



## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

October 2

Yorktown  
Wine Festival

Volunteers  
Needed

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Upcoming 2  
Events

Past Events 2

Culture 2

Recipe of the 3  
Month

History 3

Wine 4

Volunteer 4

Membership 5

# Art, Wine, Food, Culture, Language, History and Information

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OCTOBER - "OCTOBRE" 2021

## President's Corner

This past quarter has been eventful for Sister Cities Yorktown.

On July 7, I was able to attend a wreath laying ceremony at the Yorktown Monument honoring the French and American troops that were killed during the revolutionary war some 240 years ago. The wreath laying ceremony was followed by a flyover by both the French and American Air Force. Very inspiring!

On July 14, Sister Cities Yorktown hosted a wine tasting at Riverwalk Restaurant that was very successful with 45 people in attendance. Many of the wines tasted were from the Languedoc-Roussillon region where our Sister City, Port-Vendres, is located. Many thanks to Winebow Distributors and Bridget Goeke for leading us through this fun event. We hope to have more of these events in the future so stay tuned for more information on future wine tastings.

Speaking of wine, if you are interested in volunteering for the Yorktown Wine Festival on October 2, Sister Cities Yorktown will receive a portion of the proceeds for the festival based on the number of volunteers we can bring to the festival. All volunteers will receive free admission to the event and a souvenir wine glass for helping out. If you are interested, you can volunteer for the following shifts:

7:00am-12:00pm (set up, parking, opening duties, etc.)  
11:30am-3:00pm (parking, ticket booth, id check, wine pouring, etc.)  
2:30pm-6:00pm (parking, ticket booth, id check, wine pouring, etc.)  
5:30pm-7:00pm (break down)

Just shoot me a note at [willisd@cox.net](mailto:willisd@cox.net) and I will get you registered to help out. By all means, bring a friend!

Interested in joining Sister Cities Yorktown? All new members or returning members that send in membership applications by October 1 will have a chance to win two tickets to the Washington Football Teams's October 10 game with the New Orleans Saints. Tickets come with a parking pass at Fed Ex Stadium. Chances of winning are quite good! If you need an application just send me an email to the address above.

Finally, mark your calendars for the annual Sister Cities Soiree en Blanc (Evening in white) on October 21. This is an event that is held each year in Paris that we try to replicate. Each attendee dresses in white for a dinner where everyone brings their own food to a venue that is held secret until the week before the event. Hint – the event will be held in Yorktown. If you are interested in attending send us a note and we'll keep you posted on the details as we get closer.

Don Willis, Acting President  
Sister Cities Yorktown

## Upcoming Events

**October 2** - Yorktown Wine Festival. Volunteers needed. All volunteers receive a souvenir wine glass and free admission to the event. Sister Cities Yorktown will receive a pro rata share of the proceeds based on the number of volunteers we send, so volunteer participation is a great help to our organization.

**October 18** - Rochambeau Statue Installation. Details to be announced.

**October 19** - Yorktown Day. Details to be announced.

**October 21** - Annual Sister Cities Soiree en Blanc. Location to be announced.

## Past Events



### July 7

As noted in the President's Corner above, the wreath laying ceremony and flyover at the Victory Monument was held with members of the French and U.S. Air Forces. Here's a nice photo capturing the moment of the flyover.

### Bastille Day—July 14

Wine tasting at the Riverwalk Restaurant. Very successful event with 45 guests. The event included a short lecture provided by local historian Michael Moore, as well as a wonderful description of the wines offered.

## Culture: French Pronunciation

Just for fun - a little something to help you pronounce all those French words you are longing to use.....

