

LaSalle claiming Louisiana for France by Jean-Adolphe Bocquin

FRIENDS OF THE CABILDO'S ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

FRANCE'S BIG GAMBLE

The Legacy of the First Wave of Settlers, Enslaved People & Native Americans in Colonial Louisiana

Our fourth annual symposium will explore the legacy of France's settlement of New Orleans in 1718. The program hopes to discover the cultural legacies of early colonial commercial and social interactions between Europeans, enslaved Africans and the local indigenous people and their development of a distinct Creole society. All events will take place at the New Orleans Jazz Museum at the Old U.S. Mint.

Tickets: \$75 FOC members, \$85 general admission and include Friday and Saturday. **Tickets are limited.** For more information or to purchase tickets, visit friendsofthecabildo.org or call the FOC office at 504.523.3939.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Friday, December 8

6:30 p.m. Keynote Speaker: Dr. Daniel Usner, Holland N. McTyeire Professor of History : Vanderbilt University — *From Calumet to Raquette: How American Indians Shaped Colonial New Orleans*

Saturday, December 9

9:00 a.m. Registration

9:30 a.m. Dr. Charles Chamberlain — *Créer Creole: The Process of Creolization in 1718 New Orleans*

10:45 a.m. Dr. Ibrahima Seck : Whitney Plantation — *Marronage and Culture in Louisiana*

12 p.m. Lunch on your own

1:15 p.m. Dr. Emily Clark, Clement Chambers Benenson Professor in American Colonial History: Tulane University — *If You Want to Get it Done, Ask a Nun: The New Orleans Ursulines*

2:30 p.m. Dr. Cecile Vidal : EHESS (The School of Advanced Studies in Social Science, Paris) — *Caribbean New Orleans: Urban Genesis, Empire, and Race in the Eighteenth-Century French Atlantic*

3:45 p.m. Dr. Elizabeth Ellis : New York University — *'The Least Little Nation Thinks Itself Our Protector': Native Influence on the Development of Colonial Louisiana*

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Robi Robichaux

Larry Schmidt

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Debbie Vosbein

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Creole
CHRISTMAS
HOLIDAY HOME TOUR
DECEMBER 27-29 | 10 AM to 4 PM

Step back in time and join the Friends of the Cabildo for a tour of the French Quarter's most cherished properties adorned in traditional Creole Christmas finery befitting the time and style of each historic residence!

Your Creole Christmas tour experience includes an entertaining presentation of Reveillon traditions and their Creole origins at the Spring Fiesta House, as well as an assortment of seasonal refreshments.

Self-guided tours begin at the 1850 House, 523 St. Ann Street. Tickets are \$25 per person. Purchase at friendsofthecabildo.org or by calling 504.523.3939. Day-of tickets are available at the 1850 House, 504.524.9118. Last ticket sold at 3 p.m.

Events

Second Thursday Lecture Series

The New Orleans Jazz Museum at the Old U.S. Mint, 400 Esplanade Ave.

6 p.m.–8 p.m.

Admission is free and open to the public

Dec. 14: Karen Leathem & Joyce Miller
For Home and Country: Louisiana in the Great War

The Louisiana State Museum historians will discuss the Capitol Park Museum's newest exhibit, *For Home and Country: Louisiana in the Great War*. Commemorating the one-hundredth anniversary of American's entrance into World War I, the exhibition explores the impact that World War I had on the people of Louisiana, as well as the roles that Louisianians played in the conflict.

Jan. 11: Jason Berry, author

City of a Million Dreams: New Orleans at Year 300

Rex Den Showing

Saturday, January 13 | 1 to 3 p.m.

The historic Rex Organization opens its doors for a special viewing of its float den. See the 2018 floats up close and

enjoy a guided tour of the krewe's den, a venue not open to the general public. Tickets: \$25 general admission, \$20 FOC/LMF members.

FOC 2017-18 Concert Series

The New Orleans Jazz Museum at the Old U.S. Mint

All concerts begin at 7 p.m.

Created in 2013, the Friends of the Cabildo Concert Series has brought together some of the best musicians from Louisiana to perform and archive their music for the Louisiana State Museum's music collection. Join us for a unique musical experience at the intimate 150-seat, state of the art 3rd Floor Performance Hall. Tickets: \$25 general admission, \$20 members.

Dec. 15: Sonny Landreth

Jan. 19: Marcia Ball

March 16: Beausoleil

FOC 2017-18 Film Series

The New Orleans Jazz Museum at the Old U.S. Mint

Screenings at 5:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

7 p.m. screenings will have commentary

The Friends of Cabildo Film Series

brings some of the best films and documentaries that highlight Louisiana people, places and culture. Join us for an educational experience. Tickets: \$15 general admission, \$12.50 members.

