If you know a person or group that would enjoy receiving this newsletter, please send their address to CODOFIL or E-mail codofil@bellsouth.net.

If you want to provide any information to CODOFIL, please send an e-mail: dcheram@bellsouth.net.

We invite you to visit the calendar on our website at www.codofil.org where Louisiana francophone and cultural events are updated every Wednesday. To publish your events, please send details at least one week in advance to Elaine Clément (337) 262-5810 or e-mail her at Elainefe@bellsouth.net.

The Consul General of Canada, Jean-Michel Roy, hosted a luncheon at the World Trade Center and lectured on “Canada and Louisiana: Expanding Trade & Cultural Ties” on July 7th and later that evening inducted Pam Denechaud as Honorary Consul General of Canada in New Orleans, who attend the Congrès in Nova Scotia.

Executive Director Dr. David Cheramie wrote an excellent article “Les Couleurs de la Liberte” which was published in the July 14th issue of the Times of Acadiana.

Sadly, missed are the following individuals who contributed greatly to the promotion of our French language and culture, including former State Senator James E. Fontenot, attorney, musician, thespian, linguistic, historian, raconteur and preservationist. Fontenot served on the CODOFIL Board for many years and hosted LPB’s French weekly program “En Francais;” Professor Marius Sullivan has created the James Fontenot Grant which will partially subsidize The Mankind Project. (www.france.mkp.org). Judge Allen M. Babineaux, member for over thirty years of CODOFIL’s executive committee, died on August 23, 2004. In his memory the Babineaux family has created a fund for the promotion of French immersion. Donations may be sent to CODOFIL 217 West Main Street, Lafayette, LA, 70501; Eleanor St. Julien Domenechaux, widow of CODOFIL’s founder James Domengeaux, died on August 27, 2004; J. Alphonse Deveau, recipient of the Order of Canada and well-known Acadian historian at Université Sainte-Anne where he was the founding director of the Acadian Centre from 1973-1982, died on July 28, 2004. Hard-living swamp pop performer Joe Barry died after a long struggle with heart problems. Deno Boudreaux, an inductee into the “Order of Living Legends” by the Acadian Museum of Erath, recently died. We would also like to extend our condolences to pioneer French teacher and CODOFIL member Brenda Mounier who lost her husband Jerry Tharp to an automobile accident. Finally, in a separate accident, longtime CODOFIL friend and supporter Russel Gary lost his grandson, Chad Broussard.

CODOFIL hosted a meeting of the board on October 16th in order to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the CODOFIL programs and plans for the future.

I have released a new book: “Acadian Redemption: From Beausoleil Broussard to the Queen’s Royal Proclamation” (see book section herein for more details) and would be willing to make a presentation on the book and/or participate in a book signing at any venue or for any organization that you think would be interested. All proceeds from the sale of the book will be used to operate the Acadian Museum of Erath, a non-profit corporation.

CONGRÈS MONDIAL ACADIEN

Executive Director Vaughn Madden of the Congrès did a terrific job promoting the event in Louisiana. It was estimated that over 250,000 people attended the Congrès. The sailing ship “Europa” sailed from Le Havre, France to celebrate 400 years of the first Acadians sailing to Canada. Tom Todd Gerald conceived the voyage and the adventure will be shown on National Geographic.com, BBC Radio and CNN Travel.

The Daily Advertiser did a wonderful editorial extolling the virtues of the state delegation, which went to Nova Scotia to promote business. Governor Blanco represented the state and City-Parish President Joey
Durel led the Lafayette delegation to share in the festivities. Governor Blanco was able to schedule the trip and her presence made a major impact on the Canadian government representatives, including Prime Minister Paul Martin and all participants.

- Donna Doucet sponsored an archological dig at the Grand Pré Historic Site in conjunction with the Congrès.
- Lt. Governor Mitch Landrieu promoted the Congrès and addressed the Convention and Tourist Commission. Executive Director Gerald Breaux announced during the press conference that Louisiana was sponsoring participation in the Congrès.
- Vaughn Madden estimated that 5,000 Louisianians attended the many events of the Congrès.
- In support of promoting Louisiana, Audrey Bahinnaux-George of Houma offered T-shirts in French for Louisianians traveling to Canada courtesy of the Terrebonne Parish Tourism office.
- I enjoyed being interviewed by Grazyna Krupa at the CBC of Halifax in conjunction with the program shown on the CBC in September: "The Canadian Experience" will focus on Louisiana's participation in the Congrès.
- During the Congrès, there was a Louisiana Day on August 9th. I delivered a talk on my book, "Acadian Redemption: From Beausoleil Broussard to the Queen's Royal Proclamation."
- The "Trading Posts" sponsored by Nova Scotia's Economic Development Council, was ably promoted by the World Trade Center and Centre International de Lafayette.
- Many Louisianians who traveled to Nova Scotia for the World Acadian Congress visited regional welcome centers in Clare and Argyle (Evangeline Trail) and Chéticamp and Richmond (Cape Breton).
- Todd Jarrell, coordinator of the Voyage from France, is completing a documentary on the voyage which will be supported by LBP and LEH grant.

