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Les Guidry d'Astcur



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CMA 2009



IN THIS ISSUE from Marty Guidry

As we end the sixth year of publishing "Generations", Allie Guidry presents another superb issue of our newsletter with several interesting and informative articles about our Guédry-Labine family. Jeffrey Guidry from Crowley, LA relates the experiences of his uncle Emery J. Guidry of Cow Island, LA (now that's an intriguing name in itself) during the Battle of the Bulge and as a POW of the Germans. This story has an interesting twist that occurs many years after the end of WWII.

With Thanksgiving just around the corner peruse the taste-tempting fall recipes in 'Bon Appetit' and then head for the kitchen. As you enjoy that pumpkin pie, learn the meaning of all those symbols and colors on our new Guédry Crest and how they tell the unique story of our family history – a history we can all be proud to have.

Ever wonder how some of those strange first names we occasionally see came about. We've dug back and uncovered how Summerall Martin Guidry got his unique first name.

Need some reading during the holidays? The 'Book Nook' has two excellent book reviews on the Native Americans of Nova Scotia and those of Louisiana.

The Guédry-Labine family is quite diverse, encompassing many interest-

ing occupations and avocations. James Geddry was no exception. Working at the Watertown Arsenal in Massachusetts by day, James Geddry became Jim Jedry is his second job – a ventriloquist with his sidekick Eddie Kelly. Bernard Geddry brings to life his uncle's passion for entertaining folks with his remarkable Vent dolls. Working at the Watertown Arsenal in Massachusetts by day, James Geddry became Jim Jedry is his second job – a ventriloquist with his sidekick Eddie Kelly. Bernard Geddry brings to life his uncle's passion for entertaining folks with his remarkable Vent dolls.

And don't forget to register for our upcoming Reunion at Bathurst, New Brunswick on August 16, 2009. We have booked the Conference Center at Danny's Inn. We'll have an opening French Mass at a local church in Bathurst and then all meet at Danny's Inn for a day of fellowship and exciting activities. We are beginning to finalize the agenda with a mixture of French music, interesting presentations, a wonderful buffet meal at noon, family-related items for sale, lots of time to mingle with cousins and a moving closing ceremony. Oh, watch your wallets and purses as I've heard we may have a magician visiting us during the Reunion.

The D-Day Landing and POW Experience of Emery J. Guidry from Cow Island, LA (as told to his nephew Jeffrey Guidry)

The following information was given to me over the years that I lived & worked with Uncle Emery and the many nights he spent at our home.

When Emery J. Guidry enlisted in the Army, his father (Malcolm Guidry) had to sign for him since all of his brothers were already in the service and he was the only remaining son on the farm. Grandpa Malcolm told him it was a dumb thing to do and he was going to get himself killed in a foreign country. But he said I can't stay home and not help out like my brothers! My Dad (Kerney Guidry) was in the Army in the Phillipines, Malcolm Jr. (Malcolm Guidry Jr.) was in England with the Air Force, Vern (Vern Guidry) was in the Army in California and Harry (Harry Guidry) was in the Army in Oklahoma.

Uncle Emery said on D-Day that he was all too happy to get off that darn boat and head to land even if he got killed! They landed at Utah Beach, walked ashore and never had a shot fired at them, He could hear a lot of firing down the beach in the distance, but it was three days before someone shot in his direction -- a machine gun was firing from behind a hedgerow and he fired back, but does not remember hitting anything except trees and dirt flying from around the position.

His unit moved up towards Cherbourg and he said the Germans were fleeing because they were trapped! There were a lot of firefights and Uncle Emery thinks he did kill some Germans, but there was so much firing and Germans falling everywhere that he could not remember actually shooting and seeing someone go down from his fire.

After Cherbourg they walked south for months, but he did not remember the names of any towns or places. He knew his unit never got close to Paris.

The next thing Uncle Emery remembered is that they were in the woods in Luxembourg in December, 1944 and it was the coldest place he had ever been. He was sent up front as a forward observer (two men to a foxhole with binoculars). They had been there about two weeks when one night it went wild! Artillery fire was falling all around their foxhole and German tanks were coming out of the woods behind them. He said it looked like at least 100 tanks headed right towards them. His foxhole buddy said "I better look and report back to HQ". He stuck his head out of the foxhole, was shot right through the head and dropped back into the hole. Uncle Emery said "I got as low as I could in that hole". A few minutes later a German stuck his gun into the hole and said "raus" (get out!). Would you believe that at the time I was thinking Poppa was right; I was going to get killed in a foreign country! I was scared out of my skin and knew that guy was going to blow my head off, but he lined me and about ten other observers up and started marching us back towards the German lines.

About an hour before the attack a friend (Winston Foreman) from Kaplan was in one of the foxholes and he yelled for me to go get coffee for the other guys. When I got back, I went to foxhole #1 to bring them coffee (my foxhole was #3) and that's when the shelling started. An 88mm round hit right in my old foxhole (#3)! Winston took off for HQ as soon as the shelling started and he reported me dead since he thought I was in my old foxhole (#3). The War Department sent my wife Willie Mae & Poppa (Malcolm Guidry) a letter saying I was killed in action!

The German guard walked us about four hours through their lines. There were Germans and tanks everywhere you looked, but he kept us walking until daylight. Then he stopped and we fell

The D-Day Landing and POW Experience of Emery J. Guidry

asleep in a forest until dark. This went on for days. One night, while we were walking, a German patrol did not see our guard and started shooting at us. I got hit in the left hip and the buttock and two other guys were shot dead before the guard finally got the Germans to quit shooting. I was hurting terribly, but not bleeding that much so the guard put a crude bandage on me and told me to keep walking. We finally got to a prison camp somewhere in Germany and an American doctor patched me up best he could. I had been running a high fever for about a week and infection had set into the wounds. We were all starving as the guard gave us a can of potted meat to share among the eight of us. I was down to 118 lbs from 160 lbs a few weeks earlier! I was in such bad shape at the prison camp that I did not know if it was day or night or how long we stayed there -- maybe a week at the most. When we arrived at the camp, all the prisoners came out to see what was going on.

A big guy with black curly hair hollered at me "Guidry, Where you from?" I said "Cow Island, Louisiana". He said "I am from Lyons Point, Louisiana. And I will take care of you". He got my name from the nametag on the fatigue uniform that I was wearing, but he had a prison suit so I never got his name. That night the big guy brought us some potato peelings soup which tasted great! It was dark and he had snuck into our barracks so we had to whisper. I was so bad off and never thought to ask him his name and really couldn't tell what he looked like in the dark. But that guy sure saved my life! The U. S. Air Force started dropping bombs on the camp and probably killed more POW's than Germans so our old guard decided it was time to move on.

