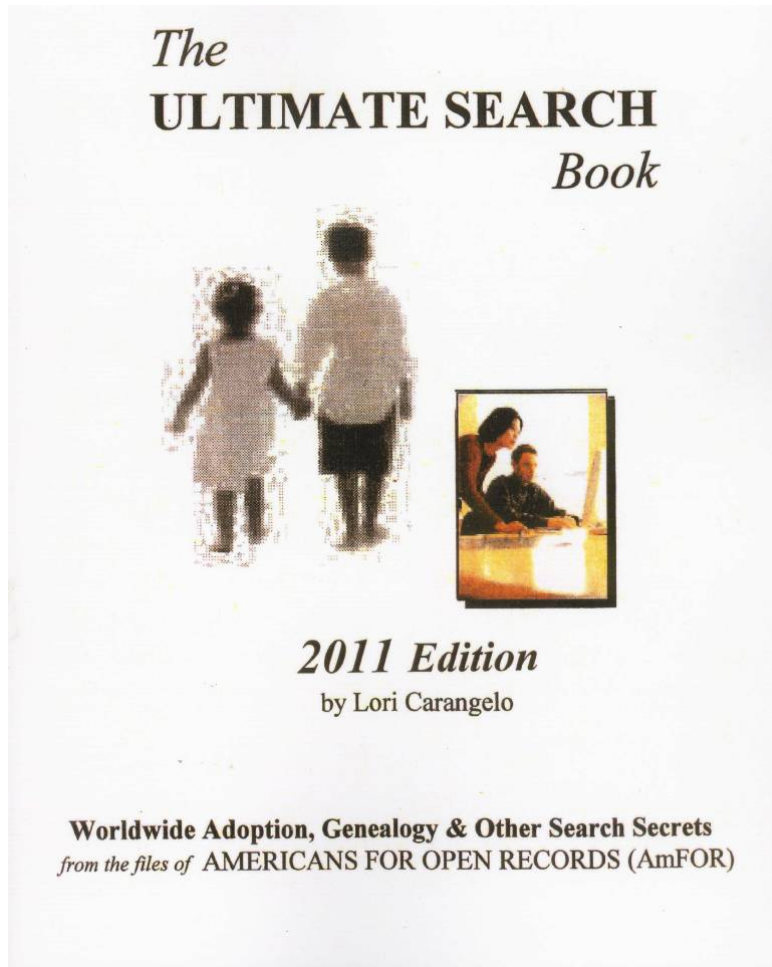


# **CAJUNS, CREOLES, PIRATES AND PLANTERS**

*Your New Louisiana Ancestors Format*

Volume 3, Number 3

By Damon Veach



**RESOURCE BOOK:** The all new 2011 edition of Lori Carangelo's *The Ultimate Search Book: Worldwide Adoption, Genealogy & Other Search Secrets* is the first new edition of this guide since 2002. As director of the organization Americans for Open Records, Carangelo has amassed considerable expertise in helping people, and especially birth parents, find their missing loved ones.

Now, in the 2011 edition of *The Ultimate Search Book*, she shares the secrets to successful searching with a broader audience. Just how do search experts get past the wall of secrecy and roadblocks to their loved ones? How, in the case of adoptees, do they find someone without a prior knowledge of the name? It is these and other questions that this volume answers by providing "how to" search tips and

resources, for free or for fee, for legally accessing information and for locating anyone in the U.S. and 200 other countries.

The first five chapters of the new edition lay out Carangelo's blueprint for successful searching. Chapter One identifies the major categories of databases that a researcher is likely to consult (DMV records, voter registrations, etc.). Chapters Two and Three home in on missing children, old loves, war buddies, child support deadbeats, and so on. Chapter Four treats missing persons whose names you may or may not have (birth children, foster care records, missing person locators), while Chapter Five concentrates on the principal websites for finding missing persons.

