



CALLING ALL CAJUNS!

A Publication of The Acadian Memorial Foundation

March 2012

FESTIVAL ALERT!!! March 17, 2012 8th Annual Acadian Memorial Heritage Festival and Wooden Boat Congrès

March 17, 2012
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
8th Annual Acadian
Heritage Festival and
Wooden Boat Congrès
Evangeline Oak Park
Downtown Historic
St. Martinville
FREE ADMISSION



10:00 am—Opening Ceremony

10:00-4:00 pm—Antique Car Show on the Boulevard and showings of the 1929 silent film “Evangeline” at the St. Martinville Cultural Heritage Center

10:00-3:00 pm—Wooden Putt-Putt Boat Congrès with free rides on the bayou

10:30-12:30 pm—Cajun music with Mark de Basile, Randy Vidrine and Al Berard

11:00 am—Wooden Boat Parade, Bayou Teche. Crowning of the first Monsieur or Madame Bateau de Bois

1:00 pm—Reenactment of the Arrival of the Acadians in Louisiana, featuring the Compagnie Franches de la Marine on the Bayou Teche

1-3:30 p.m. Cajun music with Lisa Trahan et L’Esprit Cajun

3:30 pm—Jam Session

3:45 pm—Closing Ceremony



Photo courtesy of the Borne family



Re-Enactment of the Arrival of the Acadians

Photo courtesy of Gini McKain

Pack your bags and head on over to **Evangeline Oak Park on March 17th for the 8th Annual Acadian Memorial Heritage Festival and Wooden Boat Congrès**. The Festival will feature antique wooden pirogues, Putt Putts and other remembrances of “Old Times” in the waters of South Louisiana. This year, the event will honor someone who has shown outstanding achievement in preserving or restoring traditional South Louisiana vessels, especially those indigenous to the Atchafalaya swamp region. Two winners will be recognized during the Festival at a special ceremony and interviewed to record their story of preservation and/or restoration. For nomination forms, contact the Acadian Memorial or call Sylvia Bienvenu at 337-367-9613 or Eddie Bienvenu at 337-201-6305.

This year’s festival includes many activities during the day. There will be great music, food, French theater, Kids’ activities, film, demonstrations, the reenactment of the arrival of the Acadians in Louisiana and a display of antique wooden boats and cars. Renaissance Cadienne, Cajun Folkloric Group will be performing at the opening ceremony and Théâtre Acadien will perform vignettes *en français* at the Memorial. The 2012 Festival will honor the Bernard and Martin families.

Of course, the festival is free and open to the public. The Acadian Memorial encourages everyone to wear costumes. It’s a wonderful family event. So come on out and enjoy the day at Evangeline Oak Park in downtown historic St. Martinville!

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Occasionally an event occurs that is so unexpected and so tragic that we wonder at the sense of it. The Foundation Board of Directors lost a friend and a valuable Board member in the passing of our then President, Keith Borne of Lafayette. Keith succumbed to a fast growing and highly resistive form of melanoma on January 29th at his residence in Lafayette. He was a loving husband and father to his wife, Renée-Claire, herself an active Board member and their three children. Keith was an energetic force in all that he undertook and he will be sadly missed by all who knew him. We are grateful for the time he gave the Board and are better for it. *Au revoir, Keith.*

In this, the first newsletter of 2012 we would like to introduce the members of the Board to our newsletter friends: Sylvia Bienvenu, New Iberia; William Bodker, Christy Maraist and Brenda Trahan, Lafayette; Elaine Breaux, Eloise Bryant, Janie Bulliard, Butch Dupuis, Peggy Hulin, Patricia Resweber, Charmaine Savastan and Bryan Staton, St. Martinville; Marty Guidry and Paul Hardy, Baton Rouge; Daisy Lodrigue, Berwick; Ralph Melancon, Houma; Fred Mills, Breaux Bridge and St. Martinville Mayor Thomas Nelson.

We appreciate all Friends of the Foundation with a special 'thank you' to Alex "Doonie" and Loretta Theriot for their mural sponsorship noted elsewhere. Your gifts allow the Foundation to support grant opportunities such as the nationally recognized 'Save our History' program which gave voice to children on the Mural and the more recent Smithsonian Exhibit that brought hundreds of visitors to St. Martinville, produce this newsletter and fun events like the upcoming Festival.

