

**SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:**

**October 2**

**Yorktown  
Wine Festival**

**Volunteers  
Needed**

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# Art, Wine, Food, Culture,

# Language, History and Information

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

JULY - "JUILLET" 2021

## President's Corner

As you all know, 2020 was a difficult year for everyone. Our 30th anniversary celebration with a visit from our Sister City in Port-Vendres was canceled. We hope to reschedule that visit in 2021 but more likely it will be moved to 2022 when international travel is easier. Two years after we welcome the Port-Vendres delegation to Yorktown, we will reciprocate by sending our own delegation to Port-Vendres.

We bid farewell to Mayor Jean Paul Romero and welcome his replacement, Mayor Gregory Marty. At our Sister Cities Annual Meeting in February, we were pleased to also welcome Monica Guillouet-Gelys, Minister of Culture and Carole Lemarcis, secretary to Mayor Marty.

Don Willis  
Acting President

## Upcoming Events

**October 2** - Yorktown Wine Festival. Sister Cities Yorktown will send out a call for volunteers in August. All volunteers receive a souvenir wine glass and free admission to the event.

Sister Cities Yorktown will receive a pro rata share of the proceeds based on the number of volunteers we send, so look for the call for volunteers in August.

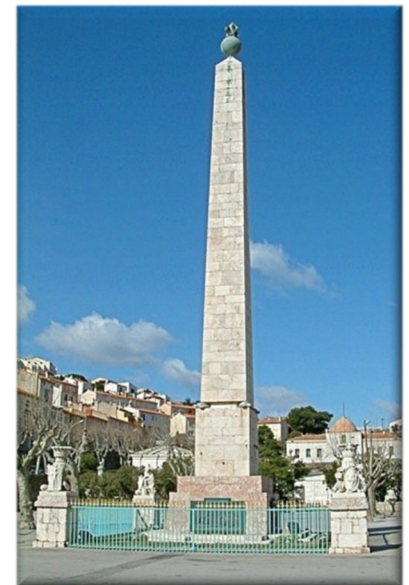
**October 18** - Rochambeau Statue Installation. Details to be announced.

**October 19** - Yorktown Day. Details to be announced.

**October 21** - Annual Sister Cities Soiree en Blanc. Location to be announced.

## Obelisque de Port-Vendres (The Obelisk)

In 1780, under commission of King Louis XVI, the noted architect Charles de Wally designed a 98' high marble obelisk which has now become a focal point of Port-Vendres. The obelisk is adorned by four bronze bas-reliefs representing the newly independent United States of America, the abolition of serfdom in France, free trade, and the French Navy. The obelisk sits proudly in the town of Port-Vendres. More than just a tourist attraction or photo backdrop, the obelisk is a reminder of the support and friendship between our two countries.



## Cocktail of the Month

### The French 75 Cocktail

The French 75, or simply a “Soixante Quinze” as it is called in French, is a cocktail made from gin, champagne, lemon juice and sugar. Various versions were around in the 19th century, but the name and version we have today are most often attributed to the drink served at Harry’s New York Bar in Paris during the first world war.



According to popular lore, the name of the cocktail was inspired by the 75mm Howitzer field gun used by the French during WWI. The gun was known for its accuracy and speed - the French 75 cocktail is said to have such a kick “it felt like getting hit with the weapon”. Whatever its origins, enjoy!

### French 75

1 oz gin  
1/2 oz lemon juice  
1/2 oz simple syrup  
3 oz champagne

Add gin, lemon juice and simple syrup to a shaker with ice and shake until well-chilled. Strain into a flute and top with champagne; garnish with a lemon twist.

## Food of the Month

**The Cheese Course** - A mainstay of any fine French meal, the cheese course is typically served between the main course and dessert. (It is sometimes served in lieu of dessert altogether.) The classic French cheese course typically includes 3 or more cheeses, representing all three milk families: cow, sheep and goat’s milk. Modern interpretations of this tradition sometimes feature a single family of cheese (e.g., goat’s milk), with the variety of textures and flavors showcased within the family. A simple salad or fruit often accompanies the cheese.

