
l'Étoile du Nord

French-American Heritage Foundation of Minnesota

2022 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)



French-American Heritage Foundation of Minnesota

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President
Gregory Cash

Message from the President

Vice President
Pierre Girard

Treasurer
Mark Labine

Secretary
Mark Dillon

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Dustin Dufault
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Jane Peck
Mark Petty
Michele Pierce
Michael Rainville
Patricia Ruffing
Marie Trepanier
John Ward
MaryEllen Weller

Website
www.fahfminn.org

Mission Statement: To Foster a greater understanding of the rich history and heritage of French Speaking people who helped form what is now Minnesota.

YouTube:
FAHF Minn

This document represents our tenth annual report for the French-American Heritage Foundation, which was incorporated and organized in 2013. Our Foundation has many accomplishments over the past decade, and we hope to continue to promote the history and rich cultural heritage of French-speaking people in Minnesota for many years.

Our full schedule of programming resumed in 2022 and is summarized in the pages which follow. We also held a Vision, Mission, Values and strategic planning session last year where we re-examined and revised our vision and mission statements, identified our strategic initiatives as well as established board subcommittees along those lines.

Our plans for 2023 include a number of new programs in addition to La Fête de la Saint-Jean-Baptiste, the National Holiday of Québec, which is also celebrated across French-speaking Canada and the United States. We also plan to celebrate our 10th anniversary in the fall with a celebratory get-together for our members and supporters.

We continue to make progress with 100 Associates, our endowment fund. While we have not yet achieved our goal of raising \$100,000, we have raised enough to establish the fund and we made our first grant in 2022.

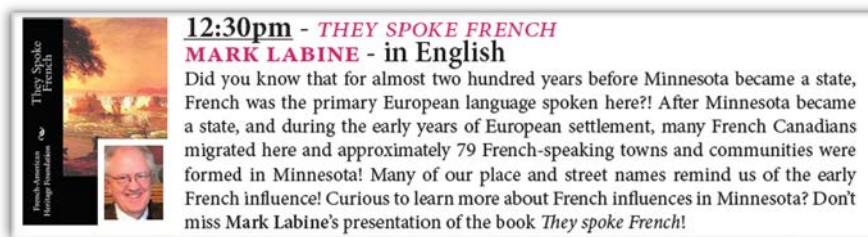
Please help support our mission and our organization, and we look forward to seeing you soon at one of our upcoming heritage events.

Sincerely,

Greg Cash, President


2022 Events & Heritage Presentations

- **January 23, 2022.** Presentation by Jane Hayden-Hart on her findings about the 1855-56 “Sioux Affidivits” which were taken by commissioners H.H. Johnson and William Ashley. Event held at the Dupuis House at the Sibley Historic Site and featured music by Philippe Gallandat.
- **March 5, 2022.** Presentation by Jim Morin on the Travels and Adventures of Charles Napoleon Morin. Event held at the Little Canada Historical Society and also featured French-Canadian dance and music by Danielle Enblom.
- **April 29, 2022.** Presentation by Greg Cash to students of the New Country School from Henderson, Minnesota at the Sibley Historic Site on the Voyageurs.
- **June 22, 2022.** Presentation by Greg Cash to students at the Washington County Heritage Society on the Voyageurs.
- **June 25, 2022.** La Fête de la Saint-Jean-Baptiste at Sibley Historic Site.
- **July 14, 2022.** Table at Bastille Day Fête at the Alliance Française.
- **July 23, 2022.** Table at the Fur Trade Weekend at the Sibley Historic Site.
- **August 2, 2022.** Presentation by Mark Labine at the Washington County Heritage Society on the building of the St. Paul Chapel by French-Canadian pioneers.
- **August 14, 2022.** Presentation by Mark Labine at the Gideon Pond house on his research into the Little Rapids Fur Trade Post and nearby Dakota Village called Inyan Ceyaka.
- **September 24, 2022. Salon Du Livre.** Mark Labine gave a presentation at the Salon du Livre at the Alliance Française on the book “They Spoke French” which highlights French heritage and influence in Minnesota.
- **October 16, 2022.** Dayton with a French Accent, presentation by Mark Labine and Caroline Meilleur on the early French-Canadian pioneers of Dayton, Minnesota. Program also featured French-Canadian fiddle music by Abbey Roemer.
- **November 11, 2022.** Greg Cash and Mark Labine gave short presentations at the 2022 Armistice Day Memorial ceremonies in Minneapolis.
- **December 20, 2022.** John Ward and Mark Labine appeared on KFAI radio and talked about the Dayton with a French Accent event and book.




