



# CALLING ALL CAJUNS!

A Publication of The Acadian Memorial Foundation

March 2015

## COME ONE, COME ALL—March 21, 2015 11th Annual Acadian Memorial Heritage Festival and Wooden Boat Congrès

### Festival Schedule

9:00 am—Brazos Huval School of Music—Cajun music  
-Ongoing cooking and craft demonstrations (all day)  
-Food and beverage booths  
-Crafts booths and Acadian Memorial boutique

9:45 am—Flag raising

10:00 am—Welcome and introductions  
-*Table française*—conversation in French (Mike LeBlanc and friends)

11:00—*Théâtre Cadien*—historical vignettes  
-La Récolte—Cajun music  
-Longfellow-Evangeline State Historic site—traditional life on the bayou

12:00 pm—Traditional round dances with Earlene Broussard  
- *Coton Jaune* / Acadian Brown Cotton, a documentary film by Sharon and Suzanne

12:30 pm—Cajun dance lessons with Brandon Broussard and Brazos Huval School of Music

1:00 pm—Re-enactment of the Arrival of Acadian families, honoring the Guilbeau and Sonnier families

1:30 pm—Crowning of *M/Mme Bateau du Bois*

1:45 pm—Native American traditional music and dancing

2:00 pm—Wooden Boat Parade and Exhibit  
-Storytime and Scavenger Hunt with Suzy Lemoine  
-La Récolte—Cajun music  
-Film on Acadian culture

3:00 p.m. Decorating and *Pâquer*-ing eggs with Dylan and Jolène Adam

4:00 pm—Closing Ceremony



Photo courtesy of the Borne family

Come take part in welcoming the Acadians to Louisiana, along with food, music, arts and crafts, theater, demonstrations and workshops, at the 11th annual Acadian Memorial Heritage Festival and Wooden Boat Congrès! The Festival takes place in Evangeline Oak Park on the Bayou Teche in downtown St. Martinville from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

Enjoy traditional Cajun food and crafts, while watching demonstrations of how they are cooked and crafted from local chefs and artisans. Gumbo, fried fish, jambalaya and cracklin demonstrations continue throughout the Festival beginning at 9 a.m. While having a bite, wander through vendors and artisans who turn wood of Louisiana trees into boats, bowls and musical instruments while others reflect their beauty in paintings and offer other hand crafted items.

The Acadians arrived by boat, so it is fitting that the day begins with a parade of wooden boats, similar to those that might have been used by the Acadians. The wooden boats will also be on display, along with an antique car exhibit. Come join us in honoring Madame or Monsieur Bateau!

The re-enactment of the Acadian arrival in Louisiana takes place at 1:00 p.m. with members of the Guilbeau and Sonnier families, the families being honored at this year's festivities, in the place of honor. Welcoming them to the banks of the Teche will be members of Louisiana native American tribes, as well as la Compagnie Franche Troupe de la Marine, the royal French peacekeeping force in North America.

Warning to all: The Royal Navy's cannon will announce the beginning and end of the Festival and lunch at noon.

Continued on page 2....

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



This year marks the 250th anniversary of the arrival of Joseph dit Beausoleil Broussard along with approximately 200 fellow Acadians to Louisiana, who would eventually settle in the Attakapas Region. We should all make an effort to be actively involved in whatever events are planned for this year in a concerted effort to safeguard our heritage, language and culture. Some of the events commemorating this anniversary include, but are not limited to our own Acadian Heritage Festival on March 21, 2015 here in downtown St. Martinville. The Grand R veil Acadien, October 3-12, 2015 (activities listed on the website of [louisiane-acadie.org](http://louisiane-acadie.org)); and Festivals Acadiens et Creoles.

Based on information I recently read, the number of people who currently speak French in Louisiana is being reported to be 100,000, down from 1,000,000 in 1970, that represented a quarter of Louisiana's population at the time. In the last 45 years, the number of French speakers in Louisiana has decreased by 90%. Linguistic erosion mirrors that of Louisiana's coastline. (Joseph Dunn). The divide and conquer tactic of our governments have been and continue to be very effective. We must all work feverishly to reverse the tide, for, before long, the language and culture of our ancestors will truly be a thing of the past. *Ce n'est pas l'heure de lâcher la patate!* Now is not the time to give up, but rather the time to fight with all of our might and with every last fiber in our bodies! We know full well the alternative of not involving ourselves. What will you do?

I hope to see all of you at our Acadian Heritage Festival on March 21, 2015!

Sincerely,

*Randal Menard*

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*Festival Continued from page 1...*

It wouldn't be an Acadian festival without French. Enjoy historic vignettes, learn danses rondes (round dances) and other surprises with members of Théâtre Cadien, all in French! Traditional music provided by La R colte.

