



Family Logo



Etoile Acadienne / Acadian Star



Chene Evangeline / Evangeline Oak

L'Association de la Famille Boudreaux / Boudreau / Boudrot / Boudreault
L'Etoile Acadienne
 A Boudrot Family Newsletter

Vol 11 Issue 2

Bilingual Newsletter / Bulletin Bilingue

Date : August 2009 / août 2009

Journée d' Ouverture
**Le Congrès Mondial
 Acadien 2009**

L'Acadie Accueille

Le vendredi 7 août 2009
Région de Lamèque / Sheppagan/
Miscou

Le 4e Congrès mondial acadien s'ouvre dans les magnifiques Îles acadiennes de Miscou et Lamèque. De la Fête de la lumière, au lever du jour au phare de Miscou, en passant par l'ouverture émouvante sur le pont de Miscou et la fête colorée au Village des Îles acadiennes à Lamèque, les citoyennes, citoyens et visiteurs présents vivent cette première journée sous le signe des retrouvailles. En parcourant cette région pittoresque, ils traversent d'élégants ponts accompagnés de bateaux colorés, découvrent sur leur passage une multitude de trésors humains, artistiques et culturels de toutes origines et assistent à des manifestations qui témoignent de la vitalité actuelle de ce peuple francophone d'Amérique.

L'animation festive sur le boulevard J.-D.-Gauthier à Shippagan en fin d'après-midi mène la foule vers le quai de Shippagan, où se déroule, au coucher du soleil, le puissant spectacle *Racines océanes* qui met en vedette plusieurs des grands noms de la scène artistique acadienne et leurs invités. Une journée mémorable à ne pas manquer! (Voyez « CMA » page 12)

**Le Congrès Mondial
 Acadien 2009**

Opening Day: Friday, August 7

Lamèque, Shippagan and Miscou
Areas

ACADIA WELCOMES

From Miscou and Lamèque to the port of Shippagan, walking the land originally inhabited by the First Nations, crossing elegant bridges lined with colourful ships, and getting to meet a multitude of human and cultural wonders of all origins, citizens and tourists can participate in the *Marche de l'Acadie*, a celebration of our origins and of the current vitality that make this Francophone people from America so unique. A welcoming breakfast and cultural activities will be offered along the picturesque trail. The day will end with *Racines océanes*, the grand opening concert featuring many artists, the majority of which are from the Acadian Peninsula.

Le Congrès Mondial Acadien 2009 opens Friday, August 7 and runs through August 23, 2009. Family reunions and many other activities celebrating Acadian history, heritage and culture are being held in Acadian communities of northeastern New Brunswick principally in Caraquet and Sheppagan.

The announcement of the location of the next Le Congrès Mondial Acadien in 2014 will be made on August 9th. Louisiana is in the running.

(See "CMA" on page 5)

**Boudreaux/Boudreau
 Family Association Plan
 November Meeting**

Next Association Meeting and
Gathering of Members

Saturday November 7, 2009

11:30 AM

Golden Coral Restaurant

Veterans Memorial Dr

Abbeville, LA 70510

(337) 898-942

Attendees will be able to participate in a fun Auction for a pictorial depiction, of the "Acadian expulsion", donated by Don & Joan Boudreaux of Lafayette. This fantastic prize will go to the highest bidder. It is wonderful item to hang proudly on you wall.

The proceeds will go to the association for future projects. See the framed picture of the Acadian Expulsion on page 5.

Visit the Boudreaux/Boudreau Family Association web site at www.boudreauxfamily.org

old site

Boudreauxfamilies.org : new website

So mark your calendars, all members are invited to the November 7th meeting. Lunch will be Dutch treat.

L'Etoile Acadienne

Issued by:
Boudreaux / Boudreau
Family Association
U.S.A. / Etats Unis

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Membership Dues

It is that time of year, so this is a gentle reminder for all members whose renewal date fell in January 2008.

Receiving our newsletter L'Etoile Acadienne (Acadian Star) is a great way to keep abreast of what is happening in the Acadian community and with our own grand Boudrot family.

Our organization is non-profit; the dues are used for printing and mailing the newsletter and for support of the French Immersion Program in Louisiana's public schools. Annual membership dues remain at \$10.00 or

receive a 3 year membership for \$25.00.

As a reminder we still print your renewal date on your mailing label.

Please contact us for any change of address, mailing error or membership error.

Make check payable to Boudreaux Family Association.

Send to:
Don Boudreaux
(treasurer/family genealogist)
124 Claremont Circle
Lafayette, Louisiana 70508

We would like to hear from you . . . Won't you drop us a line!

Tell us what you like about the newsletter and what you would like to see more of: genealogy, history, news articles, stories about Boudreau (x) (It) families from Acadiana, across the U.S.A., Canada and France, etc. Take up your pen and write an article yourself. It is one easy way to participate in the organization without even leaving home.

For those who live too far away to attend our meetings and reunions, send us a photo to introduce yourselves. From time to time we include photos of members so you can get to know us also.

Hope to hear from you!

Welcome

~ Bienvenue

We extend to you a warm Acadian welcome to our Association de la Famille Boudreaux / Boudreau which is part of "*la grand famille Boudrot*".

We are all part of the large family of Michel Boudrot and Michelle Aucoin, one of America's first European families who settled in the French colony of *Acadie* in the late 1630's.

For those of you who are renewing your membership, we thank you for your continuing support.

Renewals:

Alice Azure 3 years
Maryville, Illinois

Leonce & JoAnne Boudreaux
3 years
Metairie, Louisiana

Charles & Dorothy Guilhas
3 years
Bridge City, Texas

Ted & Peggy Boudreaux 1 year
Lockport, Louisiana

2009 Membership List :

In recognition of all members of L'Association de la Famille Boudreaux/Boudreau :

Don & Joan Boudreaux
Lifetime Members
Lafayette, Louisiana

Pauline Boudreaux Richard
Lifetime Member
Scott, Louisiana

Paul & Patricia B. Davidson
Lifetime Members
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Donnie & Lynn Kimble
Lifetime Members
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Larry & Gloria B. DeRoussel
Lifetime Members
Lake Charles, Louisiana

Lanny & Jerrie Boudreaux
Lifetime Members
Galliano, Louisiana

Charles & Dot Boudreaux
Lifetime Members
Kingwood, Texas

U.K. Sonny & Darla Boudreaux Covington, Louisiana	Al & Carolyn Boudreaux Houston, Texas	Richard & Joanne Boudreau LaCrosse, Wisconsin
Carroll & Harriet Boudreaux New Iberia, Louisiana	Wanda Boudreaux & William Heine Santa Monica, California	Carl J. Boudreau Savage, Minnesota
David & Lorraine Boudreau Modesto, California	Tommy & Luran Boudreaux Covington, Louisiana	Jack & Bonnie B. Sinclair Lafayette, Louisiana
Helen Boudreaux Breaux Bridge, Louisiana	Larry & Caroline Boudreaux Baton Rouge, Louisiana	Charles & Dorothy R. Guilhas Bridge City, Texas
Roland Simon Lafayette, Louisiana	Ted & Peggy Boudreaux Lockport, Louisiana	Carolyn Alice Adams Newport News, Virginia
Membership Roll	Charles D. & Goldie LeBlanc Delcambre, Louisiana	W. Leo & Donna Boudreaux Kerrville, Texas
Wanda Troy Abbeville, Louisiana	Gloria M. Boudreaux Lafayette, Louisiana	Kirby A. Boudreaux Lafayette, Louisiana
Lucy L. Boudreaux Humble, Texas	Joseph Floyd Boudreaux Metairie, Louisiana	Bobbie Taylor Long Beach, Mississippi
Patrick Boudreaux Humble, Texas	David & Angela Boudreaux Raines Westwego, Louisiana	Sidney Boudreaux Boca Raton, Florida
Annette K. Lee Escondido, California	Kristie Boudreaux Daigle Thibodaux, Louisiana	Pat & Brenda B. O'Connell Maurepas, Louisiana
Noel & Letty Boudreaux Mandeville, Louisiana	Kelly Boudreaux Cookmeyer Kenner, Louisiana	Fred & Margaret Boudreau Brancheburg, New Jersey 08876
Eugene & Edna B. Thomas Baltimore, Maryland	Gerald & Suzanne B. Simoneaux Harahan, Louisiana	Jonathan & Nancy Armentor Lees Chapel Hill, North Carolina
Louisette Boudreaux Stagg Taylors, South Carolina	Léo-Paul & Rosita Boudreau Jonquière, Québec, Canada	Kenneth & Audrey Borne Thibodaux, Louisiana
Lloyd Smith Cheney, Washington	Donald & Genevieve B. Curran Franklin, Pennsylvania	Elphie J. & Gwen Boudreaux Beaumont, Texas
Robert & Deborah Boudreaux Terrytown, Louisiana	Claudette Boudreaux Bainbridge, Washington	Lawrence & Joan E. King Warrenton, Virginia
Joseph & Martha Boudreaux New Orleans, Louisiana	Salvador & Dierdra B. Lopinto Harahan, Louisiana	Alcie Hatfield Azure Maryville, Illinois
James & Shirley B. Ducote Franklin, Louisiana	Edith Boudreaux Baton Rouge, Louisiana	Edwin Boudreaux Panama City, Florida
Bobbie & Jeanne B. Beebe Lena, Louisiana	Frtiz & Betty Boudreaux Labadieville, Louisiana	Jeffrey L. Boudreaux Atlanta, Georgia
Monty & Mary B. Verret Charenton, Louisiana	Ryan & Monique Boudreaux Wake Forest, North Carolina	Sharon B. Borden Chesapeake, Virginia
L.A. & JoAnne Boudreaux Metairie, Louisiana		

John & Mary Boudreaux
Harrison, Tennessee

P.J. & Cynthia Boudreaux
Lafayette, Louisiana

Gayle & Dana B. Guidry
Lafayette, Louisiana

Rogers & Charlotte B. Romero
New Iberia, Louisiana

Juliet Boudreaux Parish
Abbeville, Louisiana

Charmaine Boudreaux Ledet
Abbeville, Louisiana

David R. & Helen L. Boudreau
Fremont, California

Henrietta Caranna
Gulfport, Mississippi

Preston & Anne Boudreaux
Lake Charles, Louisiana

**BOUDREAU FAMILY REUNION
CMA 2009
Program**

The reunion will be August 19 & 20th 2009 at the Curling Club and the Arena in Tracadie -Sheila New Brunswick, Canada
Registration: **August 19th** 8:00 am.
For those of you that are not already registered the cost will be \$15.00 per person including brunch.
Brunch will be served between 9:00 am and 11:00 am.