If you like what you see—please let us know by using the application inside and becoming a friend of the Foundation or renewing your friendship. ☞

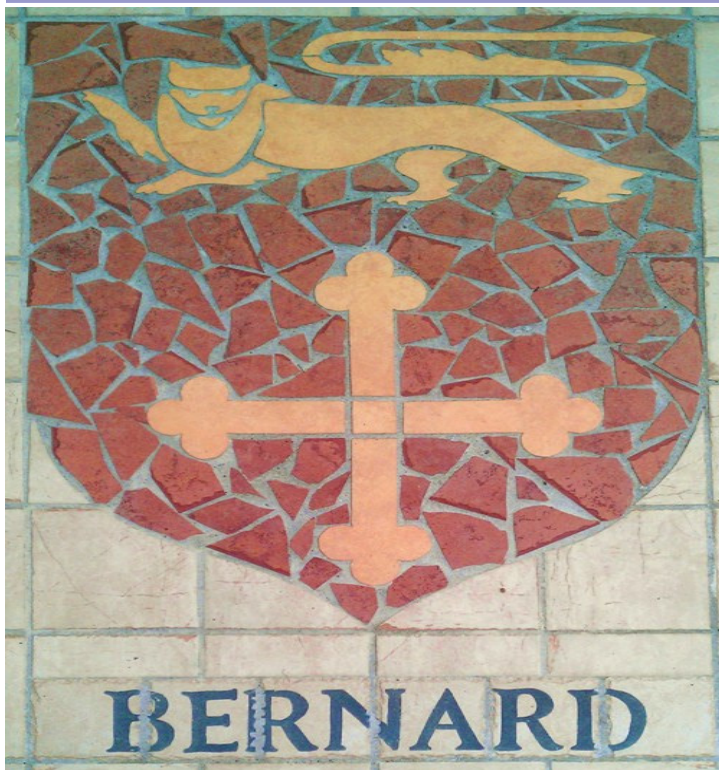
WHO ARE YOU REALLY? FIRST GENEALOGY WORKSHOP A SUCCESS!

Shown at right: Janie Bulliard demonstrates how to begin researching family genealogy and the different types of documentation and charts required for a four generation family tree. [See story on page 4.]

Photo at right courtesy of Michelle V. Johnson



2012 FESTIVAL FAMILIES HONORED



BERNARD



MARTIN

From our online genealogy database, *Ensemble Encore/Together Again*, we find the following Acadian ancestors of the families honored at this year's Festival:

Bernard: Anna; Anne; Andre; Félicité; Félix; François; Jean Baptiste (2); Marguerite; Marie (4); Marie Blanche (2); Martin; Michel (3); Pierre (2); and Veuve Bernard.

Martin: Amant (d); Ambroise Barnabé; Anne; Anselme; Bonaventure; Claude; Elizabeth (Isabelle); François; Gabriel; Hélaïne (Hélène); Joseph (2); Judith; Magdelaine; Marguerite (2); Marie (2); Marie Claire; Paul and Pierre Martin.

Some were here in the 1760s, others arrived in 1785—their records are found throughout southwest Louisiana at Attakapas, Cabannocé, Lafourche, Ascension, Belle Écore and New Orleans.

FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED MARCH 17TH!

HAVE A KNACK FOR BAKING? CALL THE ACADIAN MEMORIAL TO DONATE BAKED GOODS/CANDIES FOR THE SWEETS BOOTH.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR OTHER FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES. CALL TODAY AT 337.394.2258 TO VOLUNTEER

ACADIAN GENEALOGY WORKSHOPS

Michelle Verret Johnson

The Acadian Memorial is happy to announce that it will be providing Acadian/Cajun genealogy workshops to be held on the last Wednesday of the month during 2012. The purpose of these workshops is to bring awareness to the genealogy library, which will reopen its doors to the public this year. The workshops will feature guest speakers on a variety of topics and instruction on how to research and create a four generation chart. The complete schedule with times and topics is forthcoming, and additional information will be available on the website or at the Acadian Memorial.

Suggestions for workshop topics are welcome, as the purpose is to meet the needs of those interested in starting or continuing to research their family's genealogy and history.

