Reunion brings Roys home

Abraham Roy was the only Roy to settle in Louisiana after deportation from Nova Scotia.

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Staff Writer

LAFAYETTE — Having overstepped military charts and a Canadian who, Don Ruiz of Acadia, struggled to find the connection to his brother, Bedsheke Roy, on PointCourte, and the descendants of Jean Roy in Canada.

He was among those who attended the Roy family reunion Saturday in the Cajun dance as part of the Congress Mondial Acadian, the World Acadian Congress.

Lucille Roy and her husband, Carmel, drove from their home in Ottawa, Grade, to Lafayette just to attend the Mondial Acadian. Carmel's brother and his wife accompanied them in their own motor home.

The Roy name is descended from Acadian Jean Roy and were eager to meet with descendants of Abraham Roy the only Roy to settle in Louisiana after deportation from Nova Scotia. Family tradition says the Roys established Brownsville, which today is Youngsville.

There are no other branches of Roy and only two in Acadia，“Lucille Roy said. “Come here, we thought we would meet more people from the same branch."

Many descendants live in Canada and few are related to their name.

The Canadian and United States Congress Mondial opening ceremonies in Lafayette, was broadcast to Montreal as they saw the streaming Neil and others communicating the Acadian departure from Nova Scotia.

"What really struck us is the people, and the way we all come as so far as they see us. . . . They are so friendly, they would say welcome home,” Lucille Roy said.

Sister Fern Roy of Lafayette spent much of her life recording the Cajun culture, communicating to the Canadian visitors partly in French and partly in English.

"We speak enough French to make ourselves understood and they speak enough English,” she said.

Three-year-old Braxton Booth does some Cajun dancing with Lucille and Carmel Roy during activities Saturday at the Roy reunion. The Roys drove their motor home from Ottawa, Canada, to Lafayette just to attend Congress Mondial Acadien.

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English: "She's just delighted when we spoke a few words of French," she said.

Having questioned the Cajun visitors about ancestry and the geography of Nova Scotia, Ernest, who was impressed with the knowledge of the Acadian descendants, asked whether the children were aware of their heritage.

"They've had a lot of knowledge," Ernest said.

"Acadians used to share their culture with each other," Ernest said.

"It is not common for those who went through it."

"The children are taught about their heritage, and the language is preserved," Ernest said. "They have a lot of knowledge."