September 24, 2022 – Salon du Livre

EXPLORING JOSEPH COUSOLLE'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
 1327 Sibley Memorial Highway
 Mendota, Minnesota
Time: 2 to 5 p.m. **Cost:** \$30.00



Jane Hayden-Hart will share her findings about the 1855-56 "Sioux Affidavit" 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 Cousolle family history for over 15 years, with her great-great-grandfather, Joseph Cousolle 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.

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.

Register on the website of the French-American Heritage Foundation (FAHF) at fafhmna.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.




French-Canadian Music
by Philippe Galland

French American Heritage Foundation of Minnesota

January 23, 2022 – Heritage Event


HERITAGE EVENT




Charles de Roy near Deschambault, Quebec
©roychardphoto.com and roychardphoto.com

The Travels and Adventures of Charles Napoleon Morin


Presentation by Jim Morin on Charles Napoleon Morin. **Date:** Saturday, March 5, 2022 **Place:** Little Canada Historical Society, 315 Little Canada Road, Little Canada, Minnesota. **Time:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. **Cost:** \$20.00. Register on the website of the French-American Heritage Foundation (FAHF) at fafhmna.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.



Danielle Ebbison



Jim Morin



Charles Napoleon Morin

Jim Morin is a retired marketing executive who has recently edited and published an English translation of his great-grandfather's memoir, *Charles Napoleon Morin: Memoirs of My Travels and Adventures*. Jim will discuss Charles's journey from Deschambault, Quebec, across the U.S., to Vancouver Island and finally ending up in Aggie, Minnesota where he passed away in 1922.


Danielle Ebbison will play French-Canadian music at the event and also give a short narrative demonstration on French-Canadian Music and Dance.

Event co-sponsored by the French-American Heritage Foundation and the Little Canada Historical Society.

French American Heritage Foundation of Minnesota


March 5, 2022 – Heritage Event


Little Rapids



Date: Sunday, August 14, 2022 **Place:** Gideon Ford House, 401 E 104th Street, Bloomington, MN 55420 **Time:** 2 p.m.

The Fond Dakota Heritage Society is sponsoring a History presentation by Mark Labine on his research into the Little Rapids Fur Post on the Minnesota River near the Dakota Village named Irapan Ceyaka. Artwork on this page by Harriet Jean Maffergians.







Mark Labine will discuss his research into the 18th and 19th Century Little Rapids Fur trade post on the Minnesota River near the Dakota Village named Irapan Ceyaka, meaning "Barrier of Stone." Mark Labine is a descendant of early voyageurs and fur traders and a board member of the French-American Heritage Foundation.

French American Heritage Foundation of Minnesota


August 14, 2022 – Heritage Presentation

In the Beginning there was a Chapel

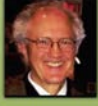



On the Feast of All Saint's Day, November 1, 1841, a small log chapel was dedicated on the bluff overlooking the Mississippi River. At the time the chapel was built, there were only a few French-Canadian families living in the area. Little did these early settlers know that this little chapel would become a cathedral, a school, a hospital, and would be the inspiration and beginning of a city that would adopt its name and become the capital of the State of Minnesota.

Mark Labine will give a brief history of the early history of St. Paul, Minnesota, including information on the early pioneers and the people involved in the building of the St. Paul Chapel. Event sponsored by the Washington County Heritage Center on August 2, 2022 at 7 p.m. Go to Washington County Heritage Society Website to register under Events.



