

Annual Report of French-American Heritage Foundation



St. Anthony Falls in Minneapolis as they looked when first seen by Father Louis Hennepin in 1680. Picture by Albert Bierstadt (1830-1902)

1. Background Info

The French-American Heritage Foundation is a 501(c)3 charitable non profit organization with the primary purpose of promoting and sponsoring French Heritage events in Minnesota. The Mission Statement for the Foundation is as follows:

To promote and cultivate French-language cultures through education and public programming.

French language cultures have played an important role in the history of Minnesota and Minnesota's connections to French language cultures continues to this day. It is important and proper that these French connections should be celebrated and remembered, both through education and public programming.

2. Organizational Information

The French-American Heritage Foundation is run by a Board of Directors who meet monthly. At the present time there are twelve members of the Board, shown below:

Board of Directors



1. Mark Labine, President 1887 Beckman Ave Arden Hills, MN 55112 Cell 651-210-1739 Home: 651-639-9424



Vice President
6905 Romeo Road,
Woodbury, MN 55125-2421
Cell:651-334-5744
Home: 651-730-4849
dick_bernard@me.com



3. MaryEllen Weller Secretary 7809 Twinflower Drave Madison, Wisconsin 53719 608-848-9621 Cell: 608-338-8715 maryellenweller@aol.com



4. Jerry Foley, Treasurer 4736 Coffey Lane, Minneapolis, MN 55406 612-722-3072 ekfolev@cs.com



5. Pierre Girard 8000 Plymouth Ave North, Golden Valley, MN 55427-3966 763-525-5015 pgirard@visi.com



6. Virgil Benoit 18817 150th Ave SW Red Lake Falls, MN 56750 218-253-2270 vised benoic@und edu



7. Dustin <u>DuFault</u>
Attorney
700 Lumber Exchange Building
Ten South Fifth Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402
dustin.dufault@yahoo.com
612-250-4851



8. Mark Petty Attorney 1285 Euclid Street St. Paul, MN 55106 612-990-9969 pettymk@yahoo.com



9. Brian Caldwell CPA Mahoney, <u>Ulbrich</u>, Christiansen & Russ P.A. Saint Paul, MN

Email: bcaldwell@mucr.com



10. Marie Trepanier 705 Maryland Ave W., St. Paul, MN 55117 651-487-9048 marie2fly@comcast.net



11. Jane Peck 33949 Golden Drive Lanesboro, Minnesota 55949 revels@janepeck.com 612-823-0776



12. Corey LeVasseur Center City, Minnesota Corey.LeVasseur@ge.com 651.494.8090

French-American Heritage Foundation of Minnesota P.O. Box 25554, Woodbury, MN 55125 President Mark Labing Vice President Dick Bernard Treasurer Jerry Foley Scorptary MaryEllen Weller Directors Virgil Benoit Brian Caldwell Pustin Pufault Pierre Girard Jane Peck Mark Petty Marie Trepanier Corey beVasseur Website www.fahfminn.org

French-American Heritage Foundation Letterhead

3. Advisory Committee

At the present time, the French-American Heritage Foundation Advisory Committee consists of twenty-four members, as shown below. Members of the Advisory Committee support the mission of the French-American Heritage Foundation and provide advice and counsel to the Foundation when requested regarding their area of expertise.

Advisory Committee

1.Beth Helle

Director of Tourism City of Minneapolis

250 Marquette Ave South Suite 1300 Minneapolis, MN 55401 Work 612-767-8112 Email: bethh@minneapolis.org

4. Kerith Iverson

Public & Cultural Affairs Officer Québec Délégation Government Office in Chicago

444 N. Michigan Ave, Suite 3600 Chicago, IL 60611 Phone: 312-645-0392 Ext 59712 Email: kerith iverson-vosters@mri.gouv.qc.ca

7. Jacqueline Regis

District Court Judge, former Assistant
Attorney General, and President of
Minnesota Women's Lawyers. Born and
raised in Les Cayes Haiti. Strong
Francophone interests and member of
Alliance Francaise.
Phone: 763-205-5225
Bmail: jacquelineregis@comcast.net

2. Jerry Landreville

Food Service and Liquor Sales Former owner of Champps, Gallivans, Showboat, North End Depot, Chain Link, Gabes by the Park and Ol'Mexico. Has French Canadian Heritage.

