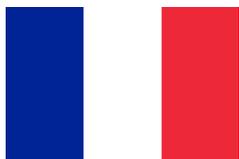


NORTH TEXAS ROTARY



"GSE" - D 1520 to D 5810



March 27 to April 27, 2011

Marie-Catherine Woodward Bruggeman - Translator & College teacher Team Leader & Member of the RC of Armentières

My name is Marie-Catherine but my American nickname is Mika. I am 57 but I still feel like I am 40. My father a native from Boston, Mass was a veteran of World War II and married a friend girl in 1945, my mother. I lived in Brockton till the age of 12 when my mother brought me back to France. Since then I have kept going back and forth between Boston and Lille (North of France). I am married with a daughter. She is 24 and speaks fluent English. We spent 10 years in Toulouse in the south of France for our job. I worked for 30 years in a Textile Research Institute and I have a sound knowledge in textile and mainly in industrial textiles. After I was laid off 6 years ago I started to work as a freelancer. Thanks to both my master's in technical, economic and legal translation and my textile background I am now working for a publisher. I translate professional magazines named "TUT" (technical textiles). I also teach translation at college and I have opened night classes for adults at my hometown community center. My interests are as various as technical textile applications that cover a large array of industries in medical, automotive, aeronautics, protective garment, environment, wind energy, nanotechnology sectors... As a teacher, I would love to visit a college and if possible attend a French class. Though I know the US and more particularly New England, I have never been to Texas before and I am very thrilled to meet the people from the district and find out about their customs and lifestyle. I like to try different food and I am ready to share my French recipes with my hosts.



Anne-Solène Dupont - Project Manager in Health Care

I am 25 years old. I grew up in a small town called Fleurbaix, in the North of France close to the Belgian border. I now live in a flat in Lille, the biggest city of the region, about 10 minutes away from my job. Since 2008, I have been working as a project manager in health promotion, in a non-governmental organisation which brings together relevant actors from the whole region.

My job consists in supporting projects such as tobacco prevention for students, or prevention's roleplays about respect or self-esteem. For example, I help school nurses, and social workers to plan, organize and manage their local projects. I like my job as it allows me to meet people committed to their job and who enjoy working for the general interest. I have a lot of hobbies, and they constitute an important part of my life. I'm a dancer in a dance group and we regularly perform remakes of musicals (such as Les Misérables). I'm also a soccer player in a women football team. I did a lot of horse riding until recently, and it remains my passion. I was an animator in summer camps for kids and loved that. I have a brother, who lives in Brussels with his wife and their future child (in May!). My parents are both retired and live in Fleurbaix, where they have many activities. I am enthusiastic about going to Texas in April. I am even more thrilled about the idea as last year I went to Houston to visit a friend and I had no idea, at that time, that I would come back to Texas that quickly! (like Texans said: I wasn't born in Texas but I get here as fast as I could!) During the month I will spend in Texas, I would like to meet professionals doing social work, people working in health promotion or working with young people (students, pupils, young workers...). If possible, I would also like to visit a ranch and would be keen to find out whether any of them works on equitherapy. I am also very interested to see how social centres work in Texas and how the public health scheme is organised in the State.



Guillaume Sondag - Manager of a Web Company

My name is Guillaume. If you have any trouble saying “Guillaume”, you can call me William (it’s the English equivalent) I’m 28, I mostly lived in north of France, especially “Berck sur mer” a little coast town well-known for its long beaches and strong winds. I studied mathematics and information technology in Amiens University, then got a degree at HETIC, an IT and web engineering school located in Paris. I have been living there for 5 years now. After completing my studies in 2008, I created my first company with a friend and two business angels. Commonbox.net is a dot-com company which allows people to make group gifts by pooling money. We also created Sooyoos, a web agency where we provide web development solutions for other companies. Otherwise, my interests are very widespread, but as a proud geek, I like sciences overall. I’m also fond of movies, video games, and Sci Fi. I can’t wait to discover Dallas... but not only for its technological aspects. In France we have an expression, to be a “bon vivant” : a “bon vivant” enjoys all the good things in life (especially good food and good drinks). I’m a “bon vivant” for sure and I look forward to discover this city and its people around a great meal.



