Calling All Cajuns!

St. Martinville, Louisiana

Fall 1993

The mural recently completed in Nantes, France by artist Robert Dauphier of Lafayette, Louisiana, depicts Acadian settlers leaving France for Louisiana in 1785. Dauphier is currently painting a twin mural to be installed on the lower level of the Acadian Memorial which features the arrival of the Acadians in Louisiana.

CONGRATULATIONS! IT'S TWINS!

A group from Nantes, France met in St. Martinville with members of The Acadian Memorial to officially twin their murals. Leading the French group was Gerard Beaud, president of the “Association Regionale de L’Ouest des Amities Academices.” Janie Buillard, chair of The Acadian Memorial Project, said, “We celebrate this twinning with Nantes as the achievement of the primary goal of the Acadian Memorial — the symbolic reunion of Acadian families who were separated.”

In addition to developing a 30 by 12 foot mural, The Acadian Memorial Project also includes the renovation of an historic building to house the Acadian genealogy and history research center, a wall of names listing the approximately 3,000 original Acadian settlers, and an eternal flame to remember all the Acadian exiles. “This project is especially important to us,” said M. Gerard Beaud, because, by bringing together the names and the pictorial images of the Acadian settlers, we are also uniting the ancestors (Continued on Page 4)
THE WALL OF NAMES - THE BEGINNING . . .

The Spring of 1993 newsletter listed 132 names of Acadian refugees that appear on an information board and in the Evangeline Oak at the Bayou Teche in St. Martinville. These names were compiled for the inauguration of Evangeline Oak Park in 1990, from the following sources: a past, dated April 4, 1765, between Captain Bernard Hauver and the heads of eight Acadian families to raise cattle in the Attakapas country on shares with him; the names of thirty-two Acadians who were in New Orleans on April 30, 1765, to exchange Canadian 'cords' for current money; the 1765 records of Acadians in the archives of St. Martin de Tours Catholic church in St. Martinville and the Census of Attakapas and Opelousas taken by the Spanish authorities, dated April 20, 1796.

These names, together with more than 2,500 additional names, are the beginning of the Wall of Names. The additional names have been drawn from the civil, military, and church records of Acadian refugees who settled along the Mississippi River, the Bayou of Lafayette, Teche and Vermilion, and Imperial Saint Louis Parish, and the parishes of Natchitoches and Pointe Coupee.

Names were also gleaned from lists of passengers abroad the schooners Britannia and Brigitte and the seven ships that brought more than 1,500 Acadians from France in 1785.

Throughout the last years of the 19th century, Acadian refugees came to Louisiana in the hope of being reunited with loved ones - this was their greatest desire. Now, rebuilding these families, names by name, on the Wall of Names in the Acadian Memorial will finally accomplish their symbolic reunion.

Anyone knowing of additional resources for names is asked to contact the memorial’s Genealogy Committee.

SPREADING THE WORD . . .

In recent weeks, the Acadian Memorial Project Committee has appeared before history & genealogy societies, civic groups and the Police Jury of the twenty-two parishes that comprise the ‘Acadian’ area of Louisiana. Besides telling the story of the Memorial across south Louisiana, the committee noted that each Police Jury adopt a resolution in support of the project. The resolution, which has been unanimously adopted in every instance, does encourage individuals and businesses to fund their support.

Based on the one adopted by the legislature of the State of Louisiana which designates St. Martinville "the official home of the World Memorial To All Acadian Refugees Who Ended Their Exile in Louisiana", it clearly states the reasons for the memorial and identifies its elements: a mural, a Wall of Names, an Eternal Flame and a Multi-Media Archive.

You may obtain a copy of the concept of the Memorial and a copy of the resolutions by filling in the order form on page 3.

More Figures for the Mural

(Continued from Fall ’93 newsletter)

10. Alexis & Honore Breaux were brothers who came with their mother to Louisiana in 1813. They are reunited with relatives and who, after much separation, are "very happy" and settled in Calcasieu.

11. Salvador Mouton was an Acadian refugee from Calcasieu. He arrived in New Orleans, with a group of 20, and was located to be the earliest refugee from Acadian in Louisiana. He is united with the family in the Calcasieu court of 1815.

