

# *Les Guidry d'Astcur* **GENERATIONS**

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*Quarterly Newsletter*

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## **In This Issue**

As the time for our Reunions in Meteghan and Lunenburg draws near, plans are being finalized and the excitement grows. We're expecting 150-160 of our Guedry, Labine and Petitpas cousins to journey to Meteghan and Lunenburg to renew old acquaintances, meet new cousins, enjoy the entertainment and talks, and learn more about our family. For the details of our Reunions visit our Guedry-Labine Family website at this link:

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

Ever wondered about how the Guedry family established a toehold in North America? What were the lives of our early ancestors like? Marty Guidry's article [Claude Guedry dit Laverdure & the Origins of the Guedry Family in North America](#) provides insight into the lives of Claude Guedry and Marguerite Petitpas and their growing family. There were a few harrowing moments as they struggled to establish themselves in this new and challenging land that we call Acadie.

Music runs in the veins of the Guedry family. In this quarter's [Family Musicians](#) feature you'll learn about Oran "Doc" Guidry, an innovative Cajun fiddler of the 1900's, and Greg Guidry, a West Coast pop style singer who recently suffered a tragic death in Nashville, TN. Highlighting the diversity of musical talent in our family, both Doc and Greg are widely recognized as having been among the best musicians in their respective fields. Continuing our [Family Athletes](#) section, you sports fans will enjoy the brief biography of Mickey Guidry – a former quarterback of the LSU Tigers in the 1980's.

And for those traveling to Nova Scotia for the Reunions or those with an interest in our ancestral home, the [Book Nook](#) has many titles detailing the life, history, and culture of the Acadians in Nova Scotia. As we visit Acadie in August, we'll keep an eye out for new material that we'll present in a future edition of "Generations". Please let us know of any books or articles that you believe our members would enjoy reading, and we'll feature them in the [Book Nook](#).

Now – grab a snack, settle into that old easy chair and see what's happening in the Guedry family.

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Welcome to the second year of Les Guidry d'Astcur's "GENERATIONS" Newsletter. Please let us know what you would like to see included here. We want to create an informative, interesting, and entertaining newsletter for our members. To submit articles or ideas for future issues, contact Allie Guidry at [txguidry2000@yahoo.com](mailto:txguidry2000@yahoo.com), or Marty Guidry at [guidryrm@cox.net](mailto:guidryrm@cox.net), 6139 North Shore Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70817. Our Fall issue will go out in October, 2004. Please submit your stories by Oct. 15th in order for them to be included in that issue.

## **CLAUDE GUEDRY dit LAVERDURE & THE ORIGINS OF THE GUEDRY FAMILY IN NORTH AMERICA**

Claude Guédry dit LaVerdure (also called Claude Guédry dit Grivois) first appears in the records on 2 June 1681 when his daughter, Jeanne Guédry, was baptized by the Recollect Father Claude Moireau on the St. John River at Menagoneck. Jeanne's mother was Kesk8a, a Micmac Indian and Jeanne's godparents were Claude Petitpas and Jeanne de La Tour, wife of Martin d'Aprendestiguy, Sieur de Jemseg.<sup>1,2,3</sup>

Today St. John, New Brunswick is located on the former site of Menagoneck. Earlier known as Parr Town.<sup>4</sup> Menagoneck was located opposite the seignory of Martin d'Aprendestiguy, husband of Jeanne La Tour.

The Claude Petitpas mentioned in the record is certainly Claude Petitpas (born 1663), son of Claude Petitpas and Catherine Bugaret. The elder Claude Petitpas (born 1624) would have been 57 years old in 1681, an old man for this time in history. He would die in a few years (about 1690) and probably would not have been able to travel across the Bay of Fundy for this baptism.

On 9 January 1723 we get a last glimpse of Claude Guédry when he conditionally baptized his twin granddaughters Hélène Guédry and Marie-Josephe Guédry at Boston, Massachusetts.<sup>5,6,7</sup> Hélène and Marie-Josephe were the daughters of Augustin Guédry and Jeanne Hébert. In September or October 1722 the English captured at Merliguèche (today Lunenburg, Nova Scotia) Augustin Guédry and three of his brothers, along with their families, and brought them first to New Hampshire, then to Boston, Massachusetts where they were imprisoned during the Three Years War.<sup>8</sup> The Guédry families returned to Acadia by mid-1723 as Father Félix Pain baptized the twin girls with

church ceremonies and recorded the baptisms at St. Charles-aux-Mines Catholic Church in Grand-Pré, Acadia. Godparents of Hélène Guédry were Charles Hébert and Anne Hébert. Godparents of Marie-Josephe Guédry were Jean Mouton and Jeanne Douaron.<sup>5,6</sup>

From the early Acadian censuses of 1686,<sup>9,10,11,12</sup> 1698<sup>13,14,15</sup> and 1708<sup>16,17</sup> we discern that Claude Guédry was born about the year 1648. Although the Census of 1686 provides a birth year of approximately 1653, the Censuses of 1698 and of 1708 both indicate his birth year as 1648.

