

As we indicated in our [Fall 2025 issue of "Generations"](#), we will periodically send out articles of interest via email, Facebook and other means and then near the end of each year gather these articles together in an annual edition of "Generations". Below is the 2nd installment of articles for 2026.

ORIGINAL FRENCH CHURCH AND CIVIL RECORDS ONLINE

by R. Martin Guidry

Acadian researchers are very fortunate that original Acadian and French civil and ecclesiastical (church) records are available online for free. Links to Pre- and Post-Deportation Church records from Nova Scotia and the United States are in our Family Website Favorite Links at <https://quedryfamily.quedry.org/favoritelinks.html>.

DEPARTMENTAL ARCHIVES IN FRANCE

Most French Departments have their church records and civil records online at no charge. The church records are not in a central depository, but are maintained at the individual churches and local civil administrative offices (town halls). Access the church records within each department at this link:

https://www.guide-genealogie.com/guide/archives_adresses.html

On the map first find the province containing the department as Nouvelle-Aquitaine (light green) and then locate the department within that province. For example, **Vienne (86)** department within the province of **Nouvelle-Aquitaine** (light green). Then click on the department name as **Vienne (86)**. The arrangement of each department's website will be slightly different so you may need to explore a bit. For Vienne if we want to see the Church Parish Registers click on **Archives départementales de la Vienne (86)**. Pictures and captions of several sets of records will appear. For the church records click on **Etat civil**. Now you will need to know the Département, Commune (Village or Town) and possibly Parish that the records are in. For example, click on **Vienne** under Département, **Châtellerauld** under Commune. To the right you will see all the church records available. You could further narrow your search by Church Parish, Type of Register (Catholic Parish Register, Civil Copy of Register, Protestant Register) and Type of Act (Birth, Marriage, Death, 10-Year Index). The records are arranged chronologically. Click on the small Camera at the far right of the line containing the records you wish to view. The original register for this set of records will appear. You can make adjustments to the quality of the image, print the image and save the image with Screenshot or Save Image As on your computer.

You can also view various other civil records for the department at this site such as notarial records, military service records, censuses, maps, admiralty records, engagement contracts, newspapers, old postcards and photographs and other documents.

The departmental sites often also provide links to Municipal Archives within the department.

The records on each departmental site are arranged differently so some research on the departmental website may be necessary to locate the specific records that you seek.

FRENCH CIVIL RECORDS

The National Archives of France (Archives Nationales de France) has four major locations: (1) Paris – Pierrefitte-sur-Seine (Main Branch) has post-Revolution period records, (2) Paris – Marais – records of French state prior to 1790 and the Parisian notaries' records, (3) Roubaix – records of the world of work (labor/business archives) and (4) Aix-en-Provence (Archives Nationales d'Outre-Mer) – records of France's colonial empire as Acadia.

The Archives Nationales d'Outre-Mer has digitized much of its colonial records and they are available free of charge. You can view these records at:

<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/collectionsearch/Pages/collectionsearch.aspx>

*In the Search Box on the Collection Search page enter a term or terms for the record you are seeking. Using French words produces better results. For example, enter **Recensement 1671** and click **Search**. The first item appearing will be the original 1671 Census of Port-Royal. Clicking on the title **Numéro 8. Recensement nominal de Port-Royal....** will display each page of this census which can be downloaded and printed. The printed information under the record image contains very useful information on the document including a brief summary of the document contents in the "Record Information – Scope and Content" section. For a rough translation from French to English or vice versa you can use Google Translate.*

*In addition to the Acadian censuses this website has many historic letters, reports and other documents of great value to Acadian research and genealogy. Try searching **Claude Petitpas** or **Guedry**.*

The online records of the Archives Nationales Paris, Marais can be viewed at:

www.archives-nationales.culture.gouv.fr (See "Salle des Inventaires Virtuelle – SIV") and <https://francearchives.gouv.fr>

