

GENERATIONS

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Guedry-Labine & Petitpas Reunion

Lunenburg, Nova Scotia August 7, 2004

by Marty Guidry

Under overcast skies, but with bright spirits, approximately 130 Guedry, Labine, and Petitpas descendants gathered at the Fire Hall in Lunenburg for the Guedry-Labine & Petitpas reunion.

As registration drew to a close, the Lunenburg Town Crier, Mr. William Cluett, rang the town bell and read a proclamation welcoming everyone to old Merligueche for this special occasion. Mayor Mahwinney then provided a brief overview of Lunenburg and thanked us all for returning to our ancestral lands.

Although we planned to have our opening ceremony outdoors at the Old French Ceme-

tery, light rains forced all morning activities indoors. Marty Guidry opened the reunion with a formal dedication of the Old French Cemetery. He discussed the unique relationship between the early Acadian settlers of Merligueche - including the Guedry and Petitpas families - and the English sailors visiting Merligueche harbor.

Isolated from the main Acadian populations, the Guedrys and Petitpas aided the sailors with fresh water and supplies - often even warning them of impending attacks by the Indians.

As these Acadians aged



Lunenburg Fire Hall

and died, they were buried in the Old French Cemetery. Later, as Europeans settled on these lands and founded Lunenburg in 1753, they offered relief to a group of displaced Acadians from Louisbourg who were returning briefly to their homeland in 1754. Today, bones of these

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Guedry-Labine & Petitpas Tour

Lunenburg Area August 8, 2004

by Marty Guidry

At noon, on August 8, 2004, fifty Guedry, Labine, and Petitpas cousins gathered above the Old French Cemetery in Lunenburg for a historic Acadian tour of the Lunenburg area. Our guide, the noted Acadian historian David Corkum, explained that the

original Acadian cemetery was likely just uphill from the current cemetery and that almost certainly early Guedry and Petitpas family members were buried at this location. He further explained that a 1753 map of Lunenburg has "Labrador's Farm" marked

on it as a navigational aid to sailors. The location of the farm on the map includes property now occupied by the Fire Hall where our Reunion was held. Mr. Corkum felt that it is highly probable that "Old Labrador" was Paul

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Family Musicians



Nathalie Geddry

Nathalie Geddry - *liberte*

Nathalie Geddry of Portuguese Cove, Nova Scotia has just released her inaugural CD, '*liberte*'. Many of you will remember Nathalie's strong, emotion-filled voice singing at our Meteghan Reunion last August.

The daughter of Albert Geddry and Simone Comeau Geddry, Nathalie began singing professionally in 2004. In July, she captured the hearts of fellow Nova Scotians when she was selected as the best contemporary Acadian singer in Nova Scotia.

Just before our Reunion, she finished second in a very strong competition of musicians throughout the Atlantic Provinces.

You can purchase a copy of Nathalie's CD for \$10 plus taxes and shipping at:

<http://nathaliegeddry.com>



The Enablers *come back soon*

The Enablers are Los Angeles based singer-songwriters Michael Guidry and Barbara Hall. Both Guidry & Hall are southerners, born and bred. They met in college at James Madison University in Virginia and bonded over mu-

tual fanaticism for the Beatles, Bob Dylan, Buddy Holly, Merle Haggard and other rock, bluegrass and country greats.

"The Enablers' songs are evocative ballads on love, regret, sadness, and loss, balanced by a wry sense of humor and understated,

literate writing. There's not a falsely sung vocal, or an ill-wrought lyric." - Peter Himmelman

Michael's CD can be purchased for \$12.97 at:

<http://cdbaby.com>



come back soon

Survival of a Family - the Migration of the Guedry Family during the 18th Century

Claude Guedry arrived in Acadia about 1671 to begin a large family from which we all descend. Our first encounter with Claude is in June, 1681 when his infant daughter Jeanne is baptized at Menagoneck. Jeanne Guedry's mother was a Micmac by the name of Kesk8a. Claude Guedry later married Marguerite Petitpas from whom all known Guedry's today descend.

Claude Guedry's journey to the wilderness of Acadia in the late 1600's exemplified the Acadian tradition of migration. Acadians constantly resettled their families and homes on new lands to seek a better life and to escape the growing population centers of Port-Royal and the emerging communities in the Minas Basin.

