

LA PAROLE

NEWSLETTER OF THE ACADIAN MUSEUM

By Warren A. Perrin, Chairman

November 2025

CONTENTS	Page
Museum News	2
Louisiana/Cajun News	3
French/Acadian News	7
Lagniappe	8

MUSEUM HOURS

Tue.-Fri. 1-4 pm —Sat. 10-noon

Group tours, call 337 456-7729 (weekdays) or 337 501-3049 (weekends or no answer).

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Your tax-deductible donations¹ help:

- Find the [lost location](#) of the first Acadian settlement
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- Give inspiring [talks and presentations](#) to clubs and civic groups
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- Expand the museum collection.

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EDITORS: Bruce Perrin, Mario Lagacé, Evan Bernard, and Ryan Bernard.

SPONSORED BY: Francophone Section of the Louisiana State Bar Association

¹ *Acadian Museum is a Louisiana 501(c)(3) nonprofit. All contributions are tax-deductible.*

The Birth of Cajun Culture



On October 14, we presented “From Acadie to Louisiana in 1765 -The Birth of Cajun Culture,” a play with the following cast whose performance was remarkable. Mary and I thank everyone for their participation in this opportunity to tell the Acadian story.



Cast: The Birth of Cajun Culture

Narrators and authors – Warren & Mary Perrin

Introduction - Ray Trahan

Beausoleil Broussard - Richard Landry

Maryland's Claude Broussard - Gregory Wood

Acadian Mormons - Sharon Gallier, Sharon Brown, and Shauna Butler

Catholics - Earlene Broussard

Acadian women - Brenda Trahan

Monseigneur Joukie - D.A. Don Landry

Acadian men - Marty Guidry

Jean Baptiste Semer - Donald Arceneaux

Singer - Natial d’Augereau

Musicians - Ron Cormier and Sam Broussard

ACADIAN HERITAGE AND CULTURE FOUNDATION, INC.

203 S. Broadway, Erath, Louisiana 70533 | (337) 456-7729 | [acadianmuseum.com](#)

MUSEUM NEWS

Traveling With Denella Ri'chard

This month, I was interviewed at the Lafayette Museum on the Acadians' role in the American Revolution by Denella Ri'chard, host and executive producer of the nationally syndicated TV show, "[Traveling With Denella Ri'chard](#)." Denella is a graduate of



Southern University and A&M College and has held leadership positions at major travel and hospitality companies like Hilton, Carnival, and Norwegian Cruise Lines. She has been recognized with numerous awards, including the Black America 250 (BA 250) Living Legend Award and inclusion in lists of the "Most Influential People in Hospitality and Travel." Denella is a sought-after travel expert and thought leader, often speaking at conferences on the future of travel, women in travel, and diversity in travel.

Our Visit to *Festivals Acadiens et Créoles*



(L-R): KRVS DJ Noah, Warren Perrin, Cheryl Devall of KRVS, Noah Arceneaux, and Greg Wood

As usual, *Festivals Acadiens et Créoles* was a great success this year. On the final Sunday of the festival, I stopped by the KRVS broadcast tent for an interview, along with California professor Noah Arceneaux, who is writing a book on the history of French radio in Louisiana, and Dr. Greg Wood of Maryland, who has written two books on the migration of Maryland Acadians to Louisiana.

New Acadia Project Gives a Presentation



Dr. Mark Rees

Dr. Mark Rees and I had an opportunity to give a talk on the New Acadia Project to the Vermilion Historical Society in Abbeville, LA. Also speaking was historian Don Arceneaux. The New Acadia Project is an archaeological and historical initiative that aims to locate the 18th-century settlements of the first large group of Acadian exiles in the Louisiana

territory. Their descendants today comprise over 500,000 Cajuns here and throughout the world.

