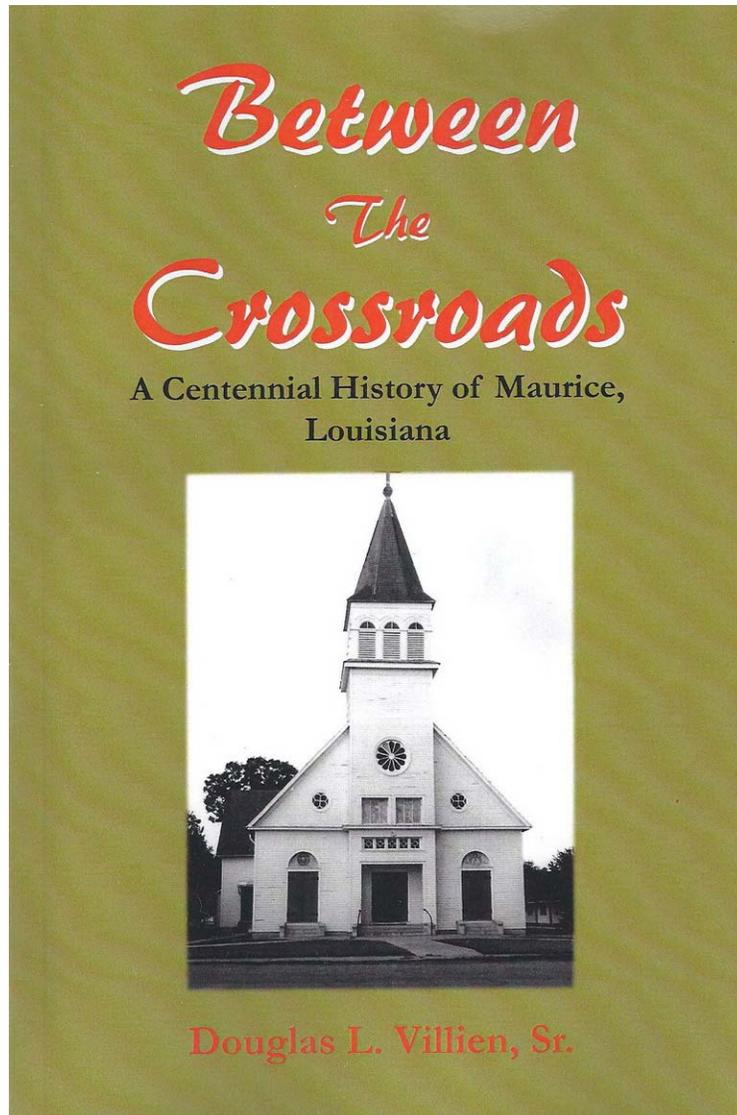


# CAJUNS, CREOLES, PIRATES AND PLANTERS

Your New Louisiana Ancestors Format

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**MAURICE, LOUISIANA:** Douglas L. Villien Sr. has taken a small town to the big time with the excellent history he has compiled of Maurice, Louisiana. Having been through this town so many times on my way to Abbeville, it was certainly a great pleasure to learn more of this unique town in Vermilion Parish.

*Between the Crossroads* is filled with lots of pictures, good documentation, and with an index for easy perusal when checking out genealogical information. Villien has uncovered much little-known history about the place and the people who have lived here - and still live here. He has taken a look at the first settlers and brought one hundred years of history to the printed page. It is delightful reading.

Maurice was founded by Jean-Maurice Villien who decided to build a small city where lush and tall grasslands grew. This book carries readers into the lives of planters, merchants, and tradesmen who came to settle in the new community. Population of the area grew with the economy, but the settlement remained small, most likely to the fact that land was owned by families who didn't release or sell it.

Throughout the book, readers can see how Villien has taken the early settlers from the beginning to its current status. It is an account of successes and struggles. It is a vivid picture of a town, its past, its present, and its future.

Villien has chronicled the one hundred year evolution of Maurice, and he has done it in an interesting way. It is a loving look at the heritage of a group of settlers, their hopes for the future and their adventures along the way.

His information has come from family collections, ecclesiastical registers, federal census reports, municipal records, and lots of personal information of a genealogical nature. It is a look at a little-known place in Louisiana. The result is a book that needs to be in all major genealogical collections.

