



# CALLING ALL CAJUNS!

A Publication of The Acadian Memorial Foundation

November 2014

## EIGHTH ANNUAL L'ORDRE DU BON TEMPS LOUISIANE ANOTHER SUCCESS!



The Acadian Memorial Foundation's eighth annual meeting of the Louisiana Chapter of L'Ordre du Bon Temps Louisiane was held on the evening of November 6, 2014. Bob and Charmaine Savasten hosted the event at their La Maison Restaurant in St. Martinville.

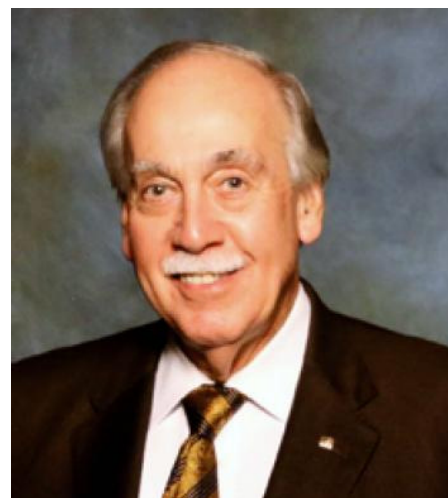
In keeping with the theme of the event, "Celebrating 408 years of Acadian/Cajun Cuisine," Chef Charmaine Savasten's menu for the event included an Italian green salad with an olive mix; chicken, venison sausage, and andouille gumbo; potato salad, fresh baked bread and cornbread muffins. For dessert, Chef Charmaine prepared a delicious bread pudding served with brandy sauce. Many friends of the Acadian Memorial Foundation as well as members of L'Ordre du Bon Temps were in attendance and enjoyed the delicious meal.

James Akers as Samuel de Champlain called on the Honorable Preston Guillotte, a founder of the chapter and the first Grand Master, to serve as chairman and preside over the event. After the invocation by Board President Randy Menard, Guillotte

introduced Paul A. Durand, President and CEO of St. Martin Bank and Trust Company, as Grand Master VII. A long time supporter of the Acadian Memorial Foundation and currently a member of the Board of Directors, Durand will preside at the L'Ordre du Bon Temps Louisiane gala in 2015.

Following dinner, Marty Guidry, raconteur of the evening, shared with us a wonderful, thoroughly researched and well prepared presentation on his ancestor, Pierre Guédry. Born November 14, 1741 in Cobequid, Acadie, Canada, he arrived in New Orleans without assets, and later relocated to the Attakapas District. At the time of his death in St. Martin Parish on November 13, 1825, Guédry left a legacy upwards of \$200,000, a remarkably rich man at the time of his death.

Laura C. Melancon was the L'Ordre du Bon Temps Louisiane inductee with Guillotte performing the tapping ceremony. She was also presented with a certificate of membership. Other new members not present were Alexandra Hebert-Ross and Gerard Chretien.



2014-15 Grand Master VII

**RAFFLE**

**TICKETS \$25 EACH**

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize: \$100** MONTHLY DRAWINGS AT THE MEETING OF THE ACADIAN MEMORIAL FOUNDATION BOARD FOR 9 CONSECUTIVE MONTHS. FIRST DRAWING AT THE MARCH 2015 MEETING AND THE LAST DRAWING AT THE NOVEMBER 2015 L'ORDRE DU BON TEMPS EVENT

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: \$50**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: \$25**

Need Not Be Present to Win

LA Permit # E0005709

**Acadian Memorial Foundation Fund Raiser**

President Menard called on board member Mavis Frugé to describe a new lottery fundraiser that she will chair. After a description of the fundraiser, Frugé declared, "This lottery will be a win-win event,". See more about the lottery in the President's Message, page 2.

Special thanks to our hosts, Bob and Charmaine Savasten, Grand Master Preston Guillotte, James Akers as Champlain and to Janie Bulliard, Lynn Bonin and Sylvia Bienvenu for organizing the event.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT



The Louisiana Acadians/Cajuns were well represented at the Congrès Mondial Acadien 2014 in New Brunswick, Canada and Madawaska, Maine. To no one's surprise, the best attended day at Expo Monde was August 18, 2014, which happened to be Louisiana Day. It was not coincidental! Program directors for that day were Brenda Trahan, Brenda Mounier, Mavis Frugé and Amanda LaFleur.

If you were not able to attend the CMA2014, you will have an opportunity to participate in a mini congrès mondial in the very near future, here in Louisiana, as the Grand Réveil Acadien will be held from October 3-12, 2014. For more information visit the website of Louisiane-Acadie, Inc. at [louisiane-acadie.com](http://louisiane-acadie.com). Please take the time to let the organizers of the event know what activities you are interested in seeing at the event and please volunteer to help with the organization of and for the event itself.