Around 11:30 am will be the opening of the reunion, information of the Boudreau family and presentations of the genealogical boards on the perimeter of the hall. There will be genealogists on hand to assist everyone with their family tree.
Arena of Tracadie-Sheila: August 19th 7:00 pm, musical evening and dance with local artists. Cost \$8.00 per person.

August 20th: Opening at the Pokemouche Golf Club for a golf tournament at 9:00 am. Party of 4's for best ball. Those wishing to participate

must register in advance. Limit will be 9 groups of 4, 36 persons in total (adults only). Cost will be \$25.00 approximately and will be determined by the Golf Club. All those participating must be present by 8:30 am.

August 20th: from noon on - Expo and information on genealogy at the Curling Club of Tracadie-Sheila. Supper will be served from 5:00 pm for those who are registered only. Cost will be \$15.00 per person or \$25.00 per couple.

For information

Contact: Anita (Boudreau) Duguay
Telephone: 506.395.6843
Other contact: Jeannine Boudreau
Telephone: 506.33.1197
Email: familyboudreau2009@live.com
Website: <http://boudreau.fafa-acadie.org/>

Letters

Hi Charles

Here is an email complimenting you on the great newsletter. I answered her and told her about the mistake in the April 2009 newsletter about Michelle Aucoin's mother not being Marie Sallé, and Marie Sallé not marrying Jean Claude Landry, but Jean Claude. Please don't feel bad about the article's error, that is understandable, because the error is so widespread.

Don Boudreaux
Lafayette, Louisiana

Dear Don and all who help with the Newsletter,

Thoroughly enjoy reading the news. Really like the history, and the article

about Michel Boudrot was so informative. It is amazing that there is so much information about this husband and wife and children in the 1600's.

Doing genealogical research is like a puzzle, and fun when you are able to connect the pieces.

Thank you so much. This helps me stay connected.

Dierdra Boudreaux Lopinto
Harahan, Louisiana

Bonjour, tout le monde,

Last evening (Tuesday, July 28, 2009) Eldine and I went to St. Martinville to attend ceremonies related to the commemoration of the Deportation of Acadians.

Activities started in St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church with prayers, singing, brief talks about the deportation.

A procession to the Acadian Memorial followed. The procession went in the front door of the memorial and through the back door to get to the patio where a replica of the Deportation Cross stands. There is also an "eternal flame". About three dozen family "coats of arms" are inlaid in the patio.

Three persons spoke there. The first one carried a wreath and put it next to the cross. He mentioned that the black ribbon on the wreath reminds us of the hundreds who died during the deportation. He said the green of the wreath stands for hope.

Warren Perrin, who was a leader in getting an acknowledgement of the deportation from the British/Canada, spoke briefly.

After the third speaker's short discourse, we went inside the memorial for refreshments. Several of you know about the "Wall of Names" in the memorial. Now, hopefully, all of you will be familiar with it. On the wall are listed the hundreds of Acadians who came to Louisiana after

the deportation. My Doucet and Boudreaux ancestors are listed there. Eldine's Prejean ancestors are also listed.

One moving part about the "Wall of Names" is the persons who are not listed! My Boudreaux ancestor who came to Louisiana, Olivier, was imprisoned at Fort Edward with his wife and one son. So, his family is listed as being 3 persons at that time.

Olivier Boudreaux is listed on the "Wall of Names" (which is the list of those who came to Louisiana) with one son, Simon. That's all. So, out of the hundreds who perished during the deportation, one of my Boudreaux direct ancestors perished. I never did any research on that part of the deportation, but it stands out clearly; no great research is needed.

We in this part of Louisiana are fortunate to have cultural activities of this sort. On August 15th, we'll go again to the church and the Acadian Memorial. People are asked to carry banners of each Acadian family who came to Louisiana. A procession leaves the memorial and goes to the Church. Then we simply carry the banners back to the memorial and have refreshments. Eldine and I have each carried our respective family banner several times, she, the Prejean banner.

The Acadian Memorial has a nice web site at:

<http://www.acadianmemorial.org>

Passez une bonne et belle journée.

Have a great day.

Carol and Eldine Doucet
Lafayette, Louisiana

Thanks , Carol & Eldine, for the update on the "Day of Commemoration" at the Acadian Memorial in St. Martinville, Louisiana.

CMA 2009 and 2014

LAFAYETTE -- A delegation from south Louisiana will head for New Brunswick on Wednesday to help celebrate the fifth

annual Congrès Mondial Acadien, or World Acadian Congress, and to find out whether the Acadian fete will return to Louisiana in 2014. The huge gathering of Acadians from across the world is held every five years, according to Ray Trahan, president of Louisiane-Acadie Inc., the nonprofit corporation that has spearheaded the drive to bring it back to Louisiana.

The first congress was held in Moncton, New Brunswick in 1994, and the second was held in south Louisiana in 1999. The third congress, in 2004, was held jointly by several Nova Scotia communities in the ancestral Acadie region and celebrated the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the first French-speaking settlers in Canada. The 2009 Acadian World Congress will be held in the Acadian Peninsula of New Brunswick. If the Congrès can be brought back to Louisiana, it would be "a great opportunity for us to showcase our state, meet relatives from far away and celebrate together a common past even though we live in different countries," Trahan said. He said the 2014 gathering, if it comes here, could generate \$50 million or more in tourism and other revenue in Louisiana. The 2004 Congress had an estimated \$100 million impact in Nova Scotia, according to the organizers there. Also competing for the 2014 event are Quebec City and a region that covers the St. John Valley of northern Maine and western New Brunswick, collectively referred to as "Acadia of the Lands and Forests. The announcement of who gets the 2014 Congrès will be made on Aug. 9 at 9:30 a.m. our time in Caraquet, New Brunswick. The announcement will be broadcast live via a special hookup to Vermilionville in Lafayette, which will feature free admission and Cajun activities all of that day. South Louisiana has a larger concentration of Acadians than any place in the world, Trahan points out, "and there is not any better place to have such a gathering of our relatives, to memorialize our ancestors, and to celebrate the great accomplishments of the Acadian people."

Besides the economic impact, he points out, the return of the Congrès to south Louisiana would help maintain an awareness of and involvement in south Louisiana's Acadian renaissance, helping to keep the culture alive.

"Louisiana's bid focused on involving the younger generation," he said. "We can see that the survival of our Cajun culture, French language and heritage depend on people who will speak and live it for years to come. Now is the time to bring our young people into this. Hosting the World Acadian Congress would provide a boost that is badly needed."

Trahan said the Louisiana proposal includes a \$6 million budget for promotion and organization, and that the competing regions have offered about twice that.

Nonetheless, he thinks we have a good plan and a good chance at bringing it here.

Louisiana is a major sponsor of this year's Congrès and state and local tourism and cultural representatives will be in New Brunswick to promote the state's claim.

"Regardless of whether we win or lose, Louisiane-Acadie will continue with its mission to represent the Louisiana Acadiana population and will begin to focus more on our Cajun youth," Trahan said.

Other officers of the organization include Elaine Clement, vice president; Loubert Trahan, treasurer; and Peggy Matt, secretary. Members of the executive board include Brenda Comeaux Trahan, Philippe Gustin, Lucius Fontenot, and Valerie Broussard.

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Brenda Comeaux Trahan
Curator & Director of the Acadian
Memorial & Museum
bcetrahan@acadianmemorial.org

Hi Folks:

I wish to remind all that October 1st of this year has a special meaning for the Mi'kmaq. It will be the 260th anniversary of the date, October 1, 1749, that the British Colonial Military Government, under the leadership of Governor Edward Cornwallis, approved a resolution offering a bounty of ten Guineas (British money) for the scalps of Mi'kmaq, men, women and children, and those assisting them. The English Governor, on October 2, 1749, issued

a Proclamation pursuant to the Council's approval, and encouraged the public to join in the hunt for scalps.

