



American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc.

## **Activities Report**

**2021- 2024**

500 East 77<sup>th</sup> Street #2017 New York, NY 10162

<http://www.souvenirfrancaisusa.org/>

# Introduction

This document lists all the activities undertaken by the American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc. since 2021.

Pursuant to its missions, the Society honors more than 2,500 French soldiers, sailors and aviators who are buried in the United States, as well as the great deeds accomplished by France and Frenchmen in the United States.

The historical bonds of alliance and friendship between France and the United States are unbroken since 1778, a unique example in the history of nations. The Society is determined to celebrate this rich history, as well as to pass the torch of remembrance to the younger generations.

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American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc.

**Ceremonies and inaugurations  
2024**

October 18, 2024  
Dedication of our French Memorial to French Soldiers  
who died at the Battle of the Hook Oct.3, 1781  
For American Independence  
Gloucester, Virginia





**October 19, 2024**  
**243rd anniversary of Yorktown victory**  
**Wreath-laying at the *French Cemetery* & the *French Memorial Monument***  
**Celebration at the *Monument to the Alliance and Victory***  
**In the presence of *Mr. Laurent Bili, Ambassador of France to the United States***





**October 19, 2024**  
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**In the presence of Mr. Laurent Bili,**  
***Ambassador of France to the United States***





**"Tribute to France"  
weekend in Newport, Rhode Island  
July 13-14, 2024  
Statue of Rochambeau and  
Monument to the French Fleet**



**Homage of the Souvenir Français to Anna Marly  
Composer of the "Chant des Partisans"  
Friday, June 7, 2024  
Palmer, Alaska  
with the Daughters of the American Revolution  
& French Honorary Consul in Anchorage, AK.**





**Operation Mirror 2024**  
**Welcoming ceremony in Brooklyn, NY and**  
**Ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery**  
**Thursday - Friday, May 23-24, 2024**  
**Our Society was an Official Partner**



**Memorial Day  
Wreath Laying on Sunday, May 26, 2024  
at the 107th Infantry Memorial  
5th Avenue & 67th Street, New York  
with the Veterans of NY Seventh Regiment**





**Annual Celebration of  
French Alliance Day  
Washington Memorial Chapel,  
Valley Forge, Pennsylvania  
Sunday May 5, 2024**

*Mass to thank France decreed in perpetuity  
by Gen. George Washington, May 4, 1778*





American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc.

## **Major commemorations and events**

**2023**



May 7, 2023  
Annual Celebration of  
French Alliance Day  
Washington Memorial Chapel, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania



On **Sunday, May 7, 2023**, our Society participated in the annual celebration of the "French Alliance Day" held at Valley Forge, PA. at the invitation of the Washington Memorial Heritage with a wreath laying

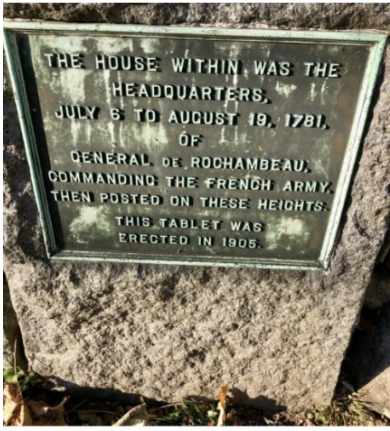
**May 7, 2023**  
**Annual celebration of V-Day**  
**Eglise Notre-Dame, Federation of French War Veterans**



On **Sunday, May 7**, The Federation of French War Veterans gathered at the Church of Notre Dame to attend the annual mass celebrated by Rev. Peter A. Heasley, Pastor in honor of all those who fought and died for France. General Vincent de Kytspotter, Head of Military and Defense Mission at the French Permanent Mission to the United Nations and Lieutenant-Colonel, US Army Dionysios Dionou-Weiss laid a wreath honoring the 463 French and American conscripts and volunteers from New York who "Died for France" in two world wars, whose names are inscribed in marble plates on the wall.



May 20, 2023  
"Follow the French: Rochambeau Festival"  
Future museum and gardens  
Odell House - Rochambeau Headquarters, New York



Susan Seal, president of the Friends of Odell House - Rochambeau Headquarters and husband David, who work tirelessly with Board members to complete this monumental task. Raphaël de Gouberville, direct descendant of Rochambeau, honored us with his presence. A detailed narration of the encampments of the French Army led by General Rochambeau has been released on a free app downloadable on your smartphone TravelStorysGPS: The episodes **Follow the French**, sponsored by Friends of Odell House, can be downloaded at <https://travelstorys.com/tours/follow-the-french>



# Tribute to Rochambeau Yorktown Fairgrounds, Westchester County, New York Site of French Army encampment May 20th, 2023



That same day, at noon, Lynn Briggs, Chair, New York State Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Organization, hosted an important event at the Grange at Yorktown, NY, the site of the encampment of the French Army. Many re-enactors were present, from Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, and of course Rochambeau. The Grange was packed when General Vincent de Kytspotter delivered a riveting exposé on Rochambeau and the several "miracles" that allowed the United States to obtain their independence. *We are grateful to Susan and David Seal, and Lynn Briggs for their warm welcome and look forward to many years of close cooperation.*



**May 28, 2023**  
**Memorial Day with the Seventh Regiment Veterans Association**  
**Park Avenue Armory, New York, NY**



We were honored to be invited by Brig. General Thomas J. Principe, president of the [Veterans of the Seventh Regiment](#) to lay a wreath at the Seventh Regiment/107th Infantry Regiment Memorial Fifth Avenue & 67th Street. Our 1st Vice-President, LCL(R) Patrick du Tertre, also President of the ACREFEU (French Reserve Officers Association in the United States) & co-president of [TheFrenchWillNeverForget](#), who gave a stirring and emotional testimony of the deep gratitude of the French people for the Americans who fought for their freedom twice in two world wars.



**Saturday, July 15, 2023**  
**Wreath-laying**  
**Statue of General Rochambeau & the French Fleet Memorial**  
**Newport, Rhode Island**



On Saturday, July 15th, a beautiful wreath-laying ceremony was held in Newport, R.I. in front of the statue of Rochambeau and the monument to the French fleet, to commemorate the arrival on July 13, 1780 of 6,000 French soldiers and dozens of warships to help the United States win the War of Independence. The ceremony was sponsored by the [Alliance Française of Newport](#), who renovated the statue this past decade. The event was organized under the auspices of the National Park Service, the Newport Historical Society, the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route association, in the presence of the Mayor and many distinguished guests and re enactors from several patriotic associations.



**Active role in the fund-raising campaign  
in the USA to repair the  
frigate *L'Hermione*  
kick-off 2023  
with Friends of Fondation de France**



Under the leadership of **Marc Onetto**, Regional Delegate for the West Coast, our Society has started to federate other patriotic US organizations to make sure the fund raising on this side of the Atlantic be optimized and done in a concerted way.

In close contact with the French association *'Hermione-Lafayette*, we launched a major US fund-raising drive to help repair this symbol of French-American Friendship and have the frigate sail back to the United States in 2025, via the Friends of Fondation de France

**Touring Exhibit, Châlons-en-Champagne, Sept 1-15, 2023  
Verdun Memorial Oct 1-7, Château de Castries, Oct 10-30, 2023**

## **“ The US Unknown Soldier of WWI in France”**

by

**The Society of Honor Guard / Tomb of Unknown Soldier  
Military Women’s Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery  
and under the auspices of Le Souvenir Français**



*“The whole of France bows down with me before your coffin, brother from America, they can take you back to the great land from which you came, but your French family will always piously preserve your memory and the land of France will not forget that it was to it you entrusted your last dreams.” André Maginot, Minister of Pensions, Le Havre, Oct 25, 1921*

On October 25, 1921, Minister André Maginot pinned the Legion of Honor on the coffin of the Unknown Soldier at the pier in Le Havre, moments before it was hoisted on board the USS Olympia for the voyage back home. This exhibit of 26 black & white paintings by artist Dave Rappaport retraces key moments of this poignant journey, from the battlefield of Eastern France and Châlons-sur-Marne, to Le Havre, with the people of France lining up to pay tribute to this American soldier who “Died for France” and for the cause of Freedom.

# Sculpture Le Petit Prince

French Cultural Services – Villa Albertine

972 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10075

GPS: [40.776767, -73.963719](https://www.google.com/maps/place/40.776767,-73.963719)



Pursuant to the Society's mission to honor exemplary Frenchmen in the United States, the Society installed a bronze sculpture of **The Little Prince by Jean-Marc de Pas** with the active support of the Saint Exupéry Youth Foundation. **It was inaugurated on September 20, 2023 by Mrs. Catherine Colonna, French Minister of Europe & Foreign Affairs and Mr. Laurent Bili, ambassador of France to the United States**

## **Grands Donateurs:**

The d'Agay Family • Jean-Hugues & Véronique Monier • Rémy Raisner  
Henry & Elisabeth Gazay • Pierre-Olivier & Alexandra Bouée  
Gildo Pallanca Pastor • Lionel & Jinus de Saint Exupéry

## **Donateurs:**

Association des Cadres de Réserve Français aux Etats-Unis  
Conseillers du Commerce Extérieur  
Thierry Chaunu • Francis Dubois • Jean-Paul Guyon  
Jean & Geneviève Rosanvallon • Stacy Schiff • Patrick & Nancy du Tertre



# Marker

## "Duc de Lauzun and the Battle of the Hook"

### Gloucester, Virginia

*Dedication: October 18, 2023*

## Duc de Lauzun and the Battle of the Hook

### **The Volontaires-étrangers de Lauzun** *The Foreign Volunteers of Lauzun*

Lauzun's Legion was created on March 5, 1780, expressly for him, and numbered around 600 men during the American Campaign. It was considered part of the French Navy, consisting of light infantry, fusiliers, grenadiers, artillery, and two squadrons of 150 hussars each (light cavalry with roots in south-eastern Europe). They used German as their language of command and included a bodyguard for Lauzun "armed with Lances" and wearing "fur Caps."

Anxious for combat, Lauzun wrote to American Brigadier General George Weedon on September 30, 1781, stating, "I will be happy if we would have some things to do with Tarleton and Simco. I wish very much to make further acquaintance with those Gentlemen. I intend to command myself ni legion." Lauzun's wish came true three days later when he led his hussars against Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton in the Battle of the Hook. Research published in 2021 confirmed that this battle, the largest cavalry conflict of the American Revolution, took place near where you are standing.

### **Lauzun Comes to Virginia**

In late-September of 1781, the allied armies of Americans and French joined with Brigadier General George Weedon's militia near Gloucester Courthouse. Lauzun was to assist Weedon in his efforts to reduce British foraging. In a letter to Weedon, General George Washington instructed allied troops in Gloucester to "endeavor to perform, with all your Diligence, without precipitating your Troops into too great Danger." Combat and danger, however, was just what Lauzun was looking for.



*The Surrender Incident, October 5, 1781. Acrylic on canvas by David Wagner (b.1949). Courtesy of the Gloucester Museum of History*

### **Lauzun Meets Mrs. Whiting**

*I perceived a very pretty woman at the door of a small house, on the main road. I questioned her, she told me that, at the very moment, Colonel Tarleton had left her house [and] was very anxious to shake hands with the French duke. I assured her that I came expressly to give him that pleasure.*

- Louis Armand de Gontaut, Duc de Lauzun, October 5, 1781

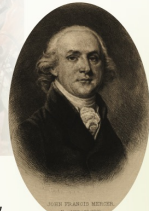
On October 2, General Weedon learned that a British foraging party would be out the next day. He requested 150 of Lauzun's hussars to spearhead the allied columns advancing on the York and Severn River roads. At 7:00 a.m. on October 3, the allied columns set off. When arriving near Abingdon Church, Militia Captain Philip Taliaferro sent word that the British were near Whiting's Quarter. Riding ahead, Lauzun encountered Mrs. Whiting who confirmed Taliaferro's message. "I had not gone a hundred paces, when I heard my advance guards firing pistols."



*Lauzun depicted in a general's uniform of the French Revolutionary service. Portrait by Georges Rouget (1783-1869). Collection of the Palace of Versailles.*



*This is the only known image from the American Revolution that shows a Lauzun hussar: Uniformes militaires des troupes françaises et étrangères, 1779*



*Lieutenant Colonel John Mercer's reinforcements were key to the allied victory at the Battle of the Hook. Portrait by Robert Field (1768-1819). Emmett Collection of Manuscripts, New York Public Library, New York*

### **The Battle of the Hook - October 3, 1781**

Around 10:00 a.m., Tarleton engaged his force of 325 cavalrymen. Lauzun heard gunfire and advanced with about 50 hussars. Lauzun recalled, "I perceived the English cavalry three times more numerous than mine; I charged it without stopping, and we came together."