<b>é</b> (ay) cinéma déteste février café	<b>è</b> (eh) règle très frère collège	<b>e</b> (uh) le je ne cheveux	<b>ch</b> (sh) blanche chat chaise douche
<b>qu</b> (k) quel Belgique quatre banque	<b>gne</b> (nyuh) Allemagne campagne montagne Espagne	<b>i</b> (ee) six huit Lundi lît	<b>oi</b> (wah) moi trois poisson oiseau
<b>ç</b> (ss) français ça va garçon maçon	<b>ill</b> (eey) juillet stylo à bille famille fille	<b>an</b> (on) ans janvier blanc France	<b>eau</b> (oh) oiseau beau gâteau bureau
<b>en</b> (on) Vendredi vent ennuyeux cent	<b>in</b> (an) cinq vingt lapin juin	<b>ique</b> (eek) musique informatique fantastique fabrique	<b>eux</b> (uh) Cheveux Yeux Deux faux

# Recipe of the Month

## Cherry Clafoutis

The clafoutis is a delightful French dessert made from a thick, custardy batter and fresh fruit. Said to have originated in the farming region of Limousin, France, it has become increasingly popular throughout France since the nineteenth century. Traditionally made with cherries, it is frequently adapted to include other fruits (think figs, peaches or prunes).

Recipe: (Adapted from the *Washington Post*)

3 cups pitted sweet cherries  
3 eggs  
1 1/4 cups whole milk  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/2 cup flour  
2 tsp vanilla extract  
1/2 tsp almond extract  
1/4 tsp salt



Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Grease a 10" baking dish with butter, and arrange the cherries in a single layer. In a blender, combine the eggs, milk, sugar, flour, vanilla and almond extracts and salt. Blend on high speed until smooth. Pour the batter over the cherries and sprinkle the top with a bit of additional granulated sugar. Bake for about 45 minutes, until the custard is just set. Let cool for at least 5 minutes. Sprinkle with confectioners' sugar (if desired) and serve warm.

Serve with a dessert wine such as Sauternes or better yet, this issue's pick, a Monbazillac. (An economical choice if you've also served a blue for your cheese course!)

## History

### Virginia d'Albert-Lake

One of the lesser-known, but heroic figures of the French Resistance during WWII was an American woman. Virginia Roush was born in Dayton Ohio in 1910. She married Phillipe d'Albert-Lake, whom she met while in France. Virginia chose to remain in France during the war, and after France surrendered to Germany in 1940, the couple moved to Paris, as the family chateau in Brittany was occupied by the Germans. In 1943, Virginia helped a local man who needed an English-speaker to help communicate with three American airmen that he was sheltering, all of whom had been shot down over Europe. The d'Albert-Lakes assisted the airmen and became associated with the *Comet Line* escape network. Virginia's job was to meet escaping airmen when they arrived at a train station in Paris and house them until they could travel to Spain. She housed over 60 such escaping airmen until she herself was

captured. While accompanying several airmen on foot near Chateaudun, they were stopped by German soldiers. Several of the airmen managed to escape, and Virginia managed to swallow a list of names and addresses of her contacts in Chateaudun before she was arrested.

Initially held in prisons near Paris, she was later taken to Ravensbruck concentration camp (a camp for women north of Berlin). Transferred to other camps and then back to Ravensbruck, she was eventually placed in a Red Cross camp just prior to the war's end, where she received the care needed to survive. She was freed by the French army on April 21, 1945. Virginia's husband, Philippe, had fled France after her arrest. They were reunited in 1946, and eventually moved to a cottage in Brittany on the family's estate. Virginia died in 1997 at the age of 87, and is buried in Dinard, France.



## Wine Selection

This issue's wine selection is the Monbazillac, a sweet white wine produced in the village of the same name in southwest France. Only grape varieties of Semillon, Sauvignon blanc and Muscadelle that have been affected by the "noble rot" (a form of Botrytis) can be sold under the Monbazillac AOC designation. Monbazillac wines are similar to Sauternes, and work deliciously well with most typical Sauternes pairings. Not just for the dessert course, this variety is an excellent choice as an aperitif before dinner, with Roquefort or similar blue in the cheese course, or even with foie gras (for your snacking pleasure).



