

Kaye Weninger Honored In Normandy

On Saturday, June 4, during the annual week-long ceremonies honoring all the D-Day Veterans in Sainte Mere Eglise, founding "Sister City" of Locust Valley, Kaye Weninger was the recipient of the first Maureen Kennedy Award. The award was established to honor those American and French citizens who have done the most to promote positive Franco/American relations. Kaye shared the \$10,000 prize with the A.V.A. (Amitie Veterans Americains) a group that was founded post WWII by Simone Renaud, wife of the wartime Mayor of Sainte Mere Eglise and the subject of the recently completed documentary "Mother of Normandy."

Maurice Renaud, youngest son of Alexandre and Simone Renaud, who established the award in memory of Maureen Kennedy, a staunch patriot and advocate for encouraging the strengthening of the bonds of historic and necessary friendship between France and America, presented the award to Kaye.

Maurice read a citation that honored Kaye and her many accomplishments and contributions to the Locust Valley community and Operation Democracy.

Officials of Sainte Mere Eglise expressed their eagerness to participate in future programs with Locust Valley/Oyster Bay in homage to the rediscovered historic friendship between our villages as manifested in "Operation Democracy". Several of these French officials expressed their desire to continue to honor their heroes by now focusing the annual commemorations of D-Day on world peace as a way to leave the best legacy for the Veterans for their efforts in war against those who would threaten our freedoms.

Kaye is spearheading the re-kindling of "Operation Democracy", whose original mission was "to spread the concept of freedom and Democracy around the world", and to aid children in war torn areas around the world. After observing the efforts of Locust Valley on behalf of Sainte Mere Eglise immediately following the war, President Eisenhower was inspired, and, on September 11, 1956, announced the federal program; "Sister Cities International".

To participate and learn more, please visit: www.operationdemocracy.com



Kaye Weninger, President of Operation Democracy, the American organization winner, with Maurice Renaud, Ms. Ghislein President of the A.V.A. (Amitie Veterans Americains), the Norman winner.