VITAL RECORDS IN FRENCH OVERSEAS TERRITORIES

The **Archives Nationales d'Outre-Mer** website has vital records from many French overseas territories of interest to Acadian researchers. These include Caribbean Islands, South American territories, Canada and the United States. Many are original records; however, some may be transcripts or extracts. Acadians settled for varying periods of time at some of these locations after the deportations ended in 1763. You can access this website at:

<https://recherche-anom.culture.gouv.fr>

Click on **Etat civil** under **Archives En Ligne** . Then click on "**Choisir un territoire**" on the left. From the dropdown list select the territory of interest and further refine your choice. For example, choose "**Guyanne**" from the dropdown menu, then "**Sinnamary**" from the "**Commune**" menu. Under "**Année**" insert "**1760**" and "**1775**" in the "**ou entre**" search boxes. Click on "**Lancer La Recherche**". From the list of available options on the right select "**1765**" and you should see several Acadian names in these death records. Also, under the "**Territoire**" of "**Saint-Domingue**" look at the "**Commune**" of "**Mole-Saint-Nicolas**" and of "**Jean-Rabel**" between "**1760**" and "**1800**". The first few pages of each register are alphabetical indices by year.

FRENCH MUNICIPAL RECORDS

The French Municipalities also have local archives which often contain records of interest to Acadian researchers. The records that each has online varies by municipality. Some of these Municipality sites are:

Dinard (Île-et-Villaine) - <https://www.ville-dinard.fr/transitions/etat-civil/>

Rennes (Île-et-Villaine) - <https://www.archives.rennes.fr>

La Rochelle (Charente-Maritime) - <https://www.larochelle.fr/action-municipale/ville-culturelle/les-archives-municipales>

Brest (Finistère) - <https://archives.mairie-brest.fr>

Châtellerauld (Vienne) - <https://www.chatellerauld.fr/sorties-et-activites/culture-et-patrimoine/centre-des-archives/>

Poitiers (Vienne) - <https://www.poitiers.fr/decouvrir-les-archives>

Nantes (Loire-Atlantique) - <https://archives.nantes.fr/home.html>

Saint-Nazaire (Loire-Atlantique) - <https://archives.saintnazaire.fr>

GALLICA (BIBLIOTHÈQUE NATIONALE DE FRANCE)

Gallica has many online digital images of documents, manuscripts, maps and other original source material. It is free.

It is available at:

<https://www.bnf.fr/en/gallica-bnf-digital-library#bnf-the-gallica-collection>

BELLE-ÎLE-EN-MER REGISTERS

The original Belle-Île-en-Mer Register is at:

https://rechercher.patrimoines-archives.morbihan.fr/ark:/15049/296846.2688548/daogrp/0/idsearch:RECH_44b0621c3a580f75a559aa2b271a0bd7

This Register contains the sworn depositions of Acadians being settled on Belle-Île-en-Mer in 1767 documenting the genealogical history of 78 Acadian families. The depositions were taken to supplement the Acadian parish registers that were destroyed and/or missing during the expulsion of the Acadians. This was needed so the Acadians could prove they were Acadian and thus receive land grants and aid from the French government.

CANADIAN SITES WITH FRENCH RECORDS

There are a few Canadian websites with copies of French records of interest to Acadian researchers. Beware, however, that many of the records available are not copies of original documents, but are transcripts of the original documents. During the late 1800s and early 1900s, the Public Archives of Canada sent archivists to France to find and copy Acadian records in French archives – especially at Rochefort, La Rochelle and Paris. Many of these transcripts such as Acadian census records and other documents pertinent to Acadians are available online at the Library and Archives Canada website. Some of the documents may be copies of original French records and other may be the transcripts of the original documents. The transcript can be valuable when the original records are not available or when the original records are difficult to read.

