nostrand, attend. Tish Van der Muelen introduced Frances and talked about the accomplishments of Frances and her late husband, Howard. The two of them played a large role in getting our Sister City Association started. Later, Howard and Frances donated \$500,000 to the University of Washington to create an endowed professorship, to emphasize the connection between language competence and cultural competence. As if this weren't enough, Frances Nostrand later took the lead in organizing a wonderful exhibition of French trom-

pe-l'ceil paintings from Le Cercle de Lyon. This group of talented painters held their exhibition at the Frye Art Gallery. The exhibition was made possible because of contacts Frances made when she was studying in Nantes.

Other special guests included Mariette Cassourret, the President of the Nantes-Seattle Sister City Association, who is here with a group of high school exchange students from Nantes, and Colton Carothers, who was our Young Ambassador to Nantes last year.

On the business side, we elected two new board members, Jean-Loup Baer and Emily Boardway, and reelected Tom Bennett, Marie-Pierre Koban, Jean Leblon, and Susan Hulbert to the Board. Judy Deignan, Pamela-Ann Hughes, Chantal Sullivan, and Susan Wolf are continuing board members whose terms will expire next year.

SNSCA 2007-2008 Scholarship Winners

By **Tom Bennett**—Your Sister City Association has two scholarship programs—Dollars for Scholars, which grants scholarships to college students studying French in Washington, and the Goldmark Scholarship, which awards scholarships to local students going to Nantes to study.

This year's winners are:



Desiree Olson is a senior at the University of Washington majoring in French and looking forward to graduate school in linguistics. She spent this summer studying in Paris.



Chase Parker graduated from Shorewood High School and is now in the elite program at Seattle University majoring in French and international business.



Linnea Post is taking a combined major in French and Education at Seattle Pacific University and is looking forward to a career in teaching.

Elizabeth St. Clair, Garrett Studhalter, and Samantha Rayner of the University of Washington shared the Goldmark Scholarship for study in Nantes in the 2007-2008 school year.

We thank all of you who have contributed to our scholarships which help these deserving students continue their studies in French.

Are you artistic and organized?

We are looking for an album manager for these and other Association photos.

pamela.hughes@seattle-nantes.org

Un Peu d'Histoire de Vins Blancs Nantais, deuxième partie

By **Jean-Claude Marais**—
*Le Terroir**

Le vignoble nantais bénéficie d'un sol très varié composé de schistes, micaschistes, gneiss, et autres roches sédimentaires et éruptives de l'ère primaire. Sa situation océanique lui confère un climat tempéré avec une pluviométrie assez bien répartie sur l'année. Les excellentes années (les millésimes) sont généralement les plus ensoleillées et les plus sèches. De même que les grandes variations climatiques donnent à chaque millésime des sensations particulières qui s'expriment à travers le Muscadet, vin blanc issu du Melon Bourgogne.

*Terroir : c'est la réunion de facteurs naturels comme le climat, le sol, et de facteurs humains tels que les traditions, le savoir faire qui, de la culture de la vigne à l'élaboration du vin, confère aux vins une typicité singulière.

Trois Terroirs, Trois Appellations

- Le Muscadet « Sèvre et Maine » AOC en 1936, est cultivé sur 8800 hectares. Son nom vient des deux rivières qui traversent ce terroir : la Sèvre et la Maine. Cette appellation est répartie au Sud de Nantes, elle est réputée pour donner des vins fruités et très élégants, tout en finesse.

- Le Muscadet Côtes de Grand Lieu AOC en 1994, est cultivé sur 370 hectares. Cette appellation est répartie sur 19 communes au sud

ouest de Nantes, plus proche de l'Océan. Ses vins sont plus secs et iodés.

- Le Muscadet « Coteaux de la Loire » AOC en 1936, est cultivé sur 200 hectares et produit sur les deux rives de La Loire. Les vignes sont cultivées sur un sol schisteux et granitique donnant aux vins des caractères plus charpentés. L'influence du fleuve apporte au vin une sensation minérale singulière et légère.