Henry Lewis Lithograph of St. Paul in 1849




Mark Labine is the descendant of Joseph and Isaac Labissoviers, who were two of the eight builders who built the St. Paul Chapel. They were some of the first pioneers who settled in Minnesota. He is a member of the French-American Heritage Foundation.


French American Heritage Foundation of Minnesota

August 2, 2022 – Heritage Presentation


DAYTON WITH A FRENCH ACCENT



Mark Labine is a board member of the French-American Heritage Foundation and the author of a number of books on French-Canadian heritage in Minnesota. He was the compiler of the book "Dayton with a French Accent" that talks about the pioneers of Dayton.



**Reflections of French-Canadian Roots
in Dayton, Minnesota**




Caroline Meilleur is from Kiamika, Quebec. She attended the University of Quebec in Montreal and the Université de Toulouse in Toulouse, France. She is a board member of the French-American Heritage Foundation and a genealogy researcher specializing in French-Canadian genealogy.

Caroline Meilleur and Mark Labine will discuss Dayton's French-Canadian pioneers, their origins, and details about the book "Dayton with a French Accent" published by the French-American Heritage Foundation.
Our featured musical guest is Abbey Roemer, who is a violinist and fiddler.

DATE: Sunday, October 16, 2022 TIME: 2 to 5 p.m.
PLACE: St. John the Baptist Church, 18380 Columbus Street, Dayton, MN 55327


Space is limited to 75 persons. PLEASE REGISTER by sending an email to mlabine@msa.com. The book on Dayton's French-Canadian Pioneers titled "Dayton with a French Accent" will be available for sale at the event for \$25.00. Other French Heritage books will also be available to purchase at the event.

Refreshments & hors d'oeuvres will be provided. The event is free and open to the public.
Goodwill offering only.




French-American Heritage Foundation of Minnesota

Abbey Roemer is violinist, fiddler, and teacher based in St. Paul. She currently performs with the South Dakota Symphony and the Mankato Symphony, where she has served as Assistant Concertmaster since 2018.



October 16, 2022 heritage event. This event was featured in the Minneapolis Star-Tribune on October 8, 2022, in an article written by Curt Brown titled "Dayton, Minn. revives its French-Canadian past." A book titled *Dayton with a French Accent* (cover shown below) is in production and is expected to be published by the French-American Heritage Foundation in 2023.

DAYTON WITH A FRENCH ACCENT



**Reflections of French-Canadian Roots
in Dayton, Minnesota**

French-American Heritage Foundation

Planned 2023 Events

- **April 2, 2023.** Presentation by Jane Peck titled “Bottineau Jig: Untold Tales of Early Minnesota.” This event will be co-sponsored by the Alliance Française.
- **TBD.** Presentation by Randy Rennaker on his findings at old French-Canadian homestead sites in the Dayton area.
- **June, 2023.** La Fête de la Saint-Jean-Baptiste at Sibley Historic Site.
- **July 14, 2023.** Table at Bastille Day Fête.
- **TBD.** Tenth Anniversary of French-American Heritage Foundation Event.

