

LA PAROLE
Newsletter of the Acadian Museum
By: Chairman Warren A. Perrin
Acadian Heritage and Culture Foundation, Inc.
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November 8, 2017

- 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. If you no longer want to receive future issues, please advise at the email noted above.

Upcoming Presentations

December 12, National Center for Presentation Technology and Training, at 2:00 pm.

For more information, call (337) 233-5832, or email perrin@plddo.com

- Throughout November and December, the Kaplan Museum is hosting an art exhibition entitled, "Storm Stories," a selection artworks by Mary Perrin of Lafayette. The Kaplan Museum is located at 405 N. Cushing Ave in Kaplan, La. The public is invited to view the exhibition. Museum hours are 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday.
- On Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 2:00 p.m., a PowerPoint presentation on NAP, the UL archeology and anthropology project titled the New Acadia Project, will be made by Warren and Mary Perrin and Ray and Brenda Trahan at the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, National Park Service, 645 University Parkway, Natchitoches, LA.
- Let **Acadian Museum Editing Services** polish up your written word. We provide proofreading and editing services for all forms of written documents, from brochures to school papers to full-length book manuscripts. We work for international students and faculty, business and government officials, high school and college students, or anyone who needs a perfect written document. All profits go to the



Acadian Museum. Call 337-501-3053 or email mlbperrin@gmail.com. Ask for Mary Perrin for more information.

- *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, or on the web at www.amazon.ca. In the U. S., call (337) 233-5832, or email perrin@plddo.com.



- The Acadian Museum is offering a holiday discount of 15% on all of the books:

Acadie Then and Now \$30 – discounted price: \$25.50

L'Acadie hier et aujourd'hui – L'histoire d'un peuple \$30 - discounted price: \$25.50

Vermilion Parish, Iberia Parish, St. Landry Parish \$22 - discounted price: \$18.70

Acadian Redemption \$20 – discounted price: \$17

Une Saga Acadienne \$20 – discounted price: \$17

Price does not include shipping and handling (call 337-233-5832 for information)

- On Saturday at 8:00 am, my sister Natial d'Augereau will sign the National Anthem prior to the state of the Cajun Cup 10K race in Lafayette on Johnston Street.
- My maternal great-grandfather is a real mystery man. I would greatly appreciate it if anyone would be able to provide me with some information about him through your family relations, research or genealogy expertise. Primarily due to the years of work of my cousin Kathy King, here is what we know: He a/k/a Anatole Maitrejean Sr. married Amelie Blanchard on August 24, 1872 in St. Martinville. They had twins (Placide Anatole and Anatile Marie) on June 7, 1873. At some point he abandoned his family. On his marriage certificate he recited that he was from New Orleans and listed his parents as Louis Maitrejean and Julia McMiller. Research shows that these people had no real connection to him or to each other. It is believed that he moved to Houston and took the second alias of Joe Smith. He owned a profitable saloon on the Buffalo River. On November 27, 1898 he died without a will. Litigation ensued over his substantial estate (\$50,000 and land) with claims being made by my grandmother's family, Philomene Toutcheque Albanese (claimed to be his sole child), and three groups of Albanese heirs from Austria. Evidence accepted by the court proved that he was born on March 19, 1853 as Mathias Albanese in Buccari,

Austria. The court judgment awarded his estate to his four Albanese siblings from Austria. We have not been able to locate the trial record in Texas.

- St. Amant High School French Class Students joined Dr. Florent Hardy during their visit to the Louisiana State Archives for viewing the documentary *Zachary Richard: Cajun Heart*, on September 15, 2017.



- Mercedes Benoit-Penney's book *Back of the Pond* recalls the early days of Stephenville, Newfoundland the American base in the town, along with some of Benoit-Penney's thoughts on growing up there.

- Chesley d'Entremont, Acadian Mi'kmaq builds birchbark canoes. It took about a week for d'Entremont to construct the roughly-14-foot craft. He started by laying the first piece of birchbark down and pouring hot water on it to make it soft. He placed a frame he'd



made on top of the bark and began overlapping bark pieces, sewing them together with lengths of soaked spruce roots after making needle holes with an awl.

- *L'Ordre du Bon Temps Louisiane 2017* will be held on November 9 at the Cade Center, St. Martinville, LA. This is the main fundraiser for the Acadian Memorial in St. Martinville. For more information, contact the Acadian Memorial (337) 394-2258.

