

“Follow the Frenchman through Natchez”

The Farewell Tour of Lafayette

Mississippi Sons of the American Revolution (MSSAR)

and

The Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration (NLCC)

March 27 – 30, 2025

Natchez, MS

Thursday, March 27, 2025

8:30AM – 12:30PM – **LIVING HISTORY EDUCATIONAL ENCAMPMENT**

Natchez & Jefferson County Schools

1:00 – 4:00PM – **LIVING HISTORY EDUCATIONAL ENCAMPMENT**

Open to the Public

West Lawn, Rosalie Mansion

1:00PM – 4:00PM – **REGISTRATION – MSSAR – Natchez Grand Hotel, Conference Room C**

NLCC – Pre-Function Area, Natchez Convention Center

1:00PM – 2:00PM – **NLCC Opening Ceremony and Awards Presentation,**

Tupelo Room, Natchez Conventions Center

2:15PM – 3:00PM – **“Natchez and America in 1824-25: The Symbolic Value of Lafayette**

For an Era of Good Feelings Gone Bad,” Jim Wiggins, Former History

instructor at Copiah Lincoln Community College

Tupelo Room, Natchez Convention Center

3:00PM – 4:30PM – **“Lafayette visits Mississippi as a Guest of the Nation”**

William “Brother” Rogers, Mississippi Department of Archives and History; Secretary-Treasurer for Mississippi Historical Society

4:00 – 5:00PM – **Book Signing**

Lobby, Natchez Convention Center

5:00 - 6:30PM - Donor Reception – Magnolia Hall

7:00PM – **First Screening Event: Lafayette: The Lost Hero.** This PBS documentary chronicles Lafayette’s dramatic life story and his enduring ideals and influence on both countries during the Revolutionary War as explored by Academy Award Winner filmmaker **Oren Jacoby.**

Tupelo Room, Natchez Convention Center

Friday, March 28, 2025

8:30AM - 12:30PM – **LIVING HISTORY EDUCATIONAL ENCAMPMENT**

Natchez Schools

1:00 – 3:00PM – **LIVING HISTORY EDUCATIONAL ENCAMPMENT**

Open to the Public

West Lawn, Rosalie Mansion

8:00AM – 5:00PM - **REGISTRATION - MSSAR – Natchez Grand Hotel, Conference Room C**

NLCC – Natchez Convention Center, Pre-Function Area

8:00 – 9:30AM – **Grave Marking of Revolutionary War veteran Judge Thomas Rodney**

Located on the frontage road near **814 Hwy 61 North, Washington, MS**

Trolleys depart from the Natchez Convention Center at 8:00AM

9:00 – 10:00AM – **Second Screening Event: Lafayette: The Lost Hero.** PBS documentary chronicles Lafayette's life. **Oren Jacoby**

Convention Center

Tupelo Room, Natchez

9:00AM – 3:00PM – **The Conundrum**, Conference related books will be for sale

Lobby, Natchez Convention Center

9:00AM – 3:00PM – **Table Exhibits, Silent Auction**

Natchez Room, Natchez Convention Center

9:00 – 10:00AM – **Book Signing**

Natchez Room, Natchez Convention Center

10:00 – 11:00AM – **“Stop the Parade – America's Garde Nationale”** and

“James Armistead Lafayette, Slave, Spy, Patriot & Friend”

Jason Philip Bird Chaplain, Lieutenant Colonel

Mississippi Army National Guard and author of *Knight Shepherd: My Year in Afghanistan as a U.S. Army Chaplain*

Tupelo Room, Natchez Convention Center

11:30AM – 12:30PM – **LUNCH, Ticketed Event - \$40**

“Lafayette, the Lost Hero: How Lafayette was Lost, and How He Was Found”

Robert Rhodes Crout Ph.D. Professor Emeritus, College of Charleston and President Emeritus, American Friends of Lafayette, author of *Lafayette in The age of the American Revolution – Selected Papers Letters*

Nashville Room, Natchez Convention Center

1:00 – 2:00PM – **“The More Perfect Union: Lafayette’s Commitment to America’s Continuing Revolution,”** Robert Rhodes Crout
Tupelo Room, Natchez Convention Center

2:00 – 3:00PM – **“Adrienne de Noailles, Woman of Steel,”** June Burton, Professor Emeritus of History, The University of Akron, Akron, Ohio
Tupelo Room, Natchez Convention Center

3:00 – 3:30PM – **Book Signing**
Natchez Room, Natchez Convention Center

4:00PM - **Sweet Tea & Lemonade in the Garden" – Gloucester Natchez Ticketed Event - \$25**
Tour of the Mansion, Fife & Drum/Color Guard Procession
201 Lower Woodville Road, Natchez
Trolleys depart from the Natchez Convention Center at 3:30PM
(Private vehicles discouraged)
Grave Marking of Territorial Governor Winthrop Sargent – Gloucester Cemetery
201 Lower Woodville Road, Natchez
Trolleys depart from the Natchez Convention Center at 3:30PM

