

SISTER CITIES PRESENTS: "THOMAS JEFFERSON: SEDUCED BY FRANCE"

The Hoffman Estates Sister Cities Commission celebrated National French Week on Saturday, November 7, 2015, with a program and luncheon. The event was held at the Bridges of Poplar Creek in Hoffman Estates and was attended by 70 people who enjoyed a French-inspired luncheon menu featuring Vichyssoise, Mixed Green Salad with Brie and Walnuts, Beef Bourguignon, Creme Caramel for dessert, Orangina, Coffee, Tea, and Soft Drinks.

The program entitled "Thomas Jefferson: Seduced by France" was a slide presentation, narrated by Tish Robinson, on the five years Thomas Jefferson resided in France as America's Minister to France from 1784 to 1789. Tish reviewed Thomas Jefferson's keen interest and intellectual pursuit of the many facets of French life, art, architecture, cuisine, wines and the audience learned how Jefferson's time in France helped shape the future of early America.

Tish Robinson, a resident of Wilmette, Illinois and owner of *"The Wonders of France"*, a group of slide programs about France and French Culture, presented an informative and detailed program about Thomas Jefferson. Tish received a degree in French Literature from Northwestern University and has traveled to France many times and has given numerous programs and courses about France and French culture to many cultural, civic and continuing education organizations, including the Art Institute of Chicago's Associate Series, the Alliance Francaise and Northwestern University's Chamber Music Lecture Series.

For those of us who enjoy "All Things French", Thomas Jefferson, says it best:

"Every man has two countries - his own and France".....Thomas Jefferson.