AN ASIDE - JEFF'S UNLIKELY STORY ABOUT THIS INCIDENT

Jeff Guidry (Emery Guidry's nephew) worked for Allstate Insurance Company in Crowley, LA

and he had a customer by the name of Julius Lamperez who lived in Crowley. He was a famous Cajun musician who went by the stage name of "Pappa Cario" (the King of Diamonds). Pappa would come to my office every month and he would start telling me music and war stories. He said he was a prisoner of war for two years in Germany and talked about how bad it was. Or he would tell me he played the Louisiana Hayride in Shreveport with Elvis Presley, Farron Young and George Jones and how he was the best steel guitar player EVER! I really thought most of it was lies, but, after he died, the Morning Advocate newspaper in Baton Rouge, LA listed his playing history and sure enough he played background steel guitar for all those singers.

One day out of the blue he says "Guidry, Where you from?" I said "Kaplan, but I was born in Cow Island". He said "I met a Guidry from Cow Island when I was in the prison camp, but I don't know what his first name was". He said "I saw his name on his field jacket the day they brought them in and I asked him where he was from. He said Cow Island and I told him I was from Lyon's Point". I was a cook and took care of my Louisiana boys. That first night I brought him some potato peelings soup because he was in really bad shape.

I could not believe what I was hearing!

I picked up the phone and called Uncle Emery and said I want you to talk to somebody you met many years ago. I handed the phone to Pappa and, as they talked, Pappa started crying and he kept saying "I ain't no hero" and to come see him in Crowley or at his nightclub in Houston. They talked for about 30 minutes and, when they hung up, Pappa gave me the phone back and said "That sure was the fellow from the prison camp, but when you see him you tell him that I ain't no hero, but I am one hell of a steel guitar player!"

Pappa died about two months later at the age of 81. He and Emery never got to see each other.

The D-Day Landing and POW Experience of Emery J. Guidry

EMERY'S STORY CONTINUES

When we left the prison camp, we now had about 15 guys with that one guard and we started walking at night and sleeping in train tunnels during the day. It wasn't long before we could hear our artillery shells falling all around us and our planes were overhead all day. Some of the guys started working on the guard - telling him to give up because, when the Americans caught up to us, it would be better for him to be our prisoner. After two or three days the German guard could see we were right and he handed us his gun and told us where our frontlines were. We walked about 3-4 hours before we ran into some Americans from the Big Red One (U. S. 1st Infantry Division). They called HQ and told them to send an ambulance as there were a couple of us in really bad shape. One of the medics gave me a cigarette and a morphine shot. My legs were numb and still infected and I was in pain the whole time. Boy, when he gave me that shot of morphine, I thought I had died and gone to heaven. I passed out and the next thing I remember was waking up in a hospital somewhere in France. I don't remember anything during that time - guess they kept me full of morphine until I got to the hospital. When I woke up, the first thing I noticed was the ceiling fan and I looked down at clean white sheets! The bad part was hearing all the guys that were really bad off crying and yelling. I tried to get out of the bed, but I couldn't move. I thought I must be paralyzed, but a nurse came by and said I was fine. They had strapped me to the bed to keep me from moving since they had removed the three bullets from my back. Boy, was I relieved! About two weeks later they brought me to the front office and gave me a telephone to call home. I had the operator call the little grocery store in Cow Island (as my family had no phone). The old man at the store was so excited; he keep asking me if it was really me because they told him I was dead! I assured him I was alive and that I would call back in two days at 2:00 pm their time and asked him to get my wife and Dad there.

When I finally talked to them, Pop (Malcolm Guidry) spoke only French and one of the French nurses said "Is that a local call?" I explained and she could not believe it. I did not know how long it would be before they shipped me home so I told everyone to hang in there cause "This old boy is coming home". It took about two months of rehabilitation before I could fully walk again and another month to put me on a boat back to the States. When we finally landed in New York, I was sent to another hospital for a complete checkup and was diagnosed as 30% disabled and that I would get a monthly check of \$32 for the rest of my life with free medical care. I thought "Wow! I am fixed for life. I am going to send that money directly to the bank and that's gonna be my retirement."

(Uncle Emery was re-evaluated ten years later and upgraded to 63% disabled. He received about \$1200-1800 per month until he died.)

THE CONCLUSION

Emery (or EJ as he was called) worked as a bartender in Sulphur, LA for a couple of years after returning home then got a job building the large Citgo refinery in Lake Charles, LA. After it was completed, he was offered a job in the laboratory at Jefferson Chemical Company in Port Neches, Texas where he worked for 43 years before he retired.

He and his wife Willa Mae had three children. She worked at a fabric shop and after 26 years of marriage she left him for another man. He was devastated. About a year later he met Jene who was his perfect mate. They married shortly thereafter and she took care of him like a king. She died about twenty years after their marriage. He then married an former schoolmate from Cow Island. She was with him until the end. Uncle Emery died in 1999 at the age of 76.

THE D-DAY LANDING AND POW EXPERIENCE OF EMERY J. GUIDRY

Emery J. Guidry

Born: 23 May 1923 at Cow Island, LA

Inducted into U. S. Army: 9 April 1942

Discharged from U. S. Army: 13 December 1945

Served in 1st Army, 101st Infantry Division, Company A

Landed at Utah Beach on D-Day (6 June 1944)

Captured in Ardennes Forest during the Battle of the Bulge

Held as a POW for eight months

Medals: Silver Star, Purple Heart, Croix de Guerre, and others



Utah Beach, June 6, 1944

Genealogy of Emery J. Guidry

Emery J. Guidry

Malcolm Guidry – Blanche Guidry

Duessard Guidry – Marguerite Idolie Hargrave

Edmond Guidry – Marie Aurelia Dartes

Francois Guidry – Celeste Dartes

Jean-Baptiste Guedry – Marguerite Lebert

Claude Guedry – Anne LeJeune

(Unknown) Guedry
{possibly Augustin Guedry & Jeanne Hebert or Paul
Guedry & Anne Mius}

Cladue Guedry – Marguerite Petitpas

[Note: Jeffrey Guidry is the son of Kerney Guidry & Mable Hebert. Kerney Guidry is the brother of Emery J. Guidry]

BON APPETIT - Recipes from The Guedry-Labine Cookbook

PORK CHOP-SQUASH CASSEROLE

From Carol Leger (Don) - Jeanette Leger-Rayne, LA

6-8 yellow squash
6 center cut pork chops
1 stick oleo
1/2 C chopped celery
3/4 C chopped onion
1/2 C chopped bell pepper
1 jalapeno pepper chopped (optional)
2 cans cream of mushroom soup
1 box cornbread Stove Top stuffing

Boil sliced squash until tender, drain well and set aside. Brown pork chops - set aside. Sauté celery, onions, bell pepper and jalapeno in oleo. Add soup and mix well. Combine this mixture with cornbread stuffing mix (include seasoning in box). Fold in squash. Pour mixture into an oblong baking pan sprayed with Pam. Place pork chops and stuffing mix with Tex-Joy steak seasoning, garlic and red/black pepper to taste.