The bulk of the book then leads the reader forward - U.S. state by state, and then country by country through the specifics of successful searching. For example, in the case of Idaho state, you are given the addresses, phone numbers, and websites of the vital records office, DMV, state archives, and central adoption agency, the coverage and dates of the available records, and the adoption disclosure statute(s) currently in force.

However, this is not all. Carangelo also provides contact information for Idaho adoption search/support groups, as well as sample letters that readers can use to address their own concerns to the appropriate agencies and/or testimonials from state- or country-specific searchers. While the detail is not as marked for many countries as it is for the U.S., Canada, or Great Britain, there is no question that anyone who avails him/herself of the 2011 edition of *The Ultimate Search Book* will be off to a good start in tracking down a missing loved one.

This is another of the excellent publications coming from the Clearfield Company, 3600 Clipper Mill Road, Suite 260, Baltimore, MD 21211. The price for this soft-cover edition is \$45.45, postpaid.

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**SLAVE RECORDS:** The Archdiocese of New Orleans has a new online database which contains records concerning baptisms, marriages, and deaths in colonial New Orleans. These include those of African slaves who until now have been so often neglected in genealogical records.

This information is a great new reference source for scholars and family researchers especially if you are seeking information on slave ancestors in the New Orleans area. The acts in these records were recorded in Spanish, and they differ from the French spellings. Also, the first names were recorded in Spanish so you have variations here that need to be taken into consideration just as you have to do for the surname spellings. In other words, Elizabeth became Isabella, Jacques became Santiago, and so on.

You can access these records at <http://archdiocese-no.org/archives/sfpc.php>.

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**MORE RECORDS:** FamilySearch has announced more additions to their available online data. They are constantly copying records and adding them to their database which will serve as great research aids for family researchers. Here are a few of their latest additions:

- Missouri, Confederate Pension Applications and Soldiers Home Applications
- North Carolina Deaths, 1931-1994
- Ohio, Cuyahoga County Probate Files, 1813-1900
- Vermont, Vital Records, 1760-1954
- World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942 (WV, NJ)
- Colorado State Census, 1885
- Illinois State Census, 1855
- Texas, Comanche County Records, 1858-1955
- Texas, Mills County Clerk Records, 1841-1985
- Union Provost Marshal Files of Individual Civilians, 1861-1866
- Veterans Administration Pension Payment Cards, 1907-1933

These are the most recent additions for the United States, but there are numerous records being copied for foreign countries. You can check these out by going to the FamilySearch website.

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**BROUSSARD FAMILY:** Mitch Conover has sent a link to an excellent Broussard article that readers may want to check out. It can be found at:

[http://www.alafarmnews.com/index.php?view=article&catid=1%3Anews&id=1466%3Afamily-brings-cajun-flavor-to-black-belt&option=com\\_content&Itemid=23&6ed3af3a7fb3f305843385fa292f20df=5ba92291de672f3da370d0a8f2047f2](http://www.alafarmnews.com/index.php?view=article&catid=1%3Anews&id=1466%3Afamily-brings-cajun-flavor-to-black-belt&option=com_content&Itemid=23&6ed3af3a7fb3f305843385fa292f20df=5ba92291de672f3da370d0a8f2047f2)

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**LE RACONTEUR:** The latest issue of *Le Raconteur* needs to be in all major research libraries. This publication is a part of the continuing quarterlies and programs offered by Le Comite des Archives de la Louisiane, one of the most outstanding organizations in the U.S. You can contact them at Le Comite, P.O. Box 1547, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-1547. They also have a periodic online newsletter. Membership is \$20 and well worth it.

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**FREE SERVICE:** Correspondence to this column should be directed to Damon Veach, Cajuns, Creoles, Pirates and Planters, 709 Bungalow Lane, Baton Rouge, LA

**70802-5337. The e-mail address is [ancestorslaveach@cox.net](mailto:ancestorslaveach@cox.net). Queries and book reviews are printed as space permits, and you are encouraged to take advantage of this free service. Claitor's Publishing can serve as a distributor for self-published genealogy titles. Go to their homepage for details on how you can obtain this excellent service.**