



AMERICAN FRIENDS OF CHARTRES

November 7, 2016

HONORARY TRUSTEE

Servane de Layre
Countess Mathéus

TRUSTEE EMERITA

Monika S. Riely

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Damien Balsan
Madelyn Blair
Kai P. Chan
Craig Kuehl
Dominique Lallement
Anne Sullivan

ADVISERS

Dennis Aubrey
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Jeffrey F. Hamburger
Christopher Wolf

TRUSTEES and
FOUNDING MEMBERS

In Memoriam
Pierre-Louis Roederer
David Whitehouse



Dear Friends,

Re: Fall 2016 Newsletter and Fall Solicitation Letter

It is hard to believe that the Fall has already reached us, with its beautiful colors, the joys of cooler weather and many celebrations of culture, music and other achievements.

***Celebrating the Return of the Restored Baker's Window
in the Cathedral!***

Thanks to the support and generosity of all of our donors, the restoration of the Baker's window was completed in the Spring of this year. From April 14 to 16, the team of restorers from Claire Babet's Atelier reset the window in the Cathedral. One of our trustees, Craig Kuehl, and I, as well as several of our donors, were able to witness first-hand, up there on the scaffoldings, the resetting of the window, piece by piece. Seeing the window restored to its original splendor and contemplating "eye to eye" its incomparable beauty called on emotions I had never experienced before! I absorbed every moment, every feeling on all of your behalf, with an immense sense of gratitude. Some of the pictures below (taken from the scaffoldings) aim to capture the magnificence of the restored glass. On this occasion, we also had the opportunity to visit "the corridors" of the Cathedral's restoration site, and admire the talents and patience of so many artists – stone workers, sculptors, painters and more – working arduously inch by inch at restoring the admirable work of our predecessors.

Chartres: Light Reborn!

The restoration of the nave took five years, but what an apotheosis of beauty! To share with you this remarkable enterprise, AFC provided modest financial support for the production of *Chartres: Light Reborn*, a documentary film directed by Anne Savalli and produced by Kanaris Film, along with our partner organization *Chartres, Sanctuaire du Monde*, and the major sponsors: France 3/TV Channel and the French Regional Directorate for Culture and Communications. The film has just been finished and will be premiered in Chartres on November 25th, 2016. We are planning to screen it in the United States in numerous venues, to give Chartres, and American Friends of Chartres, all the visibility possible. If you have suggestions of possible places to screen the film, please let us know (friendsofchartres@yahoo.org). We would love to work with you to make this happen.

Planning for 2017 and beyond!

Now that the film on the restoration of the nave of the Cathedral has been completed, we plan to organize several conferences throughout the United States to present the film and the activities of American Friends of Chartres, as part of our 'cultural mission'. We will post the program on our website (www.friendsofchartres.org) in the first quarter of 2017. We also welcome volunteers to help organize these conferences and screenings. In our Spring Newsletter, we should also be able to inform you of our next project. I will be attending a meeting with the French cultural authorities in Mid-November. The next restoration project will be timed with the next phase of works in the Cathedral: the restoration of the Transept.



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Finally...

On behalf of the Board, let me thank all those who contributed to American Friends of Chartres over the years, and are making possible the conservation of the glorious stained-glass patrimony of the world, held up to the light by the sheltering stone walls of Chartres. The remaining cost of the Bakers' Window (Bay 140) is \$35,000. A Board member is challenging AFC to raise this amount by December 31, 2016...to be rewarded by a generous gift of \$10,000! Please join this challenge, tell other friends who may be interested, and help us bring 2016 to a crescendo for Chartres. Remarkable work continues to be done to restore this extraordinary sanctuary and monument. Checks are the best option (no fees) at P.O. Box 5921, 4005 Wisconsin Avenue N.W. Washington D.C. 20016. You can also contribute through PayPal on our website www.friendsofchartres.org/donate, or Razoo (the most expensive option) at www.razoo.com.

Let us know if you plan to visit Chartres in 2017!

With my best wishes for a magnificent Autumn!

Sincerely,

Dominique Lallement
President



Bakers' Window (Bay 140) after Restoration: the Rose.
Photos: © Dallement