A duel was about to take place: "Tarleton picked me out," wrote Lauzun, and "came to me with his pistol raised." But the hussars had followed the due in his headlong gallop and the dragoons quickly rushed the field in support of Tarleton. "We came together" and Tarleton's "horse was thrown down by one of his dragoons who was being pursued by one of my lanciers." Tarleton's cavalry galloped across the field to rescue their unhorsed commander, and Lauzun retreated into the shelter of his hussars. Tarleton's men pulled back and the hussars pursued, but when they came under fire from Tarleton's infantry, the hussars retreated as well.

### **Reinforcements Turn the Tide**

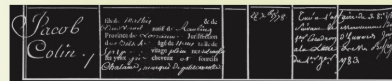
By midday, an additional 150 hussars commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Robert Dillon approached the battlefield. Now 330 riders strong, the allied cavalry advanced and initially pushed Tarleton back. When Tarleton deployed dismounted reinforcements, the allies retreated. At this critical moment, the 160-men strong Select Battalion of Grenadiers under Lieutenant Colonel John Mercer reached the battlefield. Their well-aimed volleys forced Tarleton to retreat. At around 2:00 p.m. the battle was over. Lauzun's wish had been fulfilled and his allied forces were victorious. As a result, British troops at Gloucester Point were surrounded. The following day, General Washington congratulated "the Army upon the brilliant success of the Allied Troops near Gloucester."

### **The Cost of Victory**

The Battle of the Hook ended British forays into Gloucester County, but it carried a price in human lives. The losses of Mercer's Grenadiers are unknown, but two hussars of Lauzun's Legion, 21-year-old Jacob Colin and 27-year-old Pierre Dietienne were killed and buried where they had fallen. Eleven hussars were wounded and likely taken to the hospital in Abingdon Church where a third hussar, 24-year-old Jean Scherrer, died on October 22, 1781. His final resting place is unknown.

### **The End of the Duc de Lauzun and his Legion**

On October 19, 1781, immediately following the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, Tarleton's men marched out of their earthworks "with shouldered Arms." Lauzun's Legion remained in the United States until May of 1783, among other reasons, to help protect the young Republic while peace negotiations were underway. A casualty of the French Revolution, Lauzun was guillotined on December 31, 1793.



*The enrollment record of Jacob Colin of the First Escadron of Hussars. It records Jacob as "Tui a l'effigie de St. Rene 1781." Translated as "killed in the action of October 3, 1781." Archives Nationales de France*



*Lapel pin of the 1st Hussars and its successor units with Lauzun's cypher and coat of arms. The 11 stars pay homage to the 11 original United States.*



*The American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc.*

*Close up of Marker written by Dr. Robert A. Selig, Ph.D. (Work in Progress)*

The American Society of Le Souvenir Français Inc. is also planning to add a stele (boulder & nominative plaque) to the memory of French hussars and soldiers who were killed and buried in the vicinity.

### **Committee Members, Duc de Lauzun Marker:**

- Nicole Yancey • Admiral Frédéric de Rupilly • General Vincent de Kytspotter •
- Colonel Aymeric Tardieu de Maleissye • Lt Colonel Mathieu Brulais • Warren Deal •
- W. Robert Kelly, Jr. • P.J Lambert • Johnny Carawan • Dr. Robert A. Selig, Ph.D. •
- Thierry Chaunu

# Marker

## "Duc de Lauzun and the Battle of the Hook"

Gloucester, Virginia  
Dedication: October 18, 2023



### Duc de Lauzun and the Battle of the Hook

**The Fatale Ambuscade of Lauzun**

*The Forge Ambuscade of 1781*

Lauzun's capture occurred on March 5, 1781, northeast of York, and resulted almost immediately in the capture of York and the evacuation of the British. The capture of York was the result of a surprise attack by the British on the night of March 4-5, 1781. It was the result of a plan devised by the British commander, Lord Cornwallis. It was a surprise attack on the British camp at York, Virginia. The British were camped at York, Virginia, on the night of March 4-5, 1781. The British were camped at York, Virginia, on the night of March 4-5, 1781. The British were camped at York, Virginia, on the night of March 4-5, 1781.

**Lauzun Comes to Virginia**

In October 1780, the allied armies of American and French joined with Brigadier General... The allied armies of American and French joined with Brigadier General... The allied armies of American and French joined with Brigadier General...

**Lauzun Meets Mrs. Whiting**

On October 2, General Mifflin learned that a British foraging party would be out the next day. He requested 130 of Lauzun's men to protect the allied columns advancing on the Hook and Severn River roads. At 7:00 a.m. on October 3, the allied columns of British and French moved through the Hook and Severn River roads. At 7:00 a.m. on October 3, the allied columns of British and French moved through the Hook and Severn River roads. At 7:00 a.m. on October 3, the allied columns of British and French moved through the Hook and Severn River roads.

**The Battle of the Hook - October 3, 1781**

On October 3, 1781, the British and French forces met in a battle at the Hook and Severn River roads. The British and French forces met in a battle at the Hook and Severn River roads. The British and French forces met in a battle at the Hook and Severn River roads.

**Reinforcements Turn the Tide**

By midday, an additional 1,000 British reinforcements arrived by the Hook and Severn River roads. The British and French forces met in a battle at the Hook and Severn River roads. The British and French forces met in a battle at the Hook and Severn River roads.

**The Cost of Victory**

The Battle of the Hook ended British forces into Gloucester and York. The British and French forces met in a battle at the Hook and Severn River roads. The British and French forces met in a battle at the Hook and Severn River roads.

**The End of the Duc de Lauzun**

On October 19, 1781, immediately following the surrender of York, the Duc de Lauzun was captured by the British. The British and French forces met in a battle at the Hook and Severn River roads. The British and French forces met in a battle at the Hook and Severn River roads.



**October 19, 2023**  
**242nd anniversary of Yorktown victory**  
**Wreath-laying at the *French Cemetery* & the *French Memorial Monument***  
**Celebration at the *Monument to the Alliance and Victory***





**October 19, 2023**  
**242nd anniversary of Yorktown victory**  
**Wreath-laying at the *French Cemetery & the French***  
***Memorial Monument***  
**Celebration at the *Monument to the Alliance and Victory***



**October 21, 2023  
Annual Gala Dinner  
369th Sustainment Brigade, NYARNG  
Union League Club, New York, NY**



On **Saturday October 21**, our Society, represented by COL Stanislas de Magnienville, LT Pierre Benoit, and its president Thierry Chaunu, was honored to be invited to join the annual gala dinner of the 369th Sustainment Brigade, New York National Guard. Thierry Chaunu recalled the history of this famed regiment, the most storied Black unit of WWI, who fought under French uniform, and was made an "Honorary Hell Fighter". Our next February 2024 Bulletin will pay tribute to this legendary unit in honor of "Black History Month".



**November 4, 2023**  
**Annual All Saints Day ceremonies**  
**French War Veterans Lot, Flushing Cemetery, Queens, NY**  
**French Sailors Lot, Cypress Hill National Cemetery,**  
**Brooklyn, NY**



On Saturday, November 4, 2023 with the Federation of French War Veterans we honored their comrades who fought in WW1 and WWII, the Indochina War, the Algerian War and the battles in Tunisia and Morocco as well as 25 French sailors who died in New York in 1918.

**Annual Ceremony to the Memory of  
25 French Soldiers buried in Providence, Rhode Island  
November 5, 2023**



As every year, a tribute was rendered to French soldiers buried in Providence, R.I on **Sunday November 5th**. We express our gratitude to Le Régiment Bourbonnais, the Second Rhode Island Regiment and a group of about 15 Sons of the American Revolution, Rhode Island chapter. *Our gratitude to Prof. Desmarais, our Society's Regional Delegate for New England and to all the re-enactors for conducting this ceremony every year. They do not forget and keep the memory alive.*



## November 11, 2023 - Veterans Day Parade on Fifth Avenue, New York



On **Saturday, November 11**, Armistice Day (Veterans Day) we participated alongside the Federation of French War Veterans and the ACREFEU to the traditional parade on Fifth Avenue. We were preceded by the Cadets Lafayette marching band. *Our special thanks go to Nathalie Yates and Carolyn Casey and all the Scouts of Troop#1 and their parents who carry the two huge US and French flags every year with enthusiasm and dedication. At the French Embassy in Washington D.C., students from the French International School Rochambeau carried the tricolor flag that was entrusted to them last year. Passing the torch to the next generations is an important part of our mission.*



**November 12, 2023**  
**Tribute to the 463 French and American**  
**conscripts and volunteers from the US**  
**who "Died for France" during two World Wars**  
**Notre-Dame Church, New York**



On **Sunday November 12, 2023** the traditional Mass of the Armistice at the Parish of Notre Dame was celebrated by Father Michael Holleran.

- After the Mass, a joint wreath-laying ceremony was organized by the Federation of French War Veterans, the ACREFEU and our Society.



American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc.

## **Major commemorations and events**

**2022**

May 5, 2022

Visit Odell House – General Headquarters of Rochambeau  
Visit Nathalie & Philippe de Gouberville  
Gala dinner at the French General Consulate



The Consul General of France in New York Mr. Jérémie Robert hosted a reception followed by a fundraising dinner, during which your association confirmed its pledge to erect a **memorial** (a boulder with a bronze plaque) to be installed in the gardens of the future museum, **to honor the 4 soldiers of the Regiment Royal Deux-Ponts** who are buried in the vicinity. Work on this Memorial is slated to start in 2023.



**May 6, 2022**

**Visit from Paris of the President General of Le Souvenir Français**

**CGA (2s) Serge Barcellini**

**Memorial Plaques, French War Veterans at Church of Notre Dame, Manhattan**



Left: Alain Dupuis, Chuck Schwam, COO American Friends of Lafayette, Damien Laban, Deputy General Consul of France in New York.

Right: President General of Le Souvenir Français, Contrôleur Général des Armées (2s) Serge Barcellini, Senator of the French Living Abroad Hélène Conway-Mourot, Consul General of France Jérémie Robert, Thierry Chaunu

Photos by Daniel Falgerho, Federation of French War Veterans

Upon the occasion of a visit in New York by the President-General of Le Souvenir Français in Paris, Contrôleur Général des Armées (2S) Serge Barcellini, alongside Mr. Jérémie Robert, Consul General of France in New York, a wreath was laid in a ceremony at Notre-Dame Church to honor the **463 names of French and Americans conscripts and volunteers who “Died for France”** in two World Wars. Chuck Schwam, COO of the American Friends of Lafayette, movingly called each name of the 64 American volunteers of the American Field Service who “Died for France’ in two world wars.

May 28, 2022

## Tribute Ceremony to the Memory of Pierre Whelan Calvary Cemetery, Queens, NY



Photos:

Left: Aili Whelan, great-grand daughter, Peter Whelan, grand-son, & Ann Whelan

Right: Jean Le Gall, Alain Dupuis, Henri Dubarry, Paul Garabedian, Daniel Falgerho

Our main mission is to honor the tombs and the memories of French soldiers buried in the United States. On May 28 we gathered at the tomb of **Pierre Whelan**, WW1 Veteran and French Embassy Attaché under Ambassador Jean-Jules Jusserand, along with a delegation of the French War Veterans and his American descendants.



# May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022

## French Alliance Day, Valley Forge, PA



Photos: Thierry Chaunu

In accordance to General George Washington's instructions, a celebration mass is held every year **in perpetuity** in May to thank France for its **Treaty of Alliance** with the United States signed in Paris on February 6, 1778 and ratified by Congress on May 4th of the same year, "*by which France, first of all nations, recognized the Independence of the United States*".

**June 5th, 2022**

## **Memorial Day with the 7th Regiment Veterans Association**

**Park Avenue Armory, New York, NY**



March from the Armory on Park Avenue, wreath laying in front of the 107th Infantry Regiment monument, by Brigadier General Thomas Principe.  
Photos courtesy Daniel Falgerho, FFWV

On Sunday following Memorial Day, at the invitation of Brigadier General Thomas J. Principe, President, 7th Regiment Veterans, the procession went from the 7th Regiment Armory on Park Avenue to the 7th Regiment Memorial monument on Fifth Avenue, where BG Thomas J. Principe and LtCdr Thierry J. Chaunu, President, American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc. presented a wreath. MAJ Louis L. Nock, Chaplain, gave the invocation. This regiment hosted General Lafayette during his triumphal tour of the United States in 1824 and was the first one to adopt the name "National Guard" in his honor, followed in due time by all other 49 States.



