

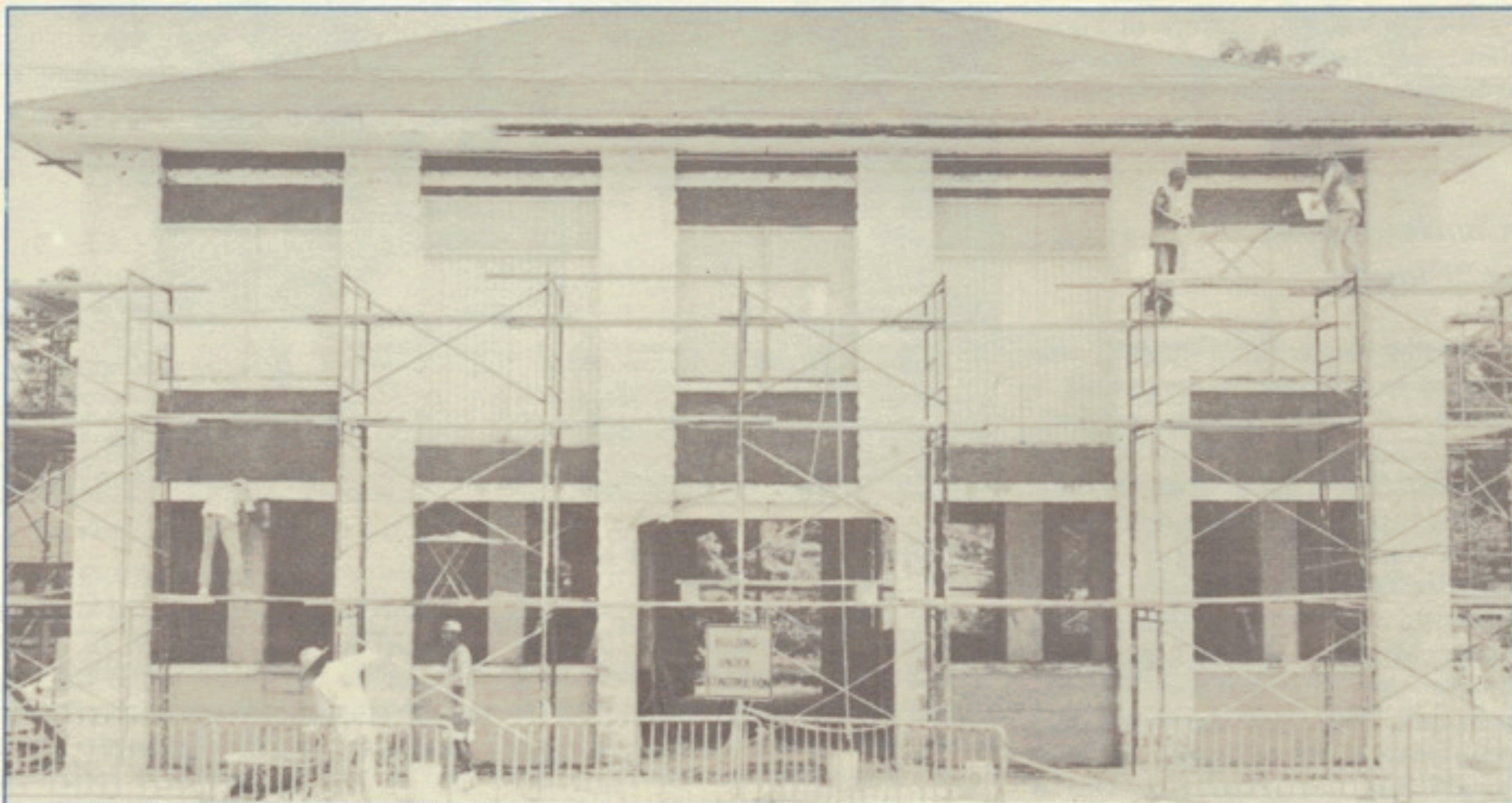


# Calling All Cajuns!

St. Martinville, Louisiana

Vol. 4, No. 2

Fall 1995



*Workers stand on scaffolding as they apply plaster to the exterior of the old St. Martinville city hall which will soon house the Acadian Memorial.*

## *Mural to be first element of the Memorial installed*

Directors of the newly formed Acadian Memorial Foundation, Inc. tell of plans to install the Robert Dafford mural, "The Arrival of the Acadians in Louisiana" as the first element of the Memorial and have set October 28th as the date for its premiere showing.

