



Doris James Matte

Doris James Matte was born in Church Point, Louisiana, on April 20, 1937. He married Genevieve Thibodeaux in 1955. They have two sons and one daughter and they live in Lake Charles, Louisiana.

When he was 10 or 11 years old after listening to Cajun music on the radio he knew that he wanted someday to play the accordion. A year or two later his father said he could afford a small accordion from the Sears Catalog. It seemed to him forever before the rural postman delivered that package. He can still remember opening the cardboard box and just staring at that new accordion. He stayed up almost all night trying to learn one song until his parents reminded him that he had to go to school the next day.

In the late 50's he bought his first "little black" accordion from the local accordion maker, the late Mr. Sidney Brown, which encouraged him to learn more songs and fulfill his desire of playing and entertaining people.

In the early 60's he formed his band, "The Lake Charles Ramblers," and soon after recorded his first song, "The Tracks of My Buggy". Later he recorded the "Waltz of Regret", "Too Young to Marry" "No Good Woman", "Mardi Gras Twist", and several others.

He has played in clubs between Houston, Texas and Morgan City, Louisiana for eight or nine years and played many various types of benefits in several of

these clubs, at church bazaars and community centers. During these years, he was invited by KPLC TV to play on a live show every Saturday afternoon, "Saturday Night Down South". He also played live shows on Channel 3 in Lafayette, Louisiana and taped programs for the "*Passe Partout*" program. He also played some teen dances at the old skating rink on Hodges Street.