

\_Villa St. Jean International School\_  
\_\_\_\_ Creed: "The Whole Man" \_\_\_\_  
"And now here is my secret ... it is only  
with the heart that one can see rightly,  
what is essential is invisible to the eye."  
– Saint Ex.



## The Villa St. Jean blog project

... an unsanctioned production of the Bossuet Material Support Committee



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### Lawler and the Dark Continent

Posted on [02/25/2010](#) by [villastjean](#)

Brian Lawler, Seattle attorney, outdoorsman and Villa alumni, class of '68, is now preparing to climb Mount Kilimanjaro. (19,341 feet)  
 You'll recall from previous dispatches that Lawler has completed three trans-Alpine races. We will update the Villa community as dispatches reach our office.  
 For now, Lawler sent along this photo of the Serengeti Plain, shot during an early-morning ride.

His report:

Sleeping lions, under the tree  
 We saw 16 lions today  
 A cheetah  
 A leopard  
 A million wildebeest and zebras  
 Simply amazing..

—  
**the editors**



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## Di Palma in the Middle Kingdom...

Posted on [11/22/2009](#) by [villastjean](#)

Yes, it's true that Kevin Di Palma (vsj '67) remains teaching English in rural China. To that end we offer this recent photograph, mailed to the Villa Alumni offices world headquarters.

Kevin also provided this links to better understand his world:

Background information: [Jay Walker](#) on the world's English mania (and most of all in China).

In China, you could schedule your own "[Pledge to Learn English](#)" rally. (English returns at 6:20 and again at 8:10).

What the Heck! You could [lead classroom chants](#): Or hold school-yard classes — for [Tomorrow is Another Day](#).

Perhaps make your own [motivational video](#).

– *the editors..*



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## The MacIntyre-Dorrance legacy...

Posted on [11/22/2009](#) by [villastjean](#)

What are the odds that an Indie band would have two connections to the long-closed Villa?

From a note from '68 graduate Steve MacIntyre to his colleagues...

... today, Cole, my stepson, called to tell me that he had news he guaranteed would be even more astonishing than the discovery of Fritz: Cole plays in a band named [Darwin Deez](#) which is currently touring the U.S. and Canada. There are four band members and Cole is the guitarist. And who's the bass player in the band? Michelle Dorrance, Anson's daughter.



[Darwindeez](#)

These kids have been living out of a cramped bus for the last couple of weeks, and though I haven't been tracking all their venues, they've performed in Boston, Providence, Toronto and Omaha, among other cities. Tonight they play Seattle, tomorrow night San Francisco, Monday night Santa Fe and Tuesday Austin.

—

You can sample their music on the band's

[myspace site](#).

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## Jean Remy speaks!

Posted on [10/28/2009](#) by [villastjean](#)

From an interview published in the autumn issue of the University of Dayton's magazine. (it's [here](#))

The headline:

**Jean Remy first met Americans, U.S. soldiers pushing through eastern France, during World War II.**

—

"My first words in English were 'chewing gum, please,'" says Remy, a Châlons-en-Champagne native who attended UD's business school on a Fulbright in 1958-59. Remy attended Villa St. Jean, a Marianist school in

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[Jean Remy interview](#)

Switzerland, but his grandparents already had another Dayton connection: They had housed a Dayton-based officer during World War I. When Remy reached Dayton after a grueling trip from Paris, that officer, Harold Robinson, "bought me a banana split I'll never forget."

In Dayton, Remy discovered multiple-choice tests, drive-in cinemas and Protestant churches. Catholic students had to attend Mass on Wednesdays, he says. "I sinned. The Dayton newspaper had a two-page listing of church services, and I was curious."

The Founders Hall resident saw more than just Dayton. He traveled by Greyhound to Mexico and throughout the U.S., including the segregated South.

At UD, he participated in vision tests for NASA. America had a technological edge on France, he says. But "what amazed me was that a 50-year-old building was already 'too old.'"

Remy left Dayton when he was drafted for the war in Algeria. He served there 28 months.

He worked 27 years at Citibank in private banking and as a manager in international corporate banking and human resources.

He traveled to Africa and the Middle East as a vice president in institutional banking. He later consulted for the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund in Africa.

Remy met Bernadette Antoine at a young professionals' prayer group in Montmartre. They married in 1971 and honeymooned in Israel. They have a son, two daughters and two grandchildren.

Today, Remy produces jam and cider at his 16th-century home in Villeray, a two-hour drive west of his Parisian winter home, and rents his country bed-and-breakfast ([remyfami@gmail.com](mailto:remyfami@gmail.com), if you're in the neighborhood.

looking for a place to stay). He reveals his age, 72, but adds, "My Wii age is 51."

— *Mary Harvan Gorgette*

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### Notre ancien "super-star" ....

Posted on [10/28/2009](#) by [villastjean](#)

The tireless Jean Remy passes along the latest information from the Continent regarding Antoine Saint-Exupéry.

