

ALSACE New York

News Bulletin of L'Union Alsacienne of New York
and the Friends of Alsace in America

NOT REALLY FRENCH, NOT REALLY GERMAN ?

When I landed in New York in the Spring of 2001, from my little village of 800 people (Obersaasheim) my old friend, C. Tournebize, had a weird idea: to give a cultural shock to the little farmer. For this, he took me to this weird bar near Houston Street Bar where you could be whipped for twenty dollars. People in this city are nuts, I thought. Then, I turned to my friend and said, "I can whip you for free." And they replied, "Oh yes!!!!" At this point, I had been "shocked" enough, and turned to leave. Seeing the look on my face, the barman, with his rock'n roll star hair cut, called after me. "Come on guy!" he shouted. "What do you drink? It's on the house! Where do you come from?"



"Alsace!" I replied, not being one turn down a free drink. "Oh, Alsace, hmm..." he mused. "I know. Not really French, not really German." "I know your history," he added. "You never really knew what you

wanted." Wow, I thought to myself.

This 40-year, East Village bartender, who has never left the island of Manhattan, knows about "Hans em Schnockaloch"! My thought on the matter is this: rather than being neither French nor German, I see Alsace as a perpetual bridge between these two wonderful civilizations. After five changes of ownership between France and Germany in 75 years, Alsace has a mission: Fraternity.

SUMMARY

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS	2
NEWS FROM MEMBERS	3
SPRING DINNER 2012	4
PLANET ALSACE and MORE	5
ALSACE IN THE NEWS	6
ALSATIAN IMMIGRATION	8
PORTRAITS OF ALSATIANS	9
NEWS MEMBERS	11
THANKS	12

LATEST ON THE EAST COAST !

May 18 and 19, 2013 Alsace Picnic and Yardsale in LAKE PEEKSKILL, 162 lake drive (1 hour north of Manhattan)

April 7, 2013 Spring lunch of L'Unal dinner at Bistro d'Alsace

March 2013 Operation Alsace Macy's (10 days)

March 13, 2013 Sauerkraut Party at Cafe d'Alsace

February 13, 2013 @ 7 PM First Regular meeting 2013 of L'Unal 192 Lex Av. at Jade Associates

February 6, 2013 Flammekuchen Party at Tarte Flambee

December 9, 2012 Christmas dinner of L'Union Alsacienne at Opia

MONTREAL - December 9, 2012 Brunch of the Quebec Alsatians at Hotel de la Reine Elizabeth

BOSTON - November 11 and 17, 2012 The Sister City Association Strasbourg-Boston is organizing a trip to Strasbourg

November 10, 2012 New members party

November 4, 2012 Cheering Alsatian runner at marathon (1st av. & 101st.

October 28, 2012 Miss Liberty birthday's party at Tappan, NY

NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE

November 8 - Thierry Kranzer represented L'Union Alsacienne at an event of the Wine committee of the University Club.

October 21 - Thierry Kranzer and Françoise Cestac represented L'Union Alsacienne at the annual dinner of the American Association of Teachers of French (Metropolitan Chapter).

August 24 - Gisèle Gratch and Isabelle Lenot represented L'UnAl at the general assemblée of the international Union of Alsations which was held in Pfaffenhoffen.



July 21 - Vice-president Benoit Meister met with the President of the Alsace tourism institution (CRT) in order to better coordinate and help for a common operation of promotion of Alsatian products at Macy's in March 2013

June 11 - Thierry Kranzer represented L'Union Alsacienne at the Summer meeting of the Committee of French speaking association in New York.

June 4 - President Thierry Kranzer represented the Alsatian community at the opening of the champagne Sud de France at Seaport.

June 2 - President Thierry Kranzer, bureau member Capucine Bourcart and Emmanuel Jaegle took part to the opening of the exhibit of painter and new member Jean-Marie Haessle. There, they met Guy Raoul Alsatian owner of famous RAOUL soho restaurant since 1975, and Gwenolee Zurcher with her Alsatian husband from Colmar, owner of the Galerie Zurcher, 33 Bleecker street.

May 31 - President Thierry Kranzer interviewed by France Amérique monthly French speaking magazine of North America (20 000 editions).

May 26 to 29 - L'UnAl hosted a delegation of 33 officials from Alsace.

April 24 - L'Union Alsacienne was quoted in the weekly French speaking online magazine French Morning for its initiative to promote green electricity. For more details check www.napower.com/alsace



Valley, NY. Fifty people gathered for a buffet of Germaine's gastronomical secrets, which included knepfle, salmon, äpfelküeche and Alsatian saveurs, as well as boating, swimming, and sandcastle building for the children! Several new members were elected - Alexandre Quantin, Ingrid Jean Baptiste, Robert Mbom and Harriet Saxon, and several Friends of Alsace adopted - Claudia Bishopp, Thierry Demogue, Lee, Isabelle and Pierre Van Bockstaele.

L'UnAl at BASTILLE DAY



Special thanks to members Capucine Bourcart, Sophie Schirch, Laure Steiner, Benoit Meister, Krim Debbah, Florian Nguyen, Christophe Dubois, Marc Seybold and Thierry Kranzer for their availability on Sunday, July 15th, at the L'Union Alsacienne Bastille Day 2012 booth. This annual event, organized by the French Institute-Alliance Française, is held on 60th street between Fifth and Lexington Avenues. As in years past, the Alsatian booth shared real estate with La Marjolaine Bakery and its mouthwatering pastries. For the first time, our booth featured a tasting of three varieties of Melfor, the classic Alsatian honey-and-herb vinegar. As a result, 100 bottles were sold for five dollars a piece. Besides thousands of visitors, we met a dozen New York Alsations.

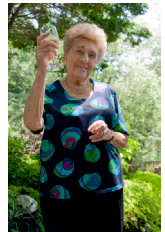
31 ème journée annuelle des Alsaciens à l'étranger

Gisèle Zielinski-Gratch, secrétaire et déléguée de l'Union Alsacienne de New York, a participé à cette rencontre le 25 Aout 2012 à Pfaffenhoffen (Nord de l'Alsace). 170 Alsaciens expatriés à l'étranger ont découvert le Pays de Hanau et le Val de Moder. La journée a commencé avec l'accueil des participants par Pierre Marmillot, Conseiller Général et Maire de Pfaffenhoffen et par Gérard Staedel, Président de l'Union Internationale des Alsaciens (UIA), qui regroupe l'ensemble des associations d'Alsaciens et Amis de l'Alsace dans le monde et assure la promotion de notre Région à l'étranger. Au programme, une conférence donnée par l'historien Bernard Vogler, suivi d'un tour de ville en calèche et visite du musée de l'image populaire. Après un déjeuner très convivial, les participants ont apprécié la visite du musée Lalique à Wingen sur Moder suivi de la visite de Bouxwiller. La journée s'est clôturée par un intermède musical du groupe folklorique d'Obermodern et un vin d'honneur offert par la municipalité.



