

**LA PAROLE**  
**Newsletter of the Acadian Museum**  
**By: Chairman Warren A. Perrin**  
**Acadian Heritage and Culture Foundation, Inc.**  
203 S. Broadway, Erath, Louisiana 70533  
(337) 233-5832; 937-5468  
[www.acadianmuseum.com](http://www.acadianmuseum.com)

February 14, 2019

- You are on the museum's email list to receive *La Parole*. If you know of anyone 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.
- *Acadie Then and Now* was named the 2015 winner of the prestigious *Prix France-Acadie*. In Canada, the books in French or English editions may be ordered from Jacques Ouellet of *La Grande Marée* at email: [jouellet@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:jouellet@nbnet.nb.ca), or on the web at [www.amazon.ca](http://www.amazon.ca). In the U. S., call (337) 233-5832, or email [perrin@plddo.com](mailto:perrin@plddo.com)
- **Upcoming Presentations by Warren and Mary Perrin**



February 16, 2019, Vermilionville, 300 Fisher Road, Lafayette at 11 a.m. - noon; Healing Traditions in Acadiana. Guest speaker Master Gardener Mary Perrin will deliver a lecture on "The Tradition of Traiteurs in Acadiana." Admission is free; donations encouraged. 337-233-4077.

May 18, 2019, Delta Theater at 10 a.m., Market Street, Opelousas, Louisiana

August 16, 2019, University of Moncton Law School

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needs a perfect written document. All profits go to the Acadian Museum. Call 337-501-3053 or email [mlbperrin@gmail.com](mailto:mlbperrin@gmail.com). Ask for Mary Perrin for more information.

- We received this email from Leo-Paul Babineaux about the upcoming *Congrès mondial acadien*, “The Babineau(x) Granger family reunion will be in Grande-Digue, New Brunswick, on August 11<sup>th</sup>. It will be a full day event. If you need more info, let me [know.Leo-Paul@rogers.com](mailto:know.Leo-Paul@rogers.com).”
- This article was written by two Acadian groups that wish to have the Acadian Deportation recognized as a genocide. They ask Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to recognize it, as he has done last year for the Armenian Genocide. <https://www.acadienouvelle.com/mon-opinion/2018/12/10/pour-rehabiliter-notre-memoire/>
- Sadly, Living Legend Edith Marie Hebert Granger of Erath has died. She was a long-time supporter of the museum. Her son Weldon ‘T-Gris’ Granger is co-founder of the Acadian Museum with me in 1990.
- Tragically, the former president of the Lake Charles chapter of the Cajun French Music Association has been identified as one of the victims in a double homicide on U.S. 90 near Iowa. Walter Joseph Gotreaux, 72, and his wife Darlene Cecelia Gotreaux, 70, were discovered dead in their home by Jeff Davis Parish Sheriff deputies on Dec. 16.
- According to my friends from Nova Scotia, reform still is needed in the provincial government. The recent appointment of adolescent mental health expert Stanley Kutcher to the Senate has been met with criticism. Kutcher’s summons to the upper house ended the longstanding tradition of appointing a Nova Scotian Acadian senator. According to Tory MLA Chris d’Entremont, “(Kutcher) cannot speak from the perspective of a Nova Scotian Acadian. To silence those voices in the Senate is inexcusable and a slap in the face to the thousands of Acadians who call Nova Scotia home.”
- Sadly, Living Legend Vin Bruce has died. He was an outstanding Cajun singer who even performed at the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville.
- Here is a very interesting presentation where the former Gov. Edwin W. Edwards discusses French history of North America and Louisiana, the sad prohibition of speaking French in Louisiana schools and his greatest pride as governor—the 1974 Louisiana Constitution and the constitutional amendment of Art. XII granting linguistic and cultural rights to everyone in the

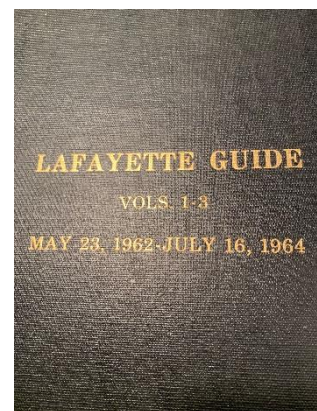
equal protection clause, the most expansive in the U. S. Happy New Year!  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DocxSWLvKM8>.

