



TERREBONNE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 20295
HOUMA, LA 70361
NEWSLETTER

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August 2025

NEXT MEETING AUGUST 30, 2025 1:00 PM
MAIN BRANCH LIBRARY, 151 LIBRARY DR., HOUMA, LA
D. E. MEETING ROOM – 2nd FLOOR

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NEWSLETTERS BY EMAIL ONLY

Gail GARCIA was our presenter last month. Her presentation was on Louisiana Women in Flight WWII. Louisiana Women left the traditional roles of their time to join the fight for freedom. From home to the skies, young women became aviators and supporters of the war efforts before and during the U. S. entering in World War II. Emily Cyr Bridges of Jeanerette, LA was the pioneer for women aviation. Emily started pilot training in 1939. These brave women became members of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) and Women Air Force Service Pilot (WASP) where they worked on and flew small planes to bombers and trained the male pilots that went to war. The women faced many barriers including sabotage of their planes, discrimination, and the lack of being recognized for their service. Some of the requirements of the WASP was: Age 18-35, HS Education, Height 62 ½ or taller, Weight Valid. Which meant they had to have 500 certified flight hours for Pilot's license. They would fly over the gulf to spot German Submarines under the water. They did not have uniforms for women, so the women were given men's coveralls size 44 made of twill, which they had to alter to make them fit because the women were of small size. Later, uniforms were created for them which was skirt and blouse. There were no women's barracks, so they put all the women in one barrack with only 2 bathrooms for all the women. Some of the aircraft they flew were B26, PT19, UC78, AT6. They learned everything the men air pilots did. Jackie Cochran and Nancy Love began training women pilots in 1942. WASP ended in 1944 when WWII ended. They were not recognized until 1977. Some of the WASP were: L. Elizabeth Deem, Dorothy Dicarlo, Nancy Stone Crowe, Nancy Ricketts, Marion S. Brown, Anna Hopkins White, Yvonne Mentoria, Margaret L. Chamblein, R. Irene Minter, Nel Douglas McInnis, Margaret Moore, Frances Winter, Charlene Creger, Minki Heckman, Annette Henderson, JoAnn Wallis. These were just a few of the names I was able to get. I could not get all the names before the next slide. What a great presentation. Thank you, Gail.

The Lafourche Heritage 47th Annual History & Genealogy Seminar on August 2nd, was a great success again this year. Four great speakers with great topics. Lunch was awesome. The LHS Preservation Award went to Andre & Carolyn Bourgeois Borne for the Constant-Borne House. You had to be there to see the preservation that was done. It is beautiful. The Edward T. & Anna B. Himel Distinguished Service Award went to Glen Anthony Pitre of Cote Blanche Productions, Inc. among his many achievements. Well-deserved award for Glen. Thank you, LHS and we are looking forward to see you again next year.

EVENTS

GRAND RÉVEIL ACADIEN 2025 – October 11-18, 2025. Workshops and lectures on language, Acadian culture, tourism and cultural economy. Official ceremonies, discovery of tourist trails, Acadian families and genealogy, French Mass and Tintamarre procession, music, concerts and shows in Lafayette, Vermilion, St. Martin, Lafourche, Terrebonne, Broussard, Loreauville, Church Point, and Nicholls University. More info at www.louisianeacadie.com.

FESTIVALS ACADIENS ET CRÉOLES will be held at Girard Park in Lafayette, LA on 10-12 October 2025 - overlapping with the Grand Réveil Acadien. A fabulous festival highlighting Cajun, Creole, Zydeco, Swamp Pop and other music of South Louisiana as well as Cajun cooking, local artisans and a wonderful time with the local Cajuns of Louisiana. And it is FREE!!! There will be five music venues, about 25 cooking booths, over 50 local artisans and lots more. More information is available at: <https://festivalsacadiens.com>.

FAMILIES DAY at Vermilionville in Lafayette, LA on Tuesday, 14 October 2025 from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm at 300 Fisher Road directly across from Lafayette Airport and near the Jean Lafitte Acadian Cultural Center. Many Acadian families will have displays and information on their family, and they will be located on porches and inside the old homes of Vermilionville. You'll be able to tour the old homes, see crafts and meet all the families during the day.

BREAUX-GUIDRY-HÉBERT REUNION - 15 October 2025 (9:30 am - 5 pm) Knights of Columbus Hall, 123 Lions Club Road; Scott, LA. During the Reunion you can enjoy a Cajun band playing traditional music, hear a superb presentation on our Acadian history by Liz Martin, view several poster exhibits, purchase books and other mementos, recognize several outstanding members of our families, win one of the door prizes and spend a lot of time visiting with your Acadian cousins and friends. For dinner (lunch) Barry Guidry and his chefs will prepare a tasty Cajun meal. Folks are welcome to venture outside to watch and discuss with them how they cook the meal. Feel free to bring a dish that serves 8-12 people to share with everyone. It can be a dessert, bread, vegetable, salad or "finger" meat like chicken, sausage, boudin, cracklins, etc. Water and soft drinks will be provided. If you need additional information, contact: Gayle Breaux at gaylebreauxsmith@gmail.com, or Martin Guidry at guidryRmartin@gmail.com, or Billy Hebert at billyhremote@aol.com

JEAN LAFITTE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK AND ACADIAN CULTURAL CENTER is next to Vermilionville at 501 Fisher Road and is free. Other Jean Lafitte National Historical Parks and Acadian Cultural Centers within the area of the Grand Réveil Acadien are at Eunice, LA (focusing on the Prairie Acadians) and Thibodaux, LA (focusing on the Marshland Acadians).

<https://www.nps.gov/jela/planyourvisit/new-acadian-cultural-center.htm>

TERREBONNE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY 2025 MEETING SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	ROOM/FLOOR	BOARD	GENERAL
8-30-2025	Main Branch	D. E. Rm 2 nd Fl		1:00 PM
9-27-2025	Main Branch	Large Rm 1 st Fl	11:00 AM	1:00 PM
10-25-2025	North Branch	Large Rm 1 st Fl	11:00 AM	1:00 PM
<i>No Meeting in November</i>				
12-13-2025	Main Branch	Large Rm 1 st Fl		Noon

Check out our website: www.terrebonnegenealogicalsociety.org
Facebook Group: Terrebonne Genealogical Society