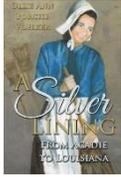
- Louise Imbeault is a retired journalist who is well-known for her dedication and passion for arts and culture. She was recently elected as president of the *Société Nationale de l'Acadie*. The nonprofit federation represents the interests of



Acadians on regional, national and international platforms. It brings together four francophone associations and four youth associations from the Atlantic region and has affiliated members from Maine, Quebec, France and Louisiana.

- The Bayou Teche Museum, is excited to announce the return of the *Saga of the Acadians* collection. George Rodrigue painted the Saga between 1985 and 1989. It is a series of 15 paintings chronicling the Acadian journey from France to Nova Scotia in the 17th century, from Nova Scotia to Louisiana during the *Grand Dérangement* of 1755, and finally the first official return visit from Southwest Louisiana to Grand Pré in the 1930s. The series of oil on canvas paintings is from the collection of the Gauthier Family of New Orleans.

It is on display now and will remain on view until the end of 2017. For more information call the Bayou Teche Museum at (337) 606-5977.

- From Nelwyn Hebert, here are some upcoming events to take place in New Iberia: November 11, 2017 - Sliman Theatre in New Iberia by Daniel Blanchard and Billy Hebert: Trip to France - Pre and Post Deportation of Acadians; February 27, 2017- Victor's Cafeteria: speaker TBA: The 50th Anniversary of CODOFIL at 6:30 P M; North Lewis Street Elementary School will host an event to mark the 50th Anniversary of CODOFIL with events TBA.
- Here is the link to watch the Catholic TV sponsored by the Dioceses of Baton Rouge show on Beausoleil Broussard from the Acadian Museum:
https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B_KB4xKJ5H5OGNmWDZZNEdOUEE
- Nova Scotia, Canada, was once known as Acadie, home of the descendants of the first French colonists. *A Silver Lining: From Acadie to Louisiana* tells the story of an Acadian family facing the threat of deportment by the British for refusal to take an oath of allegiance to the British crown. Nine-year-old Pelagie Benoist and her family move from Acadie to Ile Saint-Jean, where they spend five difficult years until they find Louisbourg, a fortified town with a rich fishing industry and a lively port. Based on the story of Ollie Ann Porche Voelker's ancestors, the book is an accurate picture of what life would have been like for Acadian families during the 1750s. 
- On October 6, Warren A. Perrin (right) and Frank "Beau" Summers III (left) represented the Acadian Museum by presenting papers at the Gulf South History and Humanities Conference in Pensacola, Florida, an annual event sponsored by the Gulf South Historical Association, a consortium of Gulf South colleges and universities from the states of Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas. Perrin's paper was entitled "NAP: The Acadians' Relationship With the North American Native Americans," Summers spoke on the cultural causes for the assassination of Sen. Huey P. Long and Broussard discussed the history of *Festivals Acadiens et Creole*. 2017 marks the bicentennial of the First Seminole War. The 35th Annual Gulf South History and Humanities Conference, hosted by Pensacola State College, welcomed over a 100 researchers and scholars to propose 

papers. The conference's program chair was headed by Dr. Brian Rucker, Pensacola State College.

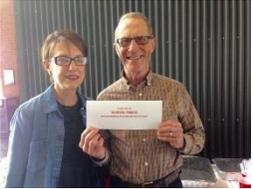
- During *Festivals Acadiens et Creole* our museum hosted two busloads of Francophone. Thanks | to all volunteers who helped to host, provided delicious desserts and musical entertainment at the farm. On October 12, we had a museum tour at 11:30 then lunch at our farm in Henry. Thanks to Bonnie Broussard who provided sweet dough pies for dessert and Ron Gaspard who prepared the meal. This group of 40 visitors were from Canada (top, at right). The tour leader was Claude Boudreau of New Brunswick. On October 13, we served a jambalaya lunch at the farm in Henry, followed by a tour of sugarcane fields, then had a museum tour (with the induction of Richard Laurin into the Order of Living Legends). This group of 36 participants consisted of 30 from Normandy, France, four from N.B. and a couple from British Columbia (bottom, right). The tour leader was Richard Laurin of Nova Scotia.