Dr. Rees and his students conducted the 2003 Amand Broussard archaeology research project near Loreauville, LA, where Acadian artifacts dating from the 1780s were unearthed. Amand Broussard was the son of Acadian hero Joseph “Beausoleil” Broussard. Locating the original settlements would establish where Cajun culture began, 11 years prior to the birth of the U.S., and hopefully also lead to the discovery of the burial site of Beausoleil and the first Acadians settlers in New Acadia (*Nouvelle Acadie*).

Acadian Museum Artifacts at Hilliard Exhibit



Portrait of Acadian musician Lisa Leblanc by Andrew Perrin

Our museum has been delighted to support the Franco Fine Arts Exchange by loaning several artifacts for their exhibit “Correspondance: Rebel Song,” through Nov. 9 at the Hilliard Art Museum in Lafayette.

The exhibit shows works of 18 Acadian artists from Canada, North

America, and Acadiana. FFAE is a local nonprofit representing visual artists of Acadian descent, connecting long lost cousins through a global directory, pen pal art collaborations, and transcontinental group exhibit opportunities. Their long-term goals are to provide immersive residencies in multiple countries and to create permanent galleries.

LOUISIANA/CAJUN NEWS

La Table Française – Come Speak French

South Louisiana locals meet regularly to improve their language skills. CODOFIL has a [list](#) of these events, but here are some of our favorites:

Arnaudville: Last Saturdays, 9:30 am, Arnaudville Community Center. [email](#)

Broussard: 2nd Fridays, 8:30 am, Valsin Broussard House, 408 W. Main St. (337) 445-3478

Dulac: 3rd Wednesdays, Parish Library, call for hours (985) 563-2014

Erath: Fridays, 10 am, Erath City Hall. (337) 254-8522

Lafayette: Wednesdays, 7 am, Dwyer’s Cafe, [email](#); or 2nd Thurs, 5:30 pm, Petroleum Club. [email](#)

Lake Charles: First Fridays, 4 pm, Central Library, 301 W. Claude St. [email](#)

Loreauville: Tuesdays, 7 am, Main Cup Coffee Shop, 101 N. Main St. [email](#)

Maurice: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 10 am, 218 Chief Fred Ave. (337) 652-0166

New Iberia: Thursdays, 8:30 am, Cane River Pecan Co., 254 W. Main St. (337) 519-7942

New Orleans: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 5:30 pm, 1519 Jackson Ave. [details](#)

Rayne: Thursdays, 9:30 am, Bernard-Bertrand House, 1023 The Blvd. [email](#)

St. Martinville: Wednesdays, 10 am, Longfellow-Evangeline State Park, 1200 N. Main. 337-394-3754

Scott: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 1 pm, Begnaud House, 110 Benoit Patin Rd. [email](#)

Thibodaux: Tuesdays, 5 pm, Jean Lafitte Center, 314 St. Mary St. [email](#)

Ville Platte: Mondays, 2 pm, Hundred Fold Coffee Shop on Coreil St. [email](#)

Via Zoom: Mondays, 9 am. To connect to the meeting, contact [email](#).

McNeese Student Establishes Cajun French and Heritage Club



An article by Doris Maricle appeared on the American Press website:

Evan Broussard is hoping a new Cajun culture club at McNeese State University will introduce more students to the world of Louisiana culture. Broussard, a junior majoring in humanities with a minor in French has established the Cajun French and Heritage Club on campus. The club aims to promote and preserve Cajun culture and its language among young adults, particularly within the university community.

“The club’s mission is to try to retake what was stolen from us, which was our language and our culture, and do this through collaborative efforts from any of those willing,” Broussard said. Broussard, whose family originates from the ... Welsh and New Iberia areas, graduated from Jennings High School in 2023. He is driven by a personal mission to reclaim the language and culture that he feels was lost to his grandparents’ generation, who were punished for speaking Cajun French. He notes that the rich history is often not thoroughly taught in schools, which further fuels his ambition to learn and share it.

