

**MAJOR MIDWEST FRENCH-AMERICAN HERITAGE EVENTS
PERSONALLY REMEMBERED by Dick Bernard**

Virgil Benoit had major role in making the event happen

@ Jane Peck had major role

* - Dick Bernard had role

Chez Nous/Nouvelles Ville Jumelles index and issues at

<http://www.outsidethewalls.org/blog/2014/03/24/> (Mar 24, 2014)

1981, Oct 24 : An Evening in Old Montreal, Francine Roche, Louis Dube, Olivier Lefebvre, Martin Lavoie - concert at St. Cate's (Chez Nous p. 39&41)

1982, June: very big La Societe picnic at a park in Maplewood. Roast Pig on a spit, gallons of pea soup, the singers. I thought my Dad had died and went to heaven. We were about to embark on our first trip to Quebec.

1982, Oct 23: Salut au Quebec, Francine Roche, Martin LaVoie, Jean-Guy Cote, Bob Vaillancourt, St. Cates (Chez Nous p. 67)

1985, Nov: L'Heritage Tranquille, St. Anthony Main Conference Center (Chez Nous p. 187)

@1987 forward: annual events in Red Lake Falls/Huot MN. See Chez Nous index for under Red Lake Falls and Huot for several articles in Chez Nous. I personally attended several of these through about 2004.

* # **@1995 , April: Reseau de L'Etoile du Nord.**

Two parallel multi-venue events Minneapolis and St. Paul:

Crossing Boundaries, Jane Peck, Dance Revels; Christian Anniex, Jean Baron from Brittany; Eddy King-Johnson and Sandra Poiria from Turtle Mountain; and

Melodies Francaise, Jean-Louis Sanscartier, Quebec.

Venues: Minnesota History Center, Ukrainian Cultural Center, St. Peter Claver and Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church. Virgil Benoit had a long interview on Minnesota Public Radio about French in Midwest. Eddy King-Johnson from Turtle Mountains brought out (it seemed) the entire twin cities Metis community. He later said it was the first time in his career that he sold out his cassettes before the concert began. (Chez Nous 583, 584, 591)

***1999, March**: 20th anniversary of La Societe C-F, pages 761 and 785 Chez Nous

@Late 1990s, early 2000s: annual St. Jean-Baptiste event at Faribault House in Mendota, sponsored by MN Historical Society. Jane Peck and group performed several times p. 702 and 888 in Chez Nous.

Chez Nous ceased publication at end of 2001.

IF Midwest events: (<http://und.edu/orgs/initiatives-in-french-midwest/>) Grand Forks, 2007; Belcourt, 2008, 2009; Bismarck, 2010; Fargo, 2011 (<http://www.outsidethewalls.org/blog/> Bismarck 7-16-10, Bismarck, 10-12-11) ***Franco-Fete Minneapolis 2012**

Dance Revels: (<http://janepeck.com/>) Bottineau Jig Apr 1&2, 2011 (<http://www.outsidethewalls.org/blog/> 4-5-11)

There was also occasional attendance at Bastille Day events.