2018 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)
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. Our Mission Statement:

To promote and cultivate the heritage of French-language cultures.

French-language heritage has played an important role in the history of Minnesota. It is important and proper that this heritage be celebrated and remembered. The French-American Heritage foundation:

- Maintains a website and a Facebook page focused on French-language heritages
- Sponsors educational events focused on French heritage
- Sponsors educational materials and books about French heritage
- Posts Minnesota French-American family history and genealogy to our website
- Provides scholarships for French language and culture studies

Membership Structure

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. Membership is annual and for the calendar year.

Members may make contributions to the website in the form of articles on French-American heritage, information on their genealogy and family history, and share resources that deal with French-American Heritage. Members are encouraged to volunteer to assist in activities the foundation sponsors, especially the Franco-Fête festival.
2018 Events

- **March 10, 2018**- Midwest Bouille- Virgil Benoit Event at Shoreview Library.
- **March 17, 2018**- FAHF Event-Catholic Influence on French Immigration into North America.” By Charles Coulombe, author of “Puritan’s Empire, a Catholic Perspective on American History.” Presentation at Our Lady of Lourdes Church. 2 to 4:30 p.m.
- **March 26, 2018**- FAHF Genealogy Workshop taught by Dick Bernard and Jerry Foley. Nokomis Library in Minneapolis.
- **April 21, 2018**- Midwest Bouille- Virgil Benoit Event at Shoreview Library
- **April 21, 2018**- FAHF Genealogy Workshop taught by Dick Bernard and Jerry Foley. Nokomis Library in Minneapolis.
- **May 20, 2018**- Urban Expeditions- Landmark Center event showcasing France, French history, culture and people. Table at event.
- **June 24, 2018**- Fete St. Jean Baptiste event at the Sibley House in Mendota
- **June 29, 2018**- FAHF United Soccer Fundraiser.
- **July 15, 2018**- Bastille Day- July 15, 2018- Table at Event.
- **October 5-6 2018**- MGS Annual Conference. Table at event.
- **October 27, 2018**.- Family History Day- Hennepin County Library. Table at Event.

Planned 2019 Events

- **January 14, 2019**- Theo’s Choice, presentation by filmmaker and History Professor Thomas Cauvin about exploring the battle to keep the French language alive in Louisiana.
- **February 16, 2019**- Virgil Benoit and Louisville Foundation presentation at Shoreview Library.
- **April 7, 2019**- “Finding the Real Bottineau”- an event about the life and identifying influences on Pierre Bottineau. Event to be held at the St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church at 2 p.m.
- **June 23, 2019**- St. Jean Baptiste day festival at Sibley Historic Site.
- **August, 2019**- date and place to be determined. Presentation on Fur Trade by Greg Cash.
- **October 11, 2019**- George Bonga, Black, White or Ojibwe- a presentation by Mattie Harper, Ph.D, who will tell the Bonga Family’s multigenerational story of living
within structures of empire, slavery and colonialism, and the ways in which their identities lay at the heart of their survival. Event will be held at new headquarters of the Alliance Francaise.

In addition to above event, the French-American Heritage Foundation plans to participate in the Bastille Day event in downtown St. Paul, the MGS Annual Genealogy Conference and the Family History Day at the Hennepin County Library.

French-American Heritage Foundation Projects

The French-American Heritage Foundation is currently working on three projects. The first is a fundraiser to raise funds to ensure the continued viability of our Foundation. This fundraising project is called the “100 Associates.” See more info on this project below.

The second project is a Heritage Brochure. FAHF seeks to publish an illustrative, foldout map brochure of 24 French and French-Canadian heritage sites in Minnesota. This will be paired with an interactive map with links to reading and resources on the FAHF website. This project proposal is approved by FAHF’s Board of Directors in support of its mission. Our web site is fahfminn.org. Our purpose is to promote multidisciplinary on-site visitation & remote learning in a way that expands public awareness and understanding. This proposal builds on and complements the Historic Adventures MNHS map in a way that is in-depth, interactive and culture-specific. The project will include new, original illustrations and descriptions of the 24 statewide sites listed and their significance to French heritage in Minnesota, pooled into 4 categories. All featured sites are publicly accessible.

The third project is the publication of a book titled “Where the Waters Meet.” This book is the story about how the State of Minnesota had its beginnings in the area known as “Mdote” by the Dakota (aka Bdote) which literally means ”the place where the waters meet.” The State’s beginnings involved an interesting cast of characters including French explorers and fur traders with names such as: Pierre Le Sueur, Nicolas Perrot, Alexis Bailly, Jean Baptiste and Alexander Faribault, Joseph Rolette, and Joseph LaFramboise. This book is story of that place, its role in our State’s beginning, and a focus on the French-speaking people who were part of the transformation from Dakota Nation to a member of the United States.

