

Blanchard, Lillian "Lil"



Cajun Dancer, Quilter, and Cajun Foodways

Mrs. Blanchard self-identifies as Cajun, and she speaks French and English. She was born in Breaux Bridge, Louisiana in 1932. Formerly a sales clerk and factory worker, she is now a homemaker in Catahoula, Louisiana where she resides with her husband Mr. Camille Blanchard.

Lillian is an excellent cook and is famous for her sweet dough tarts. She cooks with her sister Ollie Verret who is also very knowledgeable and articulate about Catahoula Easter time traditions, such as the Stations of the Cross and Pie Day. Lillian makes quilts with a technique she learned as a child from her mother and friends at quilting bees. Cajun dancing is another skill Lillian loves. She dances with her husband every week at local festivals and competitions.

The Blanchards have won many awards performing at numerous Louisiana competitions. As dance partners they have performed at the Breaux Bridge Crawfish Festival, the Catahoula Church Fair, and for a large group of Folklorists attending a folklife tour of Catahoula.