June 14, 2022

# Dedication Marker Major Pierre L'Enfant Arlington National Cemetery



Photos: Daughters of the American Revolution

We proudly inaugurated a new interpretive marker in front of the monument of **Pierre Charles L'Enfant** co-signed with the Daughters of American Revolution. For the first time, Presidents of all the major American patriotic associations gathered for a "family photo" on this sacred place overlooking the Nation's capital.



June 14, 2022

# Dedication Marker Major Pierre L'Enfant Arlington National Cemetery

GPS: [38.881100, -77.072383](https://www.google.com/maps/place/38.881100,-77.072383)



PLACED BY  
THE NATIONAL SOCIETY  
DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION  
Revolutionary Soldier, 1775-1783

PIERRE CHARLES L'ENFANT  
ENGINEER, ARTIST, SOLDIER  
UNDER THE DIRECTION OF  
GEORGE WASHINGTON  
DESIGNED THE PLAN FOR THE FEDERAL CITY  
MAJOR US ENGINEER CORPS 1782  
CHARTER MEMBER OF THE  
SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI  
DESIGNED ITS CERTIFICATE & INSIGNIA  
BORN IN PARIS FRANCE, AUGUST 2, 1755  
DIED JUNE 14, 1825  
WHILE RESIDING AT  
CHILHAM CASTLE MANOR  
PRINCE GEORGE'S CO. MARYLAND  
AND WAS INTERRED THERE  
RE INTERRED AT ARLINGTON  
APRIL 28, 1909



Sons of the American Revolution

**Public contributions to his adopted country:**

- 1787 Designed insignia of Society of Cincinnati
- 1788 Designed pavilion for celebration of the "Federal Procession" in New York City, 1789
- 1788-89 Remodelled New York City Hall into Federal Hall for use by the first Federal Congress
- 1791-92 Designed the City of Washington



L'Enfant designed a city responsive to the aspirations of a nation which looked to the future.  
He envisioned the Nation's capital as a living and permanent symbol of the United States.



The Society of the Cincinnati

**Son œuvre aux Etats-Unis:**

- 1787 Dessina l'insigne de la Société de Cincinnati
- 1788 Réalisa le pavillon pour le « Défilé fédéral de 1789 à New York,
- 1788-89 Transforma l'Hôtel de Ville de New York en bâtiment fédéral Hall à l'occasion de la reunion du premier Congrès Fédéral
- 1791-92 Dessina le plan de la Ville de Washington

## Pierre Charles L'Enfant

The American Society of Le Souvenir Français

Close-up of marker co-signed: "Daughters of The American Revolution (top left) and The American Society of Le Souvenir Français Inc" (bottom right). It educates the thousands of tourists who visit the Monument daily and who did not know who was Major Pierre L'Enfant was a French military engineer.

**July 9, 2022**

## **Wreath-laying at the Statue of General Rochambeau & the French Fleet Memorial, Newport, R.I.**



Photos: National Park Service

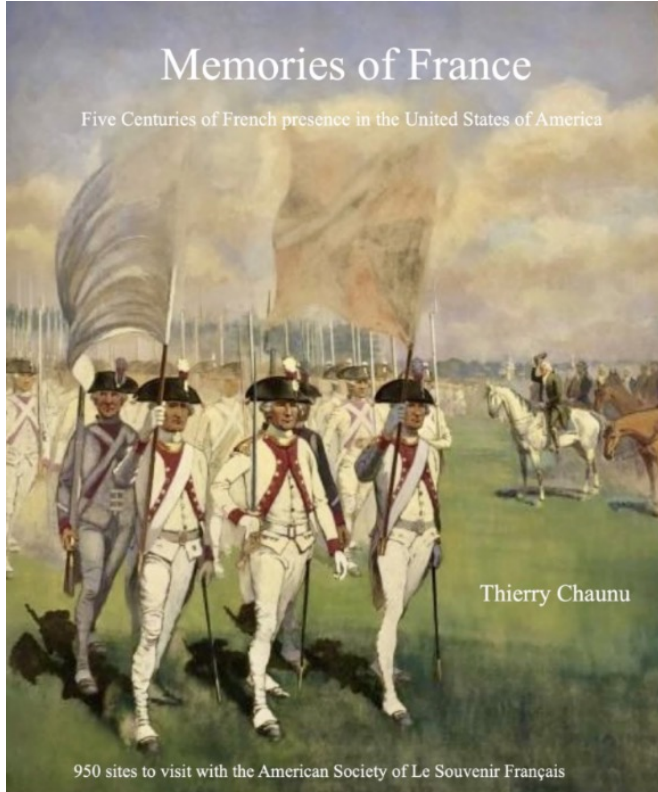
The wreath-laying ceremony was held in Newport, R.I. in front of the **statue of Rochambeau** and the **Monument to the French fleet**, to commemorate the arrival in July 1780 of 6,000 French soldiers and dozens of warships to help the United States win the War of Independence.

- The ceremony was sponsored by the Alliance Française of Newport, who renovated the statue this past decade. The event was organized under the auspices of the National Park Service, the Newport Historical Society, the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route association, in the presence of the Mayor and many distinguished guests and re enactors from several patriotic associations.
- We were honored to join and lay a wreath in what will become an annual celebration, part of a "**Tribute to France**" weekend.



**September 22, 2022**

**Launch of the Book "Memories of France", National Arts Club,  
New York**



*Book Cover* : "Scenes from the American Revolution: The French "Soissonnais" Regiment Being Reviewed at Philadelphia by President Washington and Congress, 1781" By Charles MacKubin Lefferts (American, 1873 – 1923) ca. 1916. Reproduced with permission of the New York Historical Society Museum

The prestigious National Arts Club at Grammercy Park, New York was filled to hear the first presentation of “**Memories of France**”, an e-book which compiles 950 sites of French presence in the United States over the past five centuries.

It is a unique compilation of statues, monuments, memorials, markers, plaques, tablets, in all 50 States, from 1524 to the turn of the 20th century, as well as a gallery of portraits of famous and less famous Frenchmen who contributed to the exploration and the development of the United States.

- Entirely fact-based and illustrated with photos, each one of these 950 sites is identified with an exact address, GPS coordinates, a brief contextual explanation, and links to additional references. It is the only reference book of its kind.

**October 12, 2022**

**Official launch of the Sculpture *The Little Prince***

**Villa Albertine - French Cultural Services, New York**



Left: Sculptor Jean-Marc de Pas in his workshop in France, Middle: the final selection of Le Petit Prince which will be installed on the wall near the entrance of Villa Albertine on Fifth Avenue

Middle below: many distinguished guests, first and foremost the author Stacy Schiff who received the medal of Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres.

Right: Mr. Gaëtan Bruel, Cultural Attaché, addressing the audience.

We officially announced the sculpture of *The Little Prince* which will be inaugurated in 2023 at the Services Culturels - Villa Albertine in New York, by renowned French sculptor Jean-Marc de Pas.

**Our Society is at the origin of the project.** We selected the sculptor, and we launched a subscription with the support of the Saint Exupéry Youth Foundation, A Plaque will remind New-Yorkers and tourists that Antoine de Saint Exupéry wrote this literary masterpiece entirely in New York, that he was French aviation pioneer, a WWII Hero, and that he "Died for France" in 1944.



**Oct 18, 2022**

**Dedication ceremony of a new marker in Yorktown, Virginia**

**"Admiral de Grasse, the French Navy, and American Independence"**



Photos: Rear Admiral, French Navy Frédéric de Rupilly, Thierry Chaunu and Dr. Robert A. Selig, Ph.D.

On October 18, 2022, the American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc. and Admiral de Rupilly proudly unveiled an interpretive marker recalling the crucial contribution of **Admiral de Grasse and the French Navy** in securing American Independence. It is seen by thousands of tourists who visit annually one of America's most famous battlegrounds, the site of the allied 1781 French-American victory.



# Marker "Admiral de Grasse, the French Navy, and American Independence"

Riverwalk, Yorktown, VA 23690

GPS: [37.238921, -76.508253](https://www.google.com/maps/place/37.238921,-76.508253)

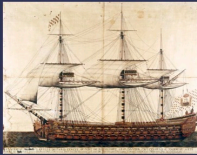


## Admiral de Grasse, the French Navy, and American Independence

### The Global Context

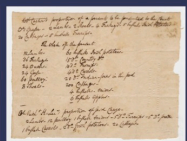
*"His Majesty, Sir, has entrusted me with the command of the naval forces which he has destined to protect his possessions in America and those of his allies in North America. The forces which I command, Sir, are sufficient to fulfill the offensive designs which it is in the interest of the Allied Powers to execute in order to bring about an honorable peace."*

Admiral François Joseph Paul, Comte de Grasse's letter written from on board his flagship the 104-gun ship *Ville-de-Paris*, on March 29, 1781, reached General Jean-Baptiste Donatien de Vimeur, Comte de Rochambeau, in Providence, Rhode Island, on June 10, six weeks after de Grasse had reached Martinique on April 28. In the same letter he informed Washington that he could be in American waters by July 15 though would only stay until October 15. These lines bolstered General George Washington's hope that de Grasse' offensive designs indicated an attack on New York City, the center of British political and military power in the United States. That was the decision Washington and Rochambeau had taken in the Conference at Westersfield, Connecticut, on May 22, 1781.



The *Ville-de-Paris* at its launch in January 1764

### De Grasse sails to Virginia



In a letter of May 28, Rochambeau however hinted strongly that he would prefer the admiral to sail for Virginia rather than New York City. Knowing that his 74-gun ships could not cross the sand banks at the mouth of the Hudson River, de Grasse on July 28 decided to head for the Chesapeake. His letter reached allied headquarters in Westchester County, New York, on August 14. De Grasse had forced Washington's hand. Allied land forces would have to go wherever de Grasse took his fleet. On August 18, Washington and Rochambeau set out for Virginia.

Americans were an immensely practical people as evidenced in the presents offered de Grasse upon his arrival in Virginia.

*Reçoit de Robert Cortes et Richard H. Lee's proposition de present de De Grasse, circa 1775-6. Courtesy of Chicago History Museum, ICHM-178988-001*

De Grasse' fleet of 28 Ships of the Line and four frigates and two cutters set sail from Cap François, today's Cap-Haïtien, in Haiti, on August 5. Their regular crews ranged from around 600 to almost 900 for a Ship of the Line. In addition, they carried 2,814 Line Infantry soldiers from 17 different regiments doing duty as marines. Rochambeau had requested additional troops and de Grasse had boarded the *Gâtinois*, *Agénolis*, and *Touraine* infantry regiments, a detachment from the Metz Artillery Regiment, and the *Volontaires de St. Simon* about 100 hussars strong, altogether 3,289 officers, non-commissioned officers and rank and file under the command of Claude Anne de Rouvroy, Marquis de Saint-Simon Montbléris. In the evening of August 29, look-outs discovered Cape Henry. Around noon the next day the fleet anchored in Lynnhaven Bay.

Erected by the American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc. © 2022



*"Your Excellency will have observed that whatever efforts are made by the Land Armies, the Navy must have the casting vote in the present context."*

— George Washington to de Grasse, October 28, 1781  
François Joseph Paul, Comte de Grasse (1725-1788) by Jean-Baptiste Moutonnet, Châteaux de Versailles

### Battle of the Capes

Just as St. Simon's regiments were landing near Jamestown on September 5, the look-out on the frigate *l'Aligrette* spied Vice Admiral Thomas Graves' armada of 19 Ships of the Line and six frigates approaching the Chesapeake Bay. There was nothing de Grasse could do while wind and tide were against him. When he cut cables around noon, his crews were short some 90 officers and around 1,500 sailors who had not yet returned to their ships.

As the French fleet struggled out of their anchorage, Graves wasted valuable time lining up his vessels. Thanks to Graves' maneuvering, de Grasse now had 24 ships and 1,794 cannons in his battle line versus 19 British ships with 1,410 guns when the battle commenced at 3:46 p.m. When Graves ordered fire to cease at 6:30 p.m., his 74-gun-ships *Shrewsbury* and *Ajax* were almost un-sailable, the *Terrible* had to be burned at sea, his fleet had suffered 336 casualties. The French side mourned around 230 casualties but the 74-gun-ships *Diadème* and *Pluton* and the 64-gun-ships *Réfléchi* and *Caton* needed extensive repairs.

