



## September 2008



FLENEF Board Members Mary Virginia Fisher, Cheryl Thingvold and Dawnielle Jacobson enjoy lunch during the Board retreat.

### FLENEF Board Goes on Retreat, Sets Goals, Plans New Initiatives

For the first time ever, FLENEF Board members participated in a daylong retreat. On Saturday, August 2, 2008, we met in St. Augustine at Renaissance Resort at the World Golf Village, sight of the 2009 FFLA State Conference.

The primary purpose of the retreat was to set short term and long term goals for our organization. Some of the goals and supporting initiatives that came out of the meeting were:

#### Increase membership and promote more active participants among members:

- Create membership packets and distribute to all potential members
- Send a monthly newsletter to all foreign language educators in the region

#### Increase professional development opportunities and support, particularly targeting new teachers:

- Design an institute for new teachers
- Establish a mentoring program

#### Expand community connections

- Advocate through parent language nights
- Offer additional student-oriented language events, such as a language immersion camp

### Technology Workshop on 10/4

FLENEF is delighted to welcome **John Fields**, Professor of French and Business Law at FCCJ South Campus, to our Board and as our presenter for the second Fall workshop. John will be presenting *"That's Edu-tainment: Games and Technology to Capture and Keep Students' Attention"*.

This interactive workshop will show teachers at any language level how they can facilitate games and activities that encourage students to communicate in the target language. The workshop will include several low-tech activities that require very little preparation from the teacher, in addition to hi-tech activities that require more preparation.

The workshop will take place on **Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>** at FCCJ South Campus in Room G-105. In order to attend, you **MUST** pre-register by contacting FLENEF President Cheryl Thingvold at [cathingvold@mail.clay.k12.fl.us](mailto:cathingvold@mail.clay.k12.fl.us) or 904.742.2718. Space is limited to 24 participants.

### Justo Lamas ¡en concierto!

Northeast Florida Spanish teachers and their students are invited to a special language event on **Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup>**. Direct from Buenos Aires, Argentina, singing sensation **Justo Lamas** will present a concert at Fletcher Sr. High School in Neptune Beach, at 10:30am.

Tickets are \$15 per student. One complimentary chaperone ticket will be given for every 10 student tickets ordered. Deadline for ticket orders and payment is Friday, October 31st.

For more information and/or if you would like a concert preparation CD, please contact Jacki Cinotti-Dirmann at [cinottij@duvalschools.org](mailto:cinottij@duvalschools.org).

### Member



### Spotlight

**CONGRATULATIONS** to French teacher **Lynn Brown** (Mandarin HS) who won the September drawing for a \$100 stipend towards the ACTFL/FFLA Joint Conference!

**KUDOS** to American Sign Language (ASL) teachers **Lesley Silvestris** (Sandalwood HS) and **Craig Leavitt** (Ed White HS) who were selected to present at the ACTFL/FFLA Joint Conference! They are 2 of only 3 ASL professionals nationwide who are presenting at ACTFL.



Justo Lamas poses for photos with students from Oceanway Middle School following the 2007 concert.

## TPRS Workshop Well Received

Attendees at the workshop "Using TPRS in the Foreign Language Classroom" on Saturday, September 6, enjoyed learning the basics from **Melissa Cash**, who uses TPRS in her middle school Spanish classes at Darnell-Cookman Middle/High School. She shared how she got started using the method and some of its research-based principles. Techniques she discussed and modeled were Personal Question/Answer, Circling, Telling the Story and Writing the Story. **Brenda Velez**, French teacher at Keystone Heights High School who also uses TPRS exclusively, demonstrated how to "Circle" when teaching new vocabulary.

Some of the basic principles emphasized were: "teach to the eyes" (to check for comprehension), use a lot of cognates, keep vocabulary posted in your room so students can refer to it, add bizarre, exaggerated personalized details to get the students involved, restrict vocabulary to one main section, teach grammar in context and use the target language exclusively.

Some resources for teachers wishing to try TPRS are Blaine Ray's books Look, I Can Talk, Pobre Ana, Pauvre Anne and Fluency through TPR Storytelling (4<sup>th</sup> Edition). You can also check out [www.tprstories.com/about.htm](http://www.tprstories.com/about.htm).

Special thanks to Melissa for her wonderful presentation and to Bishop Kenny High School for hosting our event!

## Le Grand Concours se passera au mois de mars 2009!



The National French Exam will take place during the month of March 2009. The *Grand Concours* is a national French exam taken by over 100,000 students in 2008. There is also a **scholarship** for a student who scores exceptionally well. In 2008, **Benjamin Furtick** from **Stanton Preparatory School** (Duval County) won the *Grand Concours* scholarship for Florida! Congratulations to Benjamin and his teachers at Stanton!

The Florida chapter recognizes that there are many time constraints placed upon our French teachers during this time of year. Therefore, we allow each school to set their own administration date. Your school simply needs to administer the exam between February 28 and March 21.

For more information about the *Grand Concours*, please visit [www.frenchteachers.org/concours](http://www.frenchteachers.org/concours). You may also contact the Contest Administrator for North and West Florida, John Fields, at [jfields@fccj.edu](mailto:jfields@fccj.edu).

## French Concert Planned for Spring

FLENEF is organizing a concert for French teachers and their students to be held on Friday, April 24, 2009 at Terry Parker High School. French teacher and rocker **Étienne** from Windsor, Ontario (Canada) will be returning to Jacksonville to perform for students studying French.

Ticket information will be available in January. For more information about Etienne or to download his songs, please visit his website at [www.educorock.com](http://www.educorock.com).