Jan. 10: Gleason

Feb. 28: Big Charity: The Death of America's Oldest Hospital

April 26: 1970 Jazz Fest Movies

Walking Tour Guide Meeting

The Cabildo, Arsenal 3

Second Monday of every month at 10 a.m.

Dec. 11: Holiday Luncheon @ Ralph's

Jan. 8: Speaker TBD

FOC Member Holiday Party

Wednesday, Dec. 13 | 5:30 to 8 p.m.
1850 House Store, 523 St. Ann Street

The FOC will host its annual holiday open house in the 1850 House. Drop by for some holiday cheer (holiday cocktails, eggnog & food), and start your shopping early. Errol and Peggy Scott Laborde will be signing copies of their new book, *"New Orleans: The First 300 Years."* If you're a FOC member, take advantage of your 15% member discount!

A note from our President...

Dear Friends,

I was delighted to read the final proof of this December's Newsletter — and was thrilled with the treasure trove of exciting events, gift ideas and happenings that are in store for everyone over the next two months.

There are many choices, beginning with the FOC's Annual Symposium at the New Orleans Jazz Museum at the Old U.S. Mint on Dec. 8th & 9th, to our celebration of Creole Christmas from Dec. 27th-29th, with guided tours of French Quarter homes decorated in the Creole style.

Our volunteer tour guides have pulled out all the stops to create a series of fascinating history & cultural tours in several neighborhoods around town, as well as a series of new special tours focusing on 19th century music & dance, New Orleans jazz and New Orleans rhythm & blues...all of which are

scheduled in December and again in January — making these tours excellent holiday gifts for those who have everything!

Lastly, the 1850 House Shop will host the FOC's annual Christmas party on Dec. 13th, with food, wine, last minute shopping opportunities and a book signing with Errol & Peggy Laborde for their new book *"New Orleans: The First 300 Years."*

So many exciting happenings give us reasons to be jolly, and I do hope you'll make room on your schedules to participate in one — or more — of our holiday events. I look forward to seeing many of you on the 13th, and in the meantime, I wish you a happy and peaceful holiday season surrounded by good friends, good music and good cheer!

Happy Holidays!

Ruth Burke

Volunteer



SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEERING

ROBERT FREELAND FOC Tour Guide & Board Member



Robert was born in Sao Paulo, Brasil on May 18, 1954. His dad was from Olney, Illinois, and his mom was from Sao Paulo. He thinks of himself as both American and Brazilian, and

enjoys representing both countries. He graduated from the American high school in Sao Paulo in 1972, and graduated with a double major in Economics and Latin American Studies from Tulane in 1976. He worked 30 years for American Express Travel Related Services, living in nine cities and seven countries before taking an early retirement in New Orleans.

How long have you been involved with the FOC?

I became a member in December 2007 and took the tour guide class in March of 2008.

What attracted you to the organization?

When I moved back to New Orleans I became a member because I like history. Each time in my life that I moved to a new place the local history museums were the best way for me to learn about my new home.

What does the FOC mean to you?

Making new friends and a chance to learn and teach about the role New Orleans has had in Spanish and Latin American history. Beginning with my first Christmas party in 2007, Jane Molony approached me, introduced herself and said "You must be new. I have not seen you before." When I told her I was a Tulane alum, recently retired and planning to move back to New Orleans, she invited me to interview for the next Walking Tour Guide Class. She explained that the FOC would teach me Louisiana history and my tours would help make money, and that I would have fun representing my new city. On my first day of class I met Jeannine Chance who said "Now we will have someone who can play Bernardo de Galvez during Ghostly Galavant." I did not know what she was talking about, but am glad I followed her order. A week after I graduated, the FOC held an event in Baton Rouge to lobby with Louisiana legislators. On the bus I met board

member Wendy Lodrig, who explained the role of the FOC in making sure the LSM meets the highest standards of service to the community. After the event in Baton Rouge, Steve Maklansky, then Director of Curatorial Services, asked the FOC for a Spanish speaking volunteer. I was assigned to help him during an event with the Spanish Ambassador and other dignitaries. That first month of experiences has defined my second career here in New Orleans.

In your opinion, what's the most important work the FOC does?

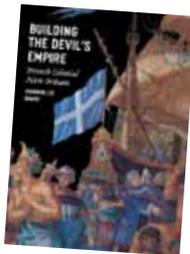
Making money to support the LSM through the development of an active, highly motivated army of volunteers supporting the many events the FOC and LSM hold for residents and tourists alike.