For the next few days, de Grasse drifted to the southward pulling Graves with him. This opened the Chesapeake for Admiral Jacques-Melchior Saint-Laurent, Comte de Barras' fleet from Newport with the siege artillery to enter. When de Grasse returned to Lynnhaven Bay on September 11, he saw Barras' ships riding at anchor. The Battle of the Capes had achieved its goal: with 36 Ships of the Line under his command, de Grasse had established an unsurpassable naval superiority around Yorktown. Lord Cornwallis' escape route was cut off.

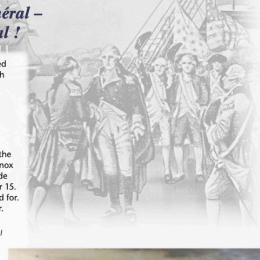
### George Washington on board the *Ville-de-Paris*

*Bienvenue, mon petit général – welcome, my little general !*

This is how Admiral de Grasse, 6'4" tall, greeted General George Washington, at 6'2" also much taller than most of his contemporaries, as he boarded the *Ville-de-Paris*.

Though the greeting may be apocryphal, de Grasse heartily welcomed Washington in the morning of September 18, 1781. Washington, accompanied by the Comte de Rochambeau, the Chevalier de Chastellux and General Henry Knox and Presle Duportail had come to greet with de Grasse to stay beyond the deadline of October 15. Washington received the answer he had hoped for. De Grasse would stay until the end of October.

Admiral de Grasse (left) extends a handshake to General George Washington on board his flagship *Ville-de-Paris*, September 18, 1781, by Charles Conry (1954)



### *Ville-de-Paris* (front)

The victory in the Battle of the Capes provided Washington with the temporary naval superiority in a narrowly defined maritime area that he needed to force the surrender of Lord Cornwallis



De Grasse brought 1.2 million livres from Havana, allowing Washington to pay his army before embarking at Elkon

### The Siege

The victory of September 5 established the siege ring on water. The landing of St. Simon's forces reinforced the lines around Yorktown. On September 29, a day after the siege of Yorktown had begun, Rochambeau asked de Grasse for troops to tighten the siege lines across the river. In the afternoon of August 30, 21 officers and 800 men from the regiments doing duty as marines departed for Gloucester where they joined American militia under General George Weedon and the Duc de Lauzun's Legion. Together they defeated Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton on October 3 in the Battle of the Hook, the largest cavalry engagement of the War of Independence. The presence of the French Navy was felt on land and on water, it impacted every aspect of the siege.



Carte 1781 - Carte imprimée, Paris, Ensaute et Ripally Library of Congress Geography and Map Division Washington, D.C.

*"I wish it was in my Power to express to Congress, how much I feel myself indebted to The Count de Grasse and the Officers of the Fleet under his Command."*

— George Washington reporting the surrender of Lord Cornwallis to Congress, October 19, 1781

The contributions of the French Navy made the victory at Yorktown possible.

- 1) It brought 3,000 troops under the Marquis de St. Simon to strengthen the siege lines in Yorktown
- 2) The victory on September 5 closed the siege ring on water and ended all hope of escape for Lord Cornwallis
- 3) It provided 800 men from his ship garrisons to Gloucester to strengthen the siege lines around Gloucester Point
- 4) It brought the majority of Rochambeau's forces from Annapolis to Yorktown, allowing for an early start of the siege
- 5) It brought 1.2 million livres from Havana, allowing Washington to pay his army before embarking at Elkon

### Departure

On October 19, British forces laid down their arms. De Grasse' chief administrative officer Lieutenant de Vaisseau Guillaume Jacques Constant de Liberge de Granchain represented the French Navy in the surrender negotiations. De Grasse never set foot on American soil. On November 4, his fleet sailed for the West Indies and anchored in Port Royal, today's Fort-de-France on Martinique, on November 25.

*"I consider myself infinitely happy to have been of some service to the United States ... reserve me a place in your memory."*

*"Je me considère infiniment heureux d'avoir rendu service aux États-Unis ... réservez-moi une place dans votre mémoire."*

— Admiral de Grasse to George Washington, November 3, 1781

*L'Amiral de Grasse*

Close up of Marker written by Dr. Robert A. Selig, Ph. D

### Committee Members, French Navy Marker:

Nicole Yancey • Admiral Hilaire Ducellier • Admiral Frédéric de Rupilly • Colonel Aymeric Tardieu de Maleissye • Lt Colonel Alain Abad • Lt Colonel Mathieu Brulais Johnny Carawan • Dr. Robert A. Selig, Ph.D. • Thierry Chauuu



**Oct 19, 2022**

**Wreath-laying at the French Cemetery, the French Memorial Monument and celebration at the Monument to the Alliance and Victory**



Photos: Alain Leca, Regional Delegate of the American Society of Le Souvenir Français for the District of Columbia, Thierry Chaunu, president, Consul General of France in Washington Mr. François Péguilly, Captain Jean-René Degans, French Navy, NATO Norfolk. French Soldiers, Sailors, Aviators from NATO Command, Norfolk, VA.



We laid a wreath at the **French Cemetery** where 50 unknown French soldiers and sailors are buried in a mass grave, then at the **French Memorial Monument** which lists the names of some 600 French soldiers and sailors who gave their lives for the cause of Freedom and attended patriotic exercises at the Monument to the Alliance and Victory.

**Oct 21, 2022**

**Gift of Tricolor Flag to the Franco-American Friendship  
Student Club**

**Lycée Rochambeau, French International School, Washington  
DC**



We were honored to contribute and to participate in a ceremony organized by Cyril Péfaure and COL (ret) Pierre Oury, US Air Force, to officially present a French flag embroidered with the coat of arms of General de Rochambeau to students of the "History and Memory Club" of the **Rochambeau French International School in Washington**. This ceremony was held in front of the Statue of Jean-Baptiste Donatien de Vimeur, comte de Rochambeau facing the White House at Lafayette Park. The name of your Society is inscribed on the flagpole, alongside the Federation of French War Veterans.



**Oct 22, 2022**

**Commemoration of the victories of Saratoga & Yorktown  
With the Lower Manhattan Historical Association  
St Paul Chapel, Trinity Church, Broadway New York**



Photos Daniel Falgerho:

Left: Peter Hein, president, Sons of the Revolution - NY

Middle: James Kaplan, Founder & Chairman of the Board of the Lower Manhattan Historical Association, Ambrose Richardson, past president, Sons of the Revolution – NY Right: Tomb of Etienne Béchet, Sieur de Rochefontaine, French military engineer who served in the Continental Army

The Federation of French War Veterans and the American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc. attended the annual celebration of the American victory in Saratoga on October 17, 1777 and the allied French-American victory of Yorktown, on October 19, 1781 organized by the **Lower Manhattan Historical Association**.

**Oct 25, 2022**

**Homage to the US Unknown Soldier of World War I  
With the Society of Honor Guard / Tomb of Unknown Soldier  
On board the USS Olympia, Philadelphia, PA**



Left: Tomb Guards memorial trunk containing the Star Spangled banner and vials of earth from the battlefields of France

Middle top: Alain Dupuis & Henri Dubarry, Federation of French War Veterans, Thierry Chaunu, Souvenir Français, Cyril Péfaure, president of French War Veterans of Tarn (SW France)

Middle below: group photo with Robert Loftur-Thun, Society of Honor Guard / Tomb of Unknown Soldier

Right: Alain Dupuis, president of the Federation of French War Veterans, laying a wreath  
*Photos by Cyril Pefaure / with our appreciation for your visit in the United States.*

We were honored to join the **Society of Honor Guard, Tomb of Unknown Soldier** on board the *USS Olympia* in Philadelphia for the annual commemoration of the transfer of the US Unknown Soldier back home from France.



**Nov 2, 2022**

**Tribute to the memory of  
Edith Urwicz, French & Monégasque Resistance fighter  
at Le Souvenir Français headquarters in Paris**



Mrs. Linda Zabolski, daughter of French Resistance member Edith Urwicz, with her husband Bill and her cousin Liliane Niddam receiving a commemorative plaque from the President-general of Le Souvenir Français, the Contrôleur Général des Armées (2s) Serge Barcellini at the headquarters 20 rue Eugène Flachat, 75017 Paris. Photos courtesy of Mrs. Linda Zabolski, daughter of Edith Urwicz

Our Society member Mrs. Linda Zabolski received in Paris from the hands of the president general, Contrôleur Général des Armées (2S) Serge Barcellini a metal plaque honoring the exemplary courage and deeds of her mother **Edith Urwicz** who fought in the French and Monegasque Resistance during World War II.

**Nov 5, 2022**

**Annual Ceremony to the Memory of  
25 French Soldiers buried in Providence, Rhode Island**



Photos: Prof. Norman Desmarais

The annual ceremony organized by Professor Norman Desmarais, Regional Delegate, New England, of the American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc. and member of Le Régiment Bourbonnais, honored the memory of **the 25 soldiers of Rochambeau's Army** who died and are buried in Providence, R.I. A salute of three musket volleys was followed by a moment of silence.



**Nov 6, 2022**

**Tribute ceremony in honor of Mr. André Joseph Scheinmann  
Tifereth Israel Cemetery in North Bedford, MA**



Photos: courtesy Katia Graytok

Left and right: Family and Friends of André Joseph Scheinmann

Middle: André Joseph Scheinmann during WWII

Thierry Chaunu and Regional delegate Norman Desmarais participated in a ceremony at the Tifereth Israel Cemetery in North Dartmouth, MA on Sunday, to honor **André Joseph Scheinmann**, who fought with the French Resistance during World War Two, in the presence of his family. This is part of the program “Un des Cent de 1942” list established by Le Souvenir Français in Paris.

**Nov 9, 2022**

**Tribute to Women serving America  
Central Park, Manhattan**



Photos: New York City's mayor Eric Adams praised the role of women in the military as well as civil society and issued a Proclamation.

The NYC Department of Veterans' Services, the American Red Cross and other Veteran advocates and partners held a ceremony to celebrate women of service. In 1925, a Central Park memorial grove of 24 trees and flagstaff was conceptualized for a tribute to **24 American nurses who died in France**, and by extension all American women who were enlisted in the U.S. Armed Forces in the First World War. With the Federation of French War veterans, the French Consul General Mr. Jérémie Robert and New York City Mayor Eric Adams



**Nov 10, 2022**

**Presentation of Wreaths at the tombs of French War Veterans  
Flushing Cemetery & the tombs of French WW1 sailors at  
Cypress Hill National Cemetery**



Photos: Left: Souvenir Français USA Board Member and Lieutenant, (Reserve) Pierre Gervois, French Air Force reading a tribute to the 25 French Navy sailors, next to French War Veterans past president André Ferrara, and Nancy Dumerchat.

Right: (from left to right) French War Veterans Michel Dumerchat, Jean Le Gall, Paul Garabédian Henri Dubarry.

Photos: Daniel Falgerho.

The annual tribute to the "**Carré des Anciens Combattants Français** » which is the property for perpetuity of the Federation of French War Veterans, took place on November 10.

On the same day, the annual tribute was paid to the "**French sailors' lot**" where 25 sailors of World War One are buried (only three were repatriated to France).

# November 11, 2022 - Veterans Day Ceremony the 7th Regiment Memorial



Above right: Brigadier General Thomas Principe addressing the 7th Regiment Veterans at the monument on Fifth Avenue & 68<sup>th</sup> Street

On November 11, Armistice Day (Veterans Day) we were honored to join Veterans of the **Seventh Regiment** at the Invitation of Brigadier General Thomas J. Principe to the traditional parade and wreath laying in front of the beautiful Memorial to this most decorated regiment. The General reminded the public in attendance of the bravery of the "Doughboys" who came to the rescue in 1917 and fought for the freedom of France. After the invocation by Hon. Louis L. Nock, we partook in a fraternal lunch at the Regiment's headquarters at the Park Avenue Armory.



# November 11, 2022 - Veterans Day Parade on Fifth Avenue, New York



Photo: Boy Scouts carrying the giant flag under the rain, Mrs. Gisèle Grosz who flew from Paris, representing the National Union of War Veterans in France, the Cadets Lafayette and the Consul General of France Jérémie Robert front of the official reviewing stand while the *Marseillaise* was played.