- Organizers of the first *Tribute to Cajun Music* in 1974 knew what they were doing. This landmark event took Cajun and Creole music out of the dancehalls and onto a concert stage at Blackham Coliseum. Forty-three years later, the tribute has grown into *Festivals Acadien et Creoles* a three-day celebration of music, food, art, crafts, museum exhibits, symposiums, film screenings and more. The celebration is a giant among Lafayette's festivals, second only to *Festival International de Louisiane*.
- *Festivals Acadiens et Creoles* gave officials from *Congrés mondial acadien* a chance to prepare for the 2019 Acadian reunion. That event will be held in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, Canada but *Congrés* leaders used the weekend to find ideas for the upcoming reunion. "We're cut from the same cloth and every time we meet up, we realize we even look alike, we use the same vocabulary, the same expressions. It'll be very moving to get to know each other and discover that we're all cousins," said Claudette Theriault, Chair Person.

- What will become of the Cajuns? Singer songwriter Zachary Richard explores this question in a new documentary about the Cajun identity. The film was shown Oct. 12, in Central School Arts & Humanities Center, 809 Kirby Street. In *Zachary Richard: Cajun Heart*, Richard journeys to the home of his French-speaking ancestors in the region of Canada formerly known as Acadian. 
- Shown here are participants in the recently held annual book festival at the Acadian peninsula in New Brunswick, left, Dr. Barry Ancelet, and right, André-Carl Vachon of Quebec. 
- A part of a 328-year-old *aboiteau* discovered on farmland in Grand-Pré, N.S., is now on display at the University of Moncton. The *aboiteau* piece dates back to 1689, when Acadian farmers were using the dike technology to turn salt marshes into fertile agricultural land. "We are very happy to have this piece at the faculty of engineering," said Gilles Roy, dean of the faculty of engineering.
- Congratulations to Dean Fernand De Varennes the University of Moncton School of Law on his new appointment as a OHCHR Special Rapporteur for Minority Issues at the UN.
- A group of southern filmmakers is now finalists of Seed & Spark's Hometown Heroes Crowdfunding Rally where they will compete for the chance to pitch their film, *Lost Bayou*, to Duplass Brother Productions. About the film: After receiving news of her mother's death and dealing with her own addiction to opioids and alcohol, Gal ventures out into the Atchafalaya Basin to check in on her aging father, who has been living out in seclusion on a houseboat as a Cajun faith healer. Breaux Bridge native and filmmaker Brian Richard assembled a team of Louisiana natives for the production. Cajun French will make up about 40 percent of the dialogue spoken in the film in order to capture the authenticity of Acadiana.
- The Maine Acadian Heritage Council recently granted funds to Madawaska Elementary School teacher Gina Jandreau to produce an additional 20 copies of *Acadian Culture in Madawaska*, a book that she and her 4th grade students created in 2015.
- In 2013, Antoinette Perry sold her house in Tignish and moved into a two-bedroom apartment where she took residence in stately Fanningbank in Charlottetown as Prince Edward Island's 42nd lieutenant-governor. Perry, who is single, plans to take the notable

upsizing of accommodation at the Government House of P.E.I. in stride. “I’ll get used to it,” she told *The Guardian*.

- On October 22, Mary and I prepared and donated jambalaya to the 100 attendees for the showing of Allan Durand's documentary *Cajun Navy* at UL's Lite Center. The event was hosted by the Friends of the Humanities at UL. *Cajun Navy* is about the courageous and daring tales of area residents who banded together to assist the New Orleans victims immediately after Katrina's devastating landfall in Louisiana. 
- At the 10th Festival Les Cousins d'Amérique in Loudun, of the Poitou region of France, Cajun musician and singer Sarah Savoy (daughter of artists Ann and Marc Savoy of Eunice) gave a concert to a full house and also gave a Cajun cooking class. The feature film *Zachary Richard, Cajun Heart* by Acadian director Phil Comeau was also presented to a full house during the festival last week. 
- There were more film festival awards for the Acadian feature film *Cajun Heart* by Phil Comeau. After winning “Best feature film” and the “Audience Award” at the 30th FICFA festival in Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada, and the “Director’s Choice Award” at the 12th Cinema on the Bayou film Festival in Lafayette, the film has won the “Award of Merit” at the 15th Accolade Global Film Competition, in San Diego, California, and two awards "Human Spirit Award" & "Exceptional Merit Award," at the Doc Without Borders Film Festival in Nassau, Delaware.
- We received this from the Acadian Memorial in St. Martinville: “We are delighted to announce that beginning Nov. 1, 2017, the Cultural Heritage Center (African American Museum and Museum of the Acadian Memorial) and the Acadian Memorial will be completely bilingual, French and English. And the museum hours will be changing to 10am to 4pm Tues. through Sat. except for major holidays. For more information, visit www.acadianmemorial.org or Facebook.com/StMartinvilleAfricanAmericanMuseum and Facebook.com/AcadianMemorial. Or call us at 337-394-2233.”
- The Cajun French Music Association Bayou Cajuns in Houma invited local dancers to a potluck supper and dance, Cajun Sunrise, November 1 at the Terrebonne Main Library. Al Voisin said that the meal was free. “Anyone wanting to join is welcome. We are about