What do you hope the FOC will achieve in the future?

The ability and go-ahead from the LSM to continue the expansion of our volunteer education efforts during new exhibits and existing buildings, such as the established 1850 House docents and the new Cabildo Docent Program. The more exhibits we support, the better our membership benefits will become, the greater the number of members we will acquire, and therefore the greater the number of volunteers for LSM programs. In other words, the creation of a virtual circle that will result in the best museum in the city!

Recommended Reading

Building the Devil's Empire: French Colonial New Orleans
by Shannon Lee Dawdy



Dawdy's delightful, insightful and enjoyable book, "Building the Devil's Empire: French Colonial New Orleans," proves that you can judge a good book by its intriguing title.

Throughout the book, she has a gift of picking historic quotes that paint a colorful

picture of the troubles that Bienville faced. "It is most disagreeable for an officer in charge of a colony to have nothing more for its defense than a bunch of deserters, contraband salt dealers, and rogues who are always ready not only to desert you but also to turn against you."

The author points out that the social order was anything but pre-determined in the early 1700's, partly due to the many residents who had not come voluntarily. In order to survive under the strict economic trade policies of the Company of the Indies, Louisiana's residents engage in smuggling, and often rose in status through those illegal

activities. Legal and social status trump skin color in the social order, and self interest dominates over colonial interests. Dawdy explains how a Creole wealth-based society gets established and sets its own rules.

To be clear, Dawdy focuses most of her attention on white colonists, not on the enslaved and the Native American population. That said, her book makes for an intriguing read and leaves the reader wanting to know more about New Orleans' colorful and complicated history.

— Regine Richter-McClain
Friends of the Cabildo tour guide

1850 House

For unique Louisiana-themed, locally made gifts, stop by the 1850 House Museum Shop at 523 St. Ann Street on Jackson Square. The shop is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

YOU CAN NOW SHOP THE 1850 HOUSE MUSEUM STORE
24 HOURS A DAY ONLINE AT [WWW.1850HOUSESTORE.COM!](http://WWW.1850HOUSESTORE.COM)



CRESCENT CITY ORNAMENTS | Retail: \$11.50, Members: \$9.78



KERMIT RUFFINS:
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COOL CHRISTMAS
Retail: \$17.95,
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Retail: \$15.95,
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just in time for
the holidays!*



DAVID JEFFREY PENDANT NECKLACE
Retail: \$96, Members: \$81.60



SPRATLING
STERLING SILVER
JEWELRY:
WOVEN BRACELET:
Retail: \$885
Members: \$752.25
ARROW EARRINGS:
Retail: \$245
Members: \$208.25



1850 HOUSE BOOK SIGNINGS

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 13 | 6-8 PM:

"New Orleans: The First 300 Years," by Errol & Peggy Scott Laborde

Get to know one of the most unique cities in the world! New Orleans is unlike anywhere else on Earth — the fusion of cultures, people, and food all establish a whole greater than its constituent parts. From migration to politics to music to ethnic culture and identity, this comprehensive volume touches on all aspects of New Orleans history for the past 300 years.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27 | 11-1:

"Across the Table: Recipes & Stories from Two New Orleans Friends" by Harriet Robin & Anne Leonhard

Two long-time instructors at the New Orleans School of Cooking, Anne and Harriet deliver down-home delicious regional recipes served with a side of Southern storytelling in *Across the Table*.

BOOK SIGNING & PUPPET SHOW

SATURDAY, JAN. 27 | 2-4 PM:

"The Little Purple Mardi Gras Bead," by Julie P. Rowley

When Carnival rolls around in New Orleans, it's time for everyone to celebrate — including the beads! Hanging from his hook on a parade float, a little purple bead hopes to be caught by someone special. He spots a little girl in the crowd who would be perfect for him, but will he be thrown in time for her to catch him? With delightful illustrations and a story sure to charm the entire family, *The Little Purple Mardi Gras Bead* delivers all the magic and heart that make Mardi Gras an experience like no other.

Tours Neighborhoods and Cultures

Put on your best walking shoes, bring a bottle of water and a good camera, and join us for a special walking tour! Tickets are limited to 15 spots for each tour, and no tickets are sold the day of the tour. Don't miss out. Reservations are required.

Garden District

Sundays: December 17 & January 28 | 10 a.m.

Most residents and visitors alike know of the Garden District as a stunning neighborhood full of Greek Revival and Italianate architecture, bounded by Jackson, St. Charles, and Louisiana avenues, and Magazine Street. But do you know who established the Garden District? What part did the NO & Carrollton Railroad play? Why do we always hear tour guides reference “Lafayette” and “Livaudais?” Discover the answers to those questions and more when exploring the Garden District with the Friends of the Cabildo. As we unveil the Garden District’s incredible architecture, and the influence of culture, climate, political events, and famous figures on the area, you will see these grand residences as more than just beautiful houses; they are the enduring statements of mid-nineteenth century Americans in New Orleans.

