



## SAVE THE DATE!



The annual membership meeting of the Acadian Memorial Foundation is scheduled for **6:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 13, 2012**, at the Acadian Memorial in St. Martinville, Louisiana.

This is the opportunity for all current members to cast a vote for new board members, a new slate of officers and other items on the agenda.

Contact us at **amfboard@gmail.com** if you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors and join in supporting activities of the Acadian Memorial and in the fund-raising endeavors of the Board.



## AUGUST 15, 2012

AUGUST WILL BE HERE BEFORE LONG—RESERVE A FAMILY NAME BANNER AND PLAN TO JOIN IN THE FESTIVITIES.

★BANNER NAMES AVAILABLE FOR RESERVATION PAGE 3★

# CALLING ALL CAJUNS!

A Publication of The Acadian Memorial Foundation

May 2012

## DAY OF REMEMBRANCE—JULY 28TH



Saturday July 28, 2012, the Acadian Memorial will host a special program in recognition of the Day of Remembrance. The significance of this date is two-fold. On July 28, 1755, British Governor Charles Lawrence signed the deportation order, which set in motion *Le Grand Dérangement* or the Great Upheaval. The Acadians were exiled from their homeland of Acadie, and from 1755 until 1763, an estimated one third of their population perished as a result. While many of the Acadians eventually found their way to Louisiana and reestablished a community, their descendants remained a people in exile until 2003, when Queen Elizabeth II signed a Royal Proclamation. This Proclamation affirmed July 28<sup>th</sup> as the official day in which the world remembers the Acadians' suffering as a result of *Le Grand Dérangement* and their subsequent exile.

This year, the Acadian Memorial will honor this day by remembering the suffering of the Acadians through commemorative prayers of reflection in the mother church of the Acadians, St. Martin de Tours in St. Martinville, Louisiana. We will also honor this day by hosting the Erath Acadian Museum's Living Legends award ceremony that "recognizes and honors those individuals who help shape and define our Cajun culture." During this July 28<sup>th</sup> ceremony, the Acadian Museum will induct into the Order of Living Legends a nominee of the Acadian Memorial Foundation Board. The public is invited to our July 28<sup>th</sup> program, which will begin at 5:00 p.m. in the Acadian Memorial. Please check our website for up-to-date information as the program is developed. ∞

# NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Marty Guidry



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

The Acadian Memorial and the Acadian Memorial Foundation have had another outstanding year with several notable activities. In October 2011 we celebrated our Acadian heritage with the Grand Réveil Acadien having both a re-enactment of the arrival of Acadians in the Attakapas region and the L'Ordre du Bon Temps culinary celebration. During March 2012 at the Acadian Memorial Festival a large number of folks experienced our Acadian culture with wooden boats to view and ride, great Cajun cooking to taste, two superb Cajun bands, two outstanding Acadian theatrical troupes and many arts and crafts booths to visit. During the year folks from throughout the United States, Canada and Europe have visited the Acadian Memorial to experience its serenity, to touch the names of the original Acadian settlers in Louisiana and to admire the awe-inspiring painting "The Arrival of the Acadians in Louisiana" by Robert Dafford.

On July 28, 2012 the Acadian Memorial will sponsor a day of commemoration of the deportation of the Acadians from their native homeland. It was on July 28, 1755 that Colonel Charles Lawrence, English governor of Acadia, signed the order to deport the Acadians. Although this day is a solemn occasion to remember the devastation suffered by our ancestors, the Memorial will host several activities including a traditional Acadian Mass at St. Martin de Tours Catholic Church – the original church of the Acadians. Immediately prior to the Mass, a representative of the Acadian Museum of Erath, LA will induct into the Order of Living Legends a person who has worked to preserve the Acadian culture and heritage. August 15, 2012 is the National Day of the Acadians and the Acadian Memorial will sponsor several events to honor the Acadians. Activities on both days are free and open to the public. We encourage everyone to join us on July 28<sup>th</sup> and August 15<sup>th</sup> to remember and celebrate our common Acadian heritage.