saving our Cajun French heritage and to get our young involved in Cajun French and music. Membership is \$20 per household. We always have a great time." For more info, Al Voisin, 985-855-7008; Margaret Hebert 985-851-1867; or Ann Voisin 985-876-0283. Find us on Facebook at (www.facebook.com/CFMABayouCajuns).

- It was announced by Arts Nova Scotia that Ronald Bourgeois is the recipient of the *Prix Grand-Pré* for 2017. The \$5000 prize, awarded to a Nova Scotian artist working in any medium whose work reflects Acadian cultural values, while demonstrating excellence and originality, will be presented to Ronald at the 2017 Creative Nova Scotia Awards Gala. <https://artsns.ca/creative-ns-gala/creative-ns-awards-gala-2017/prix-grand-pr%C3%A9-2017>.
- Few people know Elvis Presley records were once printed in the Evangeline Parish town of Ville Platte. In 1977, the year of Elvis' death, the RCA record company rushed to get out a *Golden Hits* album of Presley's songs. RCA contacted Living Legend Floyd Soileau (shown here with his family) in Ville Platte, who had been pressing his own Cajun and zydeco vinyl records for 20 years. Soileau rallied his small staff, which worked day and night to fill the order for 60,000 albums. RCA sent a congratulatory letter that Soileau framed for his office wall.
- With more than 60 years in music, Living Legend Jo-El Sonnier has enjoyed Top 10 country hits, five Grammy nominations and a 2015 victory for Best Regional Roots Album Grammy. With performances in more than 28 countries, Sonnier has played on more stages than he can remember. That's not a bad run for a poor Cajun who grew up picking cotton and couldn't speak English until he was in the fourth grade. He will be performing in Nashville.
- On Monday, November 13, there will be another session of Acadiana Memories, an interactive history program held on the second Monday of each month. This month they will talk about Lafitte's buried treasure along Louisiana's gulf coast and inland waterways. In 1924 a psychic from Arnaudville somehow managed to convince 12 prominent citizens of southwest Louisiana to trek a marshy island south of Gueydan looking for a buried tomb filled with treasures worth millions. Attend to hear the rest of this fascinating story. The



program is from 10:00 a.m. to noon in the conference room at Hospice of Acadiana located at 2600 Johnston Street, Lafayette. Everyone is invited.

- Congratulations to Acadian historian Ronnie-Gilles LeBlanc of Cap-Pelé for discovering a treasure trove of 14,000 documents about Acadians in the Parisian catacombs shedding much-needed information of the period between 1751 and 1760.
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- The Friends of French Studies at LSU and Members of *L'Assemblée Française* will hold their annual *Fête Champêtre* at the West Baton Rouge Museum on November 12. For more information, 225-336-2422.
 - Last year Beverly Spell of Ballet Acadiana felt she was on to something with “*Le Papillon*.” The ballet’s tribute to the late artist Floyd Sonnier at the Crowley Opera House sold out. The rare pairing of ballet with Cajun music and culture made many emotional. “A lot of the people in Crowley, when they saw the performance, they cried,” said Spell, Ballet Acadiana’s artistic director. “People told me, ‘It brought me back to my childhood.’” Ballet Acadiana had for more emotion with the Lafayette debut of “*Le Papillon: Celebrating Floyd Sonnier’s Acadiana*” recently opened at the Acadiana Center for the Arts, which featured 24 dancers, along with French-speaking adult and child actors, to tell Sonnier’s life story. Sonnier’s art is projected on stage as dancers perform to live Cajun music from the *Has Beans*. There was a performance on Nov. 3.
 - Minister of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie Lena Metlege Diab of Nova Scotia announced Nov. 1, the creation of the Advisory Committee to provide the minister with advice and information on issues. “I am pleased with the establishment of this advisory committee and look forward to working collaboratively with its members to advance both government’s priorities and the priorities of Nova Scotia’s Acadian and Francophone communities,” said Ms. Diab. The advisory committee members are: Ghislain Boudreau, president, Fédération acadienne de la Nouvelle-Écosse, Wedgeport, Yarmouth County; Norbert LeBlanc, president, Conseil acadien de Par-en-Bas, Argyle, Yarmouth County; Clermont Charland, president, Centre communautaire Étoile de l’Acadie, Sydney; Karolyn Aucoin, executive director, CIFA community radio, Clare, Digby County; Jeanne-