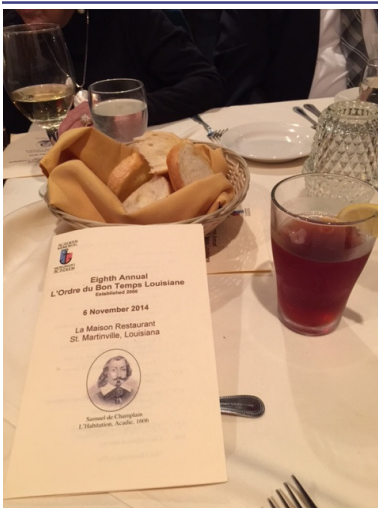
On the evening of November 6, 2014, L'Ordre du Bon Temps held its eighth annual meeting. The event was planned and organized by Janie Bulliard, Sylvia Bienvenu and Lynn Bonin. The Grand Master for the event was Mr. Preston Guillotte. Marty Guidry presented the history of the Guidry family, particularly Pierre Guédry. See the recap on the event on page 1.

Our board recently voted to institute a new fundraiser for the Acadian Memorial. The fundraiser is called the 200 raffle, as only 200 tickets will be sold. The purchaser of each ticket will have the opportunity to win a \$100 prize, a \$50.00 prize, and a \$25.00 prize on nine (9) separate occasions. The drawings will take place at the Board's monthly meeting beginning March 2015 with the last drawing being held at the L'Ordre du Bon Temps event in November 2015. The cost of each raffle ticket is \$25.00. Because of the small amount of tickets being sold, we expect they will sell quickly. These would make great stocking stuffers for Christmas!

Please save the date, our Acadian Heritage Festival and Wooden Boat Congrès will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2015. Please share information about the festival with family and friends, plan to attend, and encourage friends and family to attend as well. Share the information with your friends on social media as well and ask them to share the information with their friends. We are always in need of volunteers, and the festival would be impossible without volunteers.

Lastly, I wish every one a safe, joyous and festive holiday season. Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Acadian Day, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Randal L. Menard  
Américain de naissance, Acadien par la grâce de Dieu!



**Eighth Annual L'Ordre du Bon Temps Louisiana  
held on the 6th of November,  
2014 at La Maison Restaurant  
in St. Martinville.  
LDBT photos courtesy of  
Randy L. Menard**



## ARRIVAL OF THE ACADIANS TO LOUISIANA

### THE MURAL

The Mural at the Acadian Memorial depicts the arrival of the Acadians to different parts of Louisiana over a period of over forty years. Next year, in 2015, we will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the group that arrived in 1765 and settled in the Attakapas and Opelousas Districts—the present day parishes of Iberia, Lafayette, St. Martin, St. Mary and Vermilion from the Attakapas and St. Landry, Calcasieu, Cameron, Acadia, Evangeline, Allen, Beauregard and Jefferson Davis from the Opelousas.

This article in this November 2014 issue of the newsletter is to remind us that this group of Acadians began their epic journey in November 1764, braving the North Atlantic seas to head due south to the islands of the Caribbean. Following are glimpses of that moment in time through excerpts of the writings of historians Carl A. Brasseaux and John Mack Faragher.

In his important book, *A Great and Noble Scheme*, p. 427, Faragher tells us, “In November 1764, a large group of six hundred persons, led by Joseph and Alexandre Broussard dit Beausoleil, hired vessels and departed for the West Indies.” And further on he writes, “The group of six hundred Acadians from Halifax—including every living relative of Joseph and Alexandre Broussard, as well as the families of many of their associates in the Acadian resistance—arrived in Saint Domingue in January 1765. But the Broussards had no intention of remaining there. They soon hired another vessel and with 193 Acadians continued on to New Orleans, which seems to have been their intended destination. “By the best information I can obtain of their purposes,” Governor Wilmot had written a few days before the group’s departure from Halifax, “they intend going directly to Cape François [in Saint Domingue], from thence to the Mississippi, and finally to the Country of the Illinois and there to make a settlement.”

The arrival of “193 Acadians” is confirmed in the invaluable book, *Quest for the Promised Land* by Carl Brasseaux which translates and transcribes on page 32, a letter dated February 28, 1765, from a French authority in New Orleans to the Minister of the Navy in France, advising that “several Acadian families, numbering 193 persons” arrived a few days ago. “...They sailed from Acadia to Saint Domingue, where they boarded a commercial vessel to come here. It appears that religion was their sole motive for leaving their country. They are poor and worthy of pity. Until they have chosen land in the Opelousas [and Attakapas] district, sixty leagues from New Orleans, and are able to care for themselves, I cannot refuse them assistance.”