- We received this email from Rose-Marie Couturier, Organizing Committee President concerning the CMA '19: "Registration is open for the Cyr Family Reunion, 2019 CMA. Family reunions constitute the very heart or soul of any *Congrès mondial acadien* (CMA). All three branches of the Cyr Family, and invited family, the Vincent, will have the opportunity to discover, comprehend and recognize their roots. This reunion will take place Saturday, August 17, 2019, at the *Club d'âge d'or, Pré-d'en-Haut*, Memramcook, in southeast New Brunswick. Register online on the CMA 2019 Website and click on Family Reunions. Registration cost is \$20.00. Furthermore, do not hesitate to visit our Facebook page - *Réunion de la Famille Cyr les Trois Branches* - dedicated to this event."
- Peggy Feehan, Executive Director of CODOFIL announced that Florence Thunissen is the newest CODOFIL employee. Her role at CODOFIL will be focused on education.
- The City of Brossard, in partnership with the Brossard Chamber of Commerce, is organizing a group trip to New Brunswick, Canada, next August for the *Congrès mondial acadien* 2019 (CMA). The base price is \$2,895 per person (based on double occupancy). This price includes airfare, ground transportation via motor coach, lodging, scheduled attractions, *Congrès* festivities, and some meals. The group will depart Louisiana on August 18, 2019, and return on August 25, 2019. While there, they will be visiting several local cities/communities such as Moncton (sister city to Lafayette); Shediac (sister city to Breaux Bridge); St. Antoine, Bouctouche (sister city to St. Martinville); Memramcook (sister city to Scott); Beaubassin-Est, Cap-Pelé (sister city to Brossard); and more! Call Jeremy Hidalgo at 337-780-1915 for more information.
- "News Release Jan. 9, 2019. The Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities (LEH), in partnership with Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser, has selected *A Cajun Girl's Sharecropping Years* as the 2019 Humanities Book of the Year. Viola Fontenot, the author, and the other LEH awardees will be honored at the 2019 Bright Lights Awards Dinner, hosted at University of Louisiana at Lafayette Student Union on Thursday, April 4, 2019, at 6 p.m.
- The Henry Historical Society (HHS) had a meeting on Jan. 25 at 11:00 am at the Perrin farm in Henry. The HHS finalized the language to insert on the Henry Historical marker (roadside sign) and discussed other items of interest to the HHS.

- Sadly, the Governor General of Canada won't apologize to the Saint John's Black community for a 1785 decree that severely restricted where they could live or fish in the southern New Brunswick city. Saint John's original charter placed harsh restrictions on the Black community, and David Peters had sought an apology from the Crown, which Gov. Gen. David Johnston declined. ((CBC)) PRUDE, the city's Black cultural organization, wanted the Crown to recognize wrongs contained in Saint John's royal charter. Although most Blacks had arrived as Loyalists, and many had fought for King George III in the American Revolution, the charter barred them from living or operating a business inside city boundaries. Based partly on the Queen's Royal Proclamation of 2003 given to Acadians (initially filed by me as a *Petition for an Apology for the Acadian Deportation* in 1990) Peters wrote a letter to the Queen asking for acknowledgement that wrongs were committed in the name of the Crown. Buckingham Palace forwarded the request to Gov. Gen. David Johnston so that he could consult with federal ministers. An official at Rideau Hall said in a letter to Peters that they could not meet his request for an apology.
- Joseph N. Abraham, MD recently released his excellent book *Kings Conquerors, Psychopaths*. Here is a list of his media and public appearances, with podcasts and video of him speaking: <http://bookscrounger.com/scheduled-book-appearances>.
- *Le Musee de Kaplan* has announced the French Table discussion group began Jan. 12, 2019. *Le Musee* is located at 405 North Cushing Blvd, Kaplan, La. For more information, call 337-643-1528, Wednesday through Saturday 9:00 – 1:00. The email address is [office@kaplanlamuseum.org](mailto:office@kaplanlamuseum.org).
- Here is some good news from Phil Comeau of Quebec: “We received great news last night. Our Acadian/Cajun feature film *Zachary Richard, Toujours Batailleur* (Zachary Richard, Cajun Heart) won a 15th award at the 16th South Film and Arts Academy Festival (SFAAF), in Chili, South America. This brings the feature film awards for our 2016 film at same awards number of the 1994 record breaker Acadian feature *Le Secret De Jérôme* (Jérôme's Secret) by same film director Phil Comeau with 15 awards worldwide.”
- The Francophone Section of the Louisiana Bar Association is organizing a two-day bi-lingual seminar in Moncton at the law school during the *Congrès mondial acadien 2019*. If you are going to attend the *Congrès* please make plans to attend. One suggested interesting topic for discussion is the importance of the 'remonstrances' which were successfully used by the