## Table Française

Area French teachers enjoyed the first *Table Française* of the 2008-2009 school year at the European Street Café on Beach Boulevard on Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. First organized by Deanna Scheffer, AATF-FL President and teacher at Episcopal High School, this is the second year of these monthly meetings. All area French teachers are invited to enjoy happy hour and speak French.

The next "table" will be Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00pm at JJ's Bistro at Gate Parkway. If you would like to attend or need additional information, please contact Deanna at [schefferd@episcopalhigh.org](mailto:schefferd@episcopalhigh.org).

## Who's your daddy liaison?

Need information about FLENEF? Want to know what's going on in your county? Contact your FLENEF liaison!

**Baker County:** Thomas Boes (Baker County HS)  
[tom\\_b32211@yahoo.com](mailto:tom_b32211@yahoo.com)

**Clay County:** Dawnielle Jacobson (Orange Park HS)  
[drjohnson@mail.clay.k12.fl.us](mailto:drjohnson@mail.clay.k12.fl.us)

**Columbia County:** Carol Wise (Columbia HS)  
[wise\\_c@fcm.edu](mailto:wise_c@fcm.edu)

**Duval County:** Dr. Joanne Davis (DCPS Dept of WL)  
[davisj4@duvalschools.org](mailto:davisj4@duvalschools.org)

**St. Johns County:** Lynn Sox (St. Augustine HS)  
[soxl@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:soxl@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

**Nassau County:** Carol Kline (Fernandina Beach HS)  
[Srak460@hotmail.com](mailto:Srak460@hotmail.com)

**Independent School:** Mary Virginia Fisher (SJCDs)  
[mvfisher@sjcds.net](mailto:mvfisher@sjcds.net)

**College & University:** Cecy Kress (FCCJ South Campus)  
[dkress@fccj.edu](mailto:dkress@fccj.edu)

Not a member of FLENEF? Go to [www.flenef.org](http://www.flenef.org) to download a membership form.

**GO GREEN...JOIN FLENEF!**

## Fêtons la Semaine du Français!

National French Week is November 5 – 11 this year! In addition to different events occurring around town, FCCJ South Campus will host its annual **French Film Festival** on Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. Two films will be in French without subtitles. They are musicals with lyrics online at [www.paroles.net](http://www.paroles.net). This is a great opportunity to have your students really test their listening comprehension skills. This year's festival theme is *autre temps, autre mœurs...*

The following films will be shown at FCCJ South Campus:

- 1:00 – 3:30 **Notre Dame de Paris**  
*musical, not rated; in French without subtitles*
- 4:00 – 6:50 **Les Dix Commandements**  
*musical, not rated; in French without subtitles*
- 7:15 – 9:00 **Les Visiteurs**  
*comedy, rated R; in French with subtitles*

FCCJ Deerwood Center will also host a night of French films featuring the following:

- 2:00 – 4:50 **Le Roi Soleil**  
*musical, not rated; in French without subtitles*
- 5:15 – 8:00 **La Reine Margot**  
*drama, rated R; in French with subtitles*

For more information, please contact Professor John Fields, [jfields@fccj.edu](mailto:jfields@fccj.edu).

## Duval County Opens New Language Programs

Duval County Public Schools can now list Portuguese among its World Language class offerings. The program, which opened with three classes in August, is located at First Coast High School and taught by Sueli Wilkerson.

Duval also opened its first Dual-Language program this year at Beauclerc and San Jose Elementary Schools.

The district's successful Chinese program continues to grow and with it comes the arrival of new Chinese Guest Teachers from Hanban. This year the Chinese program has expanded to Rufus Payne Elementary School.

Dr. Joanne Davis also reports that she and Dr. Zeina Schlenoff, Director of the Mid-Eastern Studies Department at FSU will begin discussions about the teaching of Arabic in Duval County.



Duval County will be organizing **Oktoberfest**, an event for German students, to be held at the German Schnitzel House (Hodges Blvd) on Thursday, October 2, 2008. For more information please contact Dr. Joanne Davis at [davisj4@duvalschools.org](mailto:davisj4@duvalschools.org).

## Dates to Remember

**Wednesday, October 1, 2008**

**FLENEF grant applications available**



**Thursday, October 2, 2008**

**Oktoberfest for German Students**

German Schnitzel House (Hodges Blvd.)

**Saturday, October 4, 2008**

**Technology Workshop**

8:30am-12:30pm (Breakfast & Registration @ 8:00am)

FCCJ South Campus

*Board meeting following the workshop*

**Friday, October 31, 2008**

**Deadline to purchase Justo Lamas concert tickets**

**November 5-11, 2008**

**National French Week**

**Thursday, November 13, 2008**

**Justo Lamas Concert**

10:30am @ Fletcher Sr. High School, Neptune Beach

**Friday, November 14, 2008**

**Deadline to submit FLENEF grant applications**

**Thursday – Sunday, November 20-23, 2008**

**Joint ACTFL & FFLA Conference**

Disney Swan & Dolphin Resort, Orlando

## Mini-Grant Application Revised

During the Board retreat meeting, a committee met to make revisions to the FLENEF mini-grant application. The major change to this year's program is that applications will now be accepted electronically.

Do you have an innovative idea for a project? If so, we encourage you to apply for up to \$250 from FLENEF. Applications will be available beginning October 1, 2008.

## March 21, 2009 — Save the date!



## Orange Park High School



If you have information you would like included in the next FLENEF Newsletter, please e-mail it to Jacki Cinotti-Dirmann at [cinottij@duvalschools.org](mailto:cinottij@duvalschools.org) by 10/15/08 for inclusion in the October 2008 issue.