Longfellow-Evangeline State Historic Site joins us with artifacts and explanations of the traditional life of trappers on the Bayou Teche, including children's games.

At 2:00, Suzy Lemoine will offer a Storytime and Scavenger Hunt. And with the impending arrival of Easter, Jolene and Dylan Adam will be p quer-ing eggs.

The Acadian Memorial along with the Museum of the Acadian Memorial and the African American Museum will be open and free of charge throughout the day.

The Festival is also free of charge. Food, beverages and crafts will be available for purchase. Come and join us!

For more information, call 337.394.2258 or write us at [info@acadianmemorial.org](mailto:info@acadianmemorial.org). Visit our website at [www.acadianmemorial.org](http://www.acadianmemorial.org).

## 2015 FESTIVAL FAMILIES HONORED



**GUILBEAU**



**SONNIER**

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

**GUILBEAU** - Joseph Guilbeau dit l'Officer and children, Felicité, Marie, Jean, Charles, François, Anne, Marguerite, and Rosalie in Attakapas District; Jean and Joseph Guilbeau in Cabonnocé.

**SAULNIER (SONNIER)** - Joseph, Charles Jean, Françoise, Magdelaine, Olivier and Silvain in the Opelousas District; Joseph, Anne, Jean Baptiste, Joseph & Marguerite in Cabonnocé; and Marguerite in LaFourche.

**FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED MARCH 21ST!**

**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**



## 1765—2015: 250TH ANNIVERSARY

Jane G. Bulliard

**1765—2015: 250th Anniversary of the arrival of the Acadians to the Attakapas and Opelousas country****Part 1: They Arrive**

It is mid-February, 1765 and the ship carrying a destitute group of Acadians has arrived at New Orleans. We learn this from Charles-Philippe Aubry, then acting Governor of Louisiana, in a letter to the Secretary of the French Navy dated February 25, 1765, when, in an effort to justify his expenses from a dwindling treasury, he uses the following as an example, "...For instance, 200 Acadians, men, women and children repelled by the climate of Saint-Domingue, have just disembarked here. They would actually have died of misery had we not provided them some assistance."

In a footnote to the passage excerpted above, the Acadians are identified as "...led by Joseph Broussard dit Beausoleil...". Aubry continues, saying he will provide them with provisions and that he will "attempt" to settle them on the right bank (the west bank) of the Mississippi River.

Three days later, on February 28th, Denis-Nicolas Foucault, the government's chief administrator, also writing to the Duke of Choiseul-Stainville, describes the arrival "a few days ago" of several Acadian families numbering 193 persons who sailed from Acadia to Saint-Domingue "where they boarded a commercial vessel to come here (Louisiana)." It appears, he says, that religion was their sole motive for leaving their country and further that "...Until they have chosen land in the Opelousas district, sixty leagues from New Orleans, and are able to care for themselves, I cannot refuse them assistance."



In letters from Aubry dated 24 April 1765, and from Aubry and Foucault jointly dated 30 April 1765, both to Choiseul-Stainville, we find that it was decided not to settle the Acadians on the river as first thought because those lands were prone to flooding and until they built levees and made the land habitable the government may have had to subsidize the families perhaps for several years before they were established and self sufficient. Now a group of 231, the administrators say they "convinced" the Acadians to settle in the developing districts of Opelousas and Attakapas. They would be accompanied by Sieur Andry, an engineer and surveyor with instructions for settlement and to observe the country.

During the month of March it is possible the Acadians visited the districts to determine where they wanted to settle. In 1760, Antoine Bernard Dauterive and partner Edouard Masse had been granted land in the Attakapas District along Bayou Teche where they established a vacherie or cattle ranch. In the Opelousas District, in 1760, Jacques Courtableau established a trading post at the junction of bayous Teche and Courtableau and in 1764, Louis Pellerin was granted a large concession on the upper Bayou Teche and was appointed the first commandant of the Opelousas port.

On March 2nd, 1765, Dauterive and Masse petitioned for and were granted a tract of land called Prairie of Vermillion west of Bayou Tortue and Lake Tasse (Spanish Lake) as compensation for giving up the old Attakapas land grant to the Acadian families, "...recently arrived in this province...". Possibly a clue to how the Acadians were "convinced" to go to the Attakapas District.

*CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE...*

## 1765—2015: 250TH ANNIVERSARY

On April 4th, eight Acadian heads of family (Joseph Broussard dit Beausoleil, Alexandre Broussard, Joseph Guilbeau, Jean Duga, Olivier Thibaudau, Jean Baptiste Broussard, Pierre Arcenaud & Victor Broussard) signed a pact with Dauterive to raise cattle on his Attakapas concession. Four days later, on April 8th, Joseph Broussard dit Beausoleil was named captain and commandant of Attakapas militia. Sometime between April 17th, the date of the instructions to

Sieur Andry, and April 24th, the Acadians evidently departed New Orleans for on that date, Aubry reports to the Duke "...I have sent them to the Attakapas District forty-five leagues from the city" and notes further that the post can be reached by means of Bayou Plaquemine, stating that "...the round trip can be easily effected in six days".

However, from a later letter of Aubry and Foucault to Choiseul-Stainville, dated September 30, 1765, we learn that they were not able to send the Duke the promised journal with Sieur Andry's "observations and investigations during the trip (with the Acadians)" because "Unforeseen circumstances...made it necessary for him to postpone the implementation of our orders." The "circumstances" are not defined and nothing more is reported about why Andry could not complete his

mission—so, it still remains to be seen how the group found their way or determined their settlement.

In the next newsletter we will meet some of the Acadians through the sacramental records of Father Jean-François de Civrey, the Capuchin priest who first called the new settlement *nouvelle acadie*. 🐾

## Sources:

Carl A. Brasseaux, ed., *Quest for the Promised Land*. (Lafayette: Center for Louisiana Studies, 1989).

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\_\_\_\_\_, "Opelousas and the Alabama Immigrants," *Attakapas Gazette*, XIV (1979) 3:112.

Glenn R. Conrad, "The Acadian Story Continues to Unfold," *Attakapas Gazette*, XIII (1978) 2:89.

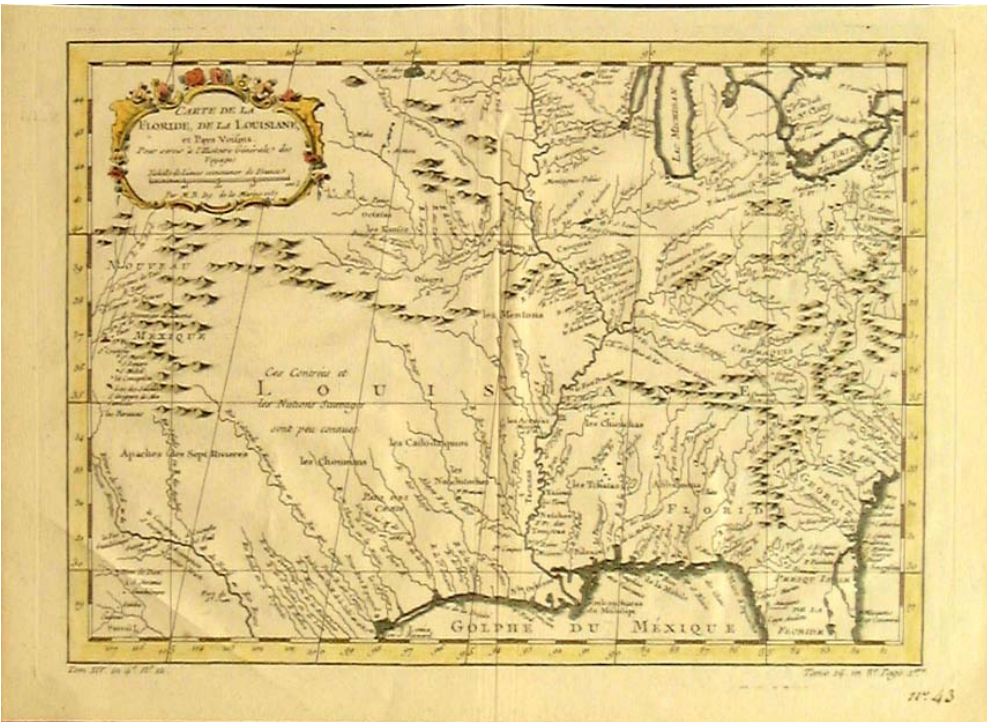
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Michael J. Foret, "Aubry, Foucault, and the Attakapas Acadians: 1765," *Attakapas Gazette*, XI (1980) 2:60.

Claude Oubre, "Port Barre: A Crossroad in the Opelousas Country," *Attakapas Gazette*, XI (1976) 1:43.

Grover Rees, trans., "The Dauterive Compact: The Foundation of the Acadian Cattle Industry," *Attakapas Gazette*, XI (1976) 2:91.

Jacqueline K. Voorhies, trans., "The Attakapas Post: The First Acadian Settlement," *Louisiana History*, XVII (1976) 91.



# BETTER ODDS THAN THE CASINO!

That remark was made recently about the new 200 Raffle Project sponsored by the Board of Directors of the Acadian Memorial Foundation. All proceeds will benefit the Acadian Memorial in St. Martinville.