GERMAINE'S GARDEN PARTY

After several years of sabbatical, Germaine Chandelier, who turned ninety on February 22, 2012, relaunched her famous Garden Party. The festivities were graciously hosted on Saturday, June 30th, at her lakeside chalet overlooking Brook Lake in Putnam





New member **Philippe Baudin**, came back from a two year assignment in Dakar, Senegal, with the political affairs department of the United Nations.

Member **Aurelien Buffler**, originated from Drusenheim, came back to New York after a 2 year posting in Jerusalem, where he was in charge of the humanitarian situation in the Palestinian Territory.

Member **Capucine Bourcart** from Bergholtz held 3 exhibitions this semester : at the Arsenal Gallery in Central Park, during the Harlem Art Walking Tour 2012 and at the Museum of Motherhood.

Member **Catherine Dubourdieu** went back to France after 3 year assignment in New York. She will be posted in Lyon with the CNRS.

Member **Germaine Chandelier** turned a new decade in 2012. Germaine who arrived in the US in 1946, hosted L'Union Alsacienne at a Garden party at her house in Putnam valley, June 30th.

General **Jacques Paul Klein** has been honored in Croatia for the 20th birthday of this country end of May 2012. As former head of the UN peacekeeping mission in Bosnia Herzeogovina, he is considered as a hero of the independence of Bosnia- Herzeogovina and Croatia

Member **Saner Raymond** co-organized a workshop for humanitarian workers Monday, 25th June 2012 in Geneva , on the issue : "Re-Constructing the Social Fabric of Communities after War Trauma". R. Saner is professor at Sciences Po, Paris and director of the Diplomacy Dialogue branch of CSEND, a NGO based in Geneva since 1993. He has researched, taught and published in the field of conflict resolution and social capital. He was previously delegate & deputy chief of training at the International Committee of the Red Cross and (ICRC), did clinical internships at the Mount Sinai Hospital, Department of Psychiatry, in New York, a clinical practicum at the Los Angeles

Suicide Prevention Center and Institute for the Study of Destructive Behavior, in Los Angeles, California; and prison rehabilitation, Cell Block Theater, Avenel State Prison, New Jersey, USA. Raymond has been trained as psychodramatist (Psychodrama Centre, Beacon, NY) and Gestalt psychologist and therapist (Laura Perls, Isador From, M. Polster).

Guy Wildenstein, President of the American society of the French Legion of Honor (ASFLH), dedicated one page of the March newsletter of ASFLH to an article from Jacques Paul Klein intiltled "An Alsatian Odysee"

Jean-Marie Haessle invited L'Union Alsacienne to the opening reception of his exhibit at the Hillwood Art Museum in Brookville. June 2nd, 2012. Free bus ride was available leaving from Manhattan Kipps Galery located 511 W 25 st. Bureau Member Capucine Bourcart, Emmanuel Jaegle and Thierry Kranzer were present, and Guy Raoul owner of famous downtown restaurant Raoul.



Member **Alexandre Boesch** married Amy Boldosser on September 23rd 2012 at Battery Gardens. Alexandre is a Business Development Manager at Dassault Falcon Jet. Amy is the Direc-

tor for Global Advocacy of Family Care International, a non-profit organization. Alexandre (from Strasbourg) and Amy (from Pennsylvania) chose to get married in a place facing a great symbol of the French-American friendship: the Statue of Liberty. Besides the fact Frederic Auguste Bartholdi, an Alsatian sculptor from Colmar, designed Lady Liberty, a lesser known story is that one of Alexandre's extended family member, Maurice Koehlin (born in Buhl, Alsace) was the engineer in charge of the design the Statue of Liberty's structure. He was working for "Eiffel et Cie" company as the head of the research department. Maurice Koehlin and his colleague, Emile Nouguier, decided to build a metallic tower for the Paris 1889 Universal Exposition. They submitted the project to Mr Eiffel who was not interested by the idea. Maurice and Emile decided to build a pre-project with the main design and related structural calculations before submitting it to the organizational body of the Paris Universal Exposition. The rest is History, the project is accepted and Gustave Eiffel promised to fund the project in exchange of the exclusive rights to Koehlin and Nouguier's patents.



Member **General**
Jacques Paul Klein
raised our attention on
the conference held
last summer by **Marthe**
Cohn. This 91-year old
Jewish lady from Alsace-
Lorraine who spoke
perfect German, spoke about her expe-
riences as a spy for the French Resistance,
"how she infiltrated the German
army and gave the allies vital information
about the Siegfried line that saved
thousands of allied lives. She lives in
Southern California, actually only a few
miles away from my younger daughter.
I think her book is entitled "Behind
Enemy Lines" and is widely available in
college and public libraries. It was an
honor for me to introduce this heroic
woman. Needless to say, she was given
the highest award by the French, Amer-
ican, and Israeli governments. Her medals
and citations covered the entire
long table where she sat. She published
"Behind Enemy Lines: The True Story of
a French Jewish Spy in Nazi Germany,"
in 1982, translated into French in 2009
"Derrière les lignes ennemies"

Audra Killian Bonnerot is born Feb 3, 2012 in New York, daughter of member David and Amy.

Suzanne Smith from Los Angeles "As far back as the 1930s, my grandparents, mother, aunt, and their cousins were active members of the L'UnAI (Emil and Helen Frick, Carol Frick, Joan Frick, the Tschenn family, and the Elser family). I'd always heard stories about 'the L'UnAI, and in the wake of my mother's death in September 2011, I discovered a renewed interest."

In the context to the operation Taste of France, at Pier 54 September 29 and 30, member **Patricia Wersinger** in a list of 30 French New York painter while member Antoine Bleck was featured within a list of French New Yorker singer or musicians. Patricia Wersinger loves to paint from life but also enjoys creating pictures of pure fantasy often drawn from her literary studies. Painting is for her a way to travel in the mind and to develop a greater vision of what our presence in the universe signifies.

