

GENERATIONS



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This Summer 2015 edition of "Generations" has articles written by several members of our Guédry and Petitpas families that should interest all. We hope that you enjoy this issue and can glean a bit of information about your family from its pages.

In March I was invited to tour the Bayou Teche Brewery on Louisiana Highway 31 just south of Arnaudville, LA (1106 Bushville Highway which is LA Highway 31). You might also hear them called LA 31 Brewery due to their logo. What a wonderful brewery with a very special touch.

Bayou Teche Brewing is a Guidry-based brewery second to none. Karlos Knott, the founder, is the son of Floyd and Rose Guidry Knott of Arnaudville, LA and great-grandson of Charley Guidry, who owned C. A. Guidry's Bar, Cafe and Dancehall in Arnaudville in the early 1900s. (See page 9 of the Winter 2015 "Generations" for a brief history of this iconic bar and dancehall.) In honor of his great-grandfather Karlos occasionally brews a special beer called "Charley's" – which sells out immediately.

Karlos Knott founded Bayou Teche Brewing in the late 1990s after returning from a military tour in Germany where he savored the local beers while eating great cuisine. Unlike in the United States, Europeans craft their beers like they make their wines. Each beer is designed to compliment a special dish. Karlos was fascinated with this concept and on his return to the U. S. (the Pacific Northwest initially) began brewing small batches of hefeweizen, a German wheat beer – attempting to match the German masters. After finally reaching Louisiana again, Karlos began crafting his beer to compliment the many flavors of South Louisiana cuisine. Each beer in Bayou Teche Brewing's suite is designed for a specific dish of South Louisiana. Saison d'Ecrevisses is a must for that Friday evening Crawfish boil while Courir de Mardi Gras blends wonderfully with a hot bowl of gumbo in mid-winter. Or you might try LA 31 Boucanée with those smoked meats you serve.

Karlos is joined at Bayou Teche Brewing by his brothers Byron (head brewer) and Dorsey (vice-president) along with Gar Hatcher (brewmaster) and Louis Michot (official ambassador of Bayou Teche Brewing).



Karlos Knott



Byron Knott



Dorsey Knott

IN THIS ISSUE

And as with everything in Louisiana, there is a bit of lagniappe. Bayou Teche Brewing offers free tours of their brewery – a truly unique experience. After the tour you can stop by the Bayou Teche Tap Room to sample a bit of the brews. And on Saturdays from 11:30 am until 6:00 pm there is live music on the patio while you taste the variety of beers available. Visit their website at: <http://bayoutechebrewing.com/about-us/> for more information on the beers and tours.



If you live in South Louisiana, spend a couple of hours one day visiting Bayou Teche Brewery. And for those from out-of-town coming to Le Grand Réveil in October, make a brief stop at the brewery and try a brew or two. It's only about ten miles north of Henderson where our reunion will be. You'll enjoy the beer and the conversation. Who knows – we may even have a keg or two of Bayou Teche beer at the Reunion to enjoy.

Recently Renée Richard and Martin Guidry produced a two-part television discussion of the Acadians from the founding of Acadia through the deportations and the eventual resettlement in Louisiana of a large portion of the Acadians. The two half-hour shows are part of the "Roots of Faith: Ancestry" program on Catholic Life TV and they are now available for viewing on the internet at:

<http://www.catholiclifetv.org/shows/roots-of-faith-ancestry/#.VZGfa2BFLSQ>

Finally, don't forget that Les Guédry et Petitpas d'Astour has two websites – a family website and a genealogical database that we are compiling. The family website has a wealth of information on the Guédry and Petitpas families from back issues of "Generations", historical articles, family stories, reviews of famous members of our families, the Circle of Distinction appointees, photo albums and reunion information and summaries. These two websites can be accessed at:

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

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

And we have a Facebook page where anyone in the family can post photos and information of interest – be it historical, upcoming events or a recent happening. Click here for our Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/pages/Les-Guédry-dAstour-Guidry-Labine-Labeau-Jeddry-Geddry-Petitpas/387769648496?fref=ts&ref=br_tf

As you prepare for our next Reunion on 10 October 2015 in Henderson, LA, enjoy reading this latest issue of "Generations".

UPDATE - EMERY LOUIS GEDDRY
A CANADIAN SOLDIER WHO GAVE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE
(WORLD WAR II)
by Martin Guidry

In the Winter 2015 edition (Volume 13, Issue 1) of "Generations" we discussed the life and sacrifice of Emery Louis Geddry – the only Canadian of the Guédry family to give his life in combat during World War II.

Within the past four months several of his relatives have provided additional information and insight on Emery Geddry and his military service.

Emery Geddry was born on Tuesday, 10 January 1922 at St. Alphonse-de-Clare, Nova Scotia to Joseph Isaac Geddry and Françoise Marie Dugas. In January 1925 at the age of three years he posed with his two brothers Denis and Benoît for a photograph.



Although the earlier article indicated that Emery enlisted in the Regina Rifles about September 1940 at Debert, Nova Scotia, a Canadian Army Memorial Card states that he enlisted on 29 October 1942 - when the Regina Rifles were in England training on offensive strategies. Immediately after enlisting, Emery Geddry may have received basic infantry training at Kentville, Nova Scotia where the Canadian Army had a training and holding camp. After a

brief period of basic training, Rifleman Geddry would have boarded ship and transferred overseas to England where he filled a recent vacancy in the 1st Battalion of the Regina Rifles as they trained for Operation Overlord – the D-Day invasion that occurred on 6 June 1944. He thus became the only Nova Scotian in "The Johns" - the Saskatchewan-based rifle regiment.



After Rifleman Emery Geddry died in action on 28 September 1944 near Calais, France, his family received memorial cards from King George VI of England, the Canadian Army and others. On 18 October 1944 Fathers LeBlanc, Castonguay and Mallet held a Solemn High Mass of Requiem at St. Alphonse Catholic Church to honor the life and service of Emery Louis Geddry. The church was filled to capacity for the Memorial Mass. During the Mass six soldiers under the command of Sergeant Major J. Adolphe d'Entremont guarded the coffin, draped with the Union Jack and resting on a catafalque. After the service three gun salutes sounded outside the church.

The loss was great for the family of Emery Louis Geddry; however, the sympathy and encouragement from the citizenry of St. Alphonse-de-Clare, the province and the nation comforted them greatly.

UPDATE - EMERY LOUIS GEDDRY
A CANADIAN SOLDIER WHO GAVE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE
(WORLD WAR II) by Martin Guidry

WEST PUBNICO N. S. JEU

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of our son,
 F8819 Rifleman Emery Louis Ged-
 dry, killed in Germany September
 28th, 1944.

Somewhere in France you are
 sleeping.

Somewhere beneath sunny skies
 They laid our darling Emery
 Without any last goodbyes.

Now you are not forgotten,
 Nor will you ever be.

You fought for King and Country
 So others could be free

But you left behind someone to
 remember

Someone who will always care,
 And your name is always men-
 tioned

In that certain someone's prayer.

Sadly missed but always loved
 and remembered by father and
 mother.

Mr and Mrs Isaac Geddry and
 family.

St Alphonse de Clare
 Sept. 26th 1946.

**tribute Paid
 to Memory**

METEGHAN, Oct. 20—Pte. Emery Geddry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Geddry (Frances Dugas), of St. Alphonse de Clare, was the first soldier of this parish to give his life on the invasion field of France, Sept. 28, aged 22 years, after two years of military service overseas. Besides his parents, two brothers survive, Denis of Comeauville and Benoit at home.

A memorial service, with Solemn High Mass of Requiem, was held at the St. Alphonse Church, Oct. 18, conducted by the pastor, Rev. M. P. LeBlanc, assisted by Father Castonguay, C.J.M., of Saulnierville as deacon and Father Maillet of Salmon River as sub-deacon. The organist, Vincent Maillet, was at the organ and the parish choir in attendance. The church was filled to capacity.

Several members of the 2nd W. N. S. R. (R) Platoon, veterans of both wars, were under the commands of Lieut. Charles Comeau and Lieut. Louis Robichaud. The catafalque covered with the Union Jack was guarded by six soldiers of the Reserves, in charge of Sergeant Major J. Adolphe d'Entremont. Three gun salutes were given after the service outside the church, where the catafalque had been removed.



*Calais Canadian Cemetery
 Plot 7 Row D Graves*



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

The Queen and I offer you
 our heartfelt sympathy in your
 great sorrow.

We pray that your country's
 gratitude for a life so nobly
 given in its service may bring
 you some measure of consolation.

George R.I



Pte. Emery Louis Geddry

*Who has volunteered
 for service with
 Canada's Armed Forces*

Enlisted Oct. 29th, 1942
 Killed in Action Sept. 28th, 1944



UPDATE - EMERY LOUIS GEDDRY
A CANADIAN SOLDIER WHO GAVE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE
(WORLD WAR II) by Martin Guidry

Thanks to Ms. Lorraine Geddry Dunleavy, daughter of Benoît Geddry and niece of Emery Louis Geddry, to Ms. Aurore Geddry Comeau, daughter of Denis Geddry and niece of Emery Louis Geddry, and to Brigadier General Albert Louis Geddry for providing additional information, photographs and historical items.

