

Memorial Cemetery
Ste. Genevieve, Missouri
Fort San Carlos Festival Program 2024
Sunday May 26

11:30 a.m.	Registration at Guibord-Valle House	
12:30 p.m.	March to Cemetery	
Prayer and lead singing of Yankee Doodle		MOSSAR President Gene Henry
Pledge of Allegiance		Chairman Steven Biggs
<u>Biographies read of Honored Patriots</u>		
<u>Charles Belmard * and Jean Baptiste Fortin*</u>		Past Chairman Howard Fisk
<u>Joseph Courtois* and Israel Dodge*</u>		Steven Biggs
<u>Raimond Govreau* and Charles Vallé</u>		Past MOSSAR President David Shaul
<u>Pierre Gibault</u>		Vice Chairman Ken Lawrence
Unveiling of Wayside Marker		Ken Lawrence
Why We Remember		Robert Mueller
Washington's Bell		Vice Chairman Ken Lawrence
Musket Salutes		Ste. Genevieve Milice
		Captain Bill McKnight
		MOSSAR Color Guard
		State Commander Steven Perkins
Mourn Arms and Benediction		South-Central District VPG Bobbie Hulse

- Next to names signifies eligibility for SAR Grave Marking credit today.

Song for all to sing as musical requirement to receive grave marking credit led by
MOSSAR President Gene Henry:

YANKEE DOODLE

**Yankee Doodle went to town riding on a pony,
stuck a feather in his cap and called it macaroni
Yankee Doodle keep it up, Yankee Doodle dandy!
Mind the music and the step, and with the girls
be handy!**

2024 SAR Ste. Genevieve Patriot Honorees with * signifying grave marking credit eligible

1) *Charles Belmard PRS # 346890

Charles Belmard was listed on the November 1779 roster of the Ste. Genevieve *Milice* as born in the Canada and a *voyageur* by occupation. Belmard answered the call to arms as one of the sixty *miliciens* who went from Ste. Genevieve to St. Louis and helped successfully defend that village on May 26, 1780, against the British attack known as the Battle of Fort San Carlos. He remained in St. Louis until the Ste. Genevieve contingent returned to Ste. Genevieve in September 1780. Charles Belmard died at Ste. Genevieve at the age of 40 and was buried October 26, 1794, in Memorial Cemetery in an unmarked grave.

Reference: Charles Belmard is listed as Carlos Beamar on the July 5, 1780, and Aug 5, 1780, rosters of Ste. Genevieve *Milice* in St. Louis for the Battle of Fort San Carlos per the Spanish records in Seville, Spain – AGI, Cuba, 11, no. 9 (SRD ED143 R 025 0035-0036) and AGI, Cuba, 11, no. 8 (SRD ED143 R 025 0033-0034).

Note: Charles is pronounced “Sharles” and Belmard is pronounced “Bail mar.” Voyageur is pronounced “voy aw shur.”

2) *Jean Baptiste Fortin PRS #346848

Jean Baptiste Fortin was born at La Durantaye, Canada on October 25, 1730, to Marguerite LeBlond and Louis-Marie Fortin, a captain of the local *milice*. Jean Baptiste immigrated to the Illinois Country and married Agnes Blot, the widow of Pierre Marot dit LaBonte on February 6, 1858, at St. Anne church near Fort de Chartres. He and two of his brothers were listed on the Ste. Genevieve *milice* roster of 1766 as fusilier (rifleman) and Jean Baptiste was listed on the November 1779 *milice* roster having been born in Canada and habitant (farmer) by occupation. Jean Baptiste was one of sixty Ste. Genevieve *miliciens* who participated in the May 1780 Battle of Fort San Carlos. He was listed on the July 5 and August 5 rosters of Ste. Genevieve *miliciens* in St. Louis. He and the other *miliciens* returned to Ste. Genevieve in September 1780. Jean Baptiste Fortin continued providing defense for Ste. Genevieve as was listed on the December 1782 and February 1783 rosters of the Ste. Genevieve *milice*. He died in Ste. Genevieve and was buried in Memorial Cemetery on February 25, 1794. He and his wife's graves there are unmarked.