Antoine Bleck was born in Vosges mountains where all his life was about ski, ski and more ski... He moved to the US in 1981. He learned to play the piano at a very young age, but didn't start writing music until the purchase of his first keyboard at the age of 30. After 15 years writing songs in his basement, he decided to try his tunes in public.

with some Brazilian musicians at Opia on Monday nights. Antoine's music is inspired by such artists as Steely Dan, Michael Franks or closer to his origins Michel Jonza, Gainsbourg or Jacques Dutronc. His style has been described as a "bluesy funky with a 'je ne sais quoi' French style". Lyrics go from hilarious to sentimental, describing moods, situations and fantasies from his adolescence.

Alain Dick, president of L'Union Alsacienne from 1976 to 1984 was checking up with us to see how L'Union Alsacienne was running those days, and offering to send a check though he is exempted dues as an honorary president. Thanks a lot. Alain, actually based in Geneva, former chief of protocol of the United Nations, is an active retiree. He is actually Senior Adviser for International Affairs and Special Envoy, president of Timor Leste, Jose Ramos Horta, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate. For the records, it is under Alain DICK's chairmanship that the Ladies Auxiliary was incorporated in L'Union Alsacienne. Before 1976 only men could be elected. The women would sit and meet separately in the Ladies auxiliary.

Patricia Catenne did celebrate the sixth anniversary of her catering company "Quintessencia" on Oct. 25th. From her presence on Kitchensurfing.com, to her new connection with the International Culinary Institute, and her continued partnership with the chef of the French Consulate, Patricia has had the privilege to work for many private clients as well as prominent corporate companies. Judy Perl, who has been a client of Quintessencia for many years, has kindly joined forces with Quintessencia to celebrate her new office Judy Perl Cruises and create a beautiful event for the occasion.

Oct 18th, former vice-president **Francis Dubois** held a conference for the Conseil National des Femmes Francaises de New York on the subject "Varian Fry" a US journalist who saved 2000 artists, mainly Jews in France in 1941, with the help of many Alsatians.

"La Flaque", a duo of two young musicians from Strasbourg will play electro music in New York: @ Piano (LES) on Thurs. 7, March - 9 pm and @ Shrine (Harlem) on Sat. 9, March - 9PM

Please : don't hesitate to make us know about your initiatives to be published into this segment

Jean Luc Kieffer (Bistro d'Alsace) accueille L'Union Alsacienne de NY

*André Soltner élu membre d'honneur
de L'Union Alsacienne par acclamation*



Avec pour invité d'honneur André Soltner, le premier chef superstar aux Etats Unis, L'Union Alsacienne a organisé son déjeuner 2012 dans le cadre du magnifique **Picnic-Bistro d'Alsace du chef Jean Luc Kieffer** situé dans l'Upper West Side, 2665 Broadway (101ème rue).



Stoehr, Jean Alfano et Paulette Ley. Etaient également présents M. et Mme Robert Stephan, en visite de Kertzfeld en Alsace et l'artiste Jean Marie Haessle, qui était membre de L'Union Alsacienne dans les années 70 et qui se souvient encore qu'à l'époque les réunions se tenaient en alsacien et en anglais car peu de membres parlaient français.

JL Kieffer, originaire de Reichstett, Jennifer, son épouse et associée, ont préparé un succulent menu accompagné d'un délicieux pinot blanc et d'un crémant d'Alsace brut Prestige offert par la Maison WILLM. Le déjeuner a aussi été l'occasion de présenter certains des 11 nouveaux membres du comité élus le 15 mars 2012. Pour présenter André Soltner, le nouveau président Thierry Kranzer a cité un article du New York Times : *"M. Soltner fut sans nul doute le premier chef superstar des Etats Unis, ouvrant ainsi la voie à une génération de noms et de vis-*



ages célèbres qui ont quitté leur cuisine pour se retrouver sous les feux des projecteurs. Pourtant, lui-même a rarement manqué une soirée dans son restaurant – 5 en 34 ans, dit-il. Lorsqu'il a vendu son restaurant en 1994, invoquant la lassitude du travail sans fin, la nouvelle a fait l'effet d'un choc à tous ceux incapables de dissocier le restaurant (le Lutèce) de l'homme". M. Soltner a ensuite été désigné "Membre d'Honneur" de L'UnAL par acclamation.



T. Kranzer a remercié ceux venus de loin pour assister au déjeuner : Blythe Kropf, M. et Mme Raymond Plunket, ainsi que les membres dévoués qui n'ont jamais manqué un rendez-vous de L'Union Alsacienne, tels que M. et Mme Emil Meny, M. et Mme Jean Pierre

Françoise Cestac et Clément Mbom, non seulement membres de l'UnAL mais aussi présidents respectifs de l'Association Culturelle Francophone des Nations Unies (ACF) et de la Fédération des Associations



Francophones d'Amérique (FAFA), étaient aussi de la fête. A leur côté se trouvaient Jérôme Longue, membre du comité de L'Association des Français Fonctionnaires Internationaux de New York (AFFIN) et Antoine Treuille du Souvenir Français-USA et de l'Association des Cadres de Réserve Français. Et en surprise de dernière minute, Caroline – fille de Robert Schmitt, président de L'Union Alsacienne de 1984 à 1988 – et sa famille se sont joints aux convives.



Le déjeuner d'inauguration du nouveau comité a également été l'occasion d'en présenter les nouveaux membres et d'insister sur la nouvelle ambition de l'association, à savoir saisir toutes les possibilités qu'offrent les nouveaux médias et les outils de technologies de l'information et de la communication, tels que Facebook pour toucher les 3000 alsaciens de la côte Est des Etats-Unis, sans parler des dizaines de milliers d'Américains d'origine alsacienne. L'objectif est d'atteindre un réseau de 300 membres ou amis de l'Alsace d'ici à février 2014, contre 100 membres actuellement. Et parce qu'il n'y a pas de déjeuner alsacien réussi sans un peu de musique, les 50 invités ont entonné "Lustig éesch ém Elsäss Laawa", une chanson traditionnelle alsacienne.