When did Claude Guédry dit LaVerdure arrive in Acadia? Several theories have been proposed, but there is no strong evidence to support any of them.

Rameau de Saint-Père<sup>18,19</sup> believed that Claude Guédry was born in Acadia in the region of La Hève. He also believed that Claude Guédry dit LaVerdure was not a man of communities and always lived among the Micmac Indians and Métis (half-breeds). He felt that Claude was born at La Hève and lived there most of his life.

According to Rameau de Saint-Père, the father of Claude Guédry was a rugged character of the East Coast who had come to Acadia with one of the early expeditions - perhaps D'Aulnay or Razilly or the companions of La Tour and Krainguille. He may have married an Indian as did La Tour and several other early settlers. In another book Rameau de Saint-Père<sup>20,21,22</sup> theorizes that Claude Guédry was born in Acadia, probably in Merliguèche in the region of Cap-de-Sable and was the grandson of a Frenchman who came to Port-Royal in 1610

with the Baron de Poutrincourt. This Guédry lived at Port-Royal with Charles de Biencourt, son of Poutrincourt, and Charles de Saint-Etienne de La Tour, his cousin, after Poutrincourt left in 1614. About 1624, after the death of Charles Biencourt, La Tour, who had succeeded him, moved the colony to Cap-de-Sable.

Because the Acadian men did not have any French girls to marry, they married Indians. These marriages were rehabilitated and blessed in 1626 by a missionary traveling to the Grands Bancs de Pêche. These new families settled near Cap-de-Sable where they formed the village of Mirliguèche.

Clarence Breaux<sup>23,24</sup> considered the possibility that the father of Claude Guédry was a rugged individual of the East Coast near La Hève who refused to follow Charles de Menou de Charnisay, Seigneur d'Aulnay when he moved the settlement to Port Royal. Mr. Breaux also considered that the father of Claude Guédry may have come to Acadia with Isaac de Razilly or even with Charles de La Tour. As did La Tour and several others, Claude Guédry's father may have married an Indian.

Daniel Guidry<sup>25</sup> postulates that Claude Guédry may have been born in Acadia about 1648 and raised among the Micmacs. Having been with Indians all his youth, he quite possibly may have met Kesk8a and 'married' her when he was still a youth of 18 to 20 years old (i.e., in 1666-1668).

Their daughter Jeanne Guédry may have been born shortly after the 'marriage' (ca. 1669) and, therefore, would have been approximately 12 years old at the time of her baptism on 2 June 1681 on the St. John River at Menagoneck. Kesk8a may have died about 1680 and Claude would have struggled to raise a young daughter by himself.

Perhaps Claude had Jeanne baptized to legitimize his 'marriage' to Kesk8a so that he could marry Marguerite Petitpas, who had just lost her husband Martin Dugas, and thus could help Claude in raising his daughter. Was this baptism a condition of their marriage? This marriage could certainly have been one of convenience for both Claude and Marguerite since Marguerite had a young son Abraham (born in 1678) and an infant daughter Marie (born in 1680). It would have been much easier for Claude and Marguerite to raise their children if they were married than it would have been as single parents.

By the Census of 1698, when we get our first glimpse of Claude's family, neither Jeanne nor Marie is living in the family home. Marie Dugas married Joseph Guyon in 1697. Jeanne Guédry may have also wed and left the family home by 1698 or perhaps she has died. In 1698 Abraham Dugas is a man of 20 years and still living with his mother and step-father. Some interesting questions arise. For example, why was Jeanne Guédry baptized on the St. John River at Menagoneck - across the Bay of Fundy from Port Royal? Also, Jeanne de La Tour, wife of Martin d'Aprendestiguy, and Claude Petitpas were fairly important people in the small Acadian community. Why would they have been the godparents for a Métis girl (Jeanne) when she was baptized on the other side of the Bay of Fundy?

Bona Arsenault<sup>26,27,28</sup> indicates that Claude Guédry arrived in Acadia about 1671. In May 1671 the ship L'Oranger, departing from La Rochelle, France, brought approximately fifty new colonists to Acadia. Could Claude Guédry have been one of the colonists on this ship? The roles have been lost so there is no way to know with certainty. Although the Census of 1671 of

Port Royal was completed in November 1671, it is likely that the new colonists from the L'Oranger may not have been censused if the new colonists did not settle in the region being censused.

