

# **CAJUNS, CREOLES, PIRATES AND PLANTERS**

*Your New Louisiana Ancestors Format*

Volume 1, Number 6

By Damon Veach

**De BERARDINIS ARTICLES:** “Mississippi Valley Melange, Volume Five” has just been released by Provincial Press of Ville Platte. It is another excellent collection of notes and documents for the genealogy and history of the province of Louisiana and the Territory of Orleans and features articles by Robert de Berardinis. With an introduction by Winston De Ville, the editor, this issue exemplifies the journal’s initial purpose – to provide data in the freshest published form.

De Berardinis’ first two contributions explain how official affairs were handled locally and within each of the three departments, namely New Orleans, Mobile, and Illinois. Understanding these intricacies is a prerequisite to serious research. Following these introductory pieces are rare data from the very early period of Gulf Coast settlement. The only definitive published roster of the legendary Casket Girls is included. Another document names new recruits from France and offers choice material for research on some of Louisiana’s earliest families and institutions. Among other details, it reveals physical characteristics of over one hundred colonials: hair color, eye color, height, and, for some, ages.

De Berardinis has examined pertinent sources for the fourth offering, which documents the movement of troops during war-time. The pioneers named in transfers during Louisiana’s mid-eighteenth century helped to make the colony a distinct political construct. Mississippi Valley colonists were beginning to prosper.

This latest publication from Provincial Press is priced at \$28.50 plus four percent sales tax for Louisiana residents. Residents of Evangeline Parish are obliged to add an additional five percent sales tax. Also include \$2.50 for economy shipping, or \$5.50 for priority mail. Purchase orders from libraries and other tax-exempt institutions are honored. Credit card orders are accepted only when ordered from their website catalog with the use of PayPal. Allow two to three weeks for delivery with economy mail. You can go to their web site at [www.provincialpress.us](http://www.provincialpress.us) or write to them at 1238 Red Fox Road, Ville Platte, LA 70586.

De Ville has long been noted for his contributions to genealogical preservation, and this latest release just goes to show that he has again presented a nice little research gem for any serious researcher with Louisiana ties or an interest in the early history of this state.

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**MORGAN – CHAPMAN:** The latest issue of the “Morgan-Chapman Family Newsletter” contains articles and photos of interest to descendants of these families

and their allied lines. It is published quarterly by Chapman Morgan, 3656 Linda Lee, Santa Maria, CA 93455-2619, e-mail: [chapmanmorgan@verizon.net](mailto:chapmanmorgan@verizon.net). The subscription is only \$4.00 per year. Each issue contains six pages of material of interest to anyone descended from or interested in James J. Morgan and Lavina Durbin of Tangipahoa Parish and environs, and also of Andrew Marvin Griffin Chapman and his two wives, Adeline Elizabeth Webb and Victoria Leah Bankston Robertson of St. Helena Parish and environs.

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**LIVINGSTON HISTORY:** The Livingston Parish History Book, first published in 1986, is being reprinted with no changes or additions. It is expected to be available in May. The price of this reprint will be \$70, plus \$10 shipping, after its final release announcement. If you want to get in on the pre-publication price, you would need to contact the Edward Livingston Historical Association immediately. The address is P.O. Box 67, Livingston, LA 70754-0067.

This society publishes a nice and informative newsletter called “ELHAGram.” The latest issue is filled with more listings from the 1930 U.S. Census of Livingston Parish (Ward 2, Denham Springs) and the 1882 census of the Catholic population for the parish of French Settlement. Clark Forrest Jr. submitted information and a photo of the Thomas Canby “Little Tom” Hutchinson and Nettie Purvis family.

Forrest, Jean B. Hutchinson, and David Wall are members of the ELHAGram committee. Their meeting on Thursday, May 21, 2009 will feature genealogist Clifford Normand speaking on the Spanish contribution to the American Revolution. Their meetings are held at the Livingston Parish Library in Livingston at 6:00 p.m.

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**SOUTHERN SOLDIERS:** “Faces of the Confederacy: An Album of Southern Soldiers and Their Stories” is another of the latest Civil War collections that is well worth adding to your collection. This one includes many pictures of soldiers and their stories. Ronald S. Coddington offers readers a unique perspective on the war and contributes to a better understanding of the role of the common soldier. He previously wrote “Faces of the Civil War: An Album of Union Soldiers and Their Stories.”

This book tells the stories of seventy-seven Southern soldiers – young farm boys, wealthy plantation owners, intellectual elites, uneducated poor – who posed for photographic portraits to leave with family, friends, and sweethearts before going off to war. Coddington is a passionate Civil War collector and has uncovered these stories which manage to put human faces to the war. Many died during this period of conflict, but the author has followed their lives and presents a moving tribute to these brave men.

This latest Coddington book is published in a beautiful hard-cover format and is priced at \$29.95. It can be requested through any major bookstore or the publisher. Its publisher is the Johns Hopkins University Press of Baltimore, the oldest university press in the country, and this is only one of their better contributions to material of this type. You can check them out at [www.press.jhu.edu](http://www.press.jhu.edu). They are a leader and innovator in scholarly publishing since 1878.

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**ABOUT ALLEN PARISH:** The Allen Genealogical and Historical Society publishes a nice quarterly called “Crossroads.” It’s nice to see a group enter the genealogical arena and continue to grow and prosper the way that this group has. Each issue of their quarterly shows this improvement, and it is definitely a credit to its officers and volunteers who work so hard to record and preserve the history of this part of the state.

Meetings are held at the Genealogy Room of the Kinder branch of the Allen Parish Libraries, located at 833 4<sup>th</sup> Street in Kinder. Members are always willing to help visitors with research and endeavor to answer their questions. Their quarterly “Crossroads” appears in January, April, July, and October. They have already amassed an amazing list of publications available to researchers.

The latest issue of the quarterly tells about the Leatherwood Museum along with pictures to illustrate the copy. Fran Clemmons contributed an excellent article on the Wrinkle family which also contains pictures. John Jacob Wrinkle was born about 1720 in Germany and died in 1813. The Wrinkle family appears on early census records of Louisiana. They settled in the Kisatchie Bayou area of Natchitoches Parish and owned property in this area.

Membership in this society is \$15.00 per year. Correspondence about meeting dates and payment of dues should be sent to P.O. Box 789, Kinder, LA 70648.

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**MORE RECORDS ADDED:** Since the last update on January 5, 2009, FamilySearch added over 40 million new records to its Record Search pilot. Individuals with international roots from Argentina, Canada, Ireland, Germany, Netherlands, and the Philippines will find some nice surprises in the newly added collections.

Birth, marriage, and death records were added for the Netherlands and Ireland. Irish researchers in particular have been anxiously awaiting the 23 million records from the Irish Civil Registration indexes. These records date from 1845 to 1958 and are also known as the Statutory Registration Records. Statutory registration for Protestants began in 1845 and for Catholics in 1864.

**Some of the American records include: San Francisco area funeral home records (1835-1931); 1920 United States Census (Alabama added); 1850 United States Census (Alabama and Indian population added); 1850 United States Census Slave Schedule (added Alabama, Missouri, and South Carolina); 1850 United States Census Mortality Schedule (added Louisiana and Indian population); and 1870 United States Census (Pennsylvania added). You can learn more by checking out [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org).**