GUÉDRY GENEALOGY OF EMERY LOUIS GEDDRY

Emery Louis Geddry (b. 10 Jan. 1922; d. 28 Sep 1944)

Joseph Isaac Geddry m. Françoise (Frances) Marie Dugas

James (Jim, Jacques) M. Geddry m. Rosalie Maillet

Maximin (Mac) Geddry m. Marie Seraphie Babin

Philippe (*dit* Fele) Gedree m. Angélique Theriau

Augustin Guédry *dit* Grivois m. Marie-Françoise Jeanson

Pierre Guédry *dit* Labine m. Marguerite Brasseau

Claude Guédry *dit* Grivois m. Marguerite Petitpas



GENEALOGY:
LIFE IN THE PAST LANE

2015 Young Heroes-Angel Guidry (from Jennings Daily News, March 25, 2015)

Young Heroes Announcement

The 2015 Young Heroes were announced March 6, 2015!
Angel Guidry

Angel Guidry was born to a drug-addicted mother, who had no permanent home, moving from place to place with her child. Angel had very little food and no medical care, and began having seizures that were caused by her environment. Despite her unstable home life, she maintained good grades. Once she was removed from her mother's custody and adopted, she jumped three grade levels in a year and now has a 3.7 grade point average. Angel is a cheerleader and is active in Future Business Leaders of America, French Club, Beta Club, and Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. She was also selected to go to Louisiana Girls State in Natchitoches. Angel is a Junior Firefighter and plans to pursue a career as a physician's assistant.



JENNINGS DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 25, 2015

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Daily News photo by Sheila Smith

Worthy of the award

Elton teen's trials, triumphs lead to success

By SHEILA SMITH
Managing Editor

ELTON – Out of all the youth in Louisiana, only eight were recognized as 2014 Louisiana Young Heroes by LPB and the Rotary Club of Baton Rouge. Part of that stellar group of teenagers is 17-year-old Elton High (EHS) senior Angel Guidry.

The goal of the Young Heroes Awards, according to LPB, is to "celebrate the achievements of students who have excelled in the classroom served their communities, overcome adversity, and inspired everyone around them."

By all accounts, Guidry is the epitome of a Young Hero. Today she is a student with a 3.7 GPA and is actively involved in cheerleading, Future Business Leaders of America, French Club, BETA Club and Family, Career and Community Leaders of America and also serves as a junior firefighter with the Elton department. She was selected to go to Louisiana Girls State, plans to begin studying nursing in the fall at LSU Eunice and eventually hopes to become a physician's assis-

tant.

According to the mother who took her in when she was 10, though, life was not always so bright for Guidry.

Vicky Richer and her husband, Elton Fire Chief John Richer, became familiar with Guidry seven years ago, when the girl was 10 years old in the fourth grade. Guidry had other siblings but the children lived in an unstable environment with little to no care.

"They would be sent to school dirty in clothes that did not fit them," Vicky recalled. "Their lunch at school was the only food they had a lot of times."

Vicky said Guidry's biological mother often had several adults staying with the family at any given time. The family moved around every few months, sometimes to other states, towns or simply a different street. The mother's crowd followed and drugs were prevalent in the family's homes. Food stamps were traded or sold for money or drugs, so the children hardly had anything to eat. Vicky said the kids would begin

See **GUIDRY** Page 2

2015 Young Heroes-Angel Guidry *(from Jennings Daily News, March 25, 2015)*

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GUIDRY: from page 1

spending time with families in the area, sometimes for days or weeks on end.

"A lot of the families would get attached and want to take in these kids to help them," Vicky explained. "But when they would approach the mom, she would take the kids back."

John Richer also became familiar with Guidry and her family because his department received several medical calls at the home and the Department for Child and Family Services received 21 calls alone about the home. Guidry was prone to seizures that would sometimes take place at home or at school. It was later discovered that Guidry was actually going through chemical withdrawals because of certain drugs adults would use in her presence.

During one particular scene at the house, Richer saw narcotics and could smell the aroma of used drugs as well.

"As fire chief he is bound to report situations like that, so he contacted then-Sheriff Ricky Edwards," Vicky recalled.

While officials were prepping to remove the children from the home, Vicky was at a medical appointment and received a phone call.

"I answered it and a woman asked, 'I can't take care of Angel. Would you want her?' I was caught by surprise," she said. By that point, Guidry had actually spent time in the Richer home.

"At Christmas, Angel came over and stayed for a few days and her mom never checked on her," Vicky said.

The Richers wanted to help Angel but taking her in and possibly getting attached to her was something the family could not take lightly – they were still struggling to cope with the drowning death of their young daughter Miranda about two years before.

"When Angel first came to live with us, the idea was that we would care for her while her mother got on her feet. We made it clear to her, to ourselves and to our son Luke (then 19) that Angel was not meant to replace Miranda," Vicky recalled. "Still, it turned out to be more than we expected, but in a wonderful way."

The day Guidry's mother contacted Vicky, the Richers went straight to their family attorney and the district attorney to see what they needed to do to take in the young girl. The mother agreed to sign over her responsibility, papers were signed and filed, and Guidry went home with the Richers.

At the time, she was seven years behind on immunizations and two years behind in school.

"She wasn't behind because of lack of intelligence but because her family moved so much and truancy was an

issue," Vicky said. Guidry's corneas were not fully developed because of malnourishment and her tonsils needed immediate removal. She had other issues due to poor nutrition, as well. "But that baby got taken care of and she is wonderful now. She is as healthy as a horse and very sweet, inside and out."

The Richers also encouraged Guidry to get involved in activities like 4-H. One of her first projects was latching, and since neither she nor Vicky had such experience, they learned together. Guidry entered the parish fair two years in a row with her latching and won the most blue ribbons in Jeff Davis. She also started raising and showing animals like rabbits and chickens. Then she moved on to art lessons ("She draws beautifully," said Vicky) and piano.

"She can play by ear and sings beautifully," said Vicky. "Next year she is actually going out for 'American Idol.' People have been encouraging her to try out for a few years but she keeps saying, 'I have to graduate first.'"

In fact, Guidry will be graduating on time, even though she was previously behind. Vicky was actually at her daughter Miranda's grave one day when a friend happened to drive up with information that would help Guidry.

"She told me about a student that was able to move up in school and explained that the local school counselor helped," Vicky said. "So I called and found out about a program at West End Instructional Center."

Guidry left Elton as a sixth grader but one year later returned as a freshman at EHS.

"She has gone the fast track for a few things," Vicky laughed. "She had her baptism and First Communion all in one day."

Guidry also came to accept her new, extended family. When she first joined the Richer family, she referred to Vicky and her husband as Nana and Uncle John. Today they are known as Mom and Dad.

"We had this goose and a snake ate all her eggs. We had these little ducklings and we put them in a pen. The goose wanted those ducklings so bad, she would wait by the pen. Finally we let her be with them. She and the daddy goose raised those 10 babies and still has them in the pond with her," Vicky recalled.

One day Guidry noted the blended family.

"Angel said, 'She didn't have to be their real mom, she loved them anyway,'" Vicky said of Guidry's reaction to the goose and ducklings. "And I said, 'That's right, baby, you don't have to give birth to love a baby.' And I think that's when it clicked for her."

2015 Young Heroes-Angel Guidry
(from Jennings Daily News, March 25, 2015)

Jennings Daily News

This past weekend, Guidry celebrated her senior prom; soon she will graduate and celebrate with a family cruise to the Bahamas. She will also be part of the bridal party when her brother, Luke Richer - himself a 2006 Young Hero recipient - marries this year.

"He and John love her to death," Vicky laughed of the men in her family. "They spoil her. We told ourselves we wouldn't get attached when she first came to us, but how do you not get attached?"

While she is an average teenager in many respects, her unique and rough road in life has led Guidry to speak to other kids about taking control of their destiny, and thinking twice before making life-altering decisions.

"She helps kids that are going through things she can relate to," Vicky said. "She knows the circumstances don't control how your life will go. I have always told her, 'Baby, it's not where you come from, it's where you are going to end up.'"



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Ads from the Teche News, 28 April 1976

RONALD GUIDRY*(reprinted from White Oak Living, June 2015)*

Walking into Ron and Jean Guidry's home, there is this immediate feeling that you are in the presence of talent. Ron has more metals, plaques and trophies than the walls, mantle and tables can contain. The awards cover a span of more than fifty years and at least half a dozen sports.

Ron started boxing at the age of 14 while attending Lafayette High School. He won two titles and two runner-up finishes in the Louisiana Golden Gloves Championship between 1955-61. He left boxing behind for nearly forty years until 2007 when, in his seventies, he decided to give the sport another try. Ron trained hard and went on to win the World Masters Championship in 2007, 2009 and 2011.

When Ron wasn't boxing he decided to take up golf. The family moved often due to Ron's work and with each move came the opportunity to play a new course. Ron says he wasn't very good in the beginning and didn't really get serious about golf until he was in his fifties. He went on to become the Louisiana Senior Amateur champion (ages 70-plus) in 2007 and '08. Along the way, he also became the Louisiana Senior Four-Ball Amateur champion in 2002 and '04 and the National Senior Olympics runner-up in 1999 and 2001.

Ron spent three years in the Army and was stationed in Germany in 1959. During his three years in the Service, Ron won the all Europe pistol champion two years in a row. He also competed in pistol shooting as well as track and field in the Senior Olympics.

In 2011 Ron hung up his boxing gloves for what he believes to be the last time. He was diagnosed with cancer in his right eye and has been receiving treatment very successfully. While protective gear is required in the Masters Division, Ron's doctor has advised against risking injury. He still plays golf at least twice a week, mostly at LSU, and enjoys the game immensely.

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RONALD GUIDRY
(reprinted from *White Oak Living*, June 2015)



Ron's wife, Jean, is not a competitor in the sporting world, but seeks her own best in her pursuits as well. Jean started painting at the age of 10. She gave up painting as a teenager and picked it up again 12 years ago when she retired. She takes art lessons and has done many gorgeous oil paintings. There is a painting of a tiger in Ron's "man cave" that commands attention when you enter the room. Jean is equally talented painting landscapes and florals, and her work hangs beautifully throughout the Guidry home.

Ron has his own artistic interests as he pursues various acting roles while still working part time. He had a role in *The Dukes of Hazard* and *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*. At 78 years of age, Ron says there don't appear to be that many roles for someone over fifty. Whoever is scouting talent needs to look again, because this over fifty guy still has a lot to offer!



Ron has more metals, plaques and trophies than the walls, mantle, and tables can contain.

