



CALLING ALL CAJUNS!

A Publication of The Acadian Memorial Foundation

August 2015



Le Grand R veil Acadien at the Acadian Memorial—October 8, 2015

October will be packed with Acadian activities as once again Le Grand R veil Acadien comes to south Louisiana. From October 3rd through October 12th various cities including Lake Charles (Oct. 3-4), Houma (Oct. 7), Lafayette (Oct. 9-11) and New Orleans (Oct. 12) will host a variety of Acadian-related events.

On October 8th be sure and visit the Acadian Memorial in St. Martinville as we will highlight the 250th anniversary of the arrival of the Acadians to the Attakapas and Opelousas Districts. Among the activities planned is a unique exhibit “250 Years of Acadian Presence—A Journey” documenting the arrival of the Acadians in the region and highlighting the history of several original Acadian families.

From 1:00—3:00 p.m. on October 8th Martin Guidry and Greg Wood will present a two-part presentation on the Acadians of Maryland. Approximately 25% of the Acadians that came to Louisiana embarked from Maryland shores. The first part of the presentation will highlight the early history of the Acadians, their deportation to and arrival in Maryland in late 1755, their decade of survival in Maryland and their departure and arrival in Louisiana from 1766—1769. The second part of the presentation will highlight the lives of the Acadians that remained in Maryland from approximately 1770 until the present day.

At 5:00 p.m. the Sonnier/Saulnier family representing Opelousas Acadians and the Guilbeau family representing Attakapas Acadians, will re-enact in pirogues on Bayou Teche, the arrival of the Acadians along the shores of Louisiana bayous. This is an annual event at the Acadian Memorial Festival in March and is always thrilling to watch and experience.

At 6:30 p.m. join us for a “Ratatouille” - a good, old-fashioned sing-along. We’ll sing local songs in both French and English. It should be fun for all ages.

During the morning of October 8th there will be a special event in Loreauville, La., highlighting The New Acadia Project—a current archeological investigation to locate the first Acadian camps and cemeteries along Bayou Teche in the Attakapas region. These were established in mid-1765 and are mentioned in the earliest records of *l’eglise des Attakapas*, now, St. Martin de Tours Catholic Church in St. Martinville.

Feel free to come in Acadian costume if you wish. Activities are free to the public. ♪

-R. Martin Guidry

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

At the Acadian Memorial, we celebrated National Day of the Acadians with a French Table, a presentation on the New Acadia Project, a presentation on commonalities of food, music and language of the Acadian and Afro-Creole Cultures, a French Rosary, Jambalaya, music from the Harris, Leblanc, and Thibodeaux families with the Brazos Huval School of Music and the arrival of the Eucharistic Procession by boats on the Bayou Teche.

On September 16, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. we will be holding our annual membership meeting, during which we will elect new members to the Board of Directors and officers for the upcoming year. The meeting will be held at the Acadian Memorial. Please make an effort to attend, as it would be nice to see members and friends we rarely get to visit with.

Acadiana will be celebrating the Acadian/Cajun culture, food, music, joie de vivre, etc. between the 3rd and 11th of October 2015. Please visit the website of Louisiane-Acadie, Inc., <http://www.louisiane-acadie.com>, for a detailed listing of all scheduled events across Acadiana and join in the celebration and festivities. Proudly display your Acadian flag, your family name yard signs, etc. On Thursday afternoon, October 8, 2015, we will host activities at the Acadian Memorial.

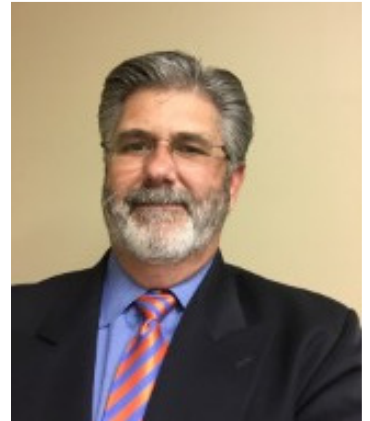
Our L'Ordre du Bon Temps Gala is scheduled for Thursday, November 12, 2015, at the Wyndham Garden Lafayette (former Hotel Acadiana), 1801 W. Pinhook Road, Lafayette, Louisiana. This year, Mr. Paul Durand will serve as Grand Master VII. As you all know, this is the main fundraising event for the Acadian Memorial. Our fundraising efforts would neither be possible nor successful without the help of members and friends of the Memorial. Please take part in the efforts undertaken for the benefit of the Acadian Memorial, your Acadian Memorial. Let's all work to make this year's L'Ordre du Bon Temps the most successful of all. Please mark the event on your calendar, save the date, plan to attend, purchase your tickets and help with ticket sales. Encourage friends to come along for an evening of fun and good food.

