



## Creole Center Newsletter

Greetings!

Hello to all from the NSU Creole Heritage Center. Please read this important newsletter and pass it on.

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### Center Funding Cuts

As part of Louisiana state recent budget cuts, the Creole Heritage Center is experiencing **major** funding deficits. Although efforts are underway to do at least one newsletter mailout within the next month or two, we are forced to maintain communication through e-mails such as this.

Print out a form and mail us a check.

#### Donate by Mail

Get a donation form  
and send us a check.



Make a donation now to  
preserve YOUR Creole  
culture and heritage.

Donate on-line using a credit card.

#### Donate Online

Fast, Safe, & Secure



Click here to help

**How to Volunteer**

Join Our Mailing List!

## Access to Index of French Colonial Documents

A searchable index of the Natchitoches Parish Courthouse French Colonial Records has been compiled by the Center. This Index represents a computerized version of the hand-written listings of the Natchitoches Colonial Documents for the period 1732-1832. Record references include Marriage contracts; sale of land; exchange of land; sale of slaves; Renunciation (rejection or abandonment); Manumission (emancipation of slaves); acknowledgement of partnership; consent to marriage; successions and inventories, just to name a few.

This Index was made possible through a grant from the Cane River National Heritage Area Commission and partnership with the Clerk of Courts of Natchitoches parish. The current searchable file contains over 12,000 records. Online access to this Index is being developed and will be available soon.

The winner is...



The winner of our "Pass it On" campaign was Howard Trahan

While we realize that this is a critical time for everyone and we are not the only group facing this crisis, we are hoping that each of our registered 5,000 plus Creole families can make a small sacrifice to maintain **YOUR** Creole connection.

The budget cuts have eliminated the Center's current operational funding (printing, supplies, travel, and equipment purchases) for the remainder of this fiscal year. Current grant and Foundation monies will allow a very limited continuation of these services. While email is fast and economical, it also restricts outreach to non-computer users. Again, we are depending on **you** to help get the word out to all of your family and friends.



Ways you can help:

- \* Become a 2009 Foundation Member (If you have not yet joined, now is the time)
  - \* Submit a Donation today
  - \* Solicit any and all possible corporate and private donations
- \*\*Pass the word**

Assistance is needed to support the pursuit of outside funding through possible federal and corporate grants. Any recommendations and/or contacts to support this endeavor is appreciated.

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## The Center's Focus

Document, Promote & Preserve Creole Culture & History

The Creole Heritage Center is the only unit of its kind in the United States. It is the only unit that has continually maintained its focus to document and promote Louisiana's Creole culture and its links nationwide. It is the only unit that has acquired and maintains volumes of Creole community and family historical information for current and



III, of Texas. Mr. Trahan was awarded a \$25 check for his participation in forwarding previous email newsletters.

We are repeating this campaign with this newsletter. Through recent donations we are able to increase the award to \$35. See details below.

### Quick Links



Check out previous Email Newsletters

### Protect Your Personal Email Lists

We have received a recent rash of "Forwards" that has alerted a concern. When forwarding emails to family and friends you are exposing these personal email addresses to outside deceitful and dishonest opportunists. Before sending or forwarding emails, please delete all previous email addresses in your forwards and place **your** in the "bcc" box. Although this is not completely fool-proof, it does add another protective measure to your personal email list. Also, please refer to [cncnc.com](http://cncnc.com) REFOPE forwarding



future generations. It is the only unit that has documented information on aspects of the Creole culture not readily available.



Since the Center has opened it has provided the world with the recognition of our culture and existence. It has also provided a pride in acknowledging your Creole culture and family histories. Another thing that Center has achieved is that it is now known as the National Creole Voice. It also represents the only national Creole Family History Database.

While trying to maintain the operation of the Center, **with your help** we will continue in our efforts to promote and document our culture.

## Creole Language Project

The time has come to preserve our language

Outreach for this project continues to grow. The last meeting was held in Mallet Louisiana on January 25th. The attendance was great, food was excellent and the music very enjoyable. A definite Creole meeting!! The most important aspect of this meeting was the feedback and enthusiasm received from the attendees in support of documenting our Creole language.

One particular statement described the current situation perfectly, "it has not died, but our language is in intensive care and needs attention now!" The current seed grant from the Lower Mississippi Delta Region Initiative will help our continuing outreach for the remainder of this year. The numbers of identified Creole speakers continue to grow, as does the interest in the project.

Community meetings and documentation will continue across the state throughout the grant period. There is even a possibility of an out of state meeting in California.

We are continuing our call for any and all Creole speakers, language experts, interviewers, and all

*"Our  
Language  
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intensive  
care..."*

any questionable emails. It is important to keep in mind that many of these emails are started mainly to obtain access to personal lists for unwanted purposes. Keep yours protected.

It should be noted that the Center's policy is to use only submitted addresses. Taking from forwarded lists is considered illegal.

interested individuals to become a part of this initial project to Save the Creole Language. Contact Janet at the Center to submit your information - 318/357-6685.

Our Creole culture, history and language are too important to lose now.

**Sincerely,**

Janet Colson, Executive Director  
NSU Creole Heritage Center

[Visit the Center here](#)

**WIN  
\$35**

Forward this email plus others during this campaign and get a chance to win \$35. All forwards are automatically tracked to your email address. Each forward tracked before the deadline earns you an additional chance in the drawing. Actual prize will be announced and awarded after March 31, 2009.