With the final recapture of Acadia by the English in 1713 a new type

of migration beset the Acadians. Realizing that they could never swear allegiance to the English monarch nor renounce their Catholic faith, the Acadians slowly began to migrate from the English Acadia to nearby French lands as St. Pierre & Miquelon, New Brunswick, Ile Royale (today Cape Breton Island) and Ile Saint-Jean (today Prince Edward

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Bon Appetit

Recipes from the Guedry-Labine Cookbook

Myra's Scalloped Potatoes

from Marie-Claude Geddry of New Brunswick

Ingredients:

½ - cup butter

½ - cup flour

2 tsp. salt

¼ - tsp. pepper

3 cups milk

1 large onion, chopped

½ - cup shredded cheddar cheese

5 cups sliced potatoes

Melt butter in large saucepan, blend in flour, salt & pepper. Cook, stirring, 1 minute. Gradually stir in milk; cook until thick & bubbly. Fold in onions & cheese. Pour over potatoes in a large (2 litre/8.5 cups) buttered baking pan. Put more grated cheese on top. Cover with foil. Bake at 350 F for 30 min. Uncover & continue baking for 1 hr. or until done.



Myra's Scalloped Potatoes



Brisket

from Maudry Guidry Viator of Abbeville, LA

Ingredients:

1 brisket

1 cup catsup

¼ cup mustard

½ cup liquid smoke (Figaro)

4 dashes Tabasco

4 tbs. brown sugar

4 tbs. Worcestershire

Salt & Pepper

Trim brisket of all fat. Place the brisket in a pot with fitted lid. Mix all ingredients & pour over meat. Bake at 350 F for 3 to 3 ½ hours. Cool & slice against grain.

Poet's Corner

Reunion by Marvin "Mark" Guidry

This summer, we kids gathered the clan together in the deep piney woods of East Texas, something we hadn't done since the Christmas and 4th of July get-togethers we used to have almost half a century ago.

The first thing we noticed was that there were more of mamma's people there than daddy's. Lifestyles, I guess, or maybe just better genes. Naturally, we had to be introduced to some long-lost cousins and the younger generation of nieces and nephews—and their kids.

Our parents and grandparents are gone of course, many of the uncles have passed away, and one of the aunts is rolling around in a wheelchair. But all in all it was about what we'd expected

and all that we'd hoped for—with one exception.

One of our own generation, a bridge from the past to the future, was missing.

He was one of four of us, the last to be born and first to go, and he was the better part of us all. His children called him daddy, His wife called him "hon", My sisters called him brother, But I just called him "son".

(In loving memory of Wayne Lee Guidry)

Book Nook



Marilyn Goudeau Guidry

Best of Everything: Mama's Creole Cook- book

*By Marilyn Goudeau
Guidry*

Open this cook book and you are immersed in a world of Creole cultural and culinary delights. The cook book, "Best of Everything: Mama's Creole

Kitchen," by Port Arthur resident Marilyn Goudeau Guidry, has over 300 recipes, including family photos and special memories that reflect her heritage. Many of the recipes stem from the Creole cooking dating over 100 years, and many from her fabulous collections and

creations over her many years cooking.

For more information on this \$20 cookbook contact Mark Guidry at:

m.guidry@gte.net or
(409) 656-4651.

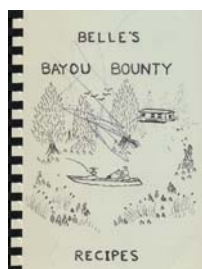
Belle's Country Cooking & Belle's Bayou Bounty

by Belle Guidry

Belle Guidry's cookbooks are \$10 each. Send check or money order to:

Belle's Bayou Bounty and Belle's Country Cooking,
P.O. Box 2223
Morgan City, LA 70381

or call (504) 385-0617

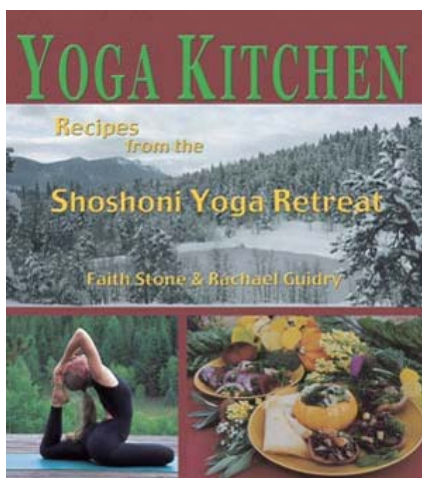


Belle's Bayou Bounty – a collection of recipes featuring seafood, game, and area type recipes

Belle's Country Cooking – a completely different collection of area type recipes, featuring meats, poultry, casseroles, sweets, etc.