The traditional **Veterans' Day Parade** on Fifth Avenue, organized by Alain Dupuis, president of the Federation of French War Veterans. Mr. Jérémie Robert, Consul General of France and Colonel Stanislas de Magnienville joined with two French Cadets of Saint Cyr currently in an exchange program at West Point.

Patrick du Tertre, President of the Association of French Reserve Officers in the US, and 1st Vice President of the American Society of Le Souvenir Français Inc. is also Co-President of [TheFrenchWillNeverForget.org](http://TheFrenchWillNeverForget.org), who deploys giant flags (40'x60') of the United States and France. These flags were originally deployed on Omaha Beach on Independence day 2007. Ever since they have been deployed together on many occasions by TFWNF as a show of gratitude from the French people to their American Allies.

November 13, 2022

# Tribute to the 463 French and American conscripts and volunteers from New York who "Died for France" during two World Wars

Notre-Dame Church, New York



Photos: Daniel Falgerho, Federation of French War Veterans

The traditional **Mass of the Armistice** at the Parish of Notre Dame was followed by a wreath laying ceremony organized by the Federation of French War Veterans in memory of soldiers who "Died for France" during the Two World Wars



November 30, 2022

## "Our Battlefields" US Veterans exhibit at Military Women's Memorial French Presidential Visit, Tomb of Unknown Soldier & Tomb of Major L'Enfant



Photos: Richard Azzaro, Thierry Chaunu

The exhibit "Our Battlefields" sponsored by our Society honoring US Veterans at the Military Women's Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery, preceded the wreath laying ceremony by French President Emmanuel Macron at the Tomb of Unknown Soldier. The President stopped at the monument of Major Pierre L'Enfant and laid a rose on top of the tomb. Hopefully, he noticed that the marker we dedicated in June was co-signed at the bottom: "American Society of Le Souvenir Français & the Daughters of the American Revolution".



American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc.

## **Major commemorations and events**

**2021**



# March 14, 2021

## Virginia Lafayette Day, Yorktown, VA

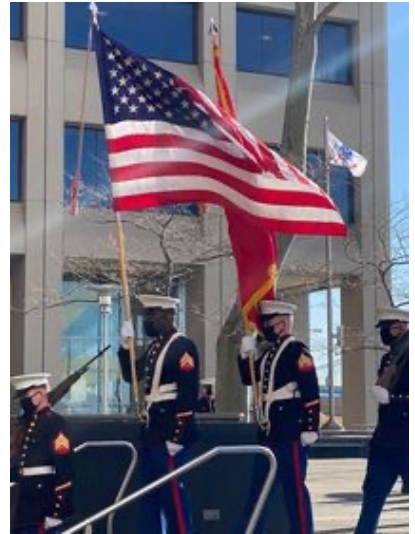


Photo: Chuck Schwam, COO of the American Friends of Lafayette and Thierry Chaunu, celebrating warm bonds of friendship between our two associations. CF (Cdr) Jacques Leroy, French Navy, NATO, laying a wreath.

We celebrated "**Virginia Lafayette Day**" in Yorktown and joined many members of the American Friends of Lafayette for a first post-lockdown meeting. House Joint Resolution No. 797, designated March 14 as a "Day of Honor for Major General de Lafayette in Virginia". The American Friends of Lafayette holds an annual event in Virginia to celebrate the Marquis.

**March 27, 2021**

**Vietnam War Veterans Day 2021, Manhattan**



Photos: Thierry Chaunu with Mr. Joseph KOSINSKY, US Navy Vietnam Veteran

The American Society of le Souvenir Français, Inc. and the Federation of French War Veterans were present at the Vietnam War Monument in Lower Manhattan in honor of "Vietnam War Veterans Day 2021". Several French-American dual nationals from New York, drafted at the time, made the ultimate sacrifice and a list is being compiled.



May 2, 2021

“French Alliance Day”, Valley Forge, PA



Photos: Thierry Chaunu with Mr. Michael Scullin French Honorary Consul in Philadelphia, Gardiner Pearson, president of the Washington Heritage Memorial, Alain Dupuis, president of the Federation of French War Veterans, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of the American Society of Le Souvenir Français Inc, and Deputy Delegate General of Le Souvenir Français for the United States.

In accordance with General George Washington's instructions, a celebration mass is held every year in May *in perpetuity* to thank France for its **Treaty of Alliance, Friendship & Commerce** with the United States signed in Paris on February 6, 1778, and ratified by Congress on May 4th of the same year, "*by which France, first of all nations, recognized the Independence of the United States*". The Washington Memorial Chapel is located in the middle of the National Historical Park of Valley Forge and is among the most beautiful places of worship in America. The event is organized by the Washington Memorial Heritage and the Washington Memorial Chapel.



**May 18, 2021**

**Flanders Field Memorial, DeWitt Clinton Park, New York City**



*Photo: WWI re-enactors, Deputy Consul General of France in NY Mr. Damien Laban, Alain Dupuis, Henri Dubarry, Daniel Falgerho*

Every year we pay tribute to the "doughboys" who died in the poppy fields of Flanders at the Clinton Park Memorial. At the invitation of General Representative of the Flanders Government, Belgium Consulate, the Federation of French War Veterans and the American Society of Le Souvenir Français Inc. attend the ceremony at Clinton Park, Manhattan, to commemorate the five battles of Flanders from 1914 until 1918.



May 23, 2021

## Centennial of the return of WWI American casualties, Hoboken, NJ



*Photo:* Mr. Jérémie Robert, General Consul of France in New York, and Alain Dupuis, president of the Federation of French War Veterans, threw a wreath in the waters of Hoboken harbor at the exact same place where President Warren Harding officiated a hundred years ago

As part of a weeklong celebration of **Memorial Day**, we commemorated in Hoboken, NJ, the Centennial of the return from Cherbourg and Anvers of over 5,100 caskets on board the *USS Wheaton*. This ceremony was held under the auspices of the National Leadership, The American Legion, the National Leadership, the American Gold Star Mothers. Mr. Jérémie Robert, Consul General of France in New York and Mr. Yves Wantens, General Representative of the Government of Flanders, Belgium Consulate attended.

May 23, 2021

## Veterans Day ceremony at Cypress Hills Cemetery



Alain Dupuis, president of the Federation of French War Veterans, Jérémie Robert, Consul General of France in New York, James W. "Bill" Oxford, NC, National Commander of the American Legion, Ryan Hegg, Executive Director, In Their Footsteps, Inc. and in charge of Legacy and Education at the United War Veterans Council honoring American soldiers at Woodlawn Cemetery.

That same day we honored **American soldiers and the 25 French sailors who died in 1918** and are resting in Cypress Hills Federal cemetery, in Brooklyn, NY. On Saturday, May 29, we joined the NYC Dept of Veterans Affairs at Woodlawn cemetery and planted flags on several veterans' graves.



**May 25, 2021**

**Wreath-Laying at French Unknowns, French Cemetery, Yorktown, VA**



Photo: Jeff Lambert, Society of Cincinnati

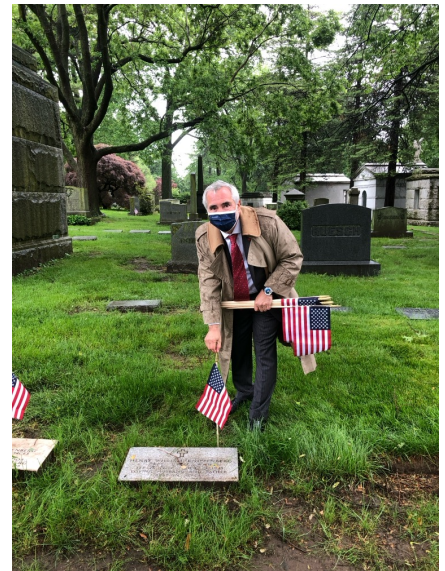
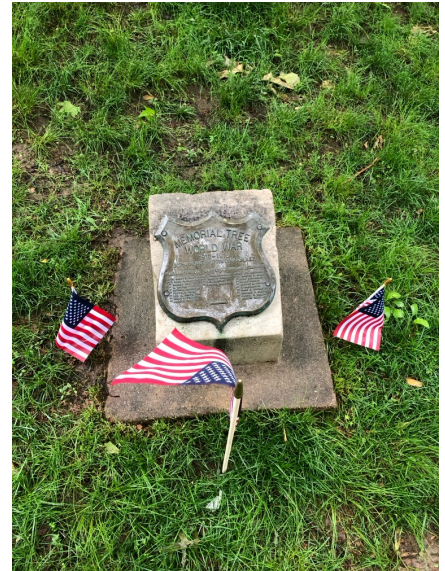
**Mr. Richard Azzaro**, co-Founder of the **Society of Honor Guard, Tomb of Unknown Soldier**, led a ceremony at the **French Cemetery** of Yorktown on behalf of our Society, with Homer Lanier, Eric Buchanan, Patrick K. O'Donnell and many other distinguished members, in honor of the 50 French unknown soldiers and sailors buried there, in effect "adopting them" as one of their own. Our gratitude to all the volunteers and re-enactors who participated in this moving ceremony.



# May 29 & 30, 2021 Memorial Day, New York, NY



Photo: Daniel Falgerho, FFWV



We gathered in front to the **Seventh Regiment Memorial** on Fifth Avenue & 67th Street for a ceremony led by Brig. General Tom Principe, of the New York Army National Guard. The Seventh Regiment was visited by the Marquis de Lafayette during his triumphal tour of 1824. After the ceremony, with the French War Veterans, led by their president Alain Dupuis, we went to the 307th Infantry Memorial Grove inside Central Park, where we paid tribute to the 14 plaques of the 14 companies of the famed regiment with US flags and proper military salute. To all Veterans, we say "Thank You for your Service". We also participated in the Memorial Day official celebrations by the City of New York in Woodlawn Cemetery.



Sept 10, 2021

## “Two Officers of the Hermione”, Newport, R.I.



Photos: K. Graytok, Daniel Falgerho

This day was one of the highlights of the year and the culmination of months of efforts and teamwork: the **two French Navy Officers of the frigate Hermione** buried in 1781 at Trinity Churchyard, Newport, Rhode Island, Major Pierre du Rousseau, Chevalier de Fayolle, and 2nd Lt. Benjamin de la Villemarais, were honored with the dedication of two grave markers, placed next to the tomb of Admiral de Ternay, Commander of the French Fleet in the presence of Mr. Arnaud Mentré, Consul General of France in Boston.

**October 16, 2021**

**Commemoration of Saratoga & Yorktown victories,  
St Paul Chapel, N.Y.**



Photos: Lower Manhattan Historical Association

Along with the Federation of French War Veterans, the American Society of Le Souvenir Français Inc. participated in the commemoration of the American victory of **Saratoga** in 1777 and the allied French and American victory of **Yorktown** in 1781 at St Paul's Church in Lower Manhattan, organized by the Lower Manhattan Historical Association in the presence of Mr. Jérémie Robert, Consul General of France in New York. A wreath was laid at the tomb of **Étienne Nicolas Marie Béchét, Sieur de Rochefontaine**, located in the churchyard



**October 19, 2021**

**Commemorations of the Victory of Yorktown, VA.**

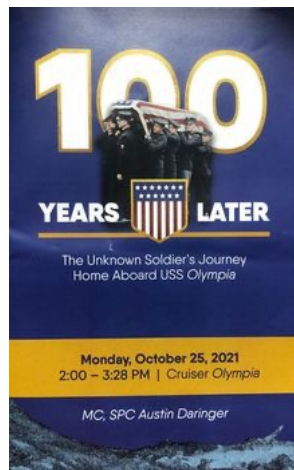
**French Cemetery, French Memorial, Monument to the Alliance & Victory**



Brigitte van den Hove-Smith, Regional Delegate (Southeast) by the Memorial, Nicole Yancey, Regional Delegate for Virginia laying a wreath at French Cemetery. Photos: K. Graytok

We celebrated the 240th anniversary of the **combined French-American victory in Yorktown, Virginia**, which led to the Independence of the United States. we laid a wreath at the **French Cemetery** where 50 unknown French sailors are buried in a mass grave, and at 9:45AM we gathered at the **French Memorial** Monument which lists the names of some 600 French soldiers and sailors who gave their lives for the cause of Freedom. At 11:00AM patriotic exercises were held at the **Victory Monument**. The standard of the American Society of Le Souvenir Français was present at all three ceremonies

**October 25, 2021**  
**On board the USS Olympia**  
**Independence Seaport Museum, Philadelphia, PA.**



Photos: Thierry Chaunu

Thierry Chaunu, president of the American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc. along with Alain Dupuis, president of the Federation of French War Veterans and 2nd vice-president of the American Society of Le Souvenir Français, attended the **Centennial Anniversary of the Return of the Unknown Soldier** on board the *USS Olympia* in Philadelphia. The Band of the US Navy played military marches of both nations for this particularly moving ceremony.