With your support, this year the Foundation was able to refinish the first floor of the Memorial, improve the mural voices, perform badly needed repairs to the touch screen for the interactive quilt exhibit and upgrade the exhibit's program software. We replaced the window coverings at the Memorial, and continue to address the encroachment of root systems of trees around the courtyard of the Memorial, which damage the walkways and family crests, all with monies raised through our various fundraising efforts. If you have not visited the Acadian Memorial lately, you must come for a visit if only to see the beautiful new floor finish!

I hope to see you at all of our upcoming events. À bientôt!

Sincerely,

Randal Menard



RESERVEZ CETTE DATE!!

**L'Ordre du Bon Temps Louisiane-2015
Annual Fundraising Gala to benefit
The Acadian Memorial
Thursday, November 12, 2015, 6-9 p.m.
Wyndham Garden Hotel
Lafayette, LA**



LIVING LEGENDS HONORS BIENVENU



Sylvia Segura Bienvenu of New Iberia and long time St. Martin Parish teacher and resident of St. Martinville, is shown after induction as a Living Legend, a program sponsored by the Acadian Museum of Erath to honor an individual who has helped shape and define our Cajun culture. It is held annually on July 28th, at the Acadian Memorial in St. Martinville, in conjunction with the World Wide Day of Remembrance. Recognized by colleagues and family for her accomplishments as an educator and supporter of French language programs, Bienvenu was also lauded for her contributions as a grant writer and fund raiser for the Acadian Memorial. Her efforts resulted in the installation of the Deportation Cross, the mosaic artwork in the Garden, audio for adults on the Acadian Memorial Mural and her crowning achievement, winning a national competition sponsored by the History Channel called, Save Our History. The award garnered a \$10,000 grant equally matched by Lowes

Photo by Sunni Bienvenu

Corporation for “Let the Children Speak” project providing voice to the real stories of the children in the mural.

Sylvia is married to Harold “Boops” Bienvenu, Sr., and is the daughter of former Iberia Parish Clerk of Court Soligny “Sos” and Margherite Gonsoulin Segura (both deceased). She serves as a member of the Acadian Memorial Foundation Board of Directors. [Additional Living Legends information is available on the Acadian Memorial website at www.acadianmemorial.org]



Sylvia Bienvenu pictured at right with her family.

Back row, l to r—Eddie Bienvenu, Sunni Bienvenu, Ben Bienvenu;

Second row, l to r, Sydni Bienvenu, Sylvia Bienvenu

Bottom row, Audri Bienvenu, Harold “Boops” Bienvenu, Jr.

Not pictured: Dr. Hal Bienvenu, Christina B. Dawson, Byron Bienvenu and Cindy B. McSherry

Photo courtesy of Sunni Bienvenu



JULY 28TH—A SPECIAL DAY AND SPECIAL CEREMONIES

Although the mission of the Acadian Memorial is always to remember the Acadian story we do so every year on July 28th, in two special ways. First, we uphold the proclamation signed in 2003 by the Governor-General of Canada for Queen Elizabeth II of England, declaring this an annual day of commemoration acknowledging the wrongs committed against the Acadians under British rule. The proclamation came after years of hard work by Lafayette attorney and Erath native, Warren Perrin, who also established the Acadian Museum in Erath.



Photo courtesy of Warren Perrin

Second, the Acadian Memorial Foundation hosts an induction to the Order of Living Legends, created for the Erath museum by Kermit Bouillon in 1996. During the year, the induction ceremony is usually held in Erath but, once a year, in recognition of its special mission and on the special day of July 28th, the induction to the Order of Living Legends is held at the Acadian Memorial. The 2015 honoree for Order of Living Legends is Sylvia Segura Bienvenu of New Iberia, declared an individual who has helped shape and define our Cajun culture. She has been recognized not only as a teacher but as a developer and critical analyzer of reading and bi-lingual programs around the state [See Living Legends article, pg. 3].

A large crowd was in attendance including the Bienvenu family and friends. Eddie Bienvenu, a son, recalled his mother's many attributes that led to her successes and Jane G. Bulliard, representing the Foundation, remarked on her grant writing efforts that since 2000, have netted over \$80,000 for enhancements to the Acadian Memorial. Mr. Darrell Bourque, Louisiana poet laureate emeritus, spoke on his long friendship with Mrs. Bienvenu through the Friends of the Humanities and his admiration of her work. Christy D. Maraist, a past president of the Foundation, presented a bouquet of roses with accolades for the inductee. At the beginning of the ceremonies, Warren Perrin remarked that the résumé of Mrs. Bienvenu and the story of her work in furthering the Acadian culture was so extensive that it was too lengthy for the podium! Acting on Mr. Perrin's remark the reader is advised to visit our website, acadianmemorial.org for complete details. 🌸

NATIONAL DAY OF THE ACADIANS CELEBRATED

On August 15th, the Acadian Memorial celebrated *La Fête Nationale des Acadiens*, the National Day of the Acadians and the Assumption, a day chosen in the 19th century by an assembly of Acadians in Canada based on the fact that the Virgin Mary was the patron of the Acadians.