The annual membership meeting for the Acadian Memorial Foundation will be Wednesday, June 13, 2012 at 6:00 pm at the Acadian Memorial. In addition to a brief informational meeting for our members, we will elect new Board members and Board officers. The Acadian Memorial Foundation's mission is to raise funds to help support the Memorial, to serve as an advisory Board to the Acadian Memorial Director and to assist the Director with events sponsored by the Memorial. The annual meeting is open to the public and all are encouraged to attend and share their thoughts about the Memorial.

The Acadian Memorial is open daily except for major holidays. While the kids are out of school this summer, why not set aside a day and come visit the Acadian Memorial and introduce them to the Acadians, their culture and history. The Memorial is also a great place to introduce out-of-town guests to our Acadian heritage. And thanks for your continuing support of the Acadian Memorial through your financial contributions and your attendance at Memorial events.

*Marty*

Martin Guidry

President, Acadian Memorial Foundation Board of Directors



Acadian Memorial 2012 Festival photos courtesy of Ralph Melancon

# GREAT PLAYER OF THE VIOLIN

Submitted by Jane G. Bulliard

**Which Préjean was the "great player of the violin"? The question arises in this excerpt from an article written by Winston DeVille and Donald Pusch submitted here with the authors permission.**

"...Although there has been considerable popular interest in so-called "Cajun" music in recent years, little or nothing on this subject has been found in eighteenth century records relating to Louisiana. One very good explanation for that significant gap in our historiography is that such records are, indeed, rare; those that do exist are virtually impossible to locate. One has practically to stumble upon documents relating to esoteric subjects while doing other research in pertinent sources.

More or less "stumbling" is how we chanced to find the intriguing, perplexing, document presented below. It is folio 237 in *Legajo 198-A* of the *Papeles Procedentes de Cuba*, General Archives of the Indies, Seville. The original text is in French; our translation follows, with appropriate comments confined to notes:

"My Governor,

*I had the honor of receiving your last [letter] only en route to Opelousas, where the public's welfare calls me, [and] where I just made [inquiries], [here] as well as at Attakapas, for information to locate the [man] named Prejean, great player of the violin and the clavinette. I just learned, in this regard, [but] without guaranteeing it to you, that he makes his home in the neighborhood of Baton Rouge. If I learn [more] with certainty, I will let you know, reserving from this moment and for always the respectful attachment with which I have the honor to be, My Governor, Your very humble and very obedient servant. [Signed:] Le Chev[alier] DeClouet [at] Opelousas, 8 October 1785."*

Winston DeVille and Donald Pusch, editors, "Of Clavinette and Violin in Colonial Louisiana: Questions on Acadian Music in 1785", *Mississippi Valley Mélange*, Vol 2 (1996) pp.60-62. Read the complete article at [www.acadianmemorial.org](http://www.acadianmemorial.org)

**WALL OF NAMES:** From the wall of names, Préjean candidates for violinist are: Amand, Marin, Andre Joseph, Basil Charles (2), Joseph and Jean Baptiste.

# BANNER RESERVATION-DAY OF THE ACADIANS

**DAY OF THE ACADIANS BANNER RESERVATION:** Please call the Memorial at (337) 394-2258 if you would like to carry your family's name banner during our Day of the Acadians evening mass on **August 15, 2012**. The family banners will be reserved on a first call, first served basis.

Allain	Blanchard	Cormier	Gauterot	Le Breton	Pitre	Templet
Arcement	Boucher	Crochet	Girouard	LeBlanc	Préjean	Terriot
Arnaud	Boudrot	Daigre	Goguen	Léger	Robichaud	Thibodeau
Arseneau	Bourgeois	David	Guidry-Guédry	Le Jeune	Richard	Trahan
Aucoin	Bourq	Doiron	Guilbeau	Le Mire	Rodrique	Vautour
Babineau	Brasseur	Doucet	Guillot	Lirette	Roger	Vincent
Baudoin	Breau	Dugas	Granger	Maillet	Roy	Young
Bellefontaine	Broussard	Duon	Gravois	Martin	Samson	
Belliveau	Caillouet	Dupuis	Haché	Mazerolle	Saulnier	
Benoit	Caissy	Duplessis	Henry	Melanson	Savoie	
Bergeron	Chauvin	Forest	Jeanson	Mouton	Semer	
Bernard	Chiasson	Gallant	Landry	Naquin	Simon	
Bertrand	Comeau	Gaudet	Lanoue	Petitpas	Surette	