BON APPETIT

1 boiled, chopped hen or fryer
 4 stalks finely chopped celery
 1 finely diced apple
 1 cup finely chopped pecans
 1/4 cup finely diced onions
 3 boiled eggs, finely chopped
 8 slices of sweet pickle, diced
 Salt & pepper to taste
 Mayonnaise - enough to achieve desired consistency
 1/4 cup pickle juice
 Avocado halves, unpeeled
 Lettuce, several leaves
 Celery stalks, cut in sections
 Carrot sticks

Mix all ingredients. Pile onto unpeeled ripe avocado halves. Arrange on a bed of lettuce. Add sectioned celery and carrot sticks.

POETS CHICKEN SALAD

From Beverly Guidry, Abbeville, LA



PEANUT BUTTER FUDGE

From Jeanette Leger, Rayne, LA



1 cup light brown sugar	1 cup white sugar
2/3 cup milk	2 tbsp. light corn syrup
1/2 tsp. salt	1/4 cup creamy peanut butter
2 tbsp. butter flavor Crisco	1/2 cup chopped nuts

Lightly grease an 8"X8"X2" pan. Set aside. Combine brown sugar, white sugar, milk, corn syrup and salt in a heavy 2 qt. saucepan. Heat to boiling over moderate heat stirring constantly. Cover and boil 1 minute longer. Uncover, insert candy thermometer. Cook over moderate heat without stirring to 236F (soft ball stage); remove from heat. Add peanut butter and Crisco. Do not stir. Cool undisturbed to 120F. (Bottom of pan is barely warm)

Stir to blend all ingredients. Then beat vigorously with a wooden spoon until mixture starts to thicken and loses its sheen (about 2 minutes). Quickly stir in nuts, if used. Spread in prepared pan and cool until firm. Cut into 1" squares. Makes about one pound of candy (64 pieces)

Note: For a stiffer candy, replace milk with 1 can (5 oz) evaporated milk. Beating time after cooking will be about 1 minute.

The Story of Nova Scotia Acadians Who Came to the Aid of Hurricane Rita Victims *by Jude Avery (Larry's River, Nova Scotia; August 29, 2014)*

Jude Avery from Larry's River, Nova Scotia wrote the two compositions to follow. One is a moving account of his experiences aiding Cajun victims of Hurricane Rita and the other is a beautiful poem about being Acadian (done in French and English).

The Avery family of Larry's River descends from Claude Petitpas and Catherine Bugaret through their son Claude Petitpas and his second wife Françoise Lavergne.

Jude has granted us permission to publish these compositions in "**GENERATIONS**". They are protected through copyright.

The Story of Nova Scotia Acadians Who Came to the Aid of Hurricane Rita Victims by Jude Avery (Larry's River, Nova Scotia; August 29, 2014)

In August, 2005, Mississippi and the New Orleans region of Louisiana were devastated by Hurricane Katrina. While victims struggled to cope with varied challenges, and each passing moment critical to their survival, we were stirred by the scope of the painful struggle of these people. Television images flooded our viewing screens for days and weeks thus sensitizing the world to the reality of the forces of nature and the havoc created by its merciless carnage. In the distant corner of Nova Scotia, where many forefathers of the Louisiana Cajuns originated, these images resonated deeply. These were "our people" who were suffering, and we were so comfortable in homes on dry land as we were readying ourselves to prepare jams, jellies and pickles for winter supplies.

One Acadian philanthropist with international aid experience was Pomquet native Clarence DeYoung. With the usual support of his loving wife May Ann, Clarence listened to the news with interest and with an eye on involvement. Before the dust began to settle, he was off to a large make-shift relief centre set up at the Astrodome in Houston Texas. While there, he saw first-hand the suffering of all those affected by this tragic storm, and also the varied needs of its victims. Clarence was especially moved by the pain he had seen in the eyes of his Cajun cousins who found themselves without homes, vehicles or jobs to go back to. Just as he was beginning to understand the magnitude of this great disaster and realizing the enormity of the task ahead in relocating and re-establishing so many victims, the unimaginable happened. Approximately one month after the Katrina catastrophe, and people still reeling from its horrendous effects, meteorologists waved more red flags with the formation and trajectory of a new hurricane, named Rita. It would surely make landfall west of New Orleans threatening the entire Louisiana coast and parts of Texas. That it did with another knockout punch, this time to a rural region along the coast of Louisiana with damages extending to the Texas border.

Many relief workers and services were thus removed and evacuated from Houston, and Clarence found himself on a flight home to safety from this new storm of destruction. In the comforting confines of his home, Clarence was left distraught from his observations and new revelations. He had been so moved by his experience that he could not accept passivity to the needs of many hurting souls and felt a call from within. At the time of his return home, an Acadian celebration called "Grou Tyme" was occurring on Halifax's waterfront where Francophone musicians were rocking the stages in a celebrating mood. Cajun musician Hadley Castille had just rendered his gut-wrenching rendition of "200 Lignes" when Clarence arrived to hear and watch our people celebrate our culture in song, laughter, food and dance. We would then return to the comfort of our homes and families to enjoy a quiet end-of-summer evening. Though being from a long-line of fun-loving people, he felt a discomfort within and a need to shake a little of this comfort from us.

The Story of Nova Scotia Acadians Who Came to the Aid of Hurricane Rita Victims *by Jude Avery (Larry's River, Nova Scotia; August 29, 2014)*

On the sidelines he spotted myself and a small group of revelers from the tiny coastal inlet of Larry's River, possibly the smallest Acadian region of l'Acadie. With music blaring and noisy celebrations sending waves across the harbour and beyond, Clarence began to decompress. He shared his emotional experiences of the past few weeks and asked us if we were interested in participating in some form of relief work for our Cajun cousins. When asked to volunteer for something large-scale, excuses quickly surface. Mine were, "I would love to, but I lack the financial resources to do so." Also, "we lost our 18 year old son tragically only 8 months previous and cannot leave my wife alone for any length of time." Thinking this was enough excuses to get me "out of this one", he readily removed my crutches and I fell on my heart and head. He requested that we meet that week to decide on whether or not we should do something as a group.

Having agreed to at least discuss our possibilities, a meeting was held that week in Pomquet with approximately 20-30 people in attendance. Here we listened to Clarence describe his experiences and the scene as it unfolded for him in Houston, Texas. So moved were we by his account of what was happening to our Cajun cousins, that no one left the meeting without committing to some form of assistance, be it fund-raising or going to do on-site volunteer work. He then suggested that two people from the group, with contacts with Louisiana Cajuns, go spend a week on the ground and make contacts with volunteer multi-denominational church groups to see what we could do. Since I was a personal friend of Cajun musician Waylon Thibodeaux and his parents Elgin and Evelyn and Bill Gerrior had many acquaintances from previous genealogical research and presentations in the area, we were chosen to do so. The expenses of this visit were born completely by Clarence and his wife Mary Ann. Off we were even before excuses for not going could be born. My wife agreed to spend that week with our daughter and so all was fine on the home front.

What awaited Bill and I was far beyond our imagination. Our first destination was New Orleans. The once vibrant city of music, lights, art and history now resembled a nuclear explosion zone with devastation, eeriness, sadness and pain far beyond our imaginations. Lights were out in at least 85% of the city, the lodging in the countless hotels/motels almost non-existent, and buildings either toppled or evacuated due to flooding.

Fortunately, lodging was found late at night and the following day we were ready to meet relief groups who would give us prearranged tours of the devastated areas of the 9th and 5th Wards. What we saw there was like a fiction story developed to arouse the interest of its reader. The smell, the brokenness of homes and people, the stories of victims and the scattering of lives was horrendous. What could we do and where do we start? After thinking nothing could match this, we were off to Houma, the home of Elgin Thibodeaux. Here we were warmly greeted, and a home base was established. From Houma we had prearranged visits to the Bayous and then westward to the towns of Erath, Abbeville and as far as the town of Cameron. Here we saw more disaster, but instead of being in city confines such as seen in New Orleans, we found small towns and rural communities where pain was evident, but assistance, regardless of scope or depth, would be felt and appreciated.

We remember visiting a Guedry family in Grand Caillou whose mobile home had suffered extensive damage from the deadly storm surge. We were always introduced by our contact person, in this case Elgin Thibodeaux, representing the Annunziata Catholic Church in Houma. When we told them that we there to assess the damage to see if we could help, then we would return in the Spring to lend a hand, the reaction, though appreciated, was more of "yes, sure!" When we returned months later with furniture, they could not believe their eyes and tears of joy and warm hugs were plentiful.

After a week of continuous early morning to late evening tours, meetings with Rita victims and endless pictures and recorded interviews, Bill and I returned to Nova Scotia. We were suddenly as moved and determined as Clarence DeYoung was after his Houston experience to get involved in helping our Cajun families. A subsequent meeting was held, again in Pomquet, to give an account of our discoveries and show pictures and interviews of victims and relief workers, be they Catholic, Episcopalian, Lutheran, Baptist or others.

The Story of Nova Scotia Acadians Who Came to the Aid of Hurricane Rita Victims

by Jude Avery (Larry's River, Nova Scotia; August 29, 2014)

With the aid of technology, we were able to bring Louisiana and the faces of a suffering Cajun population to Nova Scotia, spiced with a first-hand, on the ground, account of the challenges of the post-disaster lives of our cousins. Nothing more was needed, and that evening sleeves got rolled-up and fund-raising would begin ASAP. After these efforts Clarence and Mary Ann would head a team of volunteers to return to designated communities and do what was possible in assisting those prioritized cases as presented by the above-mentioned church groups.

Winter came and went and fund raising was successful in meeting our goal of \$25,000. Clarence and Mary Ann then selected a team of 9 volunteers and off we went, at their expense, to Louisiana brimming with enthusiasm, but tempered by a degree of consternation. We landed in New Orleans and Clarence immediately rented a delivery truck and car, purchased tools and we were off to our motel in Houma with a prearranged meeting with Elgin Thibodeaux upon our arrival. I must note here that all expenses were paid for by the DeYoungs and the entire \$25,000 (plus a countless personal amount added by them) was used in the direct purchase of goods and materials for victim relief. Once we had identified our first-day visits, our team of 9 was divided into two groups -one to do purchasing, pick-ups and deliveries and the other to do manual tasks such as painting, act as construction helpers and clean-up crews.