Two Canadian sites available online of particular interest are Heritage - Canadiana and the Library and Archives Canada:

<https://heritage.canadiana.ca> (Heritage - Canadiana)

<https://recherche-collection-search.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng> (Library and Archives Canada)

There are other French sites with online records pertaining to the Acadians such as French military archives; however, these records are not used as much as the above sites and they generally have fewer records digitized and online.

Lagniappe

Here is a map from the National Library of Spain dating about 1768 showing the initial land grants to the Acadians when they arrived at St. Gabriel, Louisiana (Iberville) in 1767. Look closely along the banks of the Mississippi River and you will notice the horizontal lines with the Acadian names within the lines. These grants were generally 4-6 arpents along the river by 40 arpents deep. The map is entitled "Plan des Etablissements de Sa Maje. Catholique a la Riviere D'Hiberville". It is preserved at the Biblioteca Nacional de Espana (National Library of Spain). Because the map is large, it may take a couple of minutes to download.

<https://bnedigital.bne.es/bd/es/viewer?id=6557c9f8-fc90-4bae-ac30-8e7947a36500>

Here is black and white copy of the map that may be easier to read:

[https://rla.unc.edu/Mapfiles/HMC3/BNE%20BA%2019-1a%20\[8\].HMC.3.jpg](https://rla.unc.edu/Mapfiles/HMC3/BNE%20BA%2019-1a%20[8].HMC.3.jpg)

THERE'S A NEW DOCTOR IN TOWN! PHOEBE GUIDRY OF PERRY, GA RECEIVED HER M.D. DEGREE

May 9th of 2026 was an exciting day for Morrison and Kim Sumner Guidry of Perry, Georgia. Their daughter Phoebe Grace Guidry received her Doctor of Medicine degree from Mercer University School of Medicine in Savannah, Georgia.

Phoebe has excelled academically throughout her life. In 2019 she was the Valedictorian of Perry High School in Perry, Ga. She then decided to join the Crimson Tide of the University of Alabama. In 2023 she graduated Summa Cum Laude with honors and earned a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. While at Alabama, she was a member of Million Dollar Band where she played French Horn, a tutor at the Capstone Center of Student Success, a member of Gamma Sigma Epsilon chemistry honor society and the Dare to Diagnose pre-health student organization as well as the Pediatric Development Research Group.

After receiving medical school offers, Phoebe chose to attend the Mercer University School of Medicine in Savannah, GA at which she was selected as a Primary Care Accelerated Track Scholar. Phoebe now begins a 3-year Residency in Pediatrics at Memorial Medical Center in Savannah, GA. Congratulations to Dr. Phoebe Guidry on her outstanding achievements!!!

Phoebe is the daughter of Morrison Guidry from Lafourche Parish, Louisiana and Kim Sumner Guidry of Georgia. Morrison is a retired pharmacist from Houston Healthcare of Perry, GA. Kim Sumner Guidry is an elementary school teacher having earned a Bachelor of Science in Nuclear Medicine Technology from the Medical College of GA, an MBA from Georgia College and State University and then received her teaching certification and certificate in Gifted Education from Middle Georgia Resa. Phoebe's brother Eli Guidry graduated from the Ohio State University Honors Program with a B. S. Degree in Molecular Genetics. Eli is an outstanding writer. He was a finalist in 2014 in the National YoungArts Competition and the winner of the Short Story division. In 2017 at Ohio State University, he received the Digital Media Prize for Outstanding Undergraduate Work.

Some of you may remember Phoebe and her Mom Kim in June 2016 when they attended our Breaux-Guidry-Hebert Reunion in Maurice, Louisiana. She had great aspirations then and has made them come true.



Phoebe Guidry shortly after receiving her Doctor of Medicine

THE 2029 GUÉDRY ET PETITPAS FAMILY QUILT PROJECT

UPDATE ON THE FAMILY QUILT PROJECT

More than 20 folks have requested quilting squares from Cindy Herdt and they have been sent. Try to complete your square as soon as you can and return it to Cindy so she can begin the quilt.