Françoise Caillaud, executive director, Réseau Santé Nouvelle-Écosse, Halifax; Alfred-Arthur Poirier, deputy warden, Municipality of Inverness, Chéticamp.

- Here's the story of The Cajun Hatter, a boy from the heart of Cajun country who traveled to set up shop on Magazine Street in New Orleans: a modern-day man, from the small Louisiana town of New Iberia, is making an impact in the hat world for the first time in 100 years. "I opened my business back in my hometown on July 1, 2016, and have since been designing custom hats, using the same humble methods from the 1800's, handmade on the bayou," said Colby Hebert, A.K.A the Cajun Hatter. "All of my designs are directly inspired by the deep roots of Cajun culture and the city of New Orleans." Hebert describes his brand as swamp chic. His hat starts at \$250, and each one is carefully crafted, taking from three to six days to complete. Hebert's storefront is now located at 4516 Magazine Street.
- November marks the 170th anniversary of the publication of *Evangeline, A Tale of Acadie*, the epic poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow that became a cultural touchstone for many Acadians in New Brunswick. Deborah Robichaud, who has studied the poem and helped the *Musée Acadien* curate exhibits about it, says she loves *Evangeline*, which she believes she first read in her 20s. I thought it was a difficult poem to read because it's not a short poem ... it goes on for many, many chapters," said Robichaud. "It's written in a style, in hexameter, that we're not used to in the 20th, 21st century."
- All Saints Day is a solemn day in the Catholic. The canonization process is long and expensive, but locals in Richard, Louisiana are pushing for their "Little Cajun Saint" Charlene Richard who is buried at Saint Edward's to be recognized as a saint in the Catholic Church. Father Joseph Brennan spoke about Charlene just days before he passed away. He told us he was a hospital chaplain and newly-ordained priest in 1959 when he was asked to tell Charlene that she had leukemia and that she would not recover. "I said, 'Charlene, in a couple of weeks a very beautiful lady is going to come and take you home.' And she looked up at me with those big round Cajun eyes and said 'When she comes I'll say Father Brennan said hello.'"



- The *Coalition des organisations acadiennes du Québec* recently elected their new leaders: Élizabeth Coutu, présidente; Line Boudreau, trésorière; Jacques Gaudet, secrétaire; Isabelle Marsolais, administratrice; Louise Cyr, vice-présidente.
- A Lake Charles radio DJ is being inducted into the Cajun French Music Hall of Fame this month. The fruit certainly doesn't fall far from the tree when it comes to Mike Soileau. He grew up watching his dad, the late David Soileau, playing French music on the radio. David Soileau was honored for his service just days before he died. "He died in 2007, a month after he was inducted into the Louisiana Cajun French Music Hall of Fame.
- The new venue Mid City Ballroom brings together elements of music, art and culture under one roof in Baton Rouge. Head to the venue this week for two events: a concert by Minos the Saint and a Cajun/zydeco dance series. Each Tuesday in November, the Mid City Ballroom will become a dance hall, as Lafayette native Corey Porche brings Cajun/zydeco dance to the Red Stick.
- We're talking food in Silicon Bayou! This week's business is spicing things up with a little help from Accelerate Acadiana. Eat your heart out, with everything Cajun, everything Louisiana, anywhere you are in the country Tara Guidry owner and founder of Cajun Crate says her every month her business, revolve around a theme. Tara Guidry and her husband started this foodie box a little over a year ago, when they found that their relatives across the country were missing their Cajun fix.
- The *Acadian Centre Acadien* and the Abbeville Cultural & Historical Alliance jointly announce the availability of the Russell Gaspard French Immersion Scholarship to be awarded to a Vermilion Parish high school student, for the 2018 summer French immersion study program in Nova Scotia, Canada. A scholarship will be awarded for study at the University Sainte Anne, located in Church Point (Pointe-de-L'Eglise), Nova Scotia (Nouvelle-Ecosse), Canada. Applications are open to all Vermilion Parish resident high school students and will be for the 2018 summer five-week French immersion session, from July 8th to August 11th, 2018. For more information on the summer program applicants can go to the <https://www.usainteanne.ca/en/learn-french> website.
- Walking through Vermilionville, you might hear a beat in the air. Hammering. It's coming from the forge, where Jay Steiner, The Bayou Blacksmith, is at work on an instrument that will beat life into *fais do-do's* and Cajun jams. "One of the things I love making the most