In spite of Cornwallis's guilt, the provincial government, and the city of Halifax, as well as many other Nova Scotia municipalities, continue to treat him as a historical person of honour, which compelled us to start a Petition to have his crimes acknowledged, and his name removed from places of honour.

If you wish to sign it, or ask others to sign, The Rename Cornwallis Petition is still on the Net @<http://www.petitiononline.com/01101749/petition.html> It can also be accessed on the Home page of my Website www.danielnpaul.com We will be presenting it to the provincial and federal governments for their consideration on October 1, 2009.

The honourable memory of our ancestors, who were victimized by his criminal deed, demands no less than to have Cornwallis's name vilified for what can only be described as horrific and inhuman crime against humanity. The fact that our People were Indians certainly should not be seen as a means to justify such a heinous and evil deed, it certainly wouldn't work if they had been Caucasian.

Take care,
Danny,

Elder (Dr.) Daniel N. Paul, C.M.,
O.N.S.
www.danielnpaul.com

Please Consider Signing "**The Rename Cornwallis Petition,**"
Thanks!

<http://www.petitiononline.com/01101749/petition.html>

The Rename Cornwallis Petition

To: To the Governments of Canada, Great Britain, the province of Nova Scotia, and all its municipalities and school boards.

History relates that on October 1, 1749, English Colonial Governor Edward Cornwallis and his Military Council met aboard HMS Beaufort, at anchor in Chebucto Harbour, now Halifax, and decided that it would be in the best interests of Protestant colonizing of Nova Scotia to exterminate the Mi'kmaq population. To help realize their ethnic cleansing goal, they approved a motion to offer a bounty of ten pounds per scalp for the scalps of Mi'kmaq men, women, and children. On June 21, 1750, probably because scalps were not coming in fast enough, they revisited the issue and raised the bounty. Professor Geoffrey Plank of the University of Cincinnati comments about their rationale for approving such a barbarous course of action:

"If the Micmac chose to resist his expropriation of land, the governor intended to conduct a war unlike any that had been fought in Nova Scotia before. He outlined his thinking in an unambiguous letter to the Board of Trade. If there was to be a war, he did not want the war to end with a peace agreement. 'It would be better to root the Micmac out of the peninsula decisively and forever.' The war began soon after the governor made this statement."

Therefore, we the undersigned, because we firmly believe that no person who attempted genocide should, under any circumstances, receive public honors, express support for changing the name of all public entities such as schools, streets, parks, etc. which currently honor the name of Edward Cornwallis, founder of the British colonial city of Halifax which is currently the capital city of the

province of Nova Scotia, Canada. We ask this be done as a move towards restoring justice to the Mi'kmaq First Nation People of Nova Scotia. Governor Cornwallis, as part of the machinery of colonization, attempting to destroy them completely, oversaw the infliction of terrible suffering and indignities on men, women and children of the Mi'kmaq Nation. Morally, no Nation that self-describes itself as civilized, can justify honoring such a man. His action demands that he be condemned by honorable caring citizens, not honored! Sincerely,

The Undersigned

WE SHALL NEVER FORGET

. . . and the church bells rang July 28th, 6:00 p.m. ~ Acadian Deportation "Day of Commemoration" Memorial Service held at St.Martin De Tours & The Acadian Memorial Meditation Garden.

St.Martinville, Louisiana ~ Brenda Comeaux Trahan, Curator Director of the Acadian Memorial and Monsignor Douglas Courville of St. Martin De Tours invited all Louisiana Acadian /Cajuns and friends to join in a spiritual Memorial to remember the Acadian victims who died during the years of the deportation.

As mandated by the Queen's Proclamation of December 9, 2003, and with the support of the Catholic Diocese of Lafayette, we requested that all churches in the Acadiana region please toll the church bells at 6:00 P.M. on July 28th, 2009 in remembrance of the day that the Acadian Deportation Order was signed by the British officials in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The signing of the Order by the British Lt. Governor Charles Lawrence brought about the Diaspora

which commenced on September 5, 1755 and resulted in the cruel removal of Acadians from their homelands in Acadie, now present-day Nova Scotia. From 1755 to 1763, more than 7,000 (half of the population) perished.

Warren Perrin, instrumental in bringing awareness to the Canadian Parliament comments, "Over 250 years after the defining tragic event of Acadian history, we will pause to remember the unparalleled saga of our ancestors because, as was stated in dictum by William Faulkner, 'The past is never dead. It's not even past'. The desirability of an official apology to the Acadians became the subject of debate in the Canadian Parliament and within the Acadian community. In 2003, the Society Nationale d'Acadie, -- the largest Acadian organization in the world-- wrote directly to the Queen of England "asking that she 'recognize the wrongs done to the Acadian people as a consequence of the deportations from 1755-1763' in order "to turn the page definitely on this tragic episode in our past". As I look back upon the Petition For An Apology, which I launched in 1990, I'm very gratified to have played a role in bringing about this closure."

Following the Commemoration ceremony, those in attendance joined for a prayerful procession to the Acadian Memorial Deportation Cross and the closing ceremony. A short reception followed.

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Brenda Comeaux Trahan
Curator & Director of the Acadian
Memorial & Museum
bttrahan@acadianmemorial.org

BOUDREAUX FAMILY ASSOCIATION MINUTES

April 25, 2009

The spring meeting of the Boudreaux Family Association was held on April 25, 2009 at the Golden Coral Restaurant in Abbeville, Louisiana with Don Boudreaux presiding.

Twenty-seven members were in attendance (from as far away as Kingwood, TX and Metairie, LA and everyone in between.)

Guest speaker for the meeting was Roland Stansbury, Director of the Young-Sanders Center for the study of the War Between the States in Louisiana. The center is located in Franklin, LA. Mr. Stansbury has several Boudreauxs in his genealogy and is eminently qualified to address the group.

The Young-Sanders Center was created in 1996 by Mary Elizabeth Sanders of Baton Rouge, LA. Mrs. Sanders died in 2006 and was the daughter of Jared "J. Y." Young Sanders, Governor of Louisiana from 1908-1912.

The mission statement shows clearly that the center is committed to "a historically accurate examination of the antebellum period, the War Between the States, and the reconstruction ear in all parts of Louisiana, with emphasis on military campaigns and battles, the daily life of soldiers and civilians, and the political, social, and economic impact of the Federal occupation on the people of Louisiana.

The Center presents seminars, presentations, publications, lectures, and considerable information to the general public at the facilities and on their website. The William T. Shinn Memorial library in Franklin, La. houses Mr. Shinn's private collection of historical southern, in particular Louisiana, donated by Mrs. Shinn after Mr. Shinn's death. Mr. Shinn was a title abstractor during his lifetime.

Mr. Stansbury invited the group present to make use of the research department to find any relative who might have fought in the War Between the States. Brochures were distributed and membership in

"Friends of the Young-Sanders Center was explained and encouraged.

Mr. Stansbury is a dedicated and knowledgeable researcher willing to assist in any way he can those people in following leads to the involvement of relatives in the war.

Members of the Friends of the Young-Sanders Center receive the Center's quarterly newsletter, advanced notice of all special events, seminars, and lecture series. Annual membership consists of a donation of \$20.00 for single and \$25.00 for married.

Anyone interested in this endeavor may contact the Center in the following manner:

Young-Sanders Center
P. O. Box 595
Franklin, LA 70538
1.337.413.1861
1.337.413.0101 (Fax)
www.youngsanders.org.
YSC1891@aol.com

The Center is located at the corner of Commercial Drive and Tech Drive, Franklin, Louisiana.
William T. Shinn Memorial Library
104 Commercial Drive
Franklin, LA 70538
Hours: M-F 9:00-12, 1:00-5:00

The new Boudreaux website has the listing of the Boudreauxs known to be in the War Between the States. The webmaster is Larry Boudreaux has done a commendable job getting it up and running and we thank him for his efforts. The address is:

Boudreauxfamilies.org

Door prizes were given away from a drawing of names of members attending: \$50 (Roland Simon,) two \$25 (Dot Boudreaux and Wanda Troy,) and the book *Diary in Gray* by

Jared Young Sanders, III (Ryan Menard.) Raffle prizes were won by various attendees, with \$192.00 in profit.

The next meeting will be Saturday, November 7, 2009.

Dana B. Guidry
Secretary
Boudreaux Family Association
Lafayette, Louisiana

John Mack Faragher at CMA 2009

Award-winning historian and author John Mack Faragher in Caraquet during World Acadian Congress

Moncton, New Brunswick: John Mack Faragher, historian at Yale University and author of a historical book outlining the deportation of the Acadians in 1755, has been invited by l'Université de Moncton's Alumni Association (*l'Association des anciens, anciennes et amis de l'Université de Moncton*) of the university's Moncton campus (AAAUM) and the Institute for Acadian Studies (*l'Institut d'études acadiennes*), to participate in the 4th edition of the World Acadian Congress.

In 2005 after more than ten years of research, John Mack Faragher published *A Great and Noble Scheme: The Tragic Story of the Expulsion of the French Acadians from their American Homeland*. In this critically acclaimed book, the American author revisits the story of *Le Grand dérangement* - the Acadian term for the expulsion, meaning 'great upheaval' - which he qualifies as an audacious strategy many years in the making, orchestrated mainly by New England authorities, in order to annihilate Acadian society.