Serves 6



During the past few years we have used recipes from the Guedry-Labine Cookbook for our Bon Appetit section of the newsletter. We welcome recipes from all readers. If you missed the opportunity to contribute to the cookbook in 2004, you can still submit a favorite family recipe for us to share and enjoy. See the last page of this issue for e-mail addresses for either Marty Guidry or Allie Guidry. We look forward to trying out your entry.

PUMPKIN PIE



Thanks to **Jim Graham of Kemah, TX** for this lighter, healthier recipe for Pumpkin Pie. It sounds delicious.

15 oz. canned pumpkin
1/4 C Egg Beaters Frozen Egg Substitute
12 oz. fat-free evaporated milk
2 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
2 tsp. vanilla extract
1 3/4 C Splenda-No Calorie Sweetener

Mix all the above ingredients. Pour into a glass pie pan, sprayed with Pam. Bake for 15 minutes at 400 deg. F then lower temperature to 325 deg. F and cook an additional 45 minutes.

THE GUÉDRY CREST

By Marty Guidry

The Guédry Crest of Les Guidry d'Astour briefly tells the story of our Guédry-Labine family – both its cultural values and its unique history from its French origins, its settlement at Merigueche and life with the Mi'kmaq people, its struggle through the years of exile and finally its survival and expansion throughout North America and Western Europe. Below is an explanation of the colors and symbols of our crest. It tells an impelling story of our family's strength, growth and survival against insurmountable odds.

The Guédry Crest is the official crest of Les Guédry d'Astour and all of its members. Each of us can use the crest on clothing, stationary, hats, plaques, pens, etc. When using the Guédry crest for your personal use, feel free to substitute your surname (that is, your variation of the Guédry surname as Labine, Guildry, Jeddry, Geddry, etc.) on the crest.

The Guédry Crest represents all descendants of Claude Guédry and Marguerite Petitpas. Over the years our Guédry name has undergone many changes and today exists in over forty variations as shown below. It is not possible to show all the variations of the Guédry surname on a single crest. Current research strongly indicates that Guédry was the surname used by Claude Guédry - the first known Guédry in North America; therefore, the Guédry Crest uses this surname. This Guédry surname is symbolic of all variations that have occurred since Claude Guédry and Marguerite Petitpas first settled in Acadia.

Several other "Guédry" crests can be found on the internet and through commercial vendors. None of these crests have an historic or any other connection to Claude Guédry or the Guedry family. Of the several other "Guédry" crests researched on the internet and from several commercial vendors, it was determined that each of these crests was developed for commercial sale and did not have any specific connection to the Guédry family.



The colors and symbols on these crests are not related to the Guédry family in any way.

On Friday, 15 August 2008, the National Day of the Acadians, the Guédry Crest was unveiled on the Plaza of the Acadian Memorial. The Guédry Crest is one of approximately thirty crests of Acadian families displayed in the Plaza of the Acadian Memorial in St. Martinville, Louisiana. Each of the crests are artistically done in ceramic on the Plaza. It is an honor for our family to have its crest displayed at the Acadian Memorial – a truly unique memorial visited by people from throughout North America and the world.

SPECIAL THANKS

Thanks to member Lindsey Hardee of *Design to the Rescue* for taking the rough drawing of the Guédry Crest Committee, recommending improvements and professionally designing the final Guédry Crest. She has given all of us a wonderful crest of which we truly can be proud. The innovative services and solutions of *Design to the Rescue* can be seen at:

<http://www.designtotherescue.com/>

THE GUÉDRY CREST - THE STORY OF OUR FAMILY

The Guédry Crest tells the story of the Guédry family from its French origins through the struggle of its exile and eventually its resettlement throughout North America and Europe. It is the crest of the Guédry family in all of its name variations.

Each item and color on the crest has special significance. Below is an explanation of the colors and components of the Guédry crest as they tell the story of the Guédry family.

ESCUTCHEON – The field of the escutcheon (shield) is divided into two parts: the chief (broad band across the top) and the field per quarterly with simple cross charge.

CHIEF – The chief is divided into three sections per pale (vertical lines) of blue, white and red tinctures (colors). Blue, white and red are the colors of the Acadian flag. These colors, the same as the Tricolor of the French flag, signify the French origins of the Acadians and the Guédry family.

BLUE represents the personal color of the Holy Virgin Mary – the patron saint of the Acadians. It also signifies loyalty and truthfulness – traits the Guédry family exhibited throughout their lives in Acadie and during the bleakness of deportation.

WHITE represents peace. In Acadie our Guédry forefathers remained neutral between the English and French, striving for peaceful lives. Even while being deported, they maintained their peaceful demeanor.

RED represents fortitude – the strength of mind that enabled our Guédry ancestors to endure the almost unbearable treatment by the English and emerge a stronger people.

The **YELLOW STAR** symbolizes Our Lady of the Assumption (the Virgin Mary), the patron saint of the Acadians.

The **CREEL** (fish basket) symbolizes the unique relationship between the Guédry family of Merligueche and the Mi'kmaq nation. The Mi'kmaq taught their Guédry neighbors how to survive the harsh Merligueche environment using the bounty of the land and the sea.

The **FIDDLE** symbolizes the unique culture of the Guédry family - their music, their food, their faith, their joie de vivre. Although their culture has evolved and changed through the generations and where they may live, it has remained uniquely theirs. An old musical instrument, the fiddle has remained a constant of this culture wherever the music is played: in old Acadie, in Louisiana, in Nova Scotia, on Prince Edward Island, in New Brunswick or in France.

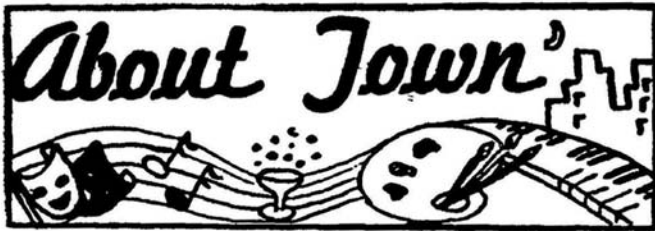
CHARGES – The four symbols in the quarterly fields represent the evolution of the Guédry family from the days of Old Acadie to today. The silver tincture of two fields represents the neutrality and peace that our ancestors strove to maintain during their two hundred years in Acadie. The blue tincture of two fields represents loyalty and truthfulness – qualities exhibited by our Guédry forefathers through much adversity.