La famille BONNET, depuis quatre générations élève des Muscadet « Sèvre et Maine et Gros plant », au Château de la Tarcère sur le site d'une demeure médiévale près de la Chapelle Heulin.*

Des vignes sont plantées là depuis plus de deux cents ans, dans des terrains légers et caillouteux, de texture silico-argileuse, sur micaschistes, gneiss et amphibolites. Ces vignes sont parmi les plus vieilles de la région nantaise.

A ces éléments du sol s'ajoutent le savoir-faire et les soins particuliers des vignerons (tri et respect du raisin et la limitation des rendements), afin de donner leur typicité aux vins. Les frères Bonnet expliquent... Le gneiss fait des vins ronds et souples ; les micaschistes les minéralisent quant aux amphibolites, ils produisent des muscadets amples et corsés.

A Bit of History of Nantais White Wines, part 2

By Jean-Claude Marais—
*The Terroir**

The Nantais vineyard has the advantage of a very mixed soil consisting of shale, mica schist, gneiss et other sedimentary and eruptive rocks from the Paleozoic era. Bordering the ocean, it enjoys a temperate climate and a rather even amount of rainfall throughout the year. The excellent years (the vintage years) are generally the sunniest and driest. Just as the wide variations in the climate produce in each vintage some distinctive sensations that express themselves through the Muscadet, a white wine made with Burgundy melon.

*Terroir : the combination of natural factors such as climate and soil, and of human factors such as traditions and know-how, which, from the growing of the vine to the making of the wine, endows each wine with a singular typicality.

Three Terroirs, Three Appellations

- The Muscadet « Sèvre et Maine » AOC in 1936, is grown on 21,745 acres (8800 hectares). Its name is that of the two rivers that run through that terroir: the Sèvre and the Maine. This appellation spreads south of Nantes, it has the reputation of producing wines that are fruity and elegant, very delicate.

- The Muscadet Côtes de Grand Lieu AOC in 1994, is grown on 914 acres (370 hectares). This appellation spreads over 19 townships

southwest of Nantes, closer to the ocean. Its wines are drier, with a taste of the sea.

- The Muscadet « Coteaux de la Loire » AOC in 1936, is grown on 495 acres (200 hectares) and produced on both banks of the Loire. The schistose and granitic soil lends the wines a robust character. The river's influence makes the wine feel singularly and lightly mineral.

Four generations of the BONNET family have been producing some Muscadet « Sèvre et Maine et Gros plant », at the Château de la Tarcrière on the site of medieval dwelling near the Heulin Chapel.

Vineyards have been planted there for more than two hundred years, in light and stony ground, of silico-clayey texture, on mica-schist, gneiss and amphibolites. These vineyards are among the oldest of the Nantes region.

To these contributions from the soil are added the know-how and the winegrowers' special care (selection and respect of the grape, and the limitation of the yields), in order to give the wines their particularity. The Bonnet brothers explain... Gneiss makes wines round and supple; the mica-schist mineralizes them; as for the amphibolites, they produce full-bodied and full-flavored wines.

—Translation by Jean Leblon

Calendar of Events

December 5	Board Meeting, 7-9 pm
December 20	Film Festival at West Seattle High, 7pm
January 2	Board Meeting, 7-9 pm
February 6	Board Meeting, 7-9pm
March 15	Wine Tasting at E.B. Foote Winery, 7:30pm

Membership Dues

Members' fees are either due January 1 or July 14, depending on when you joined. Since the latter date was instigated recently, if you are not sure of your due date, please use January 1.

