

2021 Annual Report 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)



P.O. Box 25384, Woodbury, MN 55125 Email: frenchheritagefoundation@gmail.com

President Gregory Cash

Message from the President

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Website www.fahfminn.org

Mission Statement:
To preserve and
promote the French-

American heritage in Minnesota through education and community events.

YouTube: FAHF Minn The pages which follow represent the ninth annual report for the French-American Heritage Foundation, which was incorporated and organized in 2013. Our Foundation has many accomplishments over the past nine years, and we hope to continue to promote education and community events in Minnesota for years to come.

2021 continued to offer many of the same challenges we faced the previous year, and, although a number of the events we were planning to sponsor had to be postponed due to coronavirus pandemic, we did reinitiate programming during the summer. Our plans for 2022 include a number of new programs and we hope to also hold a live version of La Fête de la Saint-Jean-Baptiste, the National Holiday of Québec, which is also celebrated across French speaking Canada and the United astates.

We continue to make progress with 100 Associates, our endowment fund. Although we have not yet reached our end goal of \$100,000, we did reach the threshold required to open an endowed fund with the St. Paul Foundation and will begin granting small scholarships this year.

Please help support our mission and our organization, and we look forward to seeing you soon at one of our upcoming heritage events.

Sincerely,

Greg Cash, President



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 preserve the French-American Heritage in Minnesota through education and community events.

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. Although the Foundation does not provide direct services or benefits to members, it does use the funds provided by members to put on heritage events that are informative and fun! 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.

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 The Oxbow/Louisville at Old Crossing Foundation presentation at Shoreview Library.
- **February 22, 2019-** Mark Labine presentation at Macalester College on French heritage in Minnesota.
- April 7, 2019- "Finding the Real Bottineau"- an event about the life and identifying influences on Pierre Bottineau. Event held at St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church.
- May 18, 2019- Prairie du Chien Heritage Tour.
- June 23, 2019- St. Jean Baptiste Day Festival at Sibley Historic Site.
- July 14, 2019- Table at Bastille Day- St. Paul.
- August 15, 2019- Presentation on Fur Trade by Greg Cash at Banfill-Locke Center for the Arts in Fridley.
- September 14, 2019- Table at Mendota Mdewakanton Pow Wow in Mendota.
- October 4-5- Table at Annual North Star Genealogy Conference.
- October 11, 2019- Presentation by Mattie Harper, Ph.D., on 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 held at Grande Salle at the Alliance Française Joly Family Center for International Understanding.
- October 25, 2019- Co-sponsor with Alliance Française of movie Dure Bataille, by Dusan Hudec.
- October 26, 2019- Table at Family History Day at Hennepin County Library.

2020 Events

- **February 29, 2020-** Presentation by Dick Bernard on the history of Chez Nous for an Oxbow Conversation event at the Little Canada Historical Society.
- March 22, 2020- Presentation by Caroline Meilleur at St. John the Baptiste Catholic Church, in Dayton, on French-Canadian genealogy. *Cancelled due to COVID*.
- June 21, 2020- St. Jean-Baptiste Day Festival (Fête St. Jean-Baptiste) at Sibley Historic Site. Cancelled due to COVID
- July 14, 2020- Bastille Day Fête. Cancelled due to COVID
- July, 2020- Heritage Tour to Grand Portage and Fort William. Cancelled due to COVID.
- August 16, 2020- The Life & Legacy of William Gates LeDuc. At the LeDuc House in Hastings, Minnesota. *Cancelled due to COVID*

In addition to above events, the French-American Heritage Foundation planned to participate in the MGS Annual Genealogy Conference and the Family History Day at the Hennepin County Library. However, due to COVID 19, all the above events were cancelled, except for the Bastille Day Fête which occurred on a reduced scale in the parking lot near the Joly Family Center for International Understanding.

