

***LA PAROLE***  
**Newsletter of the Acadian Museum**  
**By: Chairman Warren A. Perrin**  
**Acadian Heritage and Culture Foundation, Inc.**  
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- You are on the museum's email list to receive *La Parole*. If you know of anyone else who would like to receive it, please forward their name and email address to my secretary Darylin at: [darylinb@plddo.com](mailto:darylinb@plddo.com). If you no longer want to receive future issues, please advise at the email noted above.
- **Invitation to all to "Living Legend" induction ceremony:** The Acadian Museum will honor Alice Bernard on June 6<sup>th</sup>, Louis Michot on June 20<sup>th</sup>, Judge Kaliste Saloom on July 18<sup>th</sup>, Wilmer Baudoin on August 1<sup>st</sup> and J. B. and John Peré on August 15<sup>th</sup>. The programs begins at 4:00 p.m. at the Museum Café in Erath and includes a Cajun music jam session. Everyone is invited to attend.
- The Acadian Museum will be participating in some promotional events in and around the Boston, Massachusetts area from June 25 to 28. On Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, we will be doing a book promotion and signing with the "Summer Stroll" in Leonmister. This event has been coordinated for me by Ann Davidson. On Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, I will be making a presentation on my book *Acadian Redemption* at the Winslow House Museum at Marshfield. The event has been coordinated by Mark Schmidt.
- Great News! The "*Chez Nous Aures*" license plate is finally available. Nicole Boudreaux, Peggy Feehan and David Cheramie recently bought the first ones in Baton Rouge. Senator Eric Lafleur has number 1, Nicole Boudreaux # 2 and Andy Miller # 3. They will only be available in Baton Rouge for the first sixty days so that people who would like a low number can have the first crack at them. After sixty days, they will be available in all the DMVs in the state. Here is the procedure to follow for now. Call the main OMV in Baton Rouge at 225-925-6371 and give the operator your current plate number and ask for a fee quote on this type of plate. The minimum fee will be \$61.50. All plates are issued for two years. The breakdown is as follows: \$25 will be the regular registration fee, \$25 will go to the



CODOFIL Consortium of Immersion Schools and \$11.50 are administrative fees for the plate change. Once you renew your plate, the fee will be \$50, with half of that money going for French Immersion. You can of course keep the same plate if you change cars. Once you get the quote, you must mail a written request with a copy of your registration, proof of insurance and the payment to: OMV, Attn: Special Plates, PO Box 64886, Baton Rouge, LA 70896.

- A fashion show at LSU, “Jeanesis: The Origins of Denim,” had a distinctive French flair because Nîmes, France is the birth of denim (“Americans could not say *de Nîmes* and that became denim”). The top model in the show, which was sponsored by the LSU Department of French Studies, earned a \$1,000 travel prize to bring the exhibition to a Francophone country.
- The Motorhome Caravan from Louisiana to the 2009 CMA is complete. In 2004 we had 28 Motorhome make their way to Nova Scotia. The “Wagon Masters” said because of logistics and safety, they would only take 30 Motorhome to the 2009 CMA. The response was so overwhelming that we will have a total of 62 Motorhome divided up into two motorhome caravans. There will be about 180 people. Almost 80% of those in the caravan are members of the Acadian Genealogy Society.
- Zachary Richard is scheduled to perform June 6 at Vermilionville in Lafayette at 8:00 p.m. For tickets: (337) 233-4077 Ext. 206.
- Michelle Fontenot, North Vermilion High French teacher is looking for families to “adopt” a French teenager to practice English this summer during July. For more information and their profiles: <http://sites.google.com/site/madamefontenot/>.
- Joe Hall taught beginning and intermediate Cajun and Creole accordion in May at Nunu’s at the Town Market in Arnaudville (337 - 662-1032).
- It seems Queen Elizabeth II has a taste for Tabasco. McIlhenny Co., which produces the fiery pepper sauce, has gone to great lengths to document the fact that its product is stocked in the Buckingham Palace pantry. The company’s efforts have earned it the ultimate royal seal of approval. McIlhenny will become one of a few U. S. Companies to receive a Royal Warrant of Appointment that distinguishes it as a supplier to the queen (“The hot sauce of Her Highness,” *The Advocate*, May 3, 2009).

