



CALLING ALL CAJUNS!

A Publication of The Acadian Memorial Foundation

November 2011

AM NEW ITEMS

Our website has been updated—check it out!

www.acadianmemorial.org

★ Are you a member of our Facebook page yet?

<http://www.facebook.com/AcadianMemorial>

★ Are you following us on Twitter? [AcadianMemorial](https://twitter.com/AcadianMemorial)

★ Check out our photo albums on Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/acadianmemorial/>



L'ORDRE DU BON TEMPS HOSTS A FEAST

Succulent roast piglet with sweet potatoes, boudin balls and cracklins—yum! What a treat, and all part of the *La Boucherie des Acadiens*, the theme of this year's L'Ordre du Bon Temps held at the Cade Civic Center. The superb menu was prepared by Chef Rita Mae Lewis, who truly served up "food for the soul."

Teaming up with the local chef was Chef Alain Bossé of Nova Scotia, known as the Kilted Chef. As special guest, Chef Bossé prepared a typical Acadie dessert, Pouding Chômeur, as a perfect complement to a wonderful meal.

L'Ordre du Bon Temps was founded in 1606 to celebrate culinary traditions. New members to L'Ordre du Bon Temps were inducted during the event. The Order welcomes Paul Durand, accepting on behalf of St. Martin Bank & Trust; Sylvia Segura Bienvenu; Roger Bourgeois; Karen Brantly-Guidry; Paul Guidry; and Terrel and Juliette Dressel.

The Grand Master, Warren Perrin, also offered a costumed dialog with his wife, Mary Perrin. They brought to life the early days of the Armand Broussard family in Louisiana. Armand Broussard was the son of Joseph Beausoleil Broussard. This theme was enhanced by the presentation of guest speaker, Stephen White.

Stephen White traveled to Louisiana for Le Grand Réveil Acadien / The Great Acadien Awakening and made a special presentation at L'Ordre du Bon Temps. He is a well known genealogist who hails from the University of Moncton in New Brunswick, Canada. He came dressed for the part as the first Cajun to arrive in Louisiana, Joseph Degoutin Deville. White peppered the story with saucy comments and perceived interjections delighting the crowd.

The Acadian Memorial Foundation was pleased to welcome special guest, Paula Caldwell St. Onge, Consul-General of Canada who also brought her adjutant.

Winners of the Silent Auction were Barbara Savoie, Charmaine Savasten, Gayle LeDoux, Kathy Roy, Paul Guidry, Roger Bourgeois and Susan Verret. Winning bids raised a total of \$795.00 for the Acadian Memorial Foundation.

Marty Guidry, Interim President of the Foundation did a great job as Master of Ceremonies providing a smooth flow between the costumed presentations, Silent Auction and distinguished guests. The Acadian Memorial Foundation hosts the L'Ordre du Bon Temps annual banquet as a fundraiser to support the Acadian Memorial.

A WELCOME FROM OUR NEW DIRECTOR



On August 16th, I took on the title of Curator/Director of the Acadian Memorial and the Museum of the Acadian Memorial. Following Brenda Trahan, I have some mighty small shoes, but rather large footprints to fill. After the first week, my respect for Mrs. Trahan deepened immensely. The daily operations of the Acadian Memorial and Museum are small in comparison to the special events sponsored by the foundation, many of which involve international participants. The events to which I refer include the L'Ordre du Bon Temps fundraiser and Le Grand Réveil Acadien (GRA). During the GRA, the Acadian Memorial had a table for the Fête des Famille in Lafayette, and we also hosted the Twin Cities & Sites Reunion in St. Martinville. Due to such recent events, I have met and worked with a large portion of the Acadian Memorial Foundation Board, and they have given me the warmest of welcomes. Their seemingly endless energy and relentless support of the Acadian Memorial's mission is refreshing and inspiring. The past few weeks have demonstrated that the Acadian Memorial is supported by a team of wonderful people that treat one another as family, and I am proud and blessed to be a part of it all.