Each region of France has its own specialty, with many cheeses bearing the AOC (Appellation d’Origine Controlee) certifying its authenticity to the region from which it is produced. The Occitanie region, within which Port-Vendres is located, includes several cheeses, such as these two:

Pelardon des Cevennes - a soft goat cheese

Roquefort - a blue sheep’s milk cheese

*Add either or both of these to your next cheese course!*



# Past Events

## **2021 Annual Meeting**

Sisters Cities Yorktown held its 2021 annual meeting (via Zoom) in February. The first portion of the meeting was a joint meeting with our guests from Port-Vendres, Monica Guillouet-Gelys and Carole Lemarcis. The remaining portion covered SCY activities and initiatives projected for the upcoming year, membership and a new project - the Young Artists and Authors Showcase. In addition to routine business, elections were held, and the following personnel were elected to the Board of Directors: Don Willis, Debra Paulus, Larry Raithel, Carla Rice, Danielle Canella, Lee Lillard and Joanne Coogan. A final item of business was the awarding of the Quintilla Prize, given to a member of SCY or an individual in Port-Vendres that has gone above and beyond in our organization. The prize is named after Simone and Antoinette Quintilla, who both lived in Port-Vendres and were instrumental in helping to start our Sister City relationship 31 years ago. This year's prize was presented to Debra Paulus, SCY treasurer of several years. She and husband Jim have given significant time and talents to the organization. **Congratulations** to Debra on this award!!

## **French Market**

The annual French Market was held on April 17. Our traditional Flea Market, Silent Auction and French Wine Garden were complimented by the weekly Farmer's Market.

In addition, York County high school French students contributed their efforts, resulting in a terrific event. Proceeds help fund York County high school student exchanges to France.

## **Bastille Day**

This year's event was a wine tasting held on July 14th at the Riverwalk Restaurant. Yorktown Historian Michael Moore gave us an overview of the history of Bastille day. Appetizers and a selection of French wines and appetizers were provided, and Bridget Goeke from Winebow Distributors discussed the wines.



## Past Events—cont'd

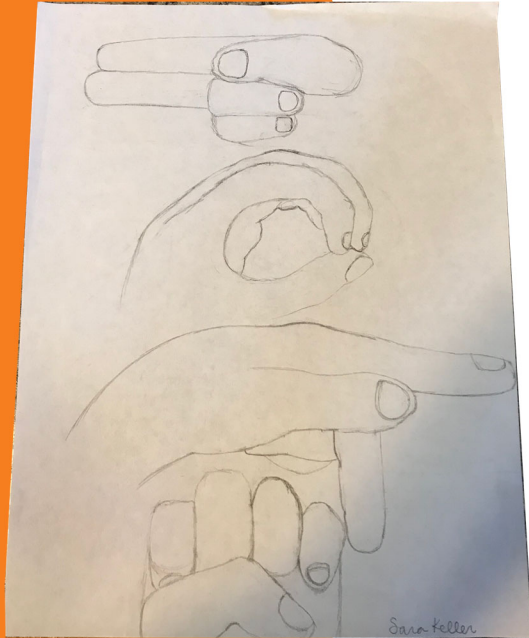
**Young Artists and Authors Showcase** SCY is proud to acknowledge the winners of our Young Artists and Authors Showcase. The winners are Summer Elise Dooley (Photography) and Sara Keller (Art).

Summer submitted a photo she entitled "The 13 Sisters", with the following description: "The Yorktown Monument is the perfect example of unity, especially between the US and France. On the monument there are 13 sisters holding hands to represent the 13 colonies. Under these sisters are the words: 'One Destiny'. This is so powerful. Nothing more unifying than One Destiny." Sara submitted a drawing she entitled "Hopeful Hands", with the following description:

"While trying to think of an idea for my drawing I remembered that I had learned the alphabet in American Sign Language. 'Hopeful Hands' is a drawing of "hope" spelled in ASL. This drawing reminds me that we must understand each other to have hope for a future where we are all united." Each were awarded \$250, and their entries were forwarded to Sister

Cities International, where they will vie for a \$1,000 scholarship.