**TOURISM**

- Dr. Carl Brasseaux hosted a very successful Eco-Tourism seminar in September.
- Erath Mayor George Dupuis was successful in obtaining a $150,000 grant to help develop downtown Erath which will be focused on cultural tourism.
- Angèle Davis, Secretary Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism, addressed the Lafayette Convention and Visitors Commission in September and laid out a campaign to boost the state's second largest industry.
- From September 11th - 12th, the Louisiana Folklife Festival took place focusing on the impact of women.
- Lt. Governor Mitch Landrieu spoke for the "Experience Atchafalaya Days," on October 1st at the Atchafalaya Welcome Center.

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

- Under the leadership of Claude Teboul, our good friends in France continue to publish an excellent Gazette. The latest issue discussed the twinning with Baton Rouge, the 60th anniversary of the invasion at Normandy, and a report on the trip of the Francophone Section of the Louisiana State Bar to France, led by John Hernandez, Jr. and John Hernandez, III, and the publication of the Queen's Royal Proclamation.
- The Governor signed a Resolution commending Claude Teboul and France-Louisiane for the outstanding work which they have performed through the State of Louisiana.
- Under the leadership of the Consul General of France Patrick Rolot, many wonderful festivities were held in New Orleans celebrating Bastille Day on July 14. Some of the events included the Alliance Française soiree at the West End Tennis Club; "Les Puces on Magazine" featuring a variety of French products and wreath laying by the Mr. Rolot at the foot of the Joan of Arc statute in the French Market. A French mass was held at St. Louis Cathedral and the usual French chefs' block party held in front of La Brasserie.
- Marcel Bienvenu, contributing writer to the Times Picayune, did an excellent story "French Salads Celebrate Bastille Day.
- The World Affairs Council of New Orleans, formerly known as the Foreign Relations Association of New Orleans, continued to provide excellent leadership to promote and foster international understanding. Persons may purchase individual memberships or corporate members (504 - 523-2201).
- Eliane Levaques reports that on July 20th the National Holiday of Belgium was celebrated in Louisiana.
- Under the leadership of Buddy Guillory, and with the support of Philippe Gustin, Lafayette sent twenty-one players to compete in the Ryder Cup-style activities where they competed for the Acadia Cup. The event was held in Moncton, New Brunswick as part of the 400th anniversary celebrating l'Acadie.
- Having lost several major Consulate officers in recent years - most recently Mexico - New Orleans is launching an effort to prevent the Greek government from leaving the city as well. It is important to maintain the international character and flavor of New Orleans and the entire State of Louisiana and keep these offices open.
- The Council for International Visitors of Greater New Orleans announced that Nancy Turner received the Foreign Minister's Award. Congratulations to her for her excellent work.
- Anyone interested in joining the International Relations Association of Acadia (TIRA) may contact Iva Clavelle (337-233-4550).
- Dr. Barbara LeBlanc was honored with an Honorary Doctorate degree from Acadia University in Wolfville, Nova Scotia on October 2nd.
- David Floyd of The LSU Rural Life Museum sent out a memo to everyone to be on the lookout for some Newcomb Art Pottery which was stolen from the Louisiana State University Rural Life Museum. For a complete description, contact (225) 765-2437.
- France-Louisiane held its 28th Annual Congrès International en Champagne from October 21st - 24th.
- Accords between France and Louisiana were again signed in Baton Rouge on September 9th. Representing Louisiana was Xavier North, Directeur de la Cooperation Culturelle et du Francais, Linda Johnson, BSEE Board Member and Daniel Vitry, Directeur des Relations Internationales du Ministère de l'Education.
- Celebrations were held in the port of Toulon in August and hosted by President Jacques Chirac honoring the national forces who fought for the liberation of southern France sixty years ago.
- Mayor James PETijean was installed as president of the Louisiana Municipal Association replacing Ronnie C. Harris, mayor of Gretna.
- The Baton Rouge Concert Band held a fundraiser October 10th for a cultural exchange with the community band from Metz, France (225-929-8822).