2021 Events

- July 14, 2021- Table at Bastille Day- Minneapolis.
- August 15, 2021- Presentation by author Steve Werle at the LeDuc historic estate in Hastings, Minnesota. Title of presentation was "An American Gothic, The Life and Legacy of William Gates LeDuc. LeDuc was the grandson of a military officer who served with George Washington at the Battle of Yorktown. Pioneer William Gates LeDuc played a significant role in Minnesota's transition from territory to statehood.
- October 12, 2021- Presentation by Mark Labine on his research into the 18th and 19th Century Little Rapids Fur Trade Post on the Minnesota River near the Dakota village named Inyang Ceyaka. The musical group Bundle and Go played French-Canadian and Metis music at the event.

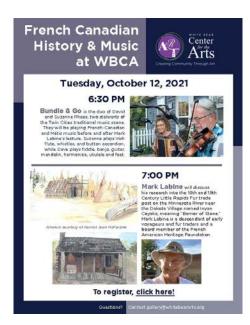
Planned 2022 Events

- **January 23, 2022-** Presentation by Jane Hayden-Hart on her findings about the 1855-56 "Sioux Affidivits" where were taken by commissioners H.H. Johnson and William Ashley. Event to be held at the Dupuis House at the Sibley Historic Site and will also feature music by Philippe Gallandat.
- March 5, 2022- Presentation by Jim Morin on the Travels and Adventures of Charles Napoleon Morin. Event will be held at the Little Canada Historical Society and will also feature French-Canadian dance and music by Denielle Enblom.
- June 25, 2022- St. Jean-Baptiste Day Festival (Fête St. Jean-Baptiste) at Sibley Historic Site.
- July 14, 2022- Table at Bastille Day Fête.
- Other events TBD

Little Rapids

Members of the Foundation have made several hiking excursions to the Louisville Swamp in Scott County to establish the location of the Jean-Baptiste Faribault Fur Trading Post located near the Dakota Village of Inyan Ceyaka. Otherwise known as Little Rapids, the Foundation intends to publish a book and give future presentations about this trading post and the Dakota village located nearby.

On October 12, 2021 Mark Labine gave a presentation at the White Bear Center for the Arts on this Little Rapids research project.



Grand Portage

In August 2020, three members of the Foundation hiked the Grand Portage in Northern Minnesota. In 2021, a group of four persons returned to hike the nine-mile portage from the Grand Portage Historic Site on Lake Superior to Fort Charlotte on the Pigeon River.









Photos, from top left, clockwise: Neil Simonson, Matthew Wright, Greg Cash in front of Grand Portage Sign. Photo at the museum in Grand Portage, Mark Labine at site of Fort Charlotte, and photo of Pigeon river at Fort Charlotte.

EXPLORING JOSEPH COURSOLLE'S FRENCH-DAKOTA CONNECTIONS IN HIS 1855-56 SIOUX AFFIDAVIT



Prairie du Chien, Painting by Seth Eastman



What: Heritage Event

Date: Sunday, January 23, 2022

Place: Dupuis House, Sibley Historic Site

1357 Sibley Memorial Highway

Mendota, Minnesota

Time: 2 to 5 p.m. Cost: \$20.00

Jane Hayden-Hart will share her findings about the 1855-56 "Sioux Affidavits" which were taken by commissioners H.H. Johnson and William Ashley Jones from persons attempting to establish mixed-blood status in order to receive benefits from the treaty signed at Prairie du Chien in 1830. Jane has been researching her maternal Coursolle family history for over 15 years, with her great-great-grandfather Joseph Coursolle being a principal subject. Family and social connections were explored in the research for this presentation which greatly added to her family's knowledge of their French/Dakota heritage.

Register on the website of the French-American Heritage Foundation (FAHF) at fahfminn.org or send a letter with your names and email address along with a check made payable to FAHF, P.O. Box 25384, Woodbury, MN 55125. Refreshments will be provided.