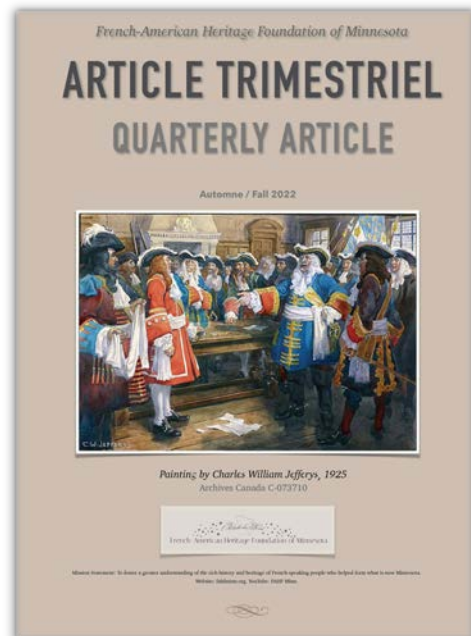
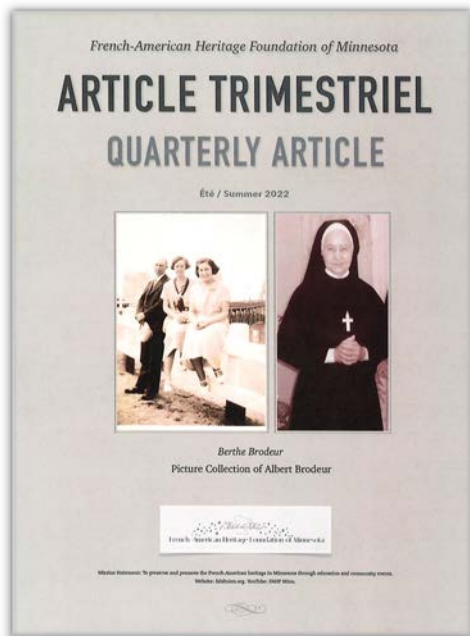
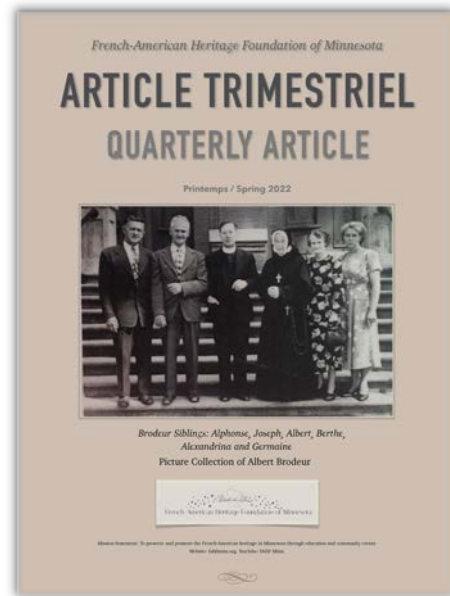
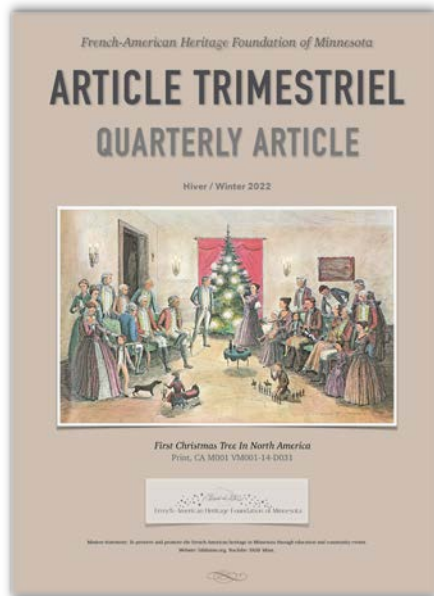
French-American Heritage Foundation Website

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.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the French-American Heritage Foundation of Minnesota. The header features the organization's name in white on a blue background. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for Home, Events, Library, Food/Drink, Things We Do, Resources, Our Publications, Videos, and Contact. A red bar below the navigation contains social media icons for Facebook and email, and a 'FOLLOW:' label. The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column lists sponsors: Alliance Française Mpls/St Paul, Our Lady of Lourdes, and history theatre. The middle column features the organization's logo, a progress report for the 100 Associates Endowment Fund, and information about new features and upcoming events. The right column lists upcoming events for June, July, and August 2021, along with a search bar and a 'Search' button. A small 'Privacy Policy' icon is visible in the bottom right corner.

Article Trimestriel (Quarterly Article)

The French-American Heritage Foundation published four articles on French-Canadian heritage on the website. These articles are located on the French-American Heritage Foundation's website on the home page. See "QUARTERLY ARTICLE" in the upper right-hand corner and then click on the link for "2022 Fall Edition." Thanks to editor Caroline Meilleur and guest editor Jerry Foley for writing the articles.