His eighth great-grandfather, Joseph Broussard, also known as Beausoleil, was the leader of the first group of Acadians to arrive in Louisiana.... “It fascinates me because we’re not really taught this much,” he said, adding that most of what he has learned about his heritage has been from spending time with his grandfather as a teenager. “I didn’t know about it until later because it wasn’t taught to us in Louisiana history, or any of the history classes. I had to go out and find this information ... to learn about it.”

To continue reading, [click here](#).

Louisiana Office of Tourism and Partners Attend Paris Tourism Fair



In September, the Louisiana Office of Tourism, along with St. Martin Parish Tourism and CODOFIL, attended IFTM Top Resa in Paris, the flagship trade

show for French tourism where attendees can meet with professionals in leisure, business, group travel, and more. While attending, the delegation was able to meet Charles Rando, US Consul General, and the US Commercial team.

This trade show is part of Louisiana’s continued presence in the French market and an ongoing commitment to nurture the deep cultural ties between France and Louisiana. France is one of the top overseas markets for visitation to the state.

Acadian Day at LSU Law Plaza



CLAW officers play in front of the Old Law Center at LSU. (L-R): André Courville, officer; Miguel Savoy, president; Jillian Coco, vice president.

An article by Margaret Donnell appeared on the LSU Law website:

A region that's home to a distinctive dialect, musical heritage, and world class cuisine.... A resilient people deeply rooted in diverse traditions ... held together by faith and family.

"They're all things that are very unique to SW Louisiana ... and they make life worth living," said Evangeline Parish native and second-year LSU Law student Miguel Savoy. To [share] Cajun culture with their LSU classmates, Savoy and third-year student Jillian Coco ... have founded the Cajun Law Association (CLAW) with help from Lake Charles native Randall Trahan.

CLAW [hosted] an Acadiana Day event on the Law Center Plaza from 12:50 to 1:50 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 13. "We're going to have boudin and cracklins for everybody," said Coco, "and then we're going to play a few Cajun songs with ... other members who are also musicians."

Too bad we missed it. To continue reading the story, [click here](#).

French Ambassador Celebrates Cajun, Creole Heritage During Visit to Acadiana

(L-R): French Ambassador Laurent Bili, Dr Barry Ancelet and Mayor-President Monique Blanco Boulet
(Photo: Daily Advertiser)



An article by Aaron Gonsoulin appeared in the Daily Advertiser:

The bond between France and Louisiana took center stage over the weekend as the Ambassador of France to the U.S., Laurent Bili, made his first official visit to the Acadiana region since his appointment. From Oct. 10 to 12, Ambassador Bili immersed himself in the heart of Cajun and Creole country — honoring the shared language, history and culture that continue to unite both sides of the Atlantic.

"It's a special bond between France and Louisiana," Bili said. "Many French Presidents have visited Louisiana, and within the U.S., there is that special bond. As Ambassador, I try to nourish the bond.... It's great to see so many embracing their Cajun (and Creole) culture and being proud to be Acadian."

Daily Advertiser subscribers can read the entire story [here](#). Nonsubscribers can read it [here](#).

FRENCH/ACADIAN NEWS

Legendary Acadian Band Says 'adieu' After 50 Years



*C'est la fin pour 1755, qui tire sa révérence après 48 ans.
Photo : Andre Audet Photography*

An article by Jordan Gill appeared on the CBC website:

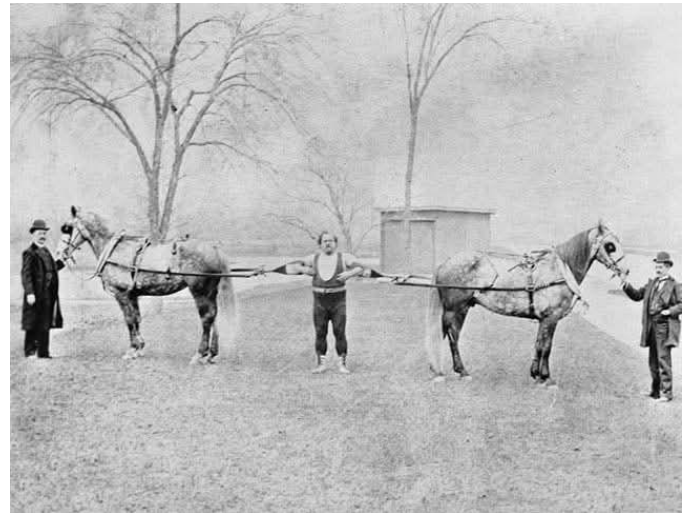
One of l'Acadie's most influential groups, named after the first year of the Great Deportation from what would become the Maritime provinces, is calling it a night after 50 years in the music business. 1755, the trailblazing group that combined lyrics celebrating Acadian pride with folk, country and rock sounds, [held] its final shows ... at the Capitol Theatre in Moncton.