- Over 400,000 people, the largest post-Katrina crowd, attended the Jazz Fest in New Orleans. Writer John Wirt wrote: “Saturday’s Cajun, Creole and zydeco musicians demonstrated the festival’s multi-generational sweep. The 26-year old Cedric Watson sang in French and played fiddle and Cajun-style accordion. Whether he was bowing a sad waltz with his fiddle or dancing and twirling with his accordion during a frisky two-step, Watson showed he is on his way to being a Cajun-Creole music master. Saturday also featured young Cajun traditional band *Feufollet*, a Lafayette-based group with members in their 20s. One of the craftsmen in the Louisiana Folklife Village this weekend, too, is Matthew Doucet, a 32-year-old fiddler and fiddle maker who’s the son of Grammy-winning Cajun musician Michael Doucet of Beausoleil (“Jazz fest crowds a tribute to past,” *The Advocate*, May 3, 2009).
- The committee for the preservation of *Sainte-Famille* Acadian Cemetery in Nova Scotia said a project involving the site is the reconstruction of part of a skull (a child) that had been excavated in 1996. The process involves making a set of casts of the facial bones then reassembling these cast elements and using them as a basis for clay based facial reconstruction. This could become the likeness of what an Acadian child looked like pre-1755. The proposed initiative is a joint effort between Jonathan Fowler, archaeologist, and Dr. Tany Peckmann, an anthropologist. Both are from Saint Mary’s University in Halifax. ([WebMasterGrandPre@LaPoste.net](mailto:WebMasterGrandPre@LaPoste.net)).
- Over the past five years, the *Société Promotion Grand-Pré* has organized a series of four public lectures during Acadian Days at *Grand-Pré* National Historic Site. This year, the talks will take place on Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>. Each of the talks is devoted to a little known aspect of *Grand-Pré*. For information, (902) 566-5067 or [georg52@pei.sympatico.ca](mailto:georg52@pei.sympatico.ca).
- The *Soeur-Antoinette-DesRoches* historical committee is happy to announce that it has awarded the 2008 Gilbert-Buote prize to Nancy Russell, Donna Allen and Audette Chiasson for the series *Vive l’Acadie de l’Ile*. This series was produced by CBC radio station’s “Island Morning” show, in collaboration with *Radio Canada* radio station’s *Le Reveil* show. This series was launched to commemorate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Acadians’ deportation from Prince Edward Island. Sixteen episodes have been broadcasted on the “Island Morning” show and seven on the *Le Reveil* show. Some of these episodes have also been programmed on the “Maritime Noon” show recorded in Halifax.

- Thanks to a partnership with CapAcadie.com, the 2009 World Acadian Congress (CMA) wishes to invite Acadians from around the world to register on the new Map of Acadians made available today on the CapAcadie.com and cma2009.ca websites. As the 2009 CMA approaches, the Map of Acadians is a uniting project for the Acadian people. Acadians are everywhere, in India, in China, in the United States, in Alberta and in Europe. The Map of Acadians is a way to show where we are, wherever that is, says 2009 WAC general director, Robert Frenette. It will be interesting to see how the map, a portrait of the Acadian diaspora, unfolds as days and weeks pass.
- Thanks to Marsha Sills who wrote a terrific article on the proposed budget cuts and their impact on CODOFIL ( “Parlez-vous francis?”, *The Advocate*, March 10, 2009).
- During *Festival International* we were delighted to receive Michel Robitaille, *Directeur général ue Centre de la Francophonie des Amériques*, Ginette Chenard, *Déléguée du Québec à Atlanta*, and Daniel Thériault, *directeur exécutif du Festival Acadien du Caraquet, Nouveau-Brunswick*. While in Lafayette, Ms. Chenard presented a \$1,000 check from the Quebec government to help translate into French Dr. Shane Bernard’s book “Cajuns and Their Acadian Ancestors” which will be used by French Immersion classes.
- Sadly, Captain Dan Folsie died on April 20<sup>th</sup> at the age of 76. He was the father of Paula Badeaux who is the owner of Badeaux’s Seafood Buffet on Highway 90 in Des Allemands, Louisiana. The family members are great promoters of French culture in St. Charles Parish. Their restaurant provides wonderful fresh Cajun seafood delicacies (985) 758-9006.
- Mary Broussard Tours, Inc. is promoting a trip to the *Congrès*: August 21-31, 2009 - Fly round trip from New Orleans to Moncton via Newark, New Jersey. The trip includes visits to Moncton, Acadian Shore - Bathurst, Prince Edward Island, Misouche, Mount Carmel, Evangeline Region - Charlottetown, ferry to Nova Scotia, Baddeck, Cheticamp, Cabot Trail Sydney Louisbourg, Truro, Grand Pre, Port Royal Annapolis Valley, Samuel De Chaplain Habitation National Historic Site, St. John, New Brunswick and back to Moncton to journey back home. For more information, (337) 593-3026.
- Lt. Governor Mitch Landrieu, the state’s top tourism official, said that late sales are a fact of life in a recession, but the Jazz Fest benefits from travelers looking for an authentic cultural experience in this country (“Opinion,” *Morning Advocate*, May 6, 2009). Lt.