THERE IS STILL TIME TO REQUEST A QUILTING SQUARE FOR YOUR FAMILY. SEND YOUR REQUEST TO CINDY AT cherdt@nwi.net AND INCLUDE YOUR MAILING ADDRESS.

For our Les Guédry-Labine d'Astcur Reunion in August 2004 in Nova Scotia we had a Family Quilt Project. Folks could put together a fabric square decorated to represent their family in any way they wished. They sent their completed square to Cindy Guidry Herdt who then quilted all the squares together and produced our Guédry-Labine Family Quilt. As an added option, each person could send a short article to Cindy about their square explaining what each symbol in their square meant. The 2004 Guédry-Labine Quilt and the booklet of articles have been displayed at every Congrès Mondial Acadien and Grand Réveil Acadien Family Reunion since 2004. Attendees always enjoy seeing the Guédry-Labine Quilt and the articles. Those that submitted squares excitedly tell others about THEIR square. The Guédry-Labine Quilt truly has become a family heirloom!

You can see our 2004 Les Guédry-Labine Family Quilt on our family website at <https://quedryfamily.quedry.org/quilt.html>

Often we are asked when are we going to do another family quilt?

Now is the time!! We are going to do a Les Guédry et Petitpas d'Astcur Family Quilt for our reunion at the 2029 Congrès Mondial Acadien in Campbellton, New Brunswick. You say that is a long time away, do you? Yes, it is; however, these projects take a long time to complete. The 2004 Guédry-Labine Quilt took over a year to complete. And our family is not a "last minute family". Now is your chance to get your family square done early before the cutoff date.

So here is how the 2029 Les Guédry et Petitpas Quilt Project will work.

Cindy will prepare blank quilting squares of a set size. You can email me (Martin Guidry) at guidryRmartin@gmail.com or Cindy at cherdt@nwi.net if you would like a square and include your mailing address. Cindy will then mail you a square.

You then add your family symbols and words to tell your family's story. Get some hints from the 2004 Guédry-Labine Quilt or be creative with your family square. The symbols and words can be pieced fabric, fabric painted, appliqué, needlework, photo printed, drawn with permanent ink, raw edge appliqué, sewn or any combination of these. This is a great project

to include the children and grandchildren. They definitely can help with great ideas and even do some of the actual work on the square. Once you have your square completed, send it to Cindy at Cindy Guidry Herdt; P. O. Box 6; Entiat, WA 98822. Don't forget to return the brief description of the meaning of the symbols and how the square describes your family – be it a family of one or family of many. It can be your immediate family or perhaps 2-3 generations. This form will be included with your fabric square along with the instructions.

After Cindy gets the completed squares, she will then combine them into a beautiful cover and quilt them into the Guédry et Petitpas Family Quilt. The Guédry et Petitpas Family Quilt will join the Guédry-Labine Family Quilt as heirlooms of our family and will be displayed at our gatherings for years to come.

Because of the time it takes to assemble the squares, stitch them together and then quilt them, we must set a hard deadline for receiving your completed squares. **The deadline for Cindy to receive the family squares is February 28, 2028.**

So get started early. Order your blank square today and get together with the family to design and complete your family story. Get the square done early and return the completed square to Cindy as soon as your family completes it. And encourage others in our family to do their square also.

Who can participate – any descendant of Claude Guédry & Marguerite Petitpas and/or Claude Petitpas & Catherine Bugaret. Being married to one of these ornery descendants would qualify you also.

There is no cost to you to participate in this project except your costs to assemble your family square and mail it back to Cindy. We just ask that, if you request a square, you complete it and return it. Les Guédry et Petitpas d'Astaur will pay the supplies and overhead costs for the project. As usual, we are all volunteers so there is no payment to individuals.



