



**7th Annual
Acadian Memorial Festival
March 19, 2011
FREE ADMISSION**

- 9 am:** CAFA meeting, **AM Hall upstairs**
- 10 am:** Opening ceremonies and flag raising: **Gazebo & City Hall Porch**
- 10:30 am:** Renaissance Cadienne Dance Troupe: **Evangeline Blvd & S New Market St.**
- 11 am:** Cheri Armentor, Kids' Mardi Gras Theater: **City Hall**
- 11 am-1 pm:** The Babineaux Fuselier Cajun Band: **corner of Evangeline Blvd & S New Mkt**
- 11:15 am:** GRA Presentation by Ray Trahan: **AM Hall upstairs**
- 11:30 am:** Putt Putt Parade on Bayou Teche
- 11:45 am:** Théâtre Acadien performs (in french): **AM Hall downstairs**
- 12 pm:** Kathy Mier presents Kids' Stories & Tintamarre: **meet at Cultural Heritage Ctr**
- 1 pm:** Reenactment, Arrival of the Acadians on Bayou Teche: **Boardwalk.** Presentation of Evangeline Queen, Boudreaux & Guillotte families: **Gazebo**
- 2 pm:** Dr. Ray Brassieur, Cattle Ranchers of the Marsh: **AM Hall upstairs**
- 2-4 pm:** The Babineaux Fuselier Cajun Band: **street corner**
- 3 pm:** Théâtre Acadien performs (in french): **AM Hall downstairs**
- 3 pm:** Boudreaux presentation by Don Arceneaux: **AM Hall upstairs**
- Throughout the Day:** Clara Darbonne's **garde-soleil exhibit** (Cultural Heritage Ctr), **Cajun cooking** by L'Ordre du Bon Temps, **cold drinks & souvenirs, antique boats & motors, antique cars, quilts**

CALLING ALL CAJUNS!

A Publication of The Acadian Memorial Foundation

March 2011

**IT'S FESTIVAL TIME: Saturday, March 19th 10 am - 4pm
Evangeline Blvd & S New Market St**

A quick mention about the special presentations we have lined up for this year's festival, honoring the **families Boudreaux and Guillotte**: They'll be honored during the 1 p.m. Reenactment of the Arrival of the Acadians. Evangeline Queen **Maddison Bahry** (Plaquemine's 2010 International Acadian Festival) will be here. **Don Arceneaux** will speak about "18th Century Male and Female Boudreaux Immigration to Colonial Louisiana," and "The Life of Francois Boudreaux." **Dr. Charles R. Brassieur** will give a talk on "Les Vacheurs, The Cattle Ranchers of the Marsh." **Ray Trahan** has information to share about the GRA. Wooden boat enthusiasts will display and parade antique wooden pirogues, Putt Putts, and other "**Old Time**" water craft items. Don't miss performances by **Théâtre Acadien, Renaissance Cadienne Dancers** and the **Babineaux Fuselier Band!** **Clara Darbonne, Kathy Mier and Cheri Armentor** will be here too (see page 2 for more info!)



"Babineaux Fuselier Band."
Gracie Babineaux, Julie Babineaux, Scotty Cormier, Zachary Fuselier, & Mark Comeaux Submitted photo

ACADIAN MEMORIAL FESTIVAL 2011: "GEARING UP FOR GRA!"

Qu'est-ce que c'est, GRA? It's the first ever **Grand Réveil Acadien** (Great Acadian Awakening), which is going take place October 7-16 throughout South Louisiana. For each new generation of Acadians, the importance of taking action to maintain our French language and culture grows more urgently. It is for this reason that Acadians and friends of all ages and from all over the world are making plans to gather here during this special time. It will be a time for camaraderie and a time for celebration, but also an opportunity to focus on serious issues affecting Acadian/Cajun culture.



