



## Student Exchange Committee Report — **Five Local Students Chosen**

Five students have been chosen by the Student Exchange Committee to participate in the Alliance's 2004 trip to England and France. Each of the following students will receive a \$500 scholarship from the Bedford International Alliance, Inc. Congratulations, Students!

**Brittany Bolling**, a 10th grade student at Staunton River High School

**Erin Gilhuly**, a 10th grade student at Liberty High School

**Christopher Hartford**, an 11th grade student at Liberty High School

**Joseph E. Philbrick**, an 11th grade student at Liberty High School

**Isaac Podyma**, a 10th grade student at Staunton River High School

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS**

**Wednesday, September 24**

7:00 p.m. – Board of Directors Meeting

**Wednesday, November 5**

7:00 p.m. – Board of Directors Meeting

**Friday, November 21**

“A Taste of France”  
Member Event

7:00 - 10:00 p.m.  
at the home of  
Skip and Kathy Tharp  
725 Longwood Avenue  
Bedford

**Wednesday, January 15, 2004**

Annual Meeting of Members

Time & Location to be determined

– Directors will be elected by the membership at this meeting.

– Officers will be elected by the new Board of Directors at the Board of Directors Meeting following the close of the Annual Meeting of Members.

**Visit our website to see the latest updates:**

[www.ci.bedford.va.us/alliance](http://www.ci.bedford.va.us/alliance)

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**Nominating Committee Report —**

## **Slate of Officers for 2004**

### **1 Year Directors – Term Expires 12/31/04**

Will Berry

Jack Gross

Connie Messier

Tom Messier

Beverly Padgett

Mike Shelton

Kathy Tharp

Skip Tharp

Pride Wingfield

### **2 Year Directors – Term Expires 12/31/05**

Bob Bashore

Lucille Boggess

Gloria Gross

Joe Humphrey

Nancy Johnson

Craig Meadows

Julie Mayhew

Charlene McFall

Helen Pope

### **3 Year Directors – Term Expires 12/31/06**

Meg Ballard

Pearl Broesamle

Lee Ann Carr

Nanci Drake

Patty Mason Goggin

Milton Graham

Nita Holt

Teresa Stanley

Al Vincent

### **2004 OFFICERS**

Chairman of the Board . . . . . Tom Messier  
Vice-Chairman of the Board . . . . . Bob Bashore  
President . . . . . Mike Shelton  
First Vice-President – USS Normandy . . . . . Will Berry  
Second Vice-President – France . . . . . Jack Gross  
Third Vice-President – England . . . . . Pearl Broesamle  
First Secretary – Recording . . . . . Gloria Gross  
Second Secretary – Communications . . . . . Milton Graham  
Treasurer . . . . . Connie Messier

*You're invited...*

BEDFORD INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE, INC.  
P.O. Box 951  
Bedford, Virginia 24523



MEMBERS OF THE  
BEDFORD INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE  
ARE INVITED TO

**"A TASTE OF FRANCE"**  
FEATURING SELECTED WINES  
FROM THE  
VINEYARDS OF FRANCE

Light hors d'oeuvres will be served

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2003**  
7:00pm to 10:00pm

**AT THE HOME OF MR. AND MRS. SKIP THARP**  
725 LONGWOOD AVENUE  
BEDFORD, VIRGINIA

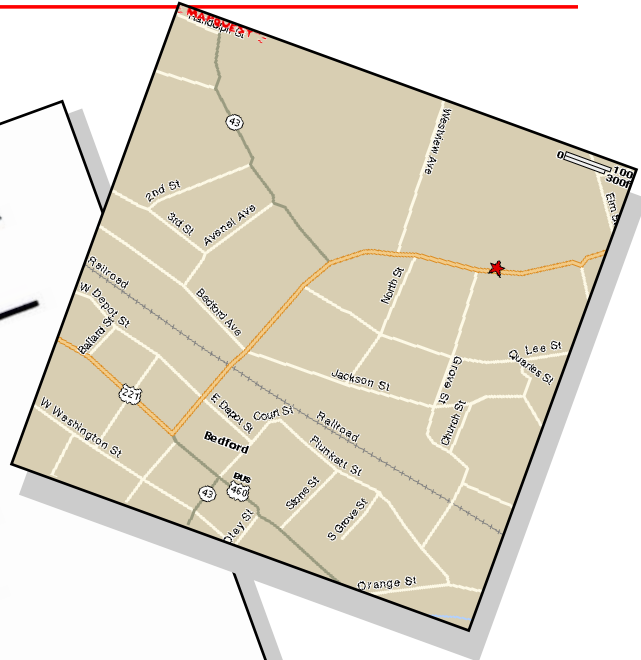
(If you need directions, contact Kathy or Skip at 586-2385)