Reflecting on the long life of the band, Roland Gauvin said he thinks the band [thinks they've] had a huge impact on Acadian culture. "We are constantly being told by young artists [about] the enormous contribution that we've made," Gauvin told CBC's Information Morning Moncton.

"Let's face it, August 15th of this year, we had close to 25,000 people at our show... We've touched a lot of people with our music."

To continue reading, [click here](#).

Louis Cyr aura vécu une vie d'exploits



Démonstration de force de Louis Cyr : l'homme fort s'apprête à retenir deux chevaux, 1891 (Archives de l'UQÀM, Fonds Louis Cyr)

Nous avons trouvé ça sur Facebook:

Né le 10 octobre 1863, LOUIS CYR aura vécu une vie d'exploits, couronnée par la gloire internationale. D'ascendance acadienne, natif de Saint-Cyprien-de-Napierville [QC], le jeune Cyr se fait vite remarquer pour sa force surhumaine et commence des tournées en Amérique du Nord où il épate par sa capacité à porter des poids de plus en plus lourds.

Occupant pendant un temps la fonction de policier à Montréal dans l'actuel quartier de Saint-Henri, il poursuit ses démonstrations et entretient sa réputation d'homme fort, que la légende viendra compléter au point de brouiller la frontière entre mythe et réalité.

English-only readers can read about Cyr [here](#).

Zachary Richard reçoit la médaille Léger-Comeau de la SNA



Zachary Richard (à gauche) reçoit la médaille Léger-Comeau des mains du président de la SNA, Martin Thériège (à droite). Photo : Société nationale de l'Acadie

Cet article de Marie-Emma Parenteau est paru sur le site de Radio-Canada:

L'auteur-compositeur-interprète Zachary Richard reçoit la médaille Léger-Comeau, la plus haute distinction décernée par la Société nationale de l'Acadie (SNA).

Au micro de l'émission *La matinale*, d'ICI Acadie, le président de la SNA, Martin Thériège, explique que cette nomination en a surpris plusieurs, car les gens croyaient que Zachary Richard avait déjà reçu cette médaille, de par son dévouement envers l'Acadie au fil des ans. « C'est signe qu'il le méritait très bien, » lance-t-il.

Cette médaille a été créée en 1985. Elle souligne l'apport exceptionnel de l'artiste à la vitalité et au rayonnement de l'Acadie.

« C'est tout simple, Zachary Richard, peu importe où on va, peu importe où on parle de l'Acadie, son nom est associé à l'Acadie. Zachary a conté l'Acadie, a chanté l'Acadie, a écrit l'Acadie, il parle de son Acadie bien enracinée en Louisiane et fait la promotion de cette Acadie-là.»

Pour continuer la lecture, [cliquez ici](#).

LAGNIAPPE

Reunion

On October 13, we had a wonderful party at the Perrin Farm as a reunion of our group that went to Nova Scotia last year... guests came from California, Washington, Idaho, and Texas. Great food and company! Thanks to museum volunteers who helped to host the event Nelis, Carol, Anna, and Maxine.