The workshops will be held in the upstairs conference room at the Acadian Memorial on the last Wednesday of every month at 10:00 a.m., unless otherwise noted. The workshops will typically run about 1.5 hours including a question and answer period. Attendees are invited to come 30 minutes prior to each workshop for coffee and conversation.

The first workshop on January 25th was presented by Janie Bulliard and was titled, "Who Are You Really?" Mrs. Bulliard demonstrated how to begin researching your genealogy and the different types of documentation and charts required for a four generation family tree. The response to the first workshop was wonderful with over 25 people in attendance. Attendees came from St. Martinville, Lafayette, New Iberia, and as far away as Berwick. The plan is to host a variety of presenters and topics. (See photo page 2)

The next two workshops scheduled are as follows [additional dates are located on the calendar section, back cover]:

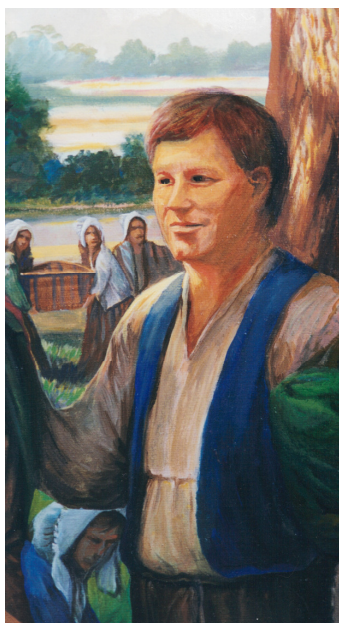
February 29, 2012—10:00 A.M.—"GETTING ORGANIZED" by Janie Bulliard

March 28, 2012—10:00 A.M. — "GENEALOGY RESOURCES ON THE INTERNET" by Michelle V. Johnson

As we finalize the schedule of presenters for the year, please check the Acadian Memorial website's news section for up-to-date information. **Registration for the workshops is free and open to the public. Seating is limited so please contact us if you plan to attend to reserve your seat. Bring note taking materials.**

MURAL SPONSORSHIP

In December of 2011, Alex "Doonie" Theriot, Jr. and Loretta Durand Theriot of Waxhaw, North Carolina, originally of St. Martinville, LA sponsored the following three mural figures: Olivier Theriot, Jean Mouton and Ambroise Theriot (l to r).



JOSEPH DE GOUTIN DE VILLE

Stephen A. White



Stephen White

Joseph de Goutin de Ville: The Godfather of the New Acadia in Louisiana.

The tablets on the walls of the Acadian Memorial give ample proof of the magnitude of the migrations of the Acadian refugees into what had become the Spanish colony of Louisiana, but they give no hint as to what had started all those migrations. In the case of the last of these, the desire of the people going there to rejoin their relatives may be readily inferred; this was certainly a consideration for Captain Joseph Gravois, who brought his schooner *Brigitte*, with his own family and that of the widow Babin, from St-Pierre and Miquelon in 1788, for Captain Gravois's brothers had settled in the colony as early as 1765.

Many who left France on the seven ships in 1785 must have had similar expectations. As for the Acadians who came from Maryland between 1766 and 1769, it is known that they had been in correspondence with some of the Acadians in the group brought to Louisiana by Joseph Broussard dit Beausoleil. The latter might perhaps similarly have been in touch with the very first group of twenty-one refugees who had arrived in New Orleans a year before him.

But who had invited the first to arrive? How had they known that they would be so well received in the Spanish colony?

The man who had most probably encouraged those first Acadian refugees was Joseph de Goutin de Ville. Born at Port-Royal in Acadia on March 19, 1705, Joseph was the youngest son of Mathieu de Goutin, King's scribe, treasurer, and finally magistrate in Acadia, and Jeanne Thibodeau. Forced to leave Acadia after its fall to the British in 1710, Mathieu de Goutin came back to the New World with his family three years later.

Unfortunately, his early death on Île Royale (now Cape Breton Island) shortly after his return left his widow with eleven minor children to raise all by herself at Louisbourg. Mathieu and Jeanne's son Joseph thus grew up under the walls of the great fortress, in his Acadian mother's care.