The Acadian Memorial Festival has chosen "Gearing Up For GRA" as it's own 2011 festival theme. Make plans to be in St. Martinville on March 19th to partake in the festival activities, including a special 11:15 a.m. info session on GRA by Ray Trahan, President of Louisiane-Acadie, Inc. The regions of Lake Charles, Houma, New Orleans and Lafayette are all preparing to host a series of special events during this time. This growing list includes the unveiling of an Acadian Monument, themed tours, expos, "french tables," art shows, film premieres, musical & theatrical performances, scholar presentations and panel discussions, environmental focus sessions and youth programs (including an auto rally). The ten day event will conclude with a Grand Parade around Girard Park in the city of Lafayette, at the site of the popular Festival Acadiens et Créoles. When GRA participants are in the Lafayette area on Saturday, October 15th, they will have the opportunity to come to St. Martinville to witness a meaningful local tradition: the Acadian Memorial's reenactment of the arrival of the Acadians on the Bayou Teche. Check the web periodically for updated GRA information: <http://www.gra2011.org>

NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Marty Guidry



Marty Guidry by the Guédry family crest in the Acadian Memorial Garden.

Welcome to all of our friends of the Acadian Memorial. We truly appreciate your continuing support. I encourage each of you to visit the Acadian Memorial in 2011 and learn about the Acadian experience in Louisiana. Bring a friend with you and share this special time.

Spring and summer are busy times at the Acadian Memorial; not only do we have many guests and friends visiting, but we also have several events occurring. On Saturday, March 19th our annual Acadian Memorial Festival kicks off. This year we will honor the Boudreaux and Guillotte families during the reenactment ceremonies. A special highlight at this year's festival will be the many varieties of authentic boats showcased including the original Cajun putt-putt boats that each visitor has an opportunity to ride in at no cost. Of course, there will be plenty of Cajun food and music as well as presentations on a variety of topics. Because of the extreme shortage of crawfish at the present time due to weather conditions, we have had to delay our annual Crawfish Boil until early May.

This year May 28th – July 9th is a special time at the Memorial. We have been selected by the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities to host the initial Smithsonian “Journey Stories” exhibition in Louisiana. The Acadian Memorial staff has been working diligently for almost two years preparing for this 6-week exhibition. There will be slide shows, evening presentations, exhibits and much more to view, hear and enjoy. The exhibits and major activities will be at La Maison Duchamp on Main Street in St. Martinville with the weekly presentations being at various locations in or near St. Martinville.

On July 28th the Memorial will again host the Commemoration of the Great Upheaval where we'll solemnly remember the plight of our Acadian ancestors during their tragic exile from their homeland. August 15th is the National Day of the Acadians. There will be lectures, storytelling and films focused on our Acadian heritage throughout the day at the Memorial. We'll close the day with a moving Mass at St. Martin de Tours Catholic Church, the Mother Church of the Acadians in Louisiana.

On October 13th the Acadian Memorial Foundation will host the traditional L'Ordre du Bon Temps, the oldest social club in North America. The program and other details are being developed at this time and will be presented in a future “Calling All Cajuns”.

Most activities are at no cost to the public. So come out with family and friends and celebrate your Acadian heritage. Again, thanks for your support of the Acadian Memorial. And don't forget to renew your Membership in the Acadian Memorial Foundation for 2011 by using the attached Membership Form.

Marty

Martin Guidry

President, Acadian Memorial Foundation



Clara Sonnier Darbonne (left) and Kathy Sonnier Mier (center) are cousins who will share their talents with us at the 2011 Acadian Memorial Festival. Clara will display and explain her famous garde-soleil collection and “Mamee Mier” performs with Acadian heritage props for kids' storytime, followed by a Tintamarre-style parade.

Cheri Armentor (right) creates a magical Mardi Gras experience for kids. Don't miss her performance at City Hall on festival morning!

MEET THE STAFF

Suzy Mills

James Akers is one of the people in St. Martinville who prompts people to feel they've experienced something remarkable when they visit the Acadian Memorial and Cultural Heritage Center. He's been employed here as a Docent/Tour Guide since 2001, and is frequently requested by name when tour operators, school teachers or professors call us to reserve guided group tours. A self-taught historian who knows and understands the subtleties of our culture, James' career includes past curatorship of both the Maison Olivier at Longfellow-Evangeline State Historic Site and the former Petite Paris Musuem. Consider him an artist as well; he's designed many an elaborate Mardi Gras costume, and when that special time of year rolls around, the Memorial staff may arrive at work to find that someone has come in early. Someone who has set a colorful table with decorations including an Epiphany scene, to complement a pre-sliced King Cake (only the best: cream cheese or fruit filling).



James gives a thorough and entertaining tour. The guided tour package typically includes the Acadian Memorial, walk along the Bayou Teche to the Evangeline Oak, the Cultural Heritage Center (African American Museum and Museum of the Acadian Memorial), the Evangeline Statue and St. Martin de Tours Catholic Church (his specialty). Listen to James and learn for yourself; there is more to St. Martinville than you imagine.