Acadians for decades in 18th century Acadie. During the *Congrès* I am planning to launch my latest book, *The Diary of Corrine Broussard*, which discusses the historical context of the first time that the Cajuns of Louisiana journeyed to reunite with their Acadian cousins in Canada—during the 175th anniversary of the Acadian Deportation in 1930 (organized by a Louisiana attorney Sen. Dudley J. LeBlanc). There will be a presentation showing the legal profession’s contributions to the French/Acadian renaissance in Louisiana (for example, attorney James Domengeaux was the founder and first president of CODOFIL—1968) in the 20th century.

- Good news! The UL Lafayette Undergraduate Research Council has awarded NAP \$2,000 to support undergraduate student research for the Spring semester and Summer field school seeking to find the first Acadian settlement in Louisiana. Most of the funds will be for student travel and supplies for fieldwork and lab. The decision on the National Geographic Society grant will be announced in May.
- Bad news from Acadie: The new obviously anti-francophone New Brunswick Premier, Blaine Higgs, has cancelled the upcoming ninth *Jeux de la Francophonie* (international athletic games) that were to be held in Moncton/Dieppe in 2021. He blamed the shocking cancellation on supposedly “too big budget.” Francophones in Canada are opining that had it been the English Commonwealth Games, he would have coughed up the money! It is reported that tensions are rising. This is terrible news for the international reputation of Acadians and also very disappointing for the many young athletes and artists from Louisiana and other parts of the world that would have participated at their first international Francophone games in Acadie.
- My father-in-law, Prof. Alton E. Broussard, was the faculty advisor to the Vermilion and head of the journalism department at SLI /USL for many years. In the early 1960s, he started an independent weekly newspaper – sort of the precursor to the *Times of Acadiana* – and published the *Lafayette Guide* for two years. We have a collection of all of the newspapers in a bound volume 1-3—as shown here. There were events covered in the paper that were not covered by *The Daily Advertiser*, such as protests, sit-ins at restaurants and demonstrations over the Civil Rights Act. Because it covered these controversial events, many of the advertisers pulled their support from the paper, thus causing the paper to shut down. There is



an interesting article published in 1964 about Dr. Patrick Rickles and her work in promoting Cajun culture and folklore in an article for *National Geographic* magazine. The family is in discussion with UL to loan or donate the materials to the appropriate university venue.

- Researchers using ground-penetrating radar have found what they believe is one of the oldest European graveyards in Canada. Archeologist Sara Beanlands (and a supporter of the museum) says there is compelling evidence to suggest the unmarked site in western Nova Scotia is the final resting place for Acadian settlers buried near a fort as early as the 1680s. The radar images, gathered one day last month at the Fort Anne National Historic Site in Annapolis Royal, show neat rows of 19 ghostly green and red shapes. “With respect to Acadian history, this was — and (nearby) Port Royal is — the cradle of Acadian civilization,” says Beanlands, senior archeologist at Halifax-based Boreas Heritage Consulting.
- The Louisiana Travel Association (LTA) named the Vermilion Parish Tourist Commission as the winner of the Outstanding Convention and Visitors Bureau/Tourist Commission of the Year during its Annual Meeting on Jan. 24. The “Louey Awards” honor and showcase organizations who have made outstanding contributions to the Louisiana tourism industry. Alison Miller is the VPTC Executive Director.
- We received this email from William Thibodeaux who was inducted as a Living Legend on Feb. 2 (see photo – shown are Warren A. Perrin, inductee William Thibodeaux and Rayne Mayor Robichaux): “Please mark your calendar for Monday, March 12, 2019, for another exciting session of Acadiana Memories. It is an interactive history program held on the second Monday of each month. We reminisce about people, places, and events of long ago. The program will be from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the conference room at Hospice of Acadiana located at 2600 Johnston Street, Lafayette.” In May or June, Thibodeaux will release his book *Hidden History of Acadiana*.
- This article was written by Jim Farber and appeared online: “Think of *Mardi Gras* and what comes to mind? Probably the Big Easy — New Orleans. There is, however, an alternative. Instead of fighting the crowds (and the prices) for a room in the French Quarter, head for Lafayette in southern Louisiana. You'll have just as much fun and revelry watching parades with lavish floats and catching so many beads you won't be able to carry them all. Then, if



you want to really experience something completely different, head 30 miles southwest to the farming town of Eunice, where you can take part in *Mardi Gras* the Cajun way — on horseback. And while you're in the neighborhood be sure to enjoy the traditional barn dance and pork fest known as the *Lundi Gras Boucherie*.”