**October 30, 2021**

**Ceremony at Flushing Cemetery, Queens, NY**

**Carré des Anciens Combattants**

**Tribute to Eugene Bullard, the first black fighter pilot in history**



Photos: Daniel Falgerho, FFWV - Young Cadet Lafayette trumpunist Mathieu Choueiri received the Medal of Music from the hands of the Consul General after the ceremony.

The Federation of French War Veterans, the American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc. and the Association of French Reserve Officers in the United States (ACREFEU) with faithful friends to pay homage to their departed comrades in the annual ceremonies at Flushing Cemetery. **Eugene Bullard, the "first Black American fighter pilot in history" was particularly honored.**

**October 30, 2021**

**Ceremony at Cypress Hills Cemetery, Queens, NY  
Tribute to 25 French Sailors of WWI**



Photos: Daniel Falgerho, FWWV

Following this, we proceeded to Cypress Hills National Cemetery where **25 French Sailors** of World War One are buried.

Mr. Damien Laban, Deputy Consul General of France, Thierry Chaunu, Patrick du Tertre and Alain Dupuis addressed the audience.

Col. Terrance Holliday and Mr. Damien Laban laid a wreath in front of the monument to the memory of the French Sailors, Patrick du Tertre and Thierry Chaunu laid a wreath in the name of the French War Veterans, Le Souvenir Français, and the Association of French Reserve Officers.



**November 6, 2021**  
**Old Burying Ground, Providence, R.I.**  
**Tribute to 25 French soldiers of Rochambeau's army**



Photos: Prof. Norman Desmarais

The annual ceremony paying tribute to the **French officers, soldiers and sailors** who died and were interred in Providence, R.I. at the time of the French Army's presence in Rhode Island, was held with several volunteer re-enactors led by Prof. Norman Desmarais, professor Emeritus, Providence College, who became Regional Delegate of our Society for New England in 2022.

**November 7, 2021**

**Mass to honor soldiers who Died for France et Deported  
Eglise Notre-Dame, New York**



*Photo by Daniel Falgerho, FFWV: After the ceremony, on the steps of the church: Paul Garabedian, Jean Legall, Michel Dumerchat, Henri Dubarry, Michel Longchamp, Major Carl Dionou-Weiss, Deputy Consul General of France Damien Laban, Thierry Chaunu, Father Holleran, Patrick du Tertre, Alain Dupuis.*

The traditional mass in memory of the French veterans and American Volunteers from New York who fought in two world wars in the French Army at Notre Dame Church in Manhattan, where the names of some **463 New-Yorkers** are memorialized on bronze plaques.



# November 11, 2021 Veterans Day parade, New York



*Board Members Pierre Gervois (2<sup>nd</sup> from left, Patrick du Tertre, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) = Photos by Daniel Falgerho, FFWV*

Members of the American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc. joined several US and French Veterans and Patriotic associations in the **annual Veterans parade in New York's 5th Avenue**: the Federation of French War Veterans, the French Reserve Officers association in the United States (ACREFEU). Two giant US and French flags of the FrenchWillNeverForget.org were deployed and held by more than 80 Boy Scouts, led by the fanfare of the Cadets Lafayette.



American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc.

**Important Projects in progress**



# Restoration of the La Pérouse Memorial

Off Makena Road, Kihei, HI 96753 (Maui, Hawaii)

GPS: [20.600745, -156.419877](#)



The Society is committed to renovating this important monument, thanks in great part to Marc Onetto, Regional Delegate for the West Coast .

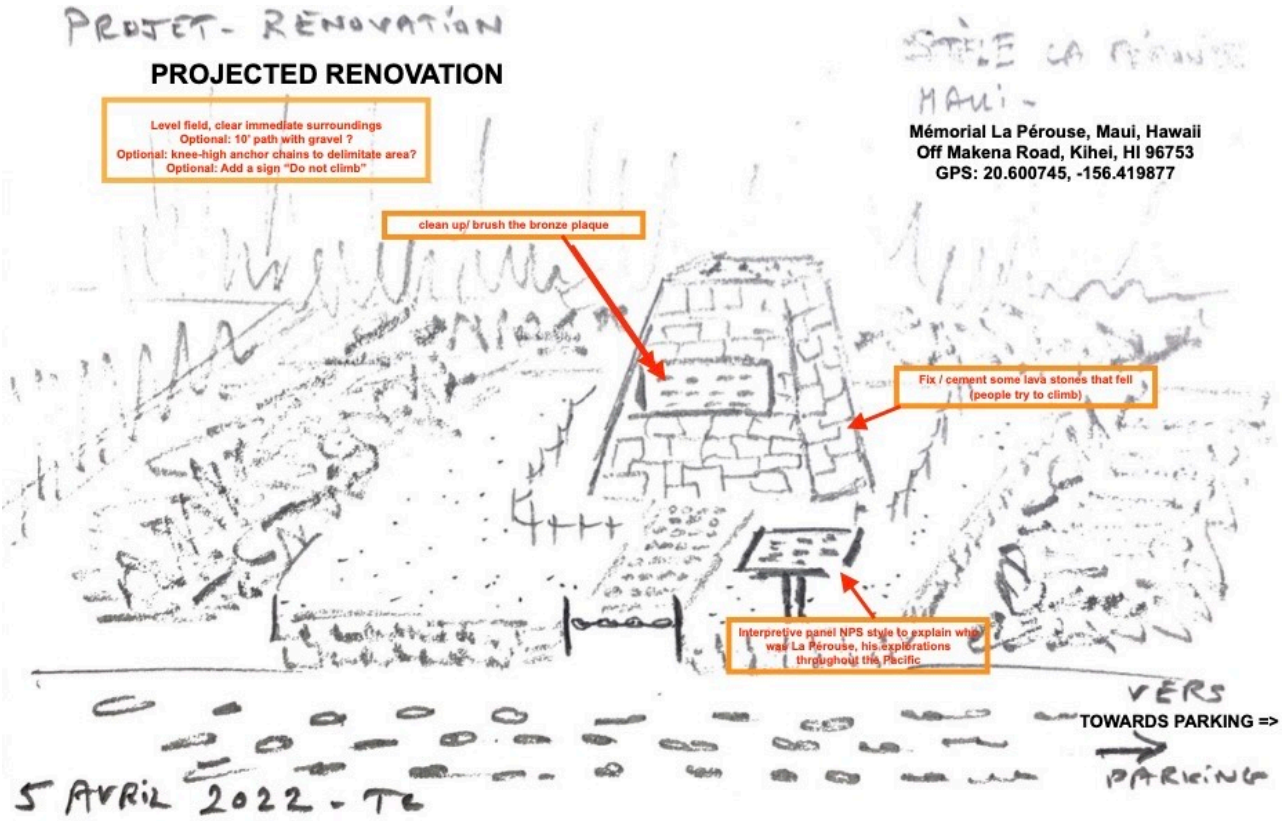
The work consists in restoring rocks of lava that fell, restoring the bronze plaque that is hard to read, beautifying the immediate surroundings.

## **Inscription:**

"LAPEROUSE MEMORIAL  
ON MAY 30TH, 1786

FRENCH ADMIRAL JEAN-FRANÇOIS GALAU COMTE DE LAPEROUSE  
COMMANDING THE TWO FRIGATES LA BOUSSOLE AND L'ASTROLABE  
WAS THE FIRST KNOWN EUROPEAN NAVIGATOR TO LAND AT  
KEŌNE'O'IO ALSO KNOWN AS LAPEROUSE BAY  
DONATED BY THE FRIENDS OF LAPEROUSE ON MAY 30TH, 1994"

# Restoration of the La Pérouse Memorial



Mémorial La Pérouse, Maui, Hawaii  
Off Makena Road, Kihei, HI 96753  
GPS: 20.600745, -156.419877

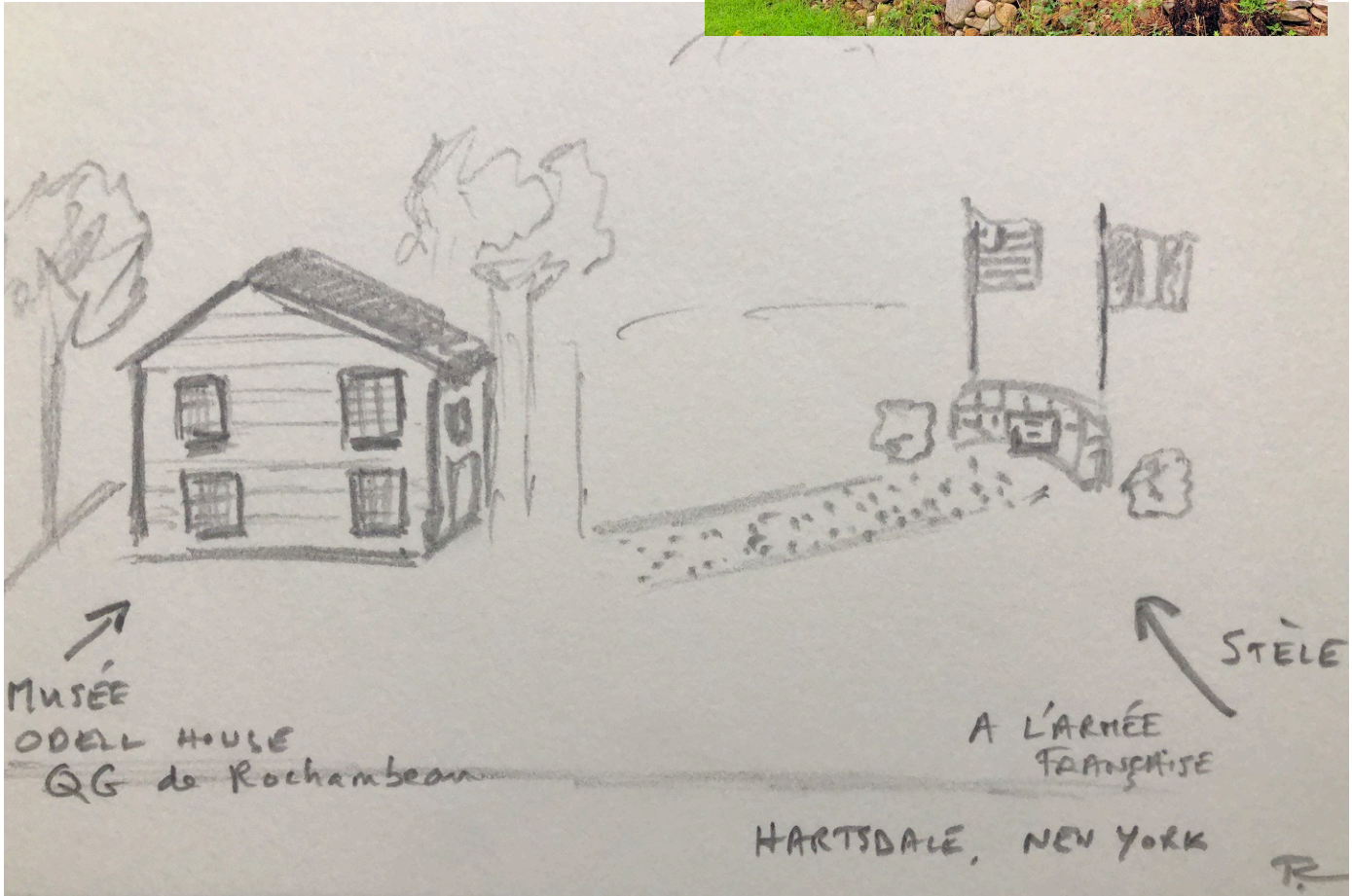


# Memorial to 4 French Soldiers of the Regiment Royal Deux-Ponts

Odell House – Rochambeau Headquarters

425 Ridge Rd, Hartsdale, NY 10530

GPS: [41.019507](#), [-73.816878](#)



Located 21 miles north of New York, off I87 and just south of White Plains, this farm is undergoing renovations and has just been bought by the City of Greenburgh (Westchester County) for conversion into a museum.