In reflection of the past few weeks, August was an opportune time to step into this position. I met a very large number of Acadian Memorial members, friends, collaborators, and supporters from around the francophone world. Many spoke of their positive experiences working with the Memorial, and others beamed about their many international friendships that resulted from visitor exchanges and collaborative programming. Such conversations reinforced my observations on the value of the Acadian Memorial family. Being able to put faces to names at such an early stage will facilitate the maintenance of such partnerships and programs despite the recent changes in staff at the Memorial.

Since August, the Memorial has welcomed over 2,500 visitors, with approximately 1,300 in October alone. Despite a tight October schedule, we have made several changes at the museum. The details of those changes are listed elsewhere in this newsletter, and I encourage everyone to take the time to visit the museum. Now that October is over, we plan to move forward with several projects. The biggest project is the restructuring and reopening of the genealogy library at the Memorial, which I hope to achieve by mid-March. Another goal set for next summer is to update and enhance the K-12 curriculum packets supported by the Memorial and the Museum. The Louisiana curriculum is about to undergo major changes, and the Memorial and Museum should emerge at the forefront of teaching children about our Acadian history and heritage. Any and all help is welcomed with these endeavors, and I encourage all who are interested to get involved with the preservation of our fragile historical materials and the revitalization of our education materials.

For those of you who have not, please stop by and visit with me at the Memorial. I look forward to getting better acquainted with everyone and to introduce myself to those I have not yet met. *Je vous remercie pour votre accueil et soutien!*

Michelle Verret Johnson

Interested in being an Acadian Memorial volunteer? If you enjoy meeting people, are dependable and have an interest in both local and American history, this is a great opportunity! Training to assist us as an exhibition attendant will be provided. Call the Acadian Memorial at 337.394.2258.