IT'S REUNION TIME AGAIN
THE BREAUX-GUIDRY-HEBERT REUNION
ADDIS COMMUNITY CENTER
7520 LA HIGHWAY 1 (LA-1)
ADDIS, WEST BATON ROUGE PARISH, LOUISIANA
17 OCTOBER 2026 (10 AM – 4 PM)
AND IT IS FREE!!

*On Saturday, 17 October 2026 the Breaux, Guidry and Hebert families will gather once again to share stories, meet old and new cousins and enjoy a day of camaraderie. We will meet in Addis Community Center (7520 LA Highway 1) in Addis, West Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm. It is all **FREE** and everyone is welcome. So if you have Breaux, Guidry and/or Hebert ancestry or you just like the Breaux, Guidry and/or Hebert families, please come and join us for a fun day with a bunch of Cajuns.*

This reunion will be a very informal affair with breakfast snacks, a light lunch, coffee, cold drinks and water and some sweets after lunch. If you would like, bring a dish of your favorite food that serves 10-12 folks.

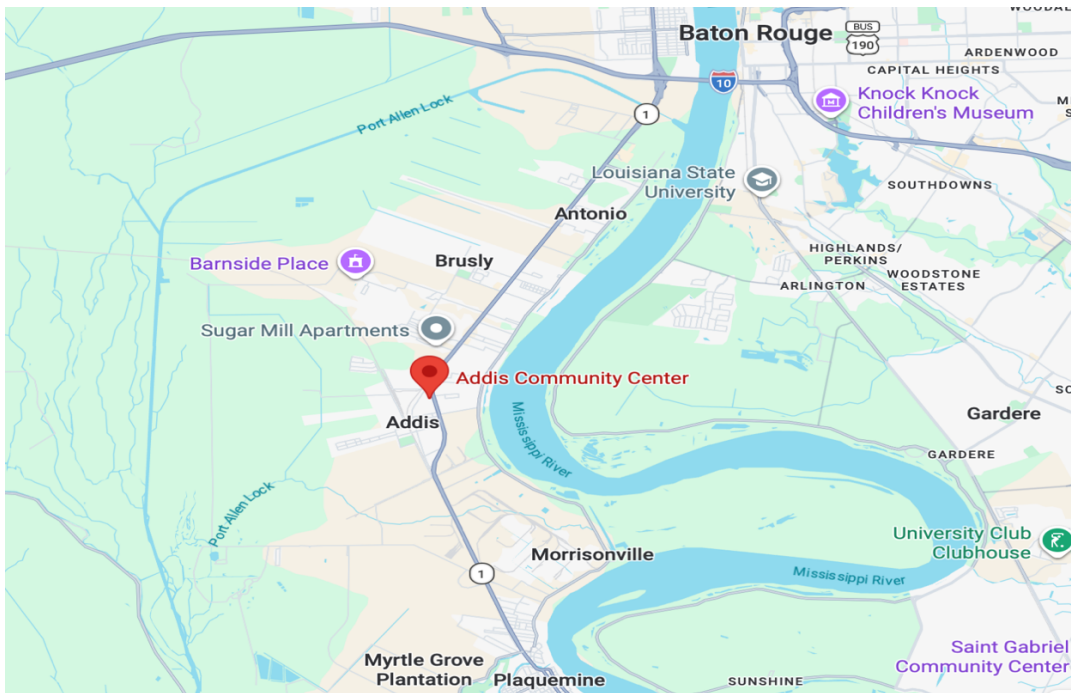
We will have poster displays on the Breaux, Guidry and Hebert families and on the Acadians. Also, we will have a presentation on the Acadians of West Baton Rouge Parish – an area of Acadian history that has been overlooked for many years. And, yes, the Guidry family is well represented in West Baton Rouge Parish. The highlight of the day will be sharing your family history and genealogy including photos with other attendees. So pull out those records and photos and bring them to the Reunion. There will be lots of room to sit around at the tables and share information with others.

