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23 October 1939. Members of the Iroquois Ambulance Corps on parade at Chateau de la Ronce, outside Paris in Ville d'Avray. A new memorial will be unveiled next month on Sept. 15th, please join us and help support the preservation of this important WWII history.

On parade ground at their HQ. Drillmaster Bob Newman of Chicago (far left).

Front row: Nick Joseph, Robert Judels, Stuart Donaldson, Jack Hasey and Steele Powers.

Rear (left to right): Joe Maronna, Bill Mock, Grima Johnson, Charles Stehlin and George fields.

SPECIAL EVENT

On behalf of Ville-d'Avray, American Legion Paris Post 1 and the families of volunteer American ambulance drivers who aided France in 1939/1940 (and beyond), we wish to invite you to join us in a celebration of the heroism and altruism of these drivers.

This special event includes the commemoration of two new WWII memorial

plaques, a history presentation and vin d'honneur at the historic Château de Ville-d'Avray.



Event location:
Château de Ville-d'Avray

Join Paris Post 1 on Sept. 15th for the unveiling of this new memorial at the historic Château de Ville-d'Avray.

In the 18th century, Louis XVI's first valet, Marc-Antoine Thierry, became lord of Ville-d'Avray and obtained the title of baron in 1784.

Baron Thierry had the château built, surrounded by a vast park. He financed the construction of a school and a new church in Ville-d'Avray in 1789.

Unfortunately during the French Revolution, Baron Thierry de Ville-d'Avray was massacred in prison in 1792. Today, his chateau and church still remain.

The commemoration, history presentation and vin d'honneur will take place in the historic Chateau de Ville-d'Avray.

In honor of American ambulance drivers in France during World War II.



IROQUOIS AMBULANCE CORPS (IAC) NEW WWII MEMORIAL

Join us for the commemoration of a new memorial in honor of American volunteer ambulance drivers who risked their lives during WWII.

TIME & DATE: 16h00 on Sunday September 15, 2024
LOCATION: Château Ville-d'Avray 8 Rue de Marnes Ville-d'Avray
HOSTED BY: Maire de Ville d'Avray, American Legion
and family descendants of the IAC

RSVP: <https://forms.gle/qFnfQ42cJptiPdEJ6>

RSVP Commemoration, History Presentation and Vin d'Honneur:
New WWII Memorial for the Iroquois Ambulance Corps in Ville-
d'Avray Sept. 15th @ 16h00



The Hidden Heroes

Join Paris Post 1 on Sept. 15th for the dedication of this new memorial in France honoring WWII volunteer ambulance drivers.

On September 15, Château de Ville-d'Avray will host the unveiling of a plaque honoring the courageous drivers of 1939/40 from the American Hospital in Paris, the American Volunteer Ambulance Corps (AVAC) and Iroquois Ambulance Corps. This event will bring together descendants of these drivers to pay tribute to their legacy of humanitarianism and peace.

Legionnaire Larry Roeder's inspiration for this homage comes from his father (also Larry), an American Field Service (AFS) driver, and his cousin, Josephine Winter. Josephine volunteered at the American Hospital in Paris and drove ambulances for the AVAC during the exodus from Paris to Bordeaux in 1940.

The AVAC, initiated by the American Legion in Paris, and the Iroquois Ambulance Corps, formed at Harry's American Bar in Paris, played crucial roles during World War II. These services, along with the Anglo-American Ambulance Corps of Cannes and the American Hospital of Paris, saved thousands of lives during Germany's invasion of France.

The Iroquois Ambulance Corps merged with the AVAC led by Colonel James

Sparks, in December 1939. Together, these organizations conducted operations in Finland and France, supporting French civilians and troops. Volunteers, including university students, faced relentless attacks, yet their altruism and bravery shone through.



New Memorial in Ville d'Avray **Iroquois Ambulance Corps**

Support this new memorial just south of Paris by joining us on September 15th for the commemoration, and by donating on the GoFundMe link below.

"Volunteer American women and men, many of whom were university students, saved thousands of lives of refugee civilians and troops wounded in the massive Exodus to La Rochelle, Bordeaux and other safe regions of France and overseas during Germany's invasion in May and June 1940.

"The Iroquois Ambulance Corps, formed in 1939 in Harry's American Bar in Paris, was HQ'd at Chateau de La Ronce. It and the American Volunteer Ambulance Corps (AVAC/SSVA), were led by the American Legion. Other Services were the American Field Service (AFS), the Anglo-American

Ambulance Corps of Cannes, and the Ambulance and Transport Service of the American Hospital of Paris.