Individual Annual Dues

Student \$10	Sponsor \$50
Senior \$15	Patron \$100
Individual \$25	Donor \$250
Family \$35	Benefactor \$500

Corporate Annual Dues

Patron \$50
Donor \$100
Benefactor \$500

Please send in your checks as soon as possible so we can keep our records up to date and you can continue to receive information. Make checks payable to SN-SCA, and mail to 7007 35th NW, Seattle, WA 78117. Include the following information with your dues:

- Names
- Address
- City
- State
- Zipcode
- Email

School Exchanges Between Seattle and Nantes

By Pamela-Ann Hughes—There have been two exchanges this fall between our cities. University Prep and Blanche de Castille have exchanged for several years and Lycee Telensac came to West Seattle High School for its second year, a pairing that was encouraged by our own Judy Deignan during the 25th anniversary celebrations in 2005.

Unfortunately, University Prep is no longer able to continue this arrangement. However, Blanche de Castille is starting a program with West Seattle Lutheran High School, beginning as pen pals with the expecta-

tion of eventual exchanges.

When I last visited Nantes, I was inundated with requests to arrange for school exchanges. There are many schools eager to share experiences. The latest to come my way is Saint-Félix, located in the center of Nantes, which has both middle school and high school students.

Parents and teachers do look into these opportunities. My first trip to France not only made me a lifelong Francophile, but also, literally, broadened my world.

French Film Festival December 20 - Free!

By **Tom Bennett**—Enjoy a highly acclaimed French film, *Le Château de Ma Mère*, at 7:00 pm on Thursday, December 20 at West Seattle High School. This event is organized by Nicole Beaudoin, a UW student who was one of our Dollars for Scholars scholarship winners last year. West Seattle High students are working with her to plan a fun evening for you with typical French Christmas foods and entertainment preceding the film showing.

The evening is free, thanks to Nicole's securing a grant from Humanities Washington. However, freewill donations will be appreciated if you would like to help provide more events like this

or help our scholarship programs.

Sequel to *La Gloire de Mon Père*, the story continues with Marcel Pagnol's childhood holidays in Provence. During a Christmas in the region Marcel's affection for the area deepens and he also learns to love and appreciate his mother's true nature.

Come and bring your friends to this Christmas treat.

West Seattle High School is located at 3000 California Avenue SW.

New SNSCA Board Members



Jean-Loup Baer—Jean-Loup was born in France, educated in Paris, Grenoble, and at UCLA. He has a PhD in Computer Science and was on the UW faculty for many years, re-

tiring in June. He is married to Diane and has three children. A longtime member of the association, he has now joined the board and taken on the responsibility for our website.



Emily Boardway—Emily was born, bred and educated locally. She has a degree in International Studies, has studied in Senegal, and is currently working as a Teaching Assistant

in Luçon, south of Nantes, where she also acts as our representative. While there, she is updating and reformating our membership list. We miss her energy on the board and look forward to her return in July.

~NOTICE BOARD~

Housing Request

French Consular Assistant looking for host family from January to the end of July. Has separate room with family on Mercer Island, participates in their life, helps in house. Can pay towards room and board. Contact Raphael McFeat directly at raphaelm@faccpnw.org or Pamela at pamela.hughes@seattlenantes.org for more info.

B&B in Nantes

Jean-Claude and Annick Marais have opened their lovely suburban home to guests. They are between the Loire and Sèvre rivers, close to the Mauvoisin 'Bus Way' stop, then 10 minutes to the town center. Their rates are very reasonable. Website: www.nantes-tourism.com. Jean-Claude's email: jcmarais@wanadoo.fr

Muscadet Outlets in Seattle

Pierre-Yves Lusseau, "The Wine Guy" who first visited for the 25th Anniversary, now has several area locations where you may buy his *Château de la Galissonnière* Muscadet.

Seattle
Vineyard Wine Shop
8218 Greenwood Ave N

Hopvine Pub
507 15th Ave E

35th Street Bistro
709 N 35th St

Fircrest
Fircrest Golf Club
1500 Regent Blvd

Gig Harbor
Water to Wine
9014 Peacock Hill

Poulsbo
Central Market

Olympia
Cicada Restaurant