



Alliance Française of Greater Orlando



SEPTEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

AFGO 60TH ANNIVERSARY

The local chapter of the Alliance Française, covering Central Florida, is named Alliance Française of Greater Orlando (AFGO). It was created in 1959 as a department of Rollins College (Winter Park).

IT IS, THEREFORE, CELEBRATING ITS 60th ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR.

It became independent, with a registration in the Department of State of Florida in 1975.

AFGO is a non-profit organization with a 501 (c) (3) tax status. It is a member of the AF USA Federation.

Including its members, its students and a large crowd of followers, each month AFGO's publications reach close to 800 people, on average.

AFGO is one of the 832 Alliance Française chapters worldwide, which are established in 131 countries. In 2018, these chapters had close to one million members, and taught French and a few other languages to half that many people.

The Alliance Française's mission is threefold:

- To offer French courses, mainly, to all sectors of society
- To promote French culture and French-speaking countries culture
- To encourage cultural diversity and exchanges

And now, a little bit of history of the Alliance Française for readers who are not familiar with it. AF was founded in 1883 in Paris to "propagate the French language abroad". It immediately received the sponsorship of luminaries and statesmen such as Paul Cambon, Ferdinand de Lesseps (Suez Canal), Louis Pasteur and Jules Verne. Between 1884 and 1904, the association rapidly expanded into various countries around the world. In 1905, the Alliance Française already totaled 150 chapters in France and 450 abroad. Its swift expansion slowed during World War II, but resumed after 1950, with a strong acceleration of growth between 1979 and 2017.

For more details about AFGO's activities (events) and language school, please consult our Web site: www.aforlando.org and our Facebook page.

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Friday, September 6: Starting at 6:30 pm, AFGO Annual Meeting. All members as of June 30, 2019 are entitled to participate. Location: AFGO office, 1516 E. Colonial Dr., Suite 120, Orlando, FL 32803.
- Sunday, September 8: Picnic(potluck)/pétanque, starting at 12:30 pm, at Mead Botanical Garden.
- Saturday, September 21: Movie night, starting at 6:00 pm with a potluck dinner followed by the projection of a French movie subtitled in English.