**CULTURE AND TRADITIONS**

- Lisa and Mitchell Reed, Louisiana Heritage and culture. They host weekly training sessions at the Gloria Switch Road, (337-237-9258).
- The Pointe de l'Eglise: Acadia Genealogical and Historical Society, sponsored a "Genealogy Day in Acadia Parish" on September 25th (337-783-8497).
- After almost eighteen years of progress, Le Vieux Village is set to open in Opelousas. The African-American Methodist Church and other buildings make up the complex.
- The United Houma Nation hosted the La Fete des Indiens Houma on July 24th in Raceland. The festivities were under the direction of Principal Chief Brenda Dardar-Robichaux and Dr. Mike Robichaux.
- Director Kermit Bouillion announced the following individuals had been inducted into the "Order of Living Legends"; Lynn Goutierrez, Johnnie Suire, Hugh Thompson, Romona Bahinnaux. Upcoming inductions include: George Rodrigue, Judge Minos Miller and Ruth Miller.
- The Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve extended their exhibit "Louisiana Purchase in the History of the United States of America" (337-232-0789).
- The CODOFIL West Bank Chapter continues to sponsor the French mass at 11:00 a.m.
- The African-American Museum is twinned with the museum on slavery on Goree Island in Senegal.
- A thirty minute film that examined the importance of south Louisiana wetlands was shown at Nicholls State University as part of the international film club of Nicholls State. The event was organized by Glen Pitré and his wife, Michelle.
- UL Lafayette recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of the admission of African-Americans. The largely Cajun and Catholic people of southwest Louisiana had experienced being outside of the mainstream and this made the integration of the university more easily accomplished than other institutions, according to historian Wade.
- Johnny and Kathy Richard of Abbeville continues to transform their "old barn" into a cultural museum.
- On October 8th, Allience Française held a wine and cheese tasting fundraiser.
- From October 7th - 10th, Natchitoches celebrated the National Creole Heritage Day.

---

**Gifts, continue to do a wonderful job promoting the use of music at their store located at 500 East Gloria Switch Road, (337-237-9258).**

---

**Linda Johnson, Board Member and Daniel Vitry, Directeur des Relations Internationales du Ministère de l'Education.**

---

**Dr. Mike Robichaux.**

---

**Bretta 207.**

---

**Bretta 208.**
A new exhibit called "Huey Long Live! The Kingfish Speaks" recently opened at the old State Capitol.

The Pointe de I'Eglise: Acadian Genealogical & Historical Society, Inc. met at the Rayne Branch Library for their quarterly meeting, according to President Lynette Chadeayne. The society sponsored a very successful genealogy day on September 25th at the Rayne Civic Center. I was honored to be invited to make a presentation on my book: "Acadian Redemption: From Beauregard Broussard to the Queen's Royal Proclamation."

A new exhibit called "Huey Long Live! The Kingfish Speaks" recently opened at the old State Capitol.
BOOKS

Acadian Redemption: From Beausoleil Broussard to the Queen's Royal Proclamation. The first part of this book defines the society into which Beausoleil was born and speaks of his early life events and his militant struggles with the British who had for years wanted to lay claim to the Acadians' rich and profitable lands. Subsequent chapters discuss his epic odyssey during which Beausoleil led a group of one hundred ninety-three Acadians to Louisiana, the New Acadia, with the hope that his beloved Acadian culture would survive. The last half of the book discusses the repercussions of his life that ultimately led a fourteenth generation descendant, Warren Perrin, to begin a legal action called the Petition. This Petition was resolved by the signing of the Queen's Royal Proclamation on December 9, 2003. Cost of book: $15.00 (plus shipping and handling). Thanks to the generosity of the author and the Acadian Heritage and Culture Foundation, Inc., all of the proceeds from the sale of the book will be donated to the Acadian Museum. Lucien Fontenot, Lafayette artist, designed the "Beausoleil" image for the book cover which has also been embossed upon T-shirts ($15.00; plus shipping and handling) sold in conjunction with the book and may be ordered by calling (337) 233-5832.