For two weeks we purchased and delivered furniture, appliances and bedding and worked hard at the assorted tasks asked of us. We were even invited to send two of our members to attend a re-burial service at Abernathy Baptist Church Cemetery on the outskirts of the town of Creole to re-inter some of the countless cemetery vaults found floating in various parts of the region. This was done in the absence of their church that was destroyed by Rita. We also spent an entire day delivering and doling out home supplies at a make-shift centre in the town of Creole. We experienced some who fell outside the parameters of established relief aid policies despite their needs and some whose health and/or age prevented required efforts to get re-settled. Others were trying to "go it alone" and experiencing exhausting financial and physical demands. For those who fell under our care, we did all we could to deliver our services with love and dignity. People were so moved by our efforts that they often treated us as saviours and were brought to tears by our generosity. Wherever we went, we were immediately treated as family and food was shared, even when we knew this had to be taxing on them. Endless stories and accounts of their past and their knowledge of history were readily re-counted as we worked and we were gracefully educated to their version of history. We were often amazed at the survival of the French language that resembled ours and the fondness with which it was spoken. We also amazed them when some of us were able to understand and converse with them in words and expressions that they thought only they used, ie. "Viens oùère ma maisogne. Elle est ecrasée comme du machcoui". When someone understands those simple expressions, you have crossed the timelines and lapsed into a period of history that dates back to the settlement of Port Royal and earlier to King Henry IV of France. What a great moment it was for us and for them to discover this!

The prayerful words of St. Francis of Assisi, "it is in giving that we receive" is a very meaningful prayer to be believed and shared. For me and for other team members as well, it was a time of healing and a time of a discovering of purpose. The commitment and love of Clarence and Mary Ann, the collective will and desire of each group member to share and bring smiles on the faces of a saddened people was all an experience unequalled in our past. Although we have had few occasions to reminisce about those memorable moments, we all feel a deep sense of gratitude for being given the opportunity to live and feel the emotions of this experience and we will cherish its moments forever.

Team members were Clarence and Mary Ann DeYoung, Jean Delorey, Mary Ann Melanson, Keigan Doiron, Tim Robertson, Pierre Boucher, Bill Gerrior and Jude Avery. This is Jude Avery's account of the post-Hurricane Rita experience as I remember it. I apologize for errors or omissions that may be present in my story that I feel is worthy of telling and sharing.

A Tribute to Our Acadian Ancestors (French & English)*By Jude Avery, Larry's River, Nova Scotia***Nos Ancêtres**

par Jude Avery

Il y a des années, des décennies et des siècles,
Depuis votre départ de ces aïeux,
Il nous reste que vos âmes dans nos cœurs,
Et votre grand esprit chaleureux.

Pour vous la vie chrétienne,
Se plaçait toujours avant tout,
Chaque jour s'y vivait avec raison,
En employant toujours vos atouts.

Vous nous avez laissé rempli,
D'une fierté, détermination et confiance,
D'accepter nos défis quotidiennes,
Afin de nous assurer la survivance.

Même l'Évêque Plesis,
Avec son appel à vous enfuir,
Ne pouvait pas détacher la picasse,
Vous alliez nous préparer un avenir.

Vos défis d'une époque difficile,
Ils ont souvent changé,
Mais l'évolution de conditions actuelles,
N'attend pas à nous songer.

Aujourd'hui c'est une manque d'emploi,
Et une absence de moyens rurales,
Pas des soldats armés,
Qui menacent nos vies familiales.

Merci à vous nos ancêtres,
Pour vos qualités si idéales,
Et merci pour votre détermination,
Et d'une philosophie si fondamentale.

Nous continuons vos efforts,
D'une appréciation de la vie quotidienne,
Et nous présentons à nos jeunes âmes,
Ce qui fait partie d'une vie acadienne.

A Tribute to Our Acadian Ancestors

by Jude Avery

It's been years, decades, and centuries,
Since you were called from this earth,
You left us with your stories and legacies,
And your humble place of birth.

We now know of your many challenges,
Your pain and your will to live,
You faced them all with strength and grace,
Determined to make a homeland worthy to give.

Your survival at the time,
Meant careful use of all your acquired skills,
It meant knowing how to adapt,
And how to accept whatever God wills.

Your faith was a gift from God,
That you accepted with humility and fervor,
It's what kept you going through great upheav-
als,
With the wisdom to help each other.

Not even Bishop Plesis' plea,
To flee from this barren soil,
Could convince you to abandon your dreams,
To create a meaningful place for us all.

Your challenges of the time,
They have evolved and look very different to-
day,
No more fears of armed soldiers to evict us,
But economic challenges and a willingness to
stay.

We are trying with all our might,
To make our children proud of their history
and their kin,
We hope to plant the seed,
Of what it means to be Acadian.

CHARLES GUIDRY, ERATH, LA

(From the Abbeville Meridional-March 31, 2015)



Charles Guidry cured his sweet potato crop in wheat hay. He grows sweet potatoes currently as a hobby but has plans to grow them commercially.

Erath's Guidry has overcome obstacles to be successful sugarcane farmer

Courtesy of the
American Sugarcane League

Sugarcane farmer Charles Guidry of Erath, Louisiana knew that if he was going to get ahead, things would have to change. But as the old Serenity Prayer goes, one has to have the courage to change the things one can.

Guidry's parents, Clarence Sr. and Maudry Lewis Guidry, had that courage and knew the best way to affect change for their family during the Civil Rights Era was through education.

Ironically, the younger Guidry used education to get away from the farm.

Farming in the 1950s, as the senior Guidry did, was very different from today. Modern farmers have climate-controlled cockpits in their tractors. Today's farmers use global positioning technology to help apply just the right amount of inputs to their crops. And modern producers have machines that can harvest more than 20 acres of cane a day.

Charles Guidry still grows sweet potatoes. That wasn't the case when the elder Guidry was farming. Cotton was the cash crop on Lafayette and Vermilion parish farms back in 1940 and '50s. Sugarcane was a fill-in after the cotton harvest and folks grew sweet potatoes as a food crop to help sustain them through the winter.

"Cane was considered a small cash crop and you cut it by hand with a cane knife from top to bottom," Guidry said.

And then there were the mules.

"My daddy plowed with a mule," Guidry said. "And I plowed with a mule."

The mules stayed on the farm all the way

(See **GUIDRY**, Page 2)



Christopher, Charles and Brian Guidry inside the barn at Charles Guidry Farms

Guidry

From Page 1

up to the early 1960s, just as Guidry was entering high school.

It would be an understatement to say farming was hard.

"My daddy only went up to the third grade and it was a big deal for me to go to school," Guidry said. "I started at Herod High School in Vermilion and finished at Paul Breaux High in Lafayette."

Obviously the farming life of the 1960s was a different kind of work and Guidry wanted no part of it.

"The thing in those times was to get out of the cotton field," Guidry said. "And I didn't think I was ever going to come back to farming, because I hated it. It was hard work in those times. The thing was to leave the farm for a better life and get educated. That was my goal."

Charles Guidry finished high school in 1964 and then his father sent him to Grambling State University where he earned an education degree. After graduation another part of the Serenity Prayer kicked in, the part about hav-

ing the "serenity to accept things that cannot be changed." Uncle Sam came calling. Guidry got drafted and served two years, including a tour in Vietnam.

"But after I got out of the Army, I went to Houston and got a job teaching," Guidry said. "I qualified for the G.I. Bill which funded my studies at Texas Southern for my Master's."

After earning his Masters in 1973, Guidry taught school in Houston and Lafayette for 14 years. The teacher's salary at the time? \$280 a month.

Education is a good thing and it gave Guidry a world view and experience greater than anything his father could have ever hoped to achieve. But \$280 was not a lot of money to raise a family on in any system so he re-examined his father's farming life.

"I recognized that my daddy was a sharecropper and I recognized his weakness, because every year, no matter what he did, he couldn't stay on the landlord's farm too long. He had to move," Guidry explained. "There was a process of sharecroppers moving every year or every two years. I didn't know if he would fall out with the land-

owner or what, but no matter what he did, either he couldn't satisfy the landowner or he couldn't satisfy himself.

"That was one of his farming weaknesses and I thought maybe one day I could change that. The reason he moved was he didn't own any land. We were sharecropping. That was a problem, we used to live in those old shop houses and they weren't in good condition, but we made it. My goal was to change the way of life of farming and make enough to buy me some land."

Guidry's confidantes thought he had taken leave of his senses.

"My dad got a little sick but had been able to increase the farm. But I made a decision. Everybody thought I was crazy. 'You got an education and you want to go back to farming?'"

"But I made a decision and my goal was to make more money. My intention was to gain and own property because I saw the weakness that my father had."

Charles Guidry trucks fast forward 34 years to 2015. Charles Guidry Farms now owns 960 acres of land and manages more than 3200 acres. His 45-year-old son, Jerome Chris-

topher Guidry, and 37-year-old nephew, Brian Guidry, are partnered with him. His daughter, Cassandra, is in real estate. He and his wife, Wanda Faye, provide care for Anthony, their autistic child.

Guidry credits education, even though it took him away from the farm, for his and his family's success.

My father would try to make a good crop -- he would make a good crop -- but his resources were limited," Guidry said. "He did the absolute best he could at that particular time with what he had."

Guidry's cousin and sister both have Ph.D. degrees, but Guidry will soon have the next best thing. This May, at the spring commencement ceremony at Grambling State University, Guidry will be awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Business degree by the school's president.

Naturally, Guidry is proud of his accomplishment and he's hopeful his young partners, Jerome and Brian, will maintain that pride after he's gone.