After the baptism of Jeanne Guédry on the St. John River at Menagoneck in June 1681, we next encounter Claude Guédry at Merliguèche during the Census of 1686<sup>9,10,11,12</sup>. Here he is listed as “La Verdure 35, sa femme 25 et un enfant” (La Verdure 35, his wife 25 and a child). It is unclear who this child is or why only one child is listed. There were at least four (possibly six) children living with the family in 1686: Jeanne Guédry, daughter of Claude and Kesk8a (if Jeanne had not died by this time); Abraham Dugas (born 1678), son of Martin Dugas and Marguerite Petitpas; Marie Dugas (born 1680), daughter of Martin Dugas and Marguerite Petitpas; Claude Guédry (born 1682), son of Claude Guédry and Marguerite Petitpas; Jean-Baptiste Guédry (born 1684), son of Claude Guédry and Marguerite Petitpas and possibly Charles Guédry (born 1686), son of Claude Guédry and Marguerite Petitpas.

For almost fifteen years Claude disappears from the record. During this time he almost certainly was living among the Micmac Indians and the Métis in the Merliguèche area - a place with few Acadians and thus minimal opportunity to appear in any records. His life was probably one of fishing, hunting and trapping supplemented by farming. Certainly he traded furs at Merliguèche and was well located on the coast for trading with its ideal small harbor.

Since one of his sons Paul was an expert coasting pilot<sup>18</sup>, it is likely that Claude also piloted a boat on occasion.

On 16 August 1695 Claude Guédry in his own hand signed an Oath of Allegiance to the King of England.<sup>29,30,31,32</sup> The Oath read “We do Swear and Sincerely Promise That we will be Faithful and bear True Allegiance to his Majesty King William, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland. So help us God.” Captain Fleetwood Emes, Commander of the Sorlings Frigate administered the Oath at Port-Royal. In taking the Oath, Claude signed his name as “Claude Gaidry”. It is uncertain if Claude was actually at Port Royal to sign the document or if Captain Emes sailed to the Eastern shore of Acadia to secure allegiance to the King from the distant Acadians.

Apparently Claude did relocate to the Port Royal area in the 1690's as in 1698<sup>13,14,15</sup> he and his family are censused at Port Royal: “Claude Guaidry 50, Margtte Petitpas 40, Enfants: Abraham 20, Claude 16, Jean Baptiste 14, Charles 12, Alexis 10, Augustin 8, Marie Josephe 6, Claude 4, Joseph 3, Pierre 1/2. Bestes a Corne 10, Brebis 2, Cochons 8, Arpens de terre 8, Arbres fruites 0, Fusils 1, Domestiques 0” (Claude Guaidry 50, Margtte Petitpas 40, Children: Abraham 20, Claude 16, Jean Baptiste 14, Charles 12, Alexis 10, Augustin 8, Marie Josephe 6, Claude 4, Joseph 3, Pierre 1/2. Cattle 10, Sheep 2, Pigs 8, Arpens of land 8, Fruit trees 0, Guns 1, Domestic servants 0.)

Obviously Claude has been in the Port Royal area for more than a fleeting moment since he has a significant amount of cultivated land and a number of farm animals. Abraham listed in the Census of 1698 was actually Abraham Dugas, son of Martin Dugas and Marguerite Petitpas. Abraham was about 2 years old at the time of his father's death. His sister Marie Dugas, born in 1680, married Joseph Guyon in 1697 and thus has left her parental home by the time of the Census of 1698. Jeanne

Guédry, the daughter of Claude Guédry and Kesksa, is also not found with her father and step-mother in 1698. Perhaps she also has married although no record of it has been found or she may have died by this time.

Based on the birth of their eldest child Claude (born in 1682) and the death of Martin Dugas in about 1680, Claude Guédry and Marguerite Petitpas probably married in 1681. Why they would have relocated from Merliguèche to Port Royal is uncertain, but we do know that it was not permanent. They evidently moved back to Merliguèche shortly after 1698 as Claude and his family do not appear in the Censuses of Port Royal in 1699, 1700, 1701, 1703 and 1707.

By early 1701 Claude Guédry definitely has moved his family back to Merliguèche. In January 1701 we find that Claude and Marguerite's youngest son Paul was conditionally baptized by Joseph Guyon (Dyon), husband of Marie Dugas, step-sister of Paul.<sup>33,34,35</sup> Also, on 14 January 1703, Françoise Guédry, youngest daughter of Claude and Marguerite, was conditionally baptized by her brother Baptiste Guédry on the day of her birth.<sup>36,37</sup> Conditional baptisms were normally performed when the child was born in an area where there were no priests to conduct the baptismal ceremony.