**Congratulations, ladies!**



### Call to Action!!

**Yorktown Wine Festival**  
**2 October**  
 Yorktown Riverwalk  
 Green  
 (Serious Fun!!)

**Soiree en Blanc**  
**21 October**  
 Location to Be  
 Announced

**Help with our  
 Website**

**Volunteers Needed -**  
 Contact  
 Carla Rice  
 crice111@icloud.com

## Opportunities to Volunteer

Sister Cities Yorktown is an organization of people that share an interest in things international. We're about relationships, cultural learning and having fun together, and because of this, the more we participate, the more fun we have, the more we learn, and the more enjoyment we get out of being a part of something really great. We're always looking for individuals that are able and willing to contribute their time and talents to help us accomplish our mission. The following are opportunities for you to help out . . .

**Board of Directors** - 2 year term, maximum of three terms (Members)

**Standing Committees** - Membership, Events, Development/Fundraising, Education, Public Relations/Marketing (Open to All)

**Event coordination/execution** - Soiree' en Blanc, Wine Festival (Open to All)

**Business support** - Website, Social Media, Writing/Publishing (Open to All)

Note: We are especially in need of someone with the technical skills to update our website. If you are interested in helping out, email us at [staff@sistercitiesyorktown.org](mailto:staff@sistercitiesyorktown.org).

We work as a team. You will have plenty of support. If you have interest, skills, and knowledge, that you can contribute, don't wait for us to ask, let us know. Please contact us at [info@sistercitiesyorktown.com](mailto:info@sistercitiesyorktown.com).



# Membership

Sister Cities Yorktown Membership is open to any person(s) residing in or working in Yorktown or York County, or any persons with a sustained interest in Sister Cities Yorktown, Inc.

**Benefits** – Participation in Member Only socials and small events, i.e. wine tasting, cooking lessons, history lectures, etc.; discounts at local French/international related retailers, first priority for Exchange Trips, receipt of SCY Newsletter and information on local “Things French”.

**Annual dues**—\$25 per individual; \$40 per family. Dues for French language teachers in York County are \$12.50. Membership for high school students in York County is free. Dues are not prorated. SCY receives no funding from government sources, so donations are always welcome and appreciated. SCY is a 501(c) (3) organization, so all dues payments and donations are tax deductible. Applications are available on our website at, [www.sistercitiesyorktown.org](http://www.sistercitiesyorktown.org). Please mail your check to: Sister Cities Yorktown, P.O. Box 735, Yorktown, VA 23692. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Carla Rice at [crice111@icloud.com](mailto:crice111@icloud.com).



*Fostering a Culture of Citizen Diplomacy*

## Leadership - Board of Directors

Don Willis - Vice-President (Acting President)  
 Larry Raithel  
 Debra Paulus—Treasurer—[debra.ramey@tscg.com](mailto:debra.ramey@tscg.com)  
 Gabrielle Glatt—[gglatt2@verizon.net](mailto:gglatt2@verizon.net)  
 Jimmy Richardson  
 Randy Tabor  
 Rose Field  
 Joanne Coogan  
 Danielle Canella  
 Lee Lillard  
 Carla Rice—[crice111@icloud.com](mailto:crice111@icloud.com)

In 1990, Yorktown, Va., entered into a sister-city relationship with Port-Vendres, a small French Mediterranean village. The relationship was formalized on April 19 in Yorktown and July 13 in Port-Vendres by the Yorktown Trustees with the mayor of Port-Vendres and other dignitaries. In 2010, Sister Cities Yorktown celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the relationship with citizen exchanges between both countries. In December 2011, the York County Board of Supervisors formally recognized the relationship for York County. Sister Cities Yorktown is chartered by Sister Cities International.