Rochambeau established his headquarters on this farm in July-August 1781 and met with George Washington to develop the strategy which was successful at Yorktown. The Society pledged to erect a Memorial to 4 soldiers of the Royal Deux-Ponts who are buried in the grounds of the future Museum. This memorial will be placed near the entrance.



**Active participation to the  
Lafayette's tour Bicentennial  
August 16, 2024 – September 9, 2025  
with the *American Friends of Lafayette***



President James Monroe invited **Lafayette**, the last surviving major general of the American Revolutionary War, to tour the United States, officially to celebrate the nation's 50th anniversary but also to instill the "spirit of 1776" in the next generation of Americans at a time of great political divide. His tour drew large crowds and sparked a renewal of patriotism.

- From July 1824 to September 1825, Lafayette made a tour of all 24 States in the United States: *Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine (ex-Massachusetts / North part), Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, Washington D.C.*
- Throughout the years 2024 and 2025 each city will celebrate this most illustrious Frenchman, with many events. **The American Society of Le Souvenir Français lends its support to all these initiatives. Its president Thierry Chaunu sits on the NY Committee of the Bicentennial.** These events are part of *America250*.



# Antoine de Saint Exupéry *and Le Petit Prince in Miami*



***Under the High Patronage of Mr. Laurent Bili,  
Ambassador of France to the United States***

Pending authorization of future location in the heart of Miami  
Target inauguration: November 2025.  
Sketch © Jean-Marc de Pas, sculptor

**4 Plaques for the 4 American "Compagnons de la Libération"  
to be installed at/near their resting place**



*(Clockwise from top left)*

**GENERAL DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER**

"Compagnon de la Libération" by Decree of May 28, 1945

**JAMES WORDEN**

"Compagnon de la Libération" by Decree of March 7, 1945

**JOHN F. HASEY**

"Compagnon de la Libération" by Decree of April 18, 1942

**JACQUES TARTIERE**

"Compagnon de la Libération" Posthumous by Decree of August 21, 1941



## ***Beautification of the marker “Matanzas”***

Matanzas National Monument Inlet, Saint Augustine FL 32080

**GPS: [29.710950](#), [-81.229783](#)**



### **Inscription:**

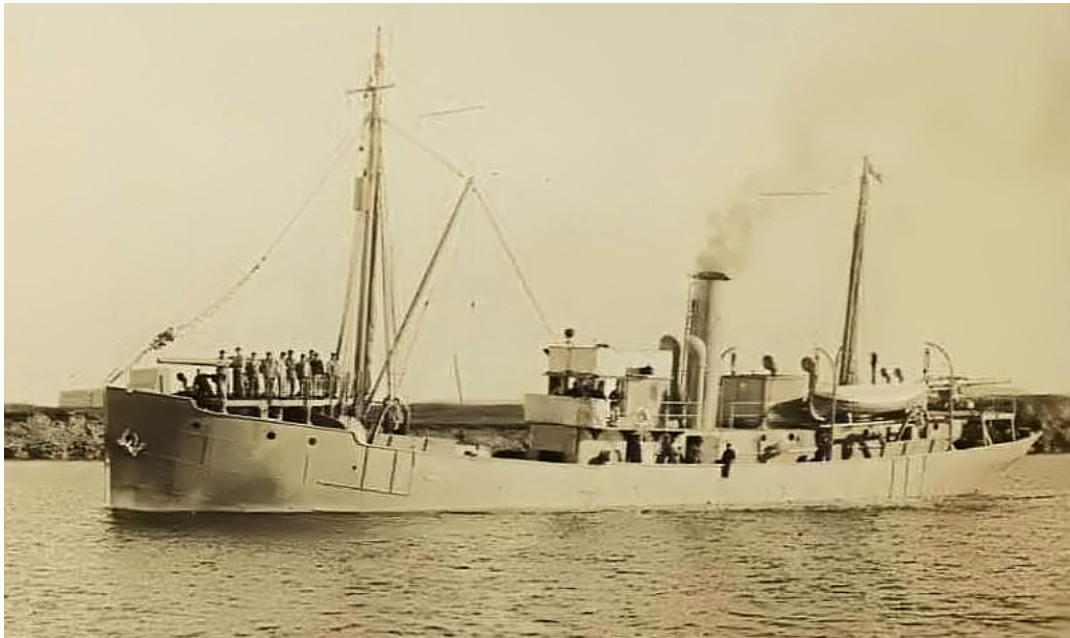
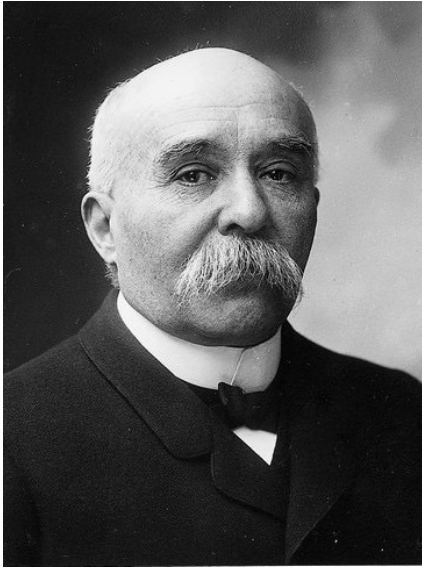
“In 1565 some 300 French castaways, under Jean Ribault, were massacred here by Spaniards, crushing their attempt to occupy Florida. The French ships, sailing from Fort Caroline to attack St. Augustine, were driven ashore by a storm. At this inlet most of the survivors were put to the knife by Don Pedro Menendez. Hence it was named Matanzas, meaning slaughters.”

“**Erected** 1962 by St. Johns County Historical Commission in cooperation with Florida Board of Parks and Historic Memorials.”

**This marker, supposed to memorialize the site of a massacre and the memory of early French protestant colonists, is located on the side of the highway, next to a garbage bin and unsightly signage.**

**We will strive to beautify the marker’s immediate surroundings.**

## ***Other plaques and memorials planned***



- **Manhattan: Bronze Plaque** to commemorate **Georges Clemenceau** when he resided as a young journalist in New York (1865-1869)
- **Manhattan** (Grammercy Park): **Bronze Plaque** to commemorate **Varian Fry**, who saved Jewish lives in Marseilles during the Occupation
- **Sault Ste Marie, Michigan: Monument & Stele** to the memory of **79 French Navy officers and sailors** “Morts Pour la France” of two mines sweepers *Cérisoles* and *Inkerman* who sank, body and all, while in transit on November 24, 1918 during a storm in Lake Superior.



**2024: 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of**  
**“Le Train de la Reconnaissance Française”**  
**also popularly known as:**  
**“The Merci Train”**



Merci Train Boxcar of Alabama. U.S. Veterans Memorial Museum, Huntsville, AL

In 1949, a French railroad worker and WWII veteran, André Picard, launched the idea of a "Train de la Reconnaissance Française", affectionately nicknamed the "Merci Train" in the USA. Composed of 49 boxcars filled with "gifts of gratitude", the Merci Train arrived in New York City on February 3, 1949 with over 25,000 onlookers in attendance, and was divided amongst the 48 States with the remaining car to be shared by the District of Columbia and Hawaii.

The boxcars' contents (more than a million gifts ranging from dolls, statues, clothes, ornamental objects, furniture, etc..) were opened and turned into exhibits before being distributed as each State saw fit. Most, but not all, are preserved today and can be visited.

Most of these boxcars are kept under the watchful eye of local units of The American Legion and serve as backdrop for patriotic ceremonies.

**Our Society intends to promote the memory of this grand gesture of thanks from the people of France to the people of the United States by participating in commemorations held in every State.**

**Wreath Laying at Florida boxcar, planned for November 11, 2024 with Consul General de France in Miami, Daytona Beach**



American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc.

**Publications, website, social networks**



# List of Monthly Bulletins 2024

## **October 2024 - Tribute to the American Field Service**

<https://conta.cc/4eBldJA> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3YxIXuM> (version in French)

## **September 2024: French Missionaries in America - 1600-1800 (Part 2 of a series)**

<https://conta.cc/3XCvfnP> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/4ebwtxj> (version en français)

## **Lafayette's Farewell Tour Bicentennial - October 2024**

### **Several Marquis events!**

<https://conta.cc/3N9EWF6>

Lafayette's Farewell Tour Bicentennial - September 2024

### **Several Marquis events!**

<https://conta.cc/3X71riU>

## **August 2024 - The legacy of Lafayette in America**

<https://conta.cc/3X90SWQ> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3YQTmRG> (version en français)

## **July 2024 - French pioneers of the American West (Part 4 of a series - California & the West Coast - 1830-1920)**

<https://conta.cc/3W9L44p> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/4bTmc71> (version en français)

## **June 2024 - French pioneers of the American West (Part 3 of a series - the Rockies, the Far West & Texas - 1840-1880)**

<https://conta.cc/3x4J2Ko> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/4bl3nJL> (version in French)

## **May 2024 - French pioneers of the American West (Part 2 of a series - the Frontier - 1750-1850)**

<https://conta.cc/4bUxM2d> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/4bvjipA> (version in French)

## **April 2024: La Pérouse in America**

<https://conta.cc/3U58W8r> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3xHEvxN> (version in French)

## **March 2024 - French Explorers of the West (Part 1, 1634-1804)**

<https://conta.cc/3Vnl474> (English version)

<https://conta.cc/4cn6VfZ> (version en français)

## **February 2024 - Tribute to the Harlem Hell Fighters - 369th Regiment**

<https://conta.cc/3OHOLMO> (version in English)

<https://conta.cc/4bDQZWu> (version en français)

## **January 2024: Early French Missionaries in the United States (Part 1 - New York, Maine, Vermont)**

<https://conta.cc/41VLaPE> (version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3NWK407> (version in French)

# List of Monthly Bulletins 2023

## December 2023: The Year in Pictures

<https://conta.cc/3TzA2Wq> (in English)

<https://conta.cc/3TCsSAJ> (version en français)

## Join us to Save the Hermione!

<https://conta.cc/40E6XL7>

## Special Photo Edition - Our sculpture of The Little Prince® in New York

<https://conta.cc/3Forh5Y> (in English)

<https://conta.cc/3PvqWq9> (in French)

## November 2023: French Forts of Ohio & Pennsylvania

<https://conta.cc/3RIqn4B> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/47pAfj> (version en français)

## October 2023: Tribute to the Lafayette Escadrille

<https://conta.cc/3Qz0Xjl> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3QCRqYM> (version en français)

## September 2023: the Duc de Lauzun and his Legion of hussars

<https://conta.cc/460bXLT> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3tb3hni> (version en français)

## August 2023: the exploits of Costes & Bellonte

<https://conta.cc/45h0veo> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3YIFabf> (version en français)

## July 2023: The adventure of La Belle and the sailor of Louis XIV at the Texas State Cemetery

<https://conta.cc/3CO91Fi> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3q6nt8J> (version en français)

## June 2023: French Forts of Mississippi and Lower Louisiana

<https://conta.cc/3Csyfsq> (original English version)

<https://conta.cc/467vwm0> (version en français)

## May 2023: Joan of Arc in America

<https://conta.cc/41AMMfZ> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3W5rp56> (version en français)

## April 2023: Tribute to Jean de Verrazane

<https://conta.cc/3UGnScM> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3zZ8xuw> (version en français)

## March 2023: French Forts of the MidWest

<https://conta.cc/3ZWQK2u> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3YXgSZG> (version en français)

## February 2023: George Washington's French engineers

<https://conta.cc/3XBjqMp> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/412e0Nr> (version en français)

## January 2023: French Forts of New York

<https://conta.cc/3ZH74mY> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3WiVpck> (version en français)



# List of Monthly Bulletins 2022

## **December 2022: The Year in Pictures**

<https://conta.cc/3h100Xk> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3WFsOhR> (version en français)

## **November 2022: The Merci Train, 49 boxcars of French gifts**

<https://conta.cc/3OLtgJ3> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3VpKzRP> (version en français)

## **October 2022: The Canyon of Heroes**

<https://conta.cc/3stolwe> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3zITz1E> (version en français)

## **September 2022: It all happened in September....**

<https://conta.cc/3ds6k35> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3r6ZG5r> (version en français)

## **August 2022: Lafayette, Welcome back**

<https://conta.cc/3dM6271> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3ChITnb> (version en français)