Specializing in American History, John Mack Faragher teaches at Yale

University where he is also director of the Howard R. Lamar Center for the Study of Frontiers and Borders. Mr. Faragher is the author of several prize-winning books on the American frontier, including *Daniel Boone: The Life and Legend of an American Pioneer* and *The American West: A New Interpretive History*.

According to Mario Thériault, president of the AAAUM, the painstaking and subtle research Mr. Faragher has undertaken in his book, allows us not only to better understand the *Grand dérangement* of 1755, but also to rediscover certain of our personality traits that have since been eclipsed. "The event on August 16th will give us a platform to discuss these issues," explains Mr. Thériault. "By facilitating a better understanding of our history, we want to cast a new light on our present circumstances."

Mr. Faragher will participate in an event entitled *L'Acadie vue d'ailleurs*, which promises to be rich in dialogue and reflections. It will take place on August 16th at 2 p.m. at the *Centre culturel de Caraquet*. The programme features a discussion between Mr. Faragher and author Herménégilde Chiasson, as well as a round table discussion featuring Acadians whose professions have taken them abroad - such as Lyse Doucet, news correspondent and announcer for the BBC, Ginette Lamarche, news correspondent for Radio-Canada radio in Brazil and Georges Rioux, Consul General of Canada in Chicago.

Simultaneous translation will be available during the event.

The mission of l'AAAUM is to encourage the promotion, development and projection of l'Université de Moncton, as well as its alumni and friends. The association also engages actively in the well-being of the communities in which it evolves.

Telephone: 1.888.362.1144 or
506.858.4130
aaaum@umoncton.ca

La Fête Nationale des Acadiens / National Day of the Acadians

August 15, 2009
121 South New Marke, St. Martinville
337.394.2258

Acadian Day

August 15th

Acadian colors and attire
encouraged (red, white,
blue, and gold)

St. Martinville, LA: Saturday, August 15th! On this day St. Martinville, Canada, and France celebrate *la Fête Nationale de l'Acadie* or National Day of Acadians. The City of St. Martinville, Historic District, and the Acadian Memorial / Museums, along with the Longfellow-Evangeline State Historic Site invite tourists and friends to enjoy the ongoing activities happening around town. Come spend the day in historic St. Martinville, we love company!

Events of the day:

The day will start at 1:00 p.m. at the Acadian Memorial with an opportunity to hear and view the audio interactive of the mural, "The Arrival of the Acadians in Louisiana".

1:00 PM ~ Flag ceremony - Lead by Sarah Roy, Acadian Memorial Choir Director

2:00 PM ~ A Patchwork of Memories story telling by Yvonne Thibodeaux Bogan. She will share her short stories about growing up in the 1950s rural French farming community of Richard in Southwest, LA.

(See "Acadian Day" on page 9) 8



New 2009 Louisiana license plate

The plate is ready! The main elements, *Louisiane*, *la glaie bleue* and **Chez Nous Autres** are all in French and mean in English respectively Louisiana, the Louisiana iris and Our Home. You must contact Office of Motor Vehicles au 1-225-925-6371 or toll free at 1-877-368-5463 to have the exact price. The French immersion programs will receive \$25 for each plate sold! In July, the plates will be available at DMV offices around the state. You can also obtain a sample plate for \$12. We heard that the plates are popular around the state.

La plaque est parée !

Les éléments principaux sont, *Louisiane*, *la glaie bleue* et *Chez Nous Autres* en français. Pour les plaques d'immatriculation, le prix de base est \$50, plus des frais additionnels. Il faut contacter le OMV au 1-225-925-6371 ou au 1-877-368-5463 (gratuit) pour avoir le prix exact. Les programmes d'immersion française recevront \$25.00 pour chaque plaque vendue ! En juillet, les plaques seront disponibles aux bureaux de DMV à travers l'état. Vous pouvez également obtenir une plaque (échantillon) pour \$12. On a entendu que les plaques sont populaires à travers l'état.

Elaine F. Clément
Relations Communautaires
Conseil pour le Développement du

Français en Louisiane
Council for the Development of
French in Louisiana
217 rue Principale Ouest
Lafayette, LA 70501
337-262-5810; 800-259-5810
(gratuit aux E-U)
337-262-5812 (fax)
eclement@crt.state.la.us



Congratulations!

Kristie L. Boudreaux of Thibodaux, Louisiana, the daughter of Joseph Floyd Boudreaux, of Metairie, La., graduated from The University of Phoenix with a Bachelors in Business Administration and a Minor in Human Resource Management with a combined GPA of 3.4

Kristie, a full-time mother and full-time Quality - ISO 9001:2000 Lead Auditor, decided to return to college as a full-time student at the age of 32. Four and a half years later, at the age of 36, through many trials and tribulations she obtained her degree. Not only did she obtain her degree for herself but to set an example for her daughter, nieces and nephew. Thus being said, she is a prime example that it is never too late to further your education and to obtain your degree.

Kristie and her family are all members of the Boudreaux Family Association. We send her our best wishes!

Pictured below from left to right: Don Boudreaux, President of the Boudreaux Family Association, Roland Stansbury, Director of the Young-Sanders Center for the Study of the War Between the States, and Sonny Boudreaux. See article "Boudreaux Family Association Meeting Minutes" on page 7. Mr. Stansbury spoke at the Boudreaux Family Association meeting on April 25, 2009.



Acadian Day

(cont. from page 8)

3:30 PM ~ Théâtre Acadien /
Vignettes on Deportation Story

5:30 PM ~ Meet at the A.M. Hall to
line up for procession / leave for
church at 5:50 p.m. / For Children:*
Tintamarre (racket) is an Acadian
tradition showing Acadian pride by
making as much noise as possible.

*Bring your own noise makers.

6:00 PM ~ French Mass at St. Martin
de Tours Catholic Church, mother
church of the Acadians, with the
Acadian Memorial French Choir
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM ~ Enjoy dinner in
the historic city's wonderful
restaurants

**BANNER CARRIERS NEEDED
FOR FRENCH MASS**

Volunteers are needed to carry
Acadian family name banners during a
French Mass to be held in St.
Martinville on Saturday, August 15.
The procession of the Acadian family

name banner carriers departs from the Acadian Memorial at 5:50 p.m. making its way to St. Martin de Tours Church. The Mass is devoted to Our Lady of the Assumption, Patroness of Acadians. It will be celebrated in French by The Right Reverend Monsignor Douglas Courville with the Acadian Memorial French Choir. Volunteers who would like to carry a banner to the Mass should contact the Memorial at 337-394-2258 as soon as possible to reserve one. You will need to report to Acadian by 5:30 p.m. for instructions and to receive your family name banner. Contact the Acadian Memorial for more information. 337-394-2258.

Maegan Berard
St. Martinville Tourism Department
337.394.2233
P.O. Box 379
St. Martinville, LA 70582
www.stmartinville.org

A Window to the Past: An Exiled Acadian Writes to His Father In France

Letter from Jean-Baptiste Semer from New Orleans to his father in Le Havre, April 20, 1766.¹

Jean-Francois Mouhot, PhD.
University of Birmingham (United Kingdom) / University of Lille 2 (France)

Translation: Bey Grieve

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Linda Garber, University Editor
Carl Brasseaux, Managing Editor
Louisiana History, Univ. of Louisiana

¹ This letter was first published in French in the Canadian journal *Acadiensis*, *Journal of the History of the Atlantic Region*, XXXIV, 2, spring 2005. I wish to warmly thank Bey Grieve for his translation.

In a recent issue of the Canadian journal *Acadiensis*, several letters exchanged between Acadians just after the "Great Deportation" were published². I had the good fortune recently to discover a copy³ of a letter—to my knowledge previously unpublished—whose existence was well-known to historians, but which was thought to be lost⁴. This letter

² Jean-François Mouhot, "Des Revenantes? A propos des "Lettres fantômes" et de la correspondance entre exilés acadiens (1758-1785)" *Acadiensis*, XXXIV, 1 (Automne 2004).

³ The letter was copied in 1766 by the Department of the Navy so that the Minister of the Navy, Praslin, could peruse it. It is this copy—and not the original, which has probably been destroyed—that I had the good fortune to rediscover. It is hard to assess the possible changes made to the original by the copyist. Nevertheless, the precision of the facts mentioned in the letter (and their agreement with what historians have been able to piece together about the Acadian settlement in Louisiana) inclines one to think that only stylistic or grammatical touching up has been done to the text, even if one can't exclude the possibility that certain parts perhaps too critical of the conditions of life in France (for example, the passage concerning the "duties and taxes to pay") might have been watered down by order of Mistral, superintendent of the navy in Le Havre. We should also remember that the original letter was not written directly by Semer—who obviously doesn't know how to write—but by "the holy hospitaller, Mother Madeleine".