> 2726 Olde Cypress Drive Naples, Fl, 34119 Cell 239-398-5216 Email: jilandreville1@nettero.net

5. Barbara Redmond

Redmond Barbara Design Publisher, A Woman's Paris Communications/advertising/ Promotion expertise

10 South 5th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402
Phone: 612-669-1331
Email: design@barbararedmond.com

8. Dr. Fatima Lawson

Principal, L'Etoile du Nord Immersion School

1305 Prosperity Ave (Upper Campus) St. Paul, MN 55106 Phone: 651-221-1480 Email: Fatima.lawson@spps.org

3. Richard Martin Guidry

Expertise in Cajun/Acadians foods, music, genealogy, and organization of festivals or events, etc.

6139 North Shore Drive Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70817 Phone 225-755-1915 Email: guidryrm@cox.net

Steve Madson

SRO Productions, Inc. Productions and Promotion Company. Creates and Produces Festivals and Events

6524 Walker Street, Suite 210 St. Louis Park, Minnesota 55426 Phone: 612-341-4110 Email: madson@sropro.com

Rev. Jules Omalanga

Pastor St. Boniface Catholic Church Francophone African Chaplaincy

629 2nd Street N.E., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55413 Email: joomalanga05@gmail.com

Annie Muske

French Teacher since 1995. Currently French Teacher at Lakeville South High School. Coordinator, A Vous la Parole Minnesota AATF

21135 Jacquard Ave Lakeville, MN 55044 Phone: 952-232-3999 ext. 6397 Email: avouslaparole@hotmail.com

John Schade

Librarian, Minnesota Genealogical
Library. Former President of Minnesota
Genealogical Society. Expert in French
Canadian Genealogical Research
921 Scheffer Avenue,
St. Paul, MN 55102
Phone: 651-224-7988
Email: Johnschade@comcast.net

16. Professor Daniel Brewer

Professor, Department of French and Italian, University of Minnesota 314 Fohwell Hall 9 Pleasant Street SE Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

> Phone: 612-624-0565 Email: dbrewer@umn.edu

Simeon A. Morbey, Esq. Legal Counsel for Foundation

Attorney at Law
Former resident of Ottawa, Canada is
both Canadian and U.S. citizen.
Proficient in French Language
Morbey & Olsen P.L.L.P
www.morbeylaw.com
1302 2nd Street NE, Suite 216
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55413

Phone: 612-331-3667 Email: simeon@morbeylaw.com

11. François Fouquerel

Dean of French Voyageur Program for Concordia Language Villages. Native of Normandy, France

901 8th Street South Moorhead, MN 56562 Phone: 1-800-222-4750 Email: fouguere@cord.edu.com

14. Joëlle Vitiello

Associate Professor
Department of French and Francophone
Studies, Macalester College
Saint Paul, MN 55105

Phone: 651-696-6437 Email: vitiello@macalester.edu

17. Rev. Ronald G. DesRosiers, S.M.

Assistant Professor (ret.), Department of Religious Studies & Philosophy Madonna University, Livonia, Michigan

Church of St. Louis King of France 506 Cedar Street Saint Paul, MN 55101-2280

Phone: 651-224-3379 Email: rgdsm@yahoo.com

20. Jordi Teillard

Dean/Site Manager, Academic Programs French Program Coordinator, Lac du Bois, Stillwater Concordia Language Villages at The Forest

> Phone: 651-433-4375 jteillar@cord.edu

Christine LOŸS

Author, Director and Producer of "En Avant" which is a film about French Heritage in Minnesota. See website www.endvantfilm.com

Resident of France Phone: +33(0)6 51 25 48 73 & U.S. phone: 1-612-562-4214 Email: ch.loys@gmail.com

15. Guy Vadeboncoeur

Professional museologist and VicePresident, Museology for the Musée
McCord Stewart Museum in Montreal,
Quebec
543, 20e Avenue
Deux-Montagnes, Quebec
Canada J7R 0A7
Mobile Phone: 514-531-9784
Home: 450-473-4619
Email: vadeboncoeus@hotmail.com

18. Carrie Heuing

Owner of Carrie On Travel. Advisor on travel accommodations for out of town entertainers, guests of Franco-Fete Festival. Also interested in helping with Festival.