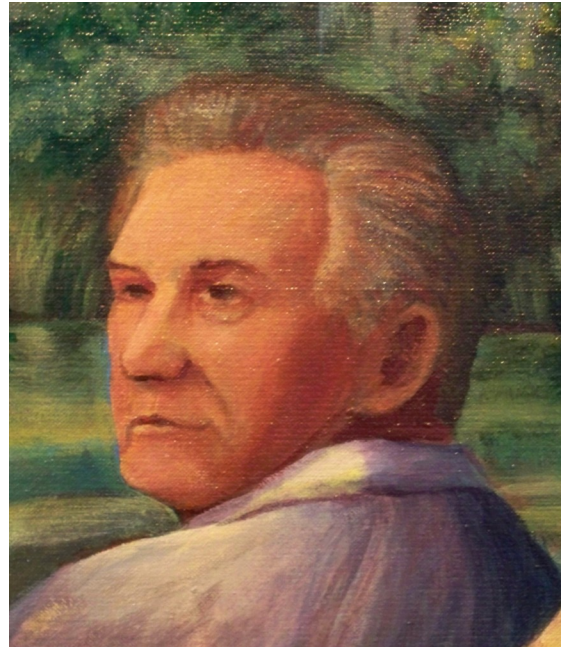
STORIES FROM THE MURAL

Jane G. Bulliard

Looking forward to the Smithsonian exhibit slated to open in St. Martinville in May which will feature journey stories of settlers and travelers to Bayou Teche country, here's a retelling of the journey story of the first Texas Cajuns. We called them that in the spring 1994 issue of this newsletter because as Carl Brasseaux recounted in "The Founding of New Acadia," to get to Louisiana, these Acadians had to go to Texas first. Seven families, thirty in all, who had been deported to Maryland in 1755, boarded the ship "Britain" at Port Tobacco in January of 1769 for passage to Louisiana. The mouth of the Mississippi was reached in late February, but thick fog prevented their ascent of the river and strong winds from the east actually drove the ship further west to Matagorda Bay. There events grew desperate as the ship was seized by Spanish authorities and its crew and passengers arrested as smugglers! For a time, they were confined in the area of Goliad and subjected to hard labor. They were eventually released and by October had made their way north to the fort at Natchitoches. Determined to accomplish their goal of reuniting with relatives in the Iberville District, they resisted Commandant Demeziere's attempt to keep them in his jurisdiction and by April 1770, the weary group finally reached their destination. The first Texas Cajuns are represented on the mural by Olivier Benoit, posed for by John Benoit.

Pause friend, read my name and remember...

Acadian passengers of the ill fated "Britain" remembered in *Ensemble Encore* and on the Wall of Names are: Olivier Benoit, Marie Brasseur his wife and children Charles, Marie Rose and Madeleine; Louis Latier, Anne Trahan, his wife and children Marie, Marguerite, Antoine, Paul, Elizabeth and Marie Anne; Marie Rose and Marguerite Benoit, his step daughters; Etienne Rivet with sons Etienne, Francois, Pierre and Theodore; Honore Trahan, Marie Corporon his wife, Pierre their son and Joseph LeJeune; Antoine Bellard with wife Marie Trahan and son Etienne Simon; Jean Vincent LeJeune, his brother Blaise and sister Marguerite; Pierre Primeau and wife Susanne Plante. *Arrête toi ami, lis mon nom et souviens toi...*



Olivier Benoit as depicted in the Robert Dafford mural "Arrival of the Acadians in Louisiana."
© City of St. Martinville

THE SMITHSONIAN IS COMING TO ST. MARTINVILLE!

See the *Journey Stories* exhibition at Maison Duchamp May 28th - July 9, 2011

201 S MAIN STREET

10 AM - 4:30 PM

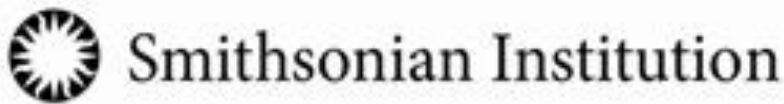
7 DAYS PER WEEK

Journey Stories uses imagery, audio and artifacts to “tell the individual stories that illustrate the critical roles travel and movement have played in building our diverse American Society.” - Smithsonian Museum on Main Street

Interested in being an exhibition attendant? If you enjoy meeting people, are dependable and have an interest in both local and American history, this is a great opportunity! Training will be provided. Please call the Acadian Memorial with your name and contact info, and let us know when you are available: 337-394-2258

Journey Stories has been made possible in St. Martinville by the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities.