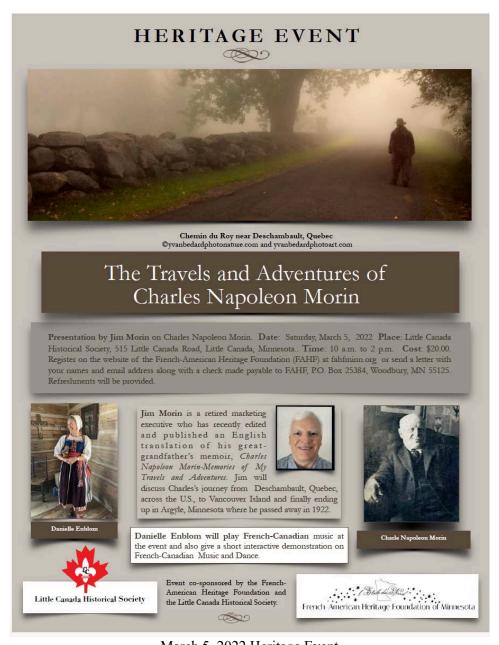


Jane Hayden-Hart is an independent researcher who has a bachelor's degree in Information Management from St. Catherine University. She lives in Red Wing, Minnesota with her husband Charles.



French-Canadian Music by Philippe Gallandat

January 23, 2022 Event



March 5, 2022 Heritage Event

French-American Heritage Foundation Website

The French-American Heritage Foundation has a website at fahfminn.org in which information about what we do and current events are posted. Included on the website is a library of books, articles and publications on French Heritage. There is also a genealogy section for those who wish to pursue their French or French-Canadian ancestry.



Information in the French-American Heritage Foundation Website includes the following:

- 1. A **Home page** describing our organization and showing a list of our sponsors. The home page also shows a list of upcoming events planned by the Foundation. Please consider sponsoring an ad our our website.
- 2. An **About** page giving the history of our Foundation with List of Board of Directors.
- 3. A French-American Heritage Foundation **Board Information** page listing current board of directors.
- 4. An **Annual Report** page listing all past annual reports for the Foundation.
- 5. A **Membership** page where people can sign up to be members and make donations.
- 6. A **Genealogy** page where we have info on French and French-Canadian genealogy websites.
- 7. A **French Heritage Library** page with many articles on French heritage, copies of newsletters of old French organizations, and links to other French heritage sites.
- 8. A **Publications** page describing the four French heritage publications published by the Foundation.
- 9. A **Videos** page showing past YouTube videos produced by the Foundation on French heritage and history.

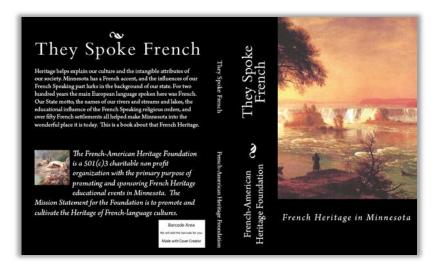
This is a sample of some of the information included on the French-American Heritage Foundation website. A special thanks to Mark Petty and Michele Pierce for their work in 2020 on updating and maintaining the website.

French-American Heritage Foundation Projects

The French-American Heritage Foundation has completed five heritage projects. This includes the publication of four books, and the completion of a Heritage Brochure. Information about these five heritage projects are shown below. All these publications may be purchased at future French-American Heritage Foundation events and online at Amazon.com.

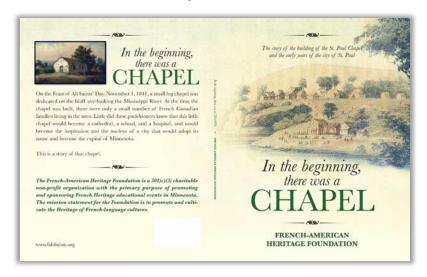
1. They Spoke French

They Spoke French is a book on French heritage in Minnesota, including information on early explorers and settlers, early French Speaking settlements, including Metis, French Heritage Sites, French place names and other information about Minnesota's French Accent.



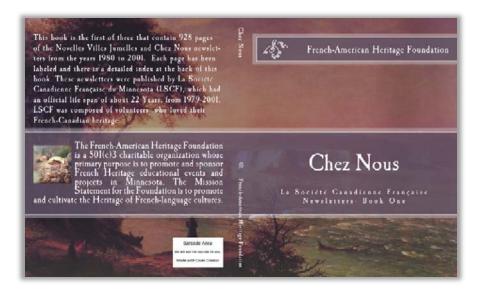
2. In the beginning, there was a CHAPEL

In the beginning, there was a CHAPEL, is the story of the small log chapel built by French-Canadians that became the nucleus of the city of St. Paul.