*View of antique Catalan "Barques" in Port-Vendres harbor on September 4. Boats were used to fish for anchovies. Photo courtesy of Deborah Marquardt.*

### Call to Action!!

**Yorktown Wine Festival**  
**2 October**  
 Yorktown Riverwalk Green  
 (Serious Fun!!)

**Soiree en Blanc**  
**21 October**  
 Location to Be Announced

**Help with our Website**

**Volunteers Needed -**  
 Contact  
 Carla Rice  
 cricel11@icloud.com

## Opportunities to Volunteer

Sister Cities Yorktown is an organization of people that share an interest in things international. We're about relationships, cultural learning and having fun together, and because of this, the more we participate, the more fun we have, the more we learn, and the more enjoyment we get out of being a part of something really great. We're always looking for individuals that are able and willing to contribute their time and talents to help us accomplish our mission. The following are opportunities for you to help out . . .

**Board of Directors** - 2 year term, maximum of three terms (Members)

**Standing Committees** – Membership, Events, Development/Fundraising, Education, Public Relations/Marketing (Open to All)

**Event coordination/execution** – Soiree' en Blanc, Wine Festival (Open to All)

**Business support** – Website, Social Media, Writing/Publishing (Open to All)

Note: We are especially in need of someone with the technical skills to update our website. If you are interested in helping out, email us at [staff@sistercitiesyorktown.org](mailto:staff@sistercitiesyorktown.org).

We work as a team. You will have plenty of support. If you have interest, skills, and knowledge, that you can contribute, don't wait for us to ask, let us know. Please contact us at [info@sistercitiesyorktown.com](mailto:info@sistercitiesyorktown.com).

# Membership

Sister Cities Yorktown Membership is open to anyone residing in or working in Yorktown or York County, or anyone with a sustained interest in Sister Cities Yorktown, Inc.

**Benefits** – Participation in Member Only socials and small events, e.g. wine tasting, cooking lessons, history lectures, etc.; discounts at local French/international related retailers, first priority for Exchange Trips, receipt of SCY Newsletter and information on local “Things French”.

**Annual dues**—\$25 per individual; \$40 per family. Dues for French language teachers in York County are \$12.50. Membership for high school students in York County is free. Dues are not prorated. SCY receives no funding from government sources, so donations are always welcome and appreciated. SCY is a 501(c) (3) organization, so all dues payments and donations are tax deductible. Applications are available on our website at, [www.sistercitiesyorktown.org](http://www.sistercitiesyorktown.org). Please mail your check to: Sister Cities Yorktown, P.O. Box 735, Yorktown, VA 23692. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Carla Rice at [crice111@icloud.com](mailto:crice111@icloud.com).



*Fostering a Culture of Citizen Diplomacy*

## Leadership - Board of Directors

Don Willis - Vice-President (Acting President)  
 Larry Raithel  
 Debra Paulus—Treasurer—[debra.ramey@tscg.com](mailto:debra.ramey@tscg.com)  
 Gabrielle Glatt—[gglatt2@verizon.net](mailto:gglatt2@verizon.net)  
 Jimmy Richardson  
 Randy Tabor  
 Rose Field  
 Joanne Coogan  
 Danielle Canella  
 Lee Lillard  
 Carla Rice—[crice111@icloud.com](mailto:crice111@icloud.com)

In 1990, Yorktown, Va., entered into a sister-city relationship with Port-Vendres, a small French Mediterranean village. The relationship was formalized on April 19 in Yorktown and July 13 in Port-Vendres by the Yorktown Trustees with the mayor of Port-Vendres and other dignitaries. In 2010, Sister Cities Yorktown celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the relationship with citizen exchanges between both countries. In December 2011, the York County Board of Supervisors formally recognized the relationship for York County. Sister Cities Yorktown is chartered by Sister Cities International.