



# les nouvelles

## Fredericksburg Sister City Association, Inc.

Volume 28 Issue 2

A 501(c) 3 Non-profit Organization

May 2008

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### FROM THE PRESIDENT...

*Sister City is planning some parties, and you are invited!*

*First, as a prelude to the summer activities, there will be a **Dessert Party/Summer Social** in June at an interesting downtown historic site (details in newsletter).*

*Then, the group of sixteen students and four adults from Fréjus will arrive on Wednesday, July 16, and stay until Thursday, July 31, continuing the exchange program begun after FSCA was organized in 1980.*

*Patsy Prud'homme and her committee (Connie Orgeron, Phyllis Whitley, and Judy Hansen) have worked hard to coordinate hosting and activities for the two weeks. A full program is planned, including trips to Washington, Monticello, Kings Dominion, and Stratford Hall, in addition to many local activities, both recreational and educational. During the visit, FSCA members will be invited to **three special events**:*

*First, the **welcome reception** on July 17 at LibertyTown Arts Workshop, featuring a photography exhibit of pictures of Fréjus taken by the visiting French students....This show, called "A Sense of Place" and organized by Phyllis Whitley, will remain on view at LibertyTown throughout the July visit.*

*Then, on July 24, FSCA will host a **Bon Vivant dinner** at Renato's restaurant for the visiting adults, the American adult hosts, and FSCA members. This evening, with a Pink Flamingo theme (plan to wear pink!), promises to be festive and fun for all.*

*And finally, the **farewell party** on July 30 will be an American cookout of hamburgers and hot dogs for the Fréjus visitors, their hosts, and FSCA members. Bill and Susan Beck have generously offered their "Pump House" by the river for this event—sure to be a unique and fun-filled evening as we bid "au revoir" to our French visitors. Invitations to these three events should arrive in early July.*

*Do plan to attend some of these activities. Meet the folks from Fréjus and participate in this program which has fostered so many friendships through the years.*

*A bientôt...*

*Judy Hansen, President*

### UPCOMING EVENTS... (details in newsletter)

- **Sat., June 7:** French conversation group, CRRL, Mtg. Rm. 2, 2-4 p.m.
- **Thurs., June 19:** FSCA Dessert Party, 7-9 p.m., Lewis Store, 1200 Caroline St.
- **July 16-31:** Visit of Fréjus group
- **Thurs., July 17:** Welcome reception at LibertyTown, 6:30 p.m.
- **Thurs., July 24:** Bon Vivant dinner, Renato's Restaurant, 6:00 p.m.
- **Wed., July 30:** Farewell party, Becks' "Pump House"
- **Fri., Sept. 5:** Va. State Sister Cities Assoc. meeting, Virginia Beach
- **Sat., Oct. 4:** "Marché aux puces" (Flea Market), Hurkamp Park

## “MERCI MILLE FOIS...”

...to **Joan Smith** for donating a beautiful Provençal Santon (the drummer boy) for a future fund-raising event. Mrs. Smith, who is moving from the area, thought of us in the midst of her packing. We appreciate her generosity.

...to **Lori Kissinger** for conducting FSCA’s adult French classes this spring. Her class of about ten students concentrated on pronunciation, basic vocabulary, and useful conversational expressions. Hopefully, these students will practice their language skills with the French in July! We extend our thanks also to the administration of **James Monroe High School** and to **Connie Orgeron** for letting us use Connie’s classroom for these classes.

...to **Wilbur Brown** for his superb managing of FSCA’s part in the city’s First Friday in May...and to his team of **volunteers—Phyllis & A.C. Whitley, Sara Fartro, Sarah Cary, Mandy Carr, Bob & Paulette Bugno, Cathy Herndon, John Sweton, Tami Demarchis, Judith Minoff, Olivia East, Steve & Joan Beauch, Linda Ware, Gail Howard, Suzanne Garner, Samantha Thomason, and Tom Iezzi.** Their efforts netted \$682.34 to help fund our scholarship and exchange programs. According to at least one helper, “Wilbur was everywhere, making sure the bodies were where they were needed”! Of course, no such activity works without the aid of our members. Many thanks to all who helped!