Governor Landrieu also hosted a World Cultural Economic Forum roundtable during the Jazz Festival as preliminary talks for the upcoming WCEF to be held October 29-30 in New Orleans.

- Congratulations to Joshua Mouisset who received an Outstanding Citizen award for being selected to a French language spelling bee in Canada. Joshua is a French Immersion student at Myrtle Place Elementary in Lafayette.
- Sadly, Pierre Lebovics, former Consul General of France in New Orleans, announced the death of his wife, Jocelyne Lebovics. Our sympathies go to the families.
- Opelousas' Music and Market series welcomed Lil' Nathan and the Zydeco Big Timers with a spotlight on cucumbers and tomatoes. The Farmers Market begins at 5:30 p.m. with the music beginning at 6 p.m. and continuing until 8:30 p.m. and is held weekly at the Wilbert Guillory Memorial Farmers' Market Pavilion.
- Arborist Bob Thibodeux is seeking help with his program to plant oak trees throughout south Louisiana to prevent coastal erosion. For more information, [www.acornsofhope.org](http://www.acornsofhope.org).
- President Françoise Enguehard and Director General Lucie LeBouthillier of SNA announced their annual meeting to take place the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of June at *Centre Belle Alliance* at Summerside, Prince Edward Island. For more information, [www.snacadie.org](http://www.snacadie.org).
- Thanks to Jan Risher who wrote a terrific article about the role of *Alliance Française* in Lafayette ("Language isn't always about what you say," *The Advertiser*, May 10, 2009).
- The American Revolution provided the opportunity for Acadians in Louisiana to fight against their arch enemies, the British. Serving as militiamen for Spain under the command of Bernardo de Gálvez, Acadians helped defend recently-acquired areas of the Spanish empire - New Orleans and parts of Louisiana west of the Mississippi River - that had been ceded to Spain by France following the Seven Year's War. Recently, a social gathering of descendants of Firmin Breaux, American Revolutionary War patriot, took place at Café des Amis in Breaux Bridge. Present were Karl Breaux (host of food show "Cajun Karl"), Wallace "Wally" Breaux, Jr., Wallace Breaux, Sr. Father Ken Dominue, Phillip Breaux and John Francois, noted writer and poet.
- Terrence Howell, artist whose latest collection is "Silent Witness," paints in his Chauvin studio about the loss of our coastal wetlands. He is a native of Newfoundland, Canada, and

was featured in an AP news story.

- Museum support Christy McBrayer recently sent us a photograph taken with political commentator and writer James “Ragin Cajun” Carville. McBrayer has nominated him to be inducted into the “Order of Living Legends.”
- Thanks to Dr. Shane Bernard who sent to us information concerning the train which is on display between the old State Capitol and the Mississippi River in Baton Rouge. A memorial explains: “The Louisiana box car of the *Merci* train from France expressing the gratitude of that nation presented by Consul General Lionel Vasse to Governor Earl K. Long on February 22, 1949. In appreciation of the generosity of the American people. Dedicated on these grounds by the old State Capitol Memorial Commission on June 12, 1949 by Drew Pearson.”
- Congratulations to Marcelle Bienvenue who was nominated for one of the James Beard Awards for co-authoring the book “Cooking Up a Storm” with Judy Walker.
- The Acadian Memorial and CAFA are sponsoring a bus tour to the Acadian Peninsula of New Brunswick, Canada for the 2009 World Congress of the Acadians (*Congrès Mondial Acadien*). For more information call (337) 288-2681, (337) 394-2258 or (337) 298-8965.
- Vermilionville will be offering Acadian textiles and weaving workshops. For information, (337) 233-4077, Ext. 206.
- Based on the recommendation of Dr. Carl Brasseaux, Director of the Center for Cultural & Eco Tourism, several museum volunteers will be interviewed by the Weather Channel which is coming to south Vermilion Parish to do a series of stories on the adverse effects on the community caused by the storms of ‘05 and ‘08.
- Thanks to Cody Daigle (“On the Records,” *The Times* May 14, 2009) for the excellent article written about Joel Savoie and Lucius Fontenot, founders of Valcorp Records and their work to promote quality Louisiana musicians.
- Check out this new genealogy website by Damon Veach: <http://www.claitors.com/veach/cajunsv1n11.pdf>.
- On Monday, May 18, the nine Vermilion Parish museums and galleries opened their doors to their fellow museum and gallery directors and volunteers to showcase their facility to each other. The familiarization tour was organized by the Vermilion Parish Tourist Commission as part of an ongoing effort of the museums to work together to help grow tourism in