⁴ The existence of this letter was until now known only through an allusion of the Minister (Praslin to Mistral, September 13, 1766, Archives Nationales de France, Colonies, Series B, vol. 125, folio 450). Praslin summarized in a few words the remarks of Jean-Baptiste Semer and forbade the Acadians to emigrate to Louisiana. We find a transcription of Praslin's missive in Carl A. Brasseaux, "Phantom Letters: Acadian Correspondence, 1776-1784", *Acadiensis*, XXIII, 2 (Spring 1994): pp. 124-32. Ernest Martin returns to this letter after having written "From 1766 on, an

was written in April 1766 by Jean-Baptiste Semer, an Acadian recently settled in Louisiana, to his father Germain Semer, a refugee in Le Havre, in France. Given its importance for our knowledge of the beginnings of the Acadian settlement in Louisiana, it seemed appropriate to publish the complete transcript here. A number of indications in the letter suggest that it was probably not the first exchange between father and son. Indeed, Jean-Baptiste had already received a letter from his father just before his departure from New Orleans for Attakapas in April 1765. It is also possible that Jean-Baptiste had already sent a first letter to his father, since the latter knows where to write to his son and Jean-Baptiste gives few details on the beginning of his journey. Moreover, Germain has a fairly precise

Acadian from Louisiana having written to his parents repatriated to Le Havre how happy he was there, all the refugees of the port had asked to be transported to this land of plenty" (*Les Exilés Acadiens en France au XVIIIe siècle et leur établissement en Poitou*, Paris, Hachette, 1936 p. 87). Brasseaux also refers to this letter in his book *The Founding of New Acadia: The Beginnings of Acadian Life in Louisiana, 1765-1803*, Louisiana State University Press, 1987 (p. 60); in the same book (p. 73 and following), the historian tells about the arrival of a group of Acadians in Louisiana—led by Joseph Brossard—including Semer; the information that he gives corroborates what we find in this letter. Brasseaux alludes again in a general way to the correspondence sent from Louisiana to France (constantly citing Praslin's letter of September 1766) in "A New Acadia: Acadian Migration to South Louisiana, 1764-1803", *Acadiensis*, 15, 1 (1985): pp. 123-32 (p. 129). In this same article, speaking of "letters from Attakapas Acadians {sent} to relatives in France", Brassard affirms that "none of these letters has survived".⁴ Several contemporary memoirs corroborate these remarks. Thus, a

knowledge of the previous peregrinations of his son, since he gives an account of them to Mistral, the superintendent of the navy in Le Havre. The latter conveys some pieces of information to the minister in a report accompanying the copy of Jean-Baptiste's letter:

An Acadian named Germain Semer who, among those who reside in this port, is regarded as a man of good sense and level-headed, and whose advice they consequently follow, came to me to pass on a letter he received from his son, now living in New Orleans. This son stayed in Acadia with the English during the whole period of the war and was among those who in peacetime went from Acadia to St-Domingue to settle at Moule {Mole} St. Nicholas where the intemperate climate not suiting them and causing the death of many of them⁵, Messieurs the governors and intendants of Saint Domingue decided to send the remainder of these Acadians to New Orleans, perhaps even by order of M. le duc de Choiseul. This letter, of which I have the honour to send you an enclosed copy, has made a very deep

"Summary of the difficulties that afflict the commerce of Saint-Domingue", written from the Cap {Français} (cf. note 16 below) by an anonymous author on April 2, 1765 states: "The settlement of Moule {Mole} Saint-Nicolas by Acadian emigrants {is} viewed here as impracticable because of the insalubrity of the air {these families here having almost all succumbed}" (Archives Départementales de Gironde, France, C4328). Concerning the passage of Acadians to Saint-Domingue, see particularly Gabriel Debien, "The Acadians in Santo- Domingo: 1764-1789", in: Glenn R. Conrad, *The Cajuns: Essays on their History and Culture*, La Fayette, University of Southern Louisiana, 1978, pp. 21-96. This last article contains numerous documents translated into English.

impression on the man named Germain Semer, as well as on some other Acadians whom he has told about it, and the former came to me to ask permission to go with his family to rejoin his son, provided however that the King was willing to pay the cost of their passage which it is impossible for them to provide for. (...). I made it known to them that New Orleans belonging today to the King of Spain, I could not grant them permission to go there even at their own expense without your orders. If you don't see, Monseigneur, any drawback to this emigration (...), it would be easy with little expense, made once forever, to get them to the Mississippi (...). Until you have honoured me, Monseigneur, with your orders on this matter I will not let any of these Acadians leave for this Spanish colony⁶.

A previous correspondence, therefore, had no doubt been established between father and son. It is possible that a letter had been sent from Saint-Domingue before the arrival of the group of Acadians, including Jean-Baptiste, in New Orleans in February, 1765⁷. We can retrace Germain Semer's subsequent journey thanks to research published by G.M. Braud on the Acadians of Nantes⁸. Following the refusal of the minister Praslin (in 1766) to let the Acadians leave for New Orleans, Germain Semer and his family lived in

⁶ Mistral to Praslin, to Le Havre, August 12, 1766, Archives Nationales de France, fonds marine, B3 568, f° 317. Until now, we didn't know the response (negative) of Praslin to this request. On the arrival of the first Acadians in Louisiana, see the works and articles of Brasseaux previously cited.

⁷ Carl A. Brasseau, "A New Acadia", *art. cit.*, p.125.

⁸ Gérard Marc Braud, *Les Acadiens en France: Nantes et Paimboeuf, 1775-1785. Approche Généalogique*, Ouest Edition, 1999 (p. 233).

Le Havre until 1773 or 1774, then went to Chatellerault (Poitou, France) with the other Acadians attracted by the offers of the Marquis de Perusse des Cars. Like many of these same Acadians, the Semer family later went to Nantes, in 1776⁹. He practised the trade of carpenter there and resided at the Hospital du Sanitat. Germain Semer was buried on December 14, 1782 at the Hotel Dieu of this city¹⁰. He was thus unable to realize his wish to go and live in Louisiana and rejoin his son there.

⁹ For further details, please see my doctoral dissertation, *Les Acadiens réfugiés en France (1758-1785): l'impossible réintégration?* PhD. Thesis (History), European University Institute, Florence, January 2006.

¹⁰ According to G.M. Braud, Germain Semer was born about 1720 at Petcoudiac (a village situated approximately at the present site of Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada) and married Marie Trahan, born about 1725 at Rivière-aux-Canards (Acadia) and died on October 25, 1776, Nantes, Hopital du Sanitat. G. M. Braud specifies that they had several children, but curiously doesn't mention Jean-Baptiste. Here is the list of the Semer children indicated by Braud: Madeleine, born around 1748; Marie-Claire, married to Jerome-Dominique Doulle; Marie-Francoise, born around 1762, Le Havre de Grace, Notre-Dame (Seine-Maritime) parish; married May 30, 1785, Chantenay, St. Martin, to Joseph Boudreau; Grégoire-Dominique, born about 1768. "Grégoire and Marie-Françoise are announced as leaving on l'*Amitié* (n°10) but Marie-Francoise gets married 3 months before the departure of the ship and will not follow up on her plans. As for her brother, did he leave alone? We don't know" points out G.M. Braud. In the lists published by Guy Bugeon and Monique Hivert-Le Fauchoux (*Les Acadiens partis de France en 1785 pour la Louisiana: listes d'embarquements*, Poitiers-Rennes, (tapuscrit), 1988) we find a number of Semers on board the *Amitié*; notably, n°10; "Semer, Gregoire (Ropemaker, 16 years old) and his sister Françoise, 24 years old" (p. 37).

This is the text of the letter sent by Jean-Baptiste to his father:

A copy of the letter written by the man named Jean-Baptiste Semer, to the man named Germain Semer, his father, former inhabitant of Acadia residing in Le Havre, dated New Orleans, April 20, 1766¹¹.

My very dear father, at the time of my departure for Attakapas¹², I had the honour of receiving yours¹³ in New Orleans, where I had gone down with about thirty of our Acadians who came to return the King's boats which had been loaned to us to take our material and our families. We had left last year in April from here {from New Orleans} to go there {to Attakapas} and illnesses having overcome us this last summer, we were in no state to row them {sic, "ramer" used here, probably for "ramener", to bring back} until now, but we were once again given others added to those we prepared up there and we are leaving again with our supplies and munitions and other provisions we have made. I gave your letter to the holy hospitaller, Mother Madeleine, who has done a thousand kindnesses for all of us so that she again has the one {kindness} to reply to you, which she does while assuring you, my very dear father, that it is not for want of natural {affection} for you and my very dear mother that I have not had the honour of telling you our news, but the Attakapas are sixty leagues from here and our letter-writers are

¹¹ Attached to Mistral's letter of August 12, 1766. Archives Nationales de France, fonds marine B3 568, folio 319ss. {Writing and punctuation partly modernized}

¹² District of Louisiana west New Orleans, on the Teche bayou. The principal Acadian settlements are: Pont Breau; Lafayette; Broussard; St. Martinville; New Iberia; Abbeville.

¹³ I received the honour of your letter...

dead. I will forget myself even sooner than forget you both, the kindnesses that you have done for me are always in my thoughts and I never miss offering them to God in my prayers for your dear preservation and ask of you also the same in return and the continuation of your friendship to both of us and to please me by giving me your dear news as often as possible. I will tell you then my very dear father that I arrived here in the month of February 1765 with 202 Acadian persons, including Joseph Brossard¹⁴, called Beauplaisir {sic}, and all of his family, la Greze and Catalan¹⁵, all coming from Halifax and having passed by the Cape¹⁶. Beausoleil led and paid the passage for those who didn't have the means. After us, there arrived yet another 105 in another ship and then 80, 40, some 20 or 30, in 3 or 4 others. I believe there are about 5 to 600 of us Acadian persons counting women and children. We the first ones have been sent 7 or 8 men to look over the land and locations in order to find a suitable site and we have been told that at Attakapas there were magnificent grasslands with the finest soil in the world.