3) *Joseph Courtois PRS #346891

Joseph Courtois was born 1739 at Kaskaskia in the Illinois Country to Jean Joseph Courtois *dit* Lebeau and Marguerite Perthuis. He is listed on the November 1779 roster of the Ste. Genevieve *Milice* as born in the Illinois Country and a *voyageur* by occupation. Courtois answered the call to arms as one of the sixty *miliciens* who went from Ste. Genevieve to St. Louis and helped successfully defend that village on May 26, 1780, against the British attack known as the Battle of Fort San Carlos. He remained in St. Louis until the Ste. Genevieve contingent returned to Ste. Genevieve in September 1780. Joseph Courtois died at Ste. Genevieve on December 31, 1790, and was buried in Memorial Cemetery in an unmarked grave.

Reference: Joseph Courtois is listed as Jph Cortua on the July 5, 1780, and Aug 5, 1780, rosters of Ste. Genevieve *Milice* in St. Louis for the Battle of Fort San Carlos per the Spanish records in Seville, Spain – AGI, Cuba, 11, no. 9 (SRD ED143 R 025 0035-0036) and AGI, Cuba, 11, no. 8 (SRD ED143 R 025 0033-0034).

4) *Israel Dodge PRS #148864

Israel Dodge, born September 3, 1760, at Canterbury, Connecticut, joined the Revolutionary troops from Connecticut at the age of fifteen. He participated in the Battle of Brandywine on September 11, 1777, and was wounded in the chest by a bayonet during hand-to-hand combat. Later, Israel served as a second lieutenant in the continental army and near the end of the war, married Nancy Ann Hunter. After George Rogers Clark's conquest of Kaskaskia and Vincennes, Israel's brother John was appointed Indian agent for the Illinois country. Israel and his young wife moved to Kaskaskia where he served under the military authority of his brother. In about 1788, Israel and his brother moved to the Spanish province of Upper Louisiana settling at New Bourbon near the town of Ste. Genevieve. On October 1, 1804, Dodge was appointed sheriff of the Ste. Genevieve District by William Henry Harrison, governor

of Indiana and the District of Louisiana. He served on the panel for the first term of the court in the district and was appointed to receive proposals for the building of a jail. He continued to perform his duties as sheriff and farm his lands until he died in 1806. He was buried September 24th of that year in Ste. Genevieve's Memorial Cemetery. No tombstone exists to mark his resting place. Israel Dodge is an honored remembrance of the Sons of the American Revolution for his service with the Connecticut continental troops during the American revolution.

5) ***Raimond Govreau** [PRS #346851](#)

According to the November 1779 milice roster, Raimond Govreau was born in the Illinois Country and was voyageur by trade. He was the son of Etienne Govreau and Marie Anne Millet. Govreau was one of the sixty Ste. Genevieve miliciens who helped defend St. Louis against the British attack on May 1780. Govreau died in Ste. Genevieve and was buried November 25, 1782, in the cemetery at the Old Town site. He was 25 years old. The Mississippi washed away the Old Town cemetery and as a result, there is no tombstone marking his remains. Raimond Govreau is honored by the Sons of the American Revolution for his service in defending St. Louis.

