Bonjour Mes Amis!

Volume 2018, Issue 1

French Supper & Dance
Sponsored by and supporting Oxbow / Louisville Foundation Activities

August 25, 2018
6:00 p.m.
American Legion
121 Main Avenue South, Red Lake Falls

~ MENU ~
Daube de Boeuf Provençal (A Traditional French Meal of marinated Beef slow cooked to perfection)
Purée de pommes de terre
Blé d’Inde (mais)
Salade de Chou
Crudités
Pain Français / Beurre
Crêpes Sucrées au Sirop d’Erable

$10 suggested donation

Call Jerry Amiot at 218-289-8889 or Jane Vigness at 701-330-0135 to fill an opening.

Thank you for your generous support with your membership dues. Thanks to you, we have a top notch program, lively and authentic musicians, artisans and craftsmen. There will be chairs for all, tents for shade in this beautiful riverside setting at Old Crossing and Treaty Park. If you missed the chance to donate towards this informative and entertaining festival, please visit with a volunteer at the membership table located near the big tent.

Date of dues last paid is noted on mailing address. For your convenience, we have included an envelope for possible donations or memorials.

“Un très grand Merci” from the board of directors and staff of the AFRAN.

Your Membership Makes a Difference

The members of Ça Claque! come from every disciplinary background imaginable: voice, piano, guitar, bass and percussion, classical ballet, jazz, tap, modern, musical theatre and, naturally, traditional French-Canadian gigue! Between them, they have decades of stage experience and professional accomplishments.

Ça Claque! endeavours to create a substantial repertoire of modern-infused folk material. The amalgamation of creative musicians and singers as well as strong dance technique creates a unique and distinct look, feel and sound in harmony with our name…Ça Claque!

Old Crossing & Treaty Park
Huot, Minnesota

Free Admission!

The Old Crossing & Treaty Park is on Red Lake Co. Road 3 and seven miles northeast of Gentilly on County Road 11 or 10 miles southwest of Red Lake Falls.

For more information on the Chautauqua & French-Canadian/Métis Festival contact Jerry Amiot at 218-289-8889 or Virgil Benoit at 218-253-2270.

AFRAN website www.frenchcanadianAFRAN.org

Double the Trouble

Double the Trouble are “Twin Fiddlers”, these identical 14-year old French, Metis and Cree twins will have you smiling and tapping your feet with their traditional Metis fiddling and contemporary classics. At such a young age their charisma and talent has taken them from their home town of Winnipeg to the Rocky Mountains delighting audiences with their unique style and sound. In 2017 they performed at the Winnipeg Folk Festival, the Canada Summer Games and in October performed with Ashley MacIsaac and the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. They have two albums, “Keep Calm and Fiddle on” and “Juniper Woods” and just this past spring performed with the Asham Stompers and Indian City in the finale at the Indspire Awards in Winnipeg.

This activity is funded, in part, by a grant from the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council and the Minnesota arts and cultural heritage fund as appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.
George Bonga, a voyageur of 1837, studied political science and American Indian studies. He graduated from Bemidji State University where he formed Rez Rap Records in Red Lake and continues to help us overcome today’s challenges. Tom helped communities to teach audiences of all ages how culture uses his gift of hip-hop and his passion for empowering the Red Lake Nation who returns to our Festival. He "Thomas Barrett "Thomas X" is an Ojibwe musician from Sweden. It is said Jacob was one of Minnesota’s first Swedish residents! Pierre’s eldest child was of Mixed Blood intrigue where Québécois was the common language. Pierre’s father Pierre had become successful in the Fur Trade to send George to Montreal for his education! Therefore, this history is a thrilling saga of Mixed Blood intrigue where Québecois was the common language. Pierre’s eldest child was Marguerite Bonga in 1823 married Jacob Falhstrom of Stockholm, Sweden. It is said Jacob was one of Minnesota’s first Swedish residents!

Corey Medina of the Navajo Nation leads Bemidji, MN blues musicians Eric Sunde and Gary Broste in this soulful blues-rock trio. Their unique combination of indigenous and European roots allows emotional storytelling with an irresistibly sincere sound. Inspired by folks artists like Neil Young, rockstars like The Doors, and blues icons like B.B. King, Corey Medina & Brothers are veteran musicians with long careers in music ahead of them.

George Bonga, Voyageur of 1837
Presenter Joel Brown

Joel Brown, a member of La Compagnie des la Chute des Saint Pierre, based in Mendota, MN will portray ‘GEORGE BONGA of 1837’ at the Chautauqua & French-Canadian/Metis 37th Annual Festival on Saturday, August 25. George Bonga was born in 1802 at present day Duluth, MN. His father Pierre had become successful in the Fur Trade to send George to Montreal for his education! Therefore, this history is a thrilling saga of Mixed Blood intrigue where Québecois was the common language. Pierre’s eldest child was Marguerite Bonga in 1823 married Jacob Falhstrom of Stockholm, Sweden. It is said Jacob was one of Minnesota’s first Swedish residents!

Creative Reflections from Red Lake

“Thomas Barrett “Thomas X” is an Ojibwe musician from the Red Lake Nation who returns to our Festival. He uses his gift of hip-hop and his passion for empowering communities to teach audiences of all ages how culture can help us overcome today’s challenges. Tom helped form Rez Rap Records in Red Lake and continues to teach Ojibwe youth the power of language and heritage. He graduated from Bemidji State University where he studied political science and American Indian studies.”

Tom, along with Brendan Strong, will lead an hour set featuring poetry, Ojibwe hand-drum & singing, traditional flute, and youth dancers from Red Lake.

The AFRAN board of directors wishes you an enjoyable Chautauqua and Festival

Dear Members of AFRAN,

Your support of AFRAN has been tremendous now for over 35 years. Thank you.

The AFRAN board along with many volunteers including financial support from the State legislature and local groups is proud of what it accomplishes each year. You will find the Chautauqua and French-Canadian/Metis Festival a real treat once again. Please plan to attend with friends and family.

But let me introduce you to the Louisville Foundation at Old Crossing whose presence will also be felt at the Chautauqua and Festival, edition 2018. Recognized in December, 2016 as a not-for-profit charitable organization with a 501(c) (3) status, the Oxbow (the organization’s nickname) will have a tent-full of activities on the south Park grounds starting August 24 and running through Sunday August 26. A Public Market with produce and taste parties will begin at 9am on Saturday August 25. Coffee will also be brewing in the main dining tent. The tasting parties at the Oxbow tent will highlight local, national and international flavors for personal taste and produce purchase. Later in the day, the Oxbow is planning a delicious supper at the Red Lake Falls American Legion. The supper at the legion will replace supper in the park. Tickets for the meal are on available for a suggested donation of no less than $10 from now through the evening, or as long as places remain. One of the great international Midwest bands will play at the event following the supper. You’ll be in for an exceptional evening of culinary and musical combinations. Please save the poster of this year’s activities. In many ways it is witness to fresh planning, traditions, memory and history. It all starts Friday evening around the bonfire at the unforgettable Old Crossing and Treat Park.

Sincerely,

Virgil Benoit, President of AFRAN

AFRAN’s Mission Statement

AFRAN’s mission is to create understanding of the world’s French heritage through the arts and humanities. The purpose of our programming is to present a historical and multicultural approach to the arts and humanities, while interpreting the role French presence has played in the Middle West, particularly in northwestern Minnesota.

AFRAN Thanks our Corporate Sponsors & Donors

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