M. Aubry¹⁷ who commanded through the death of M. d'Abbadie¹⁸ favored us as much as was possible for him but he has not quite been the master not being assisted by the Ministers of finance. Finally, while we were here we were given a pound and a half of bread and meat for women who were pregnant or

¹⁴ On this individual, see the *Dictionnaire of Canadian Biography Online* (<http://www.biographi.ca>).

¹⁵ Non-identified individual.

¹⁶ The Cap-Haitien, north of the present state of Haiti (formerly Cap-Français, in Saint-Domingue).

¹⁷ Charles Philippe Aubry, last French governor of the colony.

¹⁸ Jean-Jacques d'Abbadie, governor of Louisiana from 1763 to 1765.

nursing and to the disabled at the King's hospital, in sickness, and starting from {?} bread that is, flour for the men equivalent to the rice and "mahy" {sic, for "mais", or corn} for the women and children. We went to Attakapas with guns, powder and shot, but as it was already the month of May, the heat being so intense, we started the work in too harsh conditions. There were six plows that worked; we had to break in the oxen, go 15 leagues to get horses. Finally, we had the finest harvest and everybody caught fevers at the same time and nobody being in a state to help anyone else, 33 or 34 died, counting the children. Those who started again wanted to go and work in their wilderness and they fell ill again, but we came down in the month of February 1766 of this year and here we all are, thank God, very well and hoping for a very fine harvest this year, with God's help, having cleared a great deal. We have only to sow and we already have oxen, cows, sheep, horses and the finest hunting in the world, deer, such fat turkey, bears and ducks and all kinds of game. We saw it on the end of our gun. There are several since the death of Beausoleil who came down from Attakapas, among others those of the Rivière de Saint-Jean, and went to settle along the Mississippi river on the German side where the latter have already started a settlement.

We lack only the good missionaries like we had in Acadia for here there are only a very few Capuchin Fathers. There was a gouty one here who had gone up with us but he was forced to go back down. There is a Spanish governor who likes us very much, who has just arrived with two very zealous Capuchin fathers, but they know only Spanish. We are waiting for others. The land

here brings forth a good yield of everything anyone wants to sow. Wheat from France, corn and rice, sweet potatoes, giraumont¹⁹, pistachios, all kinds of vegetables, flax, cotton. We lack only people to cultivate it. We produce indigo, sugar, oranges, and peaches here grow like apples in France. They have granted us 6 arpents to married people and 4 and 5 to young men, so we have the advantage, my dear father, of being sure of our land, and of saying I have a place of my own. Wood is very common here, and we do a good trade in it, for construction and for the building of houses at the Cape and other islands. A person who wants to devote himself to property and make an effort will be comfortably off in a few years. It is an immense country; you can come here boldly with my dear mother and all the other Acadian families. They will always be better off than in France. There are neither duties nor taxes to pay and the more one works the more one earns without doing harm to anyone. The religious from here who are Ursulines and who, although they teach the young girls at home, are also responsible for the care of troops at the hospital, have done a great deal of good for all of our Acadians; the girls come there to be taught and they do about an hour of catechism every day at the hospital for the boys of whom they have got more than 40 at various times to make their first communion. This is, dear father, a detailed account of the advantages that we have here and which everyone is very happy about. They promise us missionaries very shortly. There are around 60 families 15 leagues from us, settled at

¹⁹ "Giraumont or Giraumon: kind of zucchini of America, also called zucchini of Saint-Jean or Iroquois pumpkin" (*Dictionnaire de l'Academie*, 1762)

Appellonsa²⁰ who are very happy there.

The new governor²¹ is coming up to do a tour of all the posts, to build churches and fortify the forts because at the last peace treaty we ceded to the English a large part of the country and we are expecting Spanish troops soon to fortify all the places that France has given away to the Spanish; thus we have a good country. The governor is a man of great distinction, of great piety, who isn't married, who is of superior talent, understands all sorts of languages. We hope for a great deal from his disinterested administration which is coming from Peru, and has given to poor communities and to shamefully poor people all that it had, having salaries in this place of thirty thousand piastres per year. He was forced to borrow in Havana while coming here. He is a man of rare merit in every respect.

Lacking paper, I can only assure you of the profound and obedient respect with which I am, my very dear father and mother, your very humble, etc...

Signed

Jean Baptiste Semer

²⁰ Opelousa County, more upstream on the Teche Bayou.

²¹ Antonio de Ulloa, first Spanish governor of the colony (1766-1768). The visit of Ulloa to the Acadians is recalled in Brasseaux, "A New Acadia", *art. cit.*, p. 126. The "bonne entente" between the Acadians and the governor was to be of short duration; Ulloa's wish to disperse the Acadians to secure the Louisiana territory rapidly gave birth to conflicts which led to the revolt of October 2, 1768 (*ibid.* p. 128).

Note : *Few letters survive the era of the Acadian deportation. Thus this letter written by an Acadian exile who has found refuge in Louisiana to his parents living in France is a historical gem. It is literally "a window to the past."*

I hope that you enjoy reading Jean-Baptiste's letter (and the footnotes as well) as much as I have and treasure it with all the memories of your Acadian upbringing and heritage.

This "Window to the Past" is the very essence of our newsletter, L'Etoile Acadienne, in that we strive to bring to you the members of the Boudreaux / Boudreau Family Association a much clearer understanding of our history and Acadian roots.

Our thanks to Linda Garber, University Editor and Carl Brasseaux, Managing Editor of Louisiana History at the University of Louisiana in Lafayette for allowing us to reprint this letter and also to Joseph Floyd Boudreaux of Metairie, Louisiana, for bringing it to my attention.

We asked but unfortunately did not receive the text in French.

*Charles Boudreaux
Kingwood, Texas*

LeBlancs, Melansons and Bourques get ready: you will be having a reunion at the 2009 Congrès mondial acadien 2009!

LAFAYETTE, LA - With only a few days left until the 4th Congrès mondial acadien kicks off in New Brunswick's Acadian Peninsula, over 85 Acadian family organizations are preparing their reunions. The Congrès mondial acadien (CMA) is an international event that brings Acadians of the world together every five years in a different Acadian heartland. The two to three-week

event features a diverse program of events such as community fairs, huge outdoor concerts, artistic performances, conferences, family reunions, sport and much more that attract Acadians from Eastern Canada, Louisiana, Québec, France and elsewhere. Seeing as Acadian heritage is the common thread connecting the participants, the family reunion component of the CMA is very popular. Therefore, as the Peninsula prepares, in Louisiana, Cajuns are planning their trips to Canada and their participation in these reunions.

However, for the past few months, this southern Acadian community has been troubled by the absence of certain major families from the roster of official CMA Reunions. The Bourque, Melanson and most notably LeBlanc families weren't planning on getting together for this historic gathering even though at past *Congrès*' the LeBlanc reunion attracted thousands. Seeing an opportunity to remedy the situation, *Louisiane-Acadie, Inc.* decided to lend a hand and take on the challenge of coordinating one event for the three families.

Louisiane-Acadie, whose mandate it is to represent the Acadians of Louisiana on the international stage, took on the project knowing that it could only be successful if it was built on partnerships with organizations and individuals in "*Acadie du Nord*". It didn't take long for Acadian resourcefulness to take effect and numerous partners got involved in this pan-Acadian initiative. Incidentally, a date and evening entertainment were identified thanks to legendary Acadian band 1755, a venue was secured thanks to the Town of Tracadie-Sheila, participants will be able to get information and register online thanks to Capacadie.com, great Cajun food will be served thanks to Louisiana Office of Tourism and the word will spread like wildfire thanks to CAFA (Confederation of

Associations of Families Acadian in Louisiana) and FAFA (*Fédération des associations de familles acadiennes* in New Brunswick). "It's heartwarming to see Acadians coming together to make sure that LeBlancs, Melansons and Bourques also get to have a memorable reunion. When Cajuns need a hand, our Acadian cousins are there and now, we are able to return the favor on a much smaller scale. That being said, there's no doubt that when there's a party to be planned, Cajuns are the people you want at the helm!" explains Ray Trahan, President of *Louisiane-Acadie, Inc.*

Although the details of the day's events and registration have yet to be finalized, *Louisiane-Acadie* wanted to announce the news now in order to give participants a chance to plan their trip to the Acadian Peninsula where numerous traditional and less conventional accommodation options are still available. As 1755 band member Roland Gauvin explains, one detail was quickly confirmed. "Since we are performing that night in Tracadie-Sheila, we are happy to offer a 5\$ discount on our ticket price to everyone attending the reunion. These families are important branches of our Acadian family tree and we are happy that they will be joining us during our summer tour."

Stay tuned for further details but in the meantime, mark August 21st on your calendar. LeBlanc, Melanson and Bourque Family Reunion August 21, 2009 Tracadie-Sheila Arena Information: rachelle@louisiane-acadie.com, 337-291-5489, www.cma2009.ca

Louisiane-Acadie is an umbrella organization that represents Acadians and Cajuns in Louisiana and encourages networking and increased connections between Louisiana organizations in order to promote a united voice and better connect with all Acadian communities worldwide.