*A note from Wilbur:  
“Fredericksburg Sister City Association would like to thank all those volunteers who gave of their time to help us in our annual ‘First Friday’ fundraiser, held on May 2, 2008. We appreciate each of you, and it is truly a testament to your dedication to this organization.”*

## COME JOIN US...

**FSCA Dessert Party:** Come to our next **membership gathering** and satisfy your sweet tooth with a tasting of “*les desserts*” and appropriate “*boissons.*” We’ll meet at the **Lewis Store, 1200 Caroline St., on Thursday, June 19, 7-9 p.m.** In addition to tasty food and interesting conversation, the evening will offer a bit of history (the Lewis Store, one of the oldest commercial buildings on the East Coast, is now open to the public and serves as the HFFI office); a preview of the summer visit; a chance to meet some of the host families; and perhaps even an FSCA version of “*Are you smarter than a 5<sup>th</sup> grader?*” Do plan to come!

**Parlez-vous français?** One of our members, **Bob Bugno**, has gathered about 8-10 persons interested in speaking French in an informal setting. They will meet again on Saturday, June 7, at CRRL (Caroline St.), Rm. 2, 2-4 p.m. Fluency is not required for participation—just “folks who’d like to try” and who want to improve their conversation skills. If interested, contact Bob (robbugno@gmail.com or 540-310-4860).

## FLEA MARKET... PLAN AHEAD... SAVE STUFF...

FSCA will organize a *marché aux puces* for the Market in the Park, sponsored by F’burg Parks and Recreation on Sat., Oct. 4, 2008. We will be selling a unique collection of new and vintage treasures--**and we need your help.** Begin saving now any items that are French, look French, or are just interesting flea-market finds--and donate them for this “*fun and fund-raiser.*” We can use most anything (except electrical items): souvenirs, linens, jewelry, French books/magazines/music/posters, old postcards, “collectible” T-shirts, art work, perfume bottles, herbs/lavender plants, etc. Watch for **more details in the next newsletter.** The proceeds from this activity will benefit our student scholarship fund and educational programs.

## **MEMBERSHIP DUES REMINDER...**

The membership year for Sister City began January 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have not yet renewed, please do so before June 30<sup>th</sup> so as to remain on our mailing list. Membership forms are available at our Web site.

## **NEWS OF MEMBERS...**

We extend our condolences to **Mickie Sieracki** on the recent death of her mother.

**Judy and Dick Hansen** welcomed a baby granddaughter in April and then spent two wonderful weeks in Paris, absorbing French culture and practicing the language.

## **NEWS FROM FRÉJUS...**

**Michel Herbiet**, director of the Fredericksburg activities for the Jumelage, has returned to work after his hospitalization.

**Mme. Carla Tostelli** has been appointed 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President of the Jumelage. She will serve with **M. Herbiet**, who is 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President.

Congratulations to **Michel and Hilary Gras** on the birth of their first grandchild, Mathis. We expect to see him in Fredericksburg on the student exchange in 2024!

## **SHOP AND EARN DOLLARS FOR FSCA...**

When you make a purchase at Staples, for either business or personal use, be sure to tell the cashier you are an "Awards Member" and to credit your purchase to the Fredericksburg Sister City Association or give them telephone number 540-786-7010. FSCA will periodically receive a check based on your sales--a great, easy way to raise funds for the organization!

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2008...**

*Judith Hansen, President - 373-6059*  
*Patsy Prud'homme, 1st Vice-President - 372-6431*  
*Wilbur Brown, 2nd Vice-President - 898-8699*  
*Samantha Thomason, Secretary - 374-1053*  
*Steve Beauch, Treasurer - 659-0477*  
*Mandy Carr, Publicist & Historian - 898-7110*  
*Susan Beck, Parliamentarian - 373-4397*  
*Phyllis Whitley, Director: Liaison - 786-7010*  
*Bill Beck, Director: Cultural Events - 373-4397*  
*Cathy Herndon, Director: Fund-Raising Events - 373-6763*

### *Directors (Ex-Officio):*

*A.C. Whitley, Immediate Past President - 786-7010*  
*Sara Fartro, Honorary Director - 373-0237*  
*Robert K. Antozzi, Director: Sports Exchanges - 372-1088*  
*The Honorable Thomas J. Tomzak, MD, Mayor, City of Fredericksburg*  
*Phillip Rodenberg, City Manager*  
*Kathleen A. Dooley, Agent of Record and City Attorney*  
*James Branscome, Business Sponsor, Freeman Beverage*

**Contact Secretary, Samantha Thomason** ([sthomason@crrl.org](mailto:sthomason@crrl.org)), if you have news to share with the membership.