If you have not done so already, you may show your support of the Acadian Museum by purchasing the 300+ page book entitled "A Century of Cajun Culture" by Curney J. Dronet. Books may be ordered by sending a check or money order in the amount of $20.00 payable to the Acadian Museum, 203 S. Broadway, Erath, Louisiana (337) 937-5468, (337) 233-5832. All proceeds from the sale go towards supporting the museum.


Dr. David Barry lectured at Gallery 912 on "Ernest Gaines and the Humanities at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette."

Zachary Richard released his new book "Les Acadiens de la Louisiana," with illustrations by Richard Strubberg, for use in French Immersion classes at a reception held September 17th at Centre International.

Dr. W. Lee Hargrave, a former professor, published a history of the school titled "LSU: The Louisiana State University Law School from 1906 to 1977."

LEGAL

John Hernandez, III received the President's Award from the Louisiana State Bar Association at the annual meeting in San Destin, Florida. Also honored were: Mereaud Frank Neuner, Jr., who was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award and installed as the E. D. White home on Bayou Lafourche the public in July. It was the home of the only Louisiana native to serve as Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. Elizabeth C. Lanier was recently appointed Workers' Compensation in Houma. Judge CODOFIL and of Francophone activities in the area.

Professor Alain Lavoie, LSU Law Center, organized the Association Henri Capitant participation in the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the French Civil Code including the September conference in New Orleans and reception of the French government's delegation including the First President of the Cour de Cassation, Mr. Guy Canivet.

President Jacques Chirac commented on the First President of the Jean Cassin for the European Union and stated that it is "good for Europe and good for France."

Under the leadership of Louis Koenner, arguments were made to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal in a case, which will determine whether or not foreigners will be able to take the Louisiana State Bar examination.

I was honored to deliver a eulogy memorializing the life of Judge Allen Babineaux during the Annual Court Opening of the Fifteenth Judicial District Court on September 10th.

The Louisiana Museum Foundation has scheduled to help celebrate the re-opened State Supreme Court Building at 400 Royal Street on October 26th. A special dinner was planned at Antoine's (504) 568-6965.

EDUCATION

From July 25th - 28th CODOFIL again hosted visiting teachers from sixteen countries who will be teaching French in Louisiana schools. They were provided with a three-day orientation program in Baton Rouge.

On October 8th, Natchitoches hosted the Creole Heritage Day.
A new interactive CD ROM from the Creole Institute at Indiana University features thirty-five transcribed text of more than 100 minutes of interviews with individuals speaking French: "Discovering Cajun French." (Www.indiana.edu/~creole).

UL Lafayette Professor Dr. Pat Rickels was featured in a story by Madelaine Landry concerning her years of good work promoting civil and human rights in Acadiana (The Advocate, July 19th).

Congratulations to the new officers of the Louisiana Consortium of Immersion Schools Nicole Boudreaux, President, Terri Hammatt, Vice-President, and France Trépagnier, Treasurer. Congratulations to Tony Zaunbrecher, Foreign Language Supervisor for Calcasieu Parish for many years, who just retired. Glenda Williams replaces him.

Thanks to an exchange with the planetarium in Poitiers, France, the Planetarium of the Lafayette Natural History Museum will offer a program in French every Saturday morning. The first program is entitled "The Mysteries of the Southern Sky." It begins at 10:30 a.m. For more information, you can contact the museum at 337-291-5544 or you can visit their website: www.lnhm.org.

Mary and I were invited to make a presentation on Cajun culture at UL Lafayette, which hosted the Southeastern Leadership Conference for National Art Educator’s Association. UL art professor Lynn Bustle coordinated the event.

Michelle Fontenot received the Heritage Education-Louisiana mini-grant award from Nancy Hawkins with the Division of Archaeology Office of Cultural Development in Baton Rouge. Michelle teaches French at North Vermilion High School and has been a long-time promoter of French in Louisiana.

Jacqueline Labat, president of the Friends of French Studies at LSU and Sylvie Dubois, Chair of the Department of French Studies at LSU recently attended the American Association of Teachers of French Convention in Atlanta. Dr. Robert Lafayette also participated in the conference and led one of the sessions (225-578-6627).


"Acadian Heritage Week," was celebrated from September 11th - 19th. The many events helped students understand more of their Acadian history.

Audubon L’ecole franco-américaine has been selected by the French government as a regional training site for the teaching of foreign languages. The school is located in New Orleans.

L’UNION FAIT LA FORCE! ENSEMBLE ON EST CAPABLE!