is what we call tit-fers, which are a musical triangle that we use in Cajun music," said Steiner. Steiner started at Vermilionville six years ago as a tour guide, but was intrigued by the work being done in the forge.

- From Ted Campbell: Whether served as an appetizer or entrée, all of these products are formulated to be prepared as simply as possible with no complicated cooking procedures or heavy cleanup. Whether you are making an intimate dinner for two or hosting a large dinner party, their specialty products will please the most discerning palate. Lagniappe Specialty Meat Products is a unique and perfect solution for holiday or executive gifts, sales incentives or a very special way to say "Congratulations" or "Thank you. Call 870-779-0368; Order online: www.LagniappeSpecialtyMeats.com.
- For those who read French, here is a nice article appearing in a Québec newspaper about Louisiana in general, and New Orleans, Lafayette and CODOFIL in particular. <http://www.ledevoir.com/plaisirs/voyage/511856/louisiane-au-pays-du-gombo-du-jazz-et-des-bayous>
- In honor of Native American Heritage Month, the Acadian Cultural Center of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve will highlight the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana during November. The Chitimacha are the only Louisiana tribe still living on their ancestral homelands. Throughout the month, there will be a Chitimacha basket collection on display, an exhibit depicting Chitimacha history, and films available upon request. The center and all activities are free and open to the public. The Acadian Cultural Center of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve is located at 501 Fisher Road in Lafayette.
- Groups from Louisiana that celebrate National French week with French songs: "Isle Dans La Mer" by Sweet Crude. Sweet Crude is an indie rock band from South Louisiana, and the group incorporates this locational origin into its sound. The band's songs use both English and French lyrics, blending the band's multiple backgrounds into one cohesive sound. This duality is paralleled in the presence of both male and female vocals. "Half in English, Half in Français Louisianais," songs like "Isle Dans La Mer" are a great way to ease oneself into French music as there's a mix of the familiar and unfamiliar. "Isle Dans La Mer" is an energetic song, and the pounding drum, which is particularly strong in the French portions, pushes the song. "Au font du lac" by Feufollet. Feufollet is another band from Louisiana that performs in French. Specifically, Feufollet draws from Cajun song

tradition. Sonically similar to traditional American folk songs, songs by Feufollet prove that “French” isn’t a genre, but that songs sung in French can stylistically be in genres one might only associate with songs sung in English. “Je T’aime Toujours” by Pine Leaf Boys. Pine Leaf boys is a band from Southern Louisiana that plays Cajun music and incorporates blues influences. On “Je T’aime Toujours,” the listener is greeted with the excited bouncing of the accordion. With a distinctly different sound from mainstream music, songs like “Je T’aime Toujours” fill a niche that may often be overlooked with a lighthearted sound.

- On Saturday, November 4, Kermit Bouillion, Henry Perrin (our grandson), Mary Perrin and I hosted ESA student Scarlett Osborn and her mother Lucy Osborn (she is an expert in rhinos and African trees) who have just moved to Avery Island from South Africa. As part of a school class project about French in South Louisiana, Scarlett was able to interact with local French speakers, tour the Acadian Museum and learn about Acadian history and culture. Scarlett is a direct descendant of Edmund McIlhenny, the founder of Tabasco brand pepper sauce on her paternal ancestral lineage.