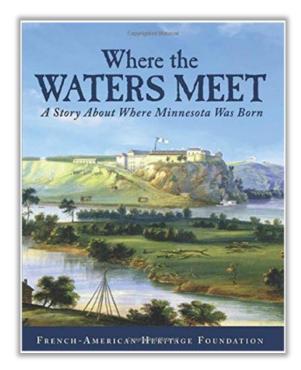
3. Chez Nous

This set of three books contains 928 pages of Nouvelles Villes Jumelles and Chez Nous newsletters published during the years 1980 to 2001 by La Société Canadienne Française du Minnesota (LSCF). These three books are filled with numerous articles and stories about Minnesota's French-Canadian heritage and stories of French Heritage in North America.



4. Where the Waters Meet

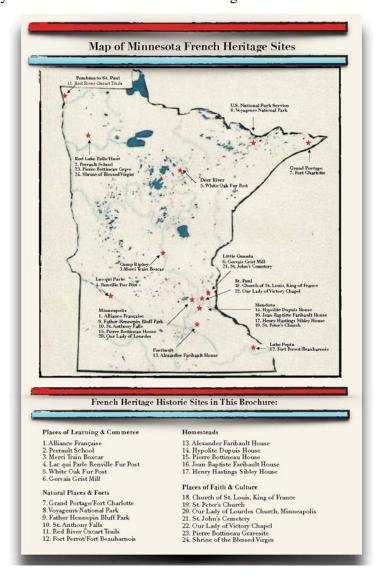
"Where the Waters Meet," is the story about how the state of Minnesota had its beginnings in the area known as "Mdote" by the Dakota (aka Bdote) which literally means "the place where the waters meet." The state's beginnings involved an interesting cast of characters including French explorers and fur 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 the 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. The book will be for sale at heritage events and can be purchased online at Amazon.com.



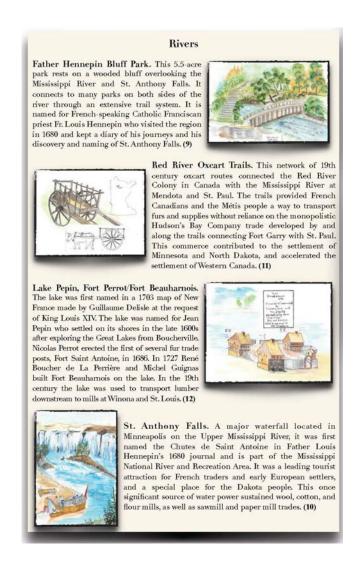
5. Heritage Brochure

French-American Heritage Foundation completed the creation of a brochure showing French heritage sites in Minnesota. The heritage brochure project was designed to promote multidisciplinary on-site visitation and remote learning in a way that expands public awareness and understanding. The heritage brochure includes new, original illustrations and descriptions of 24 statewide sites and their significance to French heritage in Minnesota. All featured sites are publicly accessible.

During the early years of European settlement in Minnesota, many French-Canadians migrated here, and at least 79 French-speaking towns and communities were formed in Minnesota. French-speaking ancestors were important in all sectors of society, and they helped build our state and region into what it is today. This brochure shows some of the heritage sites in Minnesota that are related to Minnesota's French accent. The paintings in the brochure were created by artist H. Jean McFarlane (née Collette), a board member of the Foundation. They will be available at Foundation heritage events.



Below is one of the pages of the heritage brochure. All the artwork is original and was created specifically for the heritage brochure project.



Donations

The French-American Heritage Foundation relies on monetary contributions 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 funds, rack cards have been printed that provide prospective members with information about our Foundation. Copies of these rack cards are shown in the following 100 Associates section.

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 through PayPal on the French-American Heritage Foundation website at www.fafhminn.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 has an organization that helps to preserve its French-Canadian and French heritage.