Website: www.carrieontravel.com Phone: 612-226-9482 Email: carrieontravel@yahoo.com

21. Michael Rainville

Partnership Marketing Manager Meet Minneapolis Convention and Visitors Association

250 Marquette Ave South Suite 1300 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401 Phone: 612-767-8074 Email: Miker@minneapolis.org

22. Christina Selander Bouzouina

Executive Director Alliance Française Minneapolis/St. Paul, 113 N First Street Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

> Phone: 612-332-0436 directeur@afmsp.org

23. Thierry Ajas

President French American Chamber of Commerce Randstad Professionals 80 South 8th Street, IDS Suite 1500 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

Phone: 612.313.7960 Mobile: 612.227.8813 Email: thierry.ajas@randstadusa.com

24. Diane Kruger Associate Dean Finance and Operations College of Education, Leadership and Counseling (CELC) St. Thomas University Minneapolis, Minnesota, Phone: 651/925/7998 Email: dianekruger@comcast.net

4. Charitable Foundation

On June 26, 2014, the Internal Revenue Service granted the French-American Heritage Foundation full tax exempt status as shown in the letter below:

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE P. O. BOX 2508	DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
CINCINNATI, OH 45201	
Date: JUN 2 6 2014	Employer Identification Number: 36-4760955 DLN: 17053148332003
FRENCH-AMERICAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION C/O MARK LABINE 1887 BECKMAN AVE ARDEN HILLS, MN 55112	CONTACT Person: CUSTOMER SERVICE ID# 31954 CONTACT Telephone Number: (877) 829-5500
	Accounting Period Ending: December 31
	Public Charity Status: 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
The Committee of the Artist Committee of the Committee of	Form 990 Required:
	yes Effective Date of Exemption: March 21, 2013 Contribution Deductibility:
	Yes Addendum Applies:
	No No
Dear Applicant:	
under section 501(c)(3) of the Intern deductible under section 170 of the C tax deductible bequests, devises, tra or 2522 of the Code. Because this le	on review of your application for tax t you are exempt from Federal income tax hal Revenue Code. Contributions to you are code. You are also qualified to receive hansfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 stter could help resolve any questions buld keep it in your permanent records.
	Ol(c)(3) of the Code are further classified soundations. We determined that you are ion(s) listed in the heading of this
Please see enclosed Publication 4221- Charities, for some helpful informati exempt organization.	-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public ion about your responsibilities as an
	Sincerely,
	Tamera Ripperda
	Director, Exempt Organizations
Enclosure: Publication 4221-PC	
	Letter 947

5. Membership Structure

Membership of the French-American Heritage Foundation was established as a means to raise funds to finance and support its mission statement. A membership structure based on the calendar year was set up as a way to solicit donations for the foundation. Three membership categories were established.

Supporting Member: \$25 Sustaining Member: \$100 Sponsor: \$500 and above

The Membership was structured so that 100% of the membership payment is tax deductible. IRS rules state that membership payments are fully deductible where there are no services given to members. The hope is that people will become members on an annual basis because they support the mission statement of the French-American Heritage Foundation.

Although no services per se will be given Members, Members will be given notice of activities, receive regular news by email, and will be given an annual report each year. It is also anticipated that Members will make contributions to the website in the form of articles on French American Heritage, information about their genealogy and family history, and list any websites they know about that deal with French American Heritage. Of course, it is also hoped that members will be willing to volunteer to assist in activities the foundation sponsors in years to come, such as the Franco Fete French Festival.

6. 2014 Accomplishments

In 2014 the French-American Heritage Foundation accomplished the following:

- 1. Maintained and added information to its website. A number of article on French Heritage were added and the following family genealogy books were added: Ancestral Pathways (ancestors of Mark Labine) Aubert Family book, Belisle Family, Chabrier dit Vadeboncoeur, Cote Family, Foley/Fallu/Falleau family book by Jerry Foley, Maria Chapdelaine, Narrative of the Travels and Adventures of a Merchant Voyageur in the Savage Territories of Northern America, Proulx family book, and the Verboncoeur family. The website currently has sixteen articles on French Heritage, including "En Avant", the story about the film currently being made by Christine Loys about Minnesota's film connections, the history of Gentily, Minnesota, Artiles written by Greg Brick about Pigs Eye Fountain Cave and the LeSeur Saltpeter Caves in Minnesota, plus others.
- 2. Received tax exempt letter from the Internal Revenue Service.
- 3. Added members to the French-American Heritage Foundation Advisory Committee.

- 4. Explored the idea of sponsoring a Franco Fete French Festival sometime in the future. The French-American Heritage Foundation is discussing doing a joint venture with other organizations and discussions continue. This is still a future hope of the Foundation.
- 5. Sponsored two French Heritage Educational events.

June 28, 2014. The first event was held on Saturday, June 28, 2014 at the Provence Room at Salut Bar Americain in St. Paul. Dr. Greg Brick, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Minnesota discussed the discovery of saltpeter caves along the Minnesota shore of Lake Pepin by Pierre-Charles Le Sueur in 1700. These caves were recently located and were the subject of his doctoral research at the University of Minnesota. Forty persons registered for this event. The cost for the event was \$30 which included a meal.