First, he notes that a French TV magazine show, earlier this month, devoted a story to the disappearance off the coast of Marseilles and the discovery of the wreck of his plane. Secondly, he points out this site — <http://www.lepetitprince.com/> — which he notes is controlled by St.-Ex's estate and, no doubt, is financially beneficial to them.

(From the website: our website is an initiative of the Succession Antoine de Saint-Exupéry estate represented by Olivier d'Agay, great-nephew of Saint-Exupéry, and of the Le Petit Prince Multimédia company.

Informations : info@lepetitprince.com)



[Littleprince](http://www.lepetitprince.com/)

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## Keeping watch on Saint-Exupéry

Posted on [10/09/2009](#) by [villastjean](#)

Our colleagues send along news of two reports published by the St-Ireneaus Centre in Lyon on Saint-Exupéry.

One story, we're told, describes the creation of a Saint-Exupéry Foundation for youth. Another describes the decision to create, after long negotiations, a museum at the commune of Saint-Maurice-de-Rémens near Ambérieu Castle where Saint-Ex vacationed during his youth.



[StExupery](#)

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## Brian Lawler: half-man, half-beast!

Posted on 09/16/2009 by villastjean

Mr. Lawler, class of 1968 at the Villa, returned yet again to the Alps this year to race the Gore-Tex Transalpine Run, for reasons not entirely clear to us.



[Lawler & son...](#)

He was accompanied this time by son Patrick, 23; his support crew was wife Anne and brother Kevin.

A description of the event: *The GORE-TEX® Transalpine-Run is an 8 day/ 8 stage race across the Alps, from the Northern Alps of Germany, via the Central Alps of Austria and Switzerland, to the Southern Alps of Italy. For 2009, the course length is approximately 147 miles with 48,000 feet of elevation gain*

*over 8 days. Each day, the participants ascend and descend one range of the Alps.*

More information on Brian's run is available [here](#).

In his Clark Kent mode, Lawler works as an attorney in Seattle. He's completed the race several times and our office has awarded him the VSJ Alumni Distance-Runner Lifetime Achievement Award.

—



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## Reunion Fougerolles!

Posted on 09/10/2009 by villastjean

All:

Our esteemed French brethren met earlier this month in Fougerolles. Via post and routed through China, we have come across some pictures showing both our brothers and — apparently — many wine bottles.

(The photographer, we believe, are supplied by our field journalists, Jean Remy and François Buzon)

An addition: Our correspondent on the continent, Jean Remy, pointed us toward a treasure-trove of additional photos here: <http://www.neufgiga.com/n/50-17/share/LNK20874a77d1b657b32/>.

Merci, Jean!

– the editors



[Reunion3](#)



[Reunion2](#)



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## Gallia stands alone ...

Posted on 08/14/2009 by villastjean

All:

Our photography team is still catching up the treasure of pictures and old yearbooks sent to our offices by our esteemed alumni.

Here is a recent photo of Gallia, the only surviving structure of our old school. Our correspondents — among them are Jean Remy, Michel Inoue and Francois Ronsin — report that this is from September 2007.

Mr. Ronsin maintains a place on Vox, by the way, [here](#).

– *the editors*.



[Gallia](#)

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## 50 years ago at the Villa...

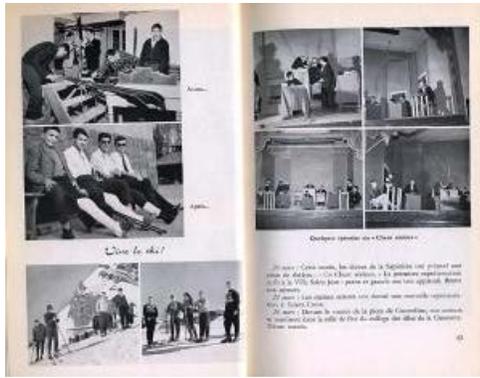
Posted on 08/06/2009 by villastjean

Our photo desk is still going over the vast library of material released by François Marchal ([see this post](#)).

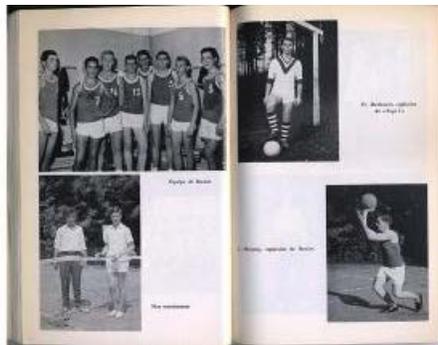
We thought we'd pass along a couple more excerpts, these from the 1959-60 yearbook, a half-century ago, and the twilight period of the Villa as a French-language school. (By the by, clicking through on the images will get you to an original-size picture with better detail.)

One is struck by the humor suggested in the skiing shots and the fact that VSJ basketball pre-dated the Americanization of the school. The long-held belief that Villa basketball reached its apex a decade later, with the likes of Stephen McClintic, Tom Booth, Mike Litton (all '68) and Anson Dorrance ('69) must now be revisited.

– *the editors*



[Vsj-1959-60](#)



[Vsj-1959-60-2](#)

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