The Launch of Planet Alsace



Monday 28 May 2012 at 7:30 PM L'Union Alsacienne organized a welcome cocktail of a 33 people delegation from Alsace, with the presence of Justin Jungman, president of the Alsatian Club of the Little Alsace of Texas. On a cozy and sunny rooftop on Roosevelt Island with a great view on the Manhattan skyline, participants enjoyed a cocktail including white wine and crémant d'Alsace, salmon and quiches from our members Alain and Denise Quirin (Alain's Salmon), Bernard Eglin and Krim Debbah (Marjolaine Bakery) and Patrica Catenne (Quintessencia), cheese and a variety of home made dishes. Beside promoting Alsace and investment opportunities in Alsace this event will also be the opportunity to raise a few hundred dollars for the International Fund for the Alsatian language (FILAL). New York Alsatians, including former UNDP Director Francis Dubois, could exchange with a Delegation of representatives from the Region Alsace local government, and its international economic development agency Alsace international. This trip is also the opportunity to introduce in NY, called "Ambassadeurs d'Alsace" a new network of 1500 individuals who want to put their competences at the disposal of the promotion of Alsace. P.S : Alsace International is the Region's international economic development agency. It's the privileged partner for foreign investors who wish to develop their business activities in Alsace. Alsace International also accompanies local businesses to develop internationally and gain access to international public tenders.

L'Union Internationale des Alsaciens, Le Club des Ambassadeurs d'Alsace & Alsace International sponsored a cocktail reception, Tuesday, May 29th, 2012 at 6:30pm at the Consulate General of France. Event who begun with a slideshow on the contribution of Alsace and Alsatians to the history of the United States since 1776, by president Thierry Kranzer. It was followed by a few words about the cultural, economic and scientific attractiveness of Alsace for the American business community.

Speakers included Régis Bello – President of the Strasbourg University Foundation; Robert Abrams – Chairman of the Board, Capitol Europe, Niederbronn, France since 1998. Event was to promote network with executives from Alsace as well as many other international guests.



Message from Honorary president Christian Rolling



I wish to wholeheartedly congratulate both the outgoing and incoming Officers of L'Union Alsacienne, as well as the Elections Committee on the occasion of this 2012 Installation Dinner. I am with you in thoughts from Mons, in Belgium, where I am a panellist in a UN-sponsored conference. I note with great satisfaction that there is continuity in the new team, some Officers having served previously, with distinction, in that venerable association which is still improving and developing after so many years of existence, thanks to the dedicated work of numerous distinguished Alsacians. As Honorary President, leaving New York for good in July 2013 after more than thirty years at the United Nations, I wish all the best to the newly elected Officers; thanks to technology, I will be able to keep in touch (via Internet) with an association I presided with pride and pleasure for twelve years. I extend my sincere and warm congratulations to the new President Thierry Kranzer and through him to all Officers, knowing that their dedication and hard work for L'Union Alsacienne will contribute to keeping it the most dynamic association in the French community in New York.

Avec mes plus vives félicitations à tous. Christian Rolling. New York 27 avril 2012

vielmals merci

vielmals merci

SPECIAL THANKS

to members Patricia **DOLLFUSS-CONNELY**, Katia **SCHLIENKER** and Isabelle **BAUMANN-LENOT**, Anne-Catherine **BOUDOT** and Christian **ROLLING** for sponsoring the dues of JWF-members. JWF-Members are members exempted from paying UA member dues either because they are over eighty years of age or have been paying dues for forty years. Once members have reached these milestones, their dues are taken over by the Jules Weber Fund (JWF), a fund with a principal of \$50,000 that can't be touched. Due to the fact that interest rates are at their lowest in decades, this past year, the UA generated less than \$500 in interest, far below the level needed to cover UA's forty JWF-Members dues. Because of this situation, we had no choice but to reach out to our members to cover the difference.

We were overwhelmed with the generous response to our appeal. Honorary President Christian Rolling unflinchingly offered the UA \$600, covering 15 JWF dues. In a note from October 10, 2012, Christian wrote: "Having myself been exempted from dues for many years as honorary president, I have the pleasure of sending you a \$600 contribution to be used, as if the sum represented interests coming out the Jules Weber Fund." President of L'Union Alsacienne during 12 years (1994-2006), Christian Rolling's dedication and devotion is exemplary and is inspiring the new officers of L'Union Alsacienne.

OTHER DONATIONS

Special thanks also for food donation to caterer Patrica Catenne, (<http://quintessencia.com>), to bakery Marjolaine (Bernard Eglin and Krim Debbah) et Alain Quirin, Moveable Feast, Inc. - Smoked Fish.

2011 exceptionnel touristique year for Alsace



2011 is the best year ever observed in Alsace regarding tourisme. According to the Observatoire Régional du Tourisme (ORTA), 11,7 millions tourists visited Alsace in 2011

Koogel, le moteur de recherche Alsacien

Alsatian « GOOGLE », called KOOGEL (moteur de recherche) was launched Feb 16th 2012 by Olivier Andrieu, businessman from Heiligenstein.



Inauguration de "Colmar Congrès"



lundi 6 février a lieu l'inauguration de Colmar Congrès, un nouvel espace dédié à l'organisation d'événements et de manifestations. Entièrement rénové, Colmar Congrès se situe dans le Hall 1 du Parc des Expositions de Colmar. Sa vocation est d'accueillir tout

type d'événements (conférences, expositions, concerts/spectacles, salons, etc.), répondant ainsi aux objectifs de promotion du tourisme d'affaires à Colmar, nommé « Ville Congrès » depuis 2011 pour organiser séminaires, congrès, conventions, expositions, etc.

Bust of Bartholdi

L'UnAL extended for another 3 years the lend of a bust of Auguste Bartholdi to the Statue of Liberty National Monument. Property of L'Union Alsacienne this bust has been lend since 1998.

ALSATIA : a place where the law cannot reach

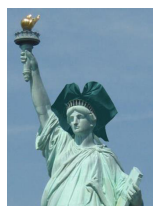
Alsatia in London, was the name given to an area lying North of the River Thames covered by the Whitefriars monastery, to the south of the west end of Fleet Street and adjacent to the Temple. Between the fifteenth and seventeenth centuries it had the privilege of a sanctuary, except against a writ of the Lord Chief Justice or of the Lords of the Privy Council; and as a result it was the refuge of the perpetrators of every grade of crime, debauchery, and offence against the laws. The execution of a warrant there, if at any time practicable, was attended with great danger, as all united in a maintenance in common of the immunity of the place. It was one of the last places of sanctuary used in England, abolished by Act of Parliament named The Escape from Prison Act in 1697 and a further Act in 1723. Eleven other places in London were named in the Acts (The Minorities, The Mint, Salisbury Court, Whitefriars, Fulwoods Rents, Mitre Court, Baldwins Gardens, The Savoy, The Clink, Deadmans Place, Montague Close, and Stepney).