Un Beau Soleil at Village de Beausoleil



Photo: Robert Surette

Shown is a *beau soleil* (beautiful sun) rising above the homestead where Joseph “Beausoleil” Broussard (my eight generation ancestor) and his wife Agnes lived in New Brunswick, Canada, and raised their children on the beautiful Petitcodiac River from 1727-1755. Their peaceful life there with their 11 children stands in stark contrast to the tumultuous days that followed the Acadian Deportation until Beausoleil’s death in Louisiana on October 20, 1765. Broussard is widely regarded as a hero and an important historical figure by both Acadians and Cajuns.

Warning: Gumbo Advisory

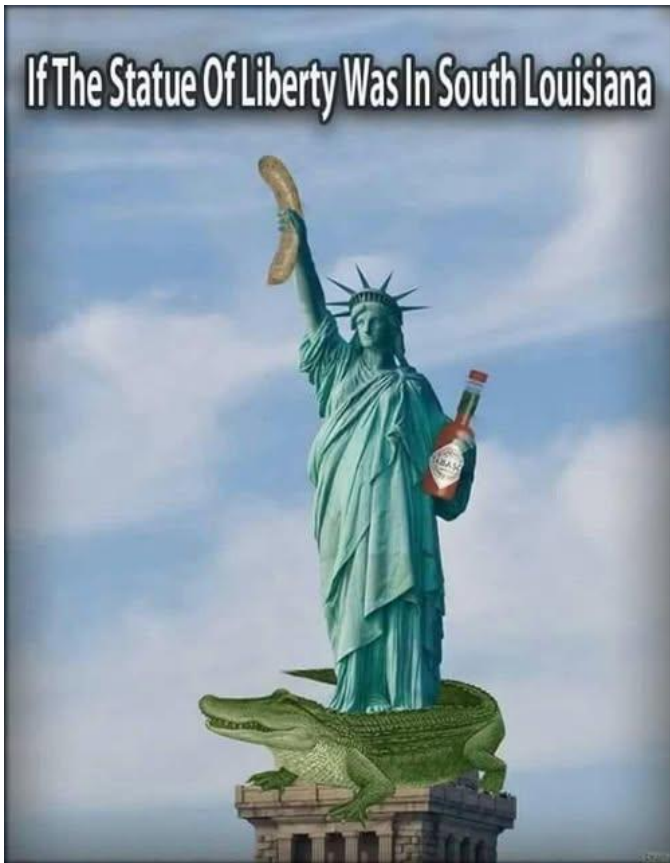


I-10 Bridge, Lake Charles



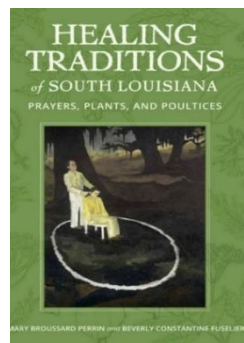
Photo Shawn Wilson

Y'All Means All



Book: Healing Traditions of South Louisiana

Healing Traditions of South Louisiana is the most comprehensive history available on the healing arts from the dawn of man to present times, including details on the mystical arts of the Cajun *traiteur* as well as the medicinal plants supporting their *traitement*. To place an order, call (337) 456-7729 or go [online](#).



Stay At Our Guesthouse!

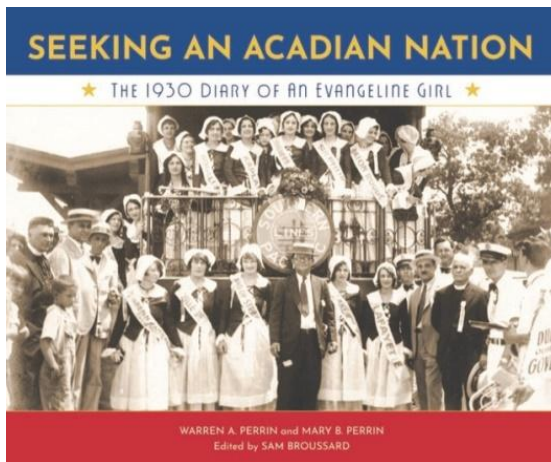


Vermilion Parish is a great place to visit during the winter months. It is known as a “birding paradise.” There are many fabulous Cajun places to visit where you can still experience French being spoken by the locals.