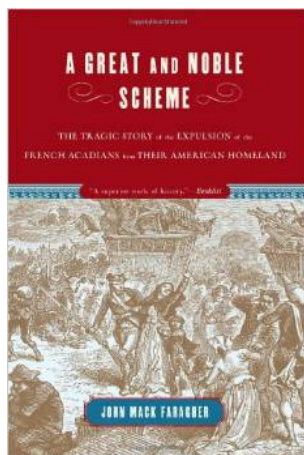
Here's how it works. Only 200 tickets are to be sold for 9 drawings of 3 tickets each. After every drawing, the winning tickets will be returned to the pot and made eligible for a win at the next drawing—so, each ticket holder has 27 chances to win a prize with 3 drawings each over a period of 9 months. You can support the Acadian Memorial and perhaps be a cash winner at the same time!

Tickets are \$25 each. Three cash prizes will be awarded at each drawing, one each for \$25, \$50 and \$100 respectively. The first drawing is scheduled for March 21, 2015, at the Acadian Memorial Festival, and will continue at each monthly meeting of the Board until the final drawing at L'Ordre du Bon Temps gala event in November. You need not be present to win.

Information about how to buy a ticket can be obtained by calling the Acadian Memorial at 337.394.2258 or from one of our merchant participants: King Cajun Restaurant or Petit Paris Café, both on Main Street, St. Martinville. ☺

## Our Boutique

**A Great and Noble Scheme by John Mack Faragher** draws on original research to weave 150 years of history into a gripping narrative of both the civilization of Acadia and the British plot to destroy it. 40 illustrations, 6 maps. Softcover, 562 pages, 2005. Price \$17.00 + sales tax & shipping.



*Bienvenue*



Welcome to those signing up and renewing annual membership:

**New & Renewed Friends**

Individual Friends

- C. Thomas Bienvenu, St. Martinville, LA**
- Sandra C. Boyes, Bradenton, FL**
- Guy Broussard, St. Martinville, LA**
- Delores Girouard Citizen, Beaumont, TX**
- Dorothy G. Taylor, Grandview, MO**
- Florent Hardy, Jr., Baton Rouge, LA**
- Michelle V. Johnson, Houston, TX**

Individual Friend with Spouse

- Theresa & Wayne Ables, Breaux Bridge, LA**
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- Lillian & Maurice Oubre, Baton Rouge, LA**
- Cheryl & Wayne Stromeyer, Baton Rouge, LA**
- Susan & Ken Verret, Broussard, LA**

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- Errol & Karen Gautreau, Baton Rouge, LA**
- Lynda & Jim Guidry, Houston, TX**

L'Amitie Rouge

- Tom Jackson, Houston, TX**

Memorials for Larry Comeaux

- Mr & Mrs. Glenn Kelly**
- Mr. & Mrs. Ed Bulliard**
- Leah Talbot &**

**Krewe of Rio Board & Membership**

Gifts

- Chevron / J. E. Delahoussaye**
- French Chorale**

**THANKS TO ONE AND ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**







# 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
___ <i>L'Ordre du Bon Temps</i> Individual Membership**, includes Certificate and Medallion	\$70

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

#### Give More!

___ <i>L'Amitié Etoile</i> (Friendship level Star) – represents Brilliance on our Logo	\$100
___ <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> (Friendship level Gold) – represents Victory on our Logo	\$500
___ <i>L'Amitié Éternelle</i> - Lifetime Friendship represents the Anchor on our Logo	\$700

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

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

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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 \_\_\_\_\_



# ACADIAN MEMORIAL

## 2015 DATES TO REMEM-

### 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.

*Tourism Director/Curator Acadian Memorial:* Elaine Clément  
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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

### **MARCH**

March 21, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.– **11th Annual Acadian Memorial Heritage Festival and Wooden Boat Congrès**, Evangeline Oak Park, St. Martinville, LA

### **APRIL**

April 1, 10am: **Genealogy Workshop**, Jane G. Bulliard, "Building Historical Context"

April 15, 12 pm: **French Conversation**, Elaine Clement

April 29, **Genealogy Day**, Marie Rundquist, Washington, D.C.

10am: "How DNA Helps You with your Genealogy",

1:30pm: "DNA Success Stories"

### **MAY**

May 6, 10am: **Genealogy Workshop**, Jane G. Bulliard, "1765 Acadians in Attakapas"

May 20, 12pm: **French Conversation**, Elaine Clement

### **JUNE**

June 3, 10am: **Genealogy Workshop**, TBA

June 17, 12pm: **French Conversation**, Elaine Clement