Vermilion Parish. The first stop on the tour was the Gueydan Museum. From there, the group traveled to *Le Musee de Kaplan*, the future site of the Maurice Museum and Vivian Alexander Gallery and Museum. After a quick lunch in Abbeville, the group toured the Sam Guarino Blacksmith Shop Museum, the Depot at Magdalen Place, Abbeville Cultural and Historical Museum and Art Gallery, the future site of the Louisiana Military Hall of Fame and Museum and finished at the Acadian Museum in Erath. At each stop, the museum directors provided information on their facility and its history, how they are funded and exhibit information. Participants were also allowed to view the current exhibits and ask questions. The next collaborative project for the group is to produce a brochure highlighting all the parish museums and galleries. To learn more about these Vermilion Parish museums, visit [www.MostCajun.com](http://www.MostCajun.com) or contact the Vermilion Parish Tourist Commission at 898-6600.

- According to Sue Mills, the next exhibit at the *Musee Acadien du Quebec a Bonaventure* in the Gaspé will be June 12. If you will be attending the CMA, the show will be in Bonaventure until September.
- The French American Chamber of Commerce, Louisiana Chapter summer Festival 2009 will be held on June 20<sup>th</sup> at The Degas House, 2306 Esplanade Ave., New Orleans, For more information: [info@facc-la.com](mailto:info@facc-la.com) or (504) 561-0070.
- Louisiana's bid to host the *Congrès* in 2014 was submitted to the SNA in Canada. The next meeting will be at *Le Centre* in Lafayette at 1:00 p.m. on June 8<sup>th</sup>. The final presentation will be June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at Evangeline State Park in St. Martinville. Rachele Dugas has done an outstanding job with this project.
- The Archives of Cajun and Creole Folklore held an open house on Wednesday, June 3, 2009, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. There were four listening stations available to search the Archives' holdings as well as ACCF staff members to answer questions and demonstrate the archiving process. Refreshments were provided. The Archives of Cajun and Creole Folklore evolved from modest beginnings and has become the premier oral history and recorded music collection in Southwest Louisiana. The archive represents the collection and preservation activities of several generations of folklorists, ethnomusicologists, linguists, and other cultural resource management professionals. The oldest recordings contained in the collection are from wax cylinders, and many music and oral history interviews were

originally recorded on reel-to-reel tape. Materials cover folktales, legends, ballads, dance tunes, oral history, and popular culture. Collections include those of Barry Jean Ancelet, Elizabeth Brandon, Carl A. Brasseaux, Otis Hebert, Catherine Jolicoeur, John Laudun, Alan Lomax, Sylvie Marchand, Harry Oster, William Owens, Harry Prochan, H el ena Putnam, Patricia Rickels, Ralph Rinzler, Corinne Saucier, and various student recordings. It continues to grow with each new generation of students, who add to the collections. For more information call: (337) 482-1320 or email: Alyce LaBry [alyce@louisiana.edu](mailto:alyce@louisiana.edu).

- We pointed out to Donald Link the inappropriate use of the term “coonass” in his cookbook and he agreed to make appropriate amends as follows: “Please accept my apology for using the term ‘coonass.’ In my defense, let me say that I never meant it to be used in an offensive manner.” He is a terrific chef. Visit his restaurant *Cochon* in New Orleans.
- Cajun French classes for adults will be offered weekday evenings from 6:00 to 7:30 in Lafayette starting June 1. Beginners meet on Thursdays and Intermediates meet on Mondays. Practice speaking, reading, and writing during fun activities and short field-trips.” The fee is \$45 for a 5 week session. For more information or to register call 337-344-2584 or email [joleneadam@yahoo.com](mailto:joleneadam@yahoo.com).
- You have probably heard about a woman from New Hampshire who celebrated her 114 birthday. She would be the third oldest living person on earth, at least among those who have a valuable document to prove their age. This woman is an Acadian : Mary Josephine Arsenault, born 17 May 1895 in the parish of Bloomfield, Prince Edward Island. She was the daughter of Sabin Arsenault and Lydie Blanchard.