This event will also be a major fundraising effort aimed at completing the subscription of the 1440 mural squares originally available and raising additional funds to continue work on the building.

As a work of art, the mural will be a Louisiana treasure. It has received

support in the form of grants from the State Arts Council, the Louisiana Division of the Arts and the Acadiana Arts Council where it was judged to have "high artistic merit", was "historically and culturally significant", and "well planned and designed". The Foundation will be proud to display the distinctive logos of these prestigious organizations.

At a cost of \$35,000, financing the mural was made possible through donations received from the Arts grants and from persons across the United States, Canada and France. Their common

desire was to share in this masterful tribute to a courageous and valiant people and to use it as a unique opportunity to memorialize loved ones and to remember particular Acadian ancestors.

Other elements, a Wall of Names and an Eternal Flame, will be in place by the end of this year, according to Patricia Resweber, co-chair of the project. She added that the opening of an Acadian/Cajun Research Center on the second floor of the building is projected for 1996.

# Three more mural figures receive sponsors

## •Joseph Broussard, dit "Beausoleil"

Forty-seven descendants of Jean Camille Broussard and his wife Ada Hebert Broussard contributed to the support of the figure of Joseph Broussard dit "Beausoleil", their grandfather six times removed who is depicted on the Acadian Memorial mural. The family was represented at the memorial mass on August 15th by the persons, in picture at right, shown flanking the wreath presented at the mass which featured the names of all thirty-three mural figures.



L to R: Dr. Lastie Broussard of Scott, LA; Mr. John C. Broussard of Lafayette, LA; Mrs. Doris B. Dartez, Mr. Willie Broussard, Mrs. Gladys B. Trahan and Mr. Wallace Broussard of Maurice, LA and Mr. Walter Broussard of Breaux Bridge, LA.

## •Charles Dugas, dit "Charlit"

Charles Dugas, dit "Charlit", was married to Marguerite Broussard, a daughter of "Beausoleil" and his wife, Agnes Thibodeau. Through the support of Christy Dugas Maraist, their grand-daughter five times removed, a figure representing Dugas will be added to the mural. Mrs. Maraist's donation was made to honor her father, Mr. Clet Dugas a longtime farmer of St. Martin Parish, Louisiana. The mural figure will be a composite of Mr. Dugas, his son Gerald and his grand-son, David Maraist, Jr.

## •Father Jean-Francois de Civrey

Nell Hebert, chair of the Acadian Memorial service committee, presented a donation made by the Friends of St. Martin de Tours Church Square in support of the figure of Father Jean Francois de Civrey, the Capuchin priest who was sent to

accompany the Broussard party to the Attkapas country in 1765. Father de Civrey recorded the first baptisms and burials at *l'eglise des Atakaps*, now St. Martin de Tours, and it was he who first called the area *nouvelle Acadie*.

## Acadian National Holiday celebrated at "Mother Church of the Acadians"

Broussard, Dugas, Father de Civrey and thirty other mural figures were represented on a wreath ceremoniously carried and presented at a special mass on August 15, 1995, the Feast of the Assumption, also the Acadian National Holiday, at St. Martin de Tours Catholic Church in St. Martinville, Louisiana. This church was designated "Mother Church of the Acadians" in 1972.

Information provided by Mr. A.J. LeBlanc of the Acadian Village in Lafayette, Louisiana, tells that this holiday was established in July 1881, when 5,000 Acadian delegates from the church parishes of the provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Quebec, assembled at St. Joseph College in Memremcook, New Brunswick. Known as the First National Convention, this assembly was called to revive an interest in their heritage and had as one of its principal interests the choice of a national feast day for the Acadians. The purpose was to give them a separate and distinctive feast day which could be celebrated by Acadians world-wide. After much debate, the Feast of Our Lady of the Assumption, August 15, was selected as "National Day of the Acadians".

Their purpose was furthered this year by this first celebration in St. Martinville which was attended by several hundred persons from Texas, Mississippi and Louisiana, all joined in spirit by Acadian cousins in Canada and in France.

# St. Lucy Festival of Lights Historic St. Martinville, LA

Sunday, December 10, 1995

St. Martin de Tours Church Square, Main St.

