



# Nantesense

Seattle-Nantes Sister City Association Newsletter - August 2025

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## Letter from the President

By Susan Kegel

It's been a busy spring and summer for Seattle-Nantes! We are preparing for our exchange of delegations to celebrate our 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of twinning with the beautiful city of Nantes. Plus we have added several new events to our calendar, so that we have programming this year in every month except June!

In September, a delegation of 16 association members will accompany Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth, Chef Kristi Brown of Communion Restaurant and Bar, and artist Barbara Earl Thomas to Nantes for a week of events, visits, and exchanges. The city of Nantes will be inaugurating the Jardin de Seattle, based on the parks and gardens that we showed them when they visited here in 2022. They will also be unveiling the garden gates designed by Barbara Earl Thomas. (For a sneak peek, check out our website). There will be Seattle-themed music, food, and sports open to the public on the weekend. The culmination will be a gastronomic dinner at the Cantine du Voyage created by Chef Kristi and Chef Lucie.

CM Joy Hollingsworth will meet several deputy mayors and visit sites to share best practices in our two cities on the topics of parks and green space for mental health, engaging and supporting youth, keeping cities clean and safe, and multi-use and affordable housing.

Delegates will also be welcomed with a reception at Nantes City Hall, attend the cocktail opening of the Décryptages exhibition and conference on the theme of borders at the Cosmopolis International Exhibit Hall, learn about Nantes' latest urban renewal project as they turn an abandoned quarry on the Loire into a 4-acre garden inspired by native son Jules Verne, visit the marshes where people have been harvesting salt by hand for over 2,000 years, and much more.

Delegates received their host family assignments recently and are starting to make contact. Lifelong friendships are formed on these trips. Delegations like this are one of our core missions: to share our respective cultures, to form lasting and meaningful connections between people, and to be inspired for future collaborative projects that we can share with the Seattle community when we return home. Look for ways you can participate in welcoming our Nantes friends when they visit us in October!

## Connect with Us

[seattle-nantes.org](http://seattle-nantes.org)  
[seattlenantessca@gmail.com](mailto:seattlenantessca@gmail.com)  
[facebook.com/seattlenantessca](https://facebook.com/seattlenantessca)  
[instagram.com/seattlenantes](https://instagram.com/seattlenantes)



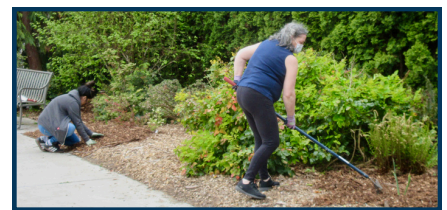
## Nantes Park

By Alaina McCallum

On Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, a number of SNSCA members and community members spent the morning at Nantes Park. We started by removing the weeds in the garden beds, and then tackled the large pile of mulch. Thank you to everyone who helped!

It is amazing to reflect on the transformation of Nantes Park over the past several years thanks to the art additions of the student tiles, the Claude Ponti-inspired creatures, the paved pathway, and the hard work of members tending to the park several times a year.

We will announce another cleanup day at Nantes Park soon; we hope you can join!





## 15 Shorts, 9 Countries, 4 Continents

By Susan Kegel

SNSCA partnered with eight other Seattle sister city associations to host the first Seattle Sister Cities Short Film Festival.

The in-person festival took place on May 4 at the Polish Home Association, which was followed by two weeks of virtual viewing. About 180 people enjoyed the films in total, with viewers from the US, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, France, the United Kingdom, Slovenia, and Turkey.

Six student groups from École des Beaux-Arts de Nantes Saint-Nazaire and a Nantes lycée submitted films. We're hoping to meet them when the delegation visits Nantes in September.





## Bastille Day Picnic

By David Asher

Last month, SNSCA had its annual Bastille Bay Picnic at Magnuson Park. In addition to slightly easier parking than last year, we were rewarded with sunny skies and beautiful day at the lake. Thank you to all who attended and a special shout out to our de-facto grill master, Tom, for keeping the grill hot.