*See Belle Guidry every Thursday
on WDSU NewsChannel 6 at
noon.*



YOGA KITCHEN: Recipes from the Shoshoni Yoga Retreat

by Faith Stone and Rachel Guidry

This cookbook serves up a delicious combination of pleasurable dining, conscious energy, and cultural diversity.

At the Shoshoni Yoga Retreat, a bevy of good cooks, motivated by their yoga practice, create the

heavenly food enjoyed by retreat guests.

In Yoga Kitchen, master chefs Faith Stone and Rachel Guidry present favorite meals of both the guests and staff.

These recipes feature American comfort foods blended with the invigorating and unique flavors of Indian, southwestern, and continental traditions.

Genealogy/History

Biography from 'The Louisiana Historical Encyclopedia of Louisiana', Vol. II

Clans Guidry, widely-known over a large area of Southwestern Louisiana, has been a resident of Lake Arthur in Jefferson Davis Parish for some twelve years or more, and is one of the most successful rice growers in this Parish. Mr. Guidry's farm, situated near Lake Arthur, contains a large acreage, practically all of it being devoted to the production of rice. The irrigation system used by Mr. Guidry is one of the very best obtainable, the abundance of his water supply being a considerable factor in the success he has achieved. Prior to coming to Lake Arthur in 1928, Mr. Guidry had successfully farmed for some years in nearby Lafayette Parish.

Clans Guidry was born in Lafayette Parish, LA, on 1/17/1894, and is a son of A. Guidry & Clarno (Bendit) Guidry, both natives of Acadia Parish. The elder Guidry also was a successful planter & his son grew up on a farm owned & operated by his father, attended the Lafayette Parish schools & had his first farming experience under his father's direction.

In 1916 Mr. Guidry was married to Miss Aline Lepine, member of another well-known Lafayette Parish family and the daughter of V. Lepine, a native of Belgium but a resident of LA for many years. The two daughters of Mr. & Mrs. Guidry are Florence & Marie Guidry. Miss Florence is a gradu-

ate of the St. Joseph School at Rayne and the younger daughter, Maria, is now a student there.

The Guidry's have one of the finest & most beautiful homes in Jefferson Davis Parish, constructed in the large part of timbers grown on the place. The floors are of inlaid oak cut from some of the massive trees that adorn the place, and the entire house is a model of architectural beauty, well-arranged & livable through-out.

Mr. Guidry is prominent in the civic & cultural circles of Lake Arthur, is a communicant of the Catholic Church & member of the Knights of Columbus.

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Lunenburgers are buried here among those of the early Acadian settlers of Merligueche.

During a short break folks met their cousins from other parts of North America and renewed old acquaintances. They were able to purchase Guedry-Labine mementos such as T-shirts, pins and books and enjoy several Guedry-Labine family displays including "Guedrys Who Have Served Their Nation" about family members who have served in the military, "Migration of the Guedrys" describing graphically how our family dispersed across the world during 1750-1800, "Some Folks Mak-

ing Our Name Known" detailing interesting occupations and avocations of Guedrys and Labines, and "Labines in Minnesota" providing a history of this unique branch of the Guedry family.

Soon the unique sound of Acadian music from Des Ipeadiens drew everyone to their seats. With over 150 years of musical experience among them, Jacques Arsenault, Peter Arsenault, Sylvie Toupin, Patricia Richard, Mario Robichaud, and Gary Gallant - all from Prince Edward Island - keep Acadian music alive in the Atlantic provinces. Playing a very lively style of music, this outstanding group soon had folks

stomping their feet and clapping their hands. As they chatted back and forth among themselves and with us, the love that they held for their Acadian music shone brightly.