On 8 September 1705 Father Félix Pain, during a missionary journey to the East Coast including Merliguèche, baptized Paul Guédry and Françoise Guédry with full church ceremonies.<sup>33,34,35,36,37,38</sup> The baptisms were registered at St.-Jean-Baptiste de Port-Royal Catholic Church on 27 October 1705 on the return of Father Pain from his missionary journey. In the baptismal record of both Paul and Françoise, their parents are listed as - Claude Guedry and Marguerite Petitpas inhabitants of Merliguèche. The godparents of Paul Guédry were Baptiste Guédry and

Marie Tibodeau. The godparents of Françoise Guédry were Pierre Bourg and Jeanne Lejeune.

In 1708<sup>16,17</sup> we relocate Claude Guédry and his family living at La Hève. The Census of the Indians and Acadians along the East Coast in 1708 contains for La Hève "7e familles Claude Guedry 60 ans, Marguerite Petitpas 46, Charles son fils 21, Augustin 16, Claude 16, Joseph 10, Pierre 8, Paul 6, Marie sa fille 14, Françoise 4; 8e familles Jean baptiste Guedry 24 ans, Madelaine Miesse 14" (7th family Claude Guedry 60 years, Marguerite Petitpas 46, Charles his son 21, Augustin 16, Claude 16, Joseph 10, Pierre 8, Paul 6, Marie his daughter 14, françoise 4; 8th family Jean baptiste Guedry 24 years, Madelaine miesse 14).

Several additional children have left the parental home including Abraham Dugas who married Marie-Madeleine Landry about 1702. Claude (born 1682) and Alexis are not with their family in 1708, but it is uncertain if they have moved from their parent's home or if they have died. They do not appear in the records after the Census of 1698. Jean Baptiste Guedry has recently married Madeleine Mius and is living near his parents at La Hève in 1708.

In 1714<sup>39</sup> the brothers Denis and Bernard Godet left Port-Royal the 22nd of May to return by boat to Cap-Breton. On the third day of their trip they arrived at the Merliguèche harbor. They noted that there was only one family at Merliguèche which certainly was the family of Claude Guédry dit LaVerdure and that he traded everyday with Bostonians and other persons.

Claude's brother-in-law Claude Petitpas resided a short distance away at Isles Anglaises (English Islands - today Gerard Island and Phoenix Island). The Godet

brothers indicated that Claude Petitpas was a fisherman.

In 1716 we still find Claude Guédry and his family living among the Indians and Métis at Merliguèche. On 30 November 1716 Joseph Guédry, son of Jean Baptiste Guédry and Madeleine Mius, was born and was conditionally baptized shortly afterwards by his grandfather Claude Guédry.<sup>40,41</sup> Later on 12 July 1717 Joseph was baptized with full church ceremonies and the baptism was registered at St. Charles-aux-Mines Catholic Church in Grand-Pré, Acadia.<sup>40,41</sup>

Godparents of Joseph Guédry were Jean Babin and Marguerite Landry, wife of Pierre Richar.

In the summer of 1722 war broke out between the Indians of the East Coast of Acadia and the English in New England. Earlier in the year the English had seized Joseph d'Abbadie de Saint-Castin, the highest chief of the Indians, whom they had ambushed under the pretext of expressing their friendship to him. Also, the Bostonians had recently raided the village of Nanrantsouak where they seized the chest of Père Sébastien Rasle containing all of his papers and then burnt the church, the rectory and 33 wigwams.

This war, the fourth between the Indians and the English of New England since 1675, was declared by declaration of Governor Shute on 25 July 1722. It was known variously as The Three Years War, Rale's War, Lovewell's War and Governor Dummer's Indian War.<sup>42</sup>

At Canseau during the height of the fishing season, Philipps received the news of war from Governor Shute. He immediately organized a defense of the harbor since the Indians had already seized 16 or 17 boats and fled to the harbors of the East Coast. Philipps sent some of his officers to the

harbors of the East Coast where they blamed not only the Indians, but also the Acadians living among the Indians.

At Merliguèche four sons of Claude Guédry and Marguerite Petitpas were captured and brought with their families to New Hampshire. Shortly after arriving in New Hampshire, Jacob Parker sent them to Boston. As we'll see later Claude Guédry, the father, must have accompanied his sons to Boston. These sons were Claude, Phillipe, Augustin and Paul.

It is uncertain who this Philippe Guédry was as we know of no son of Claude Guédry with this name. Perhaps he was one of Claude Guédry's other sons and was mistakenly listed as Philippe. Boston did not want to admit the Acadians because of a law that forbade foreigners settling in the town.

Shortly after arriving in Boston, the Acadians received an order on 16 October 1722 from the counselors of Boston to go elsewhere. Apparently this order was never executed by the officer charged with maintenance of the peace - perhaps because he considered these Acadians as prisoners and not as immigrants to Boston.