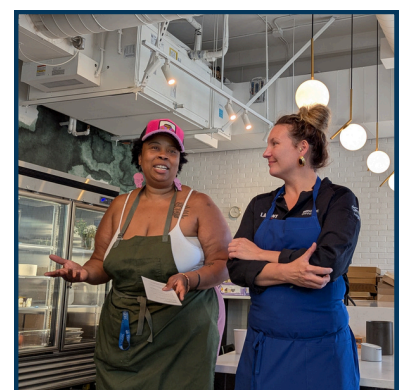
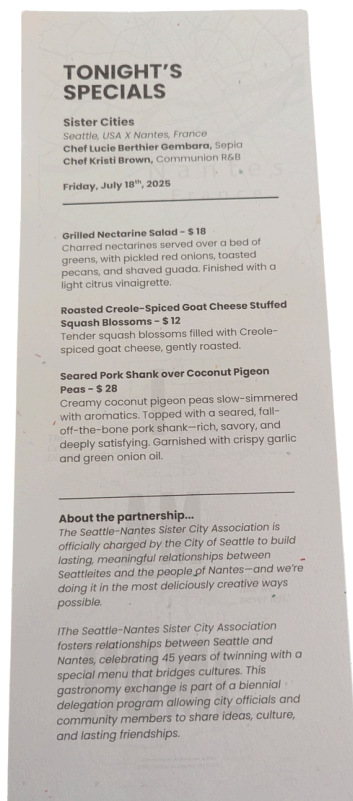
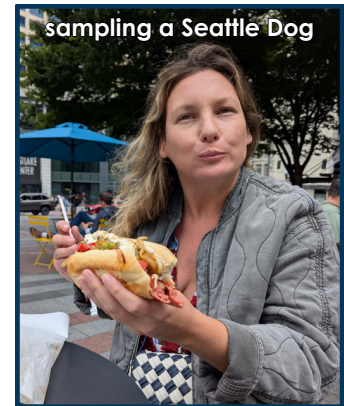




## Chef Exchange: Lucie Berthier Gembara and Kristi Brown

By Susan Kegel

To celebrate our 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of twinning, we brought together two acclaimed chefs, Lucie from Sepia restaurant in Nantes and Kristi from Communion in Seattle. Chef Lucie spent a week in Seattle, collaborating with Chef Kristi in the kitchen and at the farmers market, wine tasting, meeting Barbara Earl Thomas at her studio, seeing the sights, and sampling Seattle cuisine including the Seattle Dog, all culminating in a special menu at Communion. Next up - Chef Lucie hosts Chef Kristi in Nantes for our September delegation.





## Preparing for the 45th Anniversary Delegation Visit

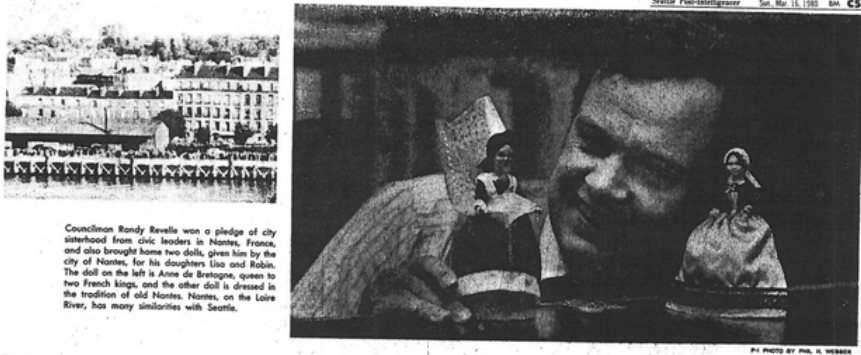
By David Asher

45 years ago, on September 7<sup>th</sup> 1980, Seattle city dignitaries and a group of citizen volunteers interested in France welcomed the inaugural delegation of its newest sister city - Nantes, France. One day later, Seattle Mayor Charles Royer and Nantes Mayor Alain Chenard signed a joint resolution officially adopting Seattle and Nantes as sister cities; pledging to each other mutual friendship, respect and commitment to establish and maintain a long-lasting and productive sister-city relationship.

This October, the Seattle-Nantes Sister City Association will welcome the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary delegation from Nantes, continuing a tradition of city delegation visits every five years. The Seattle delegation will visit Nantes this September.

The Nantais will arrive on Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> and stay through Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, with the option to stay an additional week and experience an American Halloween. Be on the lookout for various delegation events to take place during the visit.

If you are interested in serving as a host family for the delegation, or would like to support with delegation events, please email [SeattleNantesSCA@gmail.com](mailto:SeattleNantesSCA@gmail.com) to learn more.



Seattle Post-Intelligencer Sun, Mar. 16, 1980 B4 C5

Councilman Randy Revelle won a pledge of city sisterhood from civic leaders in Nantes, France, and also brought home two dolls, given him by the city of Nantes, for his daughters Lisa and Robin. The doll on the left is Anne de Bretagne, queen to two French kings, and the other doll is dressed in the tradition of old Nantes. Nantes, on the Loire River, has many similarities with Seattle.