"Their unstinting courage and altruism in the face of daunting danger, while asking for nothing but the honor to serve France in its darkest hour, can never be forgotten."

Would you like to help support this new memorial?
Please click on our [GoFundMe](#) page below!

[Donate: New Iroquois Ambulance Corps Memorial WWII](#)

IROQUOIS AMBULANCE CORPS (IAC)



NEW WWII MEMORIAL

Special thank you to all of our volunteers who have worked tirelessly to create this new memorial, and planning events in September from Bordeaux to Paris.

Extraordinary work by Paris Post 1 veteran member Larry Roeder for spearheading this preservation endeavor. Larry has family who were volunteer ambulance drivers during WWII.

Thank you Julien Fleury, from Radio France, who has provided extensive support in research, memorial planning and design.

Special thank you to Paris Post 1 Auxiliary Jen Harlay for writing and preparing research/photos for this amazing news article!

Would you like to join us on Sept. 15th?

Please mark your calendar and sign up on our [RSVP link](#) below!

[RSVP: New Iroquois Ambulance Corps Memorial in Ville-d'Avray](#)
[Sept. 15th @ 16h00](#)



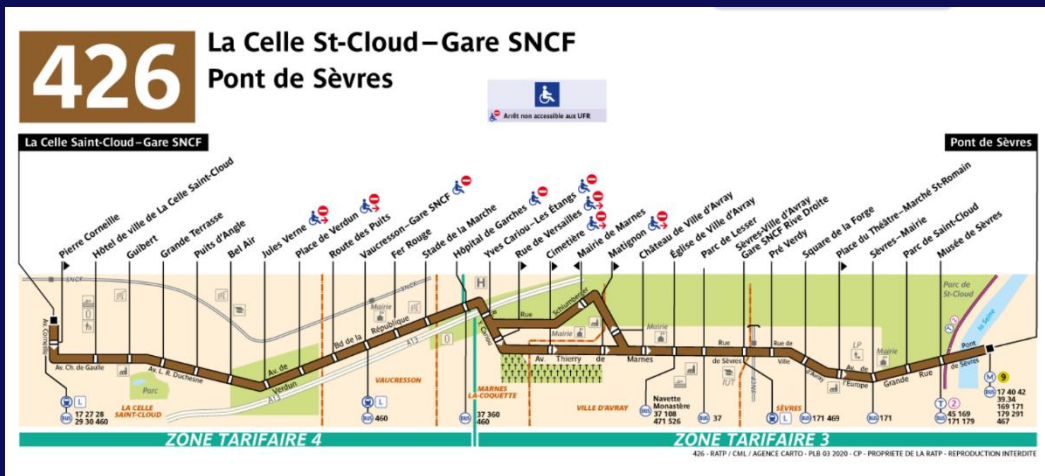
[How to get to Ville d'Avray?](#) **[Metro, RER, Taxi, etc.](#)**

If you are planning on driving to the event, please contact us if you can help carpool with other attendees!

Ville-d'Avray is located just south west of Paris near the Lafayette Escadrille memorial in parc Saint Cloud. The chateau can be reached via car, bus, taxi and train (short walk).

Here is the address: [8, rue de Marnes 92410 Ville-d'Avray](#)

[Donate: New Iroquois Ambulance Corps Memorial WWII](#)



Chateau de Ville d'Avray via public transport

Metro and bus, or metro and train (plus walk).

Ville-d'Avray is located in a naturally beautiful area next to Parc de Saint Cloud with street parking, and also two public transportation options plus multiple taxi companies.

For those on the right bank in Paris, take [line 1 to La Defense](#), and then the [L train](#) to the [train station Sevres - Ville-d'Avray](#) (10 mins). Once you arrive at the train station in Ville-d'Avray, its a 20 min walk or short taxi ride (options for taxi below).

Another option is from the bus depot at [Pont de Sevres](#) at the end of [metro line 9](#), once you get to the bus depot at the Pont de Sevres take [bus line 426](#) to Chateau de Ville-d'Avray (13 mins).

Taxis available in Ville-d'Avray:

<https://www.mairie-villedavray.fr/taxi/78/>

We look forward to seeing you on Sept. 15th in Ville-d'Avray!

[Paris Post 1 Website](#)



**PARIS POST 1
AMERICAN LEGION FRANCE**



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