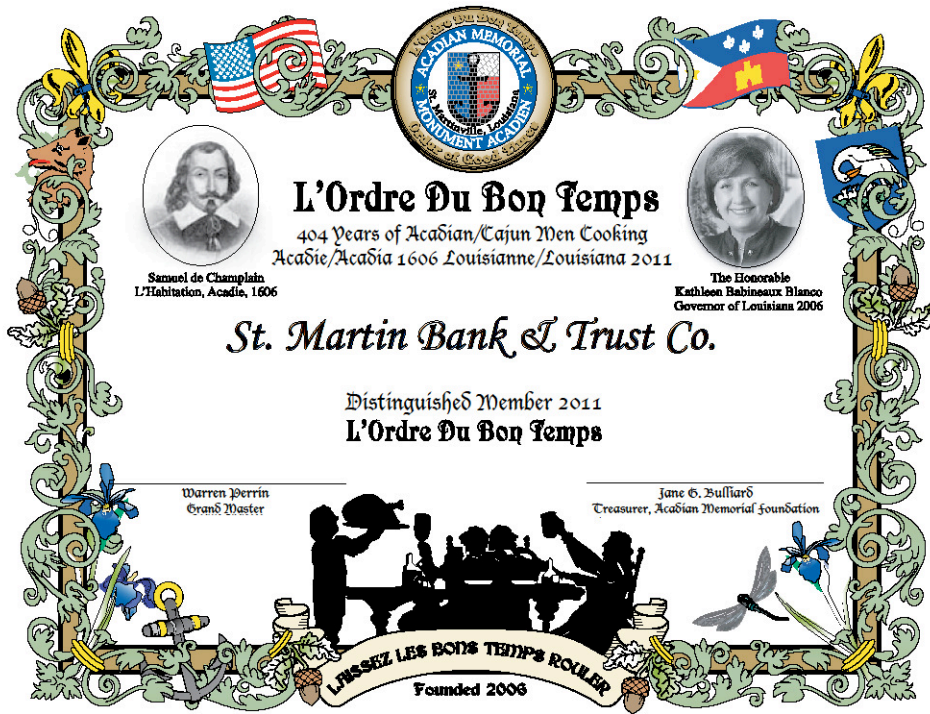
L'ORDRE DU BON TEMPS

Shown at right: Samuel Champlain, portrayed by Acadian Memorial docent and local historian James Akers, called out his 'fifteen gentlemen' for the evening's toast: Grand Master Warren Perrin, Past Grand Master's Raymond Hebert and Preston Guillotte, Paul Durand, David Maraist, Ed Bulliard, Bill Lemoine, Claude Boudreau, Roger Bourgeois, Paul Guidry, Mayor Thomas Nelson, City of St. Martinville, Marty Guidry, Bob Savastan, T-Boy Hebert and Loubert Trahan. Special guests, the Kilted Chef Alain Bossé, Nova Scotia and Stephan White, New Brunswick were also invited to participate.

Photo at right courtesy of Rogers Romero.

Samuel Champlain aka James Akers





St. Martin Bank joins L'Ordre du Bon Temps during the annual banquet at the Cade Civic Center. Paul Durand accepted on behalf of St. Martin Bank & Trust. St. Martin Bank joins new members, Sylvia Segura Bienvenu, Roger Bourgeois, Karen Brantly-Guidry, Paul Guidry and Terrel and Juliette Dressel



L'ORDRE DU BON TEMPS
STARS OF THE FEAST!

Chef Rita Lewis wows the crowd with roasted piglet served during the annual banquet. (Shown below)



L'Ordre du Bon Temps special guests and members (from left to right): Gerald T-Boy Hebert, Warren and Mary Perrin, Robert Perro, Paula Caldwell St. Onge, Consul-General of Canada, Special Guest Speaker, Stephen White, renowned genealogist from the University of Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada and Janie Bulliard. (Photo above) Photo courtesy of Rogers Romero



GENEALOGY LIBRARY UPDATE

Michelle Verret Johnson

As of October, the library has 309 items catalogued of an estimated 700. The collection thus far proves rich in reference resources pertaining to Acadian genealogy as well as Acadian and Cajun history and culture. The library contains five subject categories: Acadian/Cajun genealogy; Acadian/Cajun history and culture; Acadian/Cajun historical fiction; audio/visual materials; and archives. When the catalog process is completed, it will be available on the Acadian Memorial's new website. The archives may take longer to organize and make available for use as these items are unique, fragile and do not exist anywhere else in the world.

The process can be slow going, especially considering the nature of this collection. Many of the items are not major publications but small press works that were printed for use at UL Lafayette or among genealogy or family associations. Deciding how best to describe these items can be tricky, as the dates, authors, and titles are not always provided. One surprising find is that the collection is in overall good condition. Many of the books are over 30 years old, and few are suffering from common Louisiana problems, such as mold and sun damage. Repairs were made as necessary with some needed repairs in the near future.

The replacement value of the collection catalogued thus far is close to \$10,000. In the past two months, the library has received three works of Acadian/Cajun historical fiction. Elizabeth Nell Dubus donated CAJUN: a novel. Set in St. Martinville, the story follows the deClouet and Langlinais families and is the first in a trilogy. The other two novels, Retour à la butte à Pétard and Échos de la butte à Pétard, were donated by the author Diane Carmel Léger. The books are in French and both tell the story of descendants who follow their ancestral connections between Louisiana and Acadia. The St. Martin Parish Tourism Commission fully support the reopening of the genealogy library and has pledged its support by offering access to a state-of-the-art document scanner and by offering to purchase the missing volumes of Father Hebert's reference books.

