

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ACADIA'S POINTE DE L'EGLISE GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETS SATURDAY 10 MAY 2008

THE QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE POINTE DE L'EGLISE: ACADIA GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC. WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY MORNING, 10 MAY 2008, FROM 09:30 A.M. UNTIL ABOUT NOON, AT THE ACADIA PARISH LIBRARY, 1125 N. PARKERSON AVENUE, CROWLEY, LA. GUEST SPEAKER WILL BE DR. CARL A. BRASSEAU, DIRECTOR OF THE CENTER FOR LOUISIANA STUDIES AND OF THE CENTER FOR CULTURAL AND ECO-TOURISM AT UL-L. IN ADDITION TO DR. BRASSEAU'S PRESENTATION, ATTENDEES WILL BE BRIEFLY INTRODUCED TO A SET OF PUBLICATIONS, IN DRAFT FORM, TITLED, *OBITUARY INDEX FROM ACADIA PARISH NEWSPAPERS 1870-2007*, INTENDED TO AID FAMILY RESEARCHERS IN THEIR OBITUARY SEARCH OF CROWLEY, RAYNE OR CHURCH POINT NEWSPAPERS. VISITORS INTERESTED IN FAMILY AND LOCAL HISTORY ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND AND TO MEET WITH DR. BRASSEAU AND MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY. AN INFORMAL GET-TOGETHER FOR LUNCH WILL FOLLOW AT FEZZO'S IN CROWLEY.

Dr. Brasseaux, a native of Opelousas, is a historian of French Colonial North America, particularly of Louisiana and the Cajun people. He has published no less than thirty-three volumes of material on Louisiana and French North America. He is involved with the Louisiana Digital Folklore Archives which includes the Center for Acadian and Creole Folklore. Further information on Dr. Carl Brasseaux and his accomplishments are included in his biography found at <http://ccet.louisiana.edu/centerfellows-Fbrasseaux.html>. To learn more about the Center for Louisiana Studies, including their catalog of books available for sale, please visit <http://cls.louisiana.edu/>.

The Pointe de l'Eglise: Acadia Genealogical and Historical Society, Inc., was formed in 1989 and is a non-profit corporation made up of over 200 members from at least 14 states and Canada. Individual dues are \$15.00 per calendar year. In addition to quarterly meetings, members are kept informed through their quarterly newsletter *À La Pointe*, and through electronic mail and their website at www.rootsweb.com/~lapehgs.

The Society has worked closely with the Acadia Parish Library through their volunteer work and donations that potentially benefit all library patrons. Through the Society's efforts, the library's genealogical holdings have grown significantly. For example, the Society has published and donated over 25 book titles documenting marriage, probate, obituary, funeral, cemetery, and military draft records of Acadia Parish. Most of their book titles are also available for sale to the public. They also purchase and donate family books to the library. Probably their most labor intensive volunteer effort is their continuing work to collect and organize all obituary information previously published in the various Crowley, Rayne and Church Point newspapers and to incorporate that information into an electronic database.

If you are doing family research and your research leads you to Acadia Parish, you would do well to make your first stop the Acadia Parish Library in Crowley. If you are coming from out-of-town, or otherwise need help getting acquainted with the available records, you are encouraged to call the library at (337) 788-1880 before your visit. They will attempt to contact a member of the Society to lend assistance so that your visit may be more fruitful.

If you are interested in learning more about the Society or wish to purchase any of their book titles, you are asked to: attend the meeting; or, visit their web site at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~lapehgs>; or, contact Thelma Richard at (337) 783-8497 or thewayrichard@cox.net.