The **FLEUR-DE-LIS** symbolizes the French origin of Claude Guédry, the North American forefather of our family. The **GOLD** color symbolizes the generosity of our ancestors toward others – striving for better lives for all.

The **COAST-PILOT** (boat) represents the early life of the Guédry family in North America. Settled near the Mi'kmaq at Merligueche, the Guédry's were excellent coasting pilots – plying the waters between Merligueche and Ile Royale.

Continued on page 11

IN THE NEWS-HISTORICAL NEWS TIDBITS



By Judy Ross

If you're interested in a literary pilgrimage — or if your mission is purely gastronomic — sooner or later you must find your way to "Petitpas Restaurant" on West 29th Street, where the poet Yeats was accustomed to hold convivial sway over the clientele. A painting of the poet and his artistic salon, dining perhaps at the very table you may occupy, hangs importantly close to proprietor Nick Petitpas' excellent French kitchen.

Here in one of New York's oldest restaurants, diners-out can combine all the advantages of fine food, really low tariffs (complete dinners start at \$1.85) and an atmosphere that is unique even in our cosmopolitan city. You would never choose Petitpas for an evening's relaxation from a mere look at its unpretentious front in a shabby commercial district on 29th Street. But once you have descended the stairway ("petitpas" means "little steps" in French) you find yourself in a warm and cheerful atmosphere. Yes, there's a fireplace, and the traditional checkered table-cloths to make you right at home. Brick inside walls are decorated with twining vines and even in winter a few artificial flowers set a merry tone. The menu boasts all the familiar French delights from Coq Au Vin to Sweetbreads. We recommend the frog's legs to the venturesome.

Still on the track of French cuisine, but too busy to travel downtown, we might mention the Café Brittany on 56th Street near 9th Avenue. A little knowledge of the French tongue will help you manage your order; the waitresses seem to be fresh from "la belle France." They will recommend their onion soup with deserved pride — and you can follow this with "escargots" (snails served with a tangy garlic sauce — a typical native delicacy served in only a few authentic spots around this city), brains with a caper garnish or the old French favorite, coq au vin (chicken in red wine sauce). For a really festive touch, red or white table wine here sells for 20 cents the glass and other liquors are similarly priced. Vermouth cassise makes an exotic apertif, if you hanker for that authentic atmosphere.

Guidry's Seafood Invites Public To Tuesday Open House



A. A. GUIDRY

Borrowing a well-known slogan, A. A. Guidry, Kerrville's newest businessman, adds pertinent changes and promises that when fresher and better seafood is found, Guidry's will offer it to Hill Country patrons.

For the city's newest business firm—Guidry's Seafood—is open at 814 Main Street, and offers a full line of fresh seafood. "Direct from the wharf-side to you," Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Guidry have chosen Kerrville for their permanent family home, coming here from Beaumont where Mr. Guidry has been in the seafood market business and operates his own shrimp boats off the coast. Besides Mr. and Mrs. Guidry are three children, A. A. Jr. (Bubba), age 5; Ronnie, 1, and Zelma Katherine, 6. The family belong to the Catholic Church.

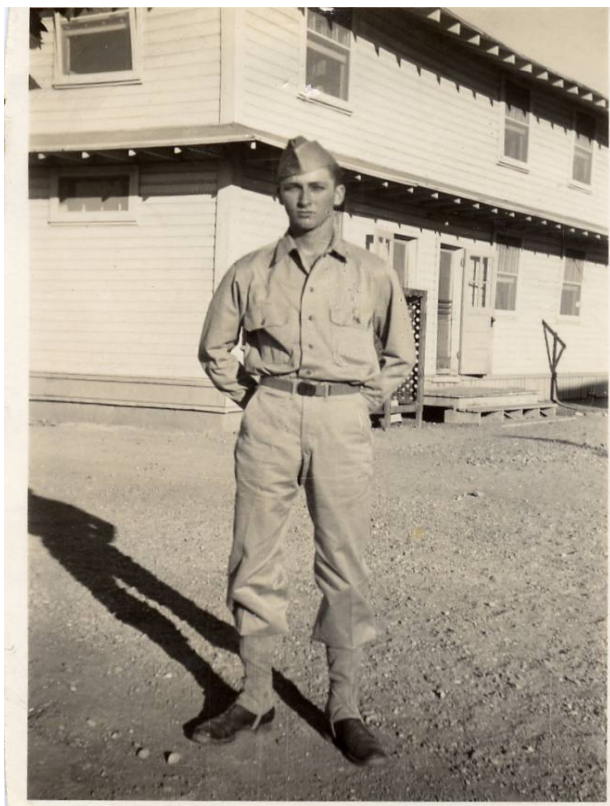
Insuring the finest and freshest seafood obtainable, Mr. Guidry will operate his own trucks from the coast to Kerrville. Shrimp and oysters will be a house specialty.

Mr. and Mrs. Guidry cordially invite the general public to inspect their place of business and attend their open house next Tuesday, December 21, at 814 Main Street.

Barnard Bulletin-(New York, New York) Feb. 19, 1953

The Kerrville Times, Kerrville, TX-1955

AND HOW DID I GET THAT NAME? SUMMERALL MARTIN GUIDRY by Marty Guidry



Summerall Martin Guidry

Most of us have common given names – a name our parents liked, the name of a saint with a quality that our parents hoped we would have, the name of a grandparent, etc. Occasionally, parents give their child an unusual name – a name that separates him from his peers. The source is often lost as the years pass by.

My Dad's name was Summerall Martin Guidry. Martin was the middle name of his father Emmanuel Martin Guidry and has been passed down to me and to my grandson. But Summerall as a given name is quite rare – possibly unique. How did Dad's parents decide on Summerall – a name that my Dad was called throughout his life.

As World War I heated up in Europe and young men in the United States lined up to serve their country, my grandfather Emmanuel Martin Guidry volunteered to enlist in the U. S. Army and joined the recently-formed 1st Infantry Division – the Big Red One.

Shortly he shipped overseas and fought in trenches against the Germans in France during 1917 and 1918. Injured twice, he recovered in French hospitals and returned to the front lines where he was cited for bravery by both the French and the American governments.

The Commander of the First Division during World War I was a veteran of the Spanish-American War, the Philippine Insurrection and the China Relief Expedition. Born in 1867 in Florida, Charles Pelot Summerall graduated from Porter Military Academy in South Carolina in 1885 and then attended the U.S. Military Academy from which he graduated in 1892. He then began a lifelong career in the U. S. Army and was promoted to Brigadier General in 1917 and Major General in 1918.

