



“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 – 29, 2025
Natchez, MS

Thursday, March 27, 2025 – Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main Street

1:00 – 4:00PM – **LIVING HISTORY VILLAGE – OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

*West Lawn, Rosalie Mansion, owned by the MS State Society,
Daughters of the American Revolution*

1:00PM – 4:00PM – **REGISTRATION – THE CONUNDRUM BOOK STORE**

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

**William “Brother” Rogers, Mississippi Department of Archives and
History; Secretary-Treasurer for Mississippi Historical Society
*Tupelo Room, Natchez Convention Center***

4:00 – 5:00PM – **Book Signing**

Lobby, Natchez Convention Center

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 – Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main Street

8:00AM – 5:00PM - **REGISTRATION** – *Lobby, Natchez Convention Center*

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

**** **As of 03/07 Trolley transport is FULL. Color Guard members depart in reserved van at 7:30AM.**

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

Tupelo Room, Natchez Convention Center

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

Lobby, 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

11:00AM – 3:00PM – **Silent Auction**

Natchez 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 – 4:00PM – **LIVING HISTORY VILLAGE – OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

West Lawn, Rosalie Mansion

1:00 – 3:00PM – **Table Exhibits**

Natchez 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**

201 Lower Woodville Road, Natchez, MS

Trolleys depart from the Natchez Convention Center at 3:30PM

(Limited parking, Private vehicles discouraged)

Grave Marking of Territorial Governor Winthrop Sargent – Gloucester Cemetery

Fife & Drum/Color Guard Procession from Mansion to Cemetery

Sneak Peak of Gloucester Historic Mansion & Grounds with light hors d'oeuvres

6:00PM – **MS SOCIETY SAR / NLCC WELCOME RECEPTION & BUFFET DINNER**

Ticketed Event - \$30

100 Orleans St., Natchez, MS

Music by Cha Cha Boo; Casual Attire

East Lawn of Rosalie Mansion, owned, operated & maintained by the Mississippi Society, Daughters of the American Revolution

Saturday, March 29, 2025 – Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main Street

6:30 – 8:30AM – **Mississippi Society, Sons of the American Revolution**

BUSINESS MEETING, BREAKFAST BUFFET

Grand Ballroom, Natchez Grand Hotel

GRAND RECEPTION FOR GENERAL LAFAYETTE: Bandstand, Bluff Park, 9:00AM

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)

MILITARY REVIEW – Augustus Leon Collins, Major General, (U.S. Army, Ret.)

Rosalie West Lawn (1825, held at Tichenor's Field)

GRAND PROCESSION – Military, Color Guard Units, Fife & Drum Corps, National Guard
*Broadway St., Rosalie West Lawn to Bluff Park Bandstand
(1825 – Canal St., Main St.)*

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”)*

**PROCESSION TO THE NATCHEZ CONVENTION CENTER, built on the former site of the
“STEAMBOAT HOTEL” where Gen. Lafayette was the guest of honor in 1825
(1825, “through the principal streets of the city”)**

11:30AM – **LUNCH AT THE STEAMBOAT HOTEL**

Ticketed Event - \$40

“Lafayette, The Young Eagle (1757-1777)”; Jak McGee Smith
Attorney, Historian, Former VP, The Napoleonic Historical Society
Toasts to Lafayette with patriotic tunes, Fife and Drum Corps
Nashville Room, Natchez Convention Center

11:00AM – 3:00PM – **Silent Auction & Table Exhibits**
Natchez Room, Natchez Convention Center

11:00AM – 8:00PM – **The Conundrum**, Conference related books will be for sale
Lobby, Natchez Convention Center

1:00 – 4:00PM – **LIVING HISTORY VILLAGE – 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
Louisiana Suites, 2nd Floor, Natchez Convention Center

AFTERNOON SESSIONS – 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 a principal data engineer 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

5:30 – 9:30PM – **THE GENERAL’S BANQUET** – Cocktail, Period, Military Attire

Ticketed Event - \$50

Seated Dinner

Introductions and Toasts

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

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

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

Recognitions, and Presentations

Exhibitors, Silent Auction 5:30 – 7:00PM

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

Master Martin Aubuchon – Dance Caller

The Grand March, Group Dances, Waltzes, The Virginia Reel

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