Plans are to open the collection to the public again for research activities by the time of the Acadian Memorial Festival in March of 2012. Anyone interested in assisting in this endeavor is asked to contact us at 337.394.2258. Volunteers and/or donors for the library can call or e-mail us for additional information. mvjohnson@acadianmemorial.org

SPOTLIGHT ON MURAL

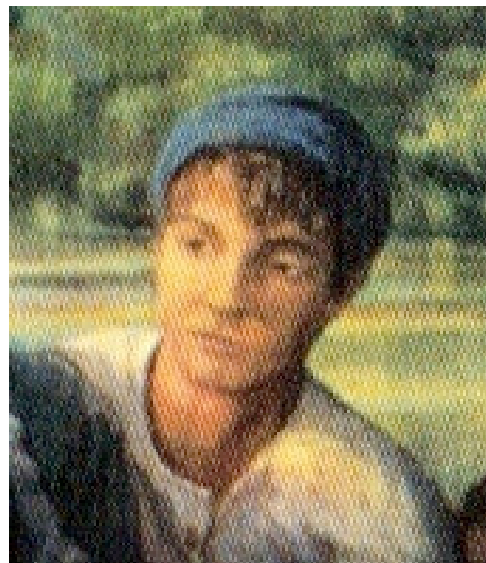
Joseph Landry: 'Go young men and imitate him'

Joseph Landry depicted on the Acadian Memorial mural in a blue knit cap was born in Nova Scotia in 1752, a son of Joseph Landry and Marie Josephe Bourg. Deported to Maryland he arrived in Louisiana in the mid-1760s and by 1769 was farming on the west bank of the Mississippi River above present day Donaldsonville.

From 1770 he served as a fusilier with the militia of Acadians and by 1804 had been promoted to the rank of Major and that same year was commissioned first commandant under the American Government. At this time he was described as "speaks the English and French languages...and possesses the unlimited confidence and affection of all the inhabitants of the District in which he lives..."; his *petit nom* was Joseph Landry dit *le Bel* or *Bel homme*.

Elected to the state legislative council in 1805 and to the state senate in 1812, Joseph Landry became a wealthy planter and merchant and a political force in Louisiana. By two wives, Isabel Leblanc and Anne Bujol, Joseph Landry had fourteen children; to the everlasting credit of his forebears, the obituary of this refugee Acadian boy turned Louisiana statesman advised 'Go young men and imitate him'.

To date, there is no sponsor for the Joseph Landry figure.



GRA: RE-ENACTMENT OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE ACADIANS

Fall was definitely in the air with a light and brisk wind welcoming several hundred visitors from France, Canada and the U.S. to the Evangeline Oak for St. Martinville's Grand Réveil Acadien / The Great Acadian Awakening (GRA) event: the re-enactment of the arrival of the Acadians. Two pirogues of family members arrived on the banks of the Teche signaling the end of a long journey for the Duon family and other Acadians seeking a new life in a foreign land. Mrs. Nancy Miller, Mrs. Anita Rogers, Mrs. Christine Brosky and Matt Jolly portrayed Acadian family members while Eddie Bienvenu and Stanley Brosky brought the pirogues safely to land. *La Compagnie Franches de la Marines* headed by Capitaine Guy Miller greeted the new arrivals and welcomed them to St. Martinville. Capitaine Miller greeted the Acadians with the following statement: "Nous vous souhaitons la bienvenu à la Louisiane et à Fort Attakapas. Ici, vous êtes avec des amis. Nous sommes tous Français. Bienvenue!" *La Compagnie Franches de la Marines* included Sargeant Lewis Ducros, Lewis Ducros, Jr. (soldat), Mike Roberts (soldat), Paul Bergeron (French Army Infantry) and Ted Brode, Sr.



The French Company stood at attention during the official welcome by Mayor Thomas Nelson, Councilman Mike Fusilier, State Representative Mike Huval and former Mayor, Eric Martin adding a festive and regal air to the official ceremony. Special guests for the welcoming ceremony included Rachel Bocher, Deputy Mayor and Maïma Kaioua, Director of Economic Development from Nantes, France representing the Embarkation of Acadians for Louisiana. Victor Tétrault, Executive Director and Stan Surette, President of Société Promotion Grand-Pré of Grand-Pré National Historic Site, Nova Scotia, Canada representing the twinning with the Evangeline Oak Park. Donald LeBlanc, Mayor of Memramcook read a letter from Mayor Aldeo Saulnier, City of Bouctouche, New Brunswick that is twinned with the City of St. Martinville. Mr. LeBlanc also signed a Friendship Agreement with the City of St. Martinville. Norman Cyr, Fire Chief for the Town of Madawaska read a letter from the Town Manager and Board Selectman for Madawaska, also twinned with the City of St. Martinville. Claude Boudreau, Director and Conrad LeBlanc, President of Société du Monument Lefebvre in Memramcook, New Brunswick, Canada, twinned with the Acadian Memorial, St. Martinville. Dr. Françoise Paradis and Brenda Jepson attended from Madawaska, Maine. They filmed and photographed the program as well. These special guests received a key to the City and a certificate of honorary citizenship.