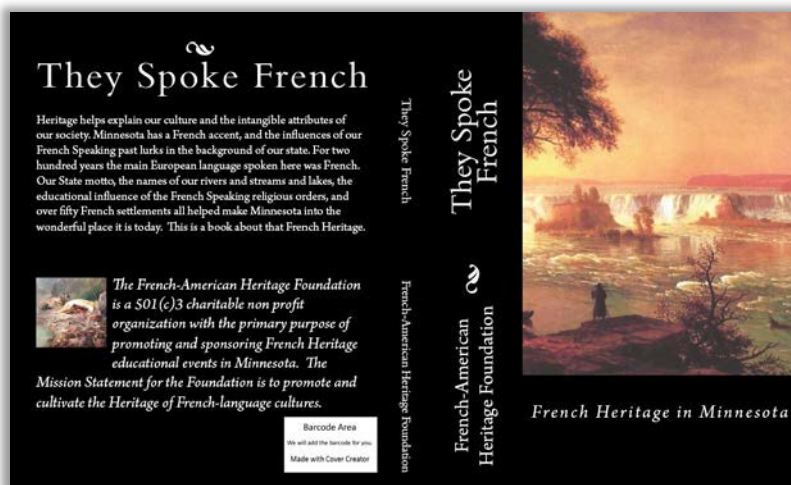


French-American Heritage Foundation Projects

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.

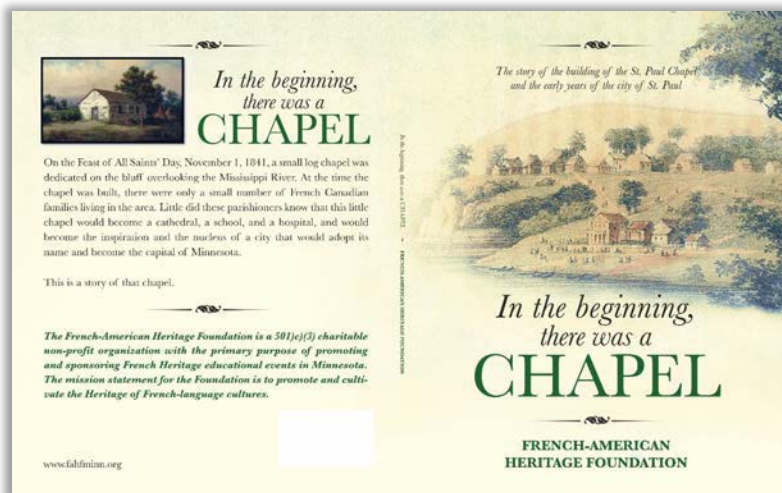
1. They Spoke French

They Spoke French is a book on French heritage in Minnesota, including information on early explorers and settlers, early French-speaking settlements, including Métis, French heritage sites, French place names and other information about Minnesota's "French accent."



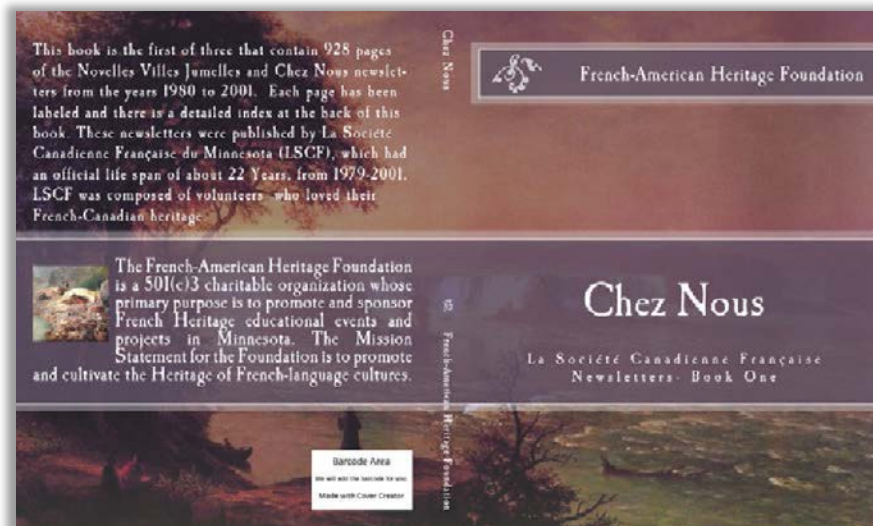
2. In the beginning, there was a CHAPEL

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.