As an anniversary celebration, in the 2015 newsletters, we will follow the families who arrived to Louisiana in 1765 and settled in the districts of Attakapas and Opelousas.

1765



2015



## MEMORIAL PAGE



*Patricia Ditch "Pat" Resweber (1935—2014)*

*Patricia was a co-founder of the Acadian Memorial and a dedicated member of the Board of Directors where she served as the first President. She believed that the Acadian Memorial would give the Cajun people, her ancestry, a pride in their culture when their full and complete story was told which is the mission of the Acadian Memorial. She was an example of a strong work ethic and personal strength that is sadly missed by all who knew her. 🌹*

*Larry James Comeaux, Sr. (1928—2014)*

*Larry was a supporter of the Acadian Memorial from its inception. He served on the Board of Directors for 18 years and was Treasurer for most of that time leaving a legacy of meticulous recordkeeping to that position. He was proud of his Acadian ancestry and made many family connections in Nova Scotia and France. Larry was of invaluable service and the Board has missed him for a long time. 🌹*



**Jennifer "Jenny" Fredericks Bienvenu (1959—2014)**, wife of Edward "Eddie" Bienvenu, co-chair of the Wooden Boats segment of the Acadian Memorial Festival. Jenny was the daughter-in-law of Sylvia S. Bienvenu, long time Foundation Board Member and co-chair of the Wooden Boats with her son, Eddie.

**Jimmy Dupuis (1970—2014)** son of August "Butch" Dupuis, Jr. and Terry Dugas Du[uis, both former members of the Acadian Memorial Foundation Board; Terry previously worked as Product Manager for the Board.

**Eunice Doucet Borel (1922—2014)**, mother of Acadian Memorial docent, Emma Green.

*Repose en paix!*

## REFLECTIONS...

“ Ms. Pat, as she was fondly known by all, impressed me even before I met her. I first saw Ms. Pat speaking about the concept of a memorial for the Acadians as she toiled to get support and funds to create such a monumental place. It was obvious that she would garner what she wanted for this project. She was passionate, focused, and determined to achieve her goal. I wanted to know this inspiring woman!

Finally after years of admiring her, I met her during an interview for the position of Director/Curator of the Acadian Memorial & Museum of the A.M. She became my inspiration as how to manage this position as I embarked on this precious opportunity to give my part to the preservation of Acadian history and their memory. It was Pat who instilled in me the desire to give 100% plus to such an incredible memorial and museum which taught the world, as well as Louisiana Acadian adults and children, the story of this nation of survivors.

I always looked to her for advice and opinions as she taught me what it took to “walk in her footsteps”. She was my example of what a “powerful, dedicated, giving” woman could achieve if she never lost focus of her goals. From Pat I learned to never give up, to persevere if I thought something was important for the betterment of the Acadian culture and traditions! I feel so fortunate to have had time with her as my mentor! My life has been enriched by knowing this incredible, humble “grander than life” woman!

“Ms. Pat, I am so grateful to have been a part of your life and thank you for all the lessons you taught me. May you rest in peace.”



*Brenda Comeaux Trahan*



A vivid memory I have of Patricia is the astonishment we both experienced when we walked into St. Martin de Tours Church on that first August 15th that we celebrated the National Day of the Acadians, in 1995, and saw that it was packed with people! Later, at the reception at La Maison Duchamp, we found it practically overflowing with people and learned that they had come from all over Louisiana, from Mississippi and Texas just for this occasion. She talked about it many times - how that was the moment we realized that an Acadian Memorial would have special meaning to so many.

An incident I remember about Larry and the Acadian Memorial is when the building committee that selected the architect met with a photographer for a picture for the newsletter, Larry, who was on the committee, pointed out that the shadow on the wall that appeared between Robert Barras, the architect, and Larry and Brother Resweber was the "ghost of Joseph Broussard dit Beausoleil!" . The picture and the comment appeared in the issue of Spring of 1994.