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.fahfminn.org.
100 Associates

In recognition of the rich and long history of French presence in this state, a group of people interested in history, heritage and culture formed the French-American Heritage Foundation (FAHF) in 2013 with the purpose of promoting and sponsoring educational events, seminars and classes on French Heritage in Minnesota. Most other ethnic groups in Minnesota have organizations that promote and preserve their heritage, and it is appropriate that Minnesota also have an organization that helps to preserve its French-Canadian and French heritage.

In the spring of 1660, Pierre-Esprit Radisson and his brother-in-law, Medard Chouart, Sieur des Groseilliers explored the area around the Great Lakes region which included Minnesota. Thus began the beginning of the French presence in Minnesota. In fact, “They Spoke French” in Minnesota for almost 200 years before Minnesota became a State in 1858.

In the short time this Foundation has been in existence, it has become clear that the people of Minnesota appreciate the efforts and contributions that this Foundation has made to provide historical information and educational materials to the public. There will always be a need and desire to learn about our State’s history. The French heritage in this state is part of our history, and should be remembered and be available to everyone. It is the intent of the F-AHF to fulfill that need.
These efforts take time and money, and to ensure that this Foundation survives, it must have funds to ensure that its mission will be able to continue long into the future. For this reason, the F-AHIF is embarking on this fundraising campaign to raise $100,000 to place into a perpetual endowment fund that will be managed by the St. Paul Foundation. The income from this endowment will then be used to help fund future educational events and services that meet the mission statement of the French-American Heritage Foundation.
Financial Report

Below is the 2018 financial report for the Foundation.

1. 2018 Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsors</th>
<th>500.00</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sustaining Members</td>
<td>1,269.48</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supporting Members</td>
<td>575.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Events</td>
<td>1,310.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Sales</td>
<td>840.84</td>
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<tr>
<td>French Heritage Classes</td>
<td>241.00</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,736.32</strong></td>
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2. 2018 Expenses

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<tr>
<th>Vistaprint (flyers)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Events</td>
<td>1,290.66</td>
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<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>468.65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post Office Box</td>
<td>41.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Costs</td>
<td>398.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Website</td>
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<tr>
<td>Misc. expenses</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,075.01</strong></td>
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In addition to above, there was $8,181.53 in receipts for 100 Associates.

3. Cash Flow

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<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fund at Beginning of Year</td>
<td>$3,012.54</td>
<td>$4,975.31</td>
<td>$5,251.86</td>
<td>$9,418.72</td>
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<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>$3,828.68</td>
<td>$10,066.66</td>
<td>$7,213.43</td>
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<tr>
<td>100 Associates Receipts</td>
<td>$8,181.53</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>-1,865.91</td>
<td>-9,790.11</td>
<td>-3,146.48</td>
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<td>Net Cash Flow (loss)</td>
<td>$1,962.77</td>
<td>$276.55</td>
<td>$4,066.95</td>
<td>$9,842.94</td>
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<td>Funds at End of Year</td>
<td>$4,975.31</td>
<td>$5,251.86</td>
<td>$9,418.72</td>
<td>$19,261.66</td>
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</table>

4. Assets

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
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<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PayPal</td>
<td>387.00</td>
<td>227.84</td>
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<td>Associated Bank</td>
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<td>4,937.53</td>
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<td>Kindle Publishing</td>
<td>86.40</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$9.88</td>
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<tr>
<td>100 Associates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$8,181.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Asset Value</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,975.31</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,251.77</strong></td>
<td><strong>$9,418.72</strong></td>
<td><strong>$19,261.66</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mission Statement: To preserve and promote the French-American Heritage in Minnesota through education and community events.

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French American Heritage Event
When: Saturday, November 11th, 2016
Location: Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Hall
6250 108th St. NE
Minneapolis, MN 55414
Contact: Board of Directors
Come join us for music, wine, an interactive presentation by Eileen Angelini.

A French-American Heritage Event
In the Beginning, there was a Chapel

On the Feast of All Souls’ Day, November 1, 1867, a small log chapel was dedicated in the Knoll overlooking the Mississippi River, where the chapel was built. It was the only one of its kind in the area and was later moved to the present location. The current church was built in 1876 and is still in use today. The church’s history is rich with stories of its role in the community.

French American Heritage Foundation

In the Beginning, there was a Chapel

Fall of St. Anthony by Albert Munsell
Mission Statement of French American Heritage Foundation
To promote and celebrate the heritage of the French language culture.

Chapel of St. Anthony by French Canadian in City
Painting by Andre Fournier

Minnesota with a French Accent

Spring 2018 Eagle’s Nest Heritage, Inc. Newsletter

Heritage Event
George Bouga
Blackstone Foundation
October 11, 2016
6:00 pm

This educational Heritage event is being sponsored by the Alliance Francaise of Minneapolis. The event will be held at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Jacques Frédéric. Call 612-371-1014 to reserve a ticket.