Clausel Michon, Vice President of Coalition des organisations acadiennes du Québec spoke briefly on behalf of her organization.

Following the official ceremony, Bête 5, a Canadian youth music group played while guests enjoyed a Cajun breakfast prepared by Randy Menard and guest Chef Alain Bossé. Couche-couche, boudin, figs and baguettes were fed to the hungry crowd. All were invited to visit the Twin City / Site Reunion Exhibit at the Cultural Heritage Center and to visit the Acadian Memorial.

The re-enactment was only one of scores of events held during Grand Réveil Acadien, October 7-16, 2011. GRA began in New Orleans on October 7th. The event traveled to Houma where the unveiling of the Acadian Deportation Cross monument took place on October 9th. Lake Charles was the next stop for GRA where they enthralled large crowds with a full slate of activities packed with food, French and music. Lafayette hosted the final four days of GRA with surrounding communities like St. Martinville celebrating Acadian traditions to large crowds of local and international visitors. GRA was all about traditions and passing on what makes us so special to the next generation.

St. Martinville also hosted an exhibit by Georgette Bourgeois, Bourgeois was the first Artist in Residence at Grand-Pré National Historic Site in Nova Scotia from 2006-2007. The series, "The Spirit of Grand-Pré," consisted of nine paintings and were exhibited at the A. Hayes Town Building on the University of Louisiana at Lafayette's campus. The series was on display from September 30th through October 21st. On Saturday, October 15th, Georgette Bourgeois held her official reception at the museum during the Grand Réveil Acadien, where she greeted visitors and gave personal tours through her exhibit. The Acadian Memorial would like to thank the volunteers for donating their time and efforts, which allowed the exhibit to be free and open to the public. Those volunteers are: Yvonne Bogan, Beverly Comeaux, Christine Duhon, Mitch Fusilier, Jewell Kidder, Anita Leggett, Dona Schneider, and Candy Smith. The exhibit was made possible by the New Brunswick Arts Board (artsnb) and Société Promotion Grand-Pré.



Merçi Bien

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

Thanks to all who participated in the re-enactment of the arrival of the Acadiens and helped to make it a success: Randy Menard, Marty Guidry, Edmond Bienvenu, Stan and Christine Brosky, La Compagnie Franches de la Marines: Capitaine Guy Miller, Sergent Lewis Ducros, Lewis Ducros, Jr., soldat, Mike Roberts, Soldat, Paul Bergeron, French Army Infantry and Ted Brode, Sr.



Thanks to Greenscape Nursery for the flower donation for the meditation garden at the Acadian Memorial. Thank you Greenscape!



Thanks to the Board, Foundation members and friends who worked to accomplish the 2011 L'Ordre du Bon Temps Louisiana event: James Akers, Sylvia Bienvenu, Keith and Renée Borne, Sonya Boudreaux, Ed & Janie Bulliard, Edmond Bulliard, Nic Clark, Marty Guidry, Raymond Hebert, Peggy Hulin, Michelle Johnson, Christy Maraist, Bob & Charmaine Savastan, Bryan & Janice Staton, Brenda Trahan and Grand Master, Warren Perrin



Many thanks to the donors of the Silent Auction:

Acadian Memorial, Barbara Conner, C'est Jolie!, Cajun Chef, Charlene Hebert, Christy Maraist, Evangeline Galleries, Henry A. Boudreaux, Architect, Junior League of Lafayette, Renaissance Market, Renée Borne, Retro Modern, Sonya LaComb Boudreaux, Vermilionville and Vida Lege



Our Boutique

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

The mosaic coat-of-arms postcards are on sale downstairs at the Memorial.

