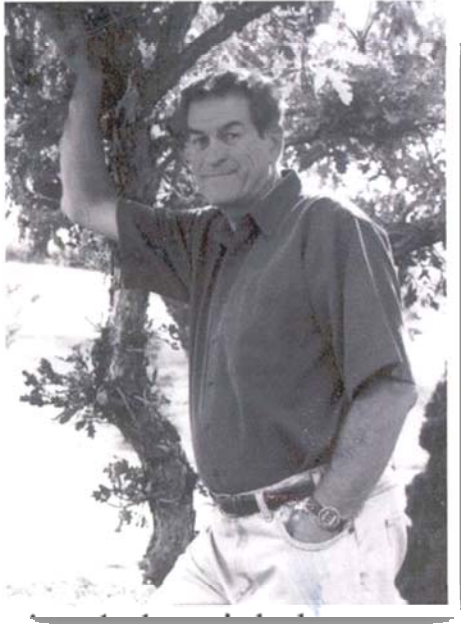


Ben Benoit Acadian Author, *Surviving Damnation*. Talk & demonstration of the "aboiteau during the Acadian Memorial Festival on March 15, 2008



Dr. R.W."Ben" Benoit has been a resident of Castle Rock, Colorado for 35 years and is formerly from Massachusetts. He is a retired High School teacher, coach and Principal from the Littleton Public Schools. Ben earned his Ph.D. in French Literature from the University of Kansas, did post-graduate work France at the University of Bordeaux and at the Universities of Michigan and Denver.

When Ben became an avid student of Genealogy, he discovered his Acadian ancestry. He came across many Benoit's and tons of other related family names. He was not interested in name-gathering or in becoming a database expert. What really turned him on was NOT raw data about births, marriages, and deaths, but rather researching the times and places in which these ancestors lived and/or the historical events in which they might have been involved.

His recent and third published book does just that. *Surviving Damnation* is the true story of one his Acadian ancestors who survived the 1755 deportation from his homeland of what is now Nova Scotia. The book has been recognized as an excellent prototype or example of how the lives of our ancestors can be made fascinating reading for our descendents.