"They've shown an interest in the farm," he said. "I'm hopeful we can keep the legacy going. It's how you get started and keep the tradition."

Valley View Villa Senior Evelyn Pettipas Graduates at 93

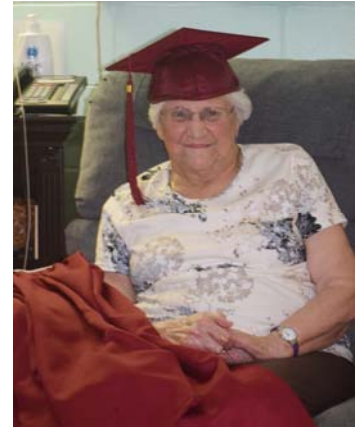
(from *The News, New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, CA*)



Left: Evelyn Pettipas seated on the left.

Right: Evelyn Pettipas will be the valedictorian for the upcoming graduation at Valley View Villa for seniors who've taken part in a back-to-school program.

Photos and article by Adam MacInnis from *The News, New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, CA*.



Evelyn Pettipas remembers her mother chasing her through their Stellarton yard with a broom insisting she go back to school.

It was after the Christmas break and Pettipas had determined she wasn't going back. "Do you want to know why I quit school – the God honest truth?" asks Pettipas, who is now 93. "I grew up on the Red Row. We came from a large family. I think I might have had three changes of clothing and I was in high school."

Many of her friends' parents worked for the railroad and had more money to buy clothing that she and her family just couldn't afford at the time. "I felt out of place even though I was accepted and had good friends. I felt out of place wearing the same clothes all the time."

Her mother finally gave up and told her if she wasn't going to school, she was going to go to work. So that's what she did. Now, more than 75 years later, Pettipas is going to walk across the stage with a cap and gown, along with 19 other residents from Valley View Villa who are graduating after participating in classes at the assisted care site.

The program is based on one that's been in operation for 20 years at Mountain Lee Lodge in the Annapolis Valley. Valley View recreation director Cathy Ryan said she had attended a session to learn about the program a couple years ago with another employee of Valley View, and decided it'd be a great fit for their site. While she met with some reluctance at first, Ryan said she's thankful the residents decided to give it a shot.

For more than a year now, they have been meeting once a week to learn about topics including everything from geography and science to history, English and the arts. The "students" come from all walks of life, Ryan said. Some have university degrees while some didn't advance past Grade 4. Pettipas said she particularly enjoyed learning about other countries. Ryan said a lot of the residents thanked her and said it helps them remember things they had forgotten.

In addition to making them lifelong learners, she said it's also been a great way to get them out and socialize. It's also something they can be proud of.

In recognition of their accomplishments, Valley View Villa will host a graduation ceremony on June 9. Gowns from the former West Pictou High School have been donated for the seniors to wear and Ryan purchased some caps.

Pettipas will walk across the stage as valedictorian, proving that it's never too late.

The Petitpas Of Acadia (L'Acadye)

by Sandra (Pettipas) Perro

Claude Petitpas Sr. was born 1624 in France. He married Catherine Bugaret January 12, 1658 in Port Royal, northwestern Nova Scotia. As this was only fifty-four years after the colony was founded, we can consider our Petitpas ancestors among the first early European settlers in North America! The colony was originally established by Sieur de Mont and Samuel de Champlain in 1604 at Ste. Croix (Holy Cross) Island along Baie Francois (Bay of Fundy) and considered the first continuous permanent settlement by Europeans in North America. Following a harsh winter that first year in which almost half the colonists died, the colony relocated to Port Royal across the Bay of Fundy and became the basis for what would later be known as Acadia i.e. l'Acadye. It is here that Claude Sr. served as clerk in the court and seat of Port Royal. A plaque in his memory hangs on the "Wall of Seigneurs of Acadia" at the museum in Church Point, Nova Scotia. It reads: "Claude Petitpas, Seigneur de la Fleur" meaning 'flower'.



On the 1671 census of old Acadia, believed to be the earliest known record of the first families of the region, Claude Petit Pas (meaning 'little step') is listed as age 45 with 26 cattle and 11 sheep. In addition to his wife, Catherine Bagard, his household at the time consisted of seven children: Bernard, age 12; Claude (from whom I descend) age 8; Jean, age 7; Jacques, age 5 and 3 daughters. Names of female children were not recorded in the census, but, since Marguerite was born in 1661, it is being assumed that she was one of the daughters. She would later marry first Martin Dugas and second Claude Guédry becoming ancestor to the many families with variations of the Guédry name in North America.

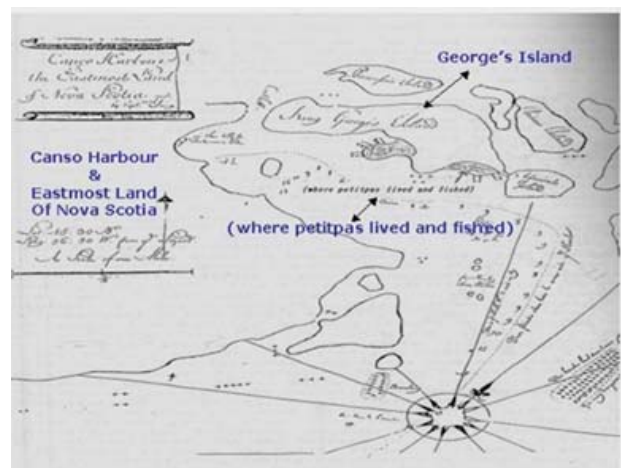
Claude Sr. died at Port Royal in 1690. Among his and Catherine's thirteen children that I was able to identify, the two about whom I was able to gather the most information were daughter, Marguerite, and son, Claude Jr. One reason for the lack of information on Claude Sr.'s remaining children is that several became integrated into the Mi'kmaq community, thereby disappearing from census and church records. Some of the descendants of Marguerite eventually ended up in the Louisiana area following the Great Deportation or *Le Grand Dérangement*, i.e., the forced removal by the British of the Acadians between 1755 and 1764 from the present-day Canadian Maritime provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island - an area then known as l'Acadye. As articles for this newsletter have previously been written by recent descendants of Marguerite, I would like to focus my article on her brother, Claude Jr. from whom I descend.

Claude Petitpas Jr. was born ca 1663 in Port Royal. Growing up there, he had always been close to the Mi'kmaq who lived in the Port Royal region. Here ca 1685 he met and married his first wife, Marie-Thérèse, a Mi'kmaq, by whom he had at least 7 children from whom some of my maternal Nova Scotia ancestors descend. Although no date was found, based on signage in the Merliguèche (Lunenburg) area of southwestern Nova Scotia, both Claude Jr., his sister, Marguerite, and their families later resided there with other settlers and their families. There "... they felled trees to clear the rocky soil for a little farming, plus fished and traded furs with the Mi'kmaq of the area." Merliguèche, a Mi'kmaq summer camp in this region, was just a short distance from LaHave where between 1636 and 1638 Claude Jr. and Marguerite's maternal grandfather, Bernard Bugaret, a Basque carpenter, worked intermittently as a ship builder and organizer of fur hunting expeditions for Nicolas Denys. Denys would later become governor of the Gulf of St. Lawrence from Canso, Nova Scotia to Gaspé, Québec.

The Petitpas Of Acadia (L'Acadye)

by Sandra (Petitpas) Perro

Claude Jr. and family next settled at Mouscoudabouet (Musquodoboit Harbour), southeast of Halifax, Nova Scotia, where ca 1698 he appears to have become closely associated with Boston fishermen who were quite active there, resulting in complaints about his relationship with them. In 1718 a frigate commanded by Captain Thomas Smart and sent from Boston by the governor of Massachusetts seized a number of French fishermen in nearby Canso (Canseau) harbour including Bernard La Sonde, son-in-law of Claude and his wife, Marie-Thérèse, and the seigneur of the region. Claude Jr. even placed his own schooner at the disposal of the English so that they might better carry out their plan! This is the only known military conflict between the Acadians and the British. Two years later, in 1720, the legislative council of Boston granted Claude Jr. £100 for obtaining the liberty of English captives during the Indian War by paying their ransom out of his own pocket. The council further agreed that the government would pay the tuition fees of one of his sons for four years at Harvard College.



Left: Replica Of Bernard La Sonde's Canso Seigneury (Guysborough, Nova Scotia Museum)

Right: An Island In Canso Harbour Named for Claude Petitpas Jr.

Among Claude Jr. and Marie-Thérèse's more notable children was son **Barthélemy Petitpas**, born 1687 possibly at Musquodoboit Harbour. Similar to his father, Barthélemy grew up among the Mi'kmaq, speaking their language and his family's French. Following in his father's footsteps, he also developed a close association with New Englanders trading and fishing in Acadia, becoming fluent in English also. His knowledge of all three languages made him a valuable asset in negotiations between the English and French rivals in Acadia, both among the Mi'kmaq and the Acadians.

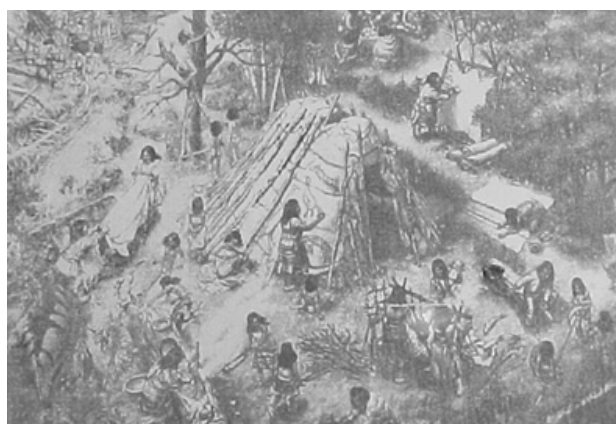
Barthélemy appears to have also been involved in the 1718 Canso incident mentioned above. Afterwards he spent several years in Boston perfecting his English before returning in 1721 to become the official British Mi'kmaq agent in Nova Scotia. This caused concern to French officials, knowing he was becoming as much of a risk as his father, who had also helped the English. In November of 1721 his 18-ton schooner was confiscated at Louisbourg, located on the southeastern end of Cape Breton, Nova Scotia. The partial restoration of the old fortress at Louisbourg in the 1960s and 1970s was the largest reconstruction project in North American history.