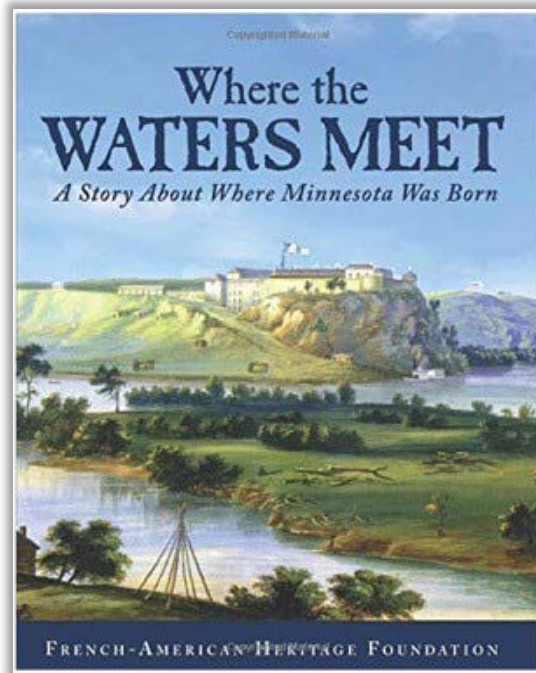
3. Chez Nous

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

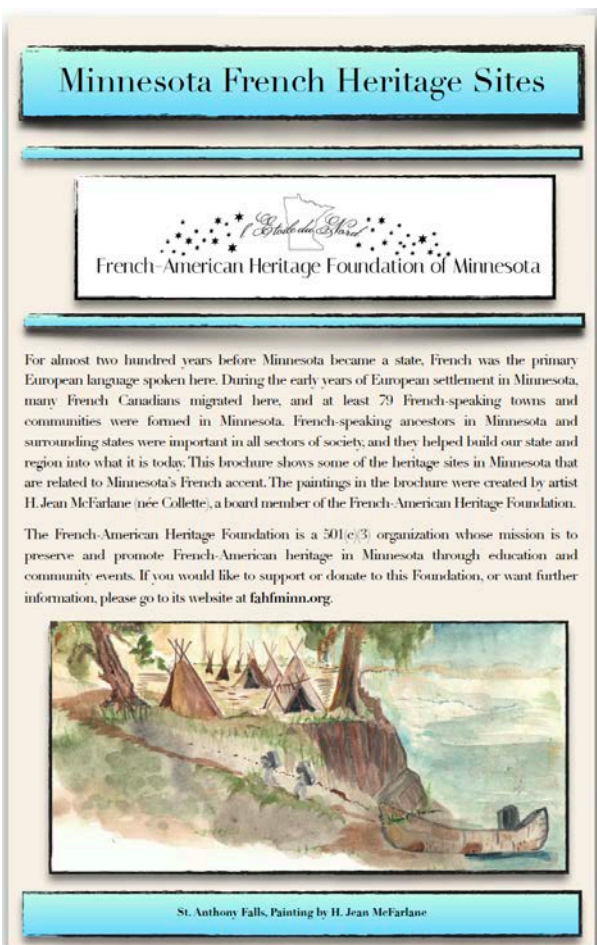
Where the Waters Meet, is the story about how the state of Minnesota had its beginnings in the area known as “Mdote” by the Dakota (aka Bdote) which literally means “the place where the waters meet.” The state’s beginnings involved an interesting cast of characters including French explorers and fur 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.