On 9 January 1723 twin daughters Hélène Guédry and Marie-Josephe Guédry were born at Boston. They were the daughters of Augustin Guédry and Jeanne Hébert. On the day of their birth at Boston they were conditionally baptized by their grandfather Claude Guédry.<sup>42, 43,44,45</sup>

The Acadians must have been released and allowed to return home later in 1723 as we find that Hélène and Marie-Josephe Guédry were baptized with full church ceremonies on 26 September 1723 and their baptisms recorded at St. Charles-aux-Mines Catholic

Church in Grand-Pré, Acadia.<sup>43,44</sup>  
Godparents of Hélène were Charles Hébert and Anne Hébert while the godparents of Marie-Josephe were Jean Mouton and Jeanne Douaron.

The Acadians sent to Boston included Claude Guédry, the father of the family; Claude Guédry and his wife; Philippe Guédry, his wife and family (indicating he had one or more children); Augustin Guédry and his wife and Paul Guédry and his wife. While at Boston, Paul Guédry and his wife Anne-Marie Mius dit d'Azy had a daughter Judith Guédry born in 1722.<sup>42</sup>

This conditional baptism of his two twin granddaughters is the last record that we find of Claude Guédry. In September 1726 his son Jean-Baptiste Guédry and his grandson of the same name were captured in the bay at Merliguèche and charged with piracy.<sup>46,47,48,49,50,51,52,53,54</sup> They were brought to Boston, tried as pirates and hung on 13 November 1726.

In the records of this event there is reference to Mrs. Guédry (Marguerite Petitpas, mother of Jean-Baptiste Guédry and grandmother of his son Jean-Baptiste) being asked to intercede in the act of piracy and convince her son to surrender the boat. She did try to

intercede, but was not successful. There is no mention of Claude Guédry in the documents. Either he was not in the area of Merliguèche at the time of this incident or he had died since 1723. In 1726, if he were living, Claude would have been about 78 years old, quite old for this time in history.

In 1725 Joseph Guédry, son of Claude Guédry and Marguerite Petitpas, became the godfather of Paul Dugast, son of François Dugast and Claire Bourk.<sup>55,56</sup> Paul Dugast was born on 16 March 1725 and was baptized on 19 March 1725. The godmother was Cecile La Vergne, daughter of Pierre La Vergne. In the baptismal record, Joseph Guédry is listed as “Joseph Guédry, son of Claude Guédry inhabitant of Merliguiche”.

Since there is no mention of Claude being deceased in this record and it does state that he is an inhabitant of Merliguèche, it could indicate that he may have still been living at Merliguèche in March 1725.

Often the baptismal and marriage records failed to state that the parents and grandparents were deceased at the time of the event; therefore, there is uncertainty in whether Claude Guédry was still alive in March 1725.

References are continued on page 16.

## FAMILY ATHLETES

**MICKEY GUIDRY**    [1967 -    ]

**Football**



Born in Gretna, LA in 1967, Mickey Guidry quarterbacked his Archbishop Shaw High School (Marrero, LA) football team. After a very successful high school athletic career, Mickey chose to attend Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, LA on a football scholarship.

At LSU from 1984 - 1988 he backed up Tommy Hodson at quarterback - providing the Tigers with a dynamic 1-2 punch behind the center during five outstanding LSU seasons. A four-year letter winner at LSU, Mickey played in two Sugar Bowls (1984, 1986), the Liberty Bowl (1985) and the Gator Bowl (1987). A shoulder injury in his final collegiate game - the 1989 Hall of Fame Bowl - delayed his opportunity to play professional football.

During his senior year at LSU, Mickey received the Butch Duhe Award for team leadership - quite an honor for a backup quarterback and a testament to Mickey's positive attitude and strong leadership both on the field and at the sidelines.

In 1991 Mickey Guidry finally got the opportunity to play professional football with the New Orleans Night of the Arena Football League. Mickey quarterbacked the Night during the 1991 and 1992 seasons. In 1993 he moved to the Orlando Predators for a brief time and then to Dallas where he ended his professional career at the end of the 1993 season.

After his professional career, Mickey successfully transitioned from well-known quarterback to a businessman. Today he resides in Baton Rouge, LA where he is the Registered Principal in a growing financial services company.

Tell us about your family athlete. Any sport, any level.  
We'd be glad to share your story here.





## FAMILY TALENT

### ORAN (DOC) GUIDRY [28 Apr 1918 - 10 Nov 1992] *Cajun Fiddler*

One of the greatest Acadian fiddlers, Oran “Doc” Guidry was born in Lafayette, LA on 28 April 1918. Originally recording with Happy Fats and the Rayne-Bo Ramblers for the Bluebird Label in 1936, he broke away to form the Sons of the Acadians band with his brother Nason and cousin Ray Guidry. In 1938 this family string band recorded for Decca Records under Dave Kap at the Ritz Hotel in Houston, TX.