My grandfather served as an Aide to General Summerall during the latter part of WWI and admired the leadership of his commander. He maintained a friendship with General Summerall after the War. When my Dad was born in 1922, he named his son Summerall after his former Commander.

Many people would have resented such an odd first name as Summerall, but my Dad used this name throughout his life. After all, no one ever forgot his name or confused him with another person.

My grandfather died as a young man in 1932 – partially because of being gassed twice by the Germans in World War I. His friend General Summerall did not forget his namesake, my Dad.

In April 1942 with the U.S. having just entered World War II, my father was a senior at Southwestern Louisiana Institute (today the University of Louisiana at Lafayette) in Lafayette, Louisiana. Again young men, driven by patriotism, volunteered for military service. My Dad quit college two months before graduating, enlisted in the U.S. Army and requested service in the 1st Infantry Division. There were no positions available in the Big Red One and he was assigned to the 27th Infantry

AND HOW DID I GET THAT NAME? SUMMERALL MARTIN GUIDRY

Division. He fought with honor against the Japanese in the Pacific battles at Einewetok, Saipan and Okinawa ending his war service with the Occupation of Japan. General Summerall never forgot the young soldier named after him. Periodically during the war he would send Dad a small gift and always endorsed it "To my namesake with all good wishes, C P Summerall, Major General, Chief of Staff". I often wonder if any other young soldiers received such a package from the States. It must have been quite a morale lifter for Dad as he sat in a foxhole or ate his rations during a lull in the fighting.

General Summerall served as Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army from 1926 through 1930 when he retired from the U. S. Army after 38 years of distinguished military service. During World War II, when he remembered fondly a young man fighting in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, he was President of the Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina – a position he held for 22 years. Today the Citadel's award-winning demonstration team Summerall's Rifles honors General Summerall.

And now you know why my Dad was so proud of his name Summerall and treasured it throughout his life.



General Summerall

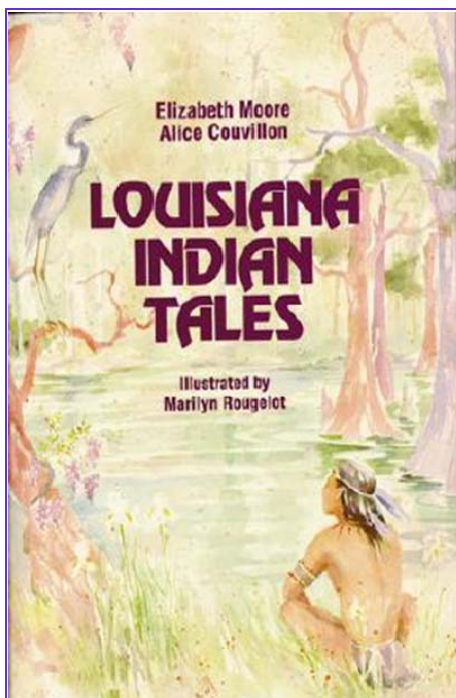
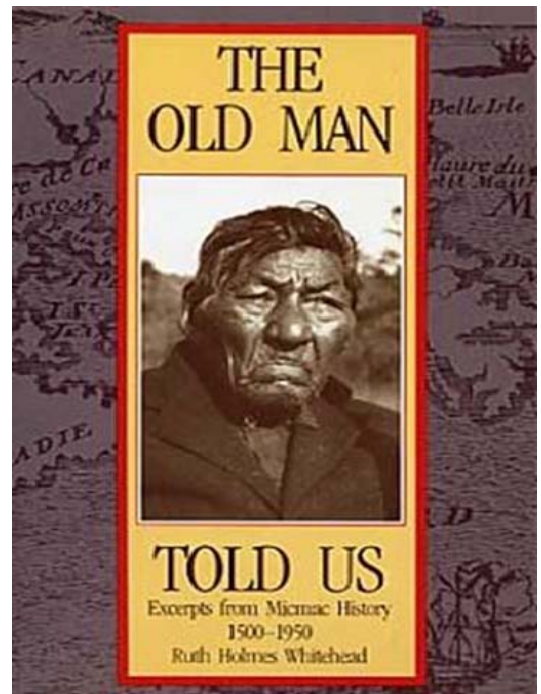
BOOK NOOK

The Mi'kmaq people have been living in what is now Atlantic Canada for two thousand years or more, yet written history has largely ignored them, presenting them merely as a homogeneous mass or as statistics.

Renowned Mi'kmaq specialist Ruth Holmes Whitehead, former staff ethnologist and assistant curator in history at the Nova Scotia Museum, tries to redress that omission by restoring to the collective memory a true sense of the Mi'kmaq people.

In this rich collection, oral and written Mi'kmaq accounts are juxtaposed with contemporary European perceptions of native peoples, as documented in letters, journals, court cases, and much more. Above all, *The Old Man Told Us* is a historical jigsaw puzzle, a display of fragments in which one can capture moments in the lives of particular people. It is a book of excerpts from what little documentation has survived over the centuries.

THE OLD MAN TOLD US- **Excerpts from Micmac History** **1500-1950 by Ruth Holmes Whitehead**



LOUISIANA INDIAN TALES

By Elizabeth Moore & Alice Couvillon

Louisiana Indian Tales vividly recreates the struggles and triumphs of the state's first inhabitants. Dating back to 10,000 B.C. when the Paleo-Indians occupied the area and huge woolly mammoths and mastodons roamed the land, these poignant stories are based on archaeological evidence and historical knowledge traced through modern-day findings.

As archaeologist Dr. Ben Dominique and his young friends Richard and Rob soon discover while on an expedition in the first story, Louisiana is a state rich in Indian culture. Together the trio unearth the proud, industrious, and resourceful life-styles of the many cultures that contributed to this state's fascinating history. The tales in this collection for young readers focus on many tribes from around the state-the Tchefuncte, Choctaw, Chitimacha, Caddo, Houma, and Bayougoula.