The day began with the traditional flag raising ceremony at City Hall and moved to the opening reception for the exhibit, "250 Years of Acadian Presence: The Journey". Documents in the exhibit from the *Grand Pré* registers narrate the Acadians' journey to their new home in Louisiana. The exhibit will be on display through the end of the year.

Mavis Frugé was on hand to moderate the *table française* that was followed by *Vignettes en français*. It was a day filled with cultural explorations, including the link between Acadians and Afro-Creoles, traditional games and music. The celebration ended with the annual parade of Acadian family name banners and music on the church square.

The first Acadians arrived in Louisiana in 1764, but it was in 1765 that the Acadians arrived in Opelousas and Attakapas Districts. The earliest records are housed in St. Martinville, where *St. Martin de Tours* Catholic Church was established. Dr. Mark Rees and his staff provided an update on the research developed on the New Acadia Project. Thanks to their efforts, *Projet Nouvelle Acadie* (<http://newacadiaproject.blogspot.com/> or on Facebook) and other researchers, it has been determined that the first 3 encampments of the Acadians who arrived in this area were probably located near Loreauville. 🌸

-Elaine Clément

GRA SCHEDULE RECAP

Schedule for Grand R veil Acadien

St. Martinville, LA—Thursday, October 8, 2015

10:00 a.m.—4:40 p.m.—250 Years of Acadian Presence: The Journey with the Grand Pr  register covers and Ann Bolton, Head Archivist of the Diocese of Baton Rouge Archives

1:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m.— Marty Guidry and Greg Wood, The Acadians of Maryland

5:00 p.m.—Reenactment of the Arrival of the Acadians

6:00 p.m.—Ratatouille—Old Fashioned Sing-Along in French and in English



RAFFLE WINNERS OF AUGUST DRAWING

\$25—Nicholas Bienvenu, Loreauville, LA

\$50—Jo GuteKunst, St. Martinville, LA

\$100—Peggy Hulin, St. Martinville, LA

Nine (9) drawings left to finish!



Bienvenue



Welcome to those signing up and renewing annual membership:

New & Renewed Friends

Individual Friends

Lynn Bonneval, Thibodaux, LA

Gerard Charpentier, Laval, CA

R. Martin Guidry, Baton Rouge, LA

Jackie Huckabay, Bridge City, TX

Calvin P. Melancon, Lafayette, LA

Laura C. Melancon, Arnaudville, LA

St. Martin Parish Library, St. Martinville, LA

Carol Jean H. Mulrain, Galveston TX

Individual Friend with Spouse

James & Lona Bourque, Youngsville, LA

Michael & Leslie Formeller, St. Martinville, LA

Carroll & Nona LeBlanc, Lafayette, LA

Maurice & Lillian Oubre, Baton Rouge, LA

Irving & Doris Thibodeaux, Morse, LA

Kenneth & Susan Verret, Broussard, LA

Memorials for Leona Trosclair David

Lynne H. Bonin

Ed & Janie Bulliard



REGARDEZ  A!

Wednesday, September 16, 2015

Annual General Meeting of Friends of the Foundation at Acadian Memorial

- Vote on new members (5 nominated)
 - Vote on new slate of Officers
 - Refreshments



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 2015 – June 2016 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

Exp. Date _____ Signature _____



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.

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 DATES TO REMEMBER

SEPTEMBER

September 16—Acadian Memorial Foundation (AMF) Annual
General Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

OCTOBER

October 5—Elaine Clément—French conversation, 12 p.m.
October 8—Grand Réveil Acadien—St. Martinville, 10-6 p.m.
October 14—Genealogy Workshop, 10 a.m., Donald
Arceneaux, "The Initial Acadian Settlement"
October 21—Acadian Memorial Foundation Board meeting,
5:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER

November 2—Elaine Clément—French conversation, 12 p.m.
November 4—Genealogy Workshop, 10 a.m., Jim Bradshaw
& Danielle Miller, review their book: *Until You are Dead,
Dead, Dead: The Hanging of Albert Edwin Batson*
November 12—L'Ordre du Bon Temps 2015, 6-9 p.m.,
Annual Fundraising Gala, Wyndham Garden Hotel, Lafayette,
LA
November 19—Acadian Memorial Foundation Board meet-
ing, 5:30 p.m.

