

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

*Your New Louisiana Ancestors Format*

Volume 4, Number 29

**ANNUAL MEETING:** Le Comité will hold its Annual Meeting Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Baton Rouge. Aaron Holt, an Archives Technician at the National Archives, will give an afternoon seminar on records available at the National Archives Fort Worth Branch. His presentation will consist of three parts. In the first, he will cover the general holdings of the National Archives Fort Worth Branch. This includes microfilm copies of records held by the National Archives (NARA) in Washington, D.C., as well as records held exclusively by the regional branch in Fort Worth. Of particular interest to Louisiana researchers are the naturalization records of the U.S. District Court in New Orleans.

The second part of Holt's presentation will focus on the recently released 1940 federal census. Using period articles and images, he will cover the preparations and enumeration of the United States. He'll also demonstrate how to navigate NARA's website to view the 1940 census for free and the county/parish plat maps.

In the third part, he will discuss some Native American resources available at the Fort Worth facility. Starting with a quick historical overview of the federal government and Native Americans, he will touch on the Native American holdings of NARA at Fort Worth. His primary focus will be on the Five Civilized Tribes (Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek, Seminole, and Cherokee) and how to research those tribes.

The meeting is free to members. Non-members may join at the door for \$20. Registration begins at 1:00 p.m. A short business meeting will be held at 1:15 and the program begins at 1:30. Many of the society's publications will be available for sale at deeply discounted member prices for this one-day event only. All available back issues of the quarterly journal, *Le Raconteur*, will be offered at 50 cents each and a small number of used genealogical books and periodicals will be available. Check out the indexes and tables of contents to [Le Raconteur](#) before hand and see what issues you'd like for your collection.

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**CANARY ISLANDERS:** Coinciding with National Hispanic Heritage Month, a special meeting of The Canary Islanders Heritage Society will be held 11:00 a.m. Saturday, October 6, 2012 at the Assumption Parish Library, 2800 Highway 70, Pierre Part, Louisiana celebrating the 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Society's founding.

The featured speaker will be Chad LeBlanc who will officially open the exhibits, which will be on display from October 6 through October 11.

It has been 224 years since the migration of over 1,500 Canary Islanders, known as *Isleños*, to Louisiana to bolster Spanish forces allied with the American revolutionaries struggling for independence from Britain (1778-1781). Spain was successful in driving the British out of the Mississippi Valley and the Gulf Coast. Descendants of these Spanish soldiers qualify for membership in the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution.

Exhibited materials will include maps of the areas settled by the *Isleños*, a list of the surnames of most of the original settlers (including the modern spelling), ships' passenger lists, archaeological materials from the Gálveztown dig, and genealogy research resources. Library hours are M,W,Th – 10:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.; Tuesday, noon – 7:00 p.m.; Saturday 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.; Friday and Sunday – closed.

Attached is a list of some of the names of the settlers who came to Louisiana between 1778 and 1781:

Acosta, Aguilar, Alemán (Alleman), Alonso (Alonzo), Alvarez (Alvarez, Albares), Alvarado (Albarado), Barrios, Bello, Bermúdez, Caballero (Cavallero, Cavaller), Campo, Corbo (Carbo, Cabo, Cavo), Díaz (Díez), Domínguez,(Domingues, Domingue), Durán

Eneda, Escaño, Escobar, Estevez (Esteves), Estopiñán (Estopinal), Falcón, Fernández, García, Gómez, González (Gonzales), Gutiérrez (Guitiérrez), Hernández, Hidalgo, Jorge (George), López

Macías (Massias, Masias), Marino, Marrero, Martín, Martínez, Medina (Medine), Melián (Millien), Melo, Mendoza, Molero, Montesino, Monzón, Morales, Navarro, Núñez, Ojeda, Ortega, Ortiz

Perrera (Perera, Pereira), Peña, Pérez, Pino (del Pino), Placencia (Plasencia, Plaisance), Quintana, Ramírez, Ramos, Rivero, Rodríguez, Romero, Ruíz, Sánchez, Silverio (Sevario), Severio), Suárez

Torres, Trujillo (Truxillo), Vega, Viera, Ximénez

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**MEETING SCHEDULED:** The next meeting of the DeSoto Historical Society will take place on October 27th beginning at 2 p.m. at Roseneath Plantation in Gloster, Louisiana. Construction on Roseneath began soon after William Burney Means came to the parish from South Carolina.



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DESOTO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## DeSoto Plume



Roseneath Plantation

Erected 1845

National Register of Historic Places

Photo by George Gilmer

**This issue contains the complete history of the home written by Nathaniel Means, and it is covered quite nicely. Interior pictures of the home are included in the text as well as a handwritten letter. One picture shows the home on November 26, 1928. Also of note is an article from the Mansfield Enterprise, dated July 7, 1927.**

**The Means family house typifies the Greek Revival style that DeSoto Parish residents embraced in the late 1840s and into the 1850s. Like many others of Scots-Irish descent, the Means family had settled in the Fairfield District in the South Carolina's up-country. They moved to Louisiana in search of new opportunity to grow cotton. One brother, William Burney Means, remained in South Carolina where he served as governor from 1850 to 1852. He signed South Carolina's Ordinance of Secession in 1860.**

**Roseneath stands today as a monument to the Means family over generations of changes in the economics of agriculture, and today cattle can be seen roaming the fields where cotton used to be. It is now on the National Register of Historic Places, ca1987.**

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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 can be any length, and book reviews are printed as space permits, and you are encouraged to take advantage of this free service. All genealogical/historical/preservation books are reviewed in this column format, but a review copy is necessary for this service. Another service is offered here too. 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. It is a way to get out-of-print books back into the system and definitely is a great assistance to genealogists who may need this information.