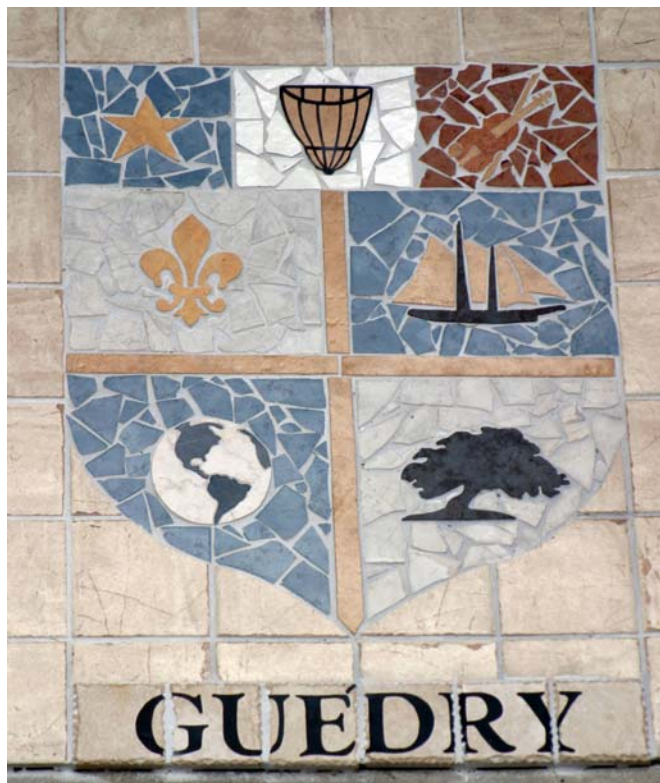
THE GUEDRY CREST - THE STORY OF OUR FAMILY, Cont'd. from page 8

The weather-beaten OAK TREE symbolizes the difficult days of deportation for our Guédry ancestors and their survival through it. It represents the strength of our family as they were uprooted and exiled, separated from mother and father, brother and sister, cousin and friend; spread throughout the world. They endured the hardships, the persecution and the oppression; they survived and they spread their roots firm and deep. The BLACK color denotes the grief experienced during the dark days of exile.

The GLOBE symbolizes the worldwide breadth of our family today – throughout the United States, Canada, the Caribbean, Europe and even the Southern Hemisphere. Because of the firm, deep roots laid by our Guédry ancestors, we are truly a global family today tied closely together by the strong beliefs, characteristics and traits of our forefathers and passed along to us – generation by generation.

GOLD CROSS – The cross quartering the field symbolizes the strong Christian faith of our Guédry forefathers – the faith that helped them survive the early days of Acadie, endure the difficult years of deportation and overcome the struggle for survival afterwards to build the strong family that we are today. The gold tincture represents the generosity of our forefathers throughout their lives – a cornerstone of their faith.

MOTTO – The motto “Dieu, Famille, Acadien” translates to “God, Family, Acadian” – the guiding lights that have held our Guédry family together for over three hundred years and will continue to serve us well in the future.



The Guedry family crest as it appears at the Acadian Memorial in St. Martinville, LA



The Acadian Memorial, St. Martinville, LA.

THE GUEDRY CREST - THE STORY OF OUR FAMILY

The Guédry crest represents all direct descendants of Claude Guédry and Marguerite Petitpas. The Guédry name has many variations in spelling today. All variations are represented by the Guédry crest. These variations include:

Guédry	Gaidry	Jeddrie
Guedry	Gaidrie	Jeddry
Guedrie	Gaidry	Jederie
Guedris		Jedrey
	Geddrie	Jedrie
Guidry	Geddry	Jedry
Gudirry	Gedree	
Guidery	Gedrie	Labeen
Guidrey	Gedry	Labene
Guidrie		Labine
Guiddry	Gettry	LaBine
Guiddery		
Guiddery	Gidrie	LaBean
Guiedri	Gidry	LaBeau
Guiedry		Labeau
Guildrie		Lledre
Guildry		
		Yedri
Guitry		

Heraldic Crests, done in mosaic, line the sidewalk before the cross and around the Eternal Flame in the Meditation Garden at the Acadian Memorial in St. Martinville, LA.

The GEUDRY family crest was installed and recognized on August 15, 2008.



The Vaudeville Team of Jim Jedrey & Little Eddie Kelly

By Bernard Geddry

Many old timers (like me) remember the Ed Sullivan Show, a mainstay of network TV in the 50s and 60s. Everybody watched that show. One of the mainstays was the heavily accented and quite hilarious ventriloquist, Senor Wences. He was the one who popularized the technique of putting a pair of eyes on his index finger, hanging hair or putting ears on top of his closed fist, and painting lips on the outside of his index finger and thumb. This was supposed to make you believe the hand was alive and doing the talking rather than the tight-lipped Senor Wences. It worked. When his finger and thumb moved up and down the illusion became a reality...and it made you laugh.

Well, I'm looking at one of those sets of eyes right now as I write this article but they never belonged to the Senor. They belonged to one of his best friends, fellow ventriloquist Jim Jedrey whose team of Jim Jedrey and Little Eddie Kelly entertained New Englanders for two decades. Who knows who came up with the idea first.

Jim, or Jimmy Geddry as he was known offstage, never made it to the "Sullivan" show like his buddy Wences but he did make a lot of folks laugh just the same. He made me laugh. He was my favorite uncle.



He used the stage name Jedrey because the Nova Scotia Geddrys and their close New England cousins pronounce our family name with a soft "G" so it sounds like a "J". He wanted to make sure his public would pronounce his name the way he did so he adjusted the spelling accordingly.

Jimmy was born on October 4th, 1906 in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He was the eleventh of twelve children born to an Acadian father and an Irish mother. Jimmy's dad was Jean Adrien Geddry, a great grandson of Augustin Guedry, the founder of St. Alphonse, Nova Scotia, the person in whose honor the family recently dedicated a plaque. His Acadian genealogy is James Geddry; Jean Adrien Geddry/Mary Powers; Evariste Geddry/Francoise Saulnier; Philippe Geddry/Angelique Therriau; Augustin Guedry/Marie Jeanson; Pierre Guedry/Marguerite Brasseau; Claude Guedry/Marguerite Petipas.

The Vaudeville Team of Jim Jedrey & Little Eddie Kelly

Jimmy's parents imbued him with values that would guide him for the rest of his life. They were determined that their children would escape the poverty of the early twentieth century and the depression that followed. Their endeavor was successful. One of the children became Superintendent (CEO) of the Watertown Arsenal, where big naval guns were designed and built for the great behemoths of WWII. Others became machinists, tool makers and small business owners. A grandson became a successful columnist on the sports page of the Boston Globe. Jimmy wanted to make people happy. He became a ventriloquist.

It all started because he was curious. Though he had only an eighth grade education, common in the early 20th century, he taught himself many things by reading books. He learned to read music and play the piano as a teenager. Somehow, he learned to play the saxophone too and actually played professionally in a 1920's "Jazz" band. Along the way, he came across a book on ventriloquism and it fascinated him. The book taught him how to talk without moving his lips. He was hooked for life. All he needed was a "Vent" doll.

He started by removing the head of his older sister's discarded baby doll and "modifying" it so its lower jaw could move, thereby simulating speech while he was doing the talking. That wasn't satisfactory for very long, so he saved his pennies until he could afford a better doll, one that was designed and built for "beginner" ventriloquists. By the time he was done, he had a collection of six Vent dolls, some quite elaborate.