The Petitpas Of Acadia (L'Acadye)

by Sandra (Pettipas) Perro

Because of his nonconforming ways, the following year Barthélemy was sent to the seminary in Québec in hopes of having him develop an interest in French missionary work. From Québec, where he displayed a greater interest in navigation, he was sent to Rochefort, France in 1722 to study under a hydrographer at the crown's expense and in 1723 sent to Martinique as a soldier. His bad influence on his comrades, however, led authorities to return him to France where he was imprisoned at Le Havre. Upon his release in 1730, and though prohibited from returning to Acadia, he arrived in Île Royale (Cape Breton) in the summer of 1731 where he was recommended for the post of Indian interpreter - a position earlier held by his father Claude Jr. until his death the previous summer. In 1745, while piloting a ship during New England's capture of Louisbourg, Barthélemy was seized and imprisoned in Boston, Massachusetts, where he died in January 1747. His widow Madeleine Coste is reported in the 1752 census as living with six of their children at L'Ardoise on Île Royale.

Following the death of his first wife, Marie-Thérèse, Claude Petitpas Jr. appears to have moved to Port Toulouse (St. Peter's) on Île Royale where several of his children had settled, including Barthélemy mentioned above. There Claude Jr. married his second wife Françoise Lavergne in 1721 by whom he had four more children. Like Claude Jr., Françoise also had moved from Port Royal because of the unrest there, i.e., l'Acadye was now under British rule whereas Île Royale was still under French control. At Port Toulouse Claude Jr. continued his close association with the English. For example, in 1728 an inquiry was conducted by Joseph de Brouillan *dit* Saint-Ovide (Monbeton), then governor of Île Royale into the loyalty of the Indians towards the French. It appeared that Claude Jr. was attempting to influence the Indians, particularly the young ones, in favour of the English. If, however, the governor's attempt to get rid of him and two of his troubling sons from his first marriage by sending them to France was carried out, Claude Jr. does not appear to have been absent for more than two years before returning to Île Royale where he died in 1730. Following his death, the king presented Claude Jr.'s widow with a sum of money for services rendered in his capacity as interpreter. Then in 1747, Massachusetts Governor Shirley bestowed accolades upon him as a faithful subject of the British Crown for his services to its government.

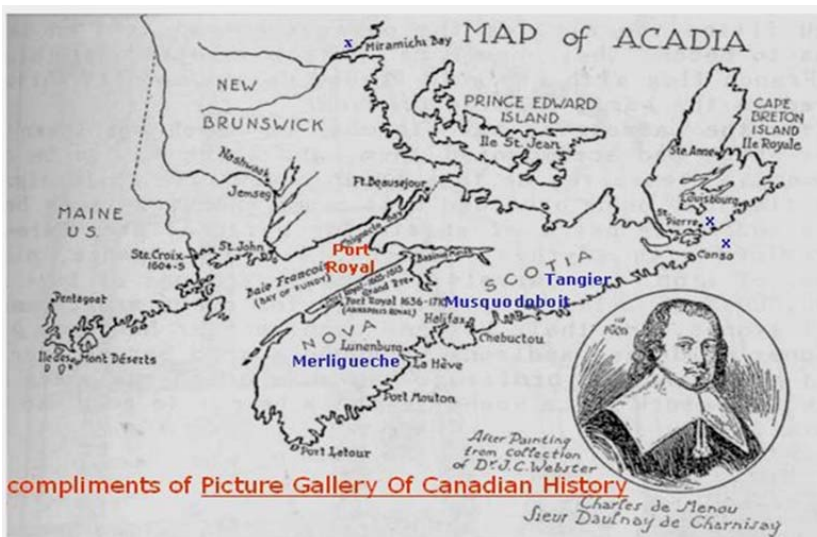


Early Port Toulouse (St. Peter's) Île Royale
(from personal photo collection taken at Nicolas Deny Museum, St. Peter's)

The Petitpas Of Acadia (L'Acadye)

by Sandra (Pettipas) Perro

Although not as controversial as their father, Claude Petitpas Jr., and half-brother, Barthélemy Petitpas, the children of Claude Jr. and his second wife Françoise also left a mark on Acadian history. Unlike their Cajun cousins, they had avoided the Deportation commencing in 1755 by joining other Acadian families on Île Royale. Because of their close association with Abbé Pierre Maillard, a prominent missionary of the Mi'kmaq, after the Fall of Louisburg in 1758 they were granted permission by British Governor Lawrence of Halifax to settle in Chezzetcook, southeast of Halifax. Not only had **Louis**, son of Claude Jr. and Françoise, worked for Fr. Maillard, but he was named the executor to Fr. Maillard's will in 1759. That same year, Fr. Maillard was appointed agent to the Mi'kmaq by authorities in Halifax out of their fear of the natives and Fr. Maillard's positive influence over them. Then in 1760, Fr. Maillard made a request to Governor Lawrence to allow him to retain the services of Louis and his brother **Joseph** in Halifax as "... they may be useful as interpreters of the Indian Language and otherwise". Fr. Maillard also recommended Louis and Joseph's brothers **Jacques** and **Jean** to the Governor as "... the most skilled people in making Dikes & wares to keep off the sea from our March Lands about Mines & Piziquid" Along with their families and other Acadians from Île Royale, these Petitpas families appear to have settled in the Chezzetcook area on the outskirts of Halifax where they remained until once more uprooted, this time by British Loyalists following the American Revolution. Today, a number of their descendants, including members of my maternal and paternal families, can be found in the Tracadie and Larry's River areas of eastern Nova Scotia where I was born and grew up.



Left: Former Home of Maternal Grandfather,
Walter Fougere, Larry's River, Nova Scotia
descendant of Claude Petitpas Jr. and 1st wife,
Marie-Thérèse
(where I spent weekends and summer holidays)
Right: Former Home Of Paternal Grandfather,
John Petipas, Tracadie, Nova Scotia
descendant of Claude Petitpas Jr. and 2nd wife,
Françoise,
(where I was born and grew up)

LES GUÉDRY ET PETITPAS D'ASTEUR 2015 REUNION

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, 10 October 2015 (9:00 am until 5:00 pm)
Henry Guidry Memorial Park (130 Park Drive)
Henderson, Louisiana

Our upcoming Guédry & Petitpas Reunion will be at the large, covered pavilion at Henry Guidry Memorial Park in Henderson, Louisiana on Saturday, 10 October 2015.

This is in the heart of Guédry country in southwest Louisiana. Of course, the spellings you'll encounter in the area are Guidry, Guedry and Gaidry so be prepared to meet your many cousins. You may even find a local Petitpas cousin or two although they are not as numerous in south Louisiana.



We are almost complete with the arrangements for the Reunion. We have reserved the large, covered pavilion and associated snackbar and restrooms at the Park. This Reunion will be a bit different than some of our recent reunions. It will be outdoors along the edge of the Atchafalaya Swamp and in a relaxed setting with lots of time to mingle, meet everyone and exchange family history, stories, past vacations, etc.. A couple of planned activities that we'll have are the local Cajun band "Chère Mom" featuring Christine Guidry Law and her family, induction of some special folks into the Les Guédry et Petitpas d'Astcur Circle of Distinction and an authentic Cajun meal at noon prepared by a superb chef.

The Reunion will be free to all (although we may have to charge a small fee for the optional noon meal).

October is a wonderful time in Louisiana with cooling temperatures, mild weather patterns and has the least rain of any month.

Two other major events in mid-October 2015 in South Louisiana

*** Grand Réveil Acadien (Great Acadian Awakening)**

- 3-12 October 2015
- Events throughout South Louisiana (Lake Charles, Lafayette, Carencro, Loreauville, Rayne, Houma, New Orleans)
- For more information & program of events, visit their website & Facebook page:
<http://www.louisiane-acadie.com>
<https://www.facebook.com/GrandReveilAcadien>
- Key dates are: 8 October (Project Nouvelle Acadie & Reenactment of Acadians arriving in Louisiana), 9 October (Genealogical conference), 10 October (Reunions) and 11 October (French mass, Cajun music and food)

LES GUÉDRY ET PETITPAS D'ASTEUR 2015 REUNION

- * **Project Nouvelle Acadie & Reenactment of Acadian Arrival in the Attakapas**
 - 8 October 2015
 - Project Nouvelle Acadie – 9-11 am, Loreauville, LA (Learn about the ongoing search for the 1765 Acadian settlement at the Attakapas)
 - Reenactment at Acadian Memorial in St. Martinville, LA (Presentations 1-3 pm by Martin Guidry & Greg Wood on Acadians of Maryland; Reenactment of Acadians arriving at the Attakapas, 5 pm)

- * **Festivals Acadiens et Créoles**
 - 9-11 October 2015
 - Girard Park in Lafayette, LA
 - Large music, food and crafts festival
 - For more information & program of events, visit their website & Facebook page:
<http://www.festivalsacadiens.com>
<https://www.facebook.com/festivalacadiens>
 - October 11th will be a key date to visit this festival and also each evening

A Few Acadian Historic Sites in Lafayette, LA Area

- * Acadian Village
- * Vermilionville Folk Life Park
- * Jean Lafitte National Historical Park's Acadian Cultural Center
- * Alexander Mouton Home Museum
- * St. John the Evangelist Catholic Cathedral & historic cemetery and live oak tree
- * Acadian Memorial in St. Martinsville, LA (17 miles southeast of Lafayette)
- * Town of Abbeville, LA (20 miles south of Lafayette)
- * Town of Opelousas, LA (20 miles north of Lafayette)

Henderson, LA Travel Information

Henderson, Louisiana is located about 12 miles east of Lafayette, Louisiana and is at the edge of the Atchafalaya Swamp. It is just off interstate highway I-10 at Exit 115. Henderson is approximately 9 miles southeast of Breaux Bridge, Louisiana.