Be sure to check out other heritage items available at the Museum. Acadian Memorial staff will be happy to assist with Boutique items.

Bienvenue



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

Roger Bourgeois of Houma, LA

Alex "Doonie" and Loretta Durand Theriot of Waxhaw, NC



Welcome to those signing up for the annual membership:

Tari Barras, St. Martinville, LA

Daniel Blanchard, Baton Rouge, LA

Eric C. Corne, Metairie, LA

Kerin M. Borne, Lafayette, LA

Renée & Keith Borne, Lafayette, LA

Karen Brantly-Guidry, Mandeville, LA

Charmaine L. Burg, Metairie, LA

Clayton Dore, St. Martinville, LA

Terrel & Juliette Dressel, New Iberia, LA

Paul Durand, Lafayette, LA

Ernest & Deanne Freyou, New Iberia, LA

Paul Guidry, Mandeville, LA

Matt Jeffrey, Lafayette, LA

Mary Latiolais, St. Martinville, LA

William Melancon, Carencro, LA

Horace & Jane Myers, New Iberia, LA

Todd Nunez, Erath, LA

Rene Oubre, St. Martinville, LA

Ronnie Petree, Welsh, LA

James Robin, Lafayette, LA

Joseph, Claire & Elise Walker, Colusa, CA

THANKS TO ONE AND ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT!





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 St. Martinville, LA 70582
 Telephone: 337-394-2258 (Email: info@acadianmemorial.org)

WE NEED YOU!

Please JOIN / Re-JOIN the Acadian Memorial Foundation

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

- Mural – “The Arrival of the Acadians in Louisiana”
- Wall of Names
- Eternal Flame
- Replica of the Grand-Pré Deportation Cross
- Family Mosaic Coat-of-Arms in the Meditation Garden
- Mural interactive-Adult and Children both in French and English
- Deportation Re-enactment & future historical re-enactments
- Acadian Memorial Spring Cultural Festival
- On line Genealogy Database “*Ensemble Encore/Together Again*”
- Acadian Memorial web site www.acadianmemorial.org

With your support, we can accomplish so much more!

All donations are appreciated. Memorials and gifts are encouraged.

We are a public charity classified exempt under IRS Code 501(c) (3), TIN 72-1308747

___ Membership (Individual/Family) \$ 35/year New? ___ Renewal? ___

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 (Order of Good Times) membership is a onetime fee and is valid as long as your Acadian Memorial Foundation membership is valid and in good standing. Membership in L'Ordre Du Bon Temps does **NOT** include cost for special events.*

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

TOTAL AMOUNT REMITTED: \$ _____

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

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address _____

City _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Charge my ___ VISA ___ MC Card Number:(____)(____)(____)(____)

 Expiration Date Signature



ACADIAN MEMORIAL NOTEWORTHY ITEMS

Are you a member of FACEBOOK?
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Acadian Memorial photo albums on FLICKR:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/acadianmemorial/>

All back issues of *Calling All Cajuns* are
available on the website



Coming Up:

**The February issue of *Calling All Cajuns*
newsletter will feature information on the
Acadian Memorial Festival.**

Visit the Acadian Memorial

www.acadianmemorial.org

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

Telephone: 337-394-2258

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

Current admission: \$3 for ages 13 and up 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.

Curator and Director: Michelle Verret Johnson
Assistant Director of Tourism: Nic Clark
Docent/Tourism & Curator's Assistant: Cynthia Champagne
Docent/Historian/Tour Guide: James Akers
Docents: Laura Alexandra, Merlin Champagne, Amelie Green

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Editor: Christine Duhon