## **July 2022: Two National Holidays in July: celebrating the same ideal of Liberty**

<https://conta.cc/3b2S0wU> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3IZxsSf> (version en français)

## **June 2022 Bulletin: The crucial role of the French Navy in the War of Independence**

<https://conta.cc/3u2EjnG> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/39RDLdy> (version en français)

## **May 2022 Bulletin: Tribute to the 4 Americans "Compagnons de la Libération"**

<https://conta.cc/3LuiMKH> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3LxHp9k> (version en français)

## **April 2022 Bulletin: Tribute to Major Pierre Charles L'Enfant**

<https://conta.cc/3uR5rqO> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3JPeFig> (version en français)

## **March 2022 Bulletin: Tribute to Antoine de Saint-Exupéry**

<https://conta.cc/3uee2SK> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/37OCzGz> (version en français)

## **February 2022 Bulletin: Tribute to Josephine Baker**

<https://conta.cc/3gNMkGl> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/356Nb1W> (version en français)

## **January 2022 Bulletin: 600 sites of French memories in the USA**

<https://conta.cc/322XNOK> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3ty7WOR> (version en français)

## List of Monthly Bulletins 2021 (start date February)

### December 2021 Bulletin – 2021: The Year in Pictures

<https://conta.cc/3srwDf5> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3mayKzX> (version en français)

### November 2021 Bulletin - The Two Unknown Soldiers from WW1, side by side across the Atlantic

<https://conta.cc/3oK4fBe> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3HGAS02> (version en français)

### October 2021 Bulletin – On the footsteps of Rochambeau (Part 5 – Final episode: Victory in Yorktown!)

<https://conta.cc/3BOnY8l> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3AzLSCW> (version en français)

### September 2021 Bulletin – On the footsteps of Rochambeau (Part 4–Philadelphia to Yorktown, Battle of the Capes)

<https://conta.cc/3nUFof3> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3lLgqOr> (version en français)

### August 2021 Bulletin – On the footsteps of Rochambeau (Part 3– New York/New Jersey to Philadelphia)

<https://conta.cc/3D4VF6s> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3szRR8k> (version en français)

### July 2021 Bulletin – On the footsteps of Rochambeau (Part 2 – Connecticut & New York)

<https://conta.cc/3BjYRtV> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/2UyNBcH> (version en français)

### June 2021 Bulletin – On the footsteps of Rochambeau (Part 1 – Connecticut)

<https://conta.cc/35mkwmJ> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3gDm1BX> (version en français)

### May 2021 Bulletin honoring the WWII French aviators who died in the United States

<https://conta.cc/33Dg7Lh> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/2RKd2Gt> (version en français)

### April 2021 Bulletin celebrating the annual commemoration of “French Alliance Day” in Valley Forge, PA

<https://conta.cc/3a6pjvm> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3g9bGPO> (version en français)

### March 2021 newsletter honoring two French Navy officers from Rochambeau’s army buried in Newport, RI.

<https://conta.cc/3vgTuZy> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/3bC7aGJ> (version en français)

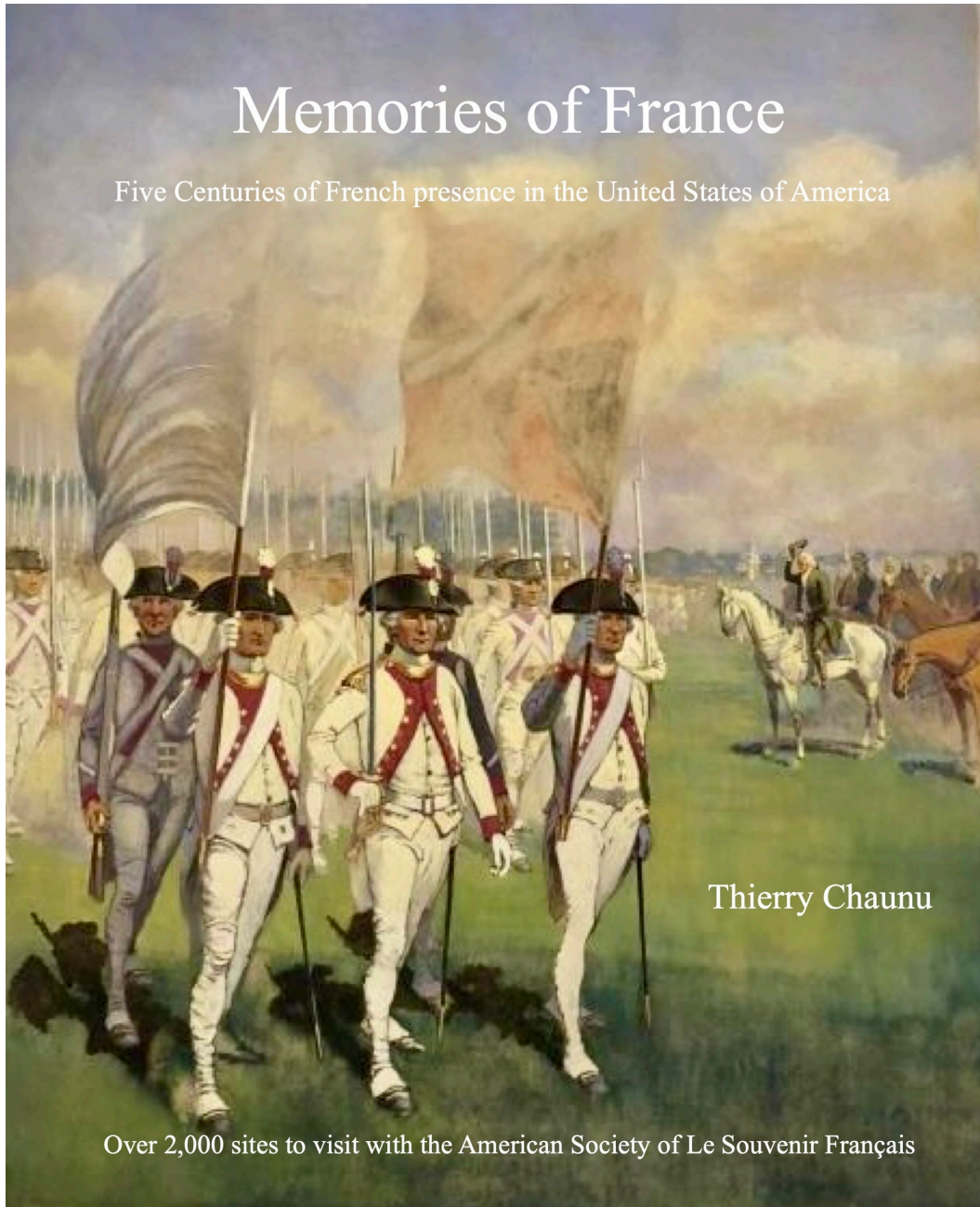
### February 2021 Bulletin Honoring Eugene Bullard, America's First-ever Black Fighter Pilot:

<https://conta.cc/3scOXoB> (original version in English)

<https://conta.cc/2NljFHJ> (version en français)



**2022: Publication of a Guide  
listing 950 sites of French Presence in the USA  
(second edition revised and augmented to 2,000 sites  
to be published November 2024)**



Book cover: "The French "Soissonnais" Regiment Being Reviewed at Philadelphia by General Washington and Congress, 1781" c. 1916 by Artist/Maker Charles MacKubin Lefferts (1873 - 1923) rights and permission obtained from New York Historical Society Museum

**Guide - historical Directory** of more than 2,000 sites where a French footprint has been left across the 50 states of the present United States, from 1524 to the turn of the 20th century.

- It is written in two versions: in English and in French.
- It is a tribute to explorers, missionaries, soldiers, adventurers, French, illustrious or unknown, who left their mark in the United States and are recognized, whose memory is honored by a monument, a statue, a stele, a panel, a billboard, a plaque...

**Each page corresponds to one site and includes:**

- Photo (almost all in the public domain – with URL link, most often Wikipedia)
- Address with postal code
- Exact GPS coordinates
- A brief historical explanation, just to give a context.
- The exact transcription of the inscription appearing on the pedestal or plaque
- One or more internet links directing the reader to more detailed information
- Some divider pages are dedicated to a brief biography of a related historical figure

**Available in e-book and in print:**

- E-book price: \$20.00
- The e-book is copyrighted © American Society of Le Souvenir Français and sold via Kindle Amazon. Royalties are given to the Society.
- **An augmented (2,000 sites) version in print is scheduled for November 2024.**



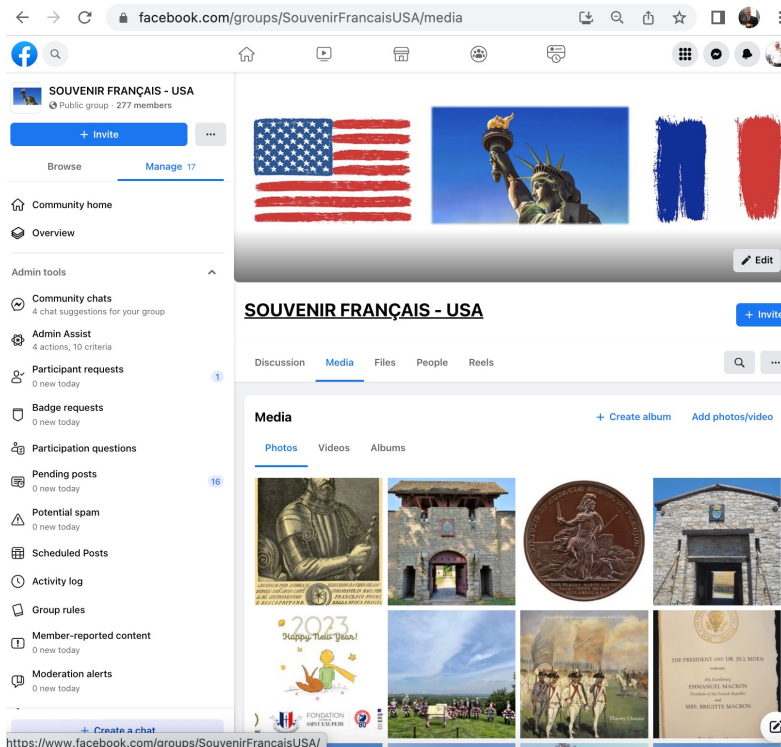


# Bilingual website: [www.SouvenirFrancaisUSA.org](http://www.SouvenirFrancaisUSA.org)



## Social Networks:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SouvenirFrancais>





### **The American Society of Le Souvenir Français Inc.'s Missions :**

*The American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc. is a 501(c)3 corporation established in 1993 in NY.*

#### **Its missions are the following:**

- **To honor and preserve the memory of French soldiers, sailors and airmen who gave their lives for freedom, and who are buried in the United States,**
- **To promote the appreciation for French culture and heritage in the United States, and the ideals that unite our two nations, in particular passing over to younger generations the torch of memory, these share ideals and the sense of duty by inter alia teaching history,**
- **To strengthen the historic long-standing bonds of friendship since 1778 between the American and French peoples, and to this end: erect or maintain memorials and monuments and encourage historical research, public presentations and publications in the media.**
- **Le Souvenir Français, a national association under the high patronage of the President of the Republic,** was born in 1872 in occupied Alsace-Lorraine, and was founded in 1887 in Paris by Professor Xavier Niessen. The association has more than 200,000 members in France and in more than 45 countries.
- In the United States, the American Society of Le Souvenir Français (Souvenir Français USA) has been represented since the First World War by the following General Delegates, among whom were Dr Jules Pierre, MM. Bruno Kaiser, Colonel Roger Cestac , Christian Bickert, Mathieu Petitjean, and Jean Lachaud. The association is presided since November 2020 by Thierry Chaunu.





## American Society of Le Souvenir Français, Inc.

### Board of Directors, 2024

#### **Directors:**

Françoise Cestac, Honorary President

Thierry Chaunu, President

Yves de Ternay, Treasurer

Patrick du Tertre, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Henri Dubarry

Francis Dubois

Alain Dupuis, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Deputy General Delegate

Daniel Falgerho, General Secretary

Prof. Clément Mbom, Education Advisor

Jean-Hugues Monier, Auditor

Harriet Saxon

Nicole Yancey

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Bruno Cateni, South

Prof. Norman Desmarais, New England

Alain Leca, Washington D.C.

Marc Onetto, West Coast

Brigitte Van den Hove – Smith, SouthEast

Nicole Yancey, Yorktown & Virginia, former Honorary Consul of France in Virginia