Three commercial airports serve the Henderson, LA area:

- * Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport
 - 116 miles from Henry Guidry Park on Interstate Highway I-10
 - Serviced by most major airlines including Air Canada, Delta, United, US Airways, American Airlines, JetBlue, Southwest
 - Rental Cars (Most companies including National, Avis, Alamo, Dollar, Thrifty, Budget, Hertz, Payless, Enterprise)
-

LES GUÉDRY ET PETITPAS D'ASTEUR 2015 REUNION

- * Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport
 - 53 miles from Henry Guidry Park on Interstate Highway I-10
 - Serviced by Delta, United, American, US Airways
 - Connects to Dallas (American), Charlotte (US Airways), Houston (United), Atlanta (Delta, United), New Orleans (United)
 - Rental Cars (Avis, Budget, Enterprise, Hertz, National)
- * Lafayette Regional Airport
 - 13 miles from Henry Guidry Park via Interstate Highway I-10
 - Serviced by Delta, American, United
 - Connects to Dallas (American), Atlanta (Delta), Houston (United), Denver (United)
 - Rental Cars (Alamo, Avis, Budget, Hertz, National, Enterprise)

To reach Henry Guidry Memorial Park from any of the airports via I-10, proceed to Exit 115 (in Louisiana I-10 exits are numbered by miles heading east from the Texas-Louisiana border with the LA-TX border being 0). Exit south onto LA 347 from I-10 at Exit 115 and proceed to the stop light (0.2 miles). Turn left (east) at the stop light onto LA 352. Proceed about 2.4 miles on LA 352 and watch for Henry Guidry Memorial Park sign on your right. Turn right at the sign onto Park Drive and proceed to the pavilion (ca. 0.5 miles).

Lodging in the Vicinity of Henderson

Lafayette is a relatively large city of 125,000 people. There are many motels, hotels and bed & breakfast inns in the immediate area. The Lafayette Convention and Tourism Website has a nice listing of available lodging as well as restaurants, attractions, events and festivals in the local area. View its website at:

<http://www.lafayettetravel.com>

Breaux Bridge is a small community of 9,000 folks about 9 miles from Henderson. The Tourism in Breaux Bridge Website provides lodging, cultural, dining, music, attractions and other information. View its website at:

<http://tourism.breauxbridgelive.com>

Henderson is a very small community of 2,000 folks. It has excellent dining facilities and cultural activities. You can learn a bit about these at the website:

<http://www.louisiana-destinations.com/henderson.htm>

A Little History

Shortly after the Great Flood of 1927 Henry Guidry and his family left their home at Atchafalaya, Louisiana and resettled near the railroad stop at Lenora, Louisiana. Here he opened a restaurant. Shortly afterwards, he moved his restaurant and family a little closer to the river and founded the settlement later to be called Henderson, Louisiana. At Guidry's Place (the name of his combined restaurant, bar and dance hall), Henry Guidry began serving crawfish dishes and the public loved it. His wonderful chef Gladys Breaux developed and prepared many of the tasty dishes. Henry brought crawfish to the world stage - prior to this they had been eaten by the Acadians in Louisiana, but only at homes. Guidry's Place eventually evolved into Pat's Fisherman's Wharf Restaurant, which is still serving crawfish today. Henry's brother, Edwin 'Mulate' Guidry, was a crawfish marketer, catching the tasty crustaceans in the Atchafalaya Swamp. Mulate later opened the Rendezvous Club near Henderson and then moved his Club to Breaux Bridge. Here he renamed it Mulate's and began a restaurant famous for its crawfish dishes and live Cajun dance music. Today Mulate's Restaurant in Breaux Bridge is known as Pont Breaux's (aka Breaux's Bridge).

LES GUÉDRY ET PETITPAS D'ASTEUR 2015 REUNION

Registration Form

Attached to this newsletter is a Reunion Registration Form. There is no charge to attend the Reunion. We may have to charge a small fee (\$7-\$10) for the optional Cajun meal that we plan to cook at the Reunion.

IMPORTANT

If you are considering or you know that you will attend, please complete the attached Reunion Registration Form. This is not a commitment to attend – just to assist in planning the Reunion. We need a fairly accurate count of how many folks are attending to ensure we have enough food and drink for everyone.

So set aside the first half of October to be in south Louisiana for the Grand Réveil Acadien, the Festival Acadiens et Creoles and the Guédry et Petitpas Reunion. We'll all have a great time enjoying our culture and being with our cousins from throughout North America.

Additional Events:

On 8 October 2015 from 1-3 pm at the Acadian Memorial in St. Martinville, LA, Marty Guidry and Greg Wood will present complimentary presentations on the “Acadians of Maryland”. Marty will discuss the history of the Acadians, the events leading to their deportation, their arrival and stay in Maryland and their departure for Louisiana. Greg will discuss the Acadians the lives of the Acadians that remained in Maryland from 1770 to the present day. His ground-breaking research into these Acadians opens new avenues of our Acadian history.

On 9 October 2015 from 2:15-3:15 pm at the Cajundome Blues Room in Lafayette, LA, Marty Guidry will present “Pierre Guédry (1741-1825) – An Exile of Hopes and Heartbreaking Tragedies Through the Eyes of Pierre Guédry”. This talk will trace the unparalleled life of Pierre Guédry from his birth in Mirliguèche, Acadia through the deportations to his arrival and death in Louisiana.

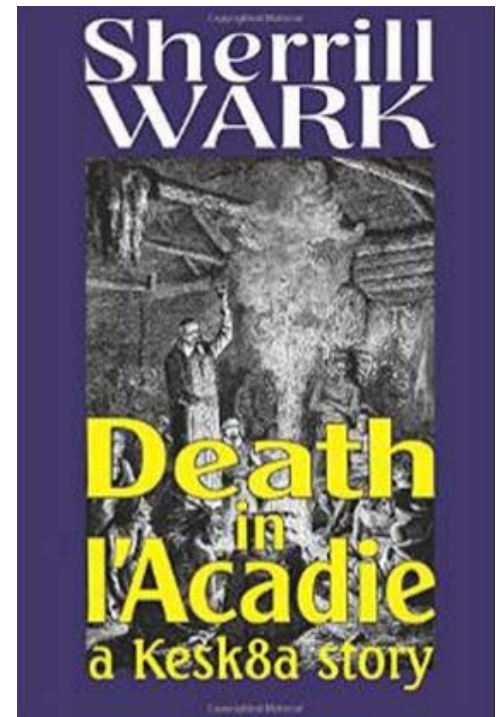


BOOK NOOK

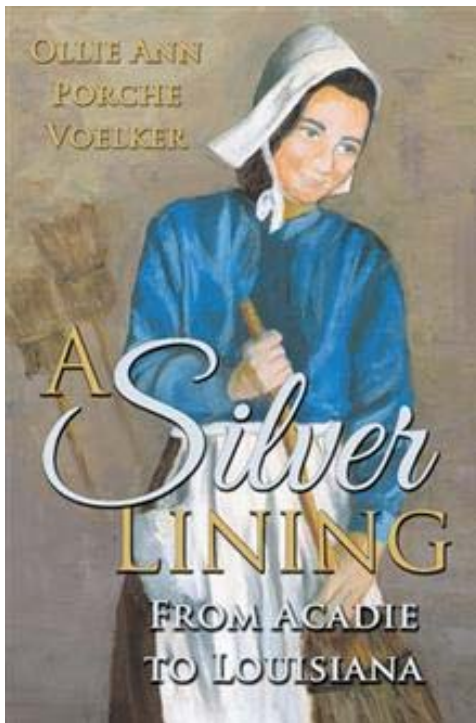
Death in l'Acadie- a Kesk8a story *by Sherrill Wark*

"Some of [the Newcomers] had taken up the lonely life of trapping because they couldn't stand the lonely life of civilization. Some of them were running from women, from the fathers of women, from lawmen, or from each other. On the rough side, all of them were at least a little bit crazy whether they had started out that way or not."

In this sometimes humorous, sometimes deadly serious account of life in 1678-81 Acadia when the Newcomers attempted to foist their ways onto The People, Keskoua, a Mi'gmau girl, takes us into her world where murder and deceit mean nothing to those who come from away. Sherrill Wark, the author, a descendant of "the Frenchman Claude Guidry," brings us on a journey of enlightenment through the eyes of a resilient people determined to survive against almost unbearable challenges.



A Silver Lining From Acadie to Louisiana *by Ollie Ann Porche Veolker*



This is the story of a real family.

After years of unrest and threats of deportation by the English, in 1750 a number of Acadian families flee from their prosperous wheat farms in Acadie (renamed Nova Scotia by the English), to live in French-controlled Île Saint-Jean (Prince Edward Island). For nine-year-old Pelagie Benoist, this is the beginning of almost thirty-five years of displacement and searching for a place to call home.

After five difficult years in Île Saint-Jean, Pelagie's family moves to the Fortress of Louisbourg on Ile Royale. They live a very different life in this fortified town, which has a busy port and a thriving fishing industry. Their peaceful existence ends when war is officially declared between France and England in the spring of 1756. The civilians inside the fortress can only wait, knowing the English will attack.

Louisbourg is captured by the English in 1758, and all Acadians are deported to France. After twenty-six years of wandering, hardship, and suffering, including the loss of many loved ones, Pelagie finally has a chance to move to Louisiana. Will this be the home she's been searching for? Or will it be one more disappointment?