As Des Ipeadiens departed, Ms. Joan Dawson, noted Acadian historian from LaHave, provided a unique history of Merligueche from its earliest days to the founding of Lunenburg. Woven into the story of Merligueche were numerous glimpses into the lives of Claude Guedry & Marguerite Petitpas and their families, relatives, and friends. Scraps of our family's history, easily lost in the mass of historical papers, were

rescued and presented to us in an interesting and informative story. All were very appreciative of Ms. Dawson's outstanding research and presentation of our family's history at Merligueche.

With noon approaching and the sun now shining, the aroma of chowder cooking in the kitchen permeated the room. We all enjoyed a wonderful Lunenburg meal of seafood chowder and clam chowder, with hot dogs and hamburgers for the young. The food, prepared by the firemen, was plentiful and very tasty - a nice addition to our reunion. As cleanup began, Susan Corkum-Greek took the podium to introduce Lunenburg tradition into our reunion.

As she described the attire of the traditional Lunenburg lobsterman, she outfitted herself in the garb - right down to the very fashionable rubber boots. Then we were all introduced to the fare in old Lunenburg. Each got a taste of pickled herring, sauerkraut, other delicacies, and a dash of dark rum to wash it down. Not exactly what I'd call the perfect meal - but palatable. All enjoyed an entertaining and interesting introduction to Lunenburg of the late 1700's

Livening up the day, Lyle Guidry and the New Pine Grove Boys from Iota, Louisiana cranked up their accordion and fiddles with some downhome Cajun music. Lyle, Brian Miller, Blake Miller, Jay Miller, Larry Miller, Brandon Moreau, and Gavin Guidry had everyone's toes tapping as they entertained us with Louisiana Cajun music. It wasn't long before the dance floor filled with folks

waltzing and two-stepping. All enjoyed not only the great music, but also the interesting tidbits Cajun culture and music history interspersed with the songs. And having our Guidry cousins Lyle and Gavin playing for us was a real treat. They're very talented young men.

Again we could smell the aroma of cooking in the kitchen. This time, however, it was Cajun cooking by our own chefs Daniel 'Chuck' Guidry and Wayne Simoneaux along with their 'assistants'. They were preparing a little Cajun treat for everyone.

As the music wound down, Dan and Wayne brought out some Cajun fixings and described what they were preparing in the kitchen. Wayne discussed the traditional Cajun roux - showing us the four stages of the roux and when each should be used. Chuck described the Cajun trinity (tomatoes, celery and bell pepper) - the basis for almost any Cajun meal.

Appearing in the traditional dress of an old Lunenburger, David Corkum, Acadian historian of Lunenburg, entertained us with an informative historical storytelling. Accompanied by the beautiful voice of Brittany Corkum in song and a wonderful slide presentation, David described the geology of the area and how it influenced the settlement and history of Merligueche and later Lunenburg. David's extensive research into the history of the area was evident throughout the presentation that kept everyone's attention.

As the sun began to set, everyone prepared for the closing ceremony.

Descendants of each child of Claude Guedry and Marguerite Petitpas gathered around the banner of their ancestor and slowly walked to the Old French Cemetery, forming a semi-circle around the old cross in the cemetery.

Marty Guidry discussed the plight of the Acadians as they were deported and struggled to survive - not only individually, but also as a nation. The cross, as the one that stood before us, was instrumental in their survival as it represented so much to them - their religion, their strength, and many of their values. Pierrette Guidry of Colorado then led us in a moving French recitation of the Rosary.

After the ceremony all walked slowly back to the Fire Hall - not wanting the day to end nor the departure of new friends and cousins. As we entered the Hall, Chuck Guidry and Wayne Simoneaux gave everyone some Cajun cooking at its best - a real treat for all and a great ending to a fun-filled day and wonderful reunion.



cont'd from 'Tour' page 7

Guedry, the son of Claude Guedry and Marguerite Petitpas. It was exciting to learn that our Reunion was held on the original property occupied by the Guedry family in the 1750's - an unexpected addition to the Reunion.

We boarded our bus and headed toward the LaHave River, making one brief stop in Lunenburg at the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church. This church now houses the Antoine-Marie Bell, which was one of three bells that originally tolled at the Fortress of Louisbourg on Ile Royale from 1735 until the fall of Louisbourg in 1758.