Journey Stories is part of Museum on Main Street, a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and State Humanities Councils nationwide. Support for Museum on Main Street has been provided by the United States Congress.



Many thanks to the following local sponsors:

Acadian Memorial Foundation (Host Organization), St. Martin Parish Tourism Commission, St. Martin Parish Government, City of St. Martinville, African American Museum, St. Martin de Tours Catholic Church/Trinity Elementary, Teche Bank, Lafayette Convention and Visitors Center, The Borne Quilter & Quilters' Guild Acadienne

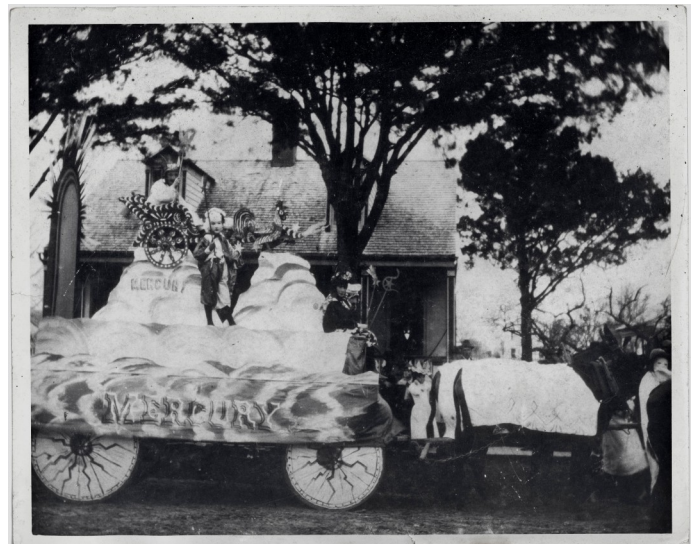
SHOW AND TELL

Suzy Mills

When the much anticipated *Journey Stories* exhibition comes to town at the end of May, the Acadian Memorial will unveil its own special project: St. Martinville (and environs) then and now, captured on DVD with the help of Steve Comeaux photography and Dr. Michael Martin of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Since August 2010, the public has been invited to bring in photos and short stories to help tell the story of the community.

Many participants who have already contributed were initially hesitant to spend the time looking for suitable photos or jotting down details of the corresponding stories. As it turns out, several have reported to us to be happily surprised at what they found when they started digging, or how much they enjoyed writing their own journey stories. As a result, some plan to further develop these stories to share with their families. Popular themes include how an individual or family first came to the area, who leaves or returns and why, and the places and objects which change the face of our landscape and culture over time.

The “Mercury” float in the St. Martinville 1890 Mardi Gras parade. Before big trucks were hauling trailers heavy with revelers, horse-drawn wagons carried the tradition through our city. *Photo submitted by James Akers*





JOURNEY Stories



Special Programs

Saturday, May 28, 2011

6:00 pm: Opening lecture: **“St. Martin Parish Journeys”**

Dr. Michael Martin, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Location: Trinity School Gym, 201 Evangeline Blvd, within a block of the exhibition

7:00-9:00 pm: Opening reception

Location: Trinity School Gymnasium, 201 Evangeline Blvd, within a block of the exhibition

7:00 pm-9:00 pm: Exhibition opens to the public
Maison Duchamp, 201 S Main

Sun. May 29, 2011, 7:00, 9:00&11:00 am and 5:30 pm

Mass, journey theme

Location: St. Martin de Tours Catholic Church, 133 S Main

Thursday, June 2, 2011, 6:30 pm

Lecture: **“African Founders of the Teche Country”**

Dr. Gwendolyn Midlo Hall, Michigan State University

Location: Trinity School Gym, 201 Evangeline Blvd, within a block of the exhibition

Thursday, June 9, 2011, 6:30 pm

Lecture: **“Atakapa/Ishak: Exiled from a Home They Never Left.”**

Dr. Ray Brassieur, University of Louisiana at Lafayette and Rachel Mouton, Atakapa-Ishak Nation of Southeast Texas and Southwest Louisiana