The first doll on the floor, on the left, is the one that belonged to his sister. The one on the far right, sitting on the couch is the most functional. Besides the standard movable lower jaw and rotatable head, Eddie Kelly II has movable eyes, eyelids, and eye-



Jimmy Geddry's Vent Doll Collection

rows. He required a great deal of skill to control and was quite convincing.

Inside Eddie's body is a pole attached to his head. His body has an opening in the back where the ventriloquist's hand fits in and grasps the pole. Manipulating it moves Eddie's head back and forth or up and down. Four metal rings are tied to cords that lead to Eddie's head through holes or "venues" in the pole. Each ring controls one of the head's functions by inserting a finger and pulling (or releasing). A skilled ventriloquist would put his hand inside the doll's body, grasp the pole and simultaneously insert four of his fingers into the rings. Imagine being able to orchestrate all this while speaking and telling jokes, rotating Eddie's head so he looks at either the performer or the audience, moving his eyes and even winking at appropriate times, and raising or lowering his eyebrows to indicate emotional responses like surprise or concern. Jimmy Geddry was able to do just that. Unbelievable!

A Ventriloquist Museum says Eddie Kelly II is a twin for Paul Winchell's "Jerry Mahoney" of 50s and 60s fame. In the picture above, the doll sitting on the pint-sized rocker is the original Eddie Kelly, the doll Jimmy used for most of his performances.

The Vaudville Team of Jim Jedrey & Little Eddie Kelly

On the couch is Rosie, Eddie's chic girlfriend, Willie, his African American doll, and Eddie Kelly II. In the front row are Jimmy's "starter" doll, and a miscellaneous head (with her pole stuck in a vase) which Jimmy used for reasons known only to him.

Three of the heads, Eddie Kelly, Eddie Kelly II and Rosie, were made by the most famous Vent Doll creator of the 20th century, Frank Marshall. Marshall was famous because he was the artist who carved "Charlie McCarthy" and most of his pals.

One last comment on the name "Eddie Kelly". It was chosen because it can be said without moving the lips. Try it yourself. Open your lips about a half inch and concentrate on keeping your lips still. Then say, Eddie Kelly, Eddie Kelly. It's easy! You are now a Ventriloquist!

There was more to Jimmy Geddry's life than ventriloquism. He was also an expert machinist and parts inspector. He was employed by his brother at the Watertown Arsenal in Massachusetts when he wasn't on tour with Eddie Kelly.



Marshall carving a Vent Doll head

He used to brag that he was so good at his job that it was kept waiting for him when he came back from a tour. Of course, his brother *was* the "big boss".

Jimmy was also an expert stock-picker and had moderate success in "the market" after the crash of 1929. He claimed he purchased small amounts of crippled blue chip stocks each week with a dollar from his salary. He must have done something right as he was able to retire to Arizona at the "young" age of fifty-seven, an unusual feat in the 1960s.

In 1939, Jimmy married his beautiful blond companion Florence Yannis. While on tour, they came into contact with many famous performers of the 40s and 50s, including Edgar Bergen. For those readers who never heard of Edgar Bergen, he was Candice Bergen's father and the Ventriloquist behind "Charlie McCarthy" and "Mortimer Snerd". If you don't know who Candice Bergen is...congratulations, you might live until the 22nd century. It was on one of those tours that they met and became close friends of Senor Wences.

Jimmy and Florence also traveled extensively throughout the Caribbean and Cuba. They never had children but stayed together in a loving relationship until Florence's death in 1997. Jimmy died in 2002, on Saint Patrick's Day at the age of ninety-five.

Bernard Geddry, Jimmy's nephew, and his wife Barbara, his best friends, took care of Jimmy in his last years and now lovingly care for his collection of Vent Dolls and Vaudeville memorabilia.

H. D. GUIDRY, M. D.
OFFERS his professional services
 to the citizens of Vermilionville
 and vicinity.
 Office on Lafayette Street, near the
 Convent.
 April 2d. 1870—1y.

DUES REMINDER

Attached is a membership application for renewing your membership in Les Guedry d'As-tur. Our dues are very reasonable at \$6.00 for individuals and \$10 for a family.

By joining and paying your dues, you provide us with the financial resources to participate in many projects, one being the CMA 2009 reunion in Bathurst, New Brunswick.

Please take a moment, complete the Membership Application, enclose a check and send it to the address on the Application. It will help all of us do so much for the family. And, if you would like to join at one of the Benefactor Levels, it would let us do even more.



GRAND OPENING

FRIDAY, JUNE 10th—5:00 P. M.

**THE COMPLETELY AIR CONDITIONED
JEWEL'S LOUNGE**

**3 MILES WEST ON HIGHWAY 27
(Formerly Old Ranch Style Cafe) .**

FREE Snacks and Beer Served from 5 to 8 P. M. Friday

● YOU ARE INVITED ●

*** WE SPECIALIZE IN SIRLOIN STEAKS and HICKORY SMOKED BAR-B-Q ...
* WE CATER TO SPECIAL PARTIES.**

JEWEL'S LOUNGE

JEWEL and JOHNNIE GUIDRY, Owners

The Kerrville Times (Kerrville, Texas), June 9, 1955

ON THE WEB

Les Guidry d'Astcur

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~guedrylabinefamily/>

The Guedry-Labine Family Genealogical Database

Developed by the Les Guidry d'Astcur, Inc. Genealogy Committee

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~guidryrm/Guedry-Labine/>

The Louisiana State Archives

This is the official website for the Louisiana State Archives. It provides a very nice overview of the archival holdings and services. Although there are no images of original documents at this time, there is a very nice index to Confederate Pension Applications with numerous Guidry records. Click on Research Library under Sections of Organization, then Confederate Pension Applications to the left of the top photograph, then Search the Database.

<http://www.sos.louisiana.gov/archives/archives/archives-index.htm>

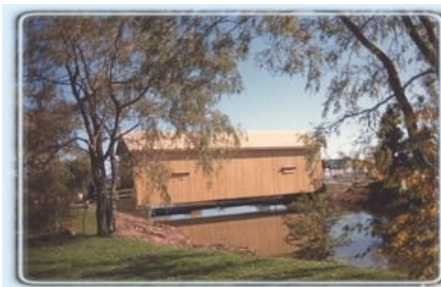
Covered Bridges of New Brunswick, CA



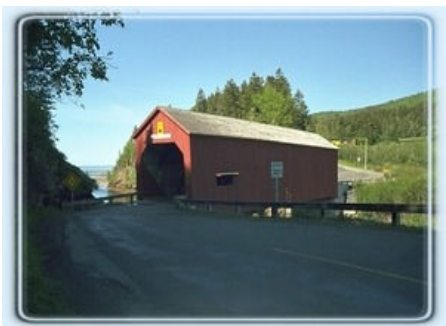
Becaguimec River



Trout Creek No. 5



Magnetic Hill Covered Bridge



Point Wolfe



Forty Five River No. 1



Digdeguash River No. 4

THE 2009 GUEDRY-LABINE & PETITPAS REUNION

Congres Mondial Acadien (CMA) for 2009 will be held on the Acadian Peninsula in New Brunswick from 7 August - 23 August 2009. CMA activities will be centered around Caraquet, New Brunswick. You can click on this website to keep up with the events planned for the 2009 CMA.