The records show that he remained at Louisbourg until its capture in 1745, because his signature appears in the parish register in April of that year. Two years later, on April 29, 1747, at the sprightly age of forty-two, he entered into a marriage contract at New Orleans with Marie-Jeanne Caron, a girl of only fifteen. The witnesses on the prospective groom's side were two officers from the Karrer regiment, one of whom, Grégoire Volant, had previously served in the garrison at Louisbourg.

Joseph de Goutin de Ville was thus the first Acadian to settle in Louisiana. It is not surprising that when the first refugees from the Acadian upheaval arrived in New Orleans in 1764, Joseph's eldest son, Jean-Baptiste, stood up as godfather for one of their children. In June of that same year, Joseph de Goutin obtained a grant of land in the Attakapas district, and it was in this same district that the Acadians led by Joseph Broussard dit Beausoleil settled in 1765.

Then in October 1768 it was at Joseph de Goutin's house in New Orleans that the Acadians who took part in the uprising against Governor Ulloa rallied. It is thus very clear that Joseph de Goutin maintained very cordial relations with his fellow Acadians. This was not just a matter of mere friendship, because there were closer ties involved.

Through his mother, Joseph de Goutin was a first cousin both of the father of the Olivier Landry who led the first group of refugees in 1764 and of Joseph Broussard dit Beausoleil's wife. It is thus easy to see why these first Acadian refugees would have been in contact with him as soon as they arrived in their new country, if not indeed even before going there. Joseph de Goutin was closely related to them. As such, it is entirely likely that he would have encouraged them to come settle in the colony where he had himself lived for nearly twenty years, thereby earning the title of Godfather of the New Acadia in Louisiana.

-Stephen A. White, Genealogist, Centre d'études acadiennes Anselme-Chiasson, Université de Moncton.

[Editors' Note: de Goutin's 1764 land grant (50 X 50 arpents) was located at the northern edge of the Attakapas District at what is now Sec. 37, T8S/R5E on the East side of Bayou Teche right below its junction with Bayou Fuselier and across from the vast purchase Gabriel Fuselier de la Claire made from the Indians in 1760. (Conrad, *Land Records of the Attakapas District*, I: 35)

PAYPAL ADDITION

The Acadian Memorial Webstie has a new addition. The website now boasts a Paypal button which will allow Acadian Memorial to accept all major credit cards. It is now possible for anyone visiting the Acadian Memorial website to donate, join or renew their Acadian Memorial membership.

GO TO: <http://www.acadianmemorial.org/contribute.php>

The website has a new online store that features the post-cards of each family's coat-of-arms mosaic in the Memorial Garden. The store also includes the Paypal feature which makes purchasing items easier and speeds up the processing of orders.

Some people are uncomfortable purchasing online. If that's the case for you, Acadian Memorial accepts mail orders and also has items for sale at the Opera House in St. Martinville. The Opera House is located on the corner of Main and Port streets. Whatever your choice of payment, the boutique has many gift items available.

LIBRARY UPDATE

In December 2011, the Acadian Memorial welcomes a new volunteer to the library project. Casae Hobbs, a Breauz Bridge native, is a graduate student at the University of Illinois studying library science and archives. Ms. Hobbs chose the Acadian Memorial's library for her field study, and she will receive graduate credit for her work in the library. Not only is she working on the catalog, Ms. Hobbs is also assisting in the recovery of files from floppy disks. Her help will be instrumental to the library's reopening to the public this year. The library's catalog is progressing slowly but surely and is about 70% complete. While the library will reopen this year, it will not be open in time for the March 17th Festival as previously projected.

If you are interested in assisting with this project or donating to the library, please contact us at 337-394-2258 or by e-mailing info@acadianmemorial.org

-Michelle V. Johnson

NOTEWORTHY

UL Lafayette Performing Arts program will honor acclaimed Acadian playwright Antonine Maillet with a Symposium and a presentation of her groundbreaking 1968 play "Les Crasseux" (The Rabble) at the Festival of the Arts 2012. Visit www.ularts.com for a complete listing of events.