The organization's current projects include Louisiana's bid to host the 2014 *Congrès mondial acadien* and Louisiana's presence at the 2009 CMA, project supported by Louisiana's Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

For more information on the 2009 *Congrès mondial acadien* 2009, visit their website at www.cma2009.ca.

FOR INFORMATION AND INTERVIEWS

Rachelle Dugas

Rachelle@louisiane-acadie.com

337.422.4453

CODOFIL News -

Le bulletin-courriel du CODOFIL

Give me a good crisis and then tell me I can't do something. Where did I learn that?!? Possibly, being French-speaking in the United States in 2009? Cajun? Catholic? CODOFIL is at half staff since Friday. Curiously I feel hopeful and full of energy. What's next?!

We say goodbye to our business manager of 11 years, **Gayle Bourda**. We are losing a member of our family, et we will greatly miss her sense of humor and intelligence.

We are delighted to have 3 interns at CODOFIL this summer: **Erin Roussel, Marguérite Perkins and Mathias Cormier**, 3 French speakers from Lafayette. Erin is working on her undergraduate degree in French at Tulane. She'll spend the next year in Paris with Tulane. Marguérite just finished her studies in French literature at Fordham University in New York and will begin the masters' program in Francophone Studies at LSU in the fall. Mathias is a product of the French immersion program in Lafayette and is working with us thanks to a program with the Lafayette

City-Parish Government. He will begin his studies in Linguistics at UL Lafayette in the fall.

La Galerie (**Elaine Clément**, producer) was named Best Arts and Cultural program at the Viddy Awards ceremony for Acadiana Open Channel. We had a great time with our Masters of Ceremony, John Broussard and Melvin Caesar, radio DJs on the Les Zaricots sont pas sales program every Saturday morning on KRVS, 88.7 FM in Lafayette. Congratulations also to **Allen Simon** and to **Rachelle Dugas**, for the nomination of their program, l'Académie Cadienne.

New Orleans welcomed the annual convention for the International Council for French Studies. A special evening, Readings from Louisiana, was hosted by **Dominique Ryon**, with Louisiana poets, **David Cheramie**, **Kirby Jambon** and **Beverly Matherne**.

Patates Nouvelles' archives will be on line! For the moment, you will find the archives beginning in May 2009, but eventually you will be able to access older Patates at <http://www.codofil.org/bilingual/ancienpatates.html>.

We just welcomed the selection committee for our bid (Louisiane-Acadie, Inc.) for the **World Acadian Congress 2014**, **Rhéal Poirier** of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, **Alain Dubos** de la France, et **Allister Surette**, President of CMA 2004 in Nova Scotia, accompanied by **Lucie Lebouthillier**, General Director of the National Society of Acadians. Two weeks before the event, we decided to organize the Fête de Famille to show vignettes of what we wanted to do. More than 400 folks came to help out! Thanks to the team at the Longfellow-Evangeline State Historic Site for welcoming us. The committee was touched. The winning region will be

announced August 9 during a press conference in the Acadian Peninsula.

August 7-23 **4ème Congrès Mondial Acadien** / 4th World Acadian Congress, **Péninsule Acadienne, Nouveau-Brunswick** / Acadian Peninsula, New Brunswick, Canada, www.cma2009.ca.

We are proud that six Louisianians were chosen to participate in the Forum for Young Ambassadors of the Francophonie of the Americas (http://www.francophoniedesamericas.com/forum/presentation_du_forum.html) in Quebec City. Fifty young Francophones and Francophiles from the four corners of the Americas, aged 18-35 got together to discuss, exchange and debate the issues for the continent linked to the Francophonie. At the end of this Forum, these young men and women will return to their communities and will be able to contribute to the dynamism of the reality of French. The Louisianians are Rocky McKeon of Houma, Valérie Broussard, and Ethan Jordan of Ngozi Maduagwu of Lafayette, Stephen Ortego of Carencro and Melody Matthews of New Orleans.

The workshop for the new CODOFIL teachers begins July 27 in Baton Rouge. Every year, the new teachers are obligated to take part in the workshop to sign contracts, to get to better know the Louisiana French-speaking community and the system of education in Louisiana. The renewing teachers arrive toward the end of the week. We would like to appreciate all of the families who welcome the teachers into their homes.

The new **Dictionary of Louisiana French**: as spoken by the Cajun, Creole and Native American communities, University Press, December 2009, will be published in November. You can reserve a copy on the internet with the large on-line

bookstores. I have found them at www.amazon.com (www.amazon.ca) www.booksamillion.com.

We would like to thank the **Retrouvailles committee** of France-Louisiana who does genealogical research. Over the years, I have sent them several requests from Louisianians looking for their roots in France. It often happens that the committee finds interesting information which is not always easy to locate. The just found a book on the Pinta family in France. Merci beaucoup!

L'Académie Cadienne is looking for a Director. The program on Acadiana Open Channel (Cox) is broadcast live the 1st and 3rd Monday evenings of the month. It's a lot of fun, easy to learn and doesn't take much time. It's the perfect job and a jewel in the French-speaking community. You can contact Rachelle Dugas at 337-291-5489 or at rachelle@louisiane-acadie.com

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Français

Journée d' Ouverture ACADIE ACCUEILLE CMA 2009 (de page 1)

UN RÉVEIL LUMINEUX AU BOUT DE L'ÎLE MISCOU : 5 h : Participez à la Fête de la lumière près du phare, au bout de l'île Miscou (route 113). Des

représentants des premiers habitants de l'île, accompagnés d'artistes, célèbrent et rythment le lever du jour, comme un appel à l'océan. Une cérémonie lumineuse pour inviter le monde à participer au 4e Congrès mondial acadien. Apportez vos fanaux, vos lampes de poche et vos bougies et participez à ce moment émouvant!

SUR LE PONT DE MISCOU, ON Y MARCHE, ON Y DANSE : 9 h 30 : Sur le magnifique pont de Miscou, les représentants des premiers habitants de l'île, accompagnés d'artistes, souhaitent la bienvenue aux milliers de visiteurs et aux dignitaires présents. Cette marche de l'Acadie, qui débute au quai de Petit-Shippagan et se termine au quai de Miscou, est rythmée par de l'animation artistique et par la présence de près de 200 bateaux côtiers décorés aux couleurs de l'Acadie. Chaussez vos espadrilles et venez marcher l'Acadie!

UN MOMENT SOLENNEL AU QUAI DE MISCOU : 11 h : Au bout du pont, sur le quai de Miscou, on assiste à l'ouverture officielle du CMA 2009. Dignitaires, artistes et invités livrent des discours de circonstance. Des cantines, des kiosques et de l'animation musicale donnent à ce moment solennel un air festif et convivial.

LA FÊTE AU VILLAGE DES ÎLES ACADIENNES: 13 h : Sur l'île Lamèque, la fête se poursuit au Village des Îles acadiennes installé dans la rue de l'aréna, au coeur de la ville de Lamèque. Ce village, conçu spécialement pour le CMA, est composé de petits kiosques aux couleurs vives de l'Acadie. Vous pouvez y apprécier la créativité des artisans et artistes acadiens et découvrir des produits du terroir exclusifs aux Îles acadiennes. Une variété de mets est servie sur place. Y sont également présentés des manifestations artistiques (musique, danse, chanson, théâtre), des démonstrations de métiers traditionnels, des activités pour enfants, des amuseurs de rue et un coin photo. Prenez note que ce petit village offre une programmation d'activités diverses pendant presque toute la durée du congrès!

LA RÉGION DE SHIPPAGAN VOUS EN MET ...PLEIN LA RUE! : **À compter de 16 h :** Les visiteurs en provenance des Îles acadiennes sont accueillis dans une ambiance de fête au parc Duguay-Mallet. Le groupe musical La Trappe à homard acadienne et d'autres artistes animent les lieux, maquilleuse, prise de photos et troussees d'accueil contenant de l'information pertinente sont proposées au public. Les restaurants de la municipalité et d'autres endroits publics identifiés dans la trousse offrent un menu spécial pour le souper. Sur le boulevard J.-D.-Gauthier, du coin de la 16e Rue jusqu'au Tim Hortons, la rue principale de Shippagan est fermée à la

circulation automobile et transformée en rue piétonne festive. On y offre une programmation haute en couleur avec des chansonniers, des groupes musicaux, des troupes de danse, la chorale du Vieux moulin, des clowns et des artistes de la rue. De l'art en direct, des pâtisseries et d'autres kiosques sont également disponibles sur place.

GRAND SPECTACLE D'OUVERTURE

L'ACADIE ACCUEILLE RACINES OCÉANES

21 h : Rythmes d'Acadie et rythmes du monde sont réunis dans ce grand spectacle qui célèbre avec force la vitalité de l'Acadie. Installés sur le quai de Shippagan, des artistes de grand talent, issus d'Acadie et de la Francophonie, accueillent en musique, en paroles et en chansons le public venu de partout. Racines océanes est un appel à la fête qui nous transporte dans un voyage musical fascinant. Conception et mise en scène : René Poirier

Direction musicale : Isabelle Thériault
Scénarisation : Gracia Couturier
Éclairages : Louise Lemieux
Avec : Blou, Calixte Duguay, Dominique Dupuis, Hubert Francis, Christian Kit Goguen, Paul Hébert, Daniel Lavoie, Sandra Le Couteur, Mario Pelchat, Nathalie Renault, Patricia Richard, Oumou Soumaré, Suroît et plusieurs autres artistes.