- Recently, Josh Caffery, director of the Center for Louisiana Studies at UL Lafayette, visited with Franklin Rotarians. Caffery has been researching the historical music of southern Louisiana for the last 10 years, particularly John and Alan Lomax and the recordings they made of Acadian song lore in 1934. According to Caffery, the Lomaxes, a father and son team, were the most prolific song collectors of the 20th century. Caffery said, “and it’s really the first record that we have of traditional music right from this little pocket of Louisiana.” He said they did the majority of their recording around New Iberia and found songs of lesser known origins which had been carried to Louisiana in the minds of original Acadian migrants.
- On Saturday, April 27, 2019, New Iberia will celebrate the 7th annual *El Festival Español de Nueva Iberia*. The focus and mission of the festival is to celebrate the 1779 founding of New Iberia by 16 Spanish families from Malaga, Spain and to create an educational and cultural awareness and exchange of food, music, art and history between New Iberia and the Andalusia region of Spain. The host agencies are *La Asociación Española de Nueva Iberia* and the City of New Iberia. *La Asociación*’s Festival Planning Committee has been working diligently in preparation for this special festival as this year we celebrate the 240th Anniversary of the founding of Nueva Iberia. We are extremely honored to have our guest lecturer, Jose Manuel deMolina, friend, author and researcher from Malaga, Spain who will be attending the festival this year. At noon, he will be inducted as a Living Legend.
- This is from CODOFIL’s new intern: “I’ve just recently come down to Louisiana from Thunder Bay, Ontario - where it was a frigid -54 last week, so I’m happy to be here in the warmth of Louisiana. I graduated in 2017 from the University of Ottawa with a degree in political science. I was also the director of an international youth organization that worked with young people from all eight of the Arctic countries, and I travelled often between northern Canada, Alaska, Northern Europe, and Russia. I just finished working on a book that talks about indigenous issues in Canada when I came across the opportunity to come work in Louisiana.” Gerrit Wesselink, Stagiaire / Intern, CODOFIL.

- On the occasion of the 2019 *Congrès mondial acadien*, there will be an international gathering of the Arsenaults-Arseneaus-Arseneaults-Arceneaux. It will be held in Prince Edward Island's Evangeline Region on August 17th and 18th. The Arceneaux Reunion has a Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1859862934336902/>
- David Faulk, owner of Louisiana Hot Stuff, 4409 Ambassador Caffery Pkwy, Suite 200, Lafayette, LA, donated a CD *Love Louisiana*, a song that he wrote and recorded at Dockside Studios which twice references Sen. Dudley J. LeBlanc and Hadacol.
- The Broussard Family Reunion will be held during the *Congrès mondial acadien* on Wednesday, August 14, 2019 at the beautiful *Solomon Gardens*, 1833 Salisbury Road, Moncton, New Brunswick, E1E 4P7, Canada. (1-506-854-2390). For more programming details and to register for this free event, visit [www.cma2019.ca](http://www.cma2019.ca), click on programs/ then families/ then Broussard. For the most up to date information follow us at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Nonprofit-Organization/Broussard-1873589112665412/> or email Cheryl Broussard Perret at [campbeausoleil@gmail.com](mailto:campbeausoleil@gmail.com).
- Note this new contact information for the LHA: Louisiana Historical Association, 101 LSU Student Union Bldg, LSU Box 25435, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70803, (225) 578-0459, email: [info@lahistory.org](mailto:info@lahistory.org). The contact information for the Managing Editor of *Louisiana History* has not changed. All inquiries related to journal content, including article submissions and book reviews, should be directed to: PO Box 43558, Lafayette, LA 70504; (337) 482-6027; [docmartin@louisiana.edu](mailto:docmartin@louisiana.edu)