Alsace product at MACY'S first quarter 2013

The Alsatian Regional Committee for Tourism (CRT) in co-ordination with the Region Bourgogne and Champagne is organizing will invest MACY'S during the first quarter 2013 during 10 days. It will be the opportunity of a touristic promotion with the participation of Alsatian companies who will sell their product at the different floors of MACY'S. For more information contact pchoukroun@tourisme-alsace.fr



Miss Liberty birthday party



50 people joined to celebrate the 126th anniversary of the Statue of Liberty at the 76 house in TAPPAN the oldest restaurant in the USA.

Diner was organized by L'Union Alsacienne Under the High-Patronage of M. Bertrand Lortholary, Consul général de France in New York, in partnership with L'American Association of Le Souvenir Français, L'American Association of Teacher of French (AATF), L'Association Culturelle Francophone des Nations Unies (ACF), La Fédération des Associations francophones d'Amérique (FAFA). \$200 were raised in a raffle and funds were offered to l'Entraide Française Dec 5, 2012

Documentary about Tomi Ungerer.

Official U.S. Premiere of Far Out Isn't Far Enough at 3rd Annual DOC NYC Festival - Saturday, November 10th at 1:45PM at the School of Visual Arts Theater (333 West 23rd Street) and Tuesday, November 13th at 11:30AM at the IFC Center (323 6th Avenue)

Alsatia was named after the ancient name for Alsace, Europe, which was itself outside legislative and juridical lines, and, therefore, they were literally places without law. The name is thought to be a cant term for the area and is first known in print in the title of The Squire of Alsatia, a 1688 play written by Thomas Shadwell.

The name was used into the 20th century as a term for a ramshackle marketplace, "protected by ancient custom and the independence of their patrons".

As of 2007, the word is still in use among the English judiciary with the meaning of a place where the law cannot reach: "In setting up the Serious Organised Crime Agency, the state has set out to create an Alsatia - a region of executive action free of judicial oversight," Lord Justice Sedley in UMBS v SOCA 2007.

WHEN ALSATIANS FREED THE USA

Military History Oct. - Nov. 2009. In an article "Our Germans vs. theirs" in page 48, Davis T. Zabecki is quoting the contribution of the Alsatian soldiers of the Regiment de Royal Deux-Ponts of Strasbourg. Some of those soldiers came from the German-speaking French regions of Alsace and Lorraine and others came from German borders regions. It is interesting to note that the soldiers called themselves the Zweibrücken Regiment.

On the night of October 14, Alsatisans led the final stormed in the battle that offered independence of the United States. On that night Baron de Vioménil 400 German speaking soldiers from the Zweibrücken Regiment of Strasbourg, led by Lt. Col. Count Wilhelm Zweibrücken, stormed and seized Redoubt 9. On October 16, the British made a sortie to disable Allied artillery, but to no avail, and Cornwallis surrendered on October 19

Article also quotes that in just seven minutes of combat, Wilhelm von Zweibrücken's force

had lost 46 killed and 68 wounded, (out of 400) and many of the wounded later died from their injuries. The article also notes: "George Washington clearly appreciated the role his Germans played in the American victory at Yorktown". In its introduction you can read : While every American schoolchild for the last 200-plus years has learned that German troops fought for the British during the American Revolution, less well known is that more than 2,500 German soldiers fought on the American side. Moreover, it is one of the great ironies of military history that the last major engagement of the revolution pitted Germans against Germans, including German speaking soldier from Alsace and Lorraine

For further reading on this subject David Zabecki recommends : The revolutionary Journal of Baron von Clofen, 1780-1783, translated and edited by Evelyn M. Acomb, and My Campaigns in America : A Journal Kept by Count William de Deux-Ponts, 1780-1781, translated and edited by Samuel Green.

Famous Alsatian Steven Colbert



Seen on PBS.com, Brenda Graham writes on February 25, 2010 at 3:44 pm " One thing Stephen Colbert and I have in common are my ancestors immigrated to Canada from Alsace-Lorraine, Germany in the 1800' s. They grew tired of the fighting back and forth between Germany and France so they moved to Port Colbourne, Ontario in Canada and became wealthy German farmers. Beiderman were their names. A few hours later Liz Owens from. New Jersey is adding "I too have the Alsace-Lorraine territory in common with Stephen. I got so excited when they started mentioning that area! My ancestor (Reinhardt Laubach) emigrated to Pennsylvania in the 1600' s. "

UNEMPLOYMENT BECAUSE PEOPLE NO LONGER SPEAK ALSATIAN (New York Times)

In an article entitled "French-German Border Shapes More Than Territory", written By STEVEN ERLANGER from Selestat published in the New York Times March 3, 2012 is quoting Selestat the ancient town in the center of Alsace that boasts the extraordinary Humanist Library, dating from the 15th century. But less proudly, Sélestat also has an unemployment rate of about 8 percent, much higher than towns just across the border in Germany. Among those under 25 years of age, the unemployment rate in Sélestat is 23 percent; in Emmendingen, it is 7 percent.

The article suggest a clear explanation of this situation, while Alsatisans were bilingual not so long ago. "We have job openings right now for 70 drivers of heavy trucks," says a German entrepreneur. "But the big problem is that the French don't speak German," so they cannot qualify for the jobs, and young people here no longer speak the Alsatian dialect, once used on both sides of the border. The mayor of Emmendingen, Stefan Schlatterer, says that "there is a job here for anyone who can count to ten," but one needs to count in German.... Though the first bilingual Kindergarten opened in 1991, only 10% of children have access to such education. And Alsace need more of them to heal from a pathological monolingualism consequence of a real linguistic genocide cultivated by the Education nationale in the Rhine valley, after 1945.

Alsatian-lorraine stars in the NYTIMES

Featured in the New York Times in September, Patricia Kaas. Article announced her concert to come in the big apple : "Patricia Kaas sing Edith Piaf" at the Stern Editorium from the Carnegie Hall on Tuesday 20 November.