LA FÊTE SOUS LA VOÛTE CÉLESTE!

23 h : Grande fête de fin de soirée sur la scène du quai de Shippagan avec le groupe acadien des Îles de la Madeleine, Suroît.

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Documentaire sur Noël Doiron et le Duke William

L'émission *Maritime Magazine* de la radio CBC, à l'antenne le dimanche matin à 8 h 30, a diffusé le 25 janvier un documentaire de 30 minutes sur Noël Doiron et le naufrage du *Duke William* durant la Déportation des Acadiens de l'Île en 1758.

Noël Doiron vivait à Pointe-Prime (aujourd'hui la région de Eldon). Lui et quelque 120 membres de sa famille ont péri dans le naufrage. Le village de Noël dans le comté de Hants en Nouvelle-Écosse porte son nom. En fait, c'est dans cette région qu'il demeurait avant d'émigrer à l'Île en 1750.

Tod et Shawn Scott de la *Heroes of Hants County Association*, qui ont fait une excellente recherche sur la vie de Noël Doiron, étaient les principaux invités de l'émission. Le généalogiste Stephen White et moi-même ont aussi été interviewés. L'émission évidemment était en anglais.

Le bulletin-courriel du CODOFIL

Donne-moi une bonne crise et puis dis-moi que je peux pas faire quelque chose. Où est-ce que j'ai appris ça?!? Possiblement, le fait d'être Francophone aux Etats-Unis en 2009? Cadienne? Catholique? Le CODOFIL est à moitié de l'équipe depuis vendredi. C'est curieux, mais je me sens pleine d'espoir et d'énergie. Qu'est-ce qu'on va faire prochainement?!

On dit au revoir à notre business manager de 11 ans, Gayle Bourda. On perd un membre de la famille, et on va manquer énormément son sens d'humour et son intelligence.

On est ravi d'avoir 3 stagiaires au CODOFIL cet été : **Erin Roussel, Marguérite Perkins et Mathias Cormier**, tous les trois francophones et de Lafayette. Erin travaille sur son diplôme universitaire en français à Tulane. Elle va passer l'année qui vient à Paris avec un programme de Tulane. Marguérite vient de finir ses études en littérature française à Fordham University à New York, et elle va commencer le programme de maîtrise en études francophones à LSU en automne. Mathias Cormier était dans le programme d'immersion française à Lafayette et travaille avec nous grâce à un programme d'été de la Ville-Paroisse de Lafayette. Il va commencer ses études en linguistique à UL Lafayette en automne.

La Galerie (**Elaine Clément**, productrice) a été nommée le meilleur programme culturel et pour les arts à la remise des prix Viddy (Acadiana Open Channel). On s'est bien amusé avec nos maîtres de cérémonie, John Broussard et Melvin Caesar, les animateurs de radio du programme les zaricots sont pas salés, tous les samedis matins sur KRVS, 88.7FM à Lafayette. Félicitations aussi à **Allen Simon et à Rachelle Dugas**, pour la nomination de leur programme, l'Académie Cadienne

La Nouvelle-Orléans a accueilli le Congrès annuel du Conseil International d'Études françaises. Une soirée spéciale, Lectures de Louisiane, a été animée par Dominique Ryon, avec les poètes louisianais, David Cheramie, Kirby Jambon et Beverly Matherne.

Les archives des Patates Nouvelles seront en ligne ! Pour le moment, vous trouverez les archives commençant en mai 2009, mais éventuellement vous serez capable d'accéder les plus anciens au <http://www.codofil.org/bilingual/ancienespates.html>.

On vient d'accueillir le comité de sélection de notre candidature (Louisiane-Acadie, Inc.) pour le Congrès Mondial Acadien 2014, Rhéal Poirier d'Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, Alain Dubos de la France et Allister Surette, Président du CMA 2004 en Nouvelle-Écosse, accompagné par Lucie LeBouthillier, Directrice générale de la Société Nationale de l'Acadie. Deux semaines avant l'événement, on a décidé d'organiser la fête de famille pour les montrer des vignettes de ce qu'on veut faire. Plus que 400 personnes sont venues pour nous aider ! Merci à l'équipe du Site historique de l'État Longfellow-Evangeline pour nous avoir accueilli. Félicitations à Rachelle Dugas et le comité organisateur pour leur bon travail. Le comité a été bien touché. La région gagnante sera annoncée le 9 août lors d'une conférence de presse dans la Péninsule Acadienne.

Le stage pour les nouveaux profs CODOFIL commence le 27 juillet au Bâton Rouge. Tous les ans, tous les nouveaux profs sont obligés de faire partie d'un atelier pour signer leurs contrats, pour mieux connaître la communauté francophone louisianaise et le système d'éducation en Louisiane. Les anciens profs arrivent à la fin de la semaine. Nous voulons apprécier toutes les familles qui accueillent les profs chez eux.

août 2009

août 7-23 **4ème Congrès Mondial Acadien / 4th World Acadian Congress, Péninsule Acadienne, Nouveau-Brunswick / Acadian Peninsula, New Brunswick, Canada, www.cma2009.ca**

août 9 Journée de Culture acadienne, Vermilionville, Lafayette

On est bien fiers que six Louisianais ont été choisis pour participer au Forum des jeunes ambassadeurs de la francophonie des Amériques (http://www.francophoniedesameriques.com/forum/presentation_du_forum.html) à Québec. Cinquante jeunes francophones et francophiles des quatre coins des Amériques, âgés de 18 à 35 ans sont réunis pour discuter, échanger et débattre des enjeux liés à la francophonie à l'échelle du continent. Au terme de ce premier Forum, ces jeunes hommes et femmes retourneront dans leur communauté et pourront contribuer au dynamisme du fait français. Les Louisianais sont Rocky McKeon de Houma, Valérie Broussard, Ethan Jordan et Ngozi Maduagwu de Lafayette, Stephen Ortego de Carencro et Melody Matthews de la Nouvelle-Orléans.

Les nouveaux vidéos de Vidéo Eldorado, y compris les deux vidéos faites par les étudiants en immersion à l'école élémentaire Myrtle Place à Lafayette, sont en ligne au www.videoeldorado.com.

Le CODOFIL, la candidature du CMA 2014 et la langue et la culture françaises louisianaises dans les média !

Le nouveau Dictionnaire du Français louisianais: comme parlé dans les communautés cadiennes, creoles et amérindiennes, University Press of Mississippi, décembre 2009, sera publié en novembre. Il est possible de réserver une copie sur l'internet avec les grandes librairies en ligne. Je les ai trouvés sur www.amazon.com (www.amazon.ca) et www.booksamillion.com.

Bravo à Artwalk (2^{ème} samedi soir du mois à Lafayette) pour engager 2 groupes qui chantaient en français, Mellowberry de Houma et le Trio del Rio de Lafayette!

On veut remercier le comité Retrouvailles de l'organisation France Louisiane qui fait de la recherche généalogique. Pendant les années, je leur ai envoyé plusieurs demandes des Louisianais qui cherchaient des racines en France. Il arrive souvent que le comité a découvert des informations intéressantes et pas toujours facile à trouver. Ils viennent de trouver un livre sur la famille Pinta en France. Merci Beaucoup!!

L'Académie Cadienne cherche un directeur/directrice. L'émission sur l'Acadiana Open Channel (Cox) est diffusée en direct les 1^{er} et 3^{ème} lundis du mois. C'est bien amusant, facile à apprendre et prendra pas trop de temps. C'est le travail parfait et un bijou dans la communauté francophone. Vous pouvez contacter Rachelle Dugas au 337-291-5489 ou au rachelle@louisiane-acadie.com.

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**Bureau du Développement culturel
Département de la Culture, de la**

Récréation et du Tourisme État de Louisiana

Qui est riche et qui est pauvre ?

**Une petite histoire.
Écrivain inconnu**

Un jour, un père de famille très riche, emmena son fils à la campagne, pour lui montrer comment vivent les gens pauvres...

Ainsi, ils ont passé quelques nuits chez un fermier, qui fut connu comme étant très pauvre.

A leur retour, le père demanda à son fils de lui raconter comment il avait trouvé son séjour parmi les gens pauvres...

Et l'enfant répondit: Nous avons un chien, eux en ont quatre... Nous avons une très grande piscine, eux ont une rivière sans fin...

Nous avons des lumières pour illuminer notre jardin, eux ont les lumières des étoiles à la nuit... Nous avons une superbe vue jusqu'au bout de notre tout grand jardin, eux ont tout l'horizon... Nous avons un beau morceau de terre pour vivre, eux ont des champs qui vont bien plus loin...

Nous avons des serviteurs, eux servent les autres... Nous devons acheter notre nourriture, eux la font eux-mêmes... Nous avons des murs sur nos territoires pour nous protéger, eux ont des amis qui les protègent...

À ces mots le père fut fort étonné... et l'enfant ajouta encore: Merci de m'avoir montré, en définitive, combien NOUS sommes pauvres...

Morale de cette petite histoire... Vivez heureux avec ce que vous possédez, et ne vous tracassez pas pour ce que vous n'avez pas !

Voilà mes amis parfois c'est utile de voir les choses d'un autre côté.