IN THE NEWS-HISTORICAL NEWS TIDBITS

Ads from The Teche News, 28 April 1976, St. Martinville, LA

**CONGRATULATIONS
BREAUX BRIDGE
and
Best Wishes
for a successful
CRAWFISH FESTIVAL
from your local
EXXON DEALER**

"Where to get Service"
•Gasoline & Diesel Fuel •Motor Oils & Greases
•Burner Oils

**Frank J. Guidry
OIL COMPANY**

Hwy 31 North 332-2212 Breaux Bridge
If no answer dial...332-2214 or 332-1848

CRAWFISH SALE DAYS

WED.-THURS.-FRI., APRIL 28-29 & 30

Get your Crawfish T-shirts and festival souvenirs at F & G Department and Fabric stores during our big sale. (On Saturday we will be selling only T-Shirts and souvenir items)

SHOP FONTENOT & GUIDRY AND REALLY SAVE!

Famous Brands Men's LEISURE SUITS..... 28.88 Values to 125.00 MEN'S SUITS (Just in time for graduation) NOW ONLY..... 39.88 Values to 75.00 - Men's SPORT COATS NOW ONLY..... 25.88	ENTIRE STOCK! MEN'S JUMPSUITS REDUCED..... 10% Ladies' Dress & Casual SHOES NOW ONLY..... 2.88 Ladies' PANTSUITS & SPORTSWEAR NOW REDUCED ... 33 1/3 %
---	---

FABRIC SHOP SPECIALS

100% Polyester Chambray DOUBLEKNITS now only 79¢ yd.	ZIPPERS 9" to 24" All colors & sizes 10¢	Entire Stock REMNANTS 1/2 price
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FONTENOT & GUIDRY
DEPARTMENT STORE & FABRIC SHOP
Both stores located in downtown Breaux Bridge



HENRY J. GUIDRY JR., is the new captain of the Jerusalem Temple Arab Patrol. A slate of officers including Paul Siebenkittle, first lieutenant; Efrain I. Duron, second lieutenant; Orlando C. Darby Jr., secretary; and H. C. Cotham Jr. Treasurer, was seated in ceremonies at the temple Saturday.

*L: Times-Picayune, 1 Feb 1976 New Orleans, LA
Below: The Scranton Republican, 22 May 1930
Scranton, PA*

Seeking Relative

The body of James O. LaBean, 63, an employe of the 101 Ranch show, who died in the State hospital on Monday night, was still being held at the morgue of John W. Evans, South Main avenue, last night while efforts were continued to communicate with a daughter, believed to be residing in Berkley, Cal.

IN THE NEWS-HISTORICAL NEWS TIDBITS

—Mr. Henry Guidry, the popular young mixologist and caterer, who for several years had been in the employ of Mr. C. P. Moss, a few days ago purchased from that gentleman a one-half interest in his saloon and restaurant business. In this transaction, Mr. Moss gives evidence of appreciation of the services of a worthy employee and the confidence he reposes in him. We wish the firm continued prosperity. —New Iberia Enterprise.

"Mr. Guidry has many friends in Lafayette who are pleased to wish him good luck in this new business venture."

*Left: Lafayette Advertiser, 19 Jan 1901
Lafayette, LA*

*Right: Belvidere Daily Republican, 10 Aug 1942
Belvidere, IL*

IN WATER 75 HOURS, RESCUED



One of four survivors from a party of 13 persons who were aboard a 30-foot fishing boat when it sank in Saginaw Bay, Abraham LaBean, 32, is pictured above in a hospital near Bay City, Mich., after he had spent 75 hours floating in a life jacket. With him is his sister, Mrs. Minerva Breza. The first survivor reached safety several hours after the tragedy when she swam seven miles to shore, and Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Sauve were rescued from an island four days after the accident.

Guidry's Bill Electrical Serv (Wm Guidry jr) 800 N Sterling

GUIDRY'S FURNITURE SHOP (J Nason Guidry), Furniture Repair, Refinishing, Upholstering and Cabinet Work, Furniture Reproduction, 611 General Mouton av, Tel CENter 5-2024 (See Yellow Page 48)

Guidry's Grocery (Armand Guidry) 120 Huval

Guidry's Gro & Mkt (Jesse Guidry) 616 N College

Guidry's Gun & Saw Shop (Ivy J Guidry) 414 Verdun

GUIDRY'S HARDWARE & IRON WORKS (Cyrus Guidry), Hardware, Paints, Sporting Goods, Ornamental Iron Works, Saddles, Truck Beds, 1816-1822 Jefferson, Tel CENter 4-5254 (See Yellow Page 51)

Guidry's Lumber Yard (Rhule Guidry) 1320 Carencro rd

Guidry's Pig Stand (Jos N Guidry) 403 Brook av

Guidry's Refrigeration Repr (Edw Guidry) 405 Verdun

Guidry's Stanley Tailor Made Clothing (Stanley Guidry) 305 E 2d

Lafayette City Directory, 1959, Lafayette, LA

Les Guédry d'Asteur

What's in a name?

Guédry is the family to which you belong if your name is spelled Guédry, Guedry, Guidry, Gaidry, Guildry, Geddry, Jeddry, Labine, LaBine, LaBean or any of several dozen variations. The original name of our family is believed to have been Guédry. We are all descendants of Claude Guédry & Marguerite Petitpas.

Here are some common and uncommon variant spellings of the name.

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

Our **Petitpas** cousins likewise have several variations of their name including Petitpas, Pettipas, Petipas, Petitpa, Petit Pas and Pitts.

DUES REMINDER

Attached at the back of this issue is a membership application for renewing your membership in **Les Guédry et Petitpas d'Asteur**. Our dues are very reasonable at \$6.00 for individuals and \$10 for a family in 2015.

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 allow us do even more.



Les Guédry et Petitpas d'Asteur is now on Facebook. Join us there and connect with other family members from all over the U.S. and CAN. Feel free to post queries, photos, links, events or other items of interest to the family. Just search for 'Les Guédry d'Asteur' on Facebook to find our page.

Les Guédry et Petitpas d'Asteur

To share your ideas for the newsletter,
contact:

Marty Guidry
6139 North Shore Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70817
225-755-1915
guidryrm@cox.net

The Guédry et Petitpas Family Newsletter
'*GENERATIONS*' serves as a focal point for family
members to share and learn about us.

"*GENERATIONS*" newsletter is now in its 13th year.
We hope to provide our readers with an interesting, in-
formative and entertaining newsletter. Your input is
always welcome and we look forward to another year of
sharing family history and news with you.

Allie Guidry
txguidry2000@yahoo.com

Marty Guidry
guidryrm@cox.net



Les Guédry d'Asteur Officers and Committees

OFFICERS:

President - Martin Guidry (LA)
Vice-President - Elaine Clement (LA)
Secretary - Billy Harrell Guidry (LA)
Treasurer - Daniel "Chuck" Guidry (LA)

Membership - Charlene Guidry Lacombe (LA) -
Chairperson

Gayle Guidry (LA) - Special Projects
Warren Guidry (TX)

COMMITTEES:

Website - Becky Boggess (IA) - Chairperson
Annie Grignon-Labine (QU) - Translator
Elaine Clement (LA) - Translator
Martin Guidry (LA)

Sales - Cindy Guidry Herdt (WA) - Chairperson
Wayne Simoneaux (LA)
Billy Harrell Guidry (LA)

Publicity - Elaine Clement (LA) - Chairperson
Margaret Jeddry (MA)
Warren Guidry (TX)

Newsletter - Allie Guidry (VA) - Editor
Martin Guidry (LA)

CAFA Board Member - Jeanette Guidry Leger (LA)

Genealogy - Daryl LaBine (FL/ON) - Chairperson
Bernard Geddry (AZ)
Mark Labine (MN)
Daniel "Chuck" Guidry (LA)
Martin Guidry (LA)

Finance - Cheryl Guidry Tyiska (MD) - Chairperson
Paul Labine (IL)
Marshall Woolner (OR)
Gloria Parrent (TX)
Chuck Guidry (LA)

Les Guédry et Petitpas d'Asteur
REGISTRATION for 2015 REUNION
(L'enregistrement pour 2015 Réunion)
10 October 2015 – Henderson, Louisiana

Name (Nom) _____
Last (Nom de famille) First (Prénom) Middle (Deuxième prénom)

Spouse (Épouse) _____
Maiden (Nom de jeune fille) First (Prénom) Middle (Deuxième prénom)

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) _____

E-mail Address (Courriel) _____

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

No. of Meals at Reunion (A l'intention de Manger des Repas à la Réunion) _____
(There may be a charge of \$7-\$10 per meal / Il peut y avoir une charge de \$7-\$10 par repas)
[This is not a commitment to purchase meals; we just need an estimate of potential meals needed]

COST:

The Reunion will be **FREE** to all attendees.
(La Réunion sera **LIBRE** à tous les participants.)

_____ I will attend
(J'assisterai)

_____ I am considering attending
(J'ai considéré d'assister)

Please return form to:
(Se il vous plait retourner le formulaire à:)

Les Guédry et Petitpas d'Asteur, Inc.
Martin Guidry, President
6139 North Shore Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70817 USA

Les Guidry d'Asteur
Membership Application
(Formulaire d'adhésion)

Name (Nom) _____
Last (Nom de famille) First (Prénom) Middle (Deuxième prénom)

Spouse (Épouse) _____
Maiden (Nom de jeune fille) First (Prénom) Middle (Deuxième prénom)

Children (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) _____

Hobbies or Special Talent _____
(Passe-temps ou talent particulier)

Type of Membership (Type de cotisation):

_____ Individual (Individuelle) \$ 6.00 U.S. Dollars (Dollars américains)

_____ Family (Familiiale) \$10.00 U.S. Dollars (Dollars américains)

Benefactor Levels (Niveaux de bienfaiteur):

_____ dit Jovial Level \$50.00 U.S. Dollars (Dollars américains)

_____ dit Labine Level \$100.00 U. S. Dollars (Dollars américains)

_____ dit Grivois Level \$500.00 U. S. Dollars (Dollars américains)

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

Les Guidry d'Asteur, Inc.
Charlene Guidry Lacombe
Membership Chair
226 Bulldog Lane
Iota, LA 70543