There are several motels in the Addis, Brusly and Port Allen area; however, they likely will fill up fairly quickly as there is an LSU home game that day. We will be on the west side of the Mississippi River and thus not impacted by the LSU game (game time has not been set yet).

So that we can plan to have enough food for breakfast and lunch – if you think you may be coming, please email Marty Guidry at (guidryRmartin@gmail.com) with the number of folks in your group. This is not a commitment, but will help us in planning.



Addis Community Center



Addis Community Center Location

A FEW SPECIAL DAYS TO REMEMBER

In the next couple of months there are a few special Days of Remembrance for Acadians. Take a few moments on each of these days and think of your Acadian ancestors, their accomplishments and heartbreaks, their triumphs and struggles and how their perseverance through it all resulted in you being where you are.

JUNE 24th - Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day [La Fête Nationale du Québec] – Became a French-Canadian cultural holiday in 1834 and a public holiday in Québec in 1925. At the first National Convention of the Acadians in Memramcook, New Brunswick in 1881, the attendees chose not to use June 24th as National Acadian Day to separate themselves from the French-Canadians of Québec since they developed separately. Initially, a strictly religious event, Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day is now a nationalistic one in Québec. Many Acadians live in Québec today and thus celebrate Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day. It is also celebrated by some French enclaves outside of Québec as in Minnesota. [Québec primarily]

JUNE 28th - Maine Acadian Day – Established in 1978, Maine Acadian Day commemorates the arrival of the Acadian families in the Madawaska region on 28 June 1785.

JULY 28th - Acadian Day of Remembrance – Established in 2003 through a Royal Proclamation by Queen Elizabeth II to denote the day in 1755 when Nova Scotia Governor Charles Lawrence signed the deportation order that led to the Le Grand Dérangement. It honors the resilience of the Acadian people and commemorates those that died during the expulsion and the great suffering of Acadians who were exiled. The Royal Proclamation was the result of a 1990 petition to the Queen of England by Lafayette, LA attorney Warren Perrin seeking an apology for the Acadian Deportation and acknowledging the wrongs committed against the Acadian people in the name of the British crown. [Worldwide]

AUGUST 15th - National Acadian Day – Selected at the first National Convention of the Acadians in Memramcook, New Brunswick in 1881 to foster unity and pride among the Acadians. August 15th was selected since this is the Feast of the Assumption of Mary, who was chosen at this Convention as the patron saint of the Acadians. [Worldwide]



*Queen's Proclamation Establishing July 28th
As Acadian Day of Remembrance*

LES GUÉDRY ET PETITPAS D'ASTEUR

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Nathalie Geddry (NS)
Marie-Claude Geddry (NS)
R. Martin Guidry (LA)

Louisiane-Acadie Contact *R. Martin Guidry (LA)*

For inquiries contact R. Martin Guidry at guidryRmartin@gmail.com and he will direct your inquiry to the appropriate Board Member.

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'Astéur**. Our dues are very reasonable at \$6.00 for individuals and \$10.00 for a family in 2026. You can also pay at: <https://guedryfamily.guedry.org/membership.html>*

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.

"ACADIANS WERE HERE"

Marie Rundquist, Greg Wood and Martin Guidry developed an internet travelogue on Acadian tourism in Maryland called "Acadians Were Here".

To view the site visit:

<http://acadianswerehere.org>

Guédry & Petitpas Family Page

<https://guedryfamily.guedry.org>

Guédry Genealogical Database

<https://guedry.guedry.org>

Guédry & Petitpas Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/LesGuedryEtPetitpasDAstéur/>

Les Guédry et Petitpas 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 (Familiale) \$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: Make check payable to: *Les Guédry et Petitpas d'Asteur, Inc.*
(Retournez le formulaire et le paiement à: Libellez le chèque à: *Les Guédry et Petitpas d'Asteur, Inc.*)

Charlene Guidry Lacombe – Membership Chair

Les Guédry et Petitpas d'Asteur, Inc.

226 Bulldog Lane

Iota, LA 70543