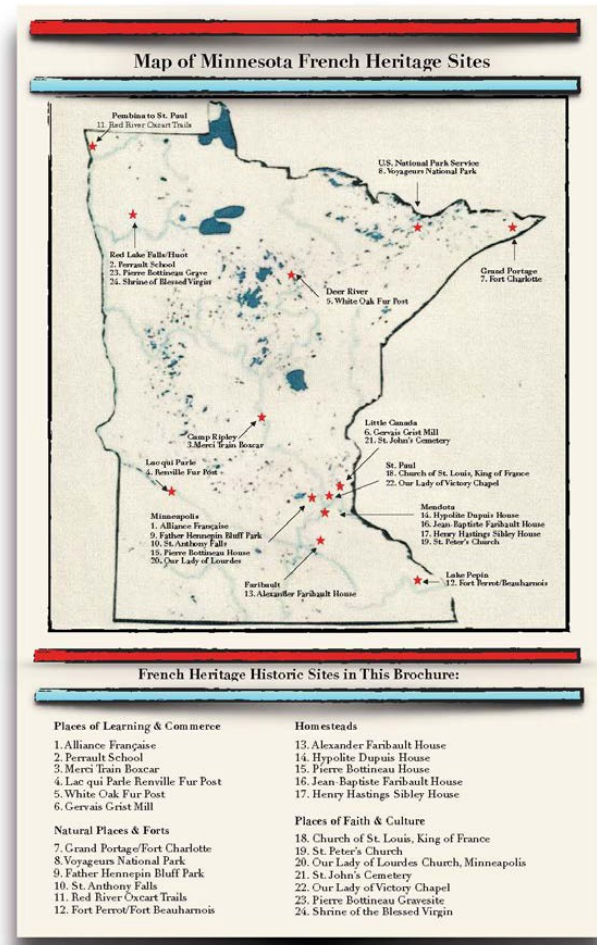
5. Heritage Brochure

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.



Front Cover Page of Brochure Heritage





Back Cover Page of Heritage Brochure

Community Education

In 2016 and 2017 the French-American Heritage Foundation sponsored Community Education classes titled “Minnesota with a French Accent” in Minneapolis, Eagan, Elk River, Osseo and St. Michael/Albertville.

Minnesota with a French Accent

Minnesota's state motto "L'Etoile du Nord" reminds us that from the French Explorers and fur traders of the 18th century and the influx of French-Canadian farmers in the 19th century to a continuing stream of French speaking immigrants, the French have left an indelible mark on Minnesota society and culture. This program, developed by members of the French-American Heritage Foundation, focuses on French history and heritage in our state.



French Heritage Corridor

The French Heritage Corridor is an initiative conceived and led by the French Heritage Society Chicago Chapter. It comprises seven states in the Midwest (IA; IL; IN; MI; MN; MO and WI). This network, joined by waterways connecting with the Mississippi River and the Great Lakes, transcends borders to recreate in the Midwest what was once la Nouvelle France. While French history and heritage of eastern Canada and of Louisiana is typically well known and understood by the general public, the region comprising the French Heritage Corridor which lies between them is not as universally appreciated. The French Heritage Corridor is dedicated to developing synergy and raising the collective awareness about the rich French history and heritage that has, since the 17th century, melded with the vibrant multicultural landscape in what is today the Midwestern United States.

Greg Cash, President of French-American Heritage Foundation attended the 2nd Annual French Heritage Corridor Conference in Lafayette, Indiana, titled “Making Our Dream a Reality.” In addition, Greg attended the Mississippi River Cities and Towns Initiative organizational meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, from September 13th to 15th and was on a panel presenting on the French Heritage Corridor Initiative.

Donations

The French-American Heritage Foundation relies on monetary contributions in order to thrive. 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.

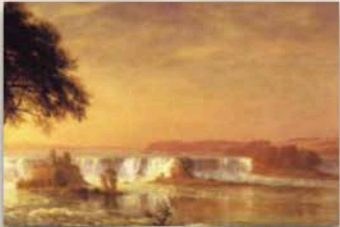



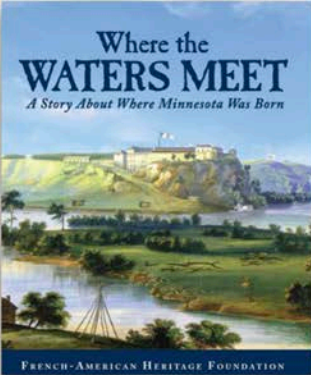

For donations, or to show your support, simply write a check made payable to the French-American Heritage Foundation and mail to either Mark Labine, Treasurer, 1887 Beckman Ave, Arden Hills, MN 55112, or to the French-American Heritage Foundation, P.O. Box 25384, Woodbury, MN 55125. Donations

can also be made by credit card through PayPal on the French-American Heritage Foundation website at 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 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.