Also featured in the Saturday Profile of August 24 NYTIMES, Abd Al Malik in an article "A Rapper and Poet Pushes for a New French Identity of Inclusion". Article quotes "In his early life, before he left the violent projects of Strasbourg, before he was acclaimed as a rapper and a poet, Abd Al Malik was a confusion of identities - "schizophrenic," he says. A Catholic altar boy turned Muslim proselyte, he was at once tough and scholar, dealing hashish and reading philosophy, picking pockets after Sunday Mass. Abd Al Malik is also known for his famous quote " I am Alsatian, I have this in my soul, I can't explain it" .



Alsace & Food

**Neither French nor German but proud Alsatian
Do you feel you are rather French or German?**

Here's the question you should never ask when going there. Alsace is Alsace and has a personality of its own so do its wines and food.

Close to neighboring Germany, Alsace is a melting pot of influences. For the wines it is where geology, climatology, grape varieties and savoir-faire blend to offer a full array of scents and tastes from Edelzwicker to Grands Crus and of course the deep rich flavoured Grains Nobles.

For the food forget about "Cuisine Nouvelle"; here it really is a question of local specialties you can taste at a Winstub, literally meaning Wine Room, you can't go wrong with that, can you?

First discovering the atmosphere of Alsace, we'll then lead you through different wines' profiles and draw an aromatic map of the expressions of Alsace wines. From then on it will all be about local Charcuterie, Flamme-kueche, Baeckeoffe, Fleischschnackas and of course Sürkrüt, to smelly and delicious Munster and finishing with a Kaeskueche or Kugelhoppf.

Not sure what all that is? Join us, all will be revealed to make your mouth water before.

Source: French Wine Society (NY), news bulletin

ALSATIAN CONNECTIONS IN LYONS

Thursday 20 sept 2012, L'Union Alsacienne received an email from Horst Gutsche (hwg1923@hotmail.com) informing us about the Alsatian roots of the FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH in Lyons near Buffalo, NY.



In 1830, 20 emigrant families from Alsace gathered at Creager's School House, three miles southeast of Lyons for a service in the German language. In but a

few months these Alsatians organized and incorporated as The First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Lyons. Called as the first pastor was The Reverend Dietrich Willers who remained until 1836.

Horst writes: "Here are more of these undiscovered Elsaessers all over the place. One of the most important Evangelical Lutheran pastors in early pioneer settlement times in Alberta (1890s) was Emil Eberhardt who came to the USA with his family when he was 10, studied theology in St. Louis, Missouri at Concordia Seminary and then spent the rest of his life in Canada (at Stony Plain just west of Edmonton). She has since died but a few years ago I visited his niece here in a retirement home in Barrhead. He was from Pfalsbourg in Lorraine. Emil Eberhardt was supposed to have been the most intelligent student in his class. That is why he was sent to the frontier in Canada. When the provincial government refused to allow the Lutheran parochial school in his parish to reopen after World War I (some subjects were taught in High German), he and two church councilmen took the train down to Mexico. They were planning on resettling the whole congregation. When the minister of education found out about it he quickly gave permission for the school to reopen (it was only supported by the church members anyway) and so the people (mostly Galician Germans from the Pfalz before going to Austria-Hungary in the late 1700s) stayed in Canada.

I think that over the centuries a lot of the population overflow from Alsace moved east across the Rhine River into what is now Poland and sometimes from there into Russia. Someone during the late 19th century tracked my Kautz ancestors from Zabern/Saverne over the Rhine and to Franconia in Northern Bavaria and then up to Pommerania and from there some of those ended up in Bessarabia. Of course by then they were assimilated into the regular regional population.

There is a two volume set describing emigration from Alsace and Lorraine en francais which I read about 20 years ago. It belonged to Dr. John Sullivan who was my German professor in 1969-1970 when I studied at Northwestern College in Watertown, Wisconsin. His wife Madeleine was from Woerth or Lembach. I think her maiden name was Schweikert (by the way, there are Schweigerts from Bessarabia here in the nursing home) and she was related to Schweikert the astronaut. I have forgotten if I mentioned it to you but the Sullivan children are in various places in the USA; Paul is a professor at Immanuel Lutheran College and Seminary in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, a daughter is living in retirement in Ontario, Wisconsin (her husband was a missionary in Peru) and another daughter is in Milwaukee (her husband was a Lutheran schoolteacher and she may also have been a teacher). The oldest son, John, who was a pastor in Wetaskiwin just south of Edmonton went to Novosibirsk in Russia and was a missionary there. He is now living in retirement in Tucson, Arizona. He spent some formative years in Schillersdorf when his father John Sr. was the pastor there in the 1950s so he speaks English, German, French and Elsaessisch.

Having the members of the Union Alsacienne go on trips is a great idea. You never know who you will meet when you go on the road. That is part of the spice of life."
Horst Gutsche.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS



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P ORTRAIT OF MEMBERS

We launched a series of Portraits of members of L'Union Alsacienne. We interviewed members Mathias Peter and Monique Dubois-Inzinna, and also published a temoignage of general Jacques Paul Klein on our blog. Others were features in daily Alsatian newspapers. For more details check our blog www.alsacenewyork.wordpress.com



MATHIAS PETER, from Schiltigheim, turn 30 in March 2012 a few weeks after opening his Tarte Flambée restaurant.

Check full article on www.alsacenewyork.wordpress.com

Member **JOSIANE AMBIEHL**, was featured in the daily L'Alsace of October 10, 2012 under the title L'Alsacienne Josiane Ambiehl assistante spéciale de Ban Ki-moon aux, (United Nations General Secretary) before being elected Alsatian of the week by the reader of the newspaper



Also released in the Dernieres Nouvelles d'Alsace in August 2012, an article about member **CECILE LEVI** "Destin de femme: Cecile Levi d'Alsace et d'Amerique - l'hirondelle de Mamaronneck"

Sunday October 14th, 2012 article from the daily newspaper of L'Alsace about **JAMES HENRY RUBIN** specialist of the French art of XIX century and famous American university professor. James Rubin is married to Liliane Braesch from Mittelbergheim and 1st Vice President of L'Union Alsacienne.



Nestled in the Projects and Nourishing Souls

NYTIMES, September 28, 2012
Many are invited to meals and special events at the home, where the den mother is **SISTER REGINE**, a sturdy, jolly woman in a brown robe and a white habit. She hails from the Alsace region of France and can cook some tasty regional dishes.