Benoit Odelot - Director for Veterans Affairs

My name is Benoit, I am 27 and I will turn 28 during this stay. I am married with Claire who is a farmer. We live together in Amiens in department Somme but the farm is near Peronne. We’ve got a black cat called Sweety. I studied history in the university in Lille and I have a master’s in communication. I work for the ministry of defence as a director for Veterans Affairs in Bobigny, 30 km away from Paris. I’m in charge of solidarity for the veterans of world war II and Indochina and Algeria wars as well and I deal with the different theatre of operations where French soldiers are still engaged (Ivory Coast, Lebanon, Chad, Afghanistan...). I make actions to young people about remembrance of the greatest war of the 20th century. I’m also a lieutenant in the reserve army head quarter for civil crisis. I’m interested in defence and patriotism issues and their influence on populations. I like sports as jogging, cycling and martial arts and video games. I want to know more about USA and Texas in particularly about food, landscape, culture. I wish to communicate about my country, my region, & my job...



Alexandra Marlier - Cultural Project Manager of a Community Center Member of Junior Chamber International Lille Métropole

I’m 35 but I feel like 27. I was born in the small city where we do “unadulterated”: Cambrai. But my parents left this place when I was 6 months old and I grew up near the town of Douai And I have lived in Lille since 1996 and I do love that! My mother’s family arrived in France from Poland in 1923 and 1927 to find a job in a coalmine. I don’t know much about my father’s family because I was 18 months when my parents split up. My sister Audrey, 34, is married with 2 sons (Lucas, 8, and Louis, 5) My mother’s parents helped us to follow in this life and I do love them very much. Then, my mum got married again and I have a half sister, Anne-Elisabeth, 28 who married last summer and is expecting a baby, and a half brother Cyril, 23 who is currently studying sound engineering in NYC. (And I’m very close to them!) At the beginning, my life was a bit tough and I ended up living at my grandparents’ who provided me all the love I needed. I knew since I was 13 that I wanted to study international trade, so I followed this target and was graduated in 1997. Then I worked for 3 years in a company and I decided to go back to the university with an adapted program for adults. In 2002, I graduated in management and project management. Then I started to work as a sales manager and then as a sales engineer. Since 2003, I have had roommates from all over the world (Brazil, Spain, Denmark, Sweden, Chile, Germany, etc...) In 2007 I’ve met Argentine Tango and started to prepare an International Argentine Tango Festival in order to upgrade our region reputation. The target is people who know nothing about the Nord-Pas de Calais Region and will associate it with Argentine Tango corporate image. I mean, for example people from Dallas associating Nord-Pas de Calais with Prestige, Elegance and Sensuality from Argentine Tango influences.... Yes, I practice Argentine Tango (and other dances). In my opinion and experience, Dances are personal development tools... I have ambitious projects for the Nord-Pas de Calais Region: Events and pilot projects. I also like mountain sports like climbing, hiking, skiing, etc...And in 2010, I’ve received another chance/grace to meet God. So although before 2010 I didn’t care about God and spiritual stuff, now I practice my faith every single day The last but not least ingredient of my personality is named IGGY POP... I know, nothing to see with sensual Argentine Tango, with God either... But I can’t explain why I have been so fan of IGGY POP since 1998, going as often as I could to different concerts, even in Poland. And of courses, dancing on the stage with him...(!) The Human being is so strange and can have different passions.... Ask God I can’t answer by myself. So, I would love to meet Americans, to visit Argentine Tango festival if any (or dance festival) and meet events planners, artist agents, event directors, and obviously... IGGY POP;-)



GSE HOSTING REQUIREMENTS

ROTARY CLUB

1. Home hosting for 3 nights
plan for 5 host homes and 2 back-ups!
2. Planning for all vocational, cultural, historical, and entertainment activities
 - a. 8 hours of vocational study time per team member is required
 - b. ½ day of free /relax time (nothing planned) is required
3. Small gift for each team member, usually representative of your town
and a mini-club banner for each team member
4. Transportation to all activities
5. Absorb all meal and entertainment expenses for 3 days and 3 nights unless otherwise agreed on
6. Allow at least 40 minutes for the presentation of their program **if they are expected to do one**
7. Follow procedures and guidelines given by the District GSE Chair

HOST FAMILY

1. Clean, private place to stay
2. Safety & security
3. Usually breakfast if not provided at the 1st activity
4. Daily delivery to pre-determined meeting place for the start of the day's activities
5. Use of washing machine
6. Use of computer with internet or access to the home network
7. Absorb food, beverage, & entertainment costs when it's just your family and the guest
8. Allow some quiet time

GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE OUTBOUND

International Vocational / Cultural Exchange

Ways Clubs and / or Individuals May Participate

1. apply to be the team leader
2. find and nominate a team member
3. sponsor a team member or leader
4. be a host club for 3 days
5. be a host family for 3 days
6. be a driver for a day
7. host a party or dinner at your home, office, or country club
8. use your clout to open doors and / or get free dinners or passes

2010-12 District 5810 GSE Chair

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