Location: Trinity School Gym, 201 Evangeline Blvd, within a block of the exhibition

Thursday, June 16, 2011, 6:30 pm

Lecture: **“Sidonie de la Houssaye, 19th Century Louisiana Author/Travel Writer”**

Dr. Robin White, University of New Orleans

Location: Trinity School Gym, 201 Evangeline Blvd, within a block of the exhibition

Friday, June 17, 2011, 7:30 pm

Lecture: **“Levert Family Journey”**

Ira Harkey III, Author of *Black Sugar*, based on the life and times of Jean Baptiste Levert

Location: Levert-St. John Plantation House, 6000 block of Resweber Hwy (Hwy 347)

Limited seating, reservations required:
call 337-394-2258.

Thursday, June 23, 2011, 6:30 pm

Lecture: **“To Honor Our Veterans: An Oral History of World War II Veterans from the Bayou Country.”**

Jason Theriot, University of Houston

Location: Trinity School Gym, 201 Evangeline Blvd, within a block of the exhibition

Saturday, July 2, 2011, 6:00 pm

Lecture: **“I’m Comin’ Home: Dislocation and Return in the Music of South Louisiana.”**

Kevin Fontenot, Tulane University

Location: AV Room at Longfellow-Evangeline State Historic Site, 1200 N. Main Street

Tues. July 5 - Sat. July 9, 2011, 7:30 pm

Evangeline Players present an updated version of the musical *Grand-Pré*, by local artists Cody Daigle and Roy Bertucci. **Pre-show special feature: one-act vignette** created by Christy Dugas Maraist based on the novel *Acadian Reminiscences*.

Call 337-394-6604 for tickets.

Location: Duchamp Opera House, 200 S Main Street



Smithsonian Institution





Merci Bien

Many thanks to the following individuals and organizations who support the Acadian Memorial in a number of ways:

Special thanks to **all returning members of the Acadian Memorial Foundation** for continued support of our mission.

Special thanks to the **J.B. Levert Foundation, Marie Rundquist, and Margie Luke** for their recent donations.

Special thanks to **Janelle Hebert**, Smithsonian *Journey Stories* volunteer, for many hours devoted to the project. Janelle writes a regular column about *Journey Stories* for *Teche News*. She has also been instrumental in gathering material for the slideshow exhibit described on page 4, speaking to local businesses and civic organizations to encourage participation.

Felicitations!

Congratulations to Acadian Memorial Board Member **Rogers Romero**, for his recent induction into **Sons of the American Revolution**. Qualifying him to join the organization was Rogers' ability to prove descentance on his mother's side of the family from Claude Broussard, one of the sons of Joseph Broussard dit Beausoleil, and a militiaman of the Poste des Atakapas. Rogers found his proof through DNA testing by FamilyTree DNA and through research assisted by **Paul LeBlanc, Lucie LeBlanc Constantino** and **Stephen White** with the University of Moncton. Rogers extends his gratitude to Paul, Lucie and Stephen for help in the endeavor.



Father Ken Domingue, president of the SAR Attakapas Chapter, presents Rogers with his certificate at the induction ceremony on February 17, 2011.



Bienvenue

A warm welcome to all new members of the Acadian Memorial Foundation:

Dr. & Mrs. Stephen Hellman

AU COURANT

- **We are seeking volunteers** for food and beverage booths for the Seventh Annual Acadian Memorial Festival on March 19, 2011. Please call us at 337-394-2258 to sign up for a couple of hours in the spring sunshine, enjoying music and visiting while serving up good Cajun food & drink!
- Quebecois Filmmaker **Daniel Rocque** and wife **Suzanne Delisle** visited the Acadian Memorial on January 26th while working on the documentary ***Bayous to Tundra***, an examination of the future of the French language in North America. Monsieur Rocque asks that we extend his thanks to all those who so warmly welcomed and assisted them during their journey to Louisiana. The Acadian Memorial wishes to thank Daniel and Suzanne for their visit and for filming on site at the Memorial.



Filmmaking team Daniel Rocques and Suzanne Delisle. Submitted photo

- **Crown of Maine Productions** and **Dr. Francoise Paradis** have created a sequel to *The Story Of The Acadians*. Due out in April, the subject of the film will be the story of the Cajun people. An unveiling of the film will take place during GRA activities in St. Martinville on October 15th, 2011.