The book is available in soft-cover format, black and white, for \$21.95, a full-color soft-cover format for \$28.00, and special, full-color hardcover format for \$50, directly from the author. They are also available at select retailers and online through Amazon. For more information, contact the author at [mauricehistory@cox.net](mailto:mauricehistory@cox.net).

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**LE COMITE MEETING:** A board meeting of Le Comite des Archives de la Louisiane was held on Saturday, October 6, 2012 at the home of Doris Falkenheiner. Both pictures below were taken by Damon Veach, Le Comite president.



**LeComite Board Members - Judy Riffel, Ann Riffel, Stella Tanoos, Doris Falkenheiner)**



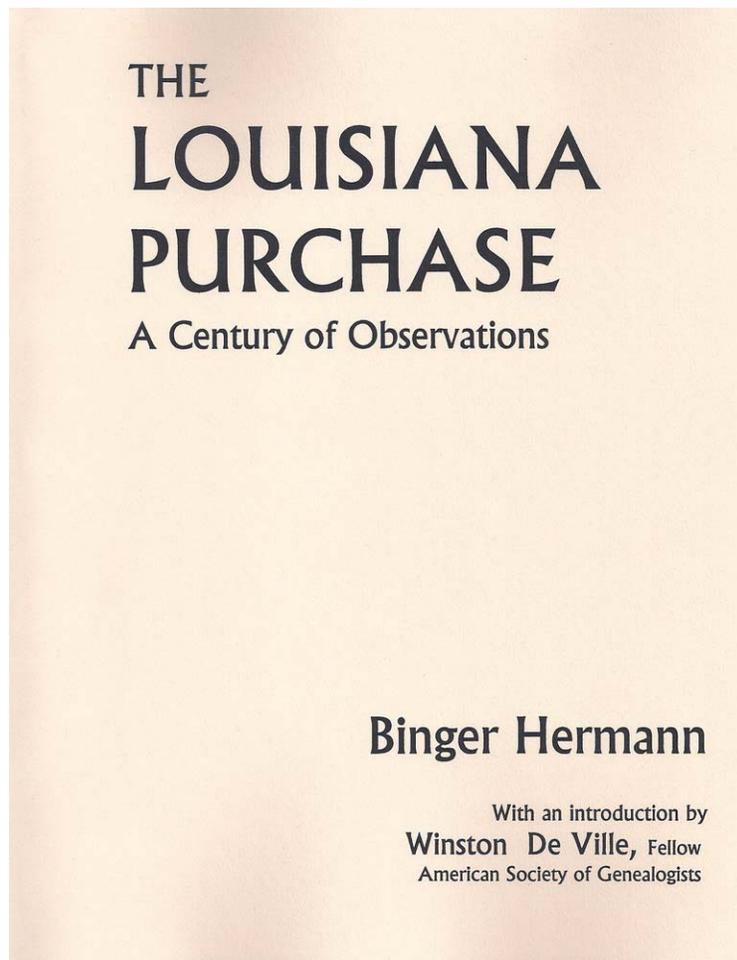
**Stella Tanoos, pictured above, became the newest member of the board replacing Winston De Ville. She will add new depth to the board and is an authority on Iberville and adjoining parishes in South Louisiana.**

**The meeting covered several reports, including publications, membership, website, and the regular coverage of the minutes, counting election ballots of officers for the coming year,**

and discussing upcoming dates for the next board and annual meetings along with suggestions for speakers for the next convention.

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**PURCHASE REPORT:** *The Louisiana Purchase, A Century of Observations* by Binger Hermann has just been released by Claitor's Publishing Division in Baton Rouge. It was originally published in 1998 as *The Louisiana Purchase and Our Title West of the Rocky Mountains, with a Review of Annexation by the United States*. This one is illustrated with maps with an outstanding introduction by Winston De Ville.



Hermann's report is important for America's historiography even though it isn't the definitive statement on the subject. It does, however, show how the United States acquired and viewed its possessions. It is important that this book be reprinted at this time and is another one that really needs to be a part of major genealogical library collections.

The price of this book is \$21.00.

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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.