

TOUR GUIDES ASSOCIATION OF GREATER NEW ORLEANS, INC.

MEMBERSHIP MINUTES

February 2026

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President – Dianne Honore

First Vice President – Randy Bibb

Treasurer – Kristi Blackwell

Corresponding Secretary – Mary Eshenour

Standards and Education Coordinator – Frank Perez

Newsletter Editor – Barbara Giangrosso

BOARD REPORTS:

President – Dianne Honore

Big Queen Dianne is very busy putting the finishing touches on her suit for the Yellow Pocahontas Hunters Tribe walk on Mardi Gras Day. So, she is MIA for our newsletter this month, but rest assured, you will be hearing from her soon.

Newsletter Editor – Barbara Giangrosso

I would just like to take a moment to point out that our general membership meeting this month is headlined “History Class 250”. Tying into the United States’ 250th anniversary, we are hoping to line up some more interesting speakers to talk about Louisiana’s role in this historic event.

Although Louisiana was not directly involved in the Revolutionary War, the at-that-time Spanish territory, certainly contributed to the success of the American’s defeat over the British. One such means was through the contributions of the Louisiana governor, Bernardo de Galvez, who was quite instrumental in these ways:

- **Military Support:** As the governor of Spanish Louisiana, Gálvez facilitated the supply of arms, ammunition, and provisions to the American forces. He smuggled supplies through the British blockade, significantly aiding the Continental Army.
- **Strategic Campaigns:** Gálvez led military campaigns against British forces in the Gulf Coast region. His notable victories included the capture of British forts in Natchez, Baton Rouge, and Mobile, which helped divert British resources and attention away from the American front.
- **Declaration of War:** When Spain declared war on Great Britain in 1779, Gálvez took the initiative to attack British positions, further weakening British control in the region. His actions forced the British to fight on multiple fronts, indirectly benefiting the American revolutionaries.



Licensed Guides – Authentic Experiences

- **Recognition and Legacy:** Gálvez's contributions were recognized by American leaders, including George Washington. In 2014, he was posthumously awarded honorary U.S. citizenship by Congress, acknowledging his significant role in the American struggle for independence.

Bernardo de Gálvez's support was instrumental in the American Revolution, as he not only provided essential supplies but also led military efforts that weakened British forces in the southern territories. His legacy as a key ally of the American cause is celebrated, although he remains less known compared to other figures like Lafayette. Gálvez's actions exemplified the international dimensions of the Revolutionary War, highlighting the importance of alliances in achieving independence.

On March 8, 2026, the Cabildo will be opening a new exhibit, "Galvez and Louisiana in the American Revolution", which explores the life and legacy of Bernardo de Galvez and the diverse people of Louisiana who fought for American independence. Check it out!

First Vice President – Randy Bibb

It's time to start planning our annual trip, which will be in the early fall. We need a Trip Committee to help plan and organize, and so those of you who would like to work with me on it, please contact me. I will be reaching out to the membership to offer this opportunity, and I know we'll have a great time planning a great trip!

Treasurer – Kristi Blackwell

While still compiling the information from the last folks covering the treasurer's duties, we're looking forward to setting the budget for an exciting 2026!

Website/Social Media/Membership – Barbara Giangrosso

Our 2026 membership drive is still officially underway! We have an exciting lineup of meetings, speakers, and events planned for the year ahead, and we need your help to grow our community.

Please share this invitation with anyone interested in joining our organization. As of today, we have 105 members (73 full, 19 associate, and 13 corporate), and we are working hard to reach last year's total of 134.

We would like to extend a special welcome to our new corporate members: Lucky Bean Tours and the Preservation Resource Center. We also wish to welcome back Cajun Encounters and Louisiana Motor Coach, who took a hiatus last year, as well as all our loyal corporate members. We appreciate all of you and realize this organization could not thrive without you.

"When you go to New Orleans, you're not just going to a city, you're going to an experience." – James Carville

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, February 19, 2026

BK House

6:00 p.m.

*"The Changing Tides of
Louisiana's Heritage"*



Contact Us

TGAGNOI
P.O. Box 56505
New Orleans, LA 70156-6505
nolaguideinfo@gmail.com
www.tourguidesnola.org