## MEET OUR NEW FRIENDS!

### Formerly known as members, we welcome our new Friends of the Acadian Memorial Foundation:

Sylvia & Harold Bienvenu, New Iberia, LA  
 Virginia Bowman, Vidor, TX  
 Cynthia B. & Merlin Champagne, St. Martinville, LA  
 August "Butch" and Terry Dupuis, St. Martinville, LA  
 John A. Landry & Elaine F. Landry, New Iberia, LA  
 Doug Mensman, Los Angeles, CA  
 Sarah Roy, St. Martinville, LA  
 Mary Ellen D. Menge, Raceland, LA

Mary Lynne Bonin, St. Martinville, LA  
 Elsie H. Castille, Breau Bridge, LA  
 John E. Delahoussaye, Lafayette, LA  
 Carole G. Lancon, Lafayette, LA  
 Daisy L. Lodrigue, Berwick, LA  
 Renée T. Richard, New Iberia, LA  
 Charmaine A. Savasten, St. Martinville, LA

### Acadian Memorial Foundation Donor: John E. Delahoussaye, Lafayette, LA

Welcome and thank you all for your support of the Acadian Memorial and its projects!

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Jesse Thibodeaux is a recent college graduate from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette whose main interests include Cultural Anthropology, Biology, and Cinematic Art Studies. She was raised in St. Martinville and plans to continue to live near family and friends with her two-year old daughter, Ava. Growing up in a family that encouraged travel and curiosity in different cultures, she looks forward to working at the Acadian Memorial to promote and share our region's unique history as well as helping to ensure and shape a promising future. Jesse joined the staff as Tourism Coordinator for the City.

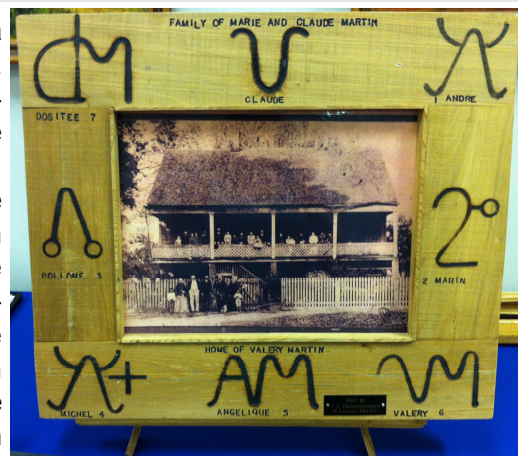
## ≡ CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS ≡

**Interested in being a 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 with your name and contact information today, and let us know when you are available. (337) 394-2258

## NEW EXHIBIT ITEMS DONATED



John E. Delahoussaye of Lafayette, Louisiana has donated new items to the museum. Pictured on the right is a wood framed photograph of the house built by Valery Martin on the Claude Martin property located on Highway 31 in St. Martin Parish. The frame housing the photo was built by J. E. Delahoussaye from wood that came from the cistern located on the property. The brands on the frame were researched and reproduced by Delahoussaye and represent each of the brands of the Martin children. A small brass plaque on the frame credits J. E. Delahoussaye and Lucien Martin as creators. The brands with corn-cob handles



(pictured at left) were also donated to the museum. In addition, the exhibit includes a 75 foot long paper that charts Claude Martin's genealogy. It was displayed during both the 1999 and 2004 Congrès Mondial Acadien. Information found in this resource will be made available in the genealogy library later this year.

## ACADIAN/CAJUN GENEALOGY WORKSHOPS



In January of 2012, we launched a series of monthly genealogy workshops, and we're happy to announce that they have been a great success. So far, we've covered the topics of getting started, getting organized, free Internet resources, Ancestry.com, and Heritage Quest. If you are interested in joining us for the first time, please know that there is prior knowledge required.

Our topics change every month and do not necessarily build on the information of the previous workshops. We have been audio recording the sessions and have the handouts on file in order to "recreate" the workshops for those who are unable to attend. Contact the Acadian Memorial for more details.