Bienvenue



Welcome to those signing up for the annual membership:

James and Lona Bourque, Youngsville, LA

Delores Citizen, Beaumont, TX

Robert Tatum, Houston, TX

Dorothy M. Taylor, Grandview, MO

Sandra C. Boyes, Bradenton, FL

Lana Downing, Franklin, LA

R. Martin Guidry, Baton Rouge, LA

Mr. & Mrs. F.B. Larriviere, Opelousas, LA

Daisy L. Lodrigue, Berwick, LA

Cheryl T. Stromeier, Baton Rouge, LA

Brenda Comeaux Trahan, Lafayette, LA

THANKS TO ONE AND ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



**THANKS ALSO TO OUR NEW DONORS,
JOHN ERROL AND KAREN GAUTREAU OF
BATON ROUGE, LA**



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. Boutique items offer great gift ideas.



Acadian Memorial Foundation, Inc.

P.O. Box 379 AMF * 121 S. New Market St * St. Martinville, LA 70582 * 337-394-2258
info@acadianmemorial.org * www.acadianmemorial.org

Friends of the Foundation

Your friendship with the Acadian Memorial Foundation directly supports the Acadian Memorial, which commemorates the 3,000 Acadian exiles who found refuge in Louisiana and gave rise to our Cajun Culture. Your gifts have helped fund ...

Mural of "The Arrival of the Acadians in Louisiana" ~ Wall of Names ~ Eternal Flame ~ Grand-Pré Deportation Cross Replica ~ Mosaics of Acadian Family Name Coats-of-Arms ~ Bilingual Interactive of Mural Figures ~ Ensemble Encore Genealogy Database ~ Website & Online Boutique

THANK YOU – WE APPRECIATE YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

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

Benefits of being a Friend of the Foundation

Quarterly Newsletter "Calling all Cajuns!" ~ Voting privileges at annual meeting & social ~ Advance ticket purchase for Foundation events ~ Invitation to join *L'Ordre du Bon Temps*, North America's oldest social club

Friendship Levels

Donation Amount

Individual Friend of the Foundation	\$35
With Library Privileges	\$40
Family Friend of the Foundation (includes up to four Friends)	\$100
Library Privileges add \$5 per person	\$_____

Give More!

<i>L'Amitié Rouge</i> (Friendship level Red) – represents Courage on our Logo	\$200
<i>L'Amitié Blanche</i> (Friendship level White) – represents Constancy on our Logo	\$300
<i>L'Amitié Bleue</i> (Friendship level Blue) – represents Faith on our Logo	\$400
<i>L'Amitié d'Or</i> (Lifetime Friendship level Gold) – represents Victory on our Logo	\$500

TOTAL DONATION AMOUNT: \$_____

Name(s): _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Zip _____ Phone _____

Email(s) _____

I prefer to receive "Calling all Cajuns!" and other announcements by Email and/or by postal service

Please charge my VISA MasterCard Number (____) (____) (____) (____)

Make checks payable to Acadian Memorial Foundation OR Donate online with PayPal,

www.acadianmemorial.org/contribute.php

Exp. Date _____

Signature _____



ACADIAN MEMORIAL DATES TO REMEMBER

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
Docent/Tourism & Curator's Assistant: Cynthia Champagne
Docent/Historian/Tour Guide: James Akers
Docents: Laura Alexandra, Merlin Champagne, Amelie Green

February 29, 2012, 10:00 a.m.- **Genealogy Workshop**, "Getting Organized" by Janie Bulliard, Upstairs Conference Room, Acadian Memorial

March 17, 2012, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.— **8th Annual Acadian Memorial Heritage Festival and Wooden Boat Congrès**, Evangeline Oak Park, St. Martinville, LA

March 28, 2012, 10:00 a.m.—**Genealogy Workshop**, "Genealogy Resources on the Internet" by Michelle V. Johnson

April 25th, 10am: **Genealogy Workshop**, Paul Ardoin "Heritage Quest and Ancestry.com" (held at the St. Martin Parish Public Library)

May 30th, 10am: **Genealogy Workshop**, Barbara DeJean "Lafayette Diocesan Records"

June 27th, 10am: **Genealogy Workshop**, Isabelle Pointer "St. Martin de Tours Church Records"

July 25th, 10am: **Genealogy Workshop**, Janie Bulliard and Patty Gutekunst "St. Martin Parish Public Library Genealogy Room" (held at the St. Martin Parish Public library)



Acadian Memorial Foundation, Inc.
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St. Martinville, LA 70582

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Editor: Christine Duhon