# Illinois State Organization, NSDAR

Marria Elliott Blinn, State Regent

## Franco-American Memorial Committee

Doda R. Starkey, State Chair
P.O. Box 534, Vienna, IL 62995-0534

dodastarkey346@gmail.com ~ 262-442-8488

Bonjour mon ami! The Franco-American Memorial Committee (FAMC) invites all Chapters to join together to *Illuminate Our Legacy* by educating, celebrating and commemorating the long history that is the Franco-American friendship! FAMC honors both the joint history and friendship as well as the close ties to France!

Chapters are encouraged to become involved in at least one event or activity each year. Chapter Chairs should plan activities that will promote awareness of the 249 years of Franco-American friendship and educate future generations about the USA's first and longest ally: France.

### **Areas of Focus:**

- 1. **Commemorative events**: There are two reportable commemorative events covered by this committee.
  - > American Revolutionary War-related American events.
  - > Events with a Franco-American theme that occurred prior to 1775 and from 1784 to the present.
    - There will also be two categories for submissions: State and Chapter, which will be judged separately. Extensive Toolkits for both Commemorative Events can be found on the FAMC website and will assist members with commemorations, ceremonies, and grave markings.

#### 2. French Patriots from the American Revolution

Honor the French Patriots who gave of their time, their treasure, or the ultimate sacrifice of their lives in America's fight for independence.

### 3. Franco-American Sites by State

<u>Sites by State</u> folders contain information about French Patriots' gravesites, as well as Franco-American monuments, historic sites and memorials. The <u>List of Sites by State</u> offers a Chapter the opportunity to evaluate its sites and assist in refurbishing them.

### 4. Further Document the List of Americans Who Fought for French Democracy.

There is an established list and members may contribute additional information.

Chapters may submit their events and activities to the state chair for consideration of commendation at state, division and national levels. The deadline for chapter submissions is no later than **January 15, 2026**. Forms and further information are located on the ILDAR SIP page.

Of course, there is a Lafayette Tour pin! Available at the DAR Insignia Store for \$69!

Vive l'amite Franco-American!

**Education Rings the Bell for Liberty!**