Our Boutique

The Acadian Memorial documentary is now available in DVD format for \$15 and contains both the English and French version.



Acadian Memorial Foundation, Inc.
 P.O. Box 379, Dept AM
 St. Martinville, LA 70582

121 South New Market Street, St. Martinville
 Phone: 337.394.2258 Fax 337.394.2260
 Email: info@acadianmemorial.org

WE NEED YOU!

Please **JOIN /REJOIN** the Acadian Memorial Foundation

Membership dues in the Acadian Memorial Foundation go directly to supporting the Memorial and sharing the memory of the 3,000 exiles that settled in Louisiana. Membership dues have helped fund...

- | | |
|--|---|
| *Replica of the Grand-Pré Deportation Cross | *Eternal Flame |
| * Family Mosaic Coat of Arms in the Meditation Garden | *Wall of Names |
| * Mural interactive-Adult & Children in French & English | *Acadian Memorial Spring Cultural Festival |
| * Acadian Memorial web site www.acadianmemorial.org | *Deportation Re-enactment & future historical re-enactments |
| * "Ensemble Encore / Together Again" Genealogy Database | |

With your support, we can accomplish so much more!

All donations are appreciated. Memorials and gifts are encouraged.

*Donations qualify as **tax deductible** charitable contributions under number 170 (b) (1) (A) (vi)*

___ Membership (Individual/Family) \$35/year

Benefactor Levels

___ Friend \$100
 ___ Patron \$250
 ___ Of Acadian Descent (Life Member) \$500

___ L'Ordre Du Bon Temps Membership \$35 (one-time)

*L'Ordre Du Bon Temps membership has a one-time fee and will be valid for as long as your Acadian Memorial membership is valid and in good standing. Any break in Acadian Memorial Membership invalidates the L'Ordre Du Bon Temps membership. Membership into L'Ordre Du Bon Temps does **NOT** include cost for special events.*

___ Acadian Family Association	\$200
___ Corporate Sponsor	\$1,000
___ Mural Sponsor	\$2,000
___ Endowment Fund designated for future support (<i>only interest will be used</i>)	\$ _____

All members receive *Calling All Cajuns* newsletter, special invitation to events and voting privileges at the Annual Meeting.

Name: _____

Address _____ City _____

State: _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____ Email _____

Charge my ___ VISA ___ MC _____ Card Number _____

 Expiration Signature



ACADIAN MEMORIAL

2011 EVENTS CALENDAR

March 19, 2011 - 7th Annual Acadian Memorial Festival
10:00 am to 4:00 pm in Evangeline Oak Park

May, 2011 - L'Ordre du Bon Temps Crawfish Boil.
Details to be announced.

May 28 - July 9, 2011 - Smithsonian *Journey Stories*
Exhibition at Maison Duchamp, including local lecture series

June 2011- Annual Foundation Membership Meeting

July 28, 2011- Day of Remembrance
Afternoon ceremony at Acadian Memorial, followed
by French Mass at St. Martin de Tours Catholic Church

August 15, 2011 - National Day of the Acadians
Activities at the Acadian Memorial & flag procession to
St. Martin de Tours Catholic Church for French Mass

October 13, 2011- L'Ordre du Bon Temps supper

October 15, 2011 - Grand Réveil Acadien activities in St.
Martinville, including Reenactment of the Arrival of Acadians

Visit the Acadian Memorial

www.acadianmemorial.org

121 South New Market St.
St. Martinville, LA 70582

Open 10:00 am to 4:30 pm daily,
except for major holidays

Telephone: 337-394-2258

Current admission: \$3 for ages 13 and up
Price includes:
Acadian Memorial & Cultural Heritage Center
Guided tour packages are also available.

Tour groups and field trips are welcome!
Please call for rate and reservations.

Acadian Memorial Foundation

PO Box 379

St. Martinville, LA 70582

Calling All Cajuns!

A Publication of the Acadian Memorial Foundation

Editor: Suzy Mills

Contributors: Sylvia Bienvenu, Jane Bulliard,
Suzy Mills, Marty Guidry

We are seeking volunteers for food
and beverage booths for the Seventh
Annual Acadian Memorial Festival on
March 19, 2011. Please call us at
337-394-2258 to sign up for a couple
of hours in the spring sunshine,
enjoying music and visiting while
serving up good Cajun food & drink!