Gradually Doc Guidry built up a strong local reputation because of his superb ability on the fiddle and mandolin. He set the standard for many musicians who came later. During Jimmie Davis’ successful campaigns for governor in 1944 and 1960, Doc Guidry was the featured instrumentalist that added the winning touch in Cajun country.



In 1946 Doc Guidry, along with Happy Fats and the Boys, cut the first record for Jay Miller’s Fais Do Do Label. Recorded at Cosimo Matassa’s New Orleans studio, this album included such vintage songs as *Colinda* and *Chere Cherie* - a Doc Guidry trademark. Doc and Jay rewrote the original Haitian *Danse Colinda* song into a typical Cajun beat and then recorded it. Although the original recording never sold well, Louisiana governor Jimmie Davis later recorded the song and it took off - becoming a favorite Cajun hit even today.

Using this recording session as a springboard, Jay Miller later opened his own recording studio in Crowley, LA that led to the explosion of Cajun music on the national scene. Doc Guidry and Happy Fats recorded many Cajun hits over the years on Jay Miller’s Fais Do Do Label including *New Jolie Blond*, *Crowley Two-Step*, *La Valse de Hadacol* and *Fais Do Do Breakdown*. Happy, Doc and the Boys remained Jay’s star act for many years.

After World War II, with jobs hard to find, Happy Fats teamed up with Doc Guidry for broadcasting and recording. Doc’s superb fiddling added to the success of this venture. During the 1950’s hardly a radio was not tuned to the Happy Fats and Doc Guidry show - at one time being heard on seven radio stations. They even played the “Cradle of the Stars” - the Louisiana Hayride - a few times. Known among the country music industry as the stepping-stone to the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, TN, the Shreveport-based Louisiana Hayride was a widely popular radio show nationwide. Stars such as Hank Williams and Elvis Presley first appeared on the Louisiana Hayride stage.

In the 1960’s Doc began playing and recording with Vin Bruce on Floyd Soileau’s Swallow Label. Their first album together in 1961, Vin Bruce Sings Jolie Blon and Cajun Classics, was widely successful and made *Jolie Blon* a hit all over again. The key ingredient to the album’s success was Doc Guidry’s phenomenal fiddling. Doc relocated to Houma, LA during this period where he worked as a Terrebonne Parish Deputy Sheriff.

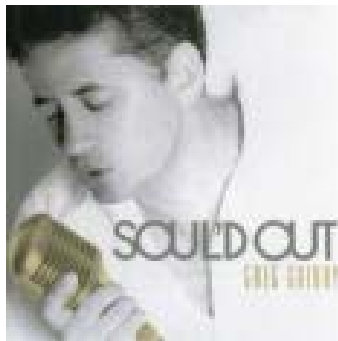
Along with Cajun greats Dewey Balfa and Rufus Thibodeaux, Doc Guidry made the cajun fiddle popular to the younger generation of the 1970's and beyond. Doc ended his recording career on Carol Rachou's La Louisiane Label out of Lafayette, LA. Oran "Doc" Guidry left the Cajun music scene and this life on 10 November 1992 and is buried in St. John the Evangelist Catholic Cemetery in Lafayette, LA. In 1997 Doc was selected as a charter inductee into the Cajun French Music Association Hall of Fame in Eunice, LA.

### **GREGORY M. (GREG) GUIDRY [1954 - 31 Jul 2003] *Singer & Songwriter***

Born in St. Louis, MO in 1954, Greg Guidry was a singer, songwriter and pianist who had two hit singles in 1982. One, *Goin' Down* reached #17 on the U.S. Pop Charts and the second, *Into My Love*, a duet with his sister Sandy Guidry, made the Charts. As a child, Greg began singing gospel songs with his sisters and family. After taking piano lessons in his teens, Greg began playing in local bands during high school and college. In 1977 he signed a contract with CBS Songs Publishing and started writing songs. At the same time he continued playing in several bands. His songs have been used on albums by many artists as Climax Blues Band, Ronnie Dupree, Exile and Johnny Taylor.

In 1982 Greg Guidry signed with Columbia Records and released his first solo album Over the Line under the Badland (Columbia) label. This album is considered one of the finest LP's of the 1980's. The ten songs on the album include: *Goin' Down*, *(That's) How Long*, *Show Me Your Love*, *If Love Doesn't Find Us*, *Gotta Have More Love*, *Over the Line*, *(I'm) Givin' It Up*, *Are You Ready for Love*, *Into My Love* and *Darlin' It's You*. Background vocalists on the album included Greg's sisters Sandy Guidry and Cathie Guidry and Randy K. Guidry. Greg Guidry was vocalist and a pianist on the album.