The workshops will be held in the 2nd floor conference room at the Acadian Memorial, with the exception of the July 25th workshop. You can join us for coffee at 9:30 a.m. Workshops begin at 10:00 a.m. and conclude at 11:30 a.m. Workshops are free and open to the public, however, we ask that you contact us if you plan to attend so that we can accommodate everyone. Please see our website's news section for the most up-to-date schedule.

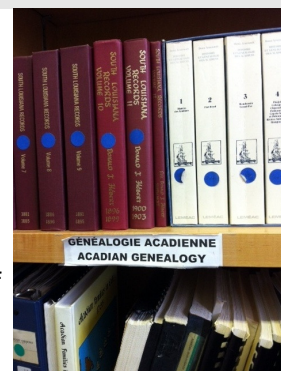
- ★ May 30, 2012: Diocesan Records, presented by Barbara DeJean, Lafayette Diocese Archivist
- ★ June 27, 2012: Local Church Records, presented by Isabelle Pointer, St. Martin de Tours Catholic Church Archivist
- ★ July 25, 2012: Introduction to the Genealogy Room, presented by Patty GuteKunst, Library Staff and Jane Bulliard. **NOTE: THIS WORKSHOP WILL BE HELD AT THE ST. MARTIN PARISH PUBLIC LIBRARY**

-Michelle Verret Johnson

## GENEALOGY LIBRARY UPDATE

Graduate student intern, Casae Hobbs, has almost wrapped up the catalog to the book portion of the genealogy library. Casae graduates this May, but she has offered to volunteer a while longer in order to finish the catalog and to rearrange the books upon its completion. It is projected that the catalog will be available to search online by mid-June and that the books will be organized and on the shelves shortly thereafter. Casae has worked diligently on this project. Genealogy researchers will benefit greatly from having online access to the collection's description. The work already completed includes the migration of genealogy research files from over 150 floppy discs to an external hard drive. There is still much work to be done and too few helping hands. If you would like to help in the library, contact Michelle at the Acadian Memorial.

-Michelle Verret Johnson



## WOODEN BOAT HONORS



Orie and Annie Mendoza, Monsieur et Madame Bateau de Bois, husband and wife winners of the first ever M/M Bateau de Bois, are deserving of this honor as they have been instrumental in promoting the Antique Wooden Boat "movement". They were judged to have shown outstanding achievement in preserving or restoring traditional South Louisiana vessels, especially those indigenous to the Atchafalaya Swamp region. The Mendoza's were honored at a special ceremony during the Acadian Memorial Festival on March 17th. Sylvia Bienvenu (pictured at left), Chair of the Wooden Boat Congrès and presenting to Annie and Orie Mendoza with Marty



Guidry, President of the Acadian Memorial Foundation and Festival Chair, holding the honor paddles. Eddie Bienvenu, Co-chair of the Wooden Boat Congrès stands just behind Orie Mendoza. The paddles were handcrafted by Hampton Boudreaux. Photos courtesy of Jennifer Bienvenu.





*Merci Bien*



Many thanks to the following individuals and organizations for their generous support of the Acadian Memorial Festival:

**All those who brought their boats and antique cars and**

**Donald Akers, James Akers, Laura Alexander, Emile Ancelet, Attakapa Tribe of Louisiana, Calvin Ardoin, Cheri Armentor, Major Heath Babineaux, Shane K. Bernard, Bienvenu Boat Works, Ben Bienvenu, Eddie Bienvenu, Jennifer Bienvenu, Hal Bienvenu, Sylvia Bienvenu, Wiltz Bienvenue, Camille Blanchard, Ernest P. "Topper" Breaux, Camryn Brown, Karen Brown, Ed Bulliard, Edmond Bulliard, Janie Bulliard, Priscilla Bulliard, Cajun Chef, Cajun Sugar Co-op, Inc., Frank Castille, Cynthia Champagne, City of St. Martinville, Brooksie Conery, John E. Conery, Curtis Cruze, Tiffany Daspit, J. E. Delahoussaye, Melissa Duchaine, Evangeline Parish Tourist Commission, Fontenot Farms, Don Fontenot, Emma Green, R. Martin Guidry, Phil Haney, D.A., Cindy Hebert, Ricky Hebert, Iberia Bank, International Acadian Festival, Kate Juneau, Marcus Juneau Carole Lancon, Hubert Landry, John A. Landry, Melvin "Vin" Landry, Jr., Tammy Landry, Eddie LeBlanc, Suzy Lemoine, Les Campagnes Franches de la Marine, Christy Maraist, David Maraist, Eric Martin, McIlhenney Company, Ralph Melancon, Annie Mendoza, Orie Mendoza, Senator Fred Mills, Mayor Thomas Nelson, Mickey Rivet, Rogers Romero, Renaissance Cadienne, Bob Sevastan, Charmaine Savastan, St. Martin Parish Tourist Commission, St. Martinville Senior High Key Club, Theatre Acadien, Adley Theriot, Sheriff Ronny Theriot, Brenda Trahan, Devin Trahan, Dudley Trahan, Ray Trahan, Trinity Catholic Builders Club and Jr. Beta, Chris Villemarette**



