

Language & Friendship Newsletter

SPRING 2015



A Passion for Languages and Friendships ...

...RUNS IN THE FAMILY



Lisa Wieck, right, Clear Lake HS, IA, has traveled to Spain several times in her career. Her own three children were travelers in 2003, 2005, and 2007. Her oldest daughter, Alex, left, is also a Spanish teacher in Iowa. This year, they joined forces taking a group of 19 students to discover Madrid, Segovia, Toledo, and to stay with host families in Zaragoza, the hometown of Alex's husband, Javier.

Trina Keller and Sara Voss are another mother/daughter team. Sara traveled with Trina as a student in 1992 and again as a co-leader in the late 90s. Trina now teaches French at Perpich Center for Arts Education in Golden Valley, MN, and Sara teaches French at South St. Paul HS, MN. This year they merged groups on their program to Paris with their family stay in Tours. Speaking of family...Minneapolis is the Sister City to Tours. Pictured above, Trina and Sara, met with the mayor of Tours at a reception given for them in the town hall.



...IS PASSED ON FROM TEACHER TO STUDENT

Rachel Dwyer was a student of mine for my first trip to France with students! I treasure our relationship we have now. Our students truly benefit from our strong teacher/friend bond. We work hard and play hard in France! ~ Suzanne Thibert, left, with Rachel Dwyer, right, both from West Fargo HS, ND



Angela Giffin, far right, was a student of Mo Zimney, left, at Stevens HS in Rapid City, SD. They will be bringing their students to Spain this summer - Mo's final student trip before retirement.



Travels give a new perspective on....



Québec vous attend!

"Thank you for arranging such an **unforgettable experience** for our group! The mix of fun and educational activities kept our students engaged and excited throughout the entire visit, and upon our return our campus is abuzz with students spreading the word about **"the best trip ever."** **Thank you for inspiring our students to continue to travel and use their language skills!**" ~ Mallory Garcia, The Webb School, Bell Buckle, TN

L&F can arrange programs to Québec for student groups AND adult groups. Contact Liane@languageandfriendship.com



Webb School students as "Soldats de la Tour" in the Martello Tower.

Change is just a **CLICK** away!

Pass on our website to help others experience the wonderful world of hosting and to help them change their lives:

- ✓ **Click** to learn about the hosting program
- ✓ **Click** to watch hosting video
- ✓ **Click** to apply online

Once families apply online, L&F contacts you. You will be compensated for each family who hosts. [Thank you for spreading the word about this life-changing opportunity!](#)

www.languageandfriendship.com/hosting



Families in your community can **WELCOME** students from Spain, Switzerland and France.

Contact Barbara for more information:

barbara@languageandfriendship.com

Thank you to the teachers, administrators and families from the following communities for your warm welcome!

Winter students: Each school receives 1-5 French students for 3-4 weeks. Students shadow their hosts and live the daily life of their host family.

Viry-Chatillon, France

Minnesota: Edina, Minneapolis South, North St Paul, Northfield, Owatonna, Perpich Center for Arts Education, Rosemount, St Paul Conservatory for Arts; *Wisconsin:* Menomonie, Eau Claire North; *North Dakota:* West Fargo Sheyenne

Carpentras, France

Illinois: Elgin Larkin, Streamwood; *Michigan:* Utica Academy for International Studies; *Iowa:* Cedar Rapids Washington and Kennedy; Iowa City City and West; Muscatine *Wisconsin:* Appleton West, Bay Port, DC Everest, Fond du Lac, Green Bay East, Homestead, Marinette, Menominee, Milton, Preble, Stevens Point, Sun Prairie, Waukesha, Wausau

Lyon, France

Washington: AC Davis, Bellarmine Prep, Bremerton, Lopez Island, Mt. Rainier, Sehome, Snohomish, West Sound Academy

Spring Groups: School groups come for 2 weeks, attending classes, going on planned excursions and each student lives with a host family.

Groups from France:

- Colette Clarke**, Leon HS, Tallahassee, FL
- Leslie Houfaïdi**, Academie Lafayette, Kansas City, MO
- Nicole Snorek**, Kettle Moraine HS, Wales, WI
- Bill Vitt**, Blaine HS, Blaine, MN
- May Nhia Ly Vang**, L'Etoile du Nord Immersion School, St. Paul, MN
- Sara Schmittgens**, The French School, St. Louis, MO

Group from Argentina:

- Katie Kerekes**, Washburn HS, Minneapolis, MN

SUMMER HOSTING 2015

Students arrive in the following states and cities. **Contact L&F** for hosting information for you and your community:

Iowa: June 11-July 11 June 29-July 27

Kansas City, MO: June 10-July 10

Los Angeles, CA June 14-July 14

Minnesota: June 12-July 12 June 24-July 18
June 27-July 17 July 9-29

Missoula, MT: June 11-July 11

Nashville, TN: June 14-July 14

Rapid City, SD: June 10-July 9

Wisconsin: June 11-July 11 July 1-26

**Make connections
for your school &
community!**



Leader Workshop 2015

Teachers came from all points of the USA to plan, share, and inspire one another at L&F's Leader Workshop in January.