During the 1980's Greg concentrated on his songwriting and teamed with other songwriters as Bill LaBounty. He also started his own publishing company called "Send Us Music, Inc.". Greg has worked with many well-known artists spanning the music scene including the Allman Brothers Band, Johnny Cobb, Charlie Daniels, David Goldflies, Joe Pizzula, John Ryan, Dan Toler and Chip Young. He has been a background vocalist on many hit albums with the Allman Brothers Band, JAG and David Martin.



In 2000 through his GMG Productions label, Greg Guidry issued two successful new albums - "Soul'D Out" and "Greg Guidry:Private Session".

On 31 July 2003 the music world lost a great talent when the body of Gregory M. Guidry was found inside his charred automobile in Fairview, Tennessee.

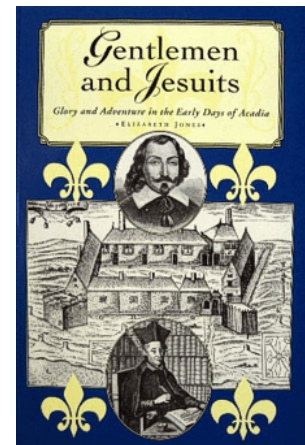


# Book Nook

## **Gentlemen and Jesuits** **Glory and Adventure in the Early Days of Acadia** *by Elizabeth Jones*

In 1604 Henri IV of France granted a fur trade monopoly to a company of merchants who wished to start a settlement in Acadia. The expedition, led by Pierre du Gua, sieur de Monts, landed first in the vicinity of LaHave in Nova Scotia and then spent a disastrous, scurvy-ridden winter on the island of Ste Croix.

From the following year, the French colonizers concentrated their efforts on Port Royal, now Annapolis Basin, where Samuel de Champlain built his Habitation and founded the Order of Good Cheer. Port Royal became North America's first enduring settlement north of Florida.



Soundly researched and vividly told, this book is a story of bravery and intrigue, of religious passion and commercial fervor, of dreams and folly and endurance.

## **Genealogical Research in Nova Scotia** *by Terrence M. Punch*

"From Lunenburg's beginnings as a British settlement for "Foreign Protestants" to its days as an international fish exporter, and as a home to traditionally crafted schooners, including Canada's most famous ship, the Bluenose, this book brings to life the spirited past of one of Nova Scotia's most picturesque communities and now a designated World Heritage Site."

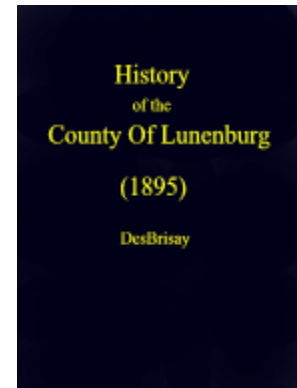
Also see: *Genealogist's Handbook for Atlantic Canada Research*, edited by Terrence M. Punch with the help of George F. Sanborn, 1997

Many libraries and bookstores in Nova Scotia carry these publications, which tell you everything you need to know about doing family research in this province

## **History of the County of Lunenburg (1895)** ***By M. B. DesBrisay.***

This book contains a general history of Lunenburg County along with biographical and genealogical information of many of the individuals and families who settled and lived in this important Nova Scotia county.

This book, originally published in 1895, is an expanded second edition of the original essay. It includes information from the original essay plus much additional information that the author collected in the twenty seven years between the first and second editions.



## **Tracking Doctor Lonecloud Showman to Legend Keeper** ***by Ruth Holmes Whitehead***

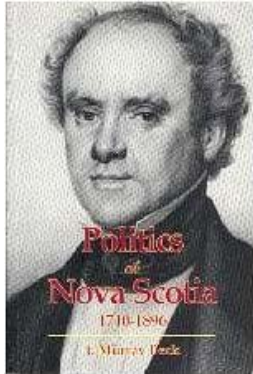


Germain Laksi, trained in herbal medicine by his Mi'kmaw family, found adventure in the American medicine shows of the 1880s. He performed as Doctor Lonecloud in Healy and Bigelow's Kickapoo Indian Medicine Company, Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, and his own Kiowa Medicine Show, for which he made the medicines. After he returned to Nova Scotia, Dr. Lonecloud worked as a guide and sold his herbal remedies.

During his twenty-year friendship with Harry Piers, curator of the Nova Scotia Provincial Museum, he collected artifacts and specimens for the museum and shared his knowledge of Mi'kmaw culture. Between 1923 and 1929, he gave interviews to journalist Clara Dennis. In the 1990s, these interviews, recorded in Dennis's notebooks, came to the attention of Ruth Holmes Whitehead.

