Association of the French of the North presents

Chautauqua & FRENCH-CANADIAN/MÈTIS
Festival

August 25, 26 & 27, 2017
Old Crossing & Treaty Park, Huot, MN

Asham Stompers ~ Métis Traditional Dancers

The Asham Stompers are a very high energy Jig and Square Dance group that bring fans to their feet EVERYWHERE they perform.

Their Mission “is to help recapture and preserve the history of the Métis people through the Traditional dancing of Red River Jig”. They combine Red River Jig with square dance which has been done in the Aboriginal Communities for so long, aptly called the Red River Dance. Their group is half Métis and half First Nations. Their purpose is to help bring hope to the Aboriginal people by taking something that is already a part of most Aboriginal communities and sharing it with the world in a successful business manner.

The Asham Stompers perform to live music by well known Manitoba a Power fiddler Shawn Mousseau from Lake Manitoba First Nations who also takes off his shoes and chords with his toes while playing the fiddle.

Double the Trouble

Double the Trouble are the perfect reflection of what is to be of this land. Being fluent in both official languages, these identical 13-year-old French-Métis and Cree twins perform Traditional Métis fiddle tunes mixed with original and contemporary music. For the past 8 years, Luc and Aidan Wrigley’s unique style and sound have been leaving their audiences amazed and wanting more. At the age of 11, they recorded a full album entitled “Keep Calm and Fiddle on” and toured the Prairie Provinces from Winnipeg to Jasper.

Most recently they have performed at Winnipeg Folk Festival, Festival du Voyageur and travelled to Calgary to perform at the Maple Sugar Festival du Sucre. In June they were crowd favorites at Prairie Wind Music Festival and on June 24th they released their second album “Juniper Woods” at the Park Theatre.

Tom Brosseau

Tom Brosseau is an internationally acclaimed folksinger-songwriter from Grand Forks, ND with French Canadian ancestry. Based in Los Angeles, Tom has traveled all around the world sharing songs & stories of North Dakota, his true home. He’s shared the stage with many musical greats, and will certainly be remembered as one of the Red River Valley’s most passionate spokespeople. Not even his hauntingly melodic voice could outshine his sincere love for music and humanity.
Your Membership Makes a Difference

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.

Volunteers needed for Festival at Old Crossing Saturday or Sunday

Kitchen Tent
Ice Cream Tent
Membership Tent

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

Merci beaucoup!

Old Crossing & Treaty Park
Huot, MN
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 at Huot, Minnesota
contact Jerry Amiot at 218-289-8889 or
Virgil Benoit at 218-253-2270.

AFRAN website
www.frenchcanadianAFRAN.org

AFRAN Fundraiser Supper
August 26, 2017
6:00 p.m.
Supper in the Park
All are Welcome!

Barbecued pork, baby red potatoes, fresh salad & vegetables, rolls, water, lemonade or coffee
Bottineau Pride Dairy ice cream for dessert

(Kid’s Menu - Hot dogs & chips)

$10 suggested donation

Board of Directors for 2017

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Corey Medina of the Navajo Nation leads Bemidji, MN blues musicians Eric Sundeen 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.

The Confused Brothers Band are a 5-man folk-funk group from Minneapolis, MN. Having grown up just down the road from Old Crossing in Perham, MN, Chad & Luke Hofland developed a remarkable ability to bring people together with music. Performing with close friends Lukas Geraci, John Carlson, and Miles Uhrich, The Confused will continue to unite musicians and artists across genres and generations for decades to come.

"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 and attendees at the French-Canadian and Métis Chautauqua and festival,

This year at the Chautauqua and Festival you will notice that although Old Crossing has not changed, performers and presenters will certainly reveal a new sense of the history of Old Crossing.

What better news could there be for, as history is made up of circumstances and events, it is apparent that circumstances and events do not have the same meaning to everyone who comes to this place known as Old Crossing. The Ox cart trails, the treaty of 1863, the settlers who came, plus all which preceded from the forming of the soil to the first peoples’ ways all inspires new thought as to the meaning of our lives in relation to the natural world and each other. It is inspiring that so many of the current generation taking root will, this year, through their collaboration with fellow performers, co-workers, sponsors and the audience show that an awareness of Old Crossing as history remains. History, matters not as a static thing but as a mobile intercultural experience. At Old Crossing we are not moving away from history, but rather toward new reflections on such themes as empathy, justice, equal opportunity, and the emergence of new friendships around fresh aspirations.

We can see this year that strong places of history inspire a churning of past events as we blend their meaning into contemporary performance, artistic expressions and social awareness. Events of history when held in memory by communities offer opportunity to discuss and review common “ground”, common features of our lives called and recalled by memory onto the stage of modern times. We may not be able to change events, but we can offer interpretations of how, people of free will, become more responsible to one another as they look at themselves in time.

Please take time to enjoy this special weekend at Old Crossing where history came to be among us. It was here that the questions began.

Virgil Benoit,
Founding President of AFRAN,
for the current board of directors

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.