



# Calling All Cajuns!

St. Martinville, Louisiana

Vol. 7, No. 1

Spring 1998

## From the President



Patricia D. Resweber

**Come one, come all to an historic event!** On Sunday, May 31, 1998, the unveiling of the Acadian Memorial Wall of Names will occur along with the opening of the History/ Research Center at the Acadian Memorial in St. Martinville.

The unveiling will be part of Cajuns, Cousins & Cuisine III - *Ensemble Encore*, the Acadian Memorial Foundation's Annual

## An Historic Event —

fundraiser. Included in the program is a Sunday brunch and recognition of the *Congrès Mondial Acadien* 1999 family reunion associations. Please mark your calendar and see ticket information in this newsletter.

It is also my pleasure to announce the sponsorship of two more Acadian Memorial mural figures. Rose LeBlanc, which was one of the figures that were named but not sponsored, has received a patron through the Foundation membership program which recently received a charter membership of \$2,000 to sponsor her figure. Second, a donation of \$2,000 gave names to a previously unnamed group of figures on the mural. Recognized under this program as descendants of Guillaume Trahan are Michel Trahan, Joseph Marin Trahan and Joachim Hyacinthe Trahan.

I would ask all supporters to consider participating in the sponsorship programs as a means of supporting the Acadian Memorial. There are 21 named figures and seven unnamed figures waiting for sponsors.

Another sponsorship program available is for the Wall of Names. With a \$3,000 donation one of the twelve bronze plaques which make up the Wall of Names display can be sponsored — the Parishes of St. Martin and Iberia have donated to this program. This entitles the sponsor to be named on a sponsor plaque located in an appropriate place at the Memorial.

I look forward to seeing you on May 31st, next, when we will stand together and witness the greatest Louisiana Reunion as the Wall of Names is unveiled and we stand *Ensemble Encore* - Together Again!

## Du bureau de la directrice

The Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities has awarded a grant to the Acadian Memorial for *Ensemble Encore: The Acadian Memorial Multi-Media Archive*. Your generous donation has provided the matching funds needed for this grant.

Historian Dr. Carl Brasseaux and multi-media developer Chris Allain are

now hard at work on the archive, which will interpret the Acadian migration to Louisiana and expand the Wall of Names into an electronic format, offering a portfolio for each of Louisiana's arriving Acadian exiles. This first phase of the archive should be complete in December of 1998, when it will be promoted in a tour of Louisiana libraries.

The archive will be available to the public at the Memorial's history center and through our website. Our long term goal is to include additional generations of Acadians and expanded information on life in and people of early Louisiana.

**Interior demolition** of St. Martinville's old police station has begun! This

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Eunice B. Duchamp presents her donation for the sponsorship of the Rose LeBlanc figure to Larry Comeaux, Foundation treasurer.

As a bonus of her charter membership in the Acadian Memorial Foundation, Inc., Eunice Broussard Duchamp

## *Sponsorship for Rose LeBlanc figure*

was entitled to sponsor a figure on the Memorial mural. Rose LeBlanc, Louisiana's first Acadian religious was the figure chosen by Mrs. Duchamp. A daughter of Rene Le Blanc and Anne Terriot of Grand-Pré in Acadia, Rose was born around the year 1734 and was married to Raphael Broussard, son of Joseph Beausoleil Broussard and Agnès Thibodeau. They are known to be the parents of at least two children, Joseph and Françoise. No records of Raphael or the children have been found in Louisiana but one describes Rose as the 'Widow of Raphael Broussard, resident of Precou Riat (Petit-coudiac) in

Canada." From the research of Rev. James F. Geraghty, deceased archivist of the Diocese of Lafayette, we know that Rose had been at the Ursuline Convent in New Orleans for some months when on August 14, 1765, she was admitted to the novitiate "in view of her good will, her gentle disposition and kindness to all." On April 30, 1768, she was given the name Sister Ste. Monique and made her vows; she died of smallpox on February 6, 1773. Rose LeBlanc is sponsored by the family of Jules Joseph and Marie Eunice Lassalle Broussard in memory of Joseph and Palmyre Nunez Broussard.

## *Trahan family names mural figures*

The Trahan Family Association, Charles and Mona Trahan, Michael Trahan, Loubert Trahan, David O. Trahan, Jeannine Trahan Meaux, Lea Trahan Hawkins, Michael and Earline Trahan Conover, Ernest Trahan and Donald Trahan have come together to sponsor figures on the Acadian Memorial mural that represent descendants of Guillaume Trahan, progenitor of the Acadian Trahan family. The group sponsorship is for Michel Trahan who, with his wife Anne Euphrosine Vincent, was an early settler at the Attakapas Post; Marie Sophie Le Prince Veuve Joseph Marin Trahan who arrived in Louisiana in 1785 aboard the ship La Bergere with her 19 year old son, Antoine Joseph; and, Joachim Hyacinthe Trahan, a widower with 6 children, Augustin, Jean Marie, Anne, Felicite, Catherine and Marie Vincent, who arrived later

in 1785 aboard the ship Le Saint-Remi. The figures representing the Trahans are already on the mural depicting persons on a barge similar to those used to transport the Acadian

refugees from the Mississippi River to the bayous of Louisiana. The names of the Trahan contributors will be added to the display of mural figure sponsors at the Acadian Memorial.