October 3, 2014. ON October 3rd, the French-American Heritage Foundation and the Alliance Francaise co-sponsored an event held at the Grande Salle of the Alliance Francaise located at 113 N First Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401. There were three presenters at this event. Mark Labine discussed the early French-Canadian settlement in downtown St. Paul and the battle of Kaposia (pronounced Kapoja) which took place on July 8, 1842 in which French-Canadian Settlers spent the night on Raspberry Island in downtown St. Paul to protect themselves from the conflict. Christine Loÿs, documentary film-maker and author will talk about her film about the French Heritage in Minnesota. Martine Sauret, Associate Professor at Macalester College, will talk about Martine Sauret will speak about Nicollet's journal and its disappearance (the original of Nicollet's journal has disappeared but it was read by Jesuit fathers Paul Le Jeune and Vimont. Portions of it appear in the Jesuit Relations.). The cost for the event was \$10 for AF/FAHF members and \$15 for the general public. Wine and refreshments were served.

7. 2015 Planned Agenda

In 2015, the French-American Heritage Foundation hopes to continue to promote its mission statement and the following projects/events are currently being discussed:

- a. Discussions will continue on sponsoring a Franco-Fete French Festival in Minnesota.
- b. A social event is being planned at a French food restaurant in the twin cities.
- c. Mary Ellen Weller and Michael Rainville are working to organize a French Heritage progressive dinner which be held on April 23, 2015.
- d. An educational event is being planned for October 2014 that will feature John Schade, who is a member of our Advisory Committee, talking about his French Canadian Genealogical Research.
- e. A French Heritage educational course on the History of French and French-Canadian immigrants in Minnesota is being planned which will be taught at Washburn Library in

Minneapolis, Minnesota. This court will be on the French Legacy in Minnesota and will be on Fridays in June, 2015.

- f. The board is discussing a project to create a brochure that would feature French and French Canadian Heritage Landmarks in the twin cities. This brochure could be made available to tourists, the history center, and other groups. It is expected that the Foundation will apply for a grant from the History Center to fund this project and it is expected Jane Peck will head this project.
- g. The Foundation will explore sponsoring scholarships for French language students at a college or university in the Midwest.
- h. The Foundation will provide a scholarships for students who attend the Concordia Languages Village's French Camp, Lac du Bois where they will develop their French Language skills. These scholarships will be called the French-American Heritage Foundation Scholarship and will total \$800 per year.

8. Donations

The French-American Heritage Foundation needs donations in order to survive. We need those interested in preserving and promoting French-American Heritage in Minnesota to donate to our Foundation. All donations are tax deductible. As a way to assist the Foundation to raise donations, rack cards have been printed that provide prospective members with information about our foundation. Copies of these rack cards are shown below.

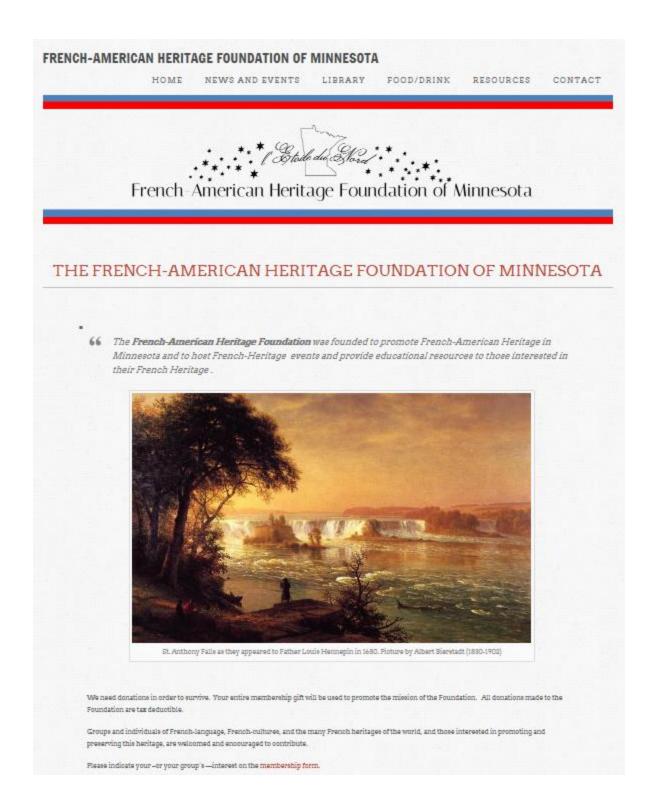
For donations or to show your support, simply write a check made payable to the French-American Heritage Foundation and mail to either Jerry Foley, Treasurer, 4736 Coffey Lane, Minneapolis, MN 55406, or to the French-American Heritage Foundation, P.O. Box 25384, Woodbury, MN 55125.