Top Left: Teachers from Appleton North HS, WI, and from Gulf Coast HS, Naples, FL, spent the day planning their programs to Spain with Rachel. **Top:** Linda Meyer (WI), Lola Velasco (Spain), Martha Voorhees (FL), Shelly Tesch (WI), Ana Gilliam (FL) **Bottom:** Rachel, Paula Meyer (WI), Jennifer Peterson (WI). **Top Right:** Jacqueline Hullaby and Kyle Woollums (Kennedy HS, Cedar Rapids, IA) will be heading to Italy and France.

Bottom Right: Amy Ali (Dominican HS, Whitefish Bay, WI), Julie Eiden (Menomonie HS, WI), Dona Dougherty (Robert McQueen HS, Reno, NV), Coleen Colton (Forest Lake HS, MN) planned their programs to France.



I absolutely loved the workshop. I think you did a great job of addressing many of the potential issues and also of helping with preparing groups. You are so thorough and always updating everything. I truly find you to be amazing in your dedication and efforts to make for the most positive experiences possible for teachers and travelers. ~ Kathy Jackson, Great Falls HS, MT



Contact Rachel to plan your student or adult programs to

Argentina, Costa Rica or Spain.

rachel@languageandfriendship.com

Area teachers learned to make empanadas from Sonia Amadeo. left, our family stay coordinator in Buenos Aires, while she was in Minneapolis with a group of students from Argentina.

"Best trip to Spain in my life!

Students learned a lot of Spanish, loved the food and people!
¡Qué viva España!"

- Martha Voorhees, teacher, Gulf Coast HS, Naples, FL

"We had a wonderful trip and that is thanks to all the great work you and everyone in **Costa Rica** did to make it what it was. The students are still flying with the experience.

- Maureen Dowling, teacher, Roosevelt HS, Minneapolis, MN

Martinique - l'île aux Fleurs

Juneau/ThunderMountain HS had the right idea to leave wintery Alaska in March for the sunny and welcoming island of Martinique! During their family stay, they also enjoyed kayaking and rappelling in the rain forest among other discoveries! It was the thrill of a lifetime! *A quand votre tour ?*



Contact Laurence@languageandfriendship.com

Language & Friendship has travel and family-stay programs to **Germany**. We can also arrange flights for GAPP groups.

Contact julie@languageandfriendship.com

George Kunesh, Appleton North HS, WI:

The program was worthwhile because:

- 1) Learned a ton of Spanish.
- 2) Made lifelong friends.
- 3) Got to explore a new culture.
- 4) Connected me to something I otherwise would not have experienced.
- 5) Inspired me to major in Spanish.

And his visit inspired his host siblings to start saving their Euros to visit George in Wisconsin!



Did you know...

- ...L&F was founded by a French teacher?
- ...L&F has been offering student AND adult programs to France since 1988?
- ...L&F France coordinators are former teachers, Concordia Language Village counselors and share your passion for France and the French language?

Contact Laurence or Liane or Julie for your next program to France!





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"Language is the key to the heart of people" ~ Ahmed Deedat

Experience the culture!



Try new foods!



Become part of a new family!



It is **TIME**
to give your students the
experience of a lifetime!

"Our son came back from Spain absolutely **enthusiastic about his vision of the world**. I think that it is seldom possible to create such excitement for learning in the standard classroom setting. The **power of the immersion** into the Spanish language moved him forward in his ability to speak Spanish tenfold. If anyone asks me, I will relay all of the life lessons that were learned achieving this goal and enjoying this experience. ~ Michelle Wearmouth, parent, I-35 HS, Truro, IA

"It was a great growing experience for our daughter and a growing experience for my husband and I, too...letting her spread her wings and trusting that she could handle it. **The experience was worth every penny!**"
~ Karen Kill, parent, L'Etoile du Nord French Immersion School, St. Paul, MN

"Nous sommes revenues et **c'était un voyage excellent**...surtout puisqu'il y avait une organisation (L & F) superbe avec des gens extraordinaires (VOUS!) qui ont très bien préparé tous les détails! MERCI!! Tout s'est très bien passé! Mme Rousseau à Aix a fait un matching parfait aussi pour les familles d'accueil et nos élèves."
~ Meg Clark, Homestead HS, Mequon, WI



Sign up for travel by
June 1 for Early-Bird Discounts!
France • Spain
Costa Rica • Argentina
Martinique • Québec
Germany • Italy
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**Bring hosting to your community!**  
**3-4 weeks = a lifetime of friendships!**