WWII : An Alsatian Odyssey, by General Jacques Paul Klein

Also published on our blog a moving contribution from GENERAL **JACQUES PAUL KLEIN** relating a 1987 letter from his cousin and godfather, Emile, who was conscripted in the German Army in August 1942, and sent to the Russian front. From a Russian prisoner camp he crossed the Russian border from the Caucasus July 1944 before joining dos of France."

Klein quotes that the military cemetery out in Tambov, Russia, some south of Moscow. Over Alsaciens-Lorrains are After the introduction military service in 1942, young men were called tion. Ten thousand died in Tambov and another 10,000 died on their way to other POW camps or died in those camps and were never heard from again. Of those who returned home, more than 30,000 were wounded, some gravely and permanently disabled. Alsace suffered brutally under the Nazis' yoke. He is also in conclusion praising the action of L'Union Alsacienne : "In New York, the l'Union Alsacienne society was founded by Alsatians who were made homeless and immigrated to the US after the German annexation of Alsace in 1871. For more than 140 years this organization has fostered Franco-American amity. They have stayed true to their ideals and, in spite of the vicissitudes of two world wars, have kept the memory of Alsace alive in America." Thanks a lot general Klein for your dedication and devotion to the Alsatian community in America

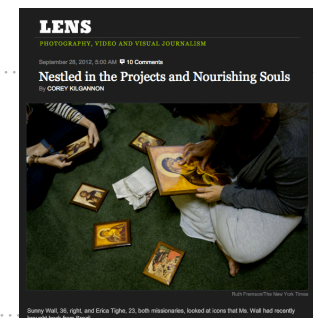


Check full article on www.alsacenewyork.wordpress.com



MONIQUE DUBOIS-INZINNA, from Saverny, shared an amazing life, during which she was a movie actor and a model. She turned with Pierre Renoir.

Check full article on www.alsacenewyork.wordpress.com





We got those amazing emails from friends of Alsace. First, friends of member Patricia Catenne, discovered that their ancestors were "Schnebelen" from Alsace. Second, a cyclist who discovered Alsace by watching the Tour De France on TV wants to wear the colors of Alsace for a tour of Pennsylvania and Ohio. We have their emails below:

• **From: Akiko to : Patricia Catenne**

• Date: April 30, 2012 2:45:29 PM EDT

• Subject: Alsatian Story

Hi Patricia, We find out that my husband, Joe's great great grand father was Alsatian. He was immigrant from Alsace-Lorraine! There was a movie from an Alsatian party we recorded. Then, we were

talking about the party and a guy from Texas, Mom brought a picture of her great great grandfather and said: "he is from Alsace-Lorraine". We all knew Joe's mother side family in Louisiana were German-French immigrants, but we didn't know which part or any detail. It was coincidence to hear that his mom side's ancestor was Alsatian, don't you? We remember about a guy from San Antonio, TX so we searched Alsatian restaurant and decided to drive to the Alsatian Hotel in Castroville (San Antonio), TX during our stay in San Antonio. We invited Joe's aunt and her friend who live in San Antonio and had nice Alsatian lunch there. So I just wanna let you know that interesting story. Do you allow Joe to join the Alsatian Club?

Akiko Miyashita. Joe Boone was elected Member Wednesday May 9.

TOUR DE PENNSYLVANIA IN ALSATIAN COLORS

• **From: leroy725@gmail.com to L'UnionAlsacienne:**

• Date: April 26, 2012 6:53:14 PM

Excusez-Moi. I hope I did not lead you to believe I was engaged in any conventional art medium. I am a cyclist and watch the Tour de France every year. I'm impressed with the regional flags that

are displayed during the tour every July. I read on your website about the visit to Strasburg and Colmar PA in April 2011. My wife and I plan to ride our bicycles on a bicycle tour of Strasburg PA and the rest of the western PA. I thought it would be nice to wear a bicycle jersey with the Alsace regional flag on it. I could not locate one on the internet. I came up with the idea of putting a bicycle jersey with the Alsace regional flag on it. I asked a fellow bicycle club member and he said I would need to have a process known as sublimation for the art to be put on the jersey. I am in the conceptual process and getting my information on what it would take to get this done. I was hoping to get a bicycle jersey completed in time for my trip at the end of summer. People may recognize the jersey and talk to me about Alsace and the Alsatians in PA? Especially when I stop at cafe's, lunch stops, sights along the way etc. "Desole", if I gave you any wrong impressions about my project.

LeRoy Rodriguez

• **From: D'Elsasser Courier from Quebec**

We got the news bulletin from our neighbours the Alsatians from Quebec (Amicalealsacienne du Quebec). They have a facebook and twitter account. www.facebook.com/amicale.alsacienne.quebec and twitter.com/#!/ElsaesservunQc

PUBLICATIONS ON ALSACE

DEBRA KAPLAN. Beyond expulsion: jews, Christians, and Reformation, Strasbourg. (Stanford Studies in Jewish History and Culture.), Stanford University Press. 2011

ANTHONY J. STEINHOFF. The Gods of the City : Protestantism and Religious Culture in Strasbourg, 1870-1914. (Studies in Central European History, number 43.) Boston: Brill. 2008.

ELIZABETH VLOSSAK. Marianne or Germania? Nationalizing Women in Alsace, 1870-1946. New York : Oxford University Press. 2010

† OBITUARIES



ROBERT SCHMITT, President of L'UnAL from 1984 to 1988.

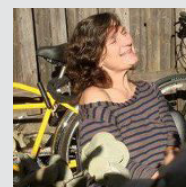
With a great sadness we have heard about the passing away of former president of L'Union Alsacienne Robert Schmitt. Gisele Gratch and Liliane Rubin represented L'Union Alsacienne at the memorial service August 10 in Strasbourg. We were so honored to enjoy the presence of Robert Schmitt's daughter Caroline Schmitt, during our Spring lunch in April 2012. Caroline came with her husband and three children.



PHILIPPE BAUMANN, member of L'UnAl and of the Confrerie Saint-Etienne, passed away in February 2012. Beloved husband of Julia and Barbara, of blessed memory, treasured father of Andrea Baumann Lustig and Roger Raymond Baumann and father-in-law of Ivan Lustig and Julie Flynn Baumann. Adored grandfather of Nicole, Alexandra, Gabrielle, Alexander, James and Matthew. A man of wisdom, integrity, generosity, charm and humor. A cherished friend and dedicated and devoted member of L'Union Alsacienne.



