

**EPISODE TITLE: Rougeou Family Table**

CIRCA: 1950

Guest Interview: Mrs. Clyde (Ruth) Rougeou and Benjamin Rougeou

Project: Round flip-top dining table/love seat.

Clyde L. Rougeou (1915-1980), born near LeCompte, Louisiana, received his B.S. degree from Southwestern Louisiana Institute (SLI, subsequently known as the University of Southwest Louisiana, aka; USL and then the University of Louisiana-Lafayette, aka; UL-L). Appointed instructor in Agriculture at SLI in 1937 he received Ph.D. from University of Minnesota in 1949. He was named acting president of USL, January 1, 1966 and assumed the presidency on July 1, 1966.

Dr. and Mrs. Rougeou had nine children. They quickly outgrew their dining table, but lacked adequate room for a traditional long table. A local artisan, Mr. Broussard, devised a solution that provided seating for all while allowing for their limited space. The unique flip-top table pivots on the back of what serves as the base of the table in one position and the back of a love-seat chair in another.

The table is currently in use at the home of Dr. Rougeou's youngest daughter, Nancy Jo Simon, in New Iberia Louisiana.

The story is told by Mrs. Ruth and her eldest son, Benjamin 'Benji' Rougeou. Video locations are the campus of UL-L, the home of Mrs. Simon and the MT studio shop.



Table top on down position

Table top in up position

Benji Rougeou