*Jane G. Bulliard*





*Merci*

Special thanks to the L'Ordre du Bon Temps hosts,

***Bob and Charmaine Savasten***

Our Honored Supporter: **J. B. Levert Corporation**

**Grand Master *Preston Guillotte***

***Janie Bulliard, Sylvia Bienvenu and Lynn Bonin***  
for organizing the event

***Marty Guidry*** for the Guidry ancestry presentation

***James Akers*** for his "Champlain" portrayal

and special guests

***Elaine Clement***

***James Akers***

***Mr. & Mrs. Paul A. Durand***

***Mr. & Mrs. Preston Guillotte***



*Memorials*

**Memorials for Patricia Resweber**

Joseph & Claudette Bonin, LA

Lynne Bonin, LA

Mark & Renee Chevalier, TX

St. Martin Bank & Trust Company

**Memorials for Larry Comeaux**

Joseph & Claudette Bonin, LA

SMB Investment Center



*Bienvenue*

**New & Renewed Friends**

**Individual Friends**

Elsie Castille, LA

Cynthia B. Champagne, LA

Odile D. Fuselier, LA

Nelwyn Hebert, LA

Laura C. Melancon, LA

Renee T. Richard, LA

Sara G. Voorhies, LA

**Individual Friend With Spouse**

Paul & Susan B. Durand, LA

Rogers & Charlotte Romero, LA

Larry & Sarah V. Roy, LA

**L'Ordre du Bon Temps Louisiane**

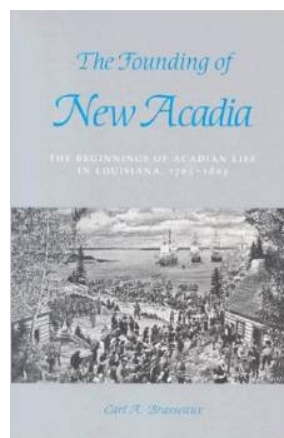
Patricia GuteKunst, LA

Laura C. Melancon, LA

The Levert Companies, 2014 Sponsor



*Our Boutique*



**A must read  
for all  
genealogy  
enthusiasts!**

**The Founding of New Acadia: The Beginnings of Acadian Life in Louisiana, 1765-1803 by Carl A. Brasseaux.** A "must read" for anyone who wants the real picture of the beginnings of Acadiana and the "bible" for the building of the Acadian Memorial. Softcover.  
**Price: \$15.00 + sales tax & shipping.**





# 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

## July 2014 – June 2015 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 \$35
- \_\_\_ Add spouse for additional \$15 (total of \$50) \$15
- \_\_\_ Family (up to four members) \$100
- \_\_\_ L'Ordre du Bon Temps Individual Membership\*\*, includes Certificate and Medallion \$70

\*\* one-time donation, valid only with current Foundation Friendship, Event tickets sold separately

#### Give More!

- \_\_\_ L'Amitié Etoile (Friendship level Star) – represents Brilliance on our Logo \$100
- \_\_\_ L'Amitié Rouge (Friendship level Red) – represents Courage on our Logo \$200
- \_\_\_ L'Amitié Blanche (Friendship level White) – represents Constancy on our Logo \$300
- \_\_\_ L'Amitié Bleue (Friendship level Blue) – represents Faith on our Logo \$400
- \_\_\_ L'Amitié d'Or (Friendship level Gold) – represents Victory on our Logo \$500
- \_\_\_ L'Amitié Éternelle - Lifetime Friendship represents the Anchor on our Logo \$700

TOTAL DONATION AMOUNT: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Check box if you are a first-time member/friend(s)

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Please send "Calling all Cajuns!" and other announcements by E-mail  and/or by postal service

Please charge my credit card: Number (\_\_\_\_) (\_\_\_\_) (\_\_\_\_) (\_\_\_\_) 3-digit CSV (\_\_\_\_)

(VISA, MasterCard, AmEx, or Discover)

Make checks to: ACADIAN MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

OR Donate online with PayPal,

[www.acadianmemorial.org](http://www.acadianmemorial.org)

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

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



### Visit the Acadian Memorial

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

Telephone: 337-394-2258

[www.acadianmemorial.org](http://www.acadianmemorial.org)

[info@acadianmemorial.org](mailto:info@acadianmemorial.org)

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

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.

*Tourism Director/Curator Acadian Memorial:* Elaine Clément  
*Docent/Tourism & Curator's Assistant:* Cynthia Champagne  
*Docent/Historian/Tour Guide:* James Akers  
*Docents:* Laura Alexander, Merlin Champagne, Amelie "Emma"  
Green, Claudia Prade

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 Brosky

## ACADIAN MEMORIAL 2015 EVENTS CALENDAR

### JANUARY 2015

January 7— 10:00 a.m., Jane G. Bulliard, Genealogy Refresher

January 19—12:00 p.m., Elaine Clement, French conversation

### FEBRUARY 2015

February 4—10:00 a.m., Marty Guidry, Genealogy Workshop, The Guédry Clan in Cajun Lapland/SE Texas

February 16—12:00 p.m., Elaine Clement, French conversation

### March 2015

March 4—10:00 a.m., Jane G. Bulliard, Genealogy Workshop, Online records and our Civil War ancestors

March 16—12:00 p.m., Elaine Clement, French conversation

March 21—Acadian Memorial Festival & Wooden Boat Congrès