This membership event is graciously sponsored by the  
Board of Directors of the Bedford International Alliance, Inc.  
And  
Mr. and Mrs. Skip Tharp

**PLEASE R.S.V.P. YOUR ATTENDANCE TO:**  
Connie Messier at 540-586-3059  
No later than Monday, November 17, 2003

A Free Will offering will be collected to defray scholarship costs for the  
June 2004 Student Exchange Program

[www.ci.bedford.va.us/alliance](http://www.ci.bedford.va.us/alliance)



The Tharp's Home

# Our Trip to Ivybridge

By Meg and Dave Ballard



Dave and I arrived in England on Saturday, October 18. The next day we took an eight-hour bus ride to Ivybridge. We stayed at the The Sportsman Inn, which houses the original pub that was there during World War II. We met with Brian Scown, Councilor and former Mayor. After dinner, Brian took us to his house, and we discussed next years visit.



*The Sportsman Inn*

Sportsman Inn. Brian also arranged for us to have lunch with Tony Rae, former councilor.

During the afternoon we met

with Mayor Beeson. We discussed possible plans for the day we arrive in Ivybridge. During the morning our group will lay wreaths at both Slapton Sands and Ivybridge. The order of these ceremonies have not been decided. Brian believes the British Legion would also to participate by also laying wreaths at both memorials.

There will be a reception either at lunch or dinner. At the reception, there is to be friendship / twinning discussion.

We were not able to meet with the whole Council (15 in all), but Mayor Beeson was very receptive to working on this event.

After the meeting with the Mayor, we wandered

around and tried to find some information on Ivybridge. However, being so small, we found no information on the town in print.

That night we had drinks with Jackie, Terry and Brian. Bill, the owner of the Sportsman Inn, said he would work with our Travel Committee to arrange accommodations in the Ivybridge area.

On Wednesday evening, the mayor called and told us that she had viewed the video we took her (on Bedford, VA) and found it to be very interesting and informative. She is passing the

video on to the other councilors and is passing along information on our visit through their newsletter. She is also asking people to come forward and help in the planning.



*Jackie and Terry Evans, on the left, and Tony Rae*

Brian arranged for us to meet with Jackie and Terry Evans, two of Ivybridge's citizens, the next morning. They, in turn, introduced us to two men who remembered the training of our troops. They were Colin and Noel Blacker, aged 8 and 13 respectively in 1944. The brothers will try to get more of the citizens who lived in Ivybridge during the training period together for us to meet and talk with during our visit next year.

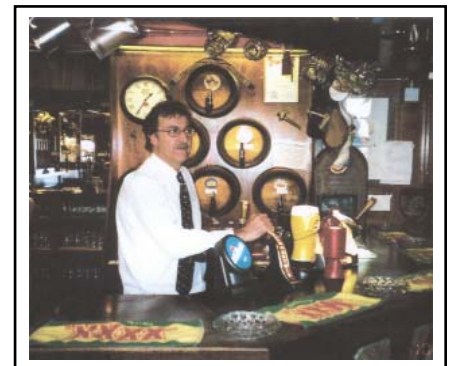


*Noel, left, and Colin Blacker*

We next visited Vera Luckham, the 96-year-old bartender at the



*Dave and Meg met with Vera Luckham in Ivybridge.*



*The bartender serves from the vintage bar at the Sportsman Inn.*

In 1944 Ivybridge had only about 2,000 people and now has about 15,000 people. Very few people who were there in 1944 are still in Ivybridge today. Those we met are glad to see our group visiting their small community in 2004.



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# 2004 Membership Renewal

It's now time to renew your membership in the Bedford International Alliance. Please make your check payable to the "Bedford International Alliance" and mail it to the Treasurer before the end of 2003. You must have your dues payment up-to-date in order to participate in the activities of the Alliance.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS(ES) \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:** Connie Messier, Treasurer, 1527 Newton Circle, Bedford, VA 24523

Bedford International Alliance, Inc.  
P.O. Box 951  
Bedford, Virginia 24523