Meeting Location: 1452 Jackson Ave. (riverside corner at Prytania)

Lower Garden District

Sunday, January 7 | 10 a.m.

Nineteenth century residential life in New Orleans comes alive through the Friends of the Cabildo Lower Garden District Tour! The district’s extensive collection of 1800s residences—primarily side hall, double-galleried homes in the Greek Revival and Italianate styles—will capture your imagination with both the romance and realities of life in these grand homes in the age before modern conveniences. Bounded by the Mississippi River Bridge, the Mississippi River, Jackson Avenue, and St. Charles Avenue, the Lower Garden District was developed as six different faubourgs, and it is known for its many irregularly shaped parks. You will gain a new understanding of the history and culture of the area through a review of its architecture, geography, and famous residents.

Meeting Location: Muses Statue (Prytania and Terpsichore streets)

Treme History

Sundays: December 3 & January 14 | 10 a.m.

The Friends of the Cabildo walking tour of Treme provides a rich, detailed perspective on one of the city’s oldest and most storied neighborhoods. Originally known as “back of town,” the old Creole feel of Treme makes it easy to imagine the early 1800s multicultural community formed by immigrants, free people of color, and refugees from Saint-Domingue. An important center of the city’s African-American and Creole culture, Treme is the cherished home of fourth and

fifth generation residents who strive to maintain the area’s cultural and social traditions. We will trace the origin and development of Treme through the amazing nineteenth century architecture (including Creole cottages, townhouses, and shotgun houses), geography, and urban influences dating from the subdivision of this land by Claude Treme in the 1790s to the present day.

Meeting Location: Basin Street Station (501 Basin Street)

South Market District

Sundays: December 10 & January 21 | 10 a.m.

A booming area of revitalization at the intersection of the Central Business District, Medical District, and the sports/entertainment corridor of downtown, the South Market District is experiencing a renaissance placing it squarely in the up-and-coming areas of the city. But what was the historical significance of South Market before the construction projects? What are the stories behind the buildings being redeveloped as apartments, condominiums, hotels, and restaurants? Join the Friends of the Cabildo as we examine the fascinating mix of adaptive reuse, historic preservation, and new construction in the “Old CBD.” This unique tour of rapidly transforming South Market will provide a snapshot of techniques used to resurrect this district while preserving its historic character.

Meeting Location: Rouses parking lot (corner of O’Keefe and Girod)

Irish Channel

Saturday, January 27 | 10:30 a.m.

Most New Orleanians have enjoyed a sloppy roast beef poboy at a legendary Irish bar off Magazine Street, or caught cabbages, potatoes and carrots at the annual St. Patrick’s Day Parade. But not everyone has stopped to consider the history of the immigrant populations who lived and worked near the docks along the Mississippi River, their culture and traditions forming the foundation of the area we now know as the Irish Channel. The Friends of the Cabildo’s Irish Channel Tour explores this diverse home of working class immigrants, natives and free people of color. From famous churches to Irish bars, unique architecture, famous historic figures and notable festivals, the Irish Channel Tour reveals the many facets of this neighborhood beloved by locals and visitors alike.

Meeting location:

St. Vincent’s Guest House (1507 Magazine Street)



Music & Dance in 19th Century New Orleans — NEW!

Friday, December 15 | 2 p.m.
 Friday, January 26 | 2 p.m.

New Orleans was the first city in America to have opera. In fact, New Orleans had two full time, professional opera companies before any other city in America had its first professional opera company. In 1835 we built the largest and most extravagant theater in the United States. And it is the same city that gave birth to jazz in the mid-1890's. It is an amazing story, and an amazing century. This tour takes you through the development of the French Opera and its golden years between 1842 and the Civil War. It also describes the rich concert life of the city, and our passion for dance. And you will see where the first Quadroon Ball were held, and learn the truth instead of the myth. Ever wonder where New Orleans got its fascination with brass music? Ever wonder why jazz started here? Or how it developed? This tour answers those questions, and explores the rich culture of the city during a remarkable century.

Meeting location: In front of the Cabildo (by the Spanish cannon)

New Orleans Jazz — NEW!

Saturday, December 16 | 10 a.m.
 Wednesdays: December 6, December 20 & January 24 | 2 p.m.