P-1 PHOTO BY PAUL H. HERRMAN

### Bonjour, Seattle, You've a New Sister

### Seattle City Council NEWS RELEASE

1106 Seattle Municipal Building      600 Fourth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104

Randy Revelle      September 4, 1980  
Seattle City Councilman

For Further Info: Anna Hospodarsky, 625-2445      FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(NANTES DELEGATION VISITS SEATTLE)

An official delegation from Seattle's newest sister city — Nantes, France — will visit Seattle from September 7-13, 1980. Led by the Mayor of Nantes, Alain Chenard, the Nantes delegation will include City Councilmembers, other government officials, and citizens interested in the Seattle-Nantes sister city relationship.

Seattle Times, Tuesday, September 9, 1980

## Seattle gets Nantes, France, as sister city

Seattle gained a sixth sister city yesterday — Nantes, France, as formal papers were signed at City Hall by Mayor Charles Royer, City Council President Paul Kraabel and Nantes Mayor Alain Chenard.

Chenard leads a delegation of government officials and civic leaders from Nantes who are visiting Seattle to observe the signing of sister-city documents and to assist today with the inauguration of a Jules Verne exposition at the Pacific Science Center.



## Membership Update

By Marsella Logan

We are excited to welcome the following new members to Seattle-Nantes Sister City Association:

- Melanie Bernstein
- Christopher Blado
- Susan Lynette
- JoAnne Lee
- Daniel Smith

If you know anyone who is also interested in becoming a SNSCA member, they can join by going to: [seattle-nantes.org/membership](http://seattle-nantes.org/membership).

### Join Us Today!

Meet fellow Francophiles and experience authentic French art, culture, and language in a way no tourist can. Members help shape what events and activities we offer. Your dues support all our programs and scholarships. Your participation keeps the association strong and lively.

Please renew your membership every January by check or online!

#### Individual Annual Dues

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

#### Corporate Annual Dues

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

#### Pay by Mail

Print an [application](#) and mail it with your check (to the order of SNSCA) to:  
Seattle-Nantes Sister City Association  
c/o Marsella Logan  
17332 90th Drive NE Unit A  
Bothell, WA 98011

#### Pay Online

Choose your category from the dropdown menu below, then complete this [online form](#).

#### Yearly Membership Dues

Student \$10.00 USD

[Add to Cart](#)

If you are a **new member** or have **changes** in your address or email address, please also send an application form to the address above or email it to [seattlenantesca@gmail.com](mailto:seattlenantesca@gmail.com).



MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION: ☐ New Member ☐ Renewal

Individual Annual Dues Corporate Annual Dues

<input type="checkbox"/> Student \$10.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior \$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Donor \$100.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Donor \$250.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family \$35.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$500.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$500.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip/City: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Member (check one, if applicable) ☐ New ☐ Renewal ☐ Transfer from another SNSCA

Please indicate which activities you would like to participate in:

<input type="checkbox"/> Cultural, art or historic exchanges	<input type="checkbox"/> Academic
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth exchange	<input type="checkbox"/> Travel planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Professional and the arts	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership
<input type="checkbox"/> Sports exchange (tennis, sailing, swimming, canoeing)	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter
<input type="checkbox"/> Fellowship	<input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors (check box)
What is your profession: _____	What is your industry: _____

## Upcoming Events

### Come Play Pétanque!

**Saturday, September 27**  
**Noon to 3pm**

**South Lake Union Park**  
860 Terry Ave N, Seattle

Join us for our third annual pétanque event!

The Seattle Pétanque Club is welcoming us to join them for an afternoon of fun! All skill levels are welcome.



## 45th Anniversary Nantais Delegation visits Seattle

**Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> to Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>**

You can participate in the celebration of our 45 years of partnership between Seattle and Nantes by hosting, driving, and/or participating in the sightseeing activities.



## SNSCA Board Members

### OFFICERS

**Co-President:** Susan Kegel

**Co-President:** David Asher

**Treasurer:** Susan Hulbert

**Secretary:** Alaina McCallum

### AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS

Judy Deignan

Margaret Johnson

Larry Laffrey

Marsella Logan

Bunny Schmidley

Tom Waite

## Monthly Board Meetings

The Board convenes on the first Wednesday of the month. We are meeting via video conferencing. If you are interested, contact us at [seattlenantessca@gmail.com](mailto:seattlenantessca@gmail.com)

## Membership Renewal

Thank you to all who have renewed your membership in SNSCA! Your support is crucial for our programs and scholarships.

If you haven't yet done so, please pay online or send your check made out to SNSCA to:

Marsella Logan  
11204 SE 192nd Pl  
Kent, WA 98031

## Follow us on Instagram and Facebook @seattlenantes!