Representatives of the Trahan Family Association turn over their donation to Foundation representative Jane G. Bulliard. From Left are Michael Trahan, Charles D. Trahan and Loubert Trahan.



*The Acadian Memorial Foundation  
invites you to the unveiling of  
the Acadian Memorial Wall of Names*

**Cajun, Cousins and Cuisine III:  
Ensemble Encore  
Sunday, May 31, 1998**

At St. Martin de Tours Catholic Church:

**Mass honoring Acadian families, 9:00 AM**

A banner for each family participating in the *Congrès Mondial Acadien Louisiane 1999* will be provided for the entry and exit processions.

At the Acadian Memorial:

**Unveiling of the Wall of Names and Ribbon cutting for History Center, 10:00 AM**

A list in bronze of the 3000 Acadians who found refuge in Louisiana, will be unveiled, symbolically reuniting Acadians past and present. Completion of the facility that will house the Acadian Memorial multi-media archive will be marked with a ribbon cutting.

**Brunch**

A sumptuous feast on the Bayou Teche, featuring the cuisine of Chef Marcelle Bienvenu and music by *les Frères Michot*.

Tickets are \$25 per person and can be purchased by calling (318) 394-2258.

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**(Continued from Page 1)**

is to prepare the building for renovations needed to house a multi-cultural interpretive center. Here visitors will be oriented to the Acadian Memorial and learn the history of other cultures important to Southwest Louisiana. At press time Mayor Eric Martin is requesting the additional funds needed to complete these renovations from the St. Martinville City Council.

**Richard Laurin**, a former guide at our twin site, the Grand-Pré National Historic Site in Nova Scotia, gave a talk at the Memorial on March 13. About 40 people attended his presentation on Acadian history and heritage travel. Laurin is working with *Le Rêve Canadien*, a receptive tour company, to offer trips to historical or ancestral sites tailored to a given group's interest.

**Plans are in the works**, for a staff

exchange with Grand-Pré. Docent Ed Laviolette and myself will request a trip to Grand-Pré and other historical sites and centers in the Canadian Maritimes to better interpret the Canadian viewpoint on Acadian history at the Memorial, and to provide the Grand-Pré staff with information on Louisiana Acadians. Donna Doucet, Supervisor at Grand-Pré, is asking her governing entity to send members of the Grand-Pré staff to the Memorial for the *Congrès Mondial Acadien-Louisiane 1999*.

**Et à propos du Congrès Mondial**, the Acadian Memorial will offer history and genealogy talks and several full-length plays on Louisiana Acadians from August 1 through August 15, 1999. There will be a special midnight Mass at St. Martin de Tours, the Mother Church of the Acadians, on August 14, the eve of the National Day of the Acadians. Please

plan to join us!

**Bien merci** to Diane Carmel Leger, author of *La Butte à Pétard*, for donating a copy of her book. Something of an Acadian equivalent of *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *La Butte* is a work of historical fiction written for young audiences. It is based on René "Pétard" Sere (Cyr), an actual Acadian who, like many families, lived in hiding in the woods for several years to evade British troops. Especially moving are Léger's young characters, who are forced to pass their formative years as invisibly as possible.

This book will be carried by the Foundation in the future, but until then, it can be ordered in English or French from *Les Éditions d'Acadie* at (506) 857-8490, or [edacadie@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:edacadie@nbnet.nb.ca). Léger has promised to give a talk at the Memorial on her next visit to Louisiana.



## *Calling All Cajuns Calendar*

**Sunday, May 31, 1998**

Unveiling of Wall of Names  
Opening of Research Center

**August 15, 1998**

National Day of the Acadians

## *Souvenir Edition*

*The Wall of Names at the Acadian Memorial* by the Wall of Names Committee, Jane G. Bulliard, Chair, reproduces the 3,000 names of Acadian exiles in Louisiana cast in bronze on twelve 24" x 72" plaques installed on a granite wall at the Acadian Memorial in St. Martinville, Louisiana. Includes a guide to the arrangement of the names and an index to assist in locating names on the plaques. Softcover, 6 x 9 in. 90 pages. \$10 from The Acadian Memorial, P. O. Box 844, St. Martinville, LA 70582

### WAYS YOU CAN BE PART OF THE ACADIAN MEMORIAL!

See Inserts:

Acadian Memorial  
Product Order Form

Affinity

Acadian Memorial Foundation, Inc.  
Membership letter and Application Form

Acadian Memorial on the internet!

Website address:

(<http://www.pwcweb.com/usapages/acadian/>)

Home Page courtesy of O.P. Ditch, Woodbridge, VA

e-mail to: [smcity@net-connect.net](mailto:smcity@net-connect.net)

The Acadian Memorial is open daily 10-4  
Admission:

5 & Under - Free • 6-18 - \$1 • 19-60 - \$3\* • 60+ - \$2\*

\* Call 318/394-2233 for special rates for  
school groups & adult tour groups.

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