6) **NOT for GM credit** [Charles Vallé](#) [PRS #346846](#)

VALLÉ, CARLOS (Charles Vallé) 1st Lieutenant of the Ste. Genevieve *milice* at the Battle of Fort San Carlos. Born circa 1751 in Kaskaskia, *Pays du Illinois*, Charles was the eldest son of François Vallé *père*. He became involved with the *milice* at an early age as the 1766 roster of the *Milice de Ste. Genevieve* listed him as a *fusilier* (rifleman). In 1772, Lt. Governor Piernas promoted Charles from cadet to 2nd Lieutenant. In 1777, he was promoted 1st lieutenant of the *Milice* after the death of his father-in-law Henri Carpentier. Due to the illness of François Vallé *père* during 1780, Charles became the ranking officer of the *milice de Ste. Geneviève* under the command of commandant Cartabona when the *milice* went north to defend St. Louis against a British attack. Charles remained in St. Louis after the battle and signed the rosters of Ste. Genevieve *milice* members present there on July 5, 1780, and August 5, 1780. He remained in St. Louis until September when the detachment returned home to defend Ste. Geneviève. In December 1780, Charles was appointed interim commandant of Ste Genevieve for six months as commandant Cartabona was recalled to St. Louis in anticipation of another attack. Charles' personal life soon began to deteriorate and when François Vallé *père* died September 1783, Charles expected to receive his father's title of *Capitaine de Milice* and *Lt. Particulier du Juge* of the Post of Ste. Genevieve in the Illinois Country. While he did become *Capitaine*, he was denied the special title of *Lt. Particulier du Juge*, and that title was never again bestowed on a Ste. Genevieve citizen. His reputation in disarray, Charles left Ste. Geneviève around 1787 and settled at Bayou Teche near Opelousas, Louisiana along with his two children and his slaves. He died there in 1796. His son Jean Baptiste and daughter Pelagie returned to Ste. Genevieve and their descendants still reside in the area.

7) **NOT for GM credit** [Pierre Gibault](#) – The Patriot Priest. [PRS #346849](#)

Pierre Gibault was born circa 1737 in Montreal, New France. He was educated at the seminary of Quebec, ordained a priest 19 March, 1768, and sent the Illinois Country to serve as a missionary there with the title of Vicar-General. Gibault resided at Kaskaskia but the area he served included Ste.

Genevieve, Vincennes, and Cahokia. In 1770, also, he blessed the first wooden chapel erected at Paincourt, the local nickname for St. Louis. Despite many difficulties and in the face of grave dangers incident to long journeys, he succeeded in vastly improving religious conditions in the scattered missions of the surrounding country. His journeys led him to such distant points as Peoria, Ouiatenon, St. Joseph's, and Michilimackinac. Gibault frequently ministered to the people of Ste. Genevieve and was an influential person on both sides of the river. When George Rogers Clark captured Kaskaskia in 1778, Father Gibault's influence was such that the inhabitants submitted without protest and took the oath of allegiance to the Commonwealth of Virginia. Through his influence the people of Cahokia also took the same step. Clark sent Father Gibault and Jean Baptiste Delaffont to Vincennes to determine the mood of the French residents there. Their successful mission there precipitated Clark's famous wintertime march to capture Vincennes. Gibault also conveyed Clark's regards to the Piankeshaws, and that Miami tribe remained neutral in the conflict. Gibault's activities earned him the wrath of the British Lieutenant Governor Henry Hamilton of Detroit thought Gibault should be hanged. Gibault later served as pastor of Ste. Genevieve from 1778 to 1784 when he returned to the east side of the Mississippi. In 1791. he left Illinois, then a part of the Diocese of Baltimore, and retired to New Madrid in Spanish Upper Louisiana. He died there and was buried in an unmarked grave. He is honored for his service for the citizens of Ste. Genevieve and his support of George Rogers Clark.

Missouri Society Sons of the American Revolution wishes to thank Robert J. Mueller ©2024; especially for these seven Patriot biographies being honored here today along with Margaret Carr's historical vision.

MOSSAR 2024 Fort San Carlos Festival Committee

Chairman Compatriot Steven Biggs

Vice Chairman Compatriot Ken Lawrence

Past MOSSAR President Compatriot David Shaul

Past Chairman 2023 FSCF Compatriot Howard Fisk

State Color Guard Commander Steve Perkins