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 10:30 am -<br>1:00 pm | Old Fashion Chicken Dinner<br>Advance tickets (318)394-3939<br>Limited tickets at the door      |
| 11:00 am              | Mass - St. Martin de Tours Church   |
| 12:00 noon            | Booths Open: Arts & Crafts, Food,<br>Sweets, Soft Drinks<br>+Storytelling and Papa Noel's Visit |
| 1:30 pm               | Acadian Memorial Grand Opening  |
| 2:30 pm               | Les Fons du Teche Concert<br>St. Martin de Tours Church   |
| 4:00 pm               | Christmas Parade, Main Street   |
| 5:30 pm               | Boat Parade, Bayou Teche  |
| 6:15 pm               | St. Lucy Light Ceremony   |
| 7:00 pm               | Live Nativity   |



Lighting of the Church Square will remain until January 6, 1996  
For Additional Information, Call: (318)394-4229 or (318)394-6021  
NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ALLOWED IN CHURCH SQUARE

Calling All Cajuns . . . .

to

# "Cajuns, Cousins & Cuisine"

A gala fundraising event

**Saturday - October 28, 1995**

**in St. Martinville, Louisiana**



*All the food you can eat . . .*

*All the fun you can stand . . .*

*For one of the best causes you can think of . . .*

**To subscribe the Acadian Memorial mural!!!**

**Tickets are limited - order yours today and receive:**

- a reservation for the premiere showing of "The Arrival of the Acadians in Louisiana"
- a mural square in your name (a \$50 value) to memorialize two of your loved ones
- a gala evening beginning with hors d'oeuvres catered by Chef Marcelle Bienvenu
- a Cajun gourmet dinner served 'al fresco' including entertainment
- a reservation for the lighting of the Eternal Flame ceremony on December 10, 1995.

Sponsored by: The Acadian Memorial Project, P O Box 379, Dept AM, St. Martinville, LA 70582.

(U.S. \$ only) Ph: 318-394-2230. Casual dress.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ tickets @ \$75

Address \_\_\_\_\_

VISA/MC # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: If card purchase, please supply name and address for donor recognition

Two memorial names per mural square:

(For women, please provide maiden name)

1) \_\_\_\_\_

Cash \_\_\_ M/O \_\_\_ Ck. \_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

# Calling All Cajuns Calendar

**Saturday, October 28, 1995**

Acadian Memorial gala fundraising  
event to subscribe the mural.

- 6:00 PM, Hors d'oeuvres at  
La Maison Duchamp,  
201 South Main Street
- 7:30 PM, Premiere showing of Dafford mural  
Acadian Memorial Building  
120 New Market Street

Dinner, open bar and entertainment until 10 PM

**Sunday, December 10, 1995**

10:00 AM - 8:00 PM St. Lucy Festival of Lights  
St. Martin de Tours Church Square  
St. Martinville, Louisiana

- 1:30 PM Lighting of the Eternal Flame  
Acadian Memorial Garden  
120 New Market Street, Bayou side  
(Ticket needed for admission)

## "Cajuns, Cousins & Cuisine" Help! Help! Help!

...fill this "want list" to make  
CCC fundraising goal a reality

- Want a learning experience? volunteer to help Chef Marcelle Bienvenu prepare hors d'oeuvres.
  - Want two "once-in-a-lifetime" happenings for the price of one? Your \$75 reservation for the premiere showing of the mural includes one for the lighting of the Eternal Flame - neither event will ever happen again!  
See order form on pg. 3 of this newsletter.
- Want to give a little something? need shelled pecans, styrofoam egg cartons, *gateau sirop*, bite-size pralines, cheese straws, prepared salads and vegetables.

If you want to help with any (or all) of the above please contact one of the following ASAP!!

Don Terry, Chair @ 318/845-4455  
Patricia Resweber @ 318/394-6158  
Marcelle Bienvenu @ 318/394-7574

*Un peuple sans passé est un peuple sans futur.*  
(Inscription on receptacle for the Eternal Flame)

Produced by:

Acadian Memorial Project  
P.O. Box 379 Dept. AM  
St. Martinville, LA 70582  
318/394-2230

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Newsletter Committee:

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Dolores Thomas

SQUARE STATS:

312 persons subscribed 370 mural squares  
7 persons or organizations subscribed 280  
for a total of 650 - 790 remain  
150 persons are permanently memorialized

### *The Acadian Memorial Project*

P. O. Box 379, Dept. AM  
St. Martinville, LA 70582