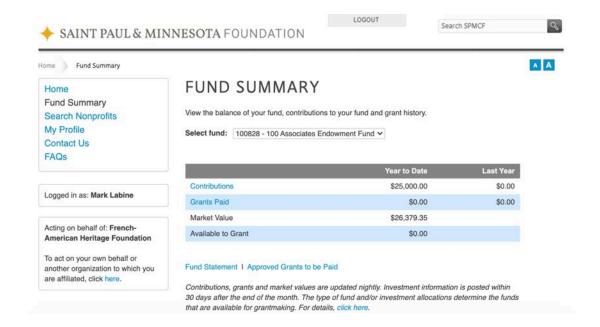
In the short time this Foundation has been in existence, it has become clear that the people of Minnesota appreciate the efforts and contributions that this Foundation has made to provide historical information and educational materials to the public. There will always be a need and desire to learn about 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 FAHF to fulfill that need.



Past Heritage Events Sponsored by French-American Heritage Foundation

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 FAHF 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.

At the present time the Foundation has established an endowment fund through the St. Paul and Minnesota Foundation. As of November 24, 2021 there was \$26,379.35 in this fund. .



100 Associates

Current Members of 100 Associates

1.	Jerry Foley	2.	Dick Bernard	3.	Michael Rainville	4.	William Horn
5.	John Bernard	6.	Mark & Judy Labine	7.	Oliver & Doris Labine	8.	Greg Wentz
9.	Jeanne Rivard in Honor of John Rivard	10.	Florence & Carter Hedeen	11.	Michele Pierce	12.	French-American Heritage Foundation
13.	Max Perras & Nellie Toulouse	14.	Gregory Cash	15.	Little Canada Historical Society	16.	Don & Abby Marier
17.	Kerri & Mark Petty	18.	George (Foley) Fallu	19.	Marie Trepainer	20.	Pierre Girard
21.	Mark Dillon	22.	Constance & Fred Halverson	23.	Gayle Middlecamp	24.	Labissoniere Family

2021 Financial Report

Below is the 2020 financial report for the Foundation.

1. FAHF Assets at Beginning of Year- January 1, 2021					\$10,973.22	
2. 2021 Income						
	Members	Members				
	Events	3.3.3.3.3.3				
	Book Sales	Book Sales				
	Web Spons	Web Sponsors				
	Interest	-				
				Total	4,789.72	
3. 2021 Expenses						
	PO Box Fee	PO Box Fee				
	Event Expe	Event Expenses				
		Concordia Language Villages Donation				
	Book Purch	Book Purchases				
	Miscellaneo	Miscellaneous Expenses				
	Paypal Exp	Paypal Expenses			55.77	
				Total	\$2,702.34	
4. Cash Flow Summary	7					
·	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
2 222	20.410.5		***			
Assets Start of Year	\$9,418.72	\$5,251.86	\$11,080.13	\$10,673.22	\$10,973.5	
Income	\$4,736.42	\$7,213.43	\$8,757.13	\$4,097.24	4,789.7	
Expenses	-3.075.01	-\$3 146 48	-\$9 164 00	-\$3 796 92	-2 702 3	

4.	4. Cash Flow Summary						
		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
	Assets Start of Year	\$9,418.72	\$5,251.86	\$11,080.13	\$10,673.22	\$10,973.54	
	Income	\$4,736.42	\$7,213.43	\$8,757.13	\$4,097.24	4,789.72	
	Expenses	-3,075.01	-\$3,146.48	-\$9,164.00	-\$3,796.92	-2,702.34	
	Assets End of Year	\$9,418.72	\$11,080.13	\$10,673.22	\$10,973.54	\$13,060.92	
	Net Cash Flow (loss)	\$4,066.95	\$1,661.41	-406.89	300.32	2,087.38	

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
PayPal/Kindle	\$1,001.78	\$1,035.02	\$1,162.41	337.41	686.62
Bank Account	\$8,416.94	\$10,045.11	\$9,652.54	\$10,636.13	12,374.30
100 Associates Endowment Fund		\$8,181.53	\$16,045.75	\$20,243.66	26,379.35
Current Asset Value	\$9,418.72	\$19,261.66	\$26,860.70	\$31,217.20	39,440.27