6:00PM – **MS SOCIETY SAR / NLCC WELCOME RECEPTION & BUFFET DINNER**
Ticketed Event - \$30
Mississippi State Society Daughters of the American Revolution
Rosalie Mansion, East Lawn
100 Orleans St., Natchez, MS

Saturday, March 29, 2025

6:30 – 8:30AM – **Mississippi Society, Sons of the American Revolution**
BUSINESS MEETING, BREAKFAST BUFFET
Grand Ballroom, Natchez Grand Hotel

8:00AM – **REGISTRATION – MSSAR – Natchez Grand Hotel, Conference Room C**

GRAND RECEPTION FOR GENERAL LAFAYETTE:

8:30AM – **BRASS BAND PERFORMANCE**
Bluff Park, Bandstand

8:30 & 8:45AM – **CANNON SALUTE**
Rosalie West Lawn

9:00AM – **Arrival, Gen. Lafayette & Auguste Levasseur,
Georges Washington Lafayette & Bastien**
American Cruise Line Riverboat, Splendor
Natchez Under the Hill (1825, arrived at Bacon’s Landing)

9:30AM – **MILITARY REVIEW**
Rosalie West Lawn (1825, held at Tichenor’s Field)

9:45 – 10:00AM – **GRAND PROCESSION** – Military Units, Color Guard Units, Fife & Drum
Corps, America’s National Guard
*Broadway St., Rosalie West Lawn to Bluff Park Bandstand
(1825 – Canal St., Main St.)*

10:00 – 11:00AM – **GRAND CEREMONY** – **Rusty Jenkins, Master of Ceremony**
City, State, National Leaders, Veterans
*Bluff Park Bandstand (1825, “the beautiful promenade in front of the
City.....where a fine view of the Mississippi is enjoyed”)*

11:00 – 11:30AM – **PROCESSION TO LUNCH AT THE NATCHEZ CONVENTION CENTER**
**former site of the “STEAMBOAT HOTEL” where Lafayette was a guest
of honor (1825, “through the principal streets of the city”)**
Nashville Room, Natchez Convention Center

11:30AM – 1:00PM – **LUNCH, Former Site of the Steamboat Hotel**
Ticketed Event - \$40
“Lafayette, The Young Eagle (1757-1777)”; **Jak McGee Smith, Esq.**
Attorney. Former VP, The Napoleonic Historical Society and presently
on the Board of Directors.
MSSAR Youth Awards
Toasts to Lafayette with patriotic tunes, Fife and Drum Corps
Nashville Room, Natchez Convention Center

1:00 – 4:00PM – **LIVING HISTORY EDUCATIONAL ENCAMPMENT** – open to the public
West Lawn, Rosalie Mansion

1:00 – 2:00PM – **Period Dance Lessons with The Booneslick Strings**
Martin Aubuchon, Caller Jeanne Anderson, Assistant
2nd Floor, Natchez Convention Center

1:00 – 8:00PM – **The Conundrum**
Lobby, Natchez Convention Center

1:00 – 2:00PM – **Book Signing**

Natchez Room, Natchez Convention Center

1:00 – 8:00PM – **Table Exhibits, Silent Auction**

Natchez Room, Natchez Convention Center

2:00 – 3:00PM – **“Washington’s Favorite Son (1777-1785)”**

Thomas Gerald Lilly, Jr., aka: Gen. Lafayette, surveyor & archeologist, analyst, software engineer & director levels for international corporations. Presently is the Principal data architect with CoreLogic, Inc.

Tupelo Room, Natchez Convention Center

3:00 – 4:00PM – **“Lafayette and the Regeneration of European Freedom (1789-1824)”**,

Julien Icher, Founder & President, **The Lafayette Trail, Inc.** Host and Director of [Follow the Frenchmen](#), a YouTube based web series

Tupelo Room, Natchez Convention Center

3:00 – 4:00PM – **Lewis and Clark Fife & Drum** performance of Patriotic tunes

Bluff Park, Bandstand

5:30 – 9:30PM – **THE GENERAL’S BANQUET** – **Black Tie, Coat & Tie, Period, Military Ticketed Event - \$50**

“Lafayette’s Return to his Beloved America (1824-1825)”

Julien Icher, Founder & President, The Lafayette Trail, Inc.

Special Presentations

Toasts

PERIOD BALL – The Booneslick Strings, St. Charles, MO

Master Martin Aubuchon – Dance Caller

Grand March – 8:00PM

Group Dances / Waltzes

Virginia Reel – 9:15PM

Nashville Room, Natchez Convention Center

(1825 – held at Traveler’s Hall, State St. and Canal)

9:00PM – **Huzzahs to Lafayette & Levasseur**

Lafayette & Levasseur depart for Natchez Under the Hill

10:00PM – **General Lafayette & Auguste Levasseur depart**

American Cruise Line Riverboat, Splendor

Natchez Under the Hill