As Mr. Corkum told the history of the Antoine-Marie Bell, he wove into the story the role that it played in several Guedry families. Several children of Augustin Guedry and Jeanne Hebert lived in the Baye des Espagnols (Spanish Bay at today's Sydney) on Ile Royale and they celebrated their baptisms, marriages, and funerals at the nearby Fortress of Louisbourg.

In 1751 Jeanne Guedry married Julien Bourneuf at Louisbourg. Here in the early 1750's they baptized three children Francois, Francoise, and Marie and buried two of them - Francoise and Marie. In October 1755 Julien Bourneuf buried his wife Jeanne, who died shortly after giving birth to little Marie, at the Louisbourg cemetery. Jeanne Guedry's sister Ursule married Paul Boutin at the Fortress in November 1750.

Two of Jeanne Guedry's cousins Judith Guedry and her husband

Jean Cousin and Pierre Guedry and his wife Agnes Triel each baptized a child there in 1750's. Certainly the Antoine-Marie Bell rang for these occasions.

After reboarding the buses, we headed toward the small ferry on the LaHave River, turning north onto a small road paralleling the river. This road was once an Indian path that was known as the Portage de Merligueche in the late 1600's and early 1700's. As the early Guedrys and Petitpas traveled to other Acadian villages, they used water routes as much as possible, but also had to travel overland between rivers. The Portage de Merligueche was the overland route from Merligueche to the LaHave River where the portage ended and the water route began.

Shortly after exiting the Portage de Merligueche, we arrived at the LaHave River ferry landing and boarded the small cable ferry which took us to the west bank of the river, then onward to Risser's Beach on Green Bay. In 1604 Champlain first entered Green Bay and set anchor just offshore of today's Risser Beach in 1604. This was the first landing of the French in Acadia. As Mr. Corkum pointed out the exact location of the anchorage, he discussed the voyage, the anchorage, and what Champlain and the crew did during their brief stay in Green Bay and their continued voyage around Acadia.

Leaving Risser's Beach, we made a short trek to LaHave, Fort Point, and the Fort Sainte-Marie-de-Grace National Historical Site

where we met Ms. Joan Dawson. Gathered near the LaHave Cairn at Fort Point, we learned from Ms. Dawson that Isaac de Razilly landed here in 1632 with his settlers, soon to become the first Acadians. Although lasting only until 1636, when most settlers moved to Annapolis Royal, Fort Sainte-Marie-de-Grace provided the foothold for all future Acadian settlements.

We then toured the small cemetery on the grounds where Ms. Dawson discussed the lives of these hardy settlers. Our visit to LaHave concluded with a very interesting tour of the Fort Point Museum that contains artifacts of the original settlement. We thank Ms. Dawson for providing us with a very interesting insight into the lives of these earliest Acadians.

As we began the return trip to Lunenburg, we stopped briefly at the bay near LaHave and viewed the site of Nicolas Denys' lumberyard and sawpit from the 1632-1635 time period.

As we neared Lunenburg from across the harbor with the sun setting behind us, Mr. Corkum asked all to close their eyes. Reaching the summit of the hill, we opened our eyes to an awe-inspiring view of the harbor and old Lunenburg adorned in its beautiful pastel colors. What a wonderful end to an informative and superb Acadian tour of the Lunenburg area.

Thanks to David Corkum for arranging the tour and providing superb commentary throughout the tour.

Share your ideas for the Newsletter

Contact:

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225-755-1915
guidryrm@cox.net

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

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

Allie Guidry
txguidry2000@yahoo.com

cont'd from 'Survival' page 2

Island). In the mid-1740's and early 1750's the rate of Acadian movement to these French territories increased.

Finally, with the expulsion of the Acadians from their homelands during 1755-1763 the rate of dispersion of these people exploded. Following their forced resettlement in the New England territories, France and England, the displaced Acadians continued their migration as they searched for their families and sought a better home. For many this led to eventual resettlement in Louisiana, Quebec, France or Nova Scotia.

Over the next several issues of "Generations" we will explore the migrations of the Guedry family during the 1700's. Theirs is a fascinating story - one of sadness, adventure, excitement, but, above all, a will to survive

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Please return form and payment to: Make check payable to: *Les Guidry d'Asteur, Inc.*
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