<http://www.cma2009.ca/>

We are having our Guedry-Labine & Petitpas Reunion on Sunday, 16 August 2009 in the Conference Center of Danny's Inn in Beresford, New Brunswick. Beresford is just five miles north of Bathurst, New Brunswick and Danny's Inn is on Highway 134 just south of Beresford. Bathurst has a rich Acadian history that we'll explore in the coming months.

We will begin about 8:30 am and have activities until 5:00 pm. More on the agenda, activities and displays is forthcoming and will include formal sessions with music, presentations, etc. as well as time to mingle and get to know your cousins.

There will be a superb buffet lunch. It'll be a Hot & Cold Dinner Buffet that includes roast beef smothered in peppercorn gravy, sweet & sour meat balls, lasagna, chicken wings, potato casserole, coleslaw, tossed green salad, carrot salad, rolls, carrot cake, cherry cheesecake, fresh fruit salad, coffee and tea.

Registration information was sent out in August to those on our distribution list. A copy of the registration form will be attached to the next few issues of this newsletter. It is not too early to secure lodging. The website below contains a number of motels, hotels and bed & breakfasts in the Bathurst area.

<http://www.bathurst.ca>

The 2009 CMA website has an excellent page on accommodations within the Acadian Peninsula. Visit it by clicking on this link:

<http://www.cma2009.ca>

The official New Brunswick Tourism Website is at the link below. You can learn about interesting locations, sites and activities at this website. By clicking on the word "Guides" in the left column of the page, you can order a free 2008 Experience New Brunswick Vacation Planner" which is excellent.

http://www.tourismnewbrunswick.ca/en-CA/GeoLanding_US?source=other

.....

New Brunswick Accommodations - CMA 2009

The Guidry-Labine family reunion is scheduled to take place August 16, 2009, in the town of Bathurst, not far from Caraquet. Here are a few more links for accommodations in those areas. We'll add more details about our reunion in the next few months.

BATHURST - <http://www.bathurst.ca/english/home/>

[Authentique Bed & Breakfast](#) Enjoy our 4 star B&B in a heritage home of the 20's with 'Arts & Craft's influences, conveniently located in the heart of Bathurst. You are welcome to relax in a cozy atmosphere with personalized service. Spacious rooms with very comfortable beds, cable TV, DVD, MP3, wireless internet, work desk and telephone. Each room has a private bathroom. Breakfast 'A la Carte' will be served in our elegant dining room.

[Comfort Inn Bathurst](#) Conveniently located on St. Peter Avenue. Close to shopping and offices. 35 person meeting room available.

[John's Motel](#) Our rooms have a full bath and shower, color television with cable, and most importantly comfortable beds! We also boast a swimming pool and an area for picnics. We also have in-room coffee.

[Sea'scape Cottage](#) This is our fully equipped beach house located on the beautiful Bay of Chaleur in Bathurst, New Brunswick. Select the virtual tour button to have a closer look.

CARAQUET - <http://www.ville.caraquet.nb.ca/>

[Hotel Paulin](#) "The Pearl of Baie des Chaleurs", Caraquet. Internationally acclaimed, seaside hotel and country inn, c.1891, rich in Acadian history. Luxurious waterfront suites, French country rooms, licensed fine dining, golf and spa packages. Hotel Paulin has the charm, elegance and inn keeping spirit of the 19th century. It offers intimate surroundings with old-world French village charm. It has been written up by the New York Times, Montreal Gazette, Fodor's and Frommer's, La Presse, Paris Match Magazine, Micheline Guide, France's Le Routard. The cuisine is innovative, upscale, inspired by local fresh foods with a Sommelier wine pairing menu.

[La Maison Touristique Dugas](#) House built by one of the first Acadian architects (1926). 10 minute walk through wooded area to private beach. Close to the Acadian Peninsula tourist attractions.

[Motel Colibri](#) 12 rooms smoking and non-smoking. 2 double beds. Telephone, cable television, air conditioning. Free outside pool. Continental breakfast.

[Super 8 Motel](#) 50 guest rooms including 18 junior suites and 1 Jacuzzi suite - Rooms with balconies overlooking the Acadian Coast and Le Carrefour de la Mer (Crossroads of the Sea) - Swimming pool with three-story 80 foot water park and kiddie pool - Whirlpool - Complimentary continental breakfast

Les Guidry d'Asteur

Share your ideas for the Newsletter

Contact:

Marty Guidry
6139 North Shore Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70817

225-755-1915
guidryrm@cox.net

'GENERATIONS' newsletter is now in its sixth year. We hope to provide our readers with an interesting, informative and entertaining newsletter. Your input is always welcome and we look forward to another year of sharing family history and news with you.

The Guedry-Labine Family Newsletter, GENERATIONS, serves as a focal point for family members to share and learn about us. To submit your ideas, articles or comments, please contact:

Allie Guidry
txguidry2000@yahoo.com

Marty Guidry
guidryrm@cox.net



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(Passe-temps ou talent particulier)

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Please return form and payment to: Make check payable to: *Les Guidry d'Asteur, Inc.*
(Retournez le formulaire et le paiement à:) (Libellez le chèque à: *Les Guidry d'Asteur, Inc.*)

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Charlene Guidry Lacombe
Membership Chair
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Les Guidry d'Asteur
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(L'enregistrement pour 2009 Réunion)

Name (Nom) _____
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Children (Enfants) _____
First Names of Children (Prénoms de enfants)

Address (Adresse) _____
Street (Rue) _____
City (Ville) State (État/Province) Zip Code (Code postal) (Pays)

Telephone (Téléphone) _____

Fax (Numéro de télécopieur) _____

E-mail Address (Courriel) _____

Number of People Attending (Le numéro de Gens qui assistent) _____

No. of Buffet Meals at Reunion (A l'intention de Manger des Repas à la Réunion) _____
(Buffet meal will cost \$20-\$25 per person / Le repas de buffet coûtera \$20-\$25 par la personne)

Registration: Includes Reunion & 2009 Membership in *Les Guidry d'Asteur* /
L'enregistrement: Inclut la Réunion & 2009 Sociétariat dans *Les Guidry d'Asteur*)

Family -Parents and Children under 22 (Famille - Les parents et les Enfants sous 22):

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