12. Joseph Landry was an Acadian refugee from Calcasieu. He arrived in 1815. He was a member of the Louisiana Senate from the County of Calcasieu, in the Senate of the United States.

13. Pierre Lemoine was a member of the Acadian Nationality. He arrived in 1815. He was a member of the Louisiana Senate from the County of Calcasieu, in the Senate of the United States.

14. Pierre Guadz was in Attakapas in 1765. He married Cornelia in 1769. He was a member of the Louisiana Senate from the County of Calcasieu, in the Senate of the United States.

15. Pierre Guidry arrived from Marigny in 1765. He married Cornelia in 1769. He was a member of the Louisiana Senate from the County of Calcasieu, in the Senate of the United States.

16. Pierre Benoit arrived in 1765 from Marigny via St. Louis. He married Cornelia in 1815. He was a member of the Louisiana Senate from the County of Calcasieu, in the Senate of the United States.

17. Pierre Pitre arrived in 1765 from Opelousas with a son and a daughter who have been identified as Francois and Marie Pitre. He was located in 1769 in the Louisiana Senate of the United States.

18. Jean Baptiste Senor was in Atakapas in 1765. He was a member of the Acadian Society in St. Martinville. He was a member of the Louisiana Senate from the County of Calcasieu, in the Senate of the United States.

MEMORIAL T-SHIRTS

More T-shirts are available! For $10, you can get a T-shirt that commemorates the Acadian History Project. A portion of the proceeds will go towards the Acadian Memorial Project.

Win a Trip to Canada!

...and help build the Acadian Memorial while you’re at it.

7 days in New Brunswick, Canada, in August 1994, to participate in the Acadian World Congress which will celebrate the 350th anniversary of the founding of Acadia, 1644-1994. Round-trip airfare and accommodations for two. Drawing to be held April 24, 1994, at Festival International de Louisiana, Lafayette, Louisiana.

To donate to the Memorial and enter the drawing for the free trip to Canada, or to purchase T-shirts or other memorabilia, fill in this form, or make a donation of $5, along with your check in the Acadian Memorial Project, City of St. Martinville, P.O. Box 379, Dept. AM, St. Martinville, LA 70582. Make check payable to Acadian Memorial Project.

A C A D I A N  F L A G

White shirt (S/M/L/XL/XXL) only, $10.00 includes tax, handling & shipping. For an additional $2.00 we will insert a copy of 'The Acadian Memorial: the Concept', the resolution adopted by the State of Louisiana, and the sample resolution adopted by the 22 Parishes of Louisiana. Perhaps you would like to present the resolution for adoption in your community?
of those Acadians, both the ones who chose to stay in France and those who set sail for America.

The Acadian Memorial is "selling" 6 inch by 6 inch squares of the mural to fund the continuation of its painting by artist Robert Dafford. Pat Reesweber of the Fund Raising Committee said, "We ask that all friends of the Memorial purchase mural squares now to help support the continued work on the mural." The committee's goal is to sell 200 squares to fund painting in October and November. Members of the Committee are negotiating with Festival International to exhibit the mural during the festival in April, 1994 in Lafayette, Louisiana.

Remember, your donation to the mural will be permanently acknowledged in The Acadian Memorial building. If you choose to donate in the memory of a loved one or to sponsor a specific mural figure, that will be acknowledged, too. Everyone purchasing a mural square now will also be eligible for the drawing for the free trip to New Brunswick.

THE ACADIAN FLAG

(Fleur de Lis) (Castle) (Star)
Silver Fleur de Lis on blue background represents the French origins of the Acadians.
Gold castle on red background represents Spain, the country that controlled Louisiana at the time the Acadians came here.
Gold Star on white background represents Our Lady of the Assumption, patroness of the Acadians, Maria Stella.

It also represents the active participation of the Acadians in the American Revolution.

The Acadian Memorial Project
P.O. Box 379, Dept. AM
St. Martinville, LA 70582

Serials!
Dupre Library
302 E. St. Mary Blvd.
Lafayette, LA 70504