<p style="text-align: center;">THEY SPOKE FRENCH</p>  <p>In the spring of 1659, Pierre-Esprit Radisson and his brother-in-law, Médard Chouart, Sieur des Groseilliers, explored the area around the Great Lakes region that included Minnesota. Thus began the origins of the French presence in Minnesota. In fact, French was spoken here for almost 200 years before Minnesota became a state in 1858. During early 19th century settlement, thousands of French Canadians migrated to Minnesota and surrounding areas. These early settlers, and their descendants, were important in all sectors of the society that built our state and region into what it is today.</p>  	<p style="text-align: center;">100 ASSOCIATES</p> <hr/>  <p style="text-align: center;">French-American Heritage Foundation of Minnesota</p> <hr/> <p>Goal: Raise no less than \$100,000 through one hundred donations of \$1,000 each from individuals, groups of individuals, families, and organizations.</p> <p>Endowment Fund: All funds are deposited into our 100 Associates Endowment Fund that is managed by the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation. This is a perpetual fund, and only the income from the fund will be disbursed for qualified projects as determined by the Board of Directors of the French-American Heritage Foundation, or a designated successor.</p> <p>Purpose of Funds: The purpose of the fund's earnings is to provide financial support for the French-American Heritage Foundation and to fund programs that embrace or feature French heritage in Minnesota and the Midwest.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FRENCH-AMERICAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION OF MINNESOTA P.O. Box 25384 Woodbury, MN 55125 Website: fahfminn.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WHERE THE WATERS MEET</p> <hr/>  <p style="text-align: center;">Modern Minnesota's beginnings were launched at the place where the Minnesota and Mississippi rivers converge in Mendota, by French-speaking fur traders who lived with and formed close family associations with the Dakota. The terms "Mdote" or "Bdote" literally mean <i>where the waters meet</i>, in the Dakota language.</p> 
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These efforts take time and money, and to ensure that this Foundation succeeds, 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 is managed by the St. Paul & Minnesota 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 & Minnesota Foundation. As of December 21, 2022, there was \$27,123.43 in this fund.



Past Heritage Events Sponsored by French-American Heritage Foundation

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 Hedeem	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 Trepanier	20. Pierre Girard
21. Mark Dillon	22. Constance & Fred Halverson	23. Gayle Middlecamp	24. Labissoniere Family
25. Virgil Benoit	26. John & Michele Ward Family	27. Pat & John Ruffing	

2022 Financial Report

Below is the 2022 financial report for the Foundation.

1. 2022 Income		
	Member Donations	6,029.32
	Events	1,028.41
	Book Sales	1,533.68
	Web Sponsors	600.00
	Interest/Misc.	573.99
	100 Associates Grant	\$902.76
	Total	\$10,668.16

2. 2022 Expenses		
	PO Box Fee	166.00
	Event Expenses	2,125.46
	Donations	900.00
	Book Purchases	230.21
	Transfer to 100 Associates Endowment Fund	4,071.81
	Paypal Expenses	83.27
	Grant Payments	\$450.00
	Vision-Mission-Values Planning Session	\$329.60
	Transfer to Paypal	\$300.00
	Total	\$8,656.35

3. 2022 Net Income (Loss)	\$2,011.81
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4. French-American Heritage Foundation Assets

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
PayPal/Kindle	\$1,035.02	\$1,162.41	337.41	686.62	154.87
Bank Account	\$10,045.11	\$9,652.54	\$10,636.13	12,374.30	14,275.48
100 Associates Endowment Fund	\$8,181.53	\$16,045.75	\$20,243.66	26,379.35	27,123.43
Current Asset Value	\$19,261.66	\$26,860.70	\$31,217.20	39,440.27	41,553.78