This tour starts with the birth of Louis Armstrong in Black Storyville in 1901, and explores what influenced him during the early years of jazz. Then we explore how jazz continued to develop in New Orleans after Louis left in 1922. We will focus on the New Orleans jazz men and women who stayed in the city and continued to play here. This will include the “revival” of jazz in the 1940's, the advent of Preservation Hall in the 1960's, and will bring us all the way to the present. This tour combines several important, historical sites with a great playlist. The tour includes tunes from Louis Armstrong's early recordings, recordings from New Orleans jazz greats from the past, and tunes from some of our greats that are alive and swinging in New Orleans.

Meeting location: Old U.S. Mint (Esplanade Avenue gate).

New Orleans Rhythm & Blues — NEW!

Saturdays: December 9, December 30, January 27 | 10 a.m.
 Wednesdays: December 13, January 17, January 31 | 2 p.m.

Between 1947 and 1965, Cosimo Matassa recorded 250 national charting singles, including 21 gold records in his three different recording studios in the French Quarter. This tour visits all three former studios and enjoy a huge playlist of the best New Orleans rhythm and blues hits. Great history, great stories and wonderful

tunes. Everything from *Good Rockin' Tonight* by Roy Brown in 1947, to *Tutti Frutti* by Little Richard in 1955, to *Tell It Like It Is* by Aaron Neville in 1966, and, of course, lots of Fats Domino and Allen Toussaint. We'll explore how R&B developed in New Orleans, and follow Cosimo's career, all the way to the Matassa Market, the family business on Dauphine Street where he retired in the 1980s. Matassa was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2012, and his first studio, the J&M Music Shop, on Rampart Street is the 11th historic American rock 'n' roll landmark.

Meeting location: Corner of Royal & St. Philip streets (McDonogh #15 corner)

Battle of New Orleans

Saturdays: December 9 & January 13 | 10 a.m.

The Battle of New Orleans was a defining event in America's national identity. The Friends of the Cabildo Battle of New Orleans tour offers a fascinating look at the battle away from the battlefield, from lost locations of forts that protected the city, to Jackson's headquarters, to events in the French Quarter related to the unfolding battle. First developed for the Bicentennial of the Battle of New Orleans, the tour continues to draw historians, locals, and guests for a unique perspective on this turning point in American history.

Meeting location: Old U.S. Mint (Esplanade Avenue gate)

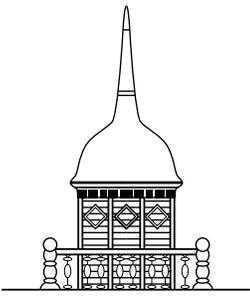
Danny Barker Jazz Tour

Wednesday, January 10 | 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.

As a part of our city's annual celebration of the music and life of Danny Barker, we are offering a special, two-hour walking tour featuring Barker's music and writing. Barker is more than a historical or cultural figure in New Orleans. He appeared on over a thousand recordings in his long career, including recording with Jelly Roll Morton, Billie Holiday, Louis Armstrong, Bunk Johnson, and Cab Calloway, but he is loved and appreciated most today for what he did for New Orleans music. He was a historian of jazz history, documenting the history of jazz in his writing. He influenced many of our contemporary jazz musicians by mentoring young musicians. This tour is an opportunity to understand why Barker is such an important part of our musical culture, and how he is still shaping New Orleans music today.

Meeting location: Old U.S. Mint (Esplanade Avenue gate)

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 To purchase tickets for these special tours, visit friendsofthecabildo.org or call 504.523.3939. Tickets are \$20 for FOC/LMF members and \$25 for general admission.



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CABILDO

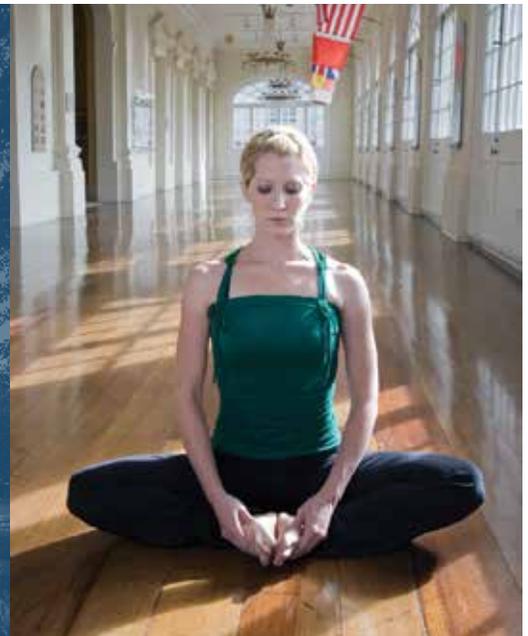
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