Donations can also be made by credit card thru PayPal on the French-American Heritage Foundation website at www.fafhminn.org.



9. Website

An important step in forming a new Foundation or community based organization is to form a website. The Foundation has a website located at www.fahfminn.org.



Above is a picture of the home page to this website which is located at www.fahfminn.org.

There are currently 17 pages on this website and they are titled as possible.

1. Home

- a. About
- b. Board Members
- c. Membership
- d. Mission Statement

2. New and Events

- a. News
- b. Events

3. Library

- a. Articles
- b. Books
- c. Chez Nous
- d. Genealogy

4. Food/Drink

5. Resources

- a. French Heritage Entertainment
- b. Family Heritage Websites
- c. Organizations
- d. Family Websites

6. Contact

Our plan is to keep the website updated on a regular basis with news about events sponsored by the Foundation. We also anticipate that over time we will develop a large database of family websites, French-American Heritage articles and books for people who want to learn more about their French-American Heritage and genealogy.

We encourage all members to send to Mark Labine at his email address: mlabine@msn.com, or send to the French-American Heritage Foundation at their email address: frenchheritagefoundation@gmail.com any websites you would like displayed at the French-American Heritage Foundation website, including family genealogy websites, family reunion websites, articles, book information, etc.

10. 2014 Financial Report

Below is the 2014 financial report for the Foundation.

Funds at Beginning of Year		1,665.77
Income	Sponsors	2,905.20
	Sustaining Members	1,328.25
	Supporting Members	275.65
Total Income in 2014		\$4,509.10
Expenses	Reuben Cordaro- Logos	1,127.50
	Website Expenses	573.17
	Rack Card Expenses	795.63
	Midwest Art Fair (Franco Fete)	115.00
	Kim Miller (Event Set up)	100.00
	Post Office Box	62.00
	Deluxe Checks	28.00
	FA Chamber of Commerce	230.00
	Fete Du Vin	
	Paypal Expenses	\$131.03
Total Expenses in 2014		\$3,162.33
Net cash flow in 2014		\$1,477.80
Funds at End of Year		\$3,012.54
Assets	PayPal	\$869.89
	Associated Bank	\$2,142.65
	Total	\$3,012.54

11. Proposed Franco Fete

One of the Foundation's *raison d'etre* or reason to exist is to promote and sponsor a Franco-Fete French Festival in the Metropolitan area. No specific plans for a Franco Fete currently are in place. We continue to have discussions and Logos have been prepared as shown below with the hope that someday a Franco Fete festival will occur.



Proposed Franco-Fete banner for festival, designed by Bruce & Jim at Rubin Cordaro Design



Franco-Fete Festival Logo designed by Bruce & Jim at Rubin Cordaro Design



2012 Franco Fete Logo

12. Membership

List of 2013 French-American Heritage Foundation Members

- 1. Bernard, Dick
- 2. Durand, Mike
- 3. Foley, Gerald
- 4. Labine, Mark
- 5. Weller, MaryEllen
- 6. Beiring, Jacqueline Demeules
- 7. Benoit, Virgil
- 8. Fillion, Barbara
- 9. Horn, William B.
- 10. Loys, Christine
- 11. Regis, Jacqueline M.
- 12. Peck, Jane
- 13. Ruffing, John J. and Patricia

List of 2014 French-American Heritage Foundation Members

- 1. Benoit, Virgil
- 2. Bernard, Dick
- 3. Bomier, Bruce
- 4. Brunelle, Philip
- 5. Caldwell, Brian
- 6. Collette, John
- 7. Cronin, Jackie
- 8. Demueles, Christopher
- 9. Dufault, Dustin
- 10. Dufault, Robert and Lana
- 11. Dufour, Roger
- 12. England, John S.
- 13. Foley, Gerald
- 14. Gagne, Paulette
- 15. Girard, Pierre
- 16. Horn, William17. Labine, Mark
- 18. LaBrosse, George
- 19. Mayers, Carole
- 20. Mayers, Paul and Caroline
- 21. Petty, Mark
- 22. Proulx, Marie-Jean
- 23. Ruffing, John and Patricia
- 24. Weller, MaryEllen
- 25. Wolsey, Mary Lou