

## NEW ORLEANS NOSTALGIA

*Remembering New Orleans History, Culture and Traditions*

*By Ned Hémard*

### ***Nolagisms, Part II***

Last week I provided my readers with a number of *Nolagisms*, which are neologisms with a New Orleans flavor. These newly minted words or phrases can be either a "semantic extension" (i.e., a totally new usage of an existing word) or a newly created word or phrase by replacing or dropping a letter. Other imaginative creations can be *portmanteau* words, those formed by linking or blending two different words into one.

I requested your own very special Nolagisms, from you my clever and witty readers, and received some great ones. But first, here are a few more I came up with since contriving the first batch:

**CHALMETRIC SYSTEM:** How to measure the distance between Meraux and Violet.

**WHERE Y'AT:** A GPS device used in Arabi, Louisiana.

**METRY-SEXUAL:** A person who carries a man-purse into Lakeside Shopping Center.

**DUFOSSAT:** Plummin' fixtuah, Dawlin'.

**AIRLINE:** The tell-tale sign of a balding Brit.

**MARENGO:** Dance that's a cross between the Méringue and the Tango.

**MUFFALOTTAS:** Oversized fur hand warmers.

**TOUSSAINT:** Mother Cabrini and Katharine Drexel, or Drew Brees and Marcus Colston.

**ITALIANATE ON ST. CHARLES:** Somebody leaving Vincent's on the Avenue.

*PRE-TANYA*: What you put on before the Coppertone.

*LAFITTE PROJECT*: What a podiatrist is usually up to.

*WASHINGTON AND BROAD*: George stepping out on Martha.

*PARASOLS*: Two guys from Temple Sinai.

*ABSINTHE*: Not present - due to drinking too many Sazeracs.

And now those from you, the readers (with special thanks to John Edward McAuliffe, Jr. and III, both Esq.):

*RUE ROYALE*: The metaphysical perfection of Gumbo.

*POYDRAS*: Black and gold patchwork plaid shorts.

*BANQUETTE*: A wee Whitney.

*GYNECHIATRIST*: "Since Katrina," reports a local gynecologist, what "I have often been referred to by my patients".

*CHOP-A-TOOL-US*: Ronco's New Orleans version of the Veg-O-Matic.

*MARIGNADE*: Drag queens marching down Frenchmen Street.

*TUCKS*: Monk's formalwear consisting of a tropical worsted brown robe with silk rope-belt.

*REX*: A situation in which you wait three hours for the police to respond.

*WHO-DATE*: New Orleans term for a blind date.

*HOUSE YO MAMA*: Checking Mom into Lambeth House.

*GALA-TROIS*: A Carnival evening with three krewes parading.

*NEW-TRAL GROUND*: Fresh coffee.

*IRISH CHANEL*: A lady wearing Coco's fragrance at Mass at St. Patrick's.

*MOMMA'N'EM*: A delicious candy-coated piece of chocolate that loves you no matter what.

Thanks so much for your humorous contributions, and I look forward to any others you may send my way.

**NED HÉMARD**

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*"Nolagisms"*  
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