## Our Boutique

The "Tiles that Bind" poster at right is a new item in the store—\$10+shipping. It brings together all thirty-seven Acadian Family Coats of Arms featured in the Garden at the Acadian Memorial as mosaics of broken tile symbolizing families separated by exile and reunited in Louisiana.

This poster is only one of many heritage items available in the boutique. Acadian Memorial staff will be happy to assist you with Boutique items .



## Festival Report

Our 8th annual Acadian Memorial Festival was a grand success! We've estimated that more people attended this year than ever before, and festival goers were able to peruse the wares of the largest number of vendors we've ever hosted. This year Mayor Thomas Nelson awarded Ms. Janie Bulliard and Ms. Pat Resweber for 20 years of service to the city of St. Martinville through their work at the Acadian Memorial. Mayor Nelson also recognized recent mural sponsors Mr. & Mrs. Alex "Doonie" Theriot for their donations to the Acadian Memorial Foundation as well as to the St. Martinville Veteran Memorial. Pictures are still being posted to our website, so please check out our festival's photo gallery. If you have pictures you'd like to share in the gallery, please e-mail them to us at [info@acadianmemorial.org](mailto:info@acadianmemorial.org). Our biggest thank you goes out to those who contributed to the success of our festival by donating their money, time, services, supplies, advice and efforts. Our festival would not be possible without your support. Bien merci!!

*Michelle Verret Johnson*

Curator/Director, Acadian Memorial and Museum of the Acadian Memorial





# Acadian Memorial Foundation, Inc.

P.O. Box 379 AMF • 121 S. New Market St. • St. Martinville, LA 70582 • 337-394-2258

[info@acadianmemorial.org](mailto:info@acadianmemorial.org) • [www.acadianmemorial.org](http://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*

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## 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](http://www.acadianmemorial.org/contribute.php)

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



### Visit the Acadian Memorial

[www.acadianmemorial.org](http://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  
*Tourism Coordinator:* Jessie Thibodeaux  
*Docent/Tourism & Curator's Assistant:* Cynthia Champagne  
*Docent/Historian/Tour Guide:* James Akers  
*Docents:* Laura Alexandra, Merlin Champagne, Amelie "Emma"  
Green, Patty GuteKunst

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

#### ***Calling All Cajuns!***

A Publication of the Acadian Memorial Foundation, Inc.  
Editor: Christine Duhon

## ACADIAN MEMORIAL

### 2012 EVENTS CALENDAR

#### **MAY**

**May 30—Genealogy Workshop with Barbara DeJean, Roman Catholic Diocese of Lafayette Archivist, 10AM, Acadian Memorial**

#### **JUNE**

**June 13—Acadian Memorial Foundation, Annual Membership Meeting, Acadian Memorial, 6PM**

**June 27—Genealogy Workshop with Isabelle Pointer, St. Martin de Tours Catholic Church Archivist, 10AM**

#### **JULY**

**July 25—Genealogy Workshop with Patty GuteKunst and Janie Bulliard at the St. Martin Parish Library Genealogy Room, 10AM**

**July 28—Day of Remembrance, an evening program at the Acadian Memorial, 5PM**

#### **AUGUST**

**August 15—National Day of the Acadians**

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

**Follow us on TWITTER: @AcadianMemorial**

**RESERVE YOUR FAMILY BANNER  
FOR THE DAY OF THE ACADIANS—  
SEE PAGE 3 FOR FAMILY NAME  
AVAILABILITY**