GUY HOLZHAUS, The last Alsatian speaking Mayor pro tem of the Little Alsace of Texas. Guy Holzhaus died July 28, 2012 in his beloved Little Alsace of Texas. He came to meet L'Union Alsacienne in October 2002. Representing the Little Alsace of Texas, he signed the Liberty Island Declaration, beside the Alsatian communities of Quebec, Ohio, New York and the International Union of Alsatians, and Adrien Zeller, President of the Region Alsace.



CHRISTINE EBEL, from Strasbourg, accidentally died October 25, 2012 in her mid 50's. She was the Co-owner of restaurant "Arcane" in Alphabet City with her brother Ben. Three days after her death, restaurant was destroyed by the aftermath of hurricane Sandy.

40 New members of L'Union Alsacienne in 2012 ! A figure not seen in decades !

Philippe BAUDIN-AULIAC, born Aug 8, 1976. Works at the Department of political affaires at the United Nations (UN). Ancestor Eugene Metzger from Neuf-Brisach.

Andrea BAUMAN LUSTIG née le 21 avril 1959 à NYC, fille de Philippe BAUMANN.

Laurence BELLOTI-SONNOIS. From Oderen, lives in Mamaroneck.

Antoine BLECK, owner of restaurant OPIA. Famous singer and pianist has relatives in Landser and Mulhouse.

Alexandre BOESCH, born in Normandy Aug 19, 1976. Both parents born in Strasbourg. Works at Dassault falcon jets.

Joseph BOONE and Akiko MIYASHITA. Born Sept 9 1965, Joseph descendant of François Adonis Schnebelen (Louisiana) is an agriculture specialist.

Henri BURGARD born June 13, 1975, works at the UN peace-keeping operation department. His ancestor moved from Alsace to Paris in 1871.

Anne BURGLEN, is born in Wissembourg on May 8, 1985. Student, she lives in East-Hannover (NJ).

Patricia DOLLFUS, épouse CONNELLY born in Mulhouse and lives in Greenville, DE.

Evelyne ELIE-EISELE, is born 1965 in Ajaccio (Corsica), lived in Alsace during a decade before marrying an American of Alsatian descent : EISELE.



Jacques HAERINGER, famous chef of Washington and son of superstar chef Francois Haeringer, is the owner of fantastic L'Auberge Chef Francois in GREATFALLS, VA 22066.

Jean Marie HAESSELE artist painter from Buhl, near Guebwiller. He is in the USA since 1968.

Danielle INZINNA, from Mahwah NJ, daughter of member Monique Dubois-Inzinna.

Bertrand JOST, born in Tunésia in 1968, with parents from Hohatzenheim and Erstein. Bertrand grow up in Schiltigheim. Financial analyst living in Scarsdale, Bertrand wrote a 6 volume family book entitled « Vicissitudes Militaires 1809-1959 - Sept générations de

conscrits d'une famille alsacienne aux armées de cinq empires ».

Jean Luc KIEFFER, chef-owner of Picnic-Bistro d'Alsace (Upper West Side) turned 50 in September 2012.

Natacha MALASZEK, born April 10, 1976 in Sarreguemines with relatives in Emery near Sainte-Marie-aux-Mines. She is a UN staff from the Department of Peacekeeping operations.

Andrea MARKSON née à Colmar le 26 octobre 1987 and David MARKSON né à Colmar le 29 mai 1986.



Alexandre MAUREL, born June 6, 1977 in Colmar. Banker at BNP-Paribas with treasurer Florian Nguyen.

Bobby MBOM, born April 30, 1980 is the son of member Clement Mbom.



Thibaud MULLER works at Pigalle restaurant. Born in Strasbourg March 19, 1971. He lives in North Haledon, NJ and is a relative of President Thierry Kranzer.



Xavier-Francois PAGANO, born Sept 30, 1985 in Mulhouse, Banker at BNP-Paribas.

Mathias PETER, owner of Tarte Flambée 1750 Second Avenue, is born in Schiltigheim, March 20, 1982.

Delphine POLI-SONNTAG, born in Bastia, father born in Strasbourg.

Romain POIROT, from Strasbourg.

Brigitte and Jean SCHAEFLE, both born in Mulhouse. Freshly Retired, they live in Cresskill.

Lionel SCHARLY is a designer born in Strasbourg in 1974, who has his designer office near battery park.

Laure STEINER, born in Mulhouse, Sept 17 1984, works a GIE Access Global.

Samuel WASSMER, born in Guebwiller in 1977 is a scientific researcher.

Pierre WEBER owner of Pierre's restaurant In Bridgehampton, is born in Paris Aug 29,

1954, with a dad from Strasbourg and mother from Boersch.



And also elected on October 28th and November 28th : Jean-Christophe BAS from Colmar who is the head of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, Laurent and Nina DEISS, Colonel Serge GABRIEL originated from Alkirch, Christine GIARD, Ingrid JEAN-BAPTISTE, Clara KNOBLOCH niece of Emmanuel Jaegle, Michelle LAURITSEN daughter of Paulette LEY, Alexandre QUANTIN, Harriet SAXON, Caroline SCHMITT-FIASCI daughter of former President Robert SCHMITT, Sinan SERDAROGLU nephew of Emmanuel Jaegle.

FRIENDS OF ALSACE

Philippe ROUSSEL, chef of Cafe D'Alsace who is not Alsatian has been elected friend of Alsace.

Carmine CALZONE, who lived eight years in Alsace and is a neighbour of Committee member Capucine Bourcart.

Penny MACDONELL is a relative of Anne-Catherine Boudot. Penny is an interpreter at the UN.

Also elected friends of Alsace Claudia BISHOPP, Thierry DEMOGUE, Marcel DENAMIEL owner of Le Rivage restaurant, Charles KERGARAVAT President of BZH-NY, Agnes KERR journalist at France-Amerique, Richard LEE, Thomas VANDENABEELE President of the French American Bar Association.

N.B : Friends of Alsace do not have relatives or origins related to Alsace

Reconnection with L'UnAl

"It makes me very proud that a club my father devoted much of his time to, has grown and succeeded in so many ways where other clubs have diminished or dissolved. I was very fortunate 2 years ago to go to Alsace with my Mother and reconnect with so many of my cousins and their families. We write to each other all the time and they have also visited us here in the USA. I love Alsace and look forward to a wonderful experience with L'Union Alsacienne.

Sincerely,

Michele S. Lauritsen" Daughter of Paulette Ley

THANKS



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