This book includes Lonecloud's life story in his own words - the earliest known Mi'kmaw autobiography. This memoir, painstakingly transcribed by Whitehead and augmented by her research, reveals both the showman and the carrier of Mi'kmaw legends

**Politics of Nova Scotia 1710 - 1896**  
**by J. Murray Beck**



*“The book has all the hallmarks of vintage Beck: the revealing detail gleaned from a lifetime of research in the archives of his native province; the broad comprehension of social cleavages that shape the province's political institutions; the loving attention devoted to actors on the political stage, especially Joseph Howe and William Fielding; and the emphasis on the conservative nature of political culture in Nova Scotia.”*

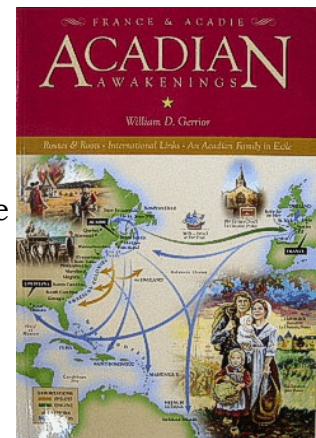
Margaret Conrad — Canadian Book Review Annual

This is the first of a two-volume set named Politics of Nova Scotia. It provides a definitive overview of Nova Scotia's rich political history. The book is straightforward, extraordinarily comprehensive, and yet easy and enjoyable to read.

**Acadian Awakenings - France & Acadie**  
**Routes & Roots; International Links; an Acadian Family in Exile**  
**by William D. Gerrior**

This is the first in a series of books which explores the roots and routes, in France, of a number of Acadian families, including the Acadian descendants of Francoise Girouard and Jeanne Aucoin, who arrived from France at Port Royal around 1640. The reader will discover that the Girouard/Giroir(e)/ Gerrior . . . family traces back to the medieval times in France. This book explores the history of the French Canadian branch of the Girouard family, who came directly from France to Quebec.

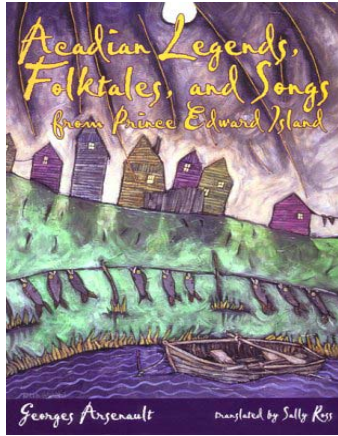
The author has developed a new system to help navigate the way to his objective: to genealogically link all Acadian Girouard, Giroir, Girroir and Gerriors in North America. He has produced a single-page master chart which is keyed to every Acadian Girouard/Giroir(e) descendant today. A second master chart accomplishes the same for the French Canadian branches of the family.





## **Acadian Legends, Folktales, and Songs from Prince Edward Island**

**by Georges Arsenault**



Island historian and folklorist Georges Arsenault has been collecting songs and stories from Acadian Prince Edward Island since his student days in the 1970s: words transmitted by lamplight in the early part of the 20th century, when the local men and women would pass on what they'd learned from elders long gone.

Included in this collection are 8 folktales, 13 legends and 23 songs with lyrics and musical notation.

Originally published as *Contes, legendes et chansons de l'Ile-du-Prince-Edouard*, this English translation by Sally Ross includes footnotes and a bibliography, as well as photos of his 23 informants.

## **Historic Yarmouth - Town & Country** **by Eric Ruff and Laura Bradley**

In this book the unique historical features of this remarkable Nova Scotia town and surrounds are wonderfully presented in photographs taken between the mid-1800's and the early 1940s by photographers who lived and worked in the town itself.

Included are streetscapes from Yarmouth and its county's villages; scenes of special events; photographs of ships that made Yarmouth famous during the age of sail; changing modes of transportation; the houses and buildings in which local folks lived and worked; and, of course, photographs of the townspeople themselves.

## Congrès Mondial Acadien 2004 Nova Scotia Links

### Travel/Accommodations

Here are some links that will be very helpful in planning your trip to Nova Scotia. More links will be added to each issue of the newsletter.

#### For Lunenburg –

<http://www.town.lunenburg.ns.ca/>

<http://destination-ns.com/>

#### For Clare –

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

#### Travel Info –

<http://www.worldacadiancongress.com>

<http://www.legalinfo.org/tips.html>

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/index.html>

### Map of Nova Scotia –

<http://nsonline.com/main/nsmap.htm>

### Cruise/Ferry/Auto –

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

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

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

### History –

<http://acadie2003-2005.ca/>

[http://www.francophonie.gc.ca/communit/ne\\_e.shtml](http://www.francophonie.gc.ca/communit/ne_e.shtml)

<http://www.littletechshoppe.com/ns1625/histindx.html>

### Accommodations -

<http://www.novascotia.worldweb.com>

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