The Perrin Farm in Henry, LA, is only five miles from the Cajun food mecca of Abbeville, and an easy ride to the Acadian Museum in Erath. Situated in a bucolic setting, our Cajun family farmstead has been converted from a family retreat to a rural farm guesthouse. Our party barn accommodates up to 100 for parties, family reunions, crawfish boils, weddings, and more. To reserve, email perrinfarm18@gmail.com.



Visit the Boutique and Get Cool Stuff!



Another way to support the museum is by visiting our [online boutique](#) and purchasing one of our books or souvenirs. Here's just an example of what you will find:

- [Acadie Then and Now: A People's History](#) with articles by Cajun and Acadian authors from around the world; edited by Warren Perrin, Phil Comeau, and Mary Perrin
- [Acadian Redemption: From Beausoleil Broussard to the Queen's Royal Proclamation](#) by Warren Perrin
- [Healing Traditions of South Louisiana](#) by Mary Perrin and Beverly Fuselier
- *A Century of Acadian Culture, Erath (1899–1999)* by General Curney Dronet
- Histories of [Vermilion](#), [Iberia](#), and [St. Landry](#) parishes by Warren Perrin
- T-shirts, posters, and reproductions

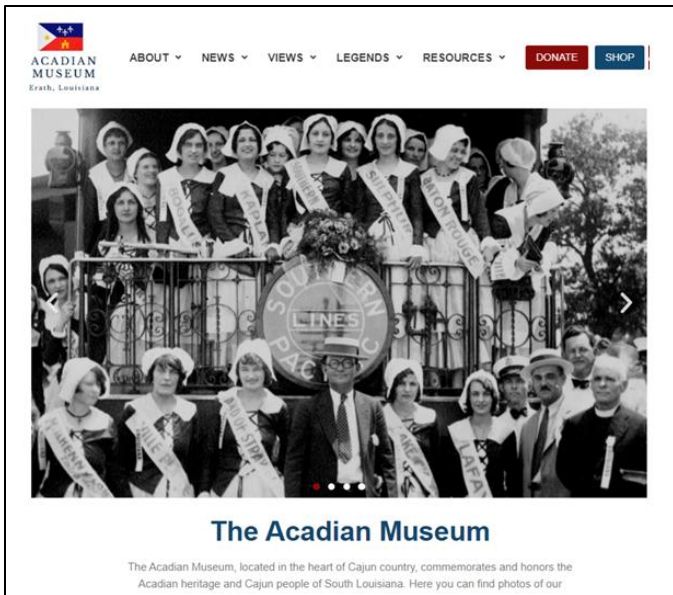
Would You Like a Group Presentation?

As you can see from our [event calendar](#), the Acadian Museum gives regular presentations to groups around the region, and we would be happy to speak to your group. Here is a sampling of topics—or [click here](#) for a complete list. Send all requests to info@acadianmuseum.com.

- Acadian History and Culture
- The Queen's Proclamation: History of an Apology to the Acadians
- Folk Healing Traditions and the Traiteurs of South Louisiana
- The Development of Cajun Music
- Acadian Resistance Fighters and Beausoleil Broussard
- Louisiana: The French Renaissance 1900–2000
- Longfellow's Evangeline: The Birth and Acceptance of a Legend
- Acadians' Role in the American Revolution
- Frenchie: Cajuns' Contributions in WW II
- Post-Deportation Migrations of Acadians 1755–1800

Come and Visit—In Person or Online

You can read more about us on our website at www.acadianmuseum.com or stop by the Museum at 203 S. Broadway Street in Erath, LA. Museum hours are Tuesday–Friday 1–4 pm and Saturday 10 am–noon.



You can also see our extensive collection of historic Cajun- and Acadian-themed videos at www.